

# **KARATE CANADA**

## **Junior National Team Criteria**

**(FOR KATA AND KUMITE ATHLETES)**

**2017-18 Season**



**KARATE  
CANADA**

Version 1- Board Approved – January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

**KARATE CANADA  
JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM CRITERIA  
(FOR KATA AND KUMITE ATHLETES)  
2017-2018 SEASON**

**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 division 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.

Athletes who hold valid ranking points earned during the previous season and who take part in the 2017 National Championships (see possible valid exemptions as per Sections 4.2 & 5.2) will also be 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 Junior National Team 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 National Team Roster can be modified

during the course of the year by giving at least four (4) 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, and as may be required in order to align with international karate sport governing bodies (WKF, PKF...) and other external agencies/ partners (Canadian Olympic Committee, Sport Canada...). 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 the Cadet (14-15), Junior (16-17) and U21 (18-20) kata and kumite divisions at National Championships will automatically be deemed "members of the Junior National Team Roster" for the current year, as will any athletes holding valid ranking points from the previous season and who have competed in the 2016 National Championships. 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 four (4) weeks 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 training camp or an international competition. See section 4.7 for the selection process and criteria for alternates.

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. 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. If an athlete obtains a result with no win, he / she will not be awarded any ranking points.
2. 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.

3. All rules apply to both team events and individual divisions.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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 submitted in writing by the athlete and forwarded to Karate Canada no later than the start of the Junior National Team Training Camp.

If the request is accepted by the Head Coach(es), 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 the Junior National Training Camp) in this higher weight category

7. 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
8. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2017 Youth World Karate Cup will be reduced if the number of elite level competitors in that competition does not satisfy Strength of Field 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)

Please note: should performance points earned at a competition be subject to point devaluation both under the Strength of Field criteria above and based on the number of matches won (as per 3.4.1), Karate Canada will consider the lowest of the two point totals for the competition, and will not devalue the ranking points from table 1 twice for a same competitive result.

## **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 2017-2018 season, in order to be eligible for automatic invitation to the 2018 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 and Junior World 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 Karate Canada 2017 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 2017 Junior National Training Camp (JNTC) will take place in Toronto, in June 2017 (exact dates and location to be confirmed no later than four (4) weeks prior to the start of the event). Karate Canada reserves the right to schedule additional Junior National Training Camps. If more camps are scheduled, eligible athletes will be notified at least four (4) weeks before the beginning of each camp.

The date and location of each Regional and Inter-Regional Training Camp will be announced at least four (4) weeks prior to the beginning of each camp. An unofficial calendar of these Training Camps is in Part II, Table 3 of these Selection Criteria.

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

Note that Karate Canada reserves the right to 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.



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 Training Camps and / or Competitions**

See Section 5.2 below

#### **4.3 Selection onto the Junior National Team for Specific Competitions (Individual Divisions)**

In order to participate in Karate Canada sanctioned events listed in Table 1 as a member of the Canadian National Team in individual divisions, eligible athletes from the Junior National Team Roster will be selected based on highest point accumulation, at the cut-off date for each specific event, according to the table of events in Part II, Table 1, and according to the number of available positions for that event (based on Karate Canada budget and tournament rules).

#### **4.4 Developmental Events**

Additionally, athletes on the Junior National Team Roster may be invited to participate in some developmental international competitions solely at the Head Coach(es)' discretion throughout the year. Such discretionary invitations are not for point-scoring events.

#### **4.5 Tie Breaking Procedure**

When two or more athletes hold the same total number of ranking points at the time of selection, the tie breaking process will be as follows (in sequence below, and decreasing order of priority):

- Priority 1: If athletes have both /all competed in the same division at the 2017 Cadet & Junior Pan American Championships, the athlete with the highest 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 2017 Karate-1 Youth World Cup, the athlete with the highest 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 2017 Karate Canada National Championships will be selected.
- Priority 4: If the tie persists, final selection will be decided by the Head Coach(es) in charge of the Junior National Team program.

#### **4.6 Selection for Junior Team Kumite**

Selection of athletes participating in Team Kumite events, during international competitions, is at the discretion of the Junior Kumite National Team Head Coach, but selected athletes must either be current National Team Roster athletes or must have participated in the latest National Championships. The Junior National Team Kumite Head Coach's selection requires approval by the HP Committee.

#### **4.7 Selection for Junior Team Kata**

The team that wins the Team Kata competition in any given Junior division at the 2017 Karate Canada National Championships will be selected to represent Canada at targeted events.

