



47TH AAKF NATIONAL TRADITIONAL KARATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



*Sanctioned by American Amateur Karate Federation
Hosted by JSKA Int'l and AAKF Mid-Atlantic Region*

April 5, 2008

Dear AAKF Members and Regional Directors,

The Mid-Atlantic Region is pleased to host the 47th AAKF Traditional Karate National Championships in Annandale, Virginia, on June 21 & 22, 2008. This long-standing annual Budo tradition will showcase some of the best practitioners of traditional karate in the country.

The purpose of this event is to preserve and perpetuate the heritage of traditional karate in the United States. Under the leadership and guidance of Sensei Hidetaka Nishiyama, this championship has taken great strides since its beginning in 1961. Using the current International Traditional Karate Federation competition rules, six individual and five team events are scheduled along with demonstrations from AAKF senior instructors.

Each year the AAKF has improved its national championship and the organization around it. The Tournament Organizing Committee and the Mid-Atlantic Region have been planning this event for the past year, and look forward to honoring the goals of the AAKF.

The tournament will be held on the campus of The Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia. Located just outside of the Nation's Capital, participants will be able to enjoy the nearby sights of Washington D.C. Our volunteers have worked very hard to make this event a memorable experience, and look forward to hosting this year's elite athletes.

Please call (301) 254-8884 or e-mail JSKAINTL@aol.com for further information. In addition, you can visit our website at www.jskaintl.org and click on "2008 AAKF National Championship" to download information and registration forms for the Nationals. **We are requiring all registration information and fees be received no later than May 20, 2008.** Please send all forms and correspondence to:

47th AAKF Championships
Tournament Organizing Committee (TOC)
c/o JSKA Int'l
P.O. Box 7009
Silver Spring, MD 20907

Sincerely yours,

Mahmoud Tabassi
Mid-Atlantic Region Director

CHAMPIONSHIP SITE:

The Northern Virginia Community College
Gymnasium Located at Ernst Community Cultural Center
8333 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, VA 22003

DATES:

Judges Refresher Course: Thursday and Friday, June 19 & 20, 2008, Crown Plaza Tysons
Corner, McLean, VA (Tournament Hotel)
Competition: Saturday, June 21 Eliminations
Sunday, June 22 Finals

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

See attached schedule.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES:

ITKF Individual Events:

1. Men's Kata
2. Women's Kata
3. Men's Kumite (free system)
4. Women's Kumite (Ko-Go system)
5. Men's Fukugo
6. Women's Fukugo

ITKF Team Events:

1. Men's Kumite
2. Men's Synchronized Kata
3. Women's Synchronized Kata
4. En-bu (Male/Male)
5. En-bu (Female/Male)

PARTICIPATION QUALIFICATIONS:

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM EVENTS (General or Selected)

1. All participants must be registered AAKF individual members.
2. Kumite participants must be over 18 years of age and under 55 years of age.
3. **SELECTED (RECOMMENDED) ATHLETES**
 1. Each qualified region – Great Lakes, Northwestern, North Central, and Western – may select three (3) competitors for each category.
 2. Each non-qualified region may select one (1) competitor for each category.
 3. Host Region (2008-Mid-Atlantic) may select three (3) competitors in addition to one (1) for total of four (4) for each category.
 4. Winners (1st and 2nd Place) of the 2007 National Championship individual events may automatically participate as selected competitors.

Remark:

1. Selected (Recommended) Athletes may participate directly in National Eliminations and do not have to participate in General Eliminations
2. Selected Athletes who participate in General Eliminations CANNOT participate in the same category that they have been selected for (i.e. selected athletes in Kata may participate in the Kumite event in General Eliminations, but not in Kata)

4. GENERAL ATHLETES

1. Maximum number of athletes from each region for each category is five (5).
2. General Athletes must participate in the General Eliminations.
3. The top two (2) winners in each category in the General Eliminations may participate in the National Eliminations.

Remark:

1. Individual Athletes may participate in multiple categories in the General Eliminations.
2. General Athletes must be selected by their respective region.

5. TEAM MATCHES

Each state may select one team per category

RULES AND JUDGES:

1. ITKF/AAKF competition rules.
2. Participating tournament Judges will be Class A, B, C ITKF qualified judges and D (Domestic Judges) who have completed the Judge's pre-tournament Refresher Course offered on Thursday and Friday, June 19 & 20.
3. **All Judges must participate and complete the Judging Refresher Course**, in order to be selected to judge at the championship.
4. Standard attire for ITKF/AAKF judges is a white karate-gi and black *hakama* (see Judging Seminar).

ENTRY FORMS AND DEADLINE:

- A. All participants are admitted to competition **by pre-registration only. The deadline for receipt of Registration forms at the AAKF National Office and Mid-Atlantic Tournament Office is May 20, 2008.**

All participants, including judges and athletes, must send the official forms provided

- Application Forms and Documents:
 - Selected Athletes Registration
 - State Team Registration
 - General Athletes Registration
 - Judges' Refresher Course Registration
 - Medical Release Waiver
 - Athlete Registration Waiver
 - Judