



# 2025 USA Open Karate Championships & Junior International Cup



## Referee Course

USA Karate will host a referee course on Thursday, April 17, 2025, in the Champagne Ballroom in the Paris Hotel Convention Center. Attendees will review the latest USA Karate Rules of Competition.

## USA Karate Referee/Judge Certification

Domestic attendees registering to take the referee exams will be issued certifications up to USA Karate Kumite National Referee A and Kata National Judge A. More information, including schedules, will be available at [USA Karate | 2025 USA Open Karate Championships & Junior International Cup](#).

Registration will be available online. *All candidate referees and judges testing for higher licenses are required to register online in advance at [Registration](#).*

*For USA Karate Officials, attendance and participation at this Signature Event includes the mandatory briefing before competition, daily briefings, and officiating the entire day(s) of the event until officially dismissed at the end of each day. Officials who fail to attend the whole event or leave the Signature Event before final dismissal **will not** have met the Signature Event attendance requirement, unless previously exempted per policies of USA Karate Officials.*

Course fees are as follows:

**Referee/Judge Certification Fee (Covers both Courses): \$200**  
**Course Audit Fee (no Certification): \$50**

USA Karate, PKF, or WKF officials with Kata and Kumite A licenses may participate in the course at no cost.

*Referees and judges who are not participating in the certification courses but are attending the championships are also required to register online at [Registration](#).*

**PLEASE NOTE: All domestic referees and judges must be current members of USA Karate and must have met the conditions of membership (SafeSport Training & background screen).**

**All international officials are required to complete SafeSport™ Training. To complete this training, visit [usankf.sport80.com](http://usankf.sport80.com) and create an account. From that account, you can click on the US Center for SafeSport Training. Training is valid for one year.**



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## Referee Course Schedule

Thursday, April 17, 2025

### Champagne Ballroom - Paris Hotel Convention Center

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Lecture
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	Break
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM	Kata & Kumite written exams (for testing candidates)
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	Kumite gestures and flag signal exercises
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch Break
1:30 PM – 2:15 PM	Kata video evaluations (for Kata testing candidates)
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	Kumite practice matches (for Kumite testing candidates)
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Kumite practical exam (for Kumite testing candidates)
4:15 PM – 5:00 PM	Kata and Kumite examination results
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>BRIEFING (MANDATORY FOR ALL OFFICIALS)</b>

*\*Note: Schedule times above may be subject to adjustment.*

### **Important:**

Ongoing evaluation will continue throughout the championship; all candidates must attend **all days until officially dismissed** at the end of the championships and will receive the certification at the end of the championship.

USA Karate Referee A license and PKF/WKF referees/judges are exempt from taking the written test to renew their license but must participate in the lecture of the rules of competition.

**\*USA Karate will not allow any official to officiate if they are not in compliance with regulations and/or are not up-to-date with their membership, SafeSport™ Training, and background screen.**

**\*International officials will be required to complete SafeSport™ Training - <https://usankf.sport80.com>.**

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**\*All referees/judges with USA Karate National Kata Judge A or Kumite Referee A, PKF, and WKF certifications may not serve as a coach at the USA Karate Signature Events.**