

Bring World University Karate Championships 2018 to **Kobe Japan**

[Application Detail]

Date: July 19-22, 2018

Place: Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture

Venue: Kobe Central Gymnasium

CATEGORIES

- Individual Kata : male and female, one person from each country
- Team Kata : male and female, one team of three people
- Individual Kumite : Class
Male: -60Kg ; -67Kg ; -75Kg ; -84Kg ; +84Kg
Female: -50Kg ; -55Kg ; -61Kg ; -68Kg ; +68Kg
- Team Kumite:
Male : one team consisting of 5; registration up to 7
Female: one team consisting of 3; registration up to 5

We, Japan University karatedo Federation, Japan karatedo Federation, and the World Karate Federation have gathered all of our power to hold the World University Karate Championships 2018 in Kobe.



KARATE PROPOSED by **2020 TOKYO**

Greeting



Japan Karatedo Federation President

Takashi Sasagawa

We hope that the “World University Karate Championships 2018” will be held in Kobe.

During the second world war, Japanese university students honed their competitive skills in karate competitions. Japan’s current success in world-wide competitions wouldn’t have been possible without the help of Japanese university students. The “FISU World University Karate Championships” helped to pioneer karate competitions throughout the world, and as we approach the 11th event, which could be called the “start of the second stage” it is our fervent hope that this event will be held in Japan, the birthplace of karate.

Currently, karate competitions are popular throughout the world, but as the birthplace of karate Japan is home to many enthusiastic fans of this martial art. We at the Japan Karatedo Federation help to unify the variety of karate organizations for Japanese karate enthusiasts, and we prepare backup systems. Of course, we cooperate closely with the Japan University Karatedo Federation and work together to help spread karate.

Also, we are engaged in preparations for the “Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics” that will be held in Japan in 2020. Karate has been proposed by the organizing committee as an additional sport, and this fact has brought rich possibilities for holding Karate competition, with national media picking up on many stories about “karate.”

With an eye on having karate adopted as an official Olympic event, we are cooperating with the World Karate Federation and preparations are being made. We feel that holding the 2018 “World University Karate Championships 2018” in Kobe would do a great deal to help increase the appeal of Karate for the upcoming Olympics.

Greeting



Japan University Karatedo Federation President

Toshio Watanabe

Japan University Karatedo Federation (JUKF) aims to pursue and develop Karate which is correct both domestically and internationally. To this end, we have been involved with the World University Karate Championships since the first championship, and held the second championship in Kyoto in 2000. Furthermore, we, the Japan University Karatedo Federation, held the 1st All Japan University Karatedo Championships in 1957 and established the match system. It was the Japan University Karatedo Federation, as pioneers of Karatedo as a sport, who first proposed the possibility of Karatedo as a form of competition to the world, which led to the current All Japan Championships, National Sports Festival and World Championships. Since then, matches became competitions and spread to the world under the competition rules of the World Karate Federation. Therefore, in preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Japan University Karatedo Federation is planning to hold the 11th World University Karate Championships KOBE in birthplace of karate, Japan.

In order to hold the 11th World University Karate Championships KOBE, we are working with the Japan Karatedo Federation, as well as Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, the Kobe-city Karatedo Federation, Hyogo-prefecture Karatedo Federation, and Hyogo High School Athletic Federation Karate expert unit to create an environment where we can proudly welcome the athletes of the world.

Kobe opened its ports in 1868 and many foreign residences were set up in the Kitano Ijinkan district. Since it opened its ports, many forms of western life and culture were brought into Kobe—from clothing to food to entertainment—and Kobe was one of the first Japanese cities to experience westernization and to develop as a city for international trade.

Kobe has a long history of hosting international tournaments, including the 1985 13th Summer Olympiade.

We promise a warm welcome in Kobe to all FISU officials, athletes, and those coming to support them. We hope you take the opportunity to visit the Kansai region's plentiful historical landmarks in places such as Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto, and Nara, and enjoy Japan's history and rich culture. We are looking forward to welcoming you to Japan.

