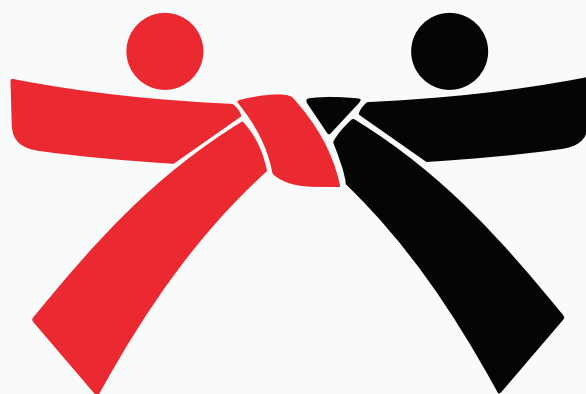




TIRANA 2026



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES
COMBAT
CHAMPIONSHIPS

GENERAL HANDBOOK



Organisers:



Main Partners:



Partners:



Sponsor:



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I. WELCOME MESSAGES

1. Message from the President of EUSA

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure and appreciation that I extend a warm welcome to all our Organising Committees, athletes, partner universities, and member and associated institutions across Europe.

As we open another exciting chapter in the European University Sports Association's journey, I want to express sincere gratitude for the commitment, energy, and collaboration you continuously bring to our shared mission. Your involvement remains the foundation of every successful event, initiative, and milestone we achieve together.

Thanks to your trust and dedication, the European Universities movement continues to grow and thrive. Whether you are hosting a Championship, supporting students-athletes, or participating in our educational and social responsibility projects, your contributions are shaping the future of university sport in Europe.

Our collective successes, ranging from the record-breaking European Universities Games to the expansion of our Associated Members network, stand as a testament to the strength of our community. This progress would not be possible without your ongoing partnership and the spirit of cooperation that unites us.



Looking ahead to the 2026 European Universities Championships and beyond, I am confident that, together, we will continue to deliver meaningful experiences for students, foster lasting international connections, and inspire the next generation through sport.

I invite you all to join us in celebrating the 2026 European Universities Championships and to prepare for the 2028 European Universities Games in Split, Croatia. These events promise to be even more inspiring as we strengthen the role of university sport in promoting inclusion, excellence, and intercultural dialogue across Europe.

Our achievements are, as always, the result of collective dedication. My heartfelt thanks go to our Member Federations, Organising Committees, volunteers, partners, and the EUSA staff for their commitment and enthusiasm. I also extend special appreciation to FISU and the European Commission for their continuous support, enabling us to expand our impact year after year.

Thank you for being an integral part of the EUSA Family. The Championships offer us an opportunity to recognise and celebrate our joint accomplishments.

Let us make 2026 another landmark year for university sport and pave the way for many more to come!

Haris Pavletic
EUSA President



2. Message from the President of the Albanian University Sports Federation

Dear students, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers and friends,

When we speak about young people, we speak about the future of our societies. When we speak about students youth, we speak about the near future, the future professionals, public servants, academics, entrepreneurs and leaders who are being shaped today through education, discipline, dedication and shared experiences.

Every society that wishes to face its challenges and move forward with confidence must invest seriously in young people through concrete actions, meaningful opportunities and sincere commitment. University sport is one of these opportunities. It is a powerful space where education, competition, friendship and personal growth come together. With great pride and sincere pleasure, on behalf of the Organising Committee and the Albanian University Sports Federation, I welcome you to Tirana for the European Universities Combat Sports Championship 2026.



Three years ago, Tirana welcomed European university football.

In 2026, we open our doors once again to European university sport, this time to the energy, discipline, respect and spirit of combat sports. To every athlete, coach, official and volunteer: Tirana will be your home. This championship is more than a sporting competition. It is a celebration of youth, university sport, friendship and the values that unite us across borders. Through judo, karate, taekwondo and kickboxing, we will witness courage, self-control, perseverance, fair play and mutual respect.

For Albania, hosting this championship is both an honour and a responsibility. It is a continuation of our commitment to strengthening university sport, creating meaningful experiences for students and bringing young people together through sport, culture and friendship. During your stay, we hope you will feel the warmth of Tirana, the hospitality of our people and the pride with which Albania welcomes you. Beyond the tatami, mats and rings, we hope you will create memories and friendships that will remain with you long after the championship ends.

Welcome to Tirana. Welcome to EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026.

I wish you all success, joy and an unforgettable experience.

Besnik Veliu

President of the Albanian University Sports Federation



3. Message from the President of the Organising Committee

Dear athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, university representatives and distinguished guests,

It is with great honour and sincere pleasure that I welcome you to Tirana and to the Republic of Albania for the European Universities Combat Sports Championships 2026.

Hosting this prestigious European event is a moment of great pride for our country. It reflects Albania's growing commitment to youth, education, sport and international cooperation, while reaffirming our ambition to become a trusted destination for major international sporting events. More importantly, it demonstrates our belief that sport has the power to connect people, inspire communities and strengthen the bonds that unite Europe.

On behalf of the Organising Committee and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, I extend my warmest welcome to every athlete, coach, official, volunteer and university delegation joining us from across Europe. Your presence honours our country and enriches this championship with the diversity, friendship and spirit that define the European university sports movement.

University sport represents much more than competition. It is a powerful platform where education, excellence and personal development come together. It encourages young people to become responsible citizens, future leaders and ambassadors of the values that unite us: respect, integrity, discipline, inclusion and fair play. These principles, deeply rooted in combat sports, remind us that true success is measured not only by medals, but also by character, mutual respect and lifelong friendships.

This championship is also an opportunity to celebrate the unique role of sport in bringing people together beyond borders, cultures and languages. Every competition creates winners, but its greatest legacy lies in the friendships that are built, the experiences that are shared and the understanding that grows among young people from different nations. We are proud that Albania can provide the stage for these meaningful encounters and contribute to strengthening the European university sports family.

While you compete at the highest level, I encourage you to discover our country beyond the competition venues. I hope you will experience the warmth of Albanian hospitality, explore our rich cultural heritage, enjoy our traditions and cuisine, and feel the vibrant energy of Tirana. We sincerely hope that your stay in Albania will leave you with unforgettable memories and inspire you to return again in the future.

The successful organisation of an event of this magnitude is the result of strong partnerships, dedication and teamwork. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the European University Sports Association (EUSA), the





Albanian University Sports Federation, the national sport federations, public institutions, volunteers, sponsors and every member of the Organising Committee whose professionalism and commitment have made this championship possible.

I wish all athletes the very best in their performances, all officials success in their responsibilities, and every participant an inspiring, enjoyable and memorable stay in our beautiful country.

Welcome to Tirana. Welcome to Albania. Let us celebrate excellence, friendship and the enduring power of university sport to bring Europe closer together.

Endrit Hoxha

President of the Organising Committee

Deputy Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Republic of Albania



II. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT EUSA

1. About EUSA

The European University Sports Association (EUSA) is an umbrella organization that comprises National University Sports Associations (NUSA) from 47 European countries, providing sporting activities, educational events, and expertise in policy-making and programming. The organization is well known within the sector as a safe and strong voice for university sports in Europe, promoting fair play values and supporting its membership by partnering with European Sports Federations and lobbying within the European Union, the Council of Europe, and other institutions for funding to improve the provision of sport. EUSA is a proud and active associated member of the International University Sports Federation (FISU), strategically cooperating also with other Continental University Sports Federations (CUSF), as well as key governing bodies and organisations active in the field of sport, education, and youth.



Since its founding in 1999, EUSA has organised 16 seasons of the European Universities Championships, attracting student-athletes to 204 university competitions held across Europe. In five previous editions of the European Universities Games, around 19.500 student-athletes from across Europe have participated in the different sporting competitions organised during these multi-sports events.

Through its Institute, EUSA also engages in several social responsibility projects and initiatives on various topics, including Anti-Doping, Dual Career, Equal Opportunities and Inclusion, Good Governance, Mobility, Safeguarding, Skills Development, Sustainability, and Volunteering. Many of the projects are supported by the European Union.

2. EUSA Executive Committee, Commissions, and Office

The highest body is the General Assembly, composed of representatives of the member associations, which elects the Executive Committee. Its members are responsible for the administration and running of EUSA and the execution of the main directives taken by the Assembly.

The EUSA Executive Committee is led by the President Haris Pavletic, 1st Vice President, four Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary General. Various EUSA commissions are in place to provide assistance and guidance to the many different activities EUSA is involved in. These commissions include the Technical Commission, Control Commission, Education Commission, Inclusion and Diversity Commission, Medical Commission, Student Commission, Branding and Marketing Council, and also other working bodies.

EUSA's headquarters is located in Ljubljana, Slovenia, where a dedicated team of 12 staff members plus 4 volunteers/interns work together to manage daily operations and oversee international activities. As part of the European University Sports Association (EUSA), they play a vital role in supporting the development and promotion



of university sports across Europe, ensuring smooth coordination of events, effective communication, and strong collaboration among member organizations.

<https://www.eusa.eu/eusa>

3. Past & Future events

European Universities Championships 2026

Sport	Location	Dates
Rowing	Zagreb, Croatia	August 26-29.
Combat Sports	Tirana, Albania	September 8-16.

European Universities Championships 2027:

Sport	Location	Dates
Athletics	Lisbon, POR	August 24-27
3x3 Basketball	Gdansk, POL	July 11-15
Badminton	Strasbourg, FRA	June 20-26
Basketball	Zadar, CRO	July 21-28
Chess	Zaragoza, ESP	July 2-6
Football	Porto, POR	July 25-August 1
Futsal	Zaragoza, ESP	July 13-21 (M)
Handball	Podgorica, MNE	July 6-12
Orienteering	Kastamonu, TUR	August 24-27
Padel	Madrid, ESP	July 17-21
Powerlifting	Split, CRO	July 19-23
Rowing	Sukoro, HUN	July 11-14
Rugby 7s	Zaragoza, ESP	July 3-6
Table Tennis	Covilha, POR	July 26-31
Tennis	Split, CRO	July 18-24
Volleyball	Granada, ESP	July 14-21
Water Polo	TBD	TBD
Beach Sports: Beach Handball and Beach Volleyball	Split, CRO	July 18-23
Combat Sports: Judo, Karate, Kickboxing, Taekwondo	La Nucia, ESP	September 7-10



Next Attributed Events:

European Universities Games:

European Universities Games Salerno 2026
European Universities Games Split 2028
European Universities Winter Games Erzurum 2028
European Universities Games Granada 2030





III. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE EUC HOST

1. About the Host Country - Albania



Albania, located in Southeast Europe on the western side of the Balkan Peninsula, is a country distinguished by its rich history, cultural heritage, natural beauty, and renowned hospitality. Situated along the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, Albania offers a unique combination of Mediterranean landscapes, historic cities, mountain regions, and a rapidly developing urban environment.

The country's natural landscape is remarkably diverse. Visitors can experience the beaches of the Albanian Riviera, the dramatic peaks of the Albanian Alps, the lakes of Shkodër, Ohrid, and Prespa, as well as numerous rivers, forests, national parks, and protected natural areas. This diversity makes Albania an attractive destination for outdoor activities, cultural tourism, and international sporting events. Albania has a history extending over thousands of years, reflected in its archaeological sites, castles, traditional towns, museums, and UNESCO World Heritage properties. The country's cultural identity combines ancient Illyrian heritage, Mediterranean influences, Ottoman-era architecture, and contemporary European culture.

The capital, Tirana, is Albania's largest city and its principal political, economic, educational, sporting, and cultural centre. Known for its colourful architecture, lively public spaces, cafés, parks, museums, and dynamic atmosphere, Tirana offers visitors a combination of history, modern development, culture, and entertainment. Important attractions include Skanderbeg Square, the Et'hem Bey Mosque, Tirana Clock Tower, the Pyramid of Tirana, Bunk'Art, the House of Leaves Museum, the New Bazaar, the Grand Park, and Dajti Mountain. Tirana is also known for its active nightlife, culinary scene, cultural events, and welcoming atmosphere.



Albania has undergone significant political, social, and economic transformation since the beginning of the 1990s. Today, it is a dynamic and increasingly connected European country with growing tourism, infrastructure, technology, creative industries, and international cooperation.

Sport plays an important role in Albanian society, bringing together young people, educational institutions, communities, and national organisations. Albania has hosted an increasing number of European and international sporting competitions, demonstrating its growing organisational capacity and commitment to sport development. Officially known as the Republic of Albania, the country covers an area of approximately 28,748 km². According to the 2023 Population and Housing Census, Albania has a resident population of approximately 2.4 million people. Administratively, the country is divided into 12 counties, while Tirana serves as the national capital and largest urban centre.

Albania joined NATO in 2009 and has been a candidate country for membership of the European Union since 2014. Accession negotiations with the European Union formally began in 2022, reflecting Albania's commitment to European integration, regional cooperation, and institutional development

Category	Information
Official name	Republic of Albania
Capital and host city	Tirana
Official language	Albanian
Currency	Albanian Lek / ALL
Population	Approximately 2.4 million residents
Area	Approximately 28,748 km ²
Administrative divisions	12 counties
Time zone	Central European Time - CET, GMT+1
Summer time	Central European Summer Time - CEST, GMT+2
Government	Parliamentary republic, with the President as Head of State and the Prime Minister as Head of Government
European Union status	Candidate country since 2014; accession negotiations began in 2022
International telephone code	+355
Emergency number	112



2. About Host City - Tirana



Tirana, the capital and largest city of Albania, is the country's main political, economic, educational, sporting, and cultural centre. Located in central Albania and surrounded by hills and mountains, the city combines a compact urban centre with easy access to natural attractions such as Dajti Mountain and the Grand Park.

With approximately 598,000 residents, Tirana is Albania's most important urban area. Its architecture reflects different periods of the country's history, from Ottoman landmarks and Italian-style boulevards to colourful residential buildings and modern towers. At the heart of the city lies Skanderbeg Square, surrounded by major landmarks such as the Et'hem Bey Mosque, the Clock Tower, the National Opera and Ballet Theatre, and important public institutions. Other attractions include the Pyramid of Tirana, Bunk'Art, the House of Leaves Museum, the New Bazaar, the Grand Park, and the Blloku district.

One of Tirana's strongest characteristics is its youthful energy. The city is home to a large student population and a growing community of young professionals, entrepreneurs, artists, and volunteers. Its role as European Youth Capital 2022 further strengthened its identity as a city of creativity, participation, and inclusion. Tirana is also becoming increasingly multicultural. International students, visitors,



professionals, and digital workers are contributing to the city's social and cultural life. English, Italian, and other languages are commonly heard in universities, workplaces, cafés, and public spaces.

The city hosts concerts, festivals, exhibitions, sporting events, conferences, and international projects throughout the year. Its lively cafés, restaurants, parks, cultural venues, and nightlife create a welcoming atmosphere for residents and visitors.

Top 10 Attractions to Visit in Tirana

Opening hours checked on 23 June 2026. They may change during public holidays, special events, or seasonal schedules.

