



# AUSTRALIAN KARATE FEDERATION

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## Rule Modifications for 9-13 Years Kumite 2009 Competition Year

### Preamble

The WKF have introduced new modifications to the 'Rules of Competition' effective 1 January 2009. One of the major changes effects the Cadet kumite division (14 - 15 years) in that they are now required to wear a compulsory face mask and body protector.

The AKF has a Duty of Care to all competitors, coaches, officials and financial members, and must take into account legislative requirements and legal obligations. The AKF must be proactive in this regard and ensure all reasonable considerations, options and decisions are transparent, open and consultative in their resolve. Issues are fully examined and analysed to make a more informed decision for the betterment of our sport.

Therefore, in relation to this matter, the section below outlines the rule modifications relating to 9-13 years kumite for the 2009 competition year. These modifications are an interim measure introduced by the AKF until further advancements or suitable models of head protection for children's kumite competition are developed. The intent and purpose is ultimately to protect the safety and well-being of our competitors.

### Children Division 9 - 11 years Kumite

For Children divisions aged 9 - 11 years, competitors are prohibited to perform any techniques to the head, face or neck.

AKF approved body protectors will be compulsory and made available to competitors at National events. Competitors may choose to use WKF body protectors at their own expense.

### Children Division 12 - 13 years Kumite

For 12 - 13 years divisions, the WKF rules for Cadets (14 - 15 years) will be applied.

Competitors must wear the WKF approved face mask.

AKF approved body protectors will be compulsory and made available to competitors at National events. Competitors may choose to use WKF body protectors at their own expense.

### Body Protectors

As indicated above, the AKF will make available AKF approved body protectors at National events. Each State Referees' Council will have the authority to approve a specific type of body protector in consultation with the National Referees' Council.

### Cadets 14 - 15 years, Juniors 16 - 17 years and Seniors

Please be aware that the Cadet, Junior and Senior divisions will be implemented utilising the updated World Karate Federation Rules of Competition. It is paramount that all stakeholders familiarise themselves with the new rules.



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

