



WKF COMPETITION RULES BULLETIN #1 - 2022

January 2022

Dear fellow karateka,

We have found it necessary to issue a clarification of the process for handling protest under WKF events. To make sure we have a uniform and understandable way of handling protests in a fair and transparent manner, the WKF hereby implements the following process effective 19.1.2022:



1. *Any protest concerning application of the rules must not necessarily impede the progression of the competition and should be announced by the Coach or NF representative immediately after the end of the bout.*
2. *The Coach / NF representative will request the official protest form from the Tatami Manager and will be expected to have it completed, signed, and delivered to the Tatami Manager with the corresponding fee without delay.*
3. *The Tatami Manager will immediately hand the completed protest form to a representative of the Appeals Jury. The Appeals Jury will have five minutes to render a decision.*
4. *Failure of a Coach / NF representative to deliver a protest in a timely manner may lead to its rejection if such delay, in the opinion of the Appeals Jury, is without reasonable justification and impedes the progression of the competition.*
5. *The protest may also be directly decided and announced to the Appeals Jury by the RC Chairman or the Chief Referee of the event, in which case no payment of a protest fee will apply.*

Furthermore, in order to formalize what has already become common practice, the WKF EC has decided to allow so called 'skin touch' in kumite competition for Competitors that have filled 16 years of age. Skin touch is understood as allowing controlled techniques touching the skin without transferring energy into the target. Experience from WKF competition tells us that this age-group displays ability to control techniques that are at least as good as the adults. The issue has been examined by the Competition Rules and World Ranking Commission and medical expertise, and there is consensus on the implementation of this practice as complying with the principle of safe sport.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gunnar Nordahl'.

Gunnar Nordahl
Chairman
WKF Competition Rules & World Ranking Commission