#	Attraction	Opening hours	Suggested time
1	Skanderbeg Square	Open 24 hours, daily	30-60 minutes
2	Clock Tower of Tirana	Usually Mon–Sat, 08:00–15:00; confirm locally	20-30 minutes
3	Pyramid of Tirana	Exterior terraces and public spaces open 24 hours; interior activities vary	30-60 minutes
4	Mother Teresa Square	Open 24 hours, daily	20-30 minutes
5	Grand Park of Tirana	Open 24 hours, daily	1-2 hours
6	Toptani Castle	Public area open daily; individual businesses have separate hours	45-90 minutes
7	National Historical Museum	Temporarily closed for renovation	Exterior visit: 15-20 minutes
8	BUNK'ART 2	Daily, approximately 09:30–18:30; seasonal hours may apply	1-1.5 hours
9	House of Leaves Museum	Daily, 09:00–19:00	1-1.5 hours
10	National Art Gallery	Check the current exhibition programme and venue before visiting	1-1.5 hours
11	National Theatre of Opera and Ballet	Open according to the performance schedule	2–3 hours for a performance
12	Et'hem Bey Mosque	Open daily outside prayer times	20–30 minutes
13	Parliament of Albania	Exterior visible at all times; interior access by official arrangement	15-20 minutes
14	Blloku District	Public streets open 24 hours; cafés and restaurants have individual schedules	2-4 hours
15	Pazari i Ri – New Bazaar	Public square open 24 hours; market activity mainly during the day	1-2 hours



16	Arena Area – Air Albania Stadium	Public area open daily; business and event hours vary	1-3 hours
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Places to Eat, Drink and Enjoy Tirana

#	Place	Opening hours	Suggested time	Useful information
1	Ceren Ismet Shehu	Daily opening hours vary; reservation recommended	1.5–2 hours	A popular restaurant offering a contemporary interpretation of traditional Albanian cuisine in a welcoming setting.
2	Oda's Garden	Usually open for lunch and dinner; confirm current schedule	1.5–2 hours	A relaxed open-air venue surrounded by greenery, offering Albanian food, music, and a pleasant atmosphere for warm summer evenings.
3	Radio Bar	Usually open from late afternoon until night	1–3 hours	A well-known bar with retro décor, cocktails, live music, and an alternative artistic crowd.
4	Mugo	Generally open during the evening and late-night hours	1–3 hours	A lively venue known for contemporary music, a young crowd, drinks, and an energetic social atmosphere.
5	Colonial	Generally open from late afternoon until late evening	1–3 hours	A stylish combination of bar, restaurant, and nightlife venue, known for its elegant setting, cocktails, dining, and varied music programme.
6	Sky Tower	Daily; restaurant and lounge hours vary	1–2 hours	One of Tirana's best-known panoramic locations, offering elevated city views, food, drinks, and a sophisticated evening atmosphere.
7	Cinco Cavalli	Open on selected evenings and event nights	2–4 hours	A popular nightlife venue known for parties, commercial music, performances, and a lively late-night atmosphere. Check the event programme before visiting.
8	Puls Nightclub	Open on selected club nights; usually late evening until early morning	2–4 hours	A nightlife venue aimed at electronic-music audiences, with a strong sound system and a dedicated dancing crowd. Check the programme and entry conditions in advance.



3. University Sport in the Host Country

University sport in Albania has a long and meaningful tradition, with the country's first recorded participation in international university competitions dating back to 1939, when students from the Liceum of Korça represented Albania at the International University Games organised by the International Confederation of Students. This early participation placed Albanian students within the emerging international university sports movement, at a time when organised student competitions were beginning to connect universities and young people across national borders.



During the following decades, sport remained an important part of student life in Albania. Physical education programmes, university teams, inter-faculty competitions and national student tournaments provided opportunities for young people to participate in both competitive and recreational activities. Tirana, as the country's main academic centre, became the principal hub of university sport, while universities in other cities gradually developed their own teams and sporting programmes.

A new and more structured chapter began with the formal establishment of the Albanian University Sports Federation / FSHSU on 21 December 2017. Its creation marked the transition from activities organised largely through individual universities and informal networks to a coordinated national university sports system. The Federation began its first full year of activity in 2018, organising national championships in women's volleyball and men's futsal with the participation of public and private universities.

Today, FSHSU is the national governing body responsible for the development, coordination and representation of university sport in Albania. The Federation brings together 31 public and private higher education institutions and organises approximately 12 national championships and major activities annually, involving more than 15,000 students throughout the academic year.

Its national calendar includes competitions in sports such as football, futsal, volleyball, basketball, handball, tennis, table tennis, swimming and combat sports. These activities provide students with opportunities to represent their universities, develop their sporting abilities and participate in organised competitions regardless of whether they compete at recreational, university or elite level.

One of the Federation's leading national initiatives is the Tirana University Tournament, a multi-sport event that has grown into one of the largest annual student sporting programmes in Albania. Its recent editions have involved approximately 1,200 male and female students from around 30 universities, competing in a range of team sports. The tournament promotes participation, fair play and gender equality, while creating stronger connections between students and higher education institutions.

International Day of University Sport

The International Day of University Sport (IDUS), celebrated annually on 20 September, has become an important part of the university sports calendar in Albania. Established by UNESCO and FISU, IDUS highlights the role of sport within higher education and promotes physical activity, wellbeing, inclusion and social participation among students.



FSHSU marks IDUS through a programme of competitive, recreational, educational and outdoor activities organised in cooperation with universities and student sports associations. These activities have included hiking, beach and outdoor sports, multi-sport gatherings and university festivals in different cities across Albania.

Cooperation with Kosovo

Regional cooperation is an important element of FSHSU's development strategy. The Federation maintains a particularly close partnership with the University Sports Federation of Kosovo, based on the common objective of creating more sporting and educational opportunities for students from both countries.

One of the main joint activities is the annual Albania-Kosovo University Tournament, organised regularly since 2021. The tournament brings together students and university teams from Albania and Kosovo, providing a platform for competition, institutional cooperation and cultural exchange.

The two federations also cooperate in the organisation of joint IDUS and university sport gatherings, including the large student event held in Korçë as part of the 2025 IDUS and #BeActive programme. Through these activities, students from both countries participate not only in sporting competitions, but also in social, educational and cultural programmes.

Education, Volunteering and Student Development

FSHSU's mission extends beyond the organisation of championships. The Federation uses sport as a tool for education, inclusion, personal development and community engagement.

Volunteering has become a particularly important part of university sport in Albania. Through its volunteer programmes and Volunteer Academy, FSHSU involves students in the preparation and delivery of national and international events. Volunteers gain practical experience in areas such as accreditation, competition operations, media, protocol, transport, hospitality, team services and event administration.

By involving young people directly in event delivery, FSHSU creates an environment in which students are not only participants or spectators, but active contributors to the development of university sport.

Albania as a Host of International University Sport

In recent years, Albania has strengthened its position as a host of major international university sporting events.

A landmark achievement was the organisation of the European Universities Football Championship Tirana 2023, which welcomed approximately 550 participants from 16 European countries. The event demonstrated Albania's ability to provide competition venues, accommodation, transportation, ceremonies, volunteering and organisational services for a major European university championship.

The European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 represent the next major step in this development. Bringing together approximately 1,500 student-athletes, coaches, officials and university representatives, the Championships are the largest international university sporting event organised in Albania to date.

Looking Ahead

University sport in Albania continues to develop through stronger national competitions, increased student participation, international cooperation and the organisation of major events.

FSHSU's vision is to ensure that every student has the opportunity to become involved in sport whether as an



athlete, volunteer, organiser, coach, official or supporter. Its work aims to make sport a meaningful part of university life and to use it as a platform for health, education, equality, inclusion and international friendship.

From Albania's first international university sports participation in 1939 to the organisation of major European championships in Tirana, university sport has become an increasingly important part of the country's academic and sporting identity. Through sustained cooperation with universities, institutions and international partners, Albania is building a modern, inclusive and internationally connected university sports system.

University Sport in Albania at a Glance

1939 - First recorded Albanian participation in international university sport
 2017 Establishment of the Albanian University Sports Federation
 31 member universities
 12 national championships and major activities annually
 15,000+ students involved during the academic year
 1,200 participants in the Tirana University Tournament
 Member of EUSA and FISU
 Annual celebration of IDUS
 Annual Albania-Kosovo University Tournament
 550 participants at the European Universities Football Championship Tirana 2023
 Approximately 1,500 participants expected at EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026

4. Supervision, Control and Arbitration Commission (SCAC)

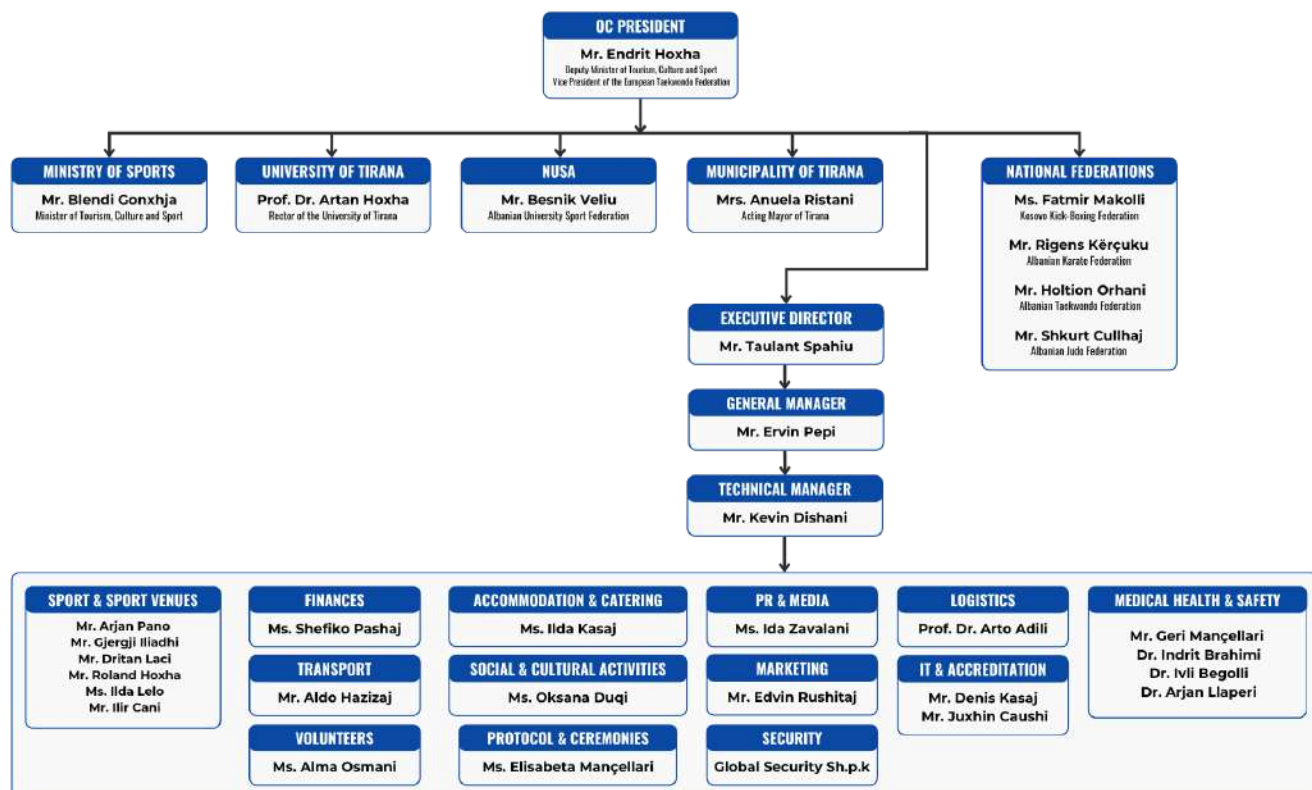
The SCAC is the highest authority of the EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 and controls overall organizational and technical aspects of the event. The SCAC is responsible for the interpretation of EUSA Regulations, for the supervision and smooth running of the EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026, settling any dispute, examining and dealing with any complaints or protests of a nontechnical nature, taking emergency sanctions against participants (teams or individuals) who violate the EUSA Regulations, deciding of any other matters not covered in these Regulations, at the time of the EUC.

Position	Name
SCAC Chair Judo & Kickboxing	Gyorgy Kovacs
SCAC Chair Karate & Taekwondo	Aitor Canibe Sanchez
EUSA Director Sports Events	Liam Smith
OC Representative	Ervin Pepi
NUSA Representative	Elisabeta Mançellari



5. OC Structure

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF EUC COMBAT SPORT 2026



6. Useful Information

General Information about Albania

- Language: Albanian. English and Italian are also commonly spoken in hotels, restaurants, universities, and tourist areas.
- Currency: Albanian Lek (ALL). Credit and debit cards are accepted in most hotels, shopping centres, larger restaurants, and supermarkets. However, participants are advised to carry some cash for smaller shops, cafés, markets, and taxis.
- Time Zone: Central European Time (CET) during winter, GMT+1, and Central European Summer Time (CEST) during summer, GMT+2.
- Government: Albania is a parliamentary republic, with the President serving as Head of State and the Prime Minister as Head of Government.
- EU Status: Albania is a candidate country for membership of the European Union, with accession



negotiations currently underway.

- Emergency Numbers: General emergency and police: 112; ambulance: 127; fire department: 128.
- Electricity: 230V, 50Hz. Standard European Type C and Type F plugs are used.
- Internet: Wi-Fi is widely available in hotels, restaurants, cafés, public areas, and sporting venues. Mobile internet coverage is also generally good in Tirana.
- Water: Participants are advised to drink bottled water, which is widely available in hotels, supermarkets, shops, and restaurants.

Local Weather Conditions

September in Tirana is generally warm and pleasant, with daytime temperatures usually ranging between approximately 20°C and 30°C. Evenings may be cooler, while occasional rain is possible. Participants are advised to bring light and comfortable clothing, sportswear, sunscreen, a hat, a light jacket for the evening, and a small umbrella or waterproof jacket.

Shopping in Tirana

Shops in Tirana generally open between 09:00 and 21:00, while larger shopping centres and supermarkets may remain open until 22:00 or later. Unlike in some European countries, many shops, supermarkets, shopping centres, cafés, and restaurants in Tirana are also open on Sundays. Individual opening hours may vary. The main shopping areas include the city centre, Myslym Shyri Street, the Blloku district, the New Bazaar, Toptani Shopping Centre, Arena Centre, Tirana East Gate, and QTU Shopping Centre.

Tourist Information

Tirana Tourist Information Centre

- Location: Behind the National History Museum, near Skanderbeg Square
- Services: City maps, brochures, information about attractions, cultural activities, transportation, and tourist destinations throughout Albania
- Email: tourism@tirana.al
- Official tourism portal: Visit Tirana
- National digital tourism guide: TEA - Tourism Events of Albania

Opening hours may vary depending on the season and public holidays. Visitors are advised to confirm the schedule before visiting.

Health and Outdoor Safety

No special wildlife precautions are normally required within central Tirana. However, participants visiting parks, forests, or mountainous areas should wear suitable footwear, use insect repellent, and remain on marked paths. Visitors should avoid touching or feeding stray animals. In the event of an animal bite, tick bite, injury, or illness, medical assistance should be sought promptly.



IV. SERVICES

1. Transportation

During the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026, the Organising Committee will provide transportation services for accredited participants, officials, referees, EUSA representatives, and VIP guests according to the official event schedule.

Transportation services will include:

- Coaches and shuttle buses arranged by the Organising Committee;
- Transfers from the official entry points to the accommodation area;
- Transfers from the accommodation area to the official departure points;
- Dedicated transportation for referees;
- Executive vehicles for VIP guests;
- Transportation connected exclusively with official EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 activities and locations.

All delegations must submit complete and accurate travel information through the official registration system within the required deadline. This information will be used by the Organising Committee to prepare the transfer schedules.

Official Points of Entry

The official points of entry for the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 are:

- Tirana International Airport “Nënë Tereza” - TIA
- Terminali Lindor I Autobusave (East Bus Terminal)

Official transfers will operate on the following routes:

- Tirana International Airport ⇌ Oyteti Studenti
- Tirana East Bus Terminal ⇌ Oyteti Studenti

The shuttle service will be available only to accredited participants, officials, and EUSA representatives registered in the official event system.