To WUC, and to Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games



General Secretary World Karate Federation

Toshihisa Nagura

Karate is a martial art formed in Okinawa during the 14th century and developed by predecessors through immense training and study. After being introduced to Japan mainland in the 1900s, Karate was spread rapidly especially among university students and since then it has organized as a competitive sport.

Nowadays Karate is a global sport commonly known among 190 countries in 5 continents and followed by enormous number of fans. And its rule was devised by university students as a result of trial and error. Moreover, the birth of Karate competition became an important factor for its internationalization.

World Karate Federation has worked longing Karate's inclusion in the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo 2020. And Karate was finally proposed to the IOC as an additional sport for Tokyo 2020 on September 28th, 2015. If World University Karate Championships 2018 will be held in Japan, young top athletes will certainly gather in Japan to compete trying their best because most part of the participants are also athletes competing in WKF Senior World Championships.

Attraction of Karate is the fact that its competition system includes spirits of Rei and Setsu (manner and moderation) as custom, though it is a global sport with more than 100 million participants. Also, Karate has inherited Kata, a pre-arranged performance composed of traditional techniques, as well as Kumite (sparring). Power, sharpness, and aesthetic movements of Kata performed by top athletes move spectators heart deeply, and quick sparring by Kumite competitors provides great excitement.

On the other hand, Karate is conducted in school education as one of official subjects, and also played by various generation over age and gender, as a life-long sport.

As mentioned above, Karate was born in Okinawa and developed as a sport by university students. I am convinced that holding World University Karate Championships 2018 in Japan welcoming university students from all over the world, 2 years before Tokyo 2020 Games, has the greatest meaning.

To bring the 「2018 World University Karate Championships 2018」 in Kobe



Mayor of Kobe

Kizou Hisamoto

Kobe has announced its candidacy to host the 11th World University Karate Championships 2018. We warmly welcome 400 college students, their staff, and all supporters from 40 different countries.

Kobe announced the “International Sports City Declaration” after XIII Summer Universiade in Kobe in 1985. Since then, we have held many international sporting events, including the 2002 Soccer World Cup.

Moreover, Kobe was selected as one of the venues for the Rugby World Cup in 2019, as well as Kansai World masters in 2021.

By utilizing our experience and knowledge for international competitions, we are certain that we will be able to provide an urban environment with the best experience and service, not only for athletes but audiences from all over the world.

Additionally, our potential venue, Kobe Central Gymnasium is located in downtown Kobe, where there is great public transportations. It contains not only the stadium, but also a gym and conference room, making the venue perfect for international sports competitions. Most recently, the venue held the Women's Ping Pong World Cup, and many other international events.

Furthermore, Kobe welcomes more than 35 million tourists every year, which allows Kobe to accommodate a variety of lodging needs.

I and the 1.54 million residents of Kobe are looking forward welcoming athletes in 2018.

Significance of holding the World University Karate Championships 2018 in Kobe



We strongly wish to hold the 「World University Karate Championships 2018」 in Kobe, an international city that represents Japan. Although there are many international karate competitions that are held in Japan, we hope that Kobe will be the city to hold 「World University karate Championships」.

We would like university students who learn karate, from all over the world, to know Kobe, the city that has beauty, safety, internationalism, and is full of energy. Also, we hope all the athletes and their supporters to feel the vitality that Kobe offers as a representative city of Japan.

■ Kobe from an international perspective

Kobe is a world-renowned city. In 2007, Forbes Magazine selected Kobe as 25th most beautiful city in the world (Only three cities from the entire Asia were selected including Kobe - Katsuyama City in Fukui Prefecture placed 9th, and Omuta City in Fukuoka Prefecture placed 25th).

