

KARATE CANADA

Junior National Team Criteria

(FOR KATA AND KUMITE ATHLETES)

2016-17 Season



**KARATE
CANADA**

Version 3.0 - May 21st, 2016

**These criteria apply to the National Junior kumite
and National Junior kata Teams only.**

The following items are addressed:

There are 2 parts to this document as follows

PART I – Selection Framework

1. Introduction
2. Overall Philosophy and Values of Criteria
3. How to get on the National Junior Team Roster
4. Selection Criteria for Competition
5. Requirements, Exemptions and appeals

PART II – Point allocation for Domestic and International events

1. Competition calendar and point allocation for the current season
2. Camp calendar
3. Funding Ratios

PART 1 – SELECTION FRAMEWORK

1.0 INTRODUCTION

These criteria apply to the National Junior Teams only. The following items are addressed:

1. Introduction
2. Overall Philosophy and Values of Criteria
3. How to get on the National Junior Team Roster
4. Selection Criteria for Competition
5. Requirements, Exemptions and appeals

The criteria will be applied to all National Junior Teams taking into account current points earned in the current and/or previous season (depending on point expiration of specific events) using the point criteria in Part II of this document.

All funding directed to athletes, as stipulated in Part II will be a function of Karate Canada's budget and the athlete's status.

The National Junior Team Roster will be named yearly, after the conclusion of Karate Canada's National Championships.

Medalists in each weight category at the Canadian National Championships will automatically named as members of the Junior National Team Roster and will remain National Team Roster members until the beginning of the National Championships of the following year, pending compliance with Requirements in Section 5.0, and other stipulations in this document.

An athlete may be a member of the Junior National Team Roster in more than one category, if he/she has participated and medaled in more than one category at the Canadian National Championships.

For the purposes of this document, the term "season" designates the time period between the end of one Karate Canada National Championship and the beginning of the Karate Canada National Championships in the following year. Also, any reference to the National Junior Team Head Coach(es) will refer to either the individual(s) filling that position or an appointed temporary substitute in the event that the Head Coach position(s) is (are) vacant.

The classification of domestic, continental and international tournaments, and the points which athletes are able to accumulate at each one, will be determined by the National Junior Head Coach(es) in collaboration with the Joint High Performance and Coaching Committee (Joint HP&C Committee) on an annual basis. Please refer to Part II for the classifications and point yields for each competition for the current season.

The international tournaments chosen for the National Junior Team Roster can be modified during the course of the year by giving at least eight (8) weeks notice prior to the event. Karate Canada may also cancel participation in any of these events due to unforeseen circumstances, such as re-scheduling or cancellation of the event by its organizing committee.

Please note that Karate Canada reserves the right to amend these Criteria after the date of their original publication, in accordance with the primary objective of enhancing Karate Canada's chances of

obtaining podium results and achieving success at certain WKF and/or PKF competitions. Furthermore, final selection of the Junior National Team Roster and other key strategic high performance decisions made by the Joint HP&C Committee remain subject to final approval by Karate Canada's Board of Directors.

2.0 OVERALL PHILOSOPHY AND VALUES OF CRITERIA

The following criteria is designed to meet 2 objectives

1. To ensure that Karate Canada fields the most competitive teams as possible in accordance with the long-term objectives of the KC High Performance Plan, and
2. To develop future athletes as and when appropriate to ensure a healthy and continuous pipeline of athletes representing Karate Canada at designated events

The values used by the Joint HP&C Committee when developing the Selection Criteria and for decision making in selection related matters are as follows:

Transparency

Ensuring that the selection process and decisions are clearly and fully communicated to KC stakeholders

Performance Excellence

Ensuring that decisions and criteria are guided by the philosophy of always selecting the best possible team for Karate Canada within consideration of funding and long-term performance objectives

Athlete safety and well being

To ensure that athletes are not forced or coerced into over-competing and/or competing in inappropriate competitions, or at the wrong time of their training cycles.

