



# USA KARATE OFFICIALS

## Instructor Criteria & Certification

January 2019





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### Introduction:

The USA Karate Officials program offers seminars, instruction and certification throughout the country by its USA Karate Referee Committee Members. In addition, USA Karate extends its educational and certification outreach training to local programs by designating USA Karate Instructors to facilitate seminars, administer examinations and make licensure upgrade recommendations to USA Karate. Licensed Officials who meet the requirements to serve as USA Karate Instructors are encouraged to apply. Eligible candidates should access the [usankf.org](http://usankf.org) website for instructions regarding the application process. All USA Karate Instructors are required to obtain and/or maintain USA Karate membership, Safe Sport Training, Background screening, and current USA Officials' license.

### USA Karate Instructor Levels:

USA Karate offers three (3) Instructor levels, which are:

**USA Karate Instructor C**  
**USA Karate Instructor B**  
**USA Karate Instructor A**

Each level requires a variety of skill and experience and holds a different series of responsibilities.

### USA Karate Instructor Responsibilities:

USA Karate Instructors are responsible for facilitating seminars in accordance with the USA Karate Officials program. Since one of the requirements for licensure upgrade is tournament experience at three (3) approved events between upgrades, the USA Karate Instructor will ensure that the candidates' passbooks properly reflect the requisite signatures of Tournament Directors or Chief Referees, and calculate the required amount of time before approving the candidate for an upgrade. USA Karate "A" Instructors will be responsible for administering certain National licensure examinations with follow up documentation and recommendations made to USA Karate.

Note: License upgrades for all Regional and National levels requires recorded participation as an Official at three (3) approved tournaments between licenses. One tournament event is defined as a full day with approximately 150 competitors. Multi-day events under the same name are credited separately for each work day.

### USA Karate Instructor Support Materials:

Once approved as a USA Karate Instructor, the facilitator will gain access to the USA Karate Instructors' Materials page on-line. The instructional materials are to be utilized during seminars and they include power point presentations for kata and kumite, rule books, practice questions, forms and documents for registration and



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reporting purposes, study guide materials, and other support-related benefits to ensure a successful event.

### **USA KARATE INSTRUCTOR "C"**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "C" Criteria:**

1. Dojo owner and senior instructor of existing dojo with active USANKF dojo membership
2. Minimum USA Karate National Kata Judge A and USA Karate National Kumite Referee A
3. USA Karate Background Screening and Safe Sport Training
4. Member of USANKF in good standing
5. **Application approval by USA Karate**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "C" Authorization:**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "C" is authorized to certify:**

USA Karate Regional **Kata** Judge C;  
USA Karate Regional **Kumite** Judge B, A.

### **USA KARATE INSTRUCTOR "B"**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "B" Criteria:**

1. Dojo owner and senior instructor of existing dojo with active USANKF dojo membership
2. Minimum PKF Kata Judge A and PKF Kumite Referee A
3. USA Karate Background Screening and Safe Sport Training
4. Member of USANKF in good standing
5. **Application approval by USA Karate**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "B" Authorization:**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "B" is authorized to certify:**

USA Karate Regional **Kata** Judge C, B;  
USA Karate Regional **Kumite** Judge B, A, and Regional Referee B, A.

### **USA KARATE INSTRUCTOR "A"**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "A" Criteria:**

1. Dojo owner and senior instructor of existing dojo with active USANKF dojo membership



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2. *WKF kata Judge A & WKF kumite Referee A with extensive knowledge and proven history of tournament operations and officials' development experience*
3. *Member of USANKF in good standing*
4. *USA Karate Background Screening and Safe Sport Training*
5. ***Application approval by USA Karate***

### **USA Karate Instructor "A" Authorization:**

#### **USA Karate Instructor "A" is authorized to certify:**

*USA Regional **Kata** Judge C, B, A;*

*USA Regional **Kumite** Judge B, A & USA Regional **Kumite** Referee B, A*

***USA National Kumite Judge B, A.***

### **USA KARATE REFEREE COMMITTEE**

*The USA Karate Referee Committee's authorized members have the authority to conduct seminars and workshops, administer examinations, grant licensure and manage all delegated tasks in accordance with the USANKF by-laws with regard to every level of licensure and program development. In addition, the USA Karate Referee Committee conducts USA Karate Signature Event Referee Seminars which serve as mandatory recertification requirements. The USA Karate Referee Committee has the exclusive right to upgrade licensure to the highest national levels for Kata and Kumite, as follows:*

#### **USA Karate Referee Committee Exclusive Authorization to Certify:**

*USA Karate National Kata Judge B, A*

*USA Karate National Kumite Referee B, A*

- *USA Karate National licenses only awarded at USA Karate Signature Events and require USA Karate Referee Course attendance, and written and practical examinations administered by the **USA Karate Referee Committee**.*
- *USA Karate National referees must attend annual re-certification courses at USA Karate Signature Events facilitated by the USA Karate Referee Committee to ensure knowledge of rule updates, and must officiate throughout the event.*

USA Karate Officials Regional and National Licensing Levels:

<b>USA REGIONAL KATA LICENSES</b>	<b>USA REGIONAL KUMITE LICENSES</b>	
USA Regional Kata Judge C, B, A	USA Regional Kumite Judge B, A	USA Regional Kumite Referee B, A
<b>USA NATIONAL KATA LICENSES</b>	<b>USA NATIONAL KUMITE LICENSES</b>	
USA National Kata Judge B, A	USA National Kumite Judge B, A	USA National Kumite Referee B, A