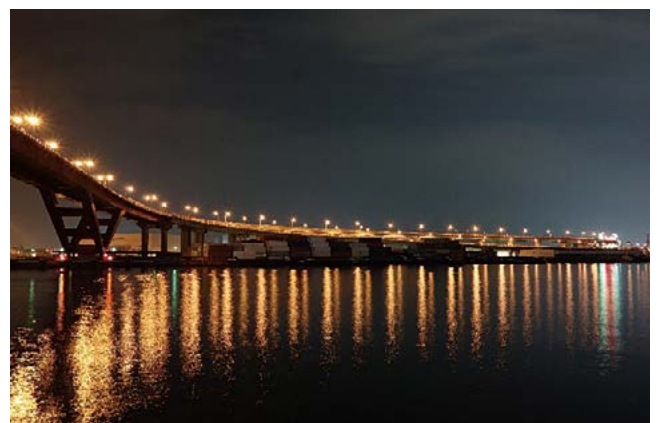
Moreover, Kobe was selected as a “Design City”, for the first time in Asia, along with Nagoya city, by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the diversity in culture while maintaining certain traditions. Additionally, Kobe was the only city in top ten on the “Most comfortable place to live” out of 400 cities all over the world, according to ECA International in Switzerland. It was based on climate, medical system, customer service, infrastructure, safety, atmosphere and product quality. Kobe was chosen second in Asia, and fifth in the world.

■ History of Kobe

Kobe has Kobe Port, where there has been much international trade from the Chinese continent and the Korean peninsula since Heian Era (794-1192 A.D), thus allowing Kobe to be a center of international trade.

Also, during the national isolation period in Edo era, Kobe Port served an important role for Japanese interstate transportation. Then, after the port was opened for international trade in 1868, Kobe became a world-renowned city with diverse people, products, and information.

In 1889, Kobe implemented a city organization system, and a ward organization system in 1931. In 1939, the population of Kobe exceeded 10 million and developed drastically as a big city.



■ City of restoration, Kobe

In 1945, the last year of the World War Two, Kobe was targeted by the American Air Force, and attacked multiple times by B29 bombers. The attacks destroyed urban areas, industrial areas, bay facilities, and resulted in many casualties. However, during Japan's high economic growth period, Kobe made an artificial island. Port Island was made using the dirt from nearby mountains and the land where mountains were shaved off to restore houses and industrial areas. Its unique restoration projects and effort became the role model for many local governments all over Japan at the time.

In January, 1995, Kobe was deeply affected by the Hanshin-Awaji earthquake disaster. However, restoration was completed within two years. Moreover, Kobe opened third biggest Japanese airport, Kobe Airport in 2006, and has been the central city for international trade that offers sea, sky, and land transportation.

Despite the many challenges the city has faced, Kobe always restored itself like a phoenix, and is still growing today. We would like university students who learn karate all around the world to feel the vitality that Kobe offers.



Venue / Lodging Facility / Surrounding Facility

■ Venue : Kobe Central Gymnasium

Kobe Central Gymnasium has held many national and international sporting events as a nucleus gym in Kobe city. It serves as a central facility for Kobe local government Athlete Town Plan, and is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. Therefore, this facility is perfect for the World Championship for Karate and will provide a comfortable environment for athletes and their staff.

■ Access

There is Kansai International Airport as the nearby international airport and from there, there is a direct train to nearby stations for the venue and hotels. The closest train station is JR Kobe Station, which is 2 hours away from Kansai International airport.

In case athletes and staff use buses as transportation, it may take up to an hour and a half from the airport to reach either hotel.

Kobe Central Gymnasium



【Facility Overview】

Completion : October 1965

Renovation Completion : June 1995

Lot Area : 10,818㎡

Total floor space : 11,764㎡ (five story steel-frame, steel-reinforced concrete (SRC) structure)

Facility Detail : 1,720㎡

Field : 540㎡

Second Gymnasium : 350㎡

Conference Room : Three rooms (Conference Room 1 · 56㎡ / 2 · 70㎡ / 3 · 60㎡)

Audience Seating: 1,863 seats (8 spaces reserved for wheelchairs)

■ Lodging facility

As an international city, Kobe welcomes many guests both for business and sightseeing everyday. In order to provide the best experience possible for athletes and staff who participate in the championship, we will provide the top class hotels to ensure best environment that athletes can bring their best to the championship.



