

Proposed Format

For the

**Scottish Karate
Federation**

Karate Officials Qualification.

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Aim:

The aim of this proposal is to outline the format for achieving a qualification as a Karate Official, by the Scottish Karate federation.

Objectives:

There are 5 recognised objectives that this proposal would wish to address.

These will provide a template that can be adopted by the Scottish Karate Federation. It will also provide a structured program for persons who wish to develop themselves as a Karate Official.

The objectives are as follows:

- Provide an explanation of recognised Karate Officials qualifications.
- Provide an explanation of what is required to achieve such qualifications.
- Provide a structure for the SKF training program.
- List the persons responsible for the delivery of the tuition.
- List the current officials and their present qualifications.

Preface:

As is the case with any Scottish Karate Federation license holder, SKF Karate officials are affiliated to and recognised by the Scottish Karate Governing Body.

As a result of continued work and effort by the current SKF refereeing committee as well as the SKGB refereeing commission, Scottish karate officials are considered to be among the most dedicated and capable group of people who assist in the running of karate events. The SKF currently has officials qualified to Federation, National, British and European level.

Colin Clapperton 7th Dan, Vice Chairperson to the SKF, Chairperson of the SKF referees committee, Vice Chairperson of Wado Kai Europe and a member of the SKGB referees commission, has long been involved in the organisation and implementation of the Scottish Karate refereeing structure. Colin himself having previously held international qualifications, as a karate official, remains a driving force in the future development of Scotland's karate representatives.

Jim McCord 6th Dan, The SKF chief referee, has represented the SKF around the world. Jim also previously held international qualifications, as a karate official, he is recognised for his continued personal contributions to karate at local, national and international level. Jim is a member of the SKGB referees commission.

An explanation of the recognised Karate officials' structure:

Scottish Karate Federation	Table Official Judge B Judge A Referee B Referee A
Scottish Karate Governing Body (All styles)	Judge B Judge A Referee B Referee A
British Karate Federation (All styles)	Referee
European Karate Federation (All styles)	Judge B Judge A Referee B Referee A
World Karate Federation (All styles)	World Karate Referee

An explanation of what is required to achieve a karate official's qualification:

- Scottish Karate Federation
Table Official
Judge B
Judge A
Referee B
Referee A

A recognised table official would have attained the age of 16 years, hold the minimum of a 3rd kyu grade and would have attended at least one of the referees training courses. This stamp would be a requirement to sit a Dan grade and would be valid for 2 years.

A qualified federation judge would have attained the age of 16 years, hold the minimum of a 3rd Kyu grade and would have attended two referees training courses. Achieve no less than 80% in a theory exam and pass a practical assessment at a recognised SKF event. This would be valid for 2 years.

A qualified federation referee would have attained the age of 18 years, hold the minimum of a 1st Dan grade. Be qualified to a valid federation judge level. Attend 2 referee-training courses. Achieve no less than 90% in a theory exam and pass a practical assessment at a recognised SKF event. This would be valid for 2 years.

The qualification of an official would be recorded in his or her own personal officials record book as issued by the SKGB and endorsed by an SKF refereeing committee official.

- Scottish Karate Governing Body (All styles) Judge B
Judge A
Referee B
Referee A

Before an official could be assessed to SKGB level they must first hold a valid federation referee A qualification and a federation-refereeing committee official must endorse their development to SKGB level. This endorsement will be dependent on the efforts made by that individual in assisting the SKF at federation events.

A qualified SKGB judge would hold the minimum of a 1st Dan grade and would have attended two referees training courses. Achieve no less than 80% in a theory exam and pass a practical assessment at a recognised SKGB event. This would be valid for 2 years.

A qualified SKGB referee would hold the minimum of a 1st Dan grade. Be qualified to a valid federation judge level. Attend 2 referee-training courses. Achieve no less than 90% in a theory exam and pass a practical assessment at a recognised SKGB event. This would be valid for 2 years.

