



# WORLD UNION OF KARATE DO FEDERATIONS

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## STATUTES

### CHAPTER I – THE BODY

#### Article 1 – FOUNDATION AND AIMS

1. The amateur association named “World Union of Karate-do Federations” (hereinafter referred to as “WUKF”), is founded according the Portuguese and international laws by the Founder Members and by the Sports Federations / Associations / Affiliate Organisations / Institutions (hereinafter referred to as “Associations”) which dedicate their activity to Karate, in compliance with the regulations of this Statute and the consequent regulations.
2. WUKF’s domicile address is in Portugal, Rua Julio Dinis no. 5 S.Pedro, 2005 – 479, Santarem. The Directing Committee may resolve to move the Headquarters or to establish new subsidiaries offices to other nations by submitting the resolution to be ratified by the General Meeting.
3. The purposes for which WUKF is founded are to promote and regulate karate at an educational, ethical and sports level, to ensure and to contribute to the education and to consolidate the psycho-physical integrity of the associates: consequently, WUKF shall engage in all the appropriate activities and initiatives to achieve the foregoing purposes. In particular, WUKF proposes to:
  - a) Promote, disseminate and organise the karate discipline, rendering available access thereto and practice thereof to all social groups with educational, cultural, recreational and sports objectives.
  - b) To support, coordinate and facilitate the formation and development of federations and associations, by favouring and safeguarding the implementation and practice of karate related to the technical and organisational aspects and understood to entail improving the quality of life through self-control, physical, ethical and intellectual well-being.
  - c) To stimulate the commitment to promote karate activities in terms of the recovery of persons suffering from physical handicaps and for the elderly.
  - d) To pursue educational criteria, in harmony with the international programmes of the education for schools of every order and level with special reference towards the very young.
  - e) To organise professional no-profit training courses.
4. The WUKF is a no-profit, non-denominational and non-political organisation, founded with a democratic structure and with association offices subject to election and with an honorary status, and the services rendered by all members are provided on a no-cost basis.
5. The WUKF exercises its powers through its bodies and with the rules established by this Statute and by the Regulations.

#### Article 2 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1. Financial aspects are managed within the limits of the Balance Statement duly approved by the WUKF-Directing Committee (hereinafter referred to as WUKF-DC). Earnings are represented by affiliation fees and membership fees, by the revenues of the events organised on a world scale, from the contributions received from third parties and from the revenues of all the institutional activities.
2. The financial year shall coincide with the calendar year.
3. The Budget for each financial year (accompanied by the programme of the activities for the year) and the Balance Account (accompanied by the Auditor’s Report) shall be approved by the WUKF-DC.



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The Associations' Meeting shall be called at the next Senior World Championship, to resolve approval of the Balance Statement if the Auditors express a negative opinion.

4. The central and peripheral bodies shall be under obligation to contain expenses within the limits of the approved Balance Statement.

## **CHAPTER II – WUKF MEMBERS**

### **Article 3 – GENERAL REGULATIONS**

1. WUKF members are represented by the Founder Members and the affiliate Associations. Furthermore, membership card holders of member Associations of the WUKF that perform a specific duty assigned thereto by the WKC Bodies shall also be deemed members of the WUKF.
2. The WUKF-DC shall consult the nation(s) already affiliated in the case of nations where the WUKF has already acknowledged one or more national organisations with full member status, before officially acknowledging other organisations, and via a request for detailed information, shall establish whether the relationships between the federations already affiliated with WUKF and the new candidate-member are good or however the relationships are not such as to cause serious disadvantages to the rights acquired by the WUKF statutory member nation. The WUKF-DC shall resolve the acceptance or rejection of the candidate-member on the basis of the information obtained.
3. The affiliate Associations and however all Members shall be committed to accept the Statute, the Regulations, as well as all the decisions, provisions and resolutions of the competent Confederation Bodies, without reserve and to all effects and purposes.
4. All provisions, resolutions and decisions adopted by the competent Bodies shall have full effect and be deemed final in the framework of the Confederation's regulations, in relation to the affiliate Associations and however the parties that are WUKF members.
5. Any action tending to evade the regulations as laid down in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Article, shall result in dismissal from the WUKF organisation and the Federations/Associations affiliated thereto, for whatever reason and shall represent a serious motive for exclusion, in accordance with international sports law.

### **Article 4 – ASSOCIATIONS**

1. No-profit Associations and Associations governed by a Management Body duly elected by the Members' Meeting on the basis of the regulations of a democratic organisational Statute in harmony with the Regulations of International Laws can be WUKF members.
2. Associations that intent to take part in the activities organised by the WUKF must become affiliates thereof, subject to the terms and conditions and procedures established by the regulations. Associations cease to be members of the WUKF by waiver, duly resolved by their relative management bodies, by winding up, by failing to renew their affiliation, by not accepting re-affiliation or through being barred due to serious motives.



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## Article 5 – CENTRAL BODIES

1. The following represent Central Bodies:
  - a) The Congress;
  - b) The President;
  - c) The Directing Committee (WUKF-DC);
  - d) The Board of Auditors;
  - e) The Disciplinary Commission;
  - f) The Appeal Commission;
  - g) The technical members of the Central Organisation Chart (members of the technical commissions).
2. The WUKF General Secretariat shall represent the Permanent Executive Central Body.

## Article 6 – PERIPHERAL BODY

The WUKF Continental Committee represents the Peripheral Body.

## Article 7 – WUKF CONGRESS

1. The WUKF Congress represents the top ranking body of the WUKF and has supreme status in the framework of the statutory regulations. This body examines and therefore judges the activities of the WUKF based on the items on the Agenda and adopts the relative resolutions.
2. The Ordinary Elective Congress shall meet every four years at the time of the Senior World Championships. The Meeting shall be called by the WUKF-DC and be convened by the President. The calls to parties entitled to participate shall be forwarded by means of a federal circular to all the member Federations/Associations at least 60 days before the date foreseen for the Meeting, moreover they shall be published on the WUKF's Internet Web Site. The notices of call shall contain details of the date, time and place the Congress will be held and the items on the Agenda.
3. An Extraordinary Congress may be convened at the initiative of the WUKF-DC or further to a written and motivated request from a number of Associations representing at least 50% plus one of the votes assigned to the Associations which have been WUKF members for at least 12 months, provided they are affiliate members for the current year. The Extraordinary Congress shall be convened adopting the same procedures as adopted for the Ordinary Congress and the Congress, if called at the request of the affiliate Associations, shall be held within 15 days from the date the last valid request that satisfies the required minimum was received by WUKF by registered letter. In the Extraordinary Congresses affiliate Associations shall have the same number of votes assigned to them in the last Ordinary Congress.
4. The following parties shall be entitled to participate lawfully in both the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress:
  - a) Presidents of Associations that have been affiliated for at least 12 months. Presidents of Associations may delegate another card-holding member of the Association to represent them with a written power of attorney. Such representatives shall hold a power of attorney duly signed by the President of the Association or signed by the person lawfully delegated thereby. Associations shall be affiliated within and not later than 31st December of the preceding year to be eligible to participate in the Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress;
  - b) Founder Members;



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- c) The President of the WUKF, the Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary and the Members of the Board of Auditors, the honorary members;
  - d) The Sports Committee;
  - e) Members of the Appeal Commission
  - f) Presidents of the Continental Committees;
  - g) Members of the Commissions;
5. The Presidents of Affiliate Associations and the Founder Members may also be represented by a Manager of another Association or by another Founder Member, but the power of attorney may be conferred only on a person who is entitled to participate in the Congress, even if the person in question is a member of another Association. No person may represent more than 1 Founder Member or more than one affiliate Association, in addition to its own. Persons that have been given a disciplinary penalty that is still applicable shall not be permitted to participate in the Congress.
6. Voting rights shall be given only to the Presidents of Associations or to their representatives and to Founder Members who shall be entitled to the number of votes laid down in Article 24 of this Statute.
7. Powers shall be verified by the Board of Auditors that also acts as the vote counting commission when votes are cast.
8. The President, or the 1st Vice-President in his absence (established in the following order: the greater the number of votes obtained in the last Elective Meeting, in the case of ex aequo: the elective seniority, age) shall proceed to open officially the Congress and invite the Board of Auditors to declare the number of persons present with voting rights and the number of votes each person may cast. Subsequently, shall invite the Congress to appoint the Congress Chairman and Deputy-Chairman who shall immediately assume the relative powers. Outgoing members of the WUKF-DC shall not be elected as Chairman and Deputy-Chairman of the Congress. The Secretary General shall be the lawful Secretary to the Congress.
9. The Congress:
- a) Examines the activities performed during the preceding four-year period via the technical-ethical and financial report drawn up by the WUKF-DC and shall express its vote with a nominal call or by raise of hand.
  - b) Establishes the general principles to carry out the activities.
  - c) Approves amendments to the Statute, if any.
  - d) Ratifies the Regulations.
  - e) Elects the WUKF Directing Committee composed by:
    - the President of the WUKF by general vote.
    - the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president;
    - the General Secretary;
    - 5 (five) Members;
  - f) Elects the Board of Auditors (3 members + 2 suppliants).