【Lodging Facility and Meals】

For athletes, staff, technical delegation, referees and FISU delegation, twin or triple room at four star hotel, "HOTEL CROWN PALAIS KOBE" will be provided. For FISU executive committee members, five star hotel, "HOTEL Okura KOBE" will be provided as lodging. Both hotels are within 10 minute distance by walk to official entrance of the venue. Both hotels will provide buffet style breakfast and dinner, and boxed lunch will be provided.

■ Surrounding facility

Facility can be used for practice with prior reservation. The surrounding facilities include many public facilities such as libraries and museums. Moreover, there are many sightseeing places and shopping malls with English guidance, allowing foreigners to enjoy Kobe comfortably.



The birthplace of Karate: Japan

■ The beginnings of karate

Karate began in the Ryukyu Kingdom (present day Okinawa). Ryukyu had long prospered from transit trade from South East Asia, as well as plentiful trade with China, and it was from China that 「Chugoku-Kenpo」 came to Ryukyu. Karate developed as an independent art, combining elements of 「Chugoku-Kenpo」 and the ancient Ryukyu unarmed martial art, "Te".

The possession of weapons had twice been forbidden in Ryukyu and it is said that this led to the development of fighting techniques which use the bare hands, or daily items such as farming tools and oars.

At one time, karate developed as a secret self-defence technique, but since 1900 it has been included in the physical education curriculum of schools.

■ The development of karatedo

At the 1st All Japan Athletic Exhibition, held in Tokyo in 1922, Okinawan schoolteacher, Master Funakoshi Gichin, demonstrated karate. Upon seeing this, the founder of judo, Jigorou Kanou, became Master Funakoshi's apprentice in order to bring elements of karate to judo.

Master Funakoshi moved from Okinawa to Tokyo and endeavored to grow karate at the request of many people who wanted his teaching. He also taught at universities such as Keio University and Tokyo University at the request of the students. It was Master Funakoshi who popularized the name "Karatedo" by changing the spelling of the word karate in Chinese characters from the original Ryukyu spelling of "唐手" (Chinese-hand) to the modern "空手" (Empty-hand) and adding the "Do" which you see at the end of words like "Judo" and "Kendo". The karate taught by Master Funakoshi is called 「Shoutoukan-ryu」.

■ The four main schools of karate

It was not only Master Funakoshi who came over to Tokyo or Osaka from Okinawa in order to grow



karate. There was the founder of 「Gouju-ryu , Master Choujyun Miyagi , and the founder of 「Shito-ryu , Master Mabuni Kenwa . Master Mabuni settled in Osaka and raised many apprentices from throughout the Kansai region. He had many apprentices in Kobe, as well. Master Mabuni was requested to teach by several universities in the Kansai area and grew karatedo within Kansai universities.

