



Junior National Team Selection Procedures

Athletes who compete in Junior Team Trial divisions are trying out for a place on the USA Junior National Karate Team. These are also called Junior Elite Divisions because they represent the highest level of competition the US has to offer. The Junior National Teams works off of a team pool that is selected at the National Championships & Team Trials. The top 4 places are in the team pool for the Jr. Age Divisions 12-13, 14-15, 16-17, and 18-20 years of age. The Jr. Pan American Karate Federation (PKF) Championships allow 2 athletes in each of the categories of those age divisions. The Jr. PKF Championship is held every year. The Jr. World Karate Federation (WKF) Championships allow 1 athlete in each of the categories of those age divisions excluding 12-13 years of age. The Jr. WKF World Championship is held every other year on the odd year.

- A. The top 4 athletes in each Jr. Elite Division at the National Championships will qualify for the Junior National Team Pool.
- B. These athletes are determined by the current method of single elimination and repechage.
- C. Both winners of the bronze medal matches would be equal and qualify for the team pool. The Bronze Medalist who lost to the Gold Medalist is the number 3 seat and the other Bronze Medalist is the number 4 seat
- D. Athletes for international competition are selected from the team pool. If for any reason the number 1 or 2 seats cannot attend the international event the next highest seed will then have an opportunity to attend.

All athletes competing in a Junior Elite Division must in that age division on the first day of competition at the National Championship and Team Trials. Athletes must bring their US passport when picking up their competitor pass (passport must be current and be valid for at least 6 months after the start of the first international event following the selection). If you do not provide proof of US citizenship with a valid passport you will not be allowed to compete in the Elite Divisions. Athletes are only allowed to compete for one country regardless of citizenship.

Non-US Citizens or US Citizens that are members of another countries national team seeking high-level competition are encouraged to compete in our advanced divisions.

If your birthday is between the Jr. Pan American Championships and the Jr. World Championships you can compete in both age categories. You must register for the second division ON SITE.