Elections shall be held by secret ballot and simple majority.



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## Article 8 – PRESIDENT

1. The President shall represent the WUKF. The President shall control the bodies and the offices, excepting the Board of Auditors, sign the acts or delegate the signature, convene and chair the WUKF-DC meetings and establish the Agenda and convene the Congress.
2. The President can resolve with regard to matters falling under the jurisdiction of the WUKF-DC in cases of special urgency and need, subject to submitting its decisions for ratification to the competent body at the first next Congress.
3. The President shall delegate his functions and his powers, in full or in part, to the 1st Vice-President in the event of temporary absence or impediment.
4. The 1st Vice-President shall take office as a temporary measure in the event the President resigns or if the office remains vacant, with the obligation of convening an Extraordinary Meeting, which shall proceed to elect the new President.

## Article 9 – DIRECTING COMMITTEE (WUKF-DC)

1. The WUKF-DC represents the resolving body of the WUKF. The Directing Committee comprises the President, 2 Vice-presidents, the General Secretary and 5 (five) members duly elected by the Congress.
2. The WUKF-DC shall perform the following duties and functions:
  - a) To draw up and approve the budget and final Balance Sheet.
  - b) Prepare the technical, ethical and financial Management Report.
  - c) Establish the date, location and Agenda of the Ordinary Congress and the Extraordinary Congress, if any.
  - d) Approve the publication of the Technical, Organizational and Refereeing Regulations for the competitions and other regulations, if applicable, to be submitted later for ratification by the Congress.
  - e) To confer and revoke appointments within its jurisdiction.
  - f) To set up commissions and its members.
  - g) To ratify all decisions taken urgently by the President, falling within its jurisdiction.
  - h) To issue all provisions designed to ensure the best performance of the WUKF, resolving on the merits, within the limits of the Statute and the resolutions made by the Congress.
  - i) To resolve on every other topic submitted by the President and to decide matters not contemplated in any regulation.
3. The candidates that received the greatest number of the votes after the last elected DC member at the last Elective Congress shall succeed to the office if one of these resigns, or if the office remains vacant. Newly elected members shall remain in office up to expiry of the four-year period, regardless of the date they were elected. The entire Committee shall be dismissed if more than one half of its Members resign and the same procedure laid down in Article 8, paragraph 4, 'President's resignation', shall be followed.
4. The WUKF-DC shall meet in Ordinary session at least once a year and in extraordinary session whenever a motivated request is made by the majority of its Members. All decisions shall be taken by majority vote. The DC Committee may resolve validity with the presence of at least one half plus one of its Members, including the President, who shall have the casting vote in the case of parity. At least one



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Member of the Board of Auditors may attend the Congress as an auditor. Failing the above, the Minutes of Congress shall be countersigned by the Members of the WUKF-DC.

5. The WUKF-DC shall appoint a Treasurer from among its Members, or also a non-member, duly appointed to manage the financial aspects. The Treasurer shall remain in office for the same period as the body that has appointed him, except in cases of resignation, substitution or fall from office of the body that appointed him.
6. The WUKF-DC shall remain in office for 4 years.