Transportation from other airports, bus terminals, cities, private addresses, private accommodation, venues or non-official locations will not be organised or financed by the Organising Committee.

For transportation-related questions, delegations may contact: combatsports2026@eusa.eu (+355 67 511 2891)



Official Arrival and Departure Days

Taekwondo and Karate

Service	Date	Route	Operating Hours
Official arrival	7 September 2026	Tirana International Airport / Tirana East Bus Terminal → Qyteti Studenti	Airport transfers at regular intervals from 00:00 until 23:59; bus-terminal transfers according to registered arrival times
Official departure	12 September 2026	Qyteti Studenti → Tirana International Airport / Tirana East Bus Terminal	Airport transfers from 00:00 until 23:59; bus-terminal transfers according to registered departure times

Judo and Kickboxing

Service	Date	Route	Operating Hours
Official arrival	12 September 2026	Tirana International Airport / Tirana East Bus Terminal → Qyteti Studenti	Airport transfers at regular intervals from 00:00 until 23:59; bus-terminal transfers according to registered arrival times
Official departure	17 September 2026	Qyteti Studenti → Tirana International Airport / Tirana East Bus Terminal	Airport transfers from 00:00 until 23:59; bus-terminal transfers according to registered departure times

Arrival by Plane

Upon arrival at Tirana International Airport “Nënë Tereza”, participants should:

1. Complete passport and border-control procedures.
2. Proceed to the arrivals hall.
3. Locate the EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 volunteers or official event representatives.
4. Follow their instructions to the designated shuttle departure point.
5. Travel by official shuttle to Qyteti Studenti.

Airport transfers will be grouped according to flight schedules, delegation sizes, and operational requirements. Participants should therefore be prepared for a possible waiting period before departure.

The exact airport meeting point, volunteer identification, and additional practical instructions will be communicated to delegations closer to the event.

Arrival by Bus

Delegations arriving at Tirana East Bus Terminal should:



1. Proceed to the designated EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 meeting point.
2. Locate the event volunteers or official representatives.
3. Follow their instructions to the assigned shuttle vehicle.
4. Travel by official transfer to Qyteti Studenti.

Transfers from Tirana East Bus Terminal will be organised according to the travel information submitted by each delegation.

Delegations arriving by international or intercity bus must clearly indicate the following information in the registration system:

- Bus company;
- City and country of departure;
- Scheduled date and time of arrival;
- Number of participants;
- Contact details of the delegation leader.

Participants may be grouped with other delegations arriving at similar times and should be prepared for a possible waiting period. The exact meeting point at Tirana East Bus Terminal will be communicated before the Championships.

Arrival by Private Bus or Car

Delegations travelling to Tirana by private bus, minibus, or car must organise their journey independently and cover all associated expenses, including fuel, road tolls, parking, and other travel costs.

Departures

The Organising Committee will confirm each delegation's departure arrangements based on the travel information submitted through the official registration system.

Participants will receive information regarding:

- Shuttle departure times;
- Designated meeting points;
- Luggage-loading arrangements;
- Recommended assembly times;
- Airport or bus-terminal transfer procedures.

Delegations must be present at the designated meeting point at the announced time. Participants who miss their assigned transfer may be required to organise and pay for alternative transportation.

Final departure schedules will be communicated through:

- The accreditation centre;
- Official information desks;
- Hotel or accommodation information points;
- Delegation leaders;
- Official event communication channels.



Combined Transfer Day – 12 September 2026

The Organising Committee will carry out a combined transportation operation on 12 September 2026, as this is both:

The official departure day for Taekwondo and Karate and

The official arrival day for Judo and Kickboxing.

Transfers involving Tirana East Bus Terminal will be coordinated separately according to the registered arrival and departure times of the delegations.

Participants should allow sufficient time and be prepared for possible waiting periods, as transfers will be grouped according to flight and bus schedules, delegation numbers, and operational requirements.

Arrivals and Departures Outside the Official Dates

Participants arriving before or after the official arrival date for their sport, or departing outside the official departure date, must arrange and cover the cost of their own transportation.

The Organising Committee will not provide individual transfers outside the official transport schedule.

Participants travelling outside the official dates are advised to use licensed airport taxis, authorised taxi services, or private transportation arranged directly by their delegation.

Transportation During the Championships

Transportation during the Championships will operate according to the official competition and event schedules.

Detailed arrangements regarding transfers between Qyteti Studenti, sports facilities, training venues, ceremonies, and other official event locations will be communicated to delegations closer to the Championships.

Bus schedules, departure points, maps, and operational updates will be available at:

- The accreditation centre
- Official information desks
- Accommodation information points
- Sports venues
- Official event communication channels

Participants must follow the announced schedules and instructions issued by the Organising Committee.

Event transportation may only be used for journeys connected with official EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 activities and locations.



Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The Organising Committee will provide transportation for accredited participants to and from the Opening and Closing Ceremonies when required via whatsapp at +355 67 511 2891 Kevin Dishani for individuals that have difficulties walking the distance that will be no more than 25 min walking distance.

Dedicated vehicles will be available for EUSA representatives and VIP guests.



Transportation to Training and Competition Venues

Transportation between Qyteti Studenti and the official competition venues will be organised according to the official tournament schedule, travel times will be (08:30 - 19:00), more information will be provided in whatsapp groups and during the accreditation process.

Depending on the location of the venue, participants may:

- Use dedicated Organising Committee buses;
- Walk from the accommodation area;
- Follow another transport arrangement communicated by the Organising Committee.

Separate schedules may be issued for athletes, referees, officials, and technical staff.

Delegations must check the transport schedule each day and arrive at the departure point before the announced time.

Transportation of Referees

The Organising Committee will provide dedicated transportation for referees between:



Qyteti Studenti ⇌ Sports Facilities

Transfers will operate according to the official competition and tournament schedule. Departure times and meeting points will be communicated during accreditation and through the designated referee information channels. Referees must use the assigned transportation and arrive at the meeting point punctually.

VIP Transportation

VIP guests will be transported from Tirana International Airport and other approved official entry points using executive vehicles. During the Championships, VIP transportation may be requested through the official information desks. VIP transport is intended exclusively for journeys connected with official EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 locations, ceremonies, meetings, and activities.

Important Information

- Official transportation is available only to accredited participants, officials, referees, and EUSA representatives registered in the official event system.
- Travel details must be submitted before the required deadline.
- Delegations arriving by bus must identify Tirana East Bus Terminal in their travel information.
- Transfers are available only on the official arrival and departure dates for each sport.
- Transportation from non-official locations will not be organised or financed by the Organising Committee.
- Participants must follow the announced schedules and arrive punctually at the designated meeting points.
- Transportation may only be used for official EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 activities and locations.
- Further information regarding meeting points, vehicle identification, maps, and final schedules will be communicated closer to the event.

2. Accommodation

Check out our custom event map at easy.fshsu.al to explore the venues and key locations.

All participants of the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 will be accommodated at the **City of Students Dormitories (Qyteti Studenti)**, a recently renovated university residential campus located in Tirana.

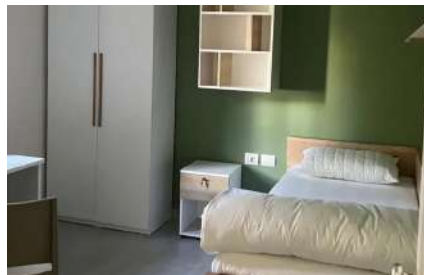
The accommodation has been selected to provide participants with a practical, comfortable, and secure living environment throughout the Championships. Its campus setting allows athletes and delegation members to stay together in a central location with access to shared services and facilities.

Participant Accommodation

Participants will be accommodated in shared rooms arranged primarily on a two-person basis. The available accommodation includes:

- Two-person bedrooms;
- Four-person residential units;
- Shared bathroom and shower facilities within the units.

Rooms are furnished to provide appropriate conditions for rest, study, and preparation during the event.



Each room will be prepared before arrival and will include:

- Bed linen;
- Towels;
- Basic toiletries, including soap;
- Study or working space;
- Free Wi-Fi access.

Bed linen will not be replaced during the official stay. Towels may be replaced upon request, but no more frequently than once every three days. Every request should be made to the reception desk or at:

(+355 69 218 0823 - Ilda Kasaj)

Shared Facilities and Services

Participants will have access to shared facilities within the residential campus, including:

- Fully equipped kitchen areas;
- Laundry facilities;
- Ironing rooms;
- Study areas;
- Common and social spaces;
- Reception and accommodation support services.

The campus incorporates energy-efficient infrastructure, including solar-powered systems, supporting the sustainability objectives of the Championships.

Participants are expected to respect the accommodation facilities, other residents, and the general rules of Qyteti Studenti throughout their stay.



Check out our custom event map at easy.fshsu.al to explore the venues and key locations.

Check-in and Room Access

Participants must first complete the official accreditation procedure. Following accreditation, each participant will receive a room key card providing access to the assigned dormitory room. Accommodation will be available from the official arrival date of each competition group.

Group	Sports	Check-in	Check-out
Group 1	Taekwondo and Karate	7 September 2026, from 10:00 onwards	12 September 2026, by 10:00
Group 2	Judo and Kickboxing	12 September 2026, from 15:00 onwards	17 September 2026, by 10:00

Participants must check out of their rooms by 10:00 on the official departure day. Participants with late departure flights may leave their luggage at the designated reception storage areas, after contacting the Accommodation Manager for instructions.

Ilda Kasaj +355 69 218 0823

Accommodation staff will begin inspecting rooms from 10:00. Participants should ensure that all personal belongings have been removed and that the room is left in an appropriate condition.

Participants departing later in the day may leave their luggage at the designated reception storage area and collect it before their official departure transfer.

Accommodation for Officials

EUSA representatives, technical delegates, referees, invited guests, and designated officials will be accommodated in four-star hotels located in Tirana city centre.

Single rooms will be provided for:

- Heads of Delegations;
- EUSA representatives;
- Designated officials.

Final hotel assignments, check-in instructions, and transportation arrangements will be communicated directly to the relevant officials before the Championships.

Important Accommodation Information

- Accommodation is provided only for registered and accredited participants and officials.
- Participants must stay in the room allocated by the Organising Committee.
- Room key cards will be issued after accreditation.
- Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the accommodation facilities.
- Participants are responsible for their personal belongings.



- Shared facilities must be used responsibly and left clean after use.
- Participants must observe campus regulations and respect quiet hours, other guests, staff, and local residents.
- Any accommodation-related issue should be reported immediately to the reception or the official accommodation information desk.
- Check-out must be completed by 10:00 on the official departure day.

For accommodation-related assistance, participants may contact the Organising Committee through:

combatsports2026@eusa.eu

Accommodation Code of Conduct

All participants accommodated at Qyteti Studenti – University Residence No. 1 are expected to respect the residence facilities, staff, roommates, and other guests throughout their stay.

Participants must behave responsibly and maintain a polite and professional attitude in all interactions. Rooms and shared areas must be kept clean, orderly, and in good condition. Residents are responsible for the proper use of all furniture, equipment, bathrooms, study rooms, corridors, kitchens, and common spaces.

General Rules

Participants are required to:

- Keep their assigned room and shared facilities clean and tidy;
- Respect the privacy, safety, and comfort of roommates and other residents;
- Use furniture, equipment, and residence facilities responsibly;
- Report any damage, technical fault, or malfunction immediately to the accommodation staff;
- Follow all instructions issued by the residence administration and the Organising Committee;
- Allow authorised staff to access rooms when required for maintenance, inspection, hygiene, safety, or emergency purposes;
- Remove all personal belongings and leave the room in good condition before check-out.

Participants may be held financially responsible for any damage caused to rooms, furniture, equipment, or shared facilities.

Prohibited Behaviour

The following activities are strictly prohibited inside the residence:

- Smoking, including electronic cigarettes;
- Possession or use of illegal or narcotic substances;
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages;
- Keeping animals or pets;
- Creating excessive noise, shouting, or playing loud music;
- Damaging, marking, or writing on walls, furniture, doors, windows, or equipment;
- Moving furniture or altering the layout of rooms without authorisation;
- Bringing unauthorised furniture or electrical appliances into the rooms;
- Interfering with electrical, plumbing, fire-safety, or technical systems;
- Covering, removing, or damaging smoke detectors and fire-safety equipment;
- Entering technical rooms, storage areas, or spaces not designated for participants;



- Using corridors, common areas, or other residence spaces for storage;
- Throwing water or objects from windows;
- Disposing of inappropriate objects or substances in toilets, sinks, or drainage systems;
- Any behaviour that may endanger the health, safety, dignity, or property of other persons.

Quiet Hours and Shared Spaces

Participants must respect the peace and comfort of others at all times, particularly during evening and rest periods. Noise from conversations, televisions, phones, speakers, or other devices must be kept at a reasonable level.

Shared kitchens, bathrooms, study rooms, and common spaces must be cleaned after use and left ready for the next residents.

Quiet hours must be respected between 23:00 and 07:00 to ensure a comfortable and respectful environment for all participants and guests.

Personal Belongings

Participants are responsible for securing their personal belongings. The Organising Committee and the residence administration cannot be held responsible for lost, damaged, or unattended items.

Any personal belongings left behind after check-out may be removed and stored only for a limited period.

Inspections and Sanctions

Accommodation staff may carry out room inspections for reasons related to hygiene, maintenance, security, safety, or compliance with residence rules.

Violations of the accommodation policy may result in:

- An official warning;
- Payment of cleaning, repair, or replacement costs;
- Withdrawal of accommodation privileges;
- Removal from the residence;
- Termination of accommodation without reimbursement;
- Referral to the Organising Committee, EUSA authorities, security personnel, or local authorities.

Serious or repeated violations may result in immediate removal from the accommodation and further disciplinary measures.

By completing accreditation and accepting accommodation, each participant confirms that they have read, understood, and agreed to comply with these rules.



3. Catering

The Organising Committee will provide full-board catering for all accredited participants throughout their official stay. The quality and quantity of food will be within the EUSA minimum requirements.

Meals will be served in designated dining areas within the official accommodation and competition system.



Daily Meal Schedule

Meal	Time	Location
Breakfast	07:00–09:30	Catering Tent, Qyteti Studenti
Lunch	12:30–15:00	Competition venues: Olympic Park and University of Sports of Tirana
Dinner	19:00–21:30	Catering Tent, Qyteti Studenti

The catering service will begin with **lunch on the official arrival day** and conclude with **breakfast on the official departure day**.

On the day of the Opening Ceremony, dinner will be served earlier and provided in packed meal boxes at the catering tent at Qyteti Studenti, by 17:00.

Meal Arrangements

On General Technical Meeting days and other non-competition days, meals will be served at the Catering Tent in Qyteti Studenti, according to the schedule indicated above.

Packed meals are intended to support the event schedule and reduce unnecessary travel between the accommodation, competition venues, and official event locations during the day. Participants must collect and consume their meals according to the schedule established for their sport and competition group. Accreditation Cards may be required to access catering services.



Dietary Requirements

Meals will follow EUSA catering standards, with reasonable arrangements made for allergies, food intolerances, religious requirements, and other dietary restrictions submitted in advance through the official registration system. Catering is available only to registered and accredited participants and officials, who must follow the announced meal schedule and may be required to present their Accreditation Card. Participants with serious allergies should confirm meal ingredients before consumption and report any concerns to the catering staff or Information Centre. For assistance, contact combatsports2026@eusa.eu.

