



# 2026 USA Open Karate Championship & Junior International Cup

## **Referee Course**

USA Karate will host a Referee course on Wednesday, April 1st. Attendees will review the 2026 New USA Karate Rules of Competition.

## **USA Karate Referee/Judge Certification**

USA Karate will host a Referee/Judge certification course on Wednesday, April 1st. Domestic attendees 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 [usakarateopen.com](https://usakarateopen.com).

Registration is available online, and all participating Referees and Judges are required to register in advance.

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

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

**On-site course registration fee \$100 in addition to the Course Fee.**

Referees who choose not to participate in the certification courses, but are attending the championships, are required to register online at [usakarateopen.com](https://usakarateopen.com)

**PLEASE NOTE: All domestic Officials must be a current member of USA Karate and have met the conditions of membership (SafeSport Training & NCSI Background Screen).**

**All International Officials are required to complete SafeSport™ Training. To complete this training visit [usankf.sport80.com](https://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.**

**\*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**

**\* In compliance with USA Karate Policy all USA Karate Officials with USA Karate National Kata Judge A or Kumite Referee A, PKF, and/or WKF certifications may not serve as a coach at the USA Karate Signature Events.**

**Reminders:**

\* USA Karate Referee “A” and “B”, including Kata Judge “A” and “B”, must attend one Signature Event referee seminar annually and participate as an official in at least one Signature Event yearly to maintain their certification level.

**\* Attendance at a Signature Event includes the initial briefing the day before the competition days, daily briefings, and the entire day until officials are officially dismissed at the end of the day. Officials who fail to attend the whole event or leave a Signature Event before the final dismissal will not have met the Signature Event attendance requirement.**