## **Article 10 – FOUNDER MEMBERS**

The Founder Members are the persons/parties that participated in founding the WUKF. These members shall be under the obligation of paying the annual membership fee via their local Association, which must be an affiliate of WUKF, failing the above they shall forfeit their WUKF membership.

## **Article 11 – PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBERS**

The President and/or the Honorary Members could be appointed by the WUKF-DC. The choice shall be made from a list of persons who have distinguished themselves most for having worked to promote karate and the WUKF. The President and the Honorary Members may remain in office for life. The President and the Honorary Members shall have the right to participate in all the events organised by the WUKF.

## **Article 12 – BOARD OF AUDITORS**

1. The Board of Auditors shall be responsible for auditing the Balance Sheet, the accounts, the statements of account and any other administrative document related to the WUKF and to its peripheral bodies, to establish the correctness and to contain expenses within the limits of a sound and prudent management.
2. The Board of Auditors shall comprise three Statutory Members duly elected by the Congress.
3. Moreover, the Congress shall elect 2 Suppliants Members, who shall take office in the event one of the Statutory Members is away on holiday.
4. The Statutory Members and the Suppliants Members shall be elected concurrently. The three candidates that receive the highest number of votes shall be the Statutory Members, while the last two members shall act as the Suppliants Members. The Board of Auditors shall remain in office for four years.

## **Article 13 – DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

1. The WUKF-DC shall appoint a Disciplinary Commission who shall resolve all disciplinary breaches.
2. After the file has been opened the General Secretary shall transfer to the competent Disciplinary Commission all the reports related to any given member.
3. Judgement shall fall under the jurisdiction of the WUKF-DC.
4. The Disciplinary Commission shall remain in office for the full four-year period, barring cases of resignation, substitution or fall from office of the body that appointed same.

## **Article 14 – APPEAL COMMISSION**



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1. Recourse to the Appeal Commission shall be permitted against the decisions of the Disciplinary Commission, the Appeal Commission's decision shall be deemed final. Recourse shall be submitted in writing by registered letter within 30 days from the date of notification of the decision by the Sports Judge, together with the relative tax.
2. The Appeal Committee comprises three Statutory Members appointed by the WUKF-DC. The Appeal Commission shall remain in office for four years, barring cases of resignation of more than one half of its Members, revocation or termination of the body that appointed the Commission.
4. The Statutory Members shall elect the President of the Commission from among its Members, during the first Meeting.

## **Article 15 – GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

1. The General Secretariat comprises the office and services necessary to enable the WUKF to function. The General Secretariat shall be directed by a General Secretary who ensures its functional operation and effectiveness in compliance with the directives issued by the President.
2. The Secretary General is elected by the Elective Congress based on a proposal made by the President.
3. The Secretary General:
  - a) Executes the resolutions made by the competent Directing Bodies.
  - b) Performs the tasks and exercises the functions that have been conferred by the Statute and by the Regulations.
  - c) Supervises the staff assigned to the WUKF that report to him based on the current regulations.

## **Article 16 – CONTINENTAL COMMITTEES**

1. The constitution of a Continental Committee is foreseen in each Continent.
2. In general, the sphere of jurisdiction of the Continental Committee shall be represented by the Continent. For particular reasons, to be decided by the WUKF-DC, two or more Continents may be united in a single Committee.
3. Continental Committees shall be composed of the President and of 2 Vice-Presidents duly elected by the representatives of each continent present to the WUKF Elective Congress.

## **CHAPTER III – CONGRESSES AND ELECTIONS**

### **Article 17 – VALIDITY OF CONGRESSES**

Congresses shall be deemed valid at first call when the overall number of votes is equal to at least one half plus one of the total votes held by the parties entitled to vote. In second call, one hour later, whatever the number of parties present with voting rights.

### **Article 18 – VALIDITY OF VOTES CAST**



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1. All resolutions duly approved by the Congresses, to be valid, shall be made based on the absolute majority of the votes present at the time of voting, barring the circumstances laid down in paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. The relative majority shall be valid in the case of elections of any kind, provided at least one half plus one of the votes established as being present at the time the powers were verified.
3. The candidate with the longest membership seniority in the WUKF shall be deemed elected in the event of parity votes in elections, followed by the oldest candidate and finally by drawing lots.