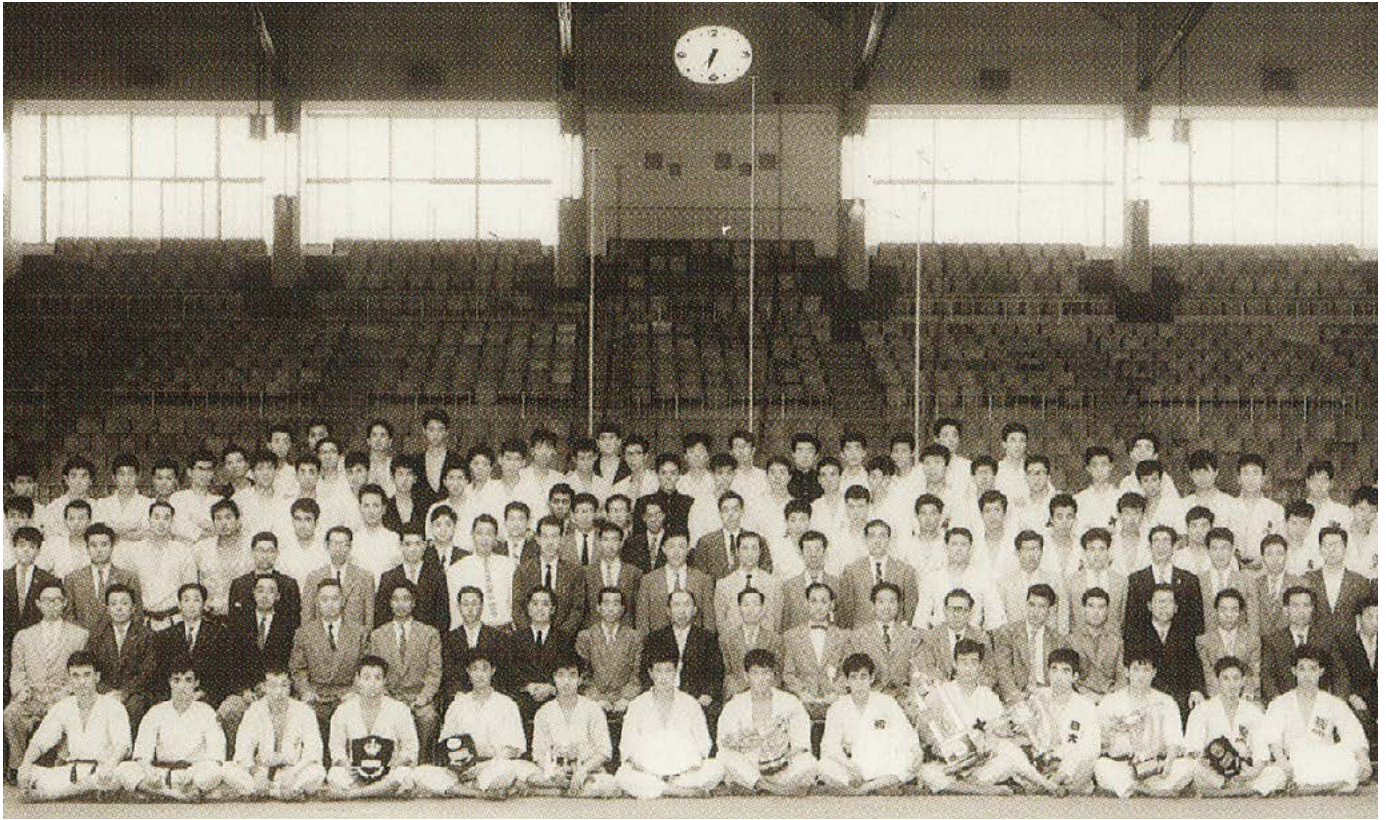
These three Okinawan-origin schools, "Shoutoukan-ryu" "Gouju-ryu" "Shito-ryu" , along with the "Wado-ryu" school of Master Hironori Otsuka—a kendoka who was taught by Master Funakoshi—are known as the four main schools of karate.

■ Martial arts as a sport

Karate in Japan developed under these four schools and grew within the universities of the Kansai and Kanto regions due to the fierce support of students. Many university students felt that they wanted to try out the techniques they had learned in competition matches, and the "KUMITE" rule set was established.

At the same time, competitions for judging the performance of kata were established, and the popularity of competitive karate, currently headed by the World Karate Federation , grew around the world.

College students in post-war Japan: pioneers in the development of competitive karate



Following the second world war, a group of Japanese students led by OB sought to pave the way for developing karate as a competition sport by establishing a system of rules and scoring. Today, the influence of these efforts extends from the karate world championships to tournaments large and small all over the world. It is this area of history that I would like to discuss here. Moreover, by shedding light on the current state of modern college karate in Japan, I would like to illustrate the significance of the opening of the 11th World University Karatedo Championships .