4. Accreditation

The entire accreditation process will take place at the Accreditation Centre located in Qyteti Studenti, Tirana, for all sports: Judo, Kickboxing, Taekwondo & Karate

The Accreditation Centre's working hours will be communicated by the Organising Committee and may be adjusted according to the travel plans submitted by the participating delegations.

The individual dossier for each competitor to be presented to the EUSA Control Commission members shall be completed in English and shall include:

ATHLETES

- Passport or national identity card (in classic Latin alphabet letters);
- If an active student: the EUSA Certificate of Academic Eligibility (Individual Entry) confirmed and signed by the participant and the appropriate academic authority certifying that the competitor is officially registered for and pursuing a course of study;
- If a former student: proof by the University and date of graduation;
- ***A signed declaration of liability that you may download at the sports sections in the [website](#) (for every sport, even if athletes have valid medical examinations).***

OFFICIALS

- Passport or ID card
- IEF
- Signed accommodation policy.

HEAD OF DELEGATION

- Signed accommodation policy.

Partial accreditation of teams is not possible!

Accreditation is done for the entire sports team for a particular sport and a particular university.

The accreditation process is carried out by the Head of the Delegation or another person authorized by the registered university.



The Head of Delegation (or another person authorized by the registered university) should be the person who is going to do the accreditation process for the entire University.

Only **one team representative** should go to the Accreditation Centre and bring all the required documents. The **rest of the team must wait at the designated waiting area at the entrance of Building 11.**

Accreditation process

The accreditation process will be carried out in 5 steps.

Step 1: Data reconciliation

Step 2: Sport & OC Services

Step 3: EUSA Control Commission – final verification

Step 4: Sports desk

Step 5: Welcome Gifts Distribution

Accreditation card

The Accreditation Card is the only official and valid document for EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 participants; therefore, it must always be clearly visible in order to access restricted event areas. Monitoring of access will be managed through the Accreditation Cards, which will be checked at all site entrances. Depending on their category, each participant will be allowed to access certain zones. People not holding an Accreditation Card or holding a Card that does not have the required access rights will not be allowed to enter.

The Accreditation Card is non-transferable, as each card contains personal data and personalised access rights. Improper usage of personal Accreditation Cards is prohibited and will be reported to the Security Operational Centre.

Loss of Accreditation Card

In case of loss of the Accreditation Card, the participant must personally approach the OC Accreditation Centre at Qyteti Studenti and report the loss by using a valid identification document (passport or ID card). Enquiries about issuing replacement cards are to be made directly at the Accreditation Centre, where new cards will be printed. The cost of issuing a new card is 50 EUR.

5. Insurance

The Organising Committee has appropriate insurance coverage for its responsibilities as the event organiser. However, all participants are responsible for obtaining their own valid international health and travel insurance before travelling to Albania.

Citizens of EU/EFTA member states: The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is not valid in Albania. Participants must therefore obtain private international medical insurance covering their entire stay in Albania.

Citizens of non-EU/EFTA countries: Participants must also obtain private international medical insurance valid in Albania.

The insurance policy should cover:

- Medical treatment and emergency assistance;
- Hospitalisation costs;



- Injuries related to sports participation;
- Medical evacuation and repatriation;
- Accident and personal liability, where applicable.

Each delegation is responsible for ensuring that all its members have adequate insurance coverage. Participants should carry proof of insurance and the insurer's emergency contact details throughout the Championships.

6. Safety and Security Rules

Safety and Security in Tirana

The safety and security of all participants at the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 are of the highest importance to the Organising Committee. Tirana is generally considered a safe and welcoming city; however, all participants are requested to follow normal safety precautions and comply with the instructions of the Organising Committee, security personnel, accommodation staff, venue management, and public authorities.

Security during the Championships will be provided by authorised event security personnel in coordination with the relevant Albanian authorities and emergency services. Participants must wear their official Accreditation Card visibly during competitions and all official event activities and comply with the safety and access regulations in accommodation facilities, sports venues, catering areas, official transport, and all other event locations.

While moving around the city, participants should avoid walking alone late at night in isolated or poorly lit areas, remain aware of their surroundings, avoid carrying original passports or displaying valuable items, and never leave personal belongings unattended. Road traffic in Tirana can be busy, so pedestrian crossings and traffic lights should always be used with caution. When travelling by public transport, participants should keep bags closed and valuables secure, stay alert in crowded buses and stops, and avoid confrontations.

Although pickpocketing is not widespread, it may occur in crowded public transport, markets, tourist areas, nightlife districts, and large public gatherings. At night, participants are advised to use official event transportation, licensed taxis, or recognised taxi-booking applications.

In case of emergency, the national emergency number is 112.

In an emergency, participants should also immediately inform the Organising Committee, the nearest information desk, security personnel, or their Head of Delegation.

Safety in Accommodation

Security personnel and accommodation staff will be available at Qyteti Studenti to provide assistance and respond to incidents.

Participants must follow these rules:

- Always lock your room when leaving, even for a short period;
- Only officially registered and accredited participants are permitted to enter the accommodation facilities;
- Receiving or accommodating unregistered guests is strictly prohibited;
- Never lend your room key, access card, or Accreditation Card to another person;
- Immediately report lost keys, access cards, or defective locks to the accommodation staff;
- Do not leave mobile phones, laptops, money, documents, or other valuable items unattended;



- Do not interfere with smoke detectors, emergency exits, fire extinguishers, electrical systems, or other safety equipment;
- Follow all evacuation procedures and instructions given by security or accommodation personnel;
- Immediately report suspicious persons, objects, behaviour, damage, or safety concerns.

Participants are responsible for their personal belongings. The Organising Committee and accommodation provider cannot be held responsible for items left unattended, lost, or improperly secured.

Items Prohibited at All Venues

The restricted-items policy applies to spectators, visitors, volunteers, and accredited participants at all EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 venues.

Accredited athletes, coaches, referees, and officials may bring sport-specific equipment required for their discipline. Such equipment may be subject to inspection and must be transported and stored in accordance with the applicable technical and safety regulations.

Prohibited items will not be permitted inside event venues under any circumstances.

The list of prohibited items at venues is as follows:

- Firearms and other devices used to discharge projectiles - serious injury by the discharge of a projectile and devices which may be used to inflict serious injury by firing, and devices which are deceptively similar to them devices
- Stunning devices - devices specifically designed to stun or paralyse
- Sharp-edged or pointed objects - sharp-edged or pointed objects which can be used to cause serious injury objects
- Hand tools - to cause serious injury or endanger the safety of participants
- Blunt instruments - instruments that can be used to cause serious injury by impact
- Explosives, flammable substances and incendiary devices - explosives, flammable substances and incendiary devices which may be used to cause serious injury or endanger the safety of participants, and substances and devices which are deceptively similar to them
- Symbols of despotism
- Sprays used to induce irritation or used for demonstrations - A device from which a substance can be sprayed to induce a non-aggressive state by irritation of the eyes, mucous membranes or skin
- Pets or animals
- Professional recording and streaming equipment
- Alcohol and intoxicating substances
- All items of an excessive size that may disturb the event or restrict the view
- Alcohol and smoking is strictly forbidden in all indoor venues in Tirana, Albania including accommodations, sport venues and Bus Stop.

7. Medical Services



General Information

During the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026, participants will have access to medical assistance provided by trained medical personnel at competition and training venues.

Medical support will also be coordinated through the official information points and accommodation services at Qyteti Studenti. Participants requiring medical assistance should immediately inform the nearest medical staff member, event volunteer, security officer, information desk, accommodation reception, or Head of Delegation.

In the event of a serious medical emergency, call:

- **National Medical Emergency: 127**
- **General Emergency Number: 112**
- **GENERAL EMERGENCY : +355 67 511 2891 Kevin Dishani**

Medical Assistance During Sports Events

Qualified medical staff will be present during all four sports competitions. Medical assistance will be available close to the competition areas throughout the official training and competition schedules.

In the event of an injury or medical emergency at a competition or training venue:

1. Immediately notify the nearest referee, official, volunteer, or medical staff member;
2. Do not move a seriously injured participant unless instructed by medical personnel;
3. Keep the surrounding area clear;
4. Follow all instructions provided by the medical team;
5. Inform the participant's Head of Delegation or designated emergency contact.

The event medical contact number for competition and training venues will be communicated before the Championships.

In Case of Emergency – ICE Contacts

Every participant must provide at least one valid **In Case of Emergency—ICE contact** during the registration process.

The ICE contact should preferably be:

- The Head of Delegation;
- A coach or team official attending the Championships;
- A parent, guardian, or close family member;
- Another person who can assist in the event of hospitalisation or a serious medical incident.

Delegations must ensure that the ICE contact details submitted in the registration system are complete and up to date.

Participants are also encouraged to save an emergency contact on their mobile phone under the name **ICE**.

First Aid and Hospitals

First-aid services will be available at the official competition and training facilities. Participants requiring additional examination, specialist treatment, or hospitalisation will be transported to an appropriate medical facility according to the nature of the injury or medical condition.



The principal public hospitals that may receive participants include:

University Hospital Centre “Mother Teresa” – QSUT (10-15 min from Venues)

Address: Rruga e Dibrës 372, Tirana

Main public university hospital providing general and specialised medical services.

University Hospital of Trauma (5-10 min from Venues)

Address: Rruga Lord Bajron, Tirana 1000

Specialised hospital for traumatic injuries, emergency surgery, orthopaedics, and related medical treatment.

Depending on the participant’s condition, the location of the incident, hospital capacity, or clinical requirements, medical personnel may transfer the participant to another public or private healthcare facility.

The participant’s ICE contact, Head of Delegation, and Organising Committee will be informed in the event of hospitalisation whenever circumstances allow. Participants must carry proof of valid health and travel insurance. Any medical, hospital, medication, or repatriation costs not covered by the event organiser remain the responsibility of the participant or their insurance provider.

Pharmacies

Several pharmacies are located close to Qyteti Studenti, Rruga e Elbasanit, the city centre, and the official competition venues.

A nearby option is:

Farmaci Ditë e Natë - Ekonomiku (7 AM–3 AM)

[Address: Kulla Park Gate, Rruga e Elbasanit, Tirana](#)

The Organising Committee will provide an updated list of nearby pharmacies, including opening hours and 24-hour services, at The Accreditation Centre.

Participants should consult medical personnel before purchasing or using medication, particularly when the medicine may be subject to anti-doping regulations. 10-15 minutes from the Accommodation



8. Information Centre

The main Information Centre will be located at Qyteti Studenti, within the accommodation area used by participants. You can search for information or ask any questions also through our **Virtual Assistant available on the website**.

The Information Centre will operate daily from **09:00 to 21:00**. Opening hours may be extended or adjusted according to operational needs and participant demand. Any changes will be communicated through the official event channels and information boards.

Trained volunteers will provide participants with information and assistance regarding event-related services. During competition days, an Information Point or Competition Office will also be available at each sports venue.

Participants are encouraged to check the information boards and official communication channels regularly for updated schedules, announcements, and operational changes.



For urgent assistance outside the regular opening hours, participants should contact the accommodation reception, security personnel, their Head of Delegation, or the emergency numbers provided in the handbook.

9. Official Media Channels / Online Information

Official Website and Contact

Official website: <https://combatsports2026.eusa.eu/>

Official email: combatsports2026@eusa.eu

Official event map: <https://easy.fshsu.al/>

Official Social Media Accounts

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/eusacombat/>

Facebook: <https://web.facebook.com/eusacombat>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@EUSACombat>

Participants are encouraged to follow the official media channels for announcements, schedules, results, photographs, videos, and updates throughout the Championships.

Live Streaming

All competitions will be streamed through the official EUC Combat Sports YouTube channel.

Live-streaming link: <https://combatsports2026.eusa.eu/competition/live-streaming>

Results

Official competition results will be available through the EUSA Results platform.

Results platform: <https://combatsports2026.eusa.eu/competition/schedule-results>

Media Coverage

Photographs, videos, interviews, reports, and other media content produced during the Championships will be published on the official event website and social media platforms.

By participating in the event, participants acknowledge that photographs and video recordings may be taken during competitions, ceremonies, training sessions, accommodation activities, and other official events, in accordance with the applicable event regulations.

Participating universities may register photographers, journalists, videographers, and other media representatives by completing the official media accreditation procedure.

Accredited media representatives will be authorised to access the designated media areas and use the media services provided during the event, according to their assigned access rights. To apply for media accreditation, please contact the Organising Committee through the official competition email address: **combatsports2026@eusa.eu**

Official WhatsApp Groups

A dedicated WhatsApp group will be available for participants in each sport. These groups will be used to communicate important operational information, including schedules, transport updates, competition announcements, technical information, and urgent changes.



Judo: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/H1qi7Q5Q0ahEJOoB3LmIdN>
Karate: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CVLGyOLrK7g6Q1LbybXnpm>
Kickboxing: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JudC0oMq3Xb0H80JUVfh7k>
Taekwondo: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HRdurCv4gy4E7ct0Egh9ID>

Participants should join only the WhatsApp group corresponding to their registered sport and follow the instructions communicated by the Organising Committee.





V. Protocol & Ceremonies

1. Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 will take place on Monday, 8 September 2026, at 19:00 in “Skanderbeg” Square & “Dëshmorët e Kombit” Boulevard, Tirana.



All participating teams are invited to attend the Opening Ceremony. Participants must arrive at the meeting point by 18:00 at the latest. Transportation from Qyteti Studenti will be provided by the Organising Committee; further information is available in the WhatsApp groups and the information center..

To take part in the procession, teams should gather on “Dëshmorët e Kombit” Boulevard, between Taiwan Centre and the Bank of Albania. Members of the Organising Committee and volunteers will be present to provide information and assistance. From 18:25, participants will be arranged in columns in order of arrival, coordinated by volunteers. The procession will be led by volunteers carrying the official EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 flag. At least one team member from each participating university must be represented in the march.

Once inside Skanderbeg Square, teams will be guided by volunteers to their designated seating areas, from where they will be able to follow the Opening Ceremony.

The dress code for teams participating in the procession is the official university or team uniform, such as a team tracksuit, jersey, or T-shirt. During the official part of the ceremony, there will be welcome speeches, the athletes' and officials' oaths, cultural and artistic performances, and the formal opening of the Championships.

Participants must bring their Accreditation Cards and wear them visibly when entering the ceremony area. Entry to the Opening Ceremony will be permitted only upon presentation of a valid Accreditation Card. EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 partners, competition staff, EUSA representatives, invited officials, and VIP guests will be seated in designated areas during the Opening Ceremony.

Further information will be available at the General Technical Meetings and through the official event information channels.



2. Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 will take place on Thursday, 16 September 2026, at 20:00 at the “Liria” Building, Qyteti Studenti, Tirana.



All participating teams are invited to attend the Closing Ceremony. To take part in the procession, teams should gather at the main entrance of the Liria Building from 19:00. Members of the Organising Committee and volunteers will be present to provide information and assistance.

The procession will follow a similar arrangement to the Opening Ceremony. Participants will be arranged in columns in order of arrival, coordinated by volunteers. At least one team member from each participating university must be represented in the march. Once inside the venue, teams will be guided by volunteers to their designated seating areas, from where they will be able to follow the Closing Ceremony.

The dress code for teams participating in the procession is the official university or team uniform, such as a team tracksuit, jersey, or T-shirt. During the official part of the ceremony, there will be speeches, acknowledgements, cultural and artistic performances, and the formal closing of the Championships.

Participants must bring their Accreditation Cards and wear them visibly when entering the Liria Building. Entry to the Closing Ceremony venue will be permitted only upon presentation of a valid Accreditation Card.

EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 partners, competition staff, EUSA representatives, invited officials, and VIP guests will be seated in designated areas during the Closing Ceremony.

Further information will be communicated during the Championships through the official event information channels.



3. Social and Cultural Activities

Activity	Short Description
Spinning Wheel	An interactive prize wheel with fun challenges, questions and giveaways for participants.
Trivia Night	A friendly quiz where participants test their knowledge of sport, Europe, Albania and general culture.
Movie Nights	Relaxed evening screenings where athletes and participants can unwind together after competition.
Darts	A casual darts area for friendly matches and challenges between participants.
Karaoke Nights	Fun social evenings where athletes, volunteers and participants can take the microphone and perform together.
Charades	A lively team game encouraging communication, creativity and interaction between international participants.
Foosball Table	Friendly table football matches offering a quick and entertaining break between activities.
Ping Pong	Informal table tennis matches and mini-challenges open to all championship participants.
Exhibition	A dedicated space showcasing sports, culture, partners and selected initiatives connected to the Championships.
Partner Club Nights	Selected clubs in Tirana will collaborate with the Organising Committee to host official social evenings for accredited participants.
DJ and Music Evening	A controlled event with music and entertainment organised in cooperation with selected local venues or clubs.

Club collaboration note:

The Organising Committee plans to cooperate with selected clubs and entertainment venues in Tirana to organise official social events, dedicated participant evenings and safe post-competition activities. Access may be reserved for accredited participants and organised according to the event schedule and safeguarding requirements.



VI. General information about EUC

1. Event Overview

EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026 in Numbers

- 4 championships: Judo, Karate, Taekwondo and Kickboxing
- Approximately 1,500 participants expected
- More than 400 European universities expected
- Participating countries: 30+
- 2 competition venues (University of Sports of Tirana, Feti Borova Olympic Park)
- Training venues: Godina Lira, Qyteti Studenti
- Volunteers: 120
- 2 competition phases under the new 2+2 format

GENERAL EMERGENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL CONTACT: +355 67 511 2891 Kevin Dishani



COMPETITION SCHEDULE

combatsports2026.eusa.eu

SPORTS / DATES	MON 7 SEP	TUE 8 SEP	WED 9 SEP	THU 10 SEP	FRI 11 SEP	SAT 12 SEP	SUN 13 SEP	MON 14 SEP	TUE 15 SEP	WED 16 SEP	THU 17 SEP
CEREMONY		OPENING								CLOSING	
TAEKWONDO	A	GTM	COMPETITION DAYS			D					
KARATE	A	GTM	COMPETITION DAYS			D					
JUDO						A	GTM	COMPETITION DAYS			D
KICKBOXING						A	GTM	COMPETITION DAYS			D

A - ARRIVALS D - DEPARTURES GTM - GENERAL TECHNICAL MEETING

Opening Ceremony	Closing Ceremony	Competition Programme
Date: 07 September 2026 Venue: "Skanderbeg Square", Tirana	Date: 16 September 2026 Venue: Liria Building Qyteti Studenti, Tirana	Location: Tirana, Albania Overall event dates: 8-16 September 2026



Taekwondo and Karate

- **Arrival:** 7 September 2026
- **Competition days:** 9-11 September 2026
- **Departure:** 12 September 2026

Judo and Kickboxing

- **Arrival:** 12 September 2026
- **Competition days:** 14-16 September 2026
- **Departure:** 17 September 2026

GTM

Taekwondo	Karate	Judo	Kickboxing
14:30 (08/09)	16:00 (08/09)	15:00 (13/09)	16:00 (13/09)
<u>Location: Godina Liria</u>	<u>Location: Godina Liria</u>	<u>Location: Godina Liria</u>	<u>Location: Godina Liria</u>

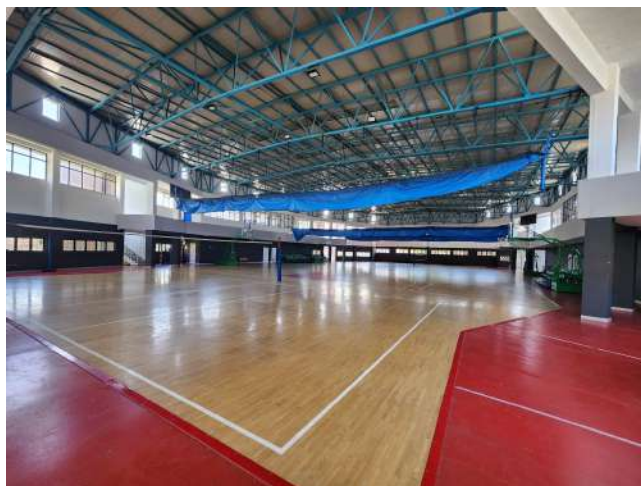
Competition Venues

Sport	Competition Venue
Judo	<u>Feti Borova Olympic Park, Tirana</u>
Taekwondo	<u>Feti Borova Olympic Park, Tirana</u>
Karate	<u>University of Sports of Tirana</u>
Kickboxing	<u>University of Sports of Tirana</u>

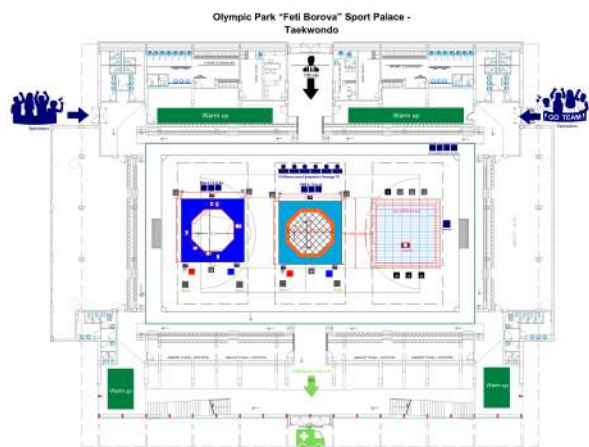




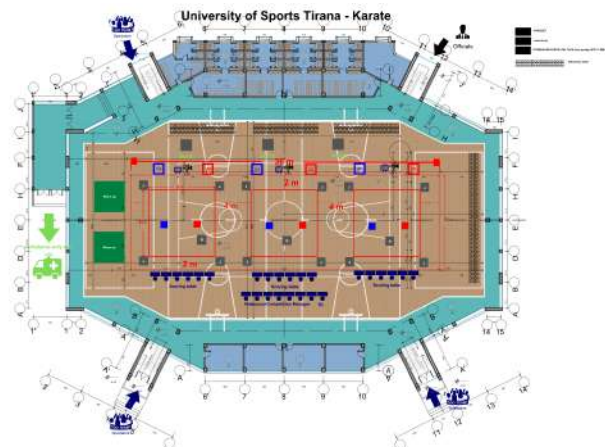
Feti Borova Olympic Park, Tirana



University of Sports of Tirana



Feti Borova Olympic Park, Tirana



University of Sports of Tirana

2. Visual Identity





3. Volunteer Programme

The European Universities Combat Sports Championships 2026 in Tirana will not only be a competition between student-athletes, but also a shared experience built by the people working behind the scenes. Volunteers will be an essential part of this process, helping to create a professional, welcoming, and well-organized environment for all delegations.



For students and young people, volunteering in this event is an opportunity to move beyond theory and become directly involved in the practical side of an international sport organization. Whether supporting venue operations, transport, accreditation, sport services, protocol, media, results, or hospitality, volunteers will gain first-hand experience in how a major university sport event is planned and delivered.

This international setting will allow volunteers to work in a multicultural environment, communicate with people from different countries, and contribute to the positive image of Tirana as a host city.

Volunteers will not simply assist with tasks; they will represent the spirit of the event. Their attitude, communication, responsibility, and teamwork will directly influence the experience of athletes, coaches, officials, and guests. Through their involvement, they will help promote the values of university sport: respect, inclusion, fair play, cooperation, and friendship.

The volunteer programme will also serve as a platform for personal and professional development. Participants will strengthen practical skills such as communication, leadership, adaptability, problem-solving, time management, and intercultural cooperation. At the same time, they will have the chance to build friendships, expand their network, and experience the energy from a unique perspective.

In addition to operational duties, volunteers may be involved in cultural activities, social events, and friendly exchanges organized during the championships. This makes the volunteer experience not only useful and educational, but also memorable and enjoyable.

Through their contribution, volunteers will become part of the identity and success of EUC Combat Sports Tirana 2026, leaving their mark on one of the most important university sports events hosted in Albania.



Key elements of the volunteer programme

The volunteer programme will be an important part of the successful delivery of the event, ensuring effective support across all main operational areas of the Championships.

The programme will include:

1. Volunteer management structure, composed of 1 Volunteer Manager and 4 Volunteer Coordinators, responsible for planning, coordination, communication, and daily supervision of volunteers.
2. Volunteer support across 11 operational areas, including Accreditation & Administration, Sport and Competition, Team Attachés, Hospitality & Transport, Info Desk & Welcome Points, Media & Communication, Protocol & Ceremonies, IT & Technology, Volunteer Office, Accommodation, and Catering.
3. Training and preparation sessions before the event (online and in person), aimed at familiarising volunteers with their roles, responsibilities, event procedures, communication channels, and general expectations.
4. Opportunities to participate in cultural and social activities during the Championships, contributing to a positive and inclusive international atmosphere.
5. Involvement of volunteers from National University Sport Associations across Europe, strengthening cooperation and the university sport network.
6. Participation of both national and international volunteers, creating a diverse volunteer team and encouraging intercultural exchange.
7. Volunteers will be provided with full board and local transportation throughout the event period.
8. Accommodation provided for 10-15 international volunteers, as well as for local volunteers who may need it.

4. ANTI-DOPING

Doping is not a guarantee of success in sport. In fact, its effect is usually the opposite. A lot of elite sportsmen and sportswomen who did doping got caught. As a result, they lost pride and were banned for at least 2 years from participating in a sport they loved and lived for. An even bigger problem with doping is the effects on the body.

In elite sports, doping is defined as a violation of one or more anti-doping rules:

1. Presence of a prohibited substance in an athlete's sample
2. Use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or method
3. Refusing to submit to sample collection after being notified



4. Failure to file athlete whereabouts information & missed tests
5. Tampering with any part of the doping control process
6. Possession of a prohibited substance or method
7. Trafficking a prohibited substance or method
8. Administering or attempting to administer a prohibited substance or method to an athlete



You can find the list of prohibited substances and methods on the internet, as it is updated every year by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and it's valid for every sport.

EUSA is active in Anti-Doping promotion, and has been a partner in the European Anti-Doping Initiative (EADIn) and Match point, supporting European-wide Anti-Doping mentality in the youth sector by establishing a moral tenor towards concepts such as Fair-play, sensitizing and raising awareness on all levels of the complex social environment surrounding the doping problematic, and implementing strategies to motivate young people to pass on the message and create a strong multiplying effect. Also, the International University Sport Federation (FISU)

has been actively promoting sports without drugs, also at the university sports level.

EUSA is currently not enforcing doping tests at our events. In accordance with the national legislation of the host countries, however, doping controls may be implemented by the National Anti-Doping Agencies. If such doping tests are executed, the WADA rules and regulations are applicable to all athletes. Please remember that testing can be conducted in-competition and out-of-competition. If you are identified in a Registered Testing Pool (RTP), you must provide current and accurate whereabouts information.

What can you do to be an excellent athlete?

- Practice right and live healthy
- Get more information about the consequences of Doping
- Play fair and be a good role model to younger athletes
- Be committed to sport without doping

Doping? No, thanks!

5. Fair Play

Fair play is a core value of EUSA, deeply embedded in our mission and activities. In partnership with the European Fair Play Movement (EFPM), we actively promote sportsmanship, respect, and solidarity at all our events. For over 20 years, EUSA has championed these values, recognising fair play as the true essence of sport.

Fair play is present in sports as an unwritten rule, a moral value that represents the real essence of sport. It represents that opponents must be appreciated and in nowadays practising of sports, more than ever, it is vitally important to defend the values intrinsic to sport: respect for oneself and others, solidarity, and fair play.

Since 2007, EUSA has honoured outstanding acts of fair play with the Enno Harms Fair Play Award, named after our first President and a strong advocate for fair play. At each event, organisers, delegates, and participants commit to upholding fair play, with the oath of respect and integrity declared during the opening ceremonies.



The prestigious annual EUSA Enno Harms Fair Play Award is awarded to athletes demonstrating fair play during the matches, following the rules, and pursuing a “clean” game, and is awarded with fair play recognition already during the event. EUSA Executive Committee members discuss the proposals received from all sporting events governed by EUSA in that year and select the team or individual to receive the Enno Harms Fair Play Award, which is formally handed to them at a special occasion, usually at the EUSA Gala.

Fair play will remain a key focus at the European Universities Championships 2026.

Guided by EUSA's principles and the Olympic spirit, our events promote respect, equality, and non-discrimination, contributing to a more inclusive and peaceful society through sport.

We kindly invite all delegations to submit proposals for the **Enno Harms Fair Play Award**, recognising individuals or university teams who have demonstrated exemplary behaviour, integrity, and sportsmanship during the Championships.

To submit a nomination, please complete the official form via the following link: <https://forms.gle/JPT7tAzu4y45tzLL9>



Alternatively, you may access the form directly by scanning the QR code provided.

Let us jointly honour and celebrate those who embody the true spirit of Fair Play!

6. EUSA SAFEGUARDING AND INCIDENT POLICY

One of the Fundamental Principles of Olympism is that “practice of sport is a human right” and that “every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind”. This principle further states that this requires a behaviour based on “mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play”.



EUSA considers sports as an active tool in the education of university students and aims at encouraging and supporting “the promotion of ethics, Fair Play, gender equity and good governance in sport” (EUSA Statutes).

With the EUSA Safeguarding and Incident Policy, EUSA clarifies the expectations and consequences regarding the behaviour of different stakeholders at EUSA's events to allow the creation of a safe and enjoyable environment.

Check more details regarding EUSA Safeguarding and Incident Policy at the following link:



<https://www.eusa.eu/media/documents/eusa-safeguarding-and-incident-policy>

7. EVENT SERVICES DATA COLLECTION

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we kindly invite you to complete the EUC 2026 Event Services Questionnaire, aimed at evaluating the services provided by the Organising Committee during the European Universities Championships 2026.

Your feedback is vital to helping us enhance the quality and efficiency of future events. The questionnaire will take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to complete. If you choose to include optional comments, it may take up to 15 minutes. Please note that **no personal data is collected**, and all responses are anonymous and confidential.



To submit your feedback, please complete the official form via the following link:
<https://forms.gle/ZVHYUPzi32gsALYN6>

Alternatively, you may access the form directly by scanning the QR code provided.

We sincerely appreciate your time and cooperation. Your input makes a meaningful difference.



SPORTS SECTION





VII. KARATE

1. Welcome Message Karate

Message from the EUSA Technical Delegate for Karate

Dear athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and distinguished guests,

On behalf of the European University Sports Association (EUSA), I warmly welcome you to the **European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026**, here in the vibrant capital of Albania.

As someone who has lived and breathed this sport for many years, it is a true privilege to support this event and witness the energy, passion, discipline, and respect that define university karate.

This Championship is more than a competition. It is a celebration of fair play, dedication, friendship, and the unique university spirit that brings us together from across Europe. I encourage you to enjoy every moment, create new friendships, and represent your universities with pride. Give your best on the tatami, support your fellow athletes, and embrace everything this experience has to offer both in sport and beyond.

I wish you great success, unforgettable memories, and plenty of positive energy.