3.0 HOW TO GET ON THE NATIONAL JUNIOR TEAM ROSTER

An athlete must participate at the annual Karate Canada's National Championships of the current season (as defined in Part I, Section 1)

Medalists (top 4) in each category at Nationals will automatically be deemed "members of the Junior National Team Roster" for the current year. An athlete may be a member of the National Team Roster in more than one category, if they participated in and won a medal at Nationals in more than one category

Selection to the National Team for a targeted competition will occur no later than one (1) month before the start of the designated competition.

3.1 Citizenship Requirements

Non-Canadian citizens may be named to the National Team Roster and, thereby, earn ranking points at Open tournaments if and only if they are permanent residents. Only upon the attainment of Canadian citizenship will they become eligible to be named to a National Team representing Canada at Pan American Championships and, official Intercontinental or World Championships. Non-citizen athletes on the National Team Roster will receive no funding from Karate Canada, and are not eligible for Sport Canada Carding (Athlete Assistance Program).

3.2 Selection of alternates

Karate Canada is under no obligation to select an alternate for either a camp or an international event. The selection of alternates is at the discretion of the National Junior Head Coach(es), but must be approved by the Joint HP&C Committee.

If a spot on the National Team becomes open due to injury, illness or other circumstances the Head Coach(es) may choose to select and invite the next highest ranked athlete from the most recent Canadian National Championships to join the Junior National Team. This must be approved by the Joint HP&C Committee.

As soon as an athlete is named onto a team for a specific competition as an alternate or to fill a vacant spot, he/she immediately becomes a Junior National Team Roster athlete, for the remainder of the season (as long as he/she meets all other requirements and conditions for the remainder of the season).

3.3 How to get points

Athletes earn points:

1. Through any performance as listed in Part II and according to the Rules About Points (Section 3.4 below)

3.4 Rules About Points

An athlete must win at least 2 bouts in approved competition (as listed in Part II) in order to accumulate the designated points. If an athlete wins only one bout, he/she will receive only 50% of the designated points.

1. A win through a bye and/or absence of an opponent in the competitions listed in Part II will NOT be counted as a victory.
2. All rules apply to both team events and individual divisions.
3. Points obtained in team kata and team kumite will remain in the team division and will not be applied to any athlete's individual division. Should one of the three kata team members who earned these points be replaced by another athlete (due to the replaced athlete being injured or having decided to retire or withdraw from the team willingly), the kata team will

continue to benefit from these points from the date on which they were earned until the date of expiry. Should more than one of the original kata team members be replaced retire or withdraw, points will be lost for all the kata team members regardless of their original anticipated expiry date.

4. If an athlete changes age division during the course of a season, they will not carry their points with them to the new age division. If this athlete has not won a medal at Nationals in an older category they will not be considered a member of the National Team Roster for this older category. If an athlete has already accumulated points at Nationals in an older category, future points for participation and/or performance in this older category will only be recognized once the athlete turns of age for the new category.
5. An athlete who is a member of the Junior National Kumite Team Roster and a medalist from the most recent Canadian National Championship can request to be transferred to a higher weight category, provided that:
 - a) it is in the same age category;
 - b) there is at least 1 vacant spot in that higher weight category, at the time of the request, among the medalists from the most recent Canadian National Championship;
 - c) the request is written by the athlete and forwarded to Karate Canada at least one month prior to the holding of the Junior National Team Training Camp.

If the request is accepted by the HP & C Committee, the athlete will be introduced in this new higher weight category, and he/she will carry with him/her the points he/she has previously accumulated, up to the total number of points held by the lowest ranked athlete (at the time of this request) in this higher weight category.

6. With the exception of situations described in point 3.4.5 above, points obtained in an individual division can only be accumulated within that same division. There cannot be cross-accumulation with other individual disciplines (i.e. kata and Kumite), and/or age and/or weight divisions.
7. Only the events listed in Part II, Tables 1 of this document will be considered for points.