■ The development of student karate clubs.

Karate, which gained popularity after arriving onto the Japanese mainland from its birthplace of Okinawa, gradually gained traction among student populations in Tokyo Prefecture (now Tokyo Metropolis), with both Keio University and Tokyo Imperial University (now Tokyo University) establishing "Karate Kenkyu-Kai (karate clubs)" in 1924 and 1926 respectively under the supervision of Funakoshi Gichin . Following this, Karate Kenkyu-Kai began to appear

in universities all over Tokyo.

Clubs were established successively in:

- 1927 - Toyo University
- 1930 - Takushoku University
- 1933 - Waseda University
- 1934 - Tokyo University of Agriculture
- 1934 - Hosei University
- 1936 - Meiji University
- 1936 - Rikkyo University

In the Kansai region, meanwhile, a karate club was founded in Ritsumeikan University in 1929. Subsequently, clubs were established in the following Kansai universities:

- 1937 - Doshisha University
- 1938 - Kyoto University
- 1940 - Kansai University

As in the Kanto region, clubs began to appear one by one in universities all around the Kansai area.

■ Cultural exchange of karate among university students.

1941 saw the opening of the Japanese Student Karate Championships. The championships were held at Meiji University's memorial hall, with 14 universities from across the Kanto and Kansai areas participating. Among them, clubs belonging to each of the four main karate styles of Shoutoukan-ryu , Wado-ryu , Gouju-ryu , and Shito-ryu came to display their techniques.

Participating Universities:

○ Wado-ryu

Meiji University, Tokyo Imperial University, Rikkyo University, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Jikei University School of Medicine, Nihon University (medical)

○ Shoutoukan-ryu

Keio University, Waseda University, Takushoku University, Hosei University

○ Gouju-ryu

Ritsumeikan University, Doshisha University

○ Shito-ryu

Kansai University, Kwansei Gakuin University

■ Karate following Japan's defeat in the war.

Following the Second World War, Japan was occupied by the United States of America, and, under the direction of General MacArthur, the martial arts judo and kendo were prohibited due to their association with Japanese militarism. As this prohibition did not apply to karate, which had not been part of students' formal education during the war, the number of karate clubs gradually began to expand at universities nationwide.

In the autumn of 1950, participants from 20 universities, representing all major styles, met in the auditorium of Meiji University to establish the University Karatedo Federation, holding the first large-scale karate tournament since the end of the war. In 1953, a similar tournament was held in Waseda University's Okuma Auditorium. However, the event that can be considered the origin of "kumite" was held in 1952 at Takushoku University by all universities belonging to the Shoutoukan-ryu and Wado-ryu styles. The rules of

this tournament were not clearly defined, taking the form of a friendly cultural exchange far removed from kumite as it is practiced today.

■ At last, the University Karatedo Federation is born! The development of standardized karate matches.

When discussing the formation of the University Karatedo Federation, we must also consider the development of rules of for kumite matches, and I have focused my research in this area on the karate club of Takushoku University. In 1955, Meiji University, Takushoku University and the Tokyo University of Agriculture met at the dojo of Meiji University to carry out a series of league matches. Each of the three universities put forward 10 participants, and an invitation was extended to other universities to attend the event as spectators.

In 1957, the 1st All Japan University Karatedo Championships were held at Ryōgoku Kokugikan. Veteran athletes from 32 universities came together in what proved to be a fierce contest.

From this point forward, the world of student karate became integrated around this newly developed system of rules.

Today, the Japan University Karatedo Federation brings student karate clubs all over Japan together as a single organization and holds karate tournaments for university students.

The majority of senior athletes on Japan's national team, selected by the Japan Karatedo Federation , are drawn from the ranks of the Japan University Karatedo Federation , and they continue to represent the pinnacle of competitive karate in Japan.



