



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

Recognized by the International Olympic
Committee (IOC)
Member of SportAccord and of
the International World Games Association (IWGA)

Premier League 2018, innovations

Dear President,

The continuous increase of participants in all Premier League events in 2017, as well as the great impact on the WKF General Ranking and also the TV production which started this same year, have made it necessary to introduce a series of innovations for the next edition of 2018.

These innovations have an impact on a series of basic aspects to enhance its attractiveness and increase its interest for an improved follow-up, based on the following:

- Registration
- Draw
- Participation fees
- Prizes
- Image

1. Registration:

The significant increase of the number of registrations in all competition categories makes necessary to regulate the number of participants in each category, in order to homogenize the tournaments and their programs.

Moreover, the sport level must stay in accordance with the PL qualification as an elite tournament, therefore the participation of the best athletes and the competition system must be adapted to this goal.

The identity of the Premier League as an open competition must be preserved, where all the athletes can register individually. However, due to its high impact in the general ranking and in the process of qualification for the Olympic Games, a priority access should be given to the NFs, allowing them to register at least one athlete. Priority will be given to register ONE athlete per category through the NF.

The basic terms are:

- Participation per category is limited to 64 competitors
- Priority for the registration of the 50 first places of the WKF General Ranking per category
- A limit of TWO competitors per country



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With this aim, four phases are established in the registration period (2 months):

1st Phase: Limited to the NFs (first 15 days): ONE competitor per category necessarily ranked among the FIFTY first places of the WKF General Ranking.

2nd Phase: free registration (following 15 days), limited to the first FIFTY competitors of the General Ranking, being TWO the maximum number of competitors **by country and category.**

Namely, if there is already a competitor registered by a NF (first phase), only another competitor of that country can be registered and this one must be in the first 50 positions of the General Ranking.

3rd Phase: free registration (following 15 days) NOT limited to the first FIFTY competitors of the General Ranking, BUT limited to the maximum number of TWO competitors **by country and category.**

Namely, if there are already two competitors of that country (registered in the first and second phases) NO competitor of that country can be registered.

4th Phase: free registration (last 15 days) **with no other limit that the number of 64 athletes per category.** This means that the vacant places in each category can be filled, without taking into account the position in the General Ranking nor the number of competitors per country.

***Registration will only be complete after payment of the participation fees are confirmed over the online registration platform.**

2. Draw

The sport's level of the competition must be established through the draw, by establishing seedings in the pools of each individual category. This criterion would be applied to the EIGHT registered athletes that occupy the eight first positions of the General Ranking of each category.

3. Participation fees

The great importance of the Premier League and the effort made by its organisers has to be in line with the participation fees, which have thus to be updated.

The new fees by 2018 are:

Individual Category: **75 €** / Team Category: **150 €**



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4. Prizes

The increase of fees must have a direct impact on the amount of the prizes, which should then be the following amounts:

Individual Category: **750€ (1st) / 500€ (2nd) / 200€ (3rd)**

Team Category: **750€ (1st) / 500€ (2nd) / 200€ (3rd)**

I trust that these innovations, as well as some other organisational aspects will represent a significant progress in the development of the Premier League and our sportsmen.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antonio Espinós', written over a horizontal line.

Antonio Espinós
WKF President