See you on the tatami!

Luka Požgaj

EUSA Karate Technical Delegate



Karate Competition Officials

Position	Name
EUSA Technical Delegate	Mr. Luka Požgaj
National Technical Delegate	Mr. Rigens Kërçuku
Head Referee	Mrs. Eva Mona Altmann
Local Technical Assistant	Mr. Rigens Kërçuku, Mr. Petrit Baba



2. Introduction and History

Karate is a traditional martial art that originated in the Ryukyu Kingdom, now Okinawa, Japan. It developed from local Ryukyuan fighting systems under the influence of Chinese martial arts and later evolved into a structured system of physical training, self-discipline, and competition.

Modern karate is primarily a striking discipline incorporating punches, kicks, knee strikes, open-hand techniques, defensive movements, and controlled combinations. Depending on the style and competition format, it may also include throws, sweeps, and other technical actions.

Karate has developed into a truly international sport, practised by athletes of different ages and backgrounds around the world. Its Olympic debut at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games represented an important milestone in its international development.

Within European university sport, karate is an established part of the European Universities Combat Sports Championships, together with Judo, Kickboxing, and Taekwondo. These competitions bring together student-athletes who successfully combine academic studies with high-level sporting preparation.

Albania has a growing karate community supported by clubs, athletes, coaches, referees, and the Albanian Karate Federation. Tirana has previously hosted important regional competitions, including the Balkan Karate Championships for Seniors and Veterans in 2023.

The European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 represent another important step in the development of karate and university sport in Albania. The event will offer Albanian and international athletes the opportunity to compete at European level while promoting fair play, inclusion, intercultural exchange, and cooperation between universities.





3. Competition Information

Competition Venue

The Karate competition will take place at:

University of Sports of Tirana

Rruga "Muhamet Gjolllesha"

Tirana, Albania

The University of Sports of Tirana is Albania's specialised higher-education institution for physical education and sport. Its sports infrastructure provides an appropriate environment for university-level training and competition.

The competition venue will include:

- Competition tatami areas;
- Athlete warm-up areas;
- Athlete and coach waiting areas;
- Last-call and equipment-control areas;
- Referee and technical-official rooms;
- Medical and first-aid services;
- Competition management and results areas;
- Spectator seating;
- Accreditation-controlled access zones;
- Media and VIP areas where applicable.

The final competition layout and number of tatami areas will be communicated before the Championship.

Competition Area

Only athletes, accredited coaches, referees, technical officials, medical personnel, volunteers, and other authorised persons may enter the controlled competition area. Athletes and coaches will be escorted from the last-call area to the competition floor according to the competition schedule and instructions provided by officials and volunteers. All participants must wear their Accreditation Cards visibly and respect the access permissions assigned to their accreditation category.

Training and Warm-up Areas

Training and warm-up opportunities will be available during the Championship period near the accommodation areas and in the competition venues according to EUSA minimal requirements.

The final training locations, operating hours, booking procedure, and transport arrangements will be communicated through:

- The Accreditation Centre;



- General Technical Meeting;
- Official Information Centre;
- Sport-specific WhatsApp group;

Warm-up areas at the competition venue will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled matches.

Regulations

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

The organisation of the EUC Karate shall be mainly based on the most recent Technical Regulations of the European Karate Federation (EKF).

COMPETITIONS Team Tournaments:

- TEAM KATA MEN
- TEAM KATA WOMEN
- TEAM KUMITE MEN
- TEAM KUMITE WOMEN

Individual Tournaments:

- KUMITE MEN: -60 kg / -67 kg / -75 kg / -84 kg / +84 kg,
- KUMITE WOMEN: -50 kg / -55 kg / -61 kg / -68 kg / +68 kg,
- KATA INDIVIDUAL MEN'S tournament
- KATA INDIVIDUAL WOMEN'S tournament

DELEGATION

The delegation will consist of athletes and team officials from their respective university and athletes from different universities according to the regulation KAR 5. The head of the delegation must be appointed. Athletes shall have minimum 2nd Kyu in Kumite and minimum 1st Dan in Kata.

REFEREES

Each NUSA that has registered one or more universities competing with a minimum of 4 (four) competitors is obliged to send at least one judge with an EKF license; the relevant EKF license must be submitted within the Quantitative entry deadline. Accommodation and food for the referee must be provided by the Organising Committee without charging a participation fee; a referee fee is not provided. Referees will be approved by the Technical Delegate in cooperation with the EKF Referee Commission according to the required quota and licenses. If the quota is not fulfilled, the OC will fill it with referees from the ranks of the national sports federation with a minimum title of the highest national rank.

DRAW, SEEDING

The draw will be done at the GTM using WKF approved software, taking into account the last EUSA Championships. Teams and individual competitors who have won a medal at the last EUSA Championship will have seed places in the draw if they have not changed categories.



FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

All karate gi (uniforms and protective gear) must be in line with the World Karate Federation (WKF). Team members are only permitted to have university logos on their karate gi, tracksuits, and t-shirts. All other markings must be removed from the karate gi. Medal winners are required to wear their karate gi at the medal ceremony

Uniforms and equipment

Athletes must wear a **white karategi** and all safety equipment must comply with the current WKF requirements – approved manufacturers, correct colours (one red, one blue), correct sizes and no illegal modifications. Karategi and equipment control may be conducted before contests.

Athletes must bring their own

- White karategi complying with WKF rules
- Red and blue WKF-approved belts
- Red and blue WKF-approved hand protectors (mitts)
- Red and blue WKF-approved shin protectors and instep guards
- Mouthguard
- Groin guard (compulsory for men – optional for women)
- Chest protector (compulsory for women)
- Any additional compulsory personal protective equipment required by WKF

Equipment that does not meet the applicable regulations may prevent an athlete from competing until the issue has been resolved.

Important reminders

- All protective equipment must be **WKF Approved** - each athlete must bring both a red and a blue set of mitts, shin pads and foot protection.
- The groin guard is **mandatory for male athletes**. Competing without one will result in **SHIKKAKU** (disqualification) under the MUBOBI (lack of self-protection) provisions.
- Red/blue shoulder embroidery on the karategi is **not required** at this event.
- **EUSA rule:** only university marks are permitted on the karategi - national emblems must be removed.
- Equipment control will take place before each bout.

Competition Format

In accordance with the cooperation between EUSA and the European Karate Federation, the Championship will be conducted according to EUSA, WKF, and EKF standards. The final competition format will be determined by the Competition Technical Commission after the number of registered and accredited athletes has been confirmed. The competition will include individual and team events in Kata and Kumite.



PROGRAM

The competitions consist of 3 (three) days. The General Technical Meeting, where the presence of each head of the delegation is obligatory, will be held one day prior to the start of the competition.

Date	Programme	Location
7 September 2026	Official arrival day and accreditation	Qyteti Studenti
8 September 2026	Official training, equipment verification, General Technical Meeting and official event activities	Qyteti Studenti
9 September 2026	Karate competition – Day 1	University of Sports of Tirana
10 September 2026	Karate competition – Day 2	University of Sports of Tirana
11 September 2026	Karate competition – Day 3, finals and medal ceremonies	University of Sports of Tirana
12 September 2026	Official departure day	Qyteti Studenti

The precise allocation of Kata and Kumite categories to each competition day will be published after the registration and accreditation numbers have been confirmed.

Team Kumite Men and Women

- Minimum of three registered competitors;
- Maximum of five registered competitors;
- One competitor from another university may be included when at least two competitors represent the same university;
- Each team match consists of three individual bouts, subject to the applicable WKF and EUSA regulations.

Team Kata Men and Women

The composition and performance requirements for Team Kata will follow the latest WKF and EUSA regulations. Final team-composition requirements will be confirmed in the official technical bulletin and during the General Technical Meeting.

AWARDS

	ACHIEVEMENT	COMPETITION CATEGORY	TITLE FOR WINNER
Cups	1st 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	University Team	European Universities Champion



Medals	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	Team (athletes) Individual (athlete)	European Universities Champion
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Additional university-ranking or overall Karate awards may be presented in accordance with EUSA regulations.

Athletes must attend the official medal ceremony in their karate gi. Team officials and athletes must follow the instructions of the ceremony and protocol personnel.

Weigh-In

The day before the competitions, the weigh-in will take place. During the official weigh-in session, the weight category may be changed. At 8:00 a.m. on the day of the competitions, the Random Weigh-in is conducted.

DAEDO GEN2 electronic body protectors with E-helmet will be provided by OC. All athletes must bring their own E-Sensor socks. *There will be a stand in the hall with official distributor equipment where you can purchase E-socks (limited quantities). E-socks will not be available for rent.*

General Technical Meeting

The General Technical Meeting (GTM) for Karate will take place on 8 September 2026, at 16:00 PM in the “Liria” Building in Qyteti Studenti. This is the same location where the athletes are accommodated.

Attendance is compulsory for the Head of Delegation or another authorised representative from every participating university. Any final technical changes or decisions communicated during the General Technical Meeting will be binding on all participating delegations.



VIII. Judo

1. Welcome Messages

Message from the EUSA Technical Delegate for Judo

Dear Judo Family and EUSA Members,

On behalf of the European University Sports Association, I am delighted to welcome you to the **European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026**.

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to Albania and to another important EUSA event. Tirana is honoured to host this remarkable Championship, bringing together some of Europe's most talented student judoka. We are proud to welcome athletes, coaches, referees, officials, and judo enthusiasts who represent the values of dedication, discipline, perseverance, and mutual respect that define our sport.

I encourage every athlete to perform at their very best and make the most of this opportunity. May the competition be fair, exciting, and memorable, and may your time in Tirana be filled with positive experiences, new friendships, and Albanian hospitality. My sincere thanks go to the Organising Committee, staff, volunteers, officials, and everyone contributing to the successful delivery of this event. I wish all judoka good luck and good health, and I wish the referees, officials, and members of the EUSA family a pleasant and memorable stay in Albania.

Yours in judo,

Dr hab. Wiesław Błach
EUSA Judo Technical Delegate



Judo Competition Officials

Position	Name
EUSA Technical Delegate	Dr hab. Wiesław Błach
National Technical Delegate	Mr. Shkurt Cullhaj
EJU Referee Commissioner	TBA
IT person from the EJU	Mr. Tero Partanen



2. Introduction and History

Judo was created in Japan in 1882 by Jigoro Kano as a martial art, educational method, and way of life. It developed from traditional jujutsu systems but placed greater emphasis on safe practice, personal development, discipline, and the principle of using physical and mental energy efficiently.

The principal objective in competitive judo is to throw an opponent onto the mat, immobilise them with a hold-down technique, or cause them to submit through an authorised joint lock or choke. Striking and weapon techniques may appear in traditional kata, but they are prohibited in modern judo competition and randori.

Judo became an Olympic sport at the Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games and has since developed into one of the world's most recognised and widely practised martial arts. European judoka are known for combining physical preparation, technical versatility, tactical awareness, strong gripping, effective throwing techniques, and competitive groundwork.

Within university sport, judo offers student-athletes the opportunity to combine academic achievement with high-level competition. It also promotes values such as respect, self-control, courage, friendship, discipline, and fair play.

Judo in Albania continues to develop through the work of athletes, clubs, coaches, referees, and the Albanian Judo Federation. The European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 represent an important opportunity to strengthen the sport's visibility, support university athletes, and expand international cooperation.





3. Competition Information

Competition Venue

The Judo competition will take place at:

Feti Borova Olympic Park

Rruga "Liman Kaba"

Tirana, Albania

Feti Borova Olympic Park is one of Albania's principal indoor sporting facilities and regularly hosts national and international sports competitions.

The competition venue will include:

- Official competition tatami areas;
- Athlete warm-up areas;
- Last-call and waiting areas;
- Referee and technical-official rooms;
- Medical and first-aid services;
- Competition-management and results areas;
- Spectator seating;
- Media and VIP areas;
- Accreditation-controlled access zones.

The final venue layout and number of competition tatami areas will be communicated before the Championship.

Training and Warm-up Areas

Training and warm-up opportunities will be available during the Championship period near the accommodation areas and in the competition venues according to EUSA minimal requirements. Warm-up areas at Feti Borova Olympic Park will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled contests.

The final training locations, operating hours, booking procedure, and transport arrangements will be communicated through:

- The Accreditation Centre;
- General Technical Meeting;
- Official Information Centre;
- Sport-specific WhatsApp group;

Warm-up areas at the competition venue will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled matches.



4. Regulations

International Regulations

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

The organisation of the EUC Judo shall be mainly based on the most recent Technical Regulations of the European Judo Union (EJU) and International Judo Federation (IJF).

Competitions

Individual Tournaments

- Women individual categories: up to and including 48 kg, 48 to 52 kg, 52 to 57 kg, 57 to 63 kg, 63 to 70 kg, 70 to 78 kg, over 78 kg,
- Men individual categories: up to and including 60 kg, 60 to 66 kg, 66 to 73 kg, 73 to 81 kg, 81 to 90 kg, 90 to 100 kg, over 100 kg.

Mixed Team Tournament:

Teams must be composed of individuals from the same university. The weight categories for the team tournament are as follows:

- Women (48 kg, 52 kg, 57 kg*) up to and including 57 kg,
- Men (60 kg, 66 kg, 73 kg*) up to and including 73 kg,
- Women (63 kg, 70 kg*) up to and including 70 kg,
- Men (81 kg, 90 kg*) up to and including 90 kg,
- Women (78 kg, +78 kg*) over 70 kg,
- Men (100 kg, +100 kg*) over 90 kg.

Athletes which are taking part in individual categories may register their participants for team tournament. Registration only to the team tournament is not possible.

Delegations

The delegation will consist of athletes and team officials from their respective university. The head of the delegation must be appointed. Athlete shall have minimum brown belt. At the first General Technical Meeting, the Head of Delegation or their representative shall confirm and sign the official list of athletes. Any entry not duly confirmed at the first General Technical Meeting, will not be taken into consideration except for force majeure. In team tournament each team will consist of up to six (6) athletes (3 women and 3 men) and has the possibility to have up to four (4) reserves. If there are injuries or illness during the competition a team can compete with a minimum of four (4) athletes. A total of 10 athletes can be inscribed with a maximum of two (2) athletes per category.



PLAYING SCHEME

The format of the tournament will be decided by CTC taking into consideration the number of athletes entered. The official weigh-in for each category will take place the day before the competition in each category. For the team tournaments there is 2 kg tolerance for athletes who competed in the individual Championships the day before the team weigh-in, while athletes who compete on the day on which the team weigh-in is scheduled do not need to weigh themselves (Categories: W: -70 kg, -78 kg, +78 kg; M: -81 kg, -90 kg, -100 kg, +100 kg). The random weigh-in will be organised before the first contests on each day (Start of random weigh-in 45 minutes before the start of the competition). There will be no random weighing for team events.

DRAW, SEEDING

The draw will be done in the presence of EUSA Representative taking into account EUSA Judo, IJF and EJU ranking. The draw will be carried out by a software authorised by IJF. Teams from the same country shall, whenever possible, be placed in different pools.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

In order to participate, all financial obligations towards EUSA and Organising Committee need to be settled by the specified dates, as per EUSA Rules and Regulations.

UNIFORMS

White and blue IJF approved judogi are obligatory and all competitors must have both types, with official IJF back number. All judogi must conform to the current regulations regarding size, materials etc., but it is not required that a judogi is purchased from the currently selected IJF manufacturers list of suppliers. The judogi and belt size will be controlled by sokuteiki.

