

Dear NIKO Branch Chiefs,

Please receive the 3rd edition of our bulletin with questions and answers raised so far, by different branches.

16. Age categories (correction for Veterans Division)

The age categories will be calculated, using the year of birth.

Please pay attention to the mistake below, in the Veteran Division, which should be “35 and older”.

Category	Cadet (-14 years)	Junior II (-16 years)	Junior I (-18 years)	Senior (+ 18 years)	Veteran (+35 years)
Born in year	2003 or 2004	2002 or 2001	2000 or 1999	1998 to 1982(including)	From 1981
Age	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-34	34 and older 35 and older

Please use the year of birth as a reference, as this will be also required on the enrolment form.

17. Weight Scale Criteria (further questions)

The weight scale criteria is explained very clear in Appendix 3:

Appendix 3 – Weight Scale Decision Criteria

- If a competitor is over the weight category limit and also there is a 5 KG* weight difference, the lighter competitor will be declared winner.
- For the heavyweight division (+90 KG), the difference must be 10 KG.
- The weight scale criteria are **ONLY** used in the preliminary matches.

A lot of questions have been asked on how to use these rules and win at the scale.

Please be advised the main reason to have this criteria is avoid at all cost to declare a winner at the scale.

For this reason we are using the weight scale criteria **ONLY** for preliminaries, and as a last resort solution. We want to declare winners judging fighting abilities and not finding a way to win at the scale!

Enrolling a lighter fighter in a higher category, just to win at the scale is not the way to go.

Please understand, if the heavier competitor is still under the weight limit, the scale will **NOT** count at all.

The weight difference is as follows:

- 5 KG weight difference **and** one competitors is over the weight category.
- 10 KG weight difference for the highest weight category in all Senior and Veteran divisions.
(Male Senior +90 KG, Female Senior +65 KG, Male Veteran +80KG, Female Veteran +65 KG)
- 10KG weight difference will also apply for the highest weight category in the Cadet, and Junior I & II divisions. (Male Cadet +60KG, Female Cadet +45KG, Male Junior II +65KG, Female Junior II +55KG, Male Junior I +85KG, Female Junior I +60KG)

18. KATA (attacking partner)

The rules for the attacking partner are very flexible, in order to allow TORI from any division. The attacking partner can be male or female, and be part of any age category.

The reason for this flexibility is make sure there is no shortage of attacking partners and **ANY** member of your team can play this role.

The main goal here is to demonstrate fight control with a live attacking partner, and we don't have restrictions on who TORI is, as long as it knows the attacks from the kata.

19. KATA VIDEO

We have already recorded the KATA performance and we are in a process to produce the final video.

If you have been practicing KATA the same way you do for a grading test, there is no reason to worry, since you are already practicing the right way.

Please stay tuned in the next weeks for the final video.

20. KATA Divisions

The KATA divisions allow quite a bit of flexibility in regards to the age group.

Splitting these divisions into more categories will make the tournament logistics more complicated and will also diminish the value of a medal.

For the KATA tournament there is no full contact involved, therefore the difference in age is not as critical as in the KUMITE tournament.

For both Individual and Team divisions, the categories will be the ones stated below:

Name	Age
CADETS	-14 YEARS
JUNIORS	-18 YEARS
SENIORS	+18 YEARS

For the Team competition, all 3 team members **MUST** be in the same age group.

21. Senior (+18 years) New Style Division

The Senior (+18 years) New Style Division is part of the 2016 World Championship.

This is the new division, where punches to the head are allowed, using a special "space helmet" and under the following restrictions: see chapters 7.2 and 7.4 in the official rules documents.

Please enroll your competitors in this division as well, if you believe they are capable and want to challenge themselves to compete under these new rules.



ASHIHARA KARATE World Championship

Brasov, ROMANIA
November 9th to 13th, 2016

22. Referee licensing

As requested on our 2nd Q&A bulletin (June 29th), please send us a name from each country to organize the referee test and licensing.

Once we receive one name from each country, we will send further instructions.

For your reference, we are also including the previous sets of questions, so you have all the information available to you.

As soon as more requests and questions will be received, we will publish them as well to make sure everybody understands the rules.

Nicolae Dascalu

President of Organizing Committee

July 14th, 2016