



Where Olympic Journeys Begin

USA KARATE

PARENT FAQ: SANCTIONED EVENTS

Is my child insured at a USA Karate sanctioned event?

Yes. Athletes who are USA Karate members are covered by event insurance during USA Karate sanctioned competitions. This adds an important layer of protection beyond what many non-sanctioned events provide.

Will medical help be available if my child is injured?

Yes. Certified medical personnel are required to be onsite for the entire event. If medical coverage is not present, competition does not continue. This is a national requirement for sanctioned events.

How does USA Karate help protect young athletes?

USA Karate sanctioned events follow SafeSport policies designed to protect minors. Adults in key roles must complete required training and screening, and clear reporting procedures are in place if concerns arise.

Are the referees qualified?

Yes. Sanctioned events require a qualified Chief Referee and licensed officials who follow nationally standardized rules. This ensures fair, consistent competition across all divisions.

Are sanctioned events appropriate for beginners?

Yes. Sanctioned events are structured to:

- Match athletes by age and experience
- Provide clear rules and expectations
- Create a positive, professional competition environment

Many families find sanctioned events offer a better first competition experience.



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What makes a sanctioned event different from a local or school-run tournament?

Sanctioned events are:

- Reviewed and approved in advance
- Required to meet national safety, medical, and officiating standards
- Accountable to USA Karate as the National Governing Body

Non-sanctioned events rely entirely on the organizer's own policies.

Do all athletes have to be USA Karate members?

Yes. Membership is required for participants at sanctioned events. This helps ensure athletes are properly registered, insured, and competing under national standards.

How can I tell if an event is sanctioned?

Look for the words:

“USA Karate Sanctioned Event”

This designation means the event meets national requirements designed to protect athletes and ensure fair competition.