



Working Rules of the WKF Women Sport Commission (WSC)

Version 2023



The Women Sport Commission (WSC) will conduct its work from a sporting perspective, within the framework of the World Karate Federation. It is not to be influenced by religious or cultural aspects. It will perform its duties according to the key attributes of good governance.*

**According to the Human Rights Council*

1. The WSC is advisory and aims to work in collaboration with other WKF Commissions to facilitate a professional, sustainable and equal environment across all areas in karate sport.
 2. The Women Sport Commission's primary task is to maintain and develop a constructive and safe environment for women in karate, by:
 - safeguarding their rights and interests
 - helping to prevent gender harassment and/or abuse of any kind towards women
 - providing a channel for suggestions and demands within the scope of these rules
 - helping promote ideas and actions to further the development and image of karate as a sustainable and progressive sport through gender equality
 3. The WSC reports to the WKF President and can, in agreement with the President, present proposals to the WKF EC.
 4. The WSC will be composed of the Chairperson, appointed by the Executive Committee. By recommendation of the Chairperson, additional members can be appointed by approval of the WKF EC to a maximum number of three (3), plus a representative of the Guardian Girls Karate project. All members have voting rights.
 5. In addition, the WSC can appoint ambassadors, who will have the right of expression but no voting rights.
 6. The WSC may propose to the WKF President the appointment of ambassadors.
 7. Members have to be supported by their respective National Federation. They shall also be active members of the NF attending regularly the World and Continental Championships as part of their NF delegation.
 8. Members and ambassadors of the Women Sport Commission must represent the values of fair play and equal opportunities for women in the field of sports and stand to promote female empowerment through karate.
 9. Primary target groups eligible for raising issues with the Women Sport Commission are:
 - Other Commissions
 - National Federations
 - Female National Team Members, Coaches, Referees and Officials
 10. The WSC may, with the agreement of the President, convene meetings of its membership to discuss matters concerning the development of gender equality in karate worldwide and to propose meetings with the Continental Federations and/or
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other institutions and organizations that may contribute to the development of said matters on an international level.

- 11.** The meetings of the WSC will be internally coordinated and minuted. The minutes will be sent to the members of the WSC and the WKF President, with copy to the WKF HQ.
- 12.** The WSC resolutions will be adopted by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson will have a casting vote.
- 13.** The Chairperson is the spokesperson for the WSC. The Chairperson has the right to, in agreement with the WKF President, appoint a Deputy Chair, who when so empowered by the Chairperson, is the spokesperson for the commission in case of the Chairpersons absence.
- 14.** The Chairperson will, in agreement with the WKF President, appoint a Secretary of the WSC amongst its members. The Secretary of the WSC will be responsible of drafting the minutes of each meeting, and for keeping the correspondence and the proposals received through the WSC and the WKF HQ, and for any other general duties as required by the Chairperson.
- 15.** The Chairperson, or upon the delegation the Secretary, will be responsible for calling the meetings of the WSC. These meetings will take place at least once a year, when convenient, during official WKF events if a majority of the members can attend.
- 16.** Other meetings deemed necessary, will take place via virtual platforms and all other official correspondence will take place through e-mail.
- 17.** Working language; members must be proficient in English.
- 18.** The WSC will accept recommendations and proposals received only in writing via e-mail. The proposals will be consolidated inside the WSC and subsequently be submitted to the relevant WKF Commission, or if deemed appropriate, to the WKF EC after agreement with the WKF President.
- 19.** In order that women should feel free to bring any issue forward to the commission, members of the commission must remain discreet of any sensitive issue, and refrain to make private statements on such issues outside the commission.