The qualification of an SKGB official would be recorded in his or her own personal officials record book as issued by the SKGB and endorsed by an SKGB refereeing commission official.

- British Karate Federation Referee
(All styles)

A qualified BKF referee must hold a valid SKGB referee A qualification and an SKGB refereeing commission official must endorse their development to BKF level. This endorsement will be dependent on the efforts made by that individual in assisting the SKGB at national events.

The qualification of an BKF official would be recorded in his or her own personal officials record book as issued by the SKGB and endorsed by a BKF refereeing official.

- European Karate Federation Judge B
(All styles) Judge A
Referee B
Referee A

A qualified EKF referee would have attained the age of 30 years, must hold a valid BKF referee qualification and the chairperson of their federation must endorse their development to EKF level.

A candidate for progression to this platform must pass both a theory and practical assessment as set down by the EKF.

The qualification of an EKF official would be recorded in his or her own personal officials record book as issued by the EKF and endorsed by an EKF refereeing official.

- World Karate Federation World Karate Referee
(All styles)

This is recognised by all as the most prestigious of karate official's qualifications. A candidate for progression to this platform must pass both a theory and practical assessment as set down by the WKF.

Structure of the SKF training program:

The central point of contact for the Federation refereeing committee would be Mark McCool, the Federation Refereeing Secretary.

markmccool999@hotmail.com

The training program developed by the SKF would consist of two 4-hour seminars per year. Each seminar would be further broken down into 3 parts.

1. Rules presentation.
2. Kumite Practical exercise.
3. Kata judge development exercise.

The rules presentation would be delivered as a classroom presentation on PowerPoint. This input would help the student with any technical questions that have arisen from their pre-reading of the WKF rules.

The kumite practical exercise and the Kata judge development exercise would take place in the dojo and a karate gi will be worn by all.

With kumite the student would develop their verbal refereeing commands, hand signals, flag signals and decision making as situations arrive during a bout.

With Kata the shitei would be practised while the criteria for decision would be explained.

The current Dan grade stamp requirement would be replaced with a table official's stamp and persons attending the course for this purpose would be utilised during the practical exercises.

Persons responsible for the delivery of the tuition:

Charles Lindsay	Federation Refereeing Co-ordinator.
Andy Simpson	Federation Refereeing Instructor.
Grant Bonar	Federation refereeing Examiner.

Current officials and their present qualification:

Grant Bonar	European Judge B	
Charlie Lindsay	British Referee	
Andy Simpson	British Referee	
Colin Clapperton	SKGB Senior Referee	
Jim McCord	SKGB Senior Referee	
Bruce Reeves	SKGB Referee	A
Andy Elliott	SKGB Referee	A
Peter Rogers	SKGB Referee	B
Lisa Rogers	SKGB Referee	B
Lesley Cairns	SKGB Referee	B
Sharon Allardice	SKGB Referee	B
Tracey Whitelaw	SKGB Judge	B
Lesley Potter	SKGB Judge	B

The following table could be considered as a rough guide to the timescales required for the steady progression as a karate official.

Scottish Karate Federation	Table Official	This would be achieved after attending one course and one event.
Scottish Karate Federation	Judge B Judge A	Year 1
Scottish Karate Federation	Referee B Referee A	Year 2
Scottish Karate Governing Body	Judge B Judge A	Year 3
Scottish Karate Governing Body	Referee B Referee A	Year 4
British Karate Federation	Referee	Year 5
European Karate Federation	Judge B	Year 6
European Karate Federation	Judge A	Year 7
European Karate Federation	Referee B	Year 8
European Karate Federation	Referee A	Year 9
World Karate Federation	World Karate Referee	Year 10

As can be seen from the template, an SKGB judge would be expected to have been officiating at events for around 3 years, the same time as would be required by most federations to achieve a 1st Dan black belt as a karate practitioner.

This guide is dependent on the level of commitment displayed by each individual. The time scales are necessary to allow the official to gain the practical experience required to progress.