3.5 Duration and Expiration of Points

1. The start date of an Athlete's point accumulation is the end date of the event when the points were awarded.
2. Points from an events will expire::
 - At the beginning of the same event if that event occurs annually
 - 12 months from the beginning of an event if that event is cancelled or for whatever reason does not occur in the following year

- At the beginning of the same event, (or after 2 years if the event doesn't reoccur in the following 2 seasons) for points derived from a medal at the Junior World Championships.

NOTE: As per Part II, Table 1 points for events that do not occur in the following season are reduced by 50% after the 1st year.

3.6 Strength of Field

In order to ensure that events in which points can be accumulated are competitive the following rules will also apply for point accumulation.

- Points for the 2016 USA Open Karate Championships and for the 2016 Youth World Karate Cup will be reduced if the number of elite level competitors in that competition does not satisfy requirements
- In order to receive full points for these events, an athlete must be positioned on the same side of the draw / pool as at least 2 opponents from any one of the 4 "Strength of Field" categories listed below;
- If only 1 opponent from any one of the 4 "Strength of Field" categories below is on the same side of the pool / draw as the athlete, then only 75% of that event's designated points are awarded.
- If no opponents from the categories below are on the same side of the pool / draw as the athlete, then only 50% of that event's designated points are allocated for that event:

Strength of field categories:

- An athlete in Top 8 at the most recent Junior World Karate Championships (regardless of any change in age or weight division)
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent Pan American Karate Championships (regardless of any change in age or weight division)
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent European Karate Championships (regardless of any change in age or weight division)
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent Asian Karate Championships (regardless of any change in age or weight division)

4.0 SELECTION CRITERIA FOR COMPETITIONS

4.1.1 Mandatory Training Camps:

In order to maintain their status as members in good standing of the Junior National Team Roster for the 2016 season, in order to be eligible for automatic invitation to the 2017 Karate Canada National Championships (see notes at the bottom of table 1, in Section II), and in order to be eligible for participation in the Cadet & Junior Pan American Championships of the current season, and in any subsequent international competition of the season as an official Canadian Junior National Team member, all Junior National Team athletes (kata and kumite) must take part in:

- That season's National Championships
- That season's Junior National Training Camp,
- The KC Summit Training Camp (Mandatory for Ontario and Quebec athletes and highly recommended for others), and
- All Regional and Inter-regional Training Camps as described below

(Notwithstanding exemptions listed below)

The 2016 Junior National Training Camp (JNTC) will take place in Toronto, on July 15-17, 2016. KC may schedule additional JNTCs. If more camps are scheduled, eligible athletes will be notified at least 6 weeks before the beginning of each camp.

The list of Regional and Inter-Regional Camp dates and locations will be updated prior to each season, at least 6 weeks prior to the beginning of the first camp, and will be published in Part II, Table 3 of the these Selection Criteria.

KC has the right to change the dates and/or location of any of the mandatory camps, or cancel a camp, provided at least 2 weeks notice is given to Junior National Team Roster members.

Note that Karate Canada may add additional Regional Training Camps during the course of the season.

4.1.2 Regional and Inter-Regional Training Camps

In order to remain on the Junior National Team Roster, all invited Junior National Team Roster athletes residing in Ontario or in Quebec must participate in all mandatory ON-QC Inter-Regional Training Camps, if they reside within a 300 km radius from the training camp venue. Athletes living outside of this perimeter will be exempt from mandatory participation in QC-ON Inter-Regional Training Camps.

Furthermore, in order to remain on the Junior National Team Roster, all invited Junior Kumite National Team Roster athletes must participate in all mandatory Regional training Camps, if they reside within a 200 km radius from the training camp venue. Athletes living outside of this perimeter will be exempted from mandatory participation in Regional Training Camps.

The calendar of camps is provided in Part II, Table 3 below (but remains subject to change).

Junior National Team Roster athletes residing in other provinces may be invited to take part in Regional and Inter Regional Trainings throughout the season as well.