#### **4.8 Alternates / Late Athlete Replacement**

Alternate – definition:

An alternate is an athlete who is selected as a late replacement in order to fill a spot left vacant for a specific competition or training camp after an athlete originally selected through the ordinary selection process (see section 4.3) has pulled out or is declared unable to participate, due to injury, illness or other circumstances.

Important: Karate Canada is under no obligation to select an alternate for either a training camp or an international competition.

##### **4.8.1 Individual Divisions:**

Should a selected athlete, at any time between the official date of team selection for a specific competition or training camp and the latest possible date on which Karate Canada may modify registrations in said event, have pulled out or have been declared unable to participate, due to injury, illness or other circumstances, that athlete may be replaced by the highest ranked eligible alternate in his or her division until a suitable athlete is able to fill the open spot.

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).

##### **4.8.2 Team Kumite Divisions:**

The selection of alternates in Junior Team Kumite divisions is at the discretion of the Junior National Team Kumite Head Coach, but selected athletes must either be current Junior National Team Roster members or must have participated in the latest National Championships. Selection of alternates by the Junior National Team Kumite Head Coach must also be approved by the HP 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).

##### **4.8.3 Team Kata Divisions:**

The selection of alternates (for replacement of an athlete due to injury or who has decided to retire or withdraw from the team willingly), in Junior Team Kata divisions, can be recommended by the remaining kata team members (athletes) themselves, but must be approved by the Junior National Team Kata Head Coach and by the HP Committee. Not more than one alternate may be selected per Junior kata team.

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).

#### **4.9 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 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 five (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 - at least four (4) weeks prior to the start of the Camp or Competition;
- Injury limiting participation and/or performance;
- Pregnancy; or
- Infectious disease

Exemption requests must be submitted in writing to Karate Canada's Head Office and Junior National Team Head Coach(es) as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours after the start of any National Team Training Camp / event. 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 two (2) week period prior to an event may be withdrawn by Karate Canada from the team representing Canada at that event.

Karate Canada will accept or reject all requests for exemptions and deliver its decision within a reasonable time period following receipts 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.

## **6.0 LANGUAGE**

Where / when there is a difference in interpretation between French and English versions of this document, the English version shall prevail.

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

**Table 1**  
– Calendar of events for 2017-2018 season and points allocation –  
(Exact dates and locations of all events below to be confirmed.)

<b>Competitions (2017-2018 Season)</b>	<b>Points 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Points 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Points 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Points 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Points Top 8</b>	<b>Comments</b>
National Championships (Quebec QC) February 24-26, 2017	60	40	30 (bronze in Kata)	20 (4 <sup>th</sup> in Kumite only)	N/A	Used as selection event for Team Kata
Jr National Training Camp (Toronto ON) June 9-11, 2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mandatory
Karate-1 Youth World Cup (Umag, Croatia) June 26 – July 2, 2017 ***	100	70	50	30	N/A	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.)
Kata National Training Camp (BC) August 2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Highly Recommended
Cadet, & Junior & U21 Pan American Championships (Buenos Aires, Argentina) August 24-26, 2017*	120	80	60	30 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	N/A	
Cadet, Junior & U21 World Championships (Tenerife, Spain), October 26-29, 2017 **	300	200	100	50 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	30	

\* 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 a U21 division, the athlete will receive equivalent points in the Senior (18+) division, up to the maximum value of a bronze medal result at Senior Pan American Karate Championships of the current season.

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 2018 National Championships, in Cadet (14-15 year old), Junior (16-17 year old) and U21 (18-20 year old) divisions regardless of any change in age or weight division within Junior divisions (automatic invitations do not carry over to Senior divisions). These athletes must still meet team eligibility requirements set by their respective PTSO (in terms of participation in provincial/territorial 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– \*

<b>Points</b>	<b>Ratio</b>
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**  
 – Regional and Inter-Regional Training Camps – \*

<b>Inter-Regional Québec-Ontario</b>	<b>British Colombia</b>	<b>Atlantic (Kumite only)</b>
Camp 1	Camp 1	Camp 1
Camp 2	Camp 2	Camp 2
Camp 3	Camp 3 (kumite only)	Camp 3
2017 KC Summit (October 13-15)*	Camp 4	Camp 4

\* = Exact dates to be provided at a later time and will remain subject to change. Participation in the 2017 Karate Canada Summit Training Camp is mandatory for all Ontario and Quebec-based Junior National Team Roster athletes, in order for these athletes to retain their status as active within Karate Canada’s Junior National Team Roster Program.