

US Senior National Team Trials Officials Selection

Table of Contents

	Page
Definitions	1
Policy	2
I Purpose	2
II Selection Process	2
III Team Trials	4

Definitions

For purposes of this document, the following abbreviations/words/terms are used.

AAC	Athlete Advisory Council
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COI	Conflicts of Interest
Officials	Referees and Judges
PKF	Panamerican Karate Federation
Referee Chair	Referee Committee Chairperson
Team Trials	US Senior Team Trials
USA Karate	USA National Karate Federation
WKF	World Karate Federation

Policy

I. Purpose

Select the best Officials to officiate at the Team Trials.

The selection of Officials for the Team Trials is critical in ensuring that our best athletes will have the opportunity to compete in front of the best Officials.

Our policy is to select Officials who are licensed at the WKF or PKF level. Officiating at Team Trials is not a right for **any** Official.

II. Selection Process

- a. The invitation of domestic Officials and international Officials who live in the United States, must follow the process below. This will ensure that we do not:
 - i. invite too many Officials;
 - ii. invite Officials who do not hold the appropriate qualifications; and
 - iii. have to backtrack on any invitations.
- b. Once the dates and location of the Team Trials is publicized, the Selection Committee will:
 - i. request the number of Officials that will be required;
 - ii. request the list of US Officials with active WKF or PKF licenses;
 1. The list must include the:
 - a. Kata and Kumite licenses of each Official;
 - b. expiration date(s) of license(s);
 - c. name of dojo/club/martial arts organization with which each Official is affiliated;
 - d. state(s) where each Official maintains a residence; and
 - e. dates of all WKF and PKF tournaments, as available, where each Official officiated in the past 24 months.
 - iii. request the list of USA Karate Officials who have tested for WKF or PKF licenses in the past 24 months.
 - iv. remove any Officials who are:
 1. not currently members of USA Karate;
 2. deficient in getting a current background check; or
 3. not up to date with their SafeSport training.
 - v. request the list of US athletes who are eligible to compete at the next Team Trials; and
 1. The list should include the:
 - a. state where each athlete resides; and
 - b. name of any present or past dojo/club/martial arts organization which each athlete has had an affiliation.
 - vi. provide the list of eligible Officials to the Ethics Committee.
- c. The Ethics Committee will have 7 days to respond and will:
 - i. remove any Official who has been censured, in any manner, within the past 12 months by the Ethics Committee, the Judicial Committee or SafeSport; and
 - ii. provide the Selection Committee with the names of Officials who should be removed but will not give any specifics as to why any Official has been removed.

- d. The Selection Committee will provide the list of eligible Officials and the list of Team Trial athletes to the Referee Committee, giving them 15 days to provide a list.
- e. The Referee Committee will select Officials who have active WKF or PKF Kata licenses in both Kata and Kumite.
 - i. If there are not enough qualifying Officials that have both Kata and Kumite licenses, the Referee Committee will select Officials whose WKF/PKF licenses will best be able to allow for adequate coverage considering all pertinent factors including any club, martial arts organization or state COIs.
- f. The Referee Committee:
 - i. will strive to select the most capable Officials, considering, but not limited to, the following criteria, in no particular order:
 - 1. licenses of each Official;
 - 2. number of WKF/PKF tournaments the Official officiated within the past 24 months; and
 - 3. any club, martial arts organization and state COIs.
 - ii. may recommend international Officials that live in the United States, but only if they meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Either be a member of USA Karate or a member of his/her country's federation; and
 - 2. Must have current SafeSport (or SafeSport-equivalent) training and a background check.
 - iii. will send list of recommended Officials back to the Selection Committee.
- g. The Selection Committee will:
 - i. review the recommended list and move to the bottom of the eligible list of Officials any Official who failed to attend the prior year's Team Trials after agreeing to attend and backing out with less than 30 days before the start of the Team.
 - 1. If the Referee Chair and CEO feel that the Official had a good reason for backing out with short notice, reinstatement may be possible.
 - ii. move to the bottom of the eligible list of Officials any Official who failed his/her last WKF or PKF exam.
 - iii. provide the CEO and AAC with the recommended Officials list for final approval, giving them 7 days to review and respond.
- h. The CEO and AAC will review the recommended list.
 - i. If either the CEO or AAC questions any name, the CEO, AAC Chair and Referee Chair will meet to discuss.
 - ii. Once a finalized list of the required Officials is in place, invitations will be sent to those selected.
 - 1. The Selection Committee will draft a letter which will be emailed to the Officials selected.
 - 2. The Selection Committee and CEO will sign the letter and the letter will be sent either by the Selection Committee, the CEO or a USA Karate employee.
 - 3. Officials will need to respond within 7 days. Failure to respond within the stated time frame will result in the Official's response being considered a No.
 - 4. Any Official who responds after the 7 days may still be allowed to officiate if other invitations have not been tendered.

5. If the required number of Officials has not been met, the Referee Committee will be asked to provide the Selection Committee with the names of additional Officials to commence the process again.

III. Team Trials

- a. Any Official who appears at the Team Trials when not selected will not be allowed to enter the field of play.
 - i. The CEO, Tatami Manager or Referee Chair **must** enforce this rule to ensure that those Officials who were selected are able to officiate for the benefit of the athletes.
- b. The Tatami Manager must ensure that the Officials being placed on video review have experience handling the equipment.