4.2 Exemptions from National Team Camps or Competitions

See Section 5.2 below

4.3 Selection onto the Junior National Team for specific competition events

In order to participate in any Karate Canada sanctioned events as a member of the Canadian National Team (with the exception of Junior Pan Am Championships, see Section 4.5), eligible athletes will be selected based on highest point accumulation according to the table of events in Part II, Table 1, and according to the number of available positions for that event (based on KC budget and tournament rules).

Athletes on the Junior National Team Roster may be invited to participate in some international competitions solely at the Head Coaches' discretion throughout the year (taking into account their availability, their ability to assume participation costs - as well as their parents' - and KC's available resources), so as to continue their progression and growth, and so as to gain experience at the international level and familiarize themselves with the National Team Coaches and programs. Selection for these events must be approved by the Joint HP&C Committee and the KC Board of Directors.

Such discretionary invitations are not point-scoring events, and do not include Junior Pan Am Championships.

4.4 Selection for Junior Pan American Championship Team and Tie Break Procedure

Athletes with the highest point total up to the Junior National Training Camp (based on the point allocation listed in Part II, Table 1) will be selected to the Canadian Team for the Junior Pan American Championships.

The tiebreaker process for selection onto this National Team will be as follows for two (or more) athletes who hold the same total number of ranking points at that time:

- Priority 1: If they have both/all competed in the same division at the 2016 Youth World Cup Karate-1 event, the athlete with the higher total number of ranking points earned from performance (excluding participation points) at this event will be selected.
- Priority 2: If the tie persists, and if they have both/all competed in the same division at the 2016 USA Open Karate Championships, the athlete with the higher total number of ranking points earned from performance (excluding participation points) at this event will be selected.
- Priority 3: If the tie persists, the athlete who obtained the best result (in this division) at the 2016 Karate Canada National Championships will be selected.
- Priority 4: If the tie persists, final selection will be decided by the Head Coaches in charge of the Junior National Team program; this selection must be approved by the Joint HP&C Committee

4.5 Selection for Junior Team Kata

The team that wins the Team Kata competition in any given Junior division at the KC National Championships will be selected to represent Canada at targeted events.

4.6 Calendar of Competitions for the season

The calendar of competition events for the season is found in Part II, Table 1.

5.0 REQUIREMENTS, EXEMPTIONS AND APPEALS

5.1 Requirements

To remain on the Karate Canada Junior National Team Roster, each athlete must:

- Sign and adhere to the Karate Canada Athlete Agreement
- Pay the required Junior National Team Package Fee as well as Team Management Fees for each event on time, if required.
- Have and maintain a valid Canadian passport (see exceptions at 3.1).
- Always report any performance-limiting injuries or physical conditions to the National Junior Head Coach(es) within 5 days of the injury or performance limiting change in physical condition.
- Provide proper medical information on the injury and on its treatment.
- Keep the National Head Coach(es) informed on the progress of recovery from injury and/or illness.
- Provide an accurate mailing address, an active e-mail address and all phone numbers at which they can be reached.
- Any changes must be sent to the Karate Canada Head Office.

5.2 Exemptions

Exemptions from national team camps and/or competition activities due to exceptional circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

- Recent death in the immediate family
(within at least 1 month prior to the start of the Camp or Competition);
- Injury limiting participation and/or performance;
- Pregnancy; or
- Infectious disease

Requests must be made as soon as reasonably possible after the issue arises but no later than 3 weeks after the occurrence of the incident or exception by notification in writing to the Karate Canada Head Office. Notification of such an event must include details of the circumstances along with any supporting evidence scanned and/or emailed to the Karate Canada Head Office.

In the cases of injuries, disease or other performance limiting physical condition, the athlete must include a medical certificate indicating the specific problem, its severity and the estimated recovery time. Karate Canada has the right to seek its own medical opinion before rendering their final decision on potential exemption or consequence of the injury.

An athlete who has sustained an injury must be present at all mandatory training camps unless the ability to receive appropriate medical treatment for that injury precludes that athlete from attending, or unless waived by the Head Coach(es).

An athlete whose condition persists and is unable to undergo full training during the 2-week period prior to an event may be withdrawn by KC from the team representing Canada at that event.