AWARDS

	ACHIEVEMENT	COMPETITION CATEGORY	TITLE FOR WINNER
Cups	1st 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	University Team	European Universities Champion
Medals	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	Team (athletes) Individual (athletes)	European Universities Champion

Competition Format

The competition format will be determined by the Competition Technical Commission after considering the final number of registered athletes in each category. The official weigh-in for each category will take place on the day before the relevant competition. The final elimination system, repechage format, competition duration, and team-event format will follow the applicable IJF, EJU, and EUSA regulations.



Weigh-in

The official weigh-in will be organised according to the competition programme.

A random weigh-in may be organised before the first contests on each individual competition day in accordance with IJF and EJU regulations.

The start of the random weigh-in is expected to take place 45 minutes before the beginning of the competition. There will be no random weigh-in for the Mixed Team Tournament, unless otherwise required by the final regulations.

Weight tolerances for the Mixed Team Tournament will be applied according to the latest IJF, EJU, and EUSA rules.

Official Programme

The competitions consist of 3 (three) days. The General Technical Meeting, where the presence of each head of the delegation is obligatory, will be held 1 (one) day prior to the start of the competition.

1st day of competition	Individual Tournament:	W: -48 kg, -52 kg, -57 kg, -63 kg;
2nd day of competition	Individual Tournament:	M: -60 kg, -66 kg, -73 kg W: -70 kg, -78 kg,
3rd day of competition	MIXED TEAMS Tournament	+78 kg; M: -81 kg, -90 kg, -100 kg, +100 kg

Date	Programme	Location
12 September 2026	Official arrival day and accreditation	Qyteti Studenti
13 September 2026	General Technical Meeting, official training and weigh-in	Qyteti Studenti
14 September 2026	Individual Tournament – Day 1	Feti Borova Olympic Park
15 September 2026	Individual Tournament – Day 2	Feti Borova Olympic Park
16 September 2026	Mixed Team Tournament, finals and awarding ceremonies	Feti Borova Olympic Park
17 September 2026	Official departure day	Qyteti Studenti

The detailed daily competition schedule will be published after registration has closed and the number of athletes in each category has been confirmed.



General Technical Meeting

The General Technical Meeting (GTM) for Judo will take place on 13 September 2026, at 15:30 PM in the “Liria” Building in Qyteti Studenti. This is the same location where the athletes are accommodated.

Attendance is compulsory for the Head of Delegation or another authorised representative from every participating university.

Any final technical changes or decisions communicated during the General Technical Meeting will be binding on all participating delegations.

Training and Warm-up Areas

Training and warm-up opportunities will be available during the Championship period near the accommodation areas and in the competition venues according to EUSA minimal requirements.

The final training locations, operating hours, booking procedure, and transport arrangements will be communicated through:

- The Accreditation Centre;
- General Technical Meeting;
- Official Information Centre;
- Sport-specific WhatsApp group;

Warm-up areas at the competition venue will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled matches.



IX. Taekwondo

1. Welcome Messages

Message from the EUSA Technical Delegate for Taekwondo

Dear athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and distinguished guests,

On behalf of the European University Sports Association (EUSA), I am honoured to welcome you to the **European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026**.

My sincere appreciation goes to the Albanian University Sports Federation, the Organising Committee, the Albanian Taekwondo Federation, the volunteers, and everyone contributing to the organisation of this important international university sporting event.

I hope that the student-athletes participating in Tirana will strengthen their connections, develop further through competition, and contribute to European university sport through respect, fair play, friendship, and sportsmanship.

This Championship is not only an opportunity to demonstrate your sporting abilities, but also to represent your universities with pride, exchange experiences, and create lasting international friendships.

I look forward to an excellent tournament and wish all participants great success, fair competition, a pleasant stay, and an unforgettable experience in Tirana.

Dr Nuri M. Shirali
EUSA Taekwondo Technical Delegate





Taekwondo Competition Officials

Position	Name
EUSA Technical Delegate	Dr. Nuri M. Shirali
EUSA Assistant Technical Delegate	Mrs. Johanna Bliem
National Technical Delegate	Mr. Holtion Orhani
Referee Chairman	Mr. Reza Shojaie
Competition Management Coordinator	Mr. Holtion Orhani
Local Technical Assistant	Mr. Xhevahir Hyrsa

2. Introduction and History

Taekwondo is a Korean martial art and international combat sport characterised by dynamic kicking techniques, rapid movement, accuracy, discipline, and tactical control. It places particular emphasis on high kicks, spinning techniques, jumping kicks, and fast combinations.

The two principal competitive formats are **Kyorugi** and **Poomsae**. Kyorugi is the sparring discipline in which athletes compete directly using controlled techniques and electronic scoring equipment. Poomsae consists of structured sequences of defensive and offensive movements performed according to technical, athletic, and presentation criteria.

Taekwondo became an official Olympic sport at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. It has also formed part of international university sport for several decades and was introduced into the EUSA sports programme in 2009. Poomsae was later included in the European Universities Games programme.

The development of electronic Protector and Scoring Systems has improved the accuracy, transparency, and consistency of scoring in Kyorugi. Modern competition combines traditional martial-arts principles with advanced technology and high-performance sport.

Taekwondo promotes respect, self-control, perseverance, fair play, physical fitness, and personal development. These values make it especially appropriate for university sport, where athletes combine academic responsibilities with demanding sporting preparation.

The European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 will provide another important platform for the development of university Taekwondo and international cooperation between athletes, universities, technical officials, and national university sports associations.



3. Competition Information

Competition Venue

The Taekwondo competition will take place at:

Tirana Olympic Park – Feti Borova

8R75+4G8

Tirana, Albania

Feti Borova Olympic Park is one of Albania's principal indoor sports facilities and provides an appropriate setting for national and international sporting competitions.

The venue will include:

- Kyorugi competition areas;
- Poomsae competition areas;
- Athlete warm-up areas;
- Equipment-control and last-call areas;
- Referee and technical-official rooms;
- Competition-management and results areas;
- Medical and first-aid services;
- Spectator seating;
- Media and VIP areas;



- Accreditation-controlled zones.

The final number of competition areas and the detailed venue layout will be communicated before the Championships.

Training and Warm-up Areas

Training and warm-up opportunities will be available during the Championship period near the accommodation areas and in the competition venues according to EUSA minimal requirements. Warm-up areas at Feti Borova Olympic Park and will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled contests.

The final training locations, operating hours, booking procedure, and transport arrangements will be communicated through:

- The Accreditation Centre;
- General Technical Meeting;
- Sport-specific WhatsApp group;

Warm-up areas at the competition venue will be reserved primarily for athletes preparing for their scheduled matches.

4. Regulations

International Regulations

The organisation of the EUC Taekwondo shall be mainly based on the latest Technical Regulations of the World Taekwondo Europe (WTE) and the World Taekwondo (WT).

COMPETITIONS

Individual Tournaments:

- 1 (one) Kyorugi men's tournament – World Weight categories:
- -54 kg, +54 kg to 58 kg, +58 kg to 63 kg, +63 kg to 68 kg, +68 kg to 74 kg, +74 kg to 80 kg, +80 kg to 87 kg, +87 kg,
- 1 (one) Kyorugi women's tournament – World Weight categories:
- -46 kg, +46 kg to 49 kg, +49 kg to 53 kg, +53 kg to 57 kg, +57 kg to 62 kg, +62 kg to 67 kg, +67 kg to 73 kg, +73 kg,
- 1 (one) Recognized Poomsae men's tournament,
- 1 (one) Recognized Poomsae women's tournament,
- 1 (one) Free-Style Poomsae women's tournament,
- 1 (one) Free-Style Poomsae men's tournament.



Kyorugi Divisions

Senior Men

Category	Weight Division
Senior Men	-54 kg
Senior Men	-58 kg
Senior Men	-63 kg
Senior Men	-68 kg
Senior Men	-74 kg
Senior Men	-80 kg
Senior Men	-87 kg
Senior Men	+87 kg

Senior Women

Category	Weight Division
Senior Women	-46 kg
Senior Women	-49 kg
Senior Women	-53 kg
Senior Women	-57 kg
Senior Women	-62 kg
Senior Women	-67 kg
Senior Women	-73 kg
Senior Women	+73 kg

Poomsae Divisions

Recognised Poomsae

- Under 30 Female;
- Under 30 Male.

Free Style Poomsae

- Over 17 Female;
- Over 17 Male.

DELEGATION

The delegation will consist of athletes and team officials from their respective university. The head of the delegation and coach must be appointed. Athletes shall have minimum black belt certificate, issued by Kukkiwon or national taekwondo federations. All athletes must satisfy the EUSA eligibility requirements and be between 17 and 30 years of age.

REFEREES

OC shall provide International referees in cooperation with EUSA TD and WT Europe. Appointment of Referee chairman and referees is approved by EUSA TD. The delegation may, at its own cost, include a referee with at least the highest national license; the relevant license of the national taekwondo federation must be submitted within the Quantitative entry deadline. Accommodation and food for the referee must be provided by the Organising Committee without charging the participation fee; no refereeing fee is provided.



Competition Format

Kyorugi

Kyorugi competitions will be organised using a:
Single Elimination System – Best of Three

The Competition Technical Commission may adjust the precise competition format according to the final number of registered athletes.

Recognised Poomsae

Recognised Poomsae competitions will be organised using a:
Single Elimination Tournament – Side by Side

Free Style Poomsae

Free Style Poomsae competitions will be organised using a:
Cut-Off System

DRAW, SEEDING

The draw will be done in the presence of EUSA Representative taking into account EUSA taekwondo, WT and WTE ranking.

The final draw procedure will be presented during the General Technical Meeting.

Kyorugi Competition Equipment

The Protector and Scoring System to be used during the Championships will be announced by the Organising Committee by mid-July.

Official PSS system: TBA

The Organising Committee will provide the electronic body protectors and electronic head protectors required for the competition, according to the confirmed scoring system.

Athletes must bring:

- Their own compatible electronic sensor socks;
- Approved forearm guards;
- Approved shin guards;
- Approved groin protection;
- Gloves;
- Mouthguard;
- Other compulsory personal protective equipment required under World Taekwondo rules.



All competition equipment must comply with the latest World Taekwondo regulations.

Athletes whose equipment does not comply with the regulations may not be permitted to compete until the issue has been corrected.

Duration of Kyorugi Contests

Kyorugi contests will be conducted according to the latest World Taekwondo competition rules.

The expected format is:

- Three rounds;
- Two minutes per round;
- One-minute rest period between rounds.

The final duration and format remain subject to the World Taekwondo rules in force at the time of the Championships.

Instant Video Replay

The Instant Video Replay procedure will be applied according to the latest World Taekwondo regulations.

The number of video-review requests available to coaches will follow the applicable competition rules and technical instructions communicated during the General Technical Meeting.

Weigh-In

The official weigh-in for each Kyorugi division will take place on the day before the relevant competition.

During the official weigh-in, a change of weight category may be permitted only when allowed under the applicable EUSA and World Taekwondo regulations.

A random weigh-in may be conducted on the morning of each Kyorugi competition day.

The final weigh-in procedure, clothing requirements, tolerance rules, and schedule will be presented during the General Technical Meeting.

Recognised Poomsae Competition Guidelines

Categories

- Individual Under 30 Male;
- Individual Under 30 Female.



Compulsory Poomsae

The compulsory Poomsae may include:

- Taegeuk 7 Jang;
- Taegeuk 8 Jang;
- Koryo;
- Keumgang;
- Taebaek;
- Pyongwon;
- Sipjin;
- Jitae.

The final compulsory Poomsae list shall follow the latest World Taekwondo regulations.

Method of Competition

Recognised Poomsae competitions will use a single-elimination tournament system.

The designated Poomsae will be selected randomly and displayed on the competition monitor before the match begins. Athletes must perform the Poomsae in the order in which they are drawn.

Two different Poomsae may be required in each round. The Technical Delegate and the Organising Committee may reduce the preliminary-round requirement to one Poomsae, depending on the number of participants and the competition schedule.

Two Poomsae will normally be performed in the semi-final and final rounds.

Duration

Individual Recognised Poomsae performances may last up to 90 seconds.

A minimum break of 30 seconds will be provided between the first and second Poomsae.

Free Style Poomsae Competition Guidelines

Free Style Poomsae is a performance based on Taekwondo techniques combined with music and choreography.

Categories

- Individual Male;
- Individual Female.

Duration

Each performance must last between:



90 and 100 seconds

Music and Choreography

The athlete may select music and choreography.

The performance and music must not contain political, discriminatory, religious, or socially offensive content. All techniques must remain within the recognised technical boundaries of Taekwondo.

Music must be submitted in the format and within the deadline communicated by the Organising Committee.

The expected submission format is:

- MP3 audio file;
- USB device or approved digital submission method;
- File clearly labelled with the athlete's name and category;
- Instrumental music without spoken words or lyrics.

No athlete may perform without the required music file.

Technical Content

Scoring will follow the latest World Taekwondo Free Style Poomsae regulations.

The performance may be evaluated according to:

- Height of jumping techniques;
- Number and quality of kicks performed in the air;
- Degree of rotation in spinning techniques;
- Technical level of consecutive Kyorugi-style kicks;
- Quality and integration of acrobatic actions;
- Balance, power, accuracy, rhythm, creativity, and presentation.

All mandatory technical requirements and deductions shall be applied according to the latest World Taekwondo rules.

The following stances may be required within the performance:

- Dwitkubi—back stance;
- Beom-seogi—tiger stance;
- Hakdari-seogi—crane stance.

Final technical requirements will be confirmed in the official competition bulletin and during the General Technical Meeting.



Competition Programme

The Taekwondo Championship will include one General Technical Meeting and three competition days.

Date	Programme	Location
7 September 2026	Official arrivals and accreditation	Qyteti Studenti
8 September 2026	General Technical Meeting and official training	Qyteti Studenti
9 September 2026	Poomsae Competition – Day 1	Feti Borova Olympic Park
10 September 2026	Kyorugi Competition – Day 2	Feti Borova Olympic Park
11 September 2026	Kyorugi Competition – Day 3, finals and awarding ceremonies	Feti Borova Olympic Park
12 September 2026	Official departures	Qyteti Studenti

The detailed Kyorugi weight category allocation for 10 and 11 September will be published after 15 July.

General Technical Meeting

The General Technical Meeting (GTM) for Taekwondo will take place on 08 September 2026, at 14:30 PM in the “Liria” Building in Qyteti Studenti. This is the same location where the athletes are accommodated.

Attendance is compulsory for the Head of Delegation or another authorised representative from every participating university.

Any final technical changes or decisions communicated during the General Technical Meeting will be binding on all participating delegations.

Awards

	ACHIEVEMENT	COMPETITION CATEGORY	TITLE FOR WINNER
Cups (Kyorugi)	1st	University	European Universities Champion
Cups (Poomsae)	1st	University	European Universities Champion
Medals	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	Individual (athletes)	European Universities Champion



Poomsae Competitions (1 Court)

Poomsae competitions will be carried out using one court.

The KPNP Poomsae Scoring System will be used to evaluate Poomsae performance.



Number of Court for Poomsae 1 competition area (Day 1)

Mode of competitions

Recognized Poomsae Single Elimination System (side by side) Free Style Poomsae Cut- off system

Kyorugi Competitions (2 Courts)

Kyorugi competitions will be carried out using two courts. The Daedo Gen3 PSS (Protector and Scoring System) will be used for Kyorugi (sparring) competitions.

Number of courts for Kyorugi 2 competition areas per day (Day 2 & 3)

Mode of competitions

Kyorugi Single elimination system – Best of Three

KYORUGI CONTEST – DAEDO GEN3 PSS System

DAEDO GEN3 electronic body protectors with E-helmet will be provided by OC.