Current state of Japanese competitive karate



Currently, karate is enjoyed by many generations, from kindergarten student to seniors. Specifically, public middle school requires all students to learn Budo, which includes Judo, Kendo, and Karate, in which karate is popular among many students. Moreover, there is a high possibility that karate will be chosen as an official sport in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, allowing karate to be the center of media attention.

■ All Japan karatedo Championships

As a championship that has a history of being held at the prestigious venue for all budo, Nippon Budokan began in 1969. Team competition allows one team from each sex from each prefecture, and the Prime Minister Award will be awarded to the winning team. For individual competition, athletes compete regardless of the school or weight, and allow winners from previous years to participate. This competition provides opportunity for all athletes to compete for the No.1 karatedo athlete in Japan.

■ All Japan University karatedo Championships

One of the two biggest competitions that decides the No.1 university team. There is only team competition for this tournament. The first championship ever was held in 1957, and Karate clubs from 32 universities participated in the championship.

■ All Japan University karatedo Championships of Individual match

This is an individual competition that decides the strongest karate athlete from universities in Japan. It has been held every year since 1958, and has been popular ever since the championship was started. The top 15 from both western and eastern Japan represent their area to compete.

■ All Japan High school karatedo Championships

This All Japan High School Championship is only for top high schools that have won regional primary games. First through third year high school students able to participate, and the championship has become a summer tradition in Japan.

■ JOC Junior Olympic Cup All Japan High school karatedo Championships

This is another championship to decide the number one high school and athlete along with All Japan High school karatedo Championships. Only first and second year high school students who passed the regional elimination are qualified to participate in this championship.



■ All Japan Junior High school karatedo Championships

This is an all middle school championship to decide the top school. Prefectures are allowed to send the best two teams, consisting of two students for each event. (Prefecture that hold the championship are allowed to bring 4 teams consisting of 4 student.)

■ All Japan Junior High school karatedo Championships of Individual match

This is another middle school championship, but only for individual competition. First and second year middle school students are qualified to participate, and 3 students from each grade are generally sent from each prefecture.

■ All Japan Boys & Girls karatedo Championships

This is an elementary school championship only for individual competition. Two students from each sex are sent from each prefecture to compete. It uses a point system where a student's win adds points to their prefecture score, and the prefecture with the highest score will be awarded the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award.

Other championships and competitions

■ National Athletic Meet (Japan Sports Association sponsored)

karatedo has been one of the events in the meet since the 36th meet in 1981. The prefecture that has the best score receives the Emperor Cup, and the prefecture that has the best total score in the female division will receive Empress Cup.

■ All Japan Youth Training Championship (Nippon Budokan sponsored)

This is an annual championship for elementary and middle school students at Nippon Budokan. The purpose for this championship is to showcase their everyday training, so it includes basic training as one of the events. The championship includes not only karate, but also Judo, Kendo, Aikido and 4 other budo.

■ Japan Sports Masters (Japan Sports Association sponsored)

This competition targets adults who pursue Budo as their lifestyle. karate became one of the events in 2001, and welcomes people who are over 40 years old (35 years for female Kumite). It is divided into classes by age.

World University Karate Championships 2018 in Kobe



The World Karate Federation has been making the best effort to make karate an official Olympic event for many years. Although it is said by many people that making karate an Olympic event is natural due to the number of karate organizations in the world as well as its global popularity, it has not been translated into reality. However, there is a strong possibility for karate to be included in the Olympic events in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, which would make karate the center of attention for many media outlets. Karate has been proposed to the IOC as an additional sport for Tokyo 2020. If Japan is able to hold the 2018 World University Karate Championships 2018 in Kobe and karate is incorporated in 2020 Tokyo Olympics as an official event, it will allow karate to develop globally and increase its popularity even more.

Therefore, we strongly hope to have 2018 World University Karate Championships 2018 in Kobe.



Japan University Karatedo Federation

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