

WAKO RULES CHANGE – NATIONALITY OF MEMBERS

Article 2.1.1. Registration of members

All participants in kickboxing events (competitors, coaches, referees, officials) must be registered members of WAKO (must have valid WAKO Sport Pass). Only registered members with valid membership status may participate in kickboxing events (competitions, seminars, camps) at all levels (local, national, regional, continental and world level).

Professionals from various fields (media, medicine, security, technology) can participate in all WAKO events and work in WAKO as associates and be registered directly under WAKO.

Article 2.1.1.1. Membership in club

A member of club, who is a member of a WAKO national federation, must be registered in the WAKO membership system on the RSportZ membership platform. Membership of an individual in a kickboxing club is regulated by the club's Statute and the Statute and by-laws of the national federation.

An individual member may be a member of only one club and one national federation. Double registration in the WAKO membership system is not permitted.

An individual member may change club membership only with the written consent of the previous club. Changes in club membership are regulated by the Statute and by-laws of the national federation.

An individual member of a club and national federation can also be a foreigner, who does not have the citizenship of the country in which he is a member of the club / federation. A foreigner who must be properly registered with a valid yearly registration can participate in all open international and regional competitions as well as continental and world cups (as a club member).

National federations will regulate the right of foreigners to participate at national open tournaments and national championships with their internal rules.

If a national championship or other competition is a qualifying competition for the selection of a national team, the national federation may decide not to allow a foreign member to compete in that competition.

Article 2.1.1.2. Membership in national team

Membership of a kickboxer in a national team is regulated by these rules - General Rules - Article 2.1.1.5. Nationality of a kickboxer

A member of the national team participating in the World and Continental championships as well as in the qualification system for multi-sport games (The World Games, The World Combat Games, Continental Games, Youth Games) and at all other regional multi-sport games under the direct authority of the IOC or continental OC (Mediterranean Games, SEA Games, Islamic Games) must be a citizen of the country he represents at the mentioned games. Citizenship is proven by a valid passport.

Temporary provision

Since kickboxing is not yet included in multi-sport events for youth age categories (juniors, older and younger cadets and children), the previous provision does not apply to them.

Therefore, temporarily, until kickboxing is included in sports events for younger age categories (Youth Olympic Games, Youth Continental Games and/or other multi-sport events where younger age categories participate as representatives of national teams, the rule in article 2.1.1.5. Nationality of member – point two, will be applied.

Article 2.1.1.3. Club Membership in a National Federation

A kickboxing club may only be a member of a WAKO national federation. The club cannot be a member of two or more federations of the same sport (kickboxing).

Club membership in the national federation is regulated by the Statute and rules of the national federation

Article 2.1.1.4. Membership of national federation in WAKO

Membership of the national federation in WAKO is regulated by the WAKO By-laws - Section 1.05 NF Membership/Applications/Procedures

Article 2.1.1.5. Nationality of member

- A foreign competitor can be a member of a club (if allowed by national rules) and a foreigner as a club member can compete in all WAKO competitions where clubs compete (World and Continental Cups, Regional and International Open Tournaments) except championships where participates national teams.
- To register a foreigner in the membership database of a national federation and a club that is a member of the national federation, the following is required:
 - Registration must be applied on to WAKO HQ,
 - A switch between the nationalities can be accepted once. Kickboxer cannot switch back to participate from the first country.
 - If the member / competitor was previously registered in the home national federation, then there must be a written formal acceptance between previous and new national federation.
 - At on-site registration (weigh-in) personal identity document must be shown to the registration / weigh-ins officials in charge.
 - In Continental Championships competitors from other continents are not allowed to participate.
 - Any speculation for such representation will not be allowed. Such can be punished for the kickboxer as well as for the national federation of new country.

Article 2.1.1.6. Procedure for registering foreigner as a member of national team

This is the case when a new member who change citizenship, and participated on competitions under registration of previous national federation, and wants to be registered in the national team for new country. In that case, the procedure is as follows:

Responsible person of federation should send to WAKO HQ for each member who changed citizenship:

- Scan of new passport
- Written consent of previous federation (email) if athlete was registered in previous federation
- Personal email address
- Exact name of new club (as registered on the RSportZ database)

Article 2.1.1.7. Procedure for registering foreigner as a member of club

This is the case when a new member from another country, another citizenship wants to be registered in the federation / club from another country. In that case, the procedure is as follows

Responsible person of club / federation should send to WAKO HQ for each foreign member:

- Scan of original passport
- One of official new country document: new country's ID card for foreign persons, permanent residence permit, work permit, student permit or residence registration,
- Official photo (format as for passport – clear face without background)
- Written consent of previous federation (email) if athlete was registered in previous federation (if a foreigner - the new member of the club was registered with the home federation)
- Personal email address
- Exact name of new club (as registered on the RSportZ database)

In accordance with the International Olympic Committee protocol (IOC Charter - By Law Rule 41) implemented by WAKO since 2026, foreign citizens cannot participate as a member of the national team or compete in competitions that qualify for the national team, as described in previous articles.

Foreign citizens can participate as club members in all other WAKO competitions (World, Continental and Regional Cups, Open international tournaments as well as Local tournaments)

Article 2.1.1.8. Violation of the rules on nationality

Violation of the rules on nationality of members during registration in the RSportZ membership system will result in disciplinary action by the person responsible for registration in the club / federation.

During on-site registration for competitions as stated in Article 2.1.1.2. each competitor is obliged to present a valid national passport.

A member who is found to have violated the rules on nationality during on-site registration for competitions (as stated in Article 2.1.1.2.) will be disqualified and will not be allowed to compete in the competition.