## Article 19 – ELIGIBILITY AND CANDIDATURE

1. Persons who satisfy the following requirements shall be eligible to central and peripheral offices:
  - a) Over 21 years old.
  - b) Minimum of 12 months as Federation members.
  - c) Have not been sentenced by Justice.
  - d) Have not been subjected to disciplinary measures which entail or have entailed overall banning or prohibition for more than one year, barring motivated exceptions resolved by the WUKF-DC.
  - e) Have not suffered suspension penalties from sporting activities following the use of substances or methods which altered the normal physical performance in the sports activity.
2. Each candidature shall be proposed by the following number of Federations/Associations with voting rights, for each office and in the specific voting session:
  - a) By at least 20 associations for the office of President of the WUKF
  - b) By at least 15 associations for the office of Vice-President and General Secretary;
3. New candidatures shall be submitted to the WUKF General Secretariat by registered letter with recorded delivery or by fax, at least 60 days before the foreseen date of the Elective Congress, accompanied by the original declarations of the Federations/Associations proposing the candidate, duly signed by the President of the Association. The requirements shall be verified by the WUKF General Secretariat.
4. Each candidate shall be allowed only to run for a single office;
5. The WUKF-DC reserves the right to ratify the election of any candidate to a peripheral office, subordinating the election to the ethical and/or criminal requirements of the candidate in question.

## Article 20 – VOTES

1. The minimum period to gain the right to access points, and consequently voting rights, shall be one year starting from the date of registration. Associations that have been members for at least 12 months shall be assigned 1 vote per Association in the Congress.
2. Founder Members shall be assigned 1 vote for each Member.
3. It is confirmed that associations shall acquire voting rights (1 vote per Association) only after ratification by the WUKF DC attesting the period of 12 months affiliation. This right shall be subject to the acknowledgement of each subsequent annual affiliation in order to be maintained, which shall also be duly ratified by the DC in question.



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## **Article 21 – REFERENDUM**

The WUKF-DC shall have the right to call a consulting referendum on matters of a technical, organizational and ethical nature.

## **Article 22 – REGULATIONS**

1. The WUKF-DC shall prepare specific regulations to determine special, procedural, technical and administrative regulations and to implement the statutory principles.
2. Such regulations shall be in harmony with the principles established by this Statute.
3. The WUKF regulations shall be issued by the WUKF-DC shall be ratified by the Congress and may be amended only by resolutions made by the Congress in question.

## **Article 23 – STATUTE AMENDMENTS**

1. The Statute shall be duly approved by the WUKF Congress and may be amended only by the Congress in question, with a favourable vote of at least one half plus one of the total number of votes present at the time the powers are verified.
2. The proposals to amend the Statute may be based on an initiative of the WUKF-DC or the Associations. In this case the amendment proposals shall be presented by at least 50% plus one of the Associations with voting rights and shall be deposited with the WUKF General Secretariat by registered letter or by fax within 1 month from the date of the Ordinary Congress.

## **Article 24 – WINDING UP THE WUKF**

1. The potential winding up of the WUKF shall be resolved by the Congress, with a majority of at least three quarters of the votes which may be cast by the associates.
2. All the assets and the archives of the WUKF shall be donated to Ethical Bodies, in the event of winding up or however to other no-profit associations that promote educational and ethical activities, as indicated by the Congress in its last Congress.

## **Article 25 – CIVIL CODE**

1. The regulations of this statute could be completed by amendments of Portuguese or international laws .
2. The Statute may be adapted directly by the WUKF-DC as regards all amendments imposed or subsequent to regulatory interventions of Law.

## **Article 26 – ANTI-DOPING CONTROL AND FAIR PLAY**

Regarding the measures of control and prevention of the use of forbidden substances and methods for artificial increasing of physical capacities of sportsman, WUKF will respect all the international regulation of anti-doping control and promoting fair-play and non-violence.

*Approved provisory by the WUKF - DC, Odessa - Ukraine – on 18th of June, 2009.*



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