Karate Canada will accept or reject all requests for exemptions and deliver its decision in writing 3 business days following receipt of request for exemptions. Such decisions will be final and without appeal.

5.3 Appeals

Appeals regarding team selection are limited to the incorrect application of criteria. For any appeal, please refer to the Karate Canada's Appeal Policy.

PART II
Specific season-to-season Competition events
and Point Scores for Selection

Table 1
 – Calendar of events for 2016 and points allocation –
 (Exact dates and locations of all events below to be confirmed.)

Competitions (2016)	Points 1st	Points 2nd	Points 3rd	Points 4th-5th	Comments
Nationals (Richmond, BC) January 29-31, 2016	60	40	30 (bronze in Kata)	20 (4 th in Kumite only)	Used as selection event for Team Kata
US Open (Las Vegas, NV USA) March 2016 ***	70	50	40	-	10 participation points (To be added to performance points, if any. Please note: National Team Coaching support will NOT be provided at this event. All participating athletes must therefore plan to be accompanied and/or supported by their PTSO or club/dojo coach. All points awarded only if the athlete competes in the division in which he/she is a Junior National Team Roster member.)
Karate 1 Youth World Cup (Umag, Croatia) June 27-July 3, 2016 ***	100	70	50	30	10 Participation points (To be added to performance points, if any. All points awarded only if the athlete competes in the division in which he/she is a Junior National Team Roster member.)
Jr National Training Camp (Toronto ON) July 2016	o	o	o	o	Mandatory
Kata National Training Camp (BC) August 2016	o	o	o	o	Highly Recommended
Cadet and Jr Pan American Championships (Quayaquil, Ecuador) August 22-28, 2016 *	120	80	60	30 (5 th)	
Jr World Championships ** (odd years only)	300	200	100	50 (5 th)	

* Points valid only until the beginning of the following Junior Pan American Championships, so long as the athlete is still competing in the same division.

** Points valid for 2 years or until next occurrence of event –which ever occurs first, with 50% devaluation of allocated points after 1 year, regardless of the athlete’s possible changes in weight and age division. However, if the points are earned in U21, we will, in the Senior (18+) division, consider the points up to the maximum value of a bronze medal result (in the regular ranking system) at Sr PKF Championships of the season.)

*** Karate Canada will only award ranking points for the best performance at either of these two events (the 2016 US Open Karate Championships or the 2016 Karate 1 Youth World Cup), and not for both. Additionally, participation points will be awarded for only one of these two events at most, even if an athlete participates in both.

The two (2) top-ranked Junior National Team Roster athletes in each division (at the end of the season) will be automatically invited to participate in the 2017 National Championships, in Cadet (14-15 year old), Junior (16-17 year old) and U21 (18-20 year old) divisions and in Senior for kata athletes, regardless of any change in age or weight division. These athletes must still meet team eligibility requirements set by their respective PSO/ TSO (in terms of participation in provincial selection tournaments and / or trainings, etc), and must be active members in good standing of Karate Canada’s Junior National Team Roster program.

Table 2

– Funding Ratios for Athletes on the National Junior Team at International Competitions

Points	Ratio
170 or more	1.5 : 1
90 - 169	1 : 1

Based on its budgets per event, Karate Canada may distribute additional funding to athletes participating in multiple divisions.

(* Whenever funding is available. Based on Karate Canada’s available funds and overall budget for each event.)

Table 3

– Dates for Regional and Inter-regional Training Camps – *

Inter-Regional Québec-Ontario	British Columbia	Atlantic (Kumite only)
May 1 st , 2016	April 30 th , 2016	April 29 th , 2016
June 12, 2016	June 11, 2016	July 8–10, 2016
August 7, 2016	August 6, 2016 (kumite only)	September 10, 2016
KC Summit *	October 15, 2016	October 16, 2016

* = Participation in the KC Summit Training Camp is mandatory for all Ontario and Quebec-based Junior National Team Roster athletes, in order for these athletes to maintain their status as active within Karate Canada’s Junior National Team Roster Program.