All athletes must bring their own “Daedo Gen3 E-Foot Gear - Electronic Sensor Socks” & „Daedo Gen3 PSS Gloves - Sensing Hand Mitt”.



Daedo Gen3 Daedo Gen3 E-Foot Gear - Electronic Sensor Socks PSS Gloves - Sensing Hand Mitt

All athletes must also bring their own full safety equipment (Mouthguard, Groin Protector, Forearm Guards, Shin Guards) according to WT competition rules.



X. Kickboxing

1. Welcome Messages

Message from the EUSA Technical Delegate for Kickboxing

Dear student-athletes, kickboxers, coaches, officials, and participants of the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026,

I am especially pleased, both as the EUSA Technical Delegate for Kickboxing and as Technical Director of the WAKO World Kickboxing Federation, to welcome you to the European Universities Combat Sports Championships in Tirana.

Kickboxing returns for its fourth appearance in the EUSA Combat Sports Championships programme. It is a modern and rapidly developing combat sport that continues to attract an increasing number of athletes and supporters around the world.



In 2021, WAKO received full recognition from the International Olympic Committee. This important milestone has provided further motivation to develop the sport, expand participation, and create new opportunities for young people—from school-age athletes to seniors, veterans, and university students.

Today, WAKO brings together more than 130 recognised member federations from across the world. Its competition calendar includes international and national events involving thousands of young kickboxers.

Kickboxing includes seven competitive disciplines. At the European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026, student-athletes will represent their universities in four disciplines:

- Point Fighting;
- Kick Light;
- Full Contact;
- K1 Style.

Point Fighting and Kick Light will be held on the tatami, while Full Contact and K1 Style will take place in the ring.

The Championships in Tirana will provide another important opportunity to expand kickboxing within the university community and encourage more student-athletes to represent their universities in future European competitions.

I wish all participants a safe journey, sporting success, fair competition, and an enjoyable stay in Tirana. May you return home with positive memories of the Championship, Albania, and the friendships created during the event.



Romeo Desa
EUSA Kickboxing Technical Delegate



2. Introduction and History

Kickboxing is a modern contact combat sport consisting of seven clearly defined disciplines:

- Point Fighting – PF
- Light Contact – LC
- Kick Light – KL
- Full Contact – FC
- Low Kick – LK
- K1 Style – K1
- Musical Forms – MF

Kickboxing Disciplines

Kickboxing disciplines are divided into two principal groups according to their rules. The main characteristics determining each group are the permitted hand and leg techniques, the level of contact, and the competition area.



1. Tatami Disciplines

Tatami disciplines include:

- Point Fighting;
- Light Contact;
- Kick Light;
- Musical Forms, with or without weapons.

In these disciplines, athletes use hand and leg techniques with controlled force or light contact. The principal objective is to score points by delivering clean, fast, and technically correct strikes to legal target areas.

Knockouts are not permitted in tatami disciplines and may result in penalties or disqualification. The competition takes place on a matted area known as the tatami.

Musical Forms

Musical Forms is a non-fighting discipline in which athletes perform a choreographed sequence of kickboxing and martial-arts techniques, often accompanied by music.

The performance demonstrates technical skill, balance, power, creativity, coordination, and showmanship against an imaginary opponent. Musical Forms is also performed on the tatami.

2. Ring Disciplines

Ring disciplines include:

- Full Contact;
- Low Kick;
- K1 Style.

In these disciplines, authorised hand and leg techniques are delivered with full power. The objective is to defeat the opponent by:

- Knockout-KO;
- Technical knockout-TKO;
- Victory on points.

The competition takes place in a boxing-style ring.

K1 Style

K1 Style permits knee strikes and kicks to the inner and outer thigh. These techniques distinguish it from Full Contact, where such attacks are generally prohibited.



Kickboxing in EUSA

Kickboxing first became part of the EUSA Championships programme in 2019. It was included in the four-sport European Universities Combat Championships held in Zagreb, Croatia, alongside Karate, Judo, and Taekwondo.

More than 1,300 participants took part across the four sports. Kickboxing welcomed 237 participants representing 101 universities and 20 countries.

At the conclusion of the fourth competition day, the University of Physical Education from Hungary ranked first overall, winning five gold medals and the Mixed Team competition.

It was followed by:

- Charles University, Czech Republic;
- Ivano-Frankivsk College of Physical Education, Ukraine;
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece;
- Technological University Dublin, Ireland.

These institutions finished with the same number of ranking points.

The European Universities Combat Sports Championships Tirana 2026 continue the development of university kickboxing by providing athletes with an opportunity to represent their universities, compete according to international standards, and build connections with fellow students from across Europe.

3. Competition Information

Organising Committee

Position	Name
EUSA Technical Delegate	Mr Romeo Desa
WAKO Europe Sport Director	Mr. Ilija Salerno
WAKO Europe OVR technician	Mrs. Jurica Kolaric
WAKO Europe Media Officer	Mrs. Marijana Pelević

4. Regulations Kickboxing

Competitors representing the same university in the same weight category must be placed in separate sections of the draw. One athlete should be placed in the upper half and the other in the lower half, ensuring that they can meet only in the final.



When more than two athletes from the same university compete in the same category, they must not be scheduled to meet during the first round, provided that there is at least an equal number of competitors from other universities.

Every draw list must include:

- Name of the tournament;
- Location and date;
- Discipline;
- Gender;
- Age division;
- Weight category;
- Competitor's full name;
- University or represented delegation;
- Bout number.

All draw lists must be printed in three official copies:

1. One copy for the Chief Referee;
2. One copy for the official competition table;
3. One copy for the noticeboard or official bulletin board.

All three copies must be identical.

Any authorised change must be recorded on all three copies and validated with the signature of the Chief Referee.

Unofficial copies of the draw lists will also be distributed to university team leaders.

Completed official copies containing the results, official stamp, and signature of the Technical Delegate will be considered official WAKO competition documents. They must be archived for at least two years.

No alterations may be made to a draw list after it has been produced by the Organising Committee.

The only exception concerns a material or administrative error, such as:

- Incorrect weight category;
- Incorrect age division;
- Incorrect discipline;
- Another verified registration error.

Any correction must be approved in writing by the Chair of the Organising Committee or the competent technical authority.

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

The organisation of the EUC Kickboxing shall be mainly based on the most recent Technical Regulations of the WAKO.



Financial Obligations

To participate in the Championships, all financial obligations towards EUSA and the Organising Committee must be settled within the specified deadlines, in accordance with the applicable EUSA Rules and Regulations.

Uniforms and Safety Equipment

Athletes' uniforms must comply with the latest WAKO regulations.

All safety equipment must:

- Comply with WAKO rules;
- Be manufactured by a WAKO-approved producer;
- Be in the required red or blue colour;
- Be appropriate for the athlete's discipline and category;
- Be presented for inspection when requested.

Sports Equipment and Materials

The competition will use:

- WAKO-approved tatami;
- A WAKO-compliant competition ring;
- The Sportdata competition and scoring system;
- Official scoring, timing, and results equipment;
- Other technical equipment required by the applicable WAKO rules.

Technical Regulations

The competition will be conducted according to:

- EUSA Rules and Regulations for European Universities Championships 2026;
- The most recent WAKO Technical Regulations;
- The latest applicable rules for each participating discipline;
- Technical decisions issued by the EUSA Technical Delegate;
- Decisions communicated during the General Technical Meeting.

Athlete Equipment and Clothing

Personal safety equipment must comply with the latest WAKO regulations.

The official equipment supplier for Tirana 2026 will be:



Required safety equipment includes approved red and blue gloves, headguards, and all other protection specified for the relevant discipline.

The Organising Committee will confirm whether approved equipment may be borrowed for competition bouts.

Clothing remains the personal responsibility of each athlete and must comply fully with the applicable WAKO regulations.

Athletes may not compete with non-compliant clothing or safety equipment.

Competition Format

The competition is planned to take place on:

- One tatami;
- One ring.

The final number of competition areas remains subject to confirmation by the Organising Committee and EUSA Technical Delegate.

The expected order of bouts will be:

Qualification Rounds

- Round of 16;
- Quarter-finals.

Final Rounds

- Semi-finals;
- Finals.

The competition will follow a knockout tournament format, also known as the Cup System.

The Competition Technical Commission may adjust the tournament format according to:

- Final registration numbers;
- Number of athletes in each category;
- Competition timetable;
- Venue capacity;
- Applicable WAKO and EUSA rules.

Delegation



Each delegation will consist of athletes and officials representing their respective university.

Every delegation must appoint a Head of Delegation.

The Head of Delegation will be responsible for:

- Accreditation of the complete university team;
- Communication with EUSA and the Organising Committee;
- Attendance at the General Technical Meeting;
- Confirmation of athletes and categories;
- Distribution of official information;
- Conduct of delegation members;
- Compliance with technical and event regulations.

Competition Programme

The Kickboxing competition will consist of three competition days.

The General Technical Meeting, at which the presence of each Head of Delegation or authorised representative is compulsory, will be held one day before the beginning of the competition.

Date	Programme	Location
12 September 2026	Official arrival day, accreditation and initial weigh-in where required	Qyteti Studenti
13 September 2026	Official weigh-in, General Technical Meeting, training and official event activities	Qyteti Studenti
14 September 2026	Kickboxing competition – Day 1	University of Sports of Tirana
15 September 2026	Kickboxing competition – Day 2	University of Sports of Tirana
16 September 2026	Kickboxing competition – Day 3, finals, awards and official closing activities	University of Sports of Tirana / XX
17 September 2026	Official departure day	Qyteti Studenti

The detailed allocation of disciplines and categories to each competition day will be published after registrations have closed.

General Technical Meeting

The General Technical Meeting (GTM) for Kickboxing will take place on 13 September 2026, at 17:00 PM in the “Liria” Building in Qyteti Studenti. This is the same location where the athletes are accommodated.



Attendance is compulsory for the Head of Delegation or another authorised representative from every participating university.

Any final technical changes or decisions communicated during the General Technical Meeting will be binding on all participating delegations.

Draw and Seeding

The official draw will be organised and conducted by the WAKO Organising Committee or competent WAKO technical team.

The draw will take place:

- At least 12 hours after the completion of official competition registration;
- At least 24 hours before the beginning of the relevant competition.

The draw will be based on the final confirmed registration of athletes.

Seeded athletes will be separated in the draw so that they may meet only in the final, whenever the draw size and applicable regulations permit.

COMPETITIONS

Kickboxing competitions will be in four disciplines:

K1 Styles, Full Contact, Point Fighting, Kick Light. Ring disciplines:

K1 Styles • Male: -67 kg, -71 kg, -75 kg, -81 kg, -86 kg

- Female: -56 kg, -60 kg, -65 kg Full Contact
- Male: -67 kg, -71 kg, -75 kg, -81 kg, -86 kg
- Female: -56 kg, -60 kg, -65 kg

Tatami disciplines: Point Fighting

- Male: -63 kg, -74 kg, -84 kg, +84 kg
- Female: -55 kg, -65 kg, +65 kg Kick Light
- Male: -63 kg, -74 kg, -84 kg, +84 kg
- Female: -55 kg, -65 kg, +65 kg

Multiple Participation

Point Fighting and Kick Light are tatami or semi-contact disciplines.

Full Contact and K1 Style are ring or full-contact disciplines.

Athletes competing on the tatami may participate in:



- Two tatami disciplines;
- Up to two weight categories, where permitted by the final technical regulations.

Athletes competing in the ring may participate in:

- Only one ring discipline;
- Only one weight category.

Double participation in Full Contact and K1 Style is not permitted.

Competition and Training Venues

Competition Venue

University of Sports of Tirana

Rruga "Muhamet Gjolllesha"

Tirana, Albania

The competition venue will provide:

- Tatami competition space;
- Ring competition space;
- Warm-up areas;
- Last-call areas;
- Equipment-control areas;
- Referee and technical rooms;
- Medical services;
- Competition-management services;
- Spectator areas;
- Accreditation-controlled access.

Training Venue

Training facilities will be available for participants who wish to train during the official competition period.

Advance reservations may be required.

A training-registration form will be available at the Accreditation Centre;



Awards

	ACHIEVEMENT	COMPETITION CATEGORY	TITLE FOR WINNER
Cups	1st	University	European Universities Champion
Medals 1st University 1	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd	Individual (athlete)	European Universities Champion

Protest Procedure

Competition Protests and Appeals

A written protest must clearly describe the issue, decision, or incident being challenged.

The Chief Referee must deliver the protest to the Appeal Protest Committee, which will review and address the matter immediately.

Official Appeal Protest Committee

The Official Appeal Protest Committee will consist of:

- Chair of the Referee Committee for the relevant ring or tatami;
- Supervisor or Observer;
- Technical Director, who will serve as Chair of the Appeal Protest Committee.

No two members of the Appeal Protest Committee may represent the same country.

The Chair of the Referee Committee will also appoint three additional members, numbered from 1 to 3, who will serve as automatic substitutes.

A substitute must replace an appointed committee member whenever a conflict of interest exists.

A conflict of interest may include:

- Shared nationality with the protesting athlete or delegation;
- Family relationship;
- Direct personal or professional involvement;
- Direct involvement in the incident under protest;
- Any other circumstance affecting impartiality.

The protest procedure should follow the sequence described below. At every stage, the priority should be to seek a fair and amicable resolution where possible.



Submitting a Protest

A coach or authorised representative wishing to submit a protest must declare this intention immediately after the conclusion of the bout.

The coach or representative must:

1. Obtain an official WAKO Protest Form from the Chief of the ring or tatami;
2. Complete the form clearly;
3. Return the completed form to the same official within 10 minutes of the end of the bout.

The Appeal Protest Committee will examine the protest and issue its decision no later than 15 minutes after receiving the completed form.

The entire procedure, from the submission of the form to the communication of the decision, is intended to be completed within 15 minutes.

The decision of the Official Appeal Protest Committee is final.

When a protest is upheld, the original decision will be amended accordingly.

Irregular Protests

Irregular protests and demonstrations against decisions are not permitted.

Prohibited conduct includes:

- Delaying the continuation of the competition;
- Sitting down in the ring or on the tatami;
- Refusing to leave the competition area;
- Refusing to continue after an authorised decision;
- Conduct encouraged by a coach or team official to obstruct the programme;
- Aggressive or disruptive confrontation with officials.

In the event of an irregular protest, the Chief Referee, Supervisor, and Technical Director of the ring or tatami will intervene.

Such behaviour may result in the exclusion of the entire university team from the relevant discipline.

If the situation escalates and security personnel are required to intervene, the entire university or NUSA delegation may be immediately disqualified.

The decision in such circumstances will be made jointly by:

- The EUSA Technical Delegate;
- The EUSA representative;



- The Chief Referee.

A protest will be accepted only when submitted in writing through the official procedure.

A protest will not be considered while prohibited or disruptive actions are taking place.

Video Evidence

Video footage is not applicable as evidence in WAKO competition protests.

Video recordings may not be used to:

- Reverse a decision;
- Resolve a protest;
- Review a complaint;
- Clarify a disputed scoring action;
- Replace the official decision-making procedure.

Special Violations of the Rules

When an athlete, coach, or entire team protests a decision by entering the ring or tatami without authorisation, or by refusing to leave immediately after a bout, the Interim Committee may disqualify the entire university team.

The Interim Committee will consist of:

- The EUSA Technical Delegate;
- The EUSA representative;
- The Chief Referee.

Any further disciplinary action will be determined according to the applicable EUSA and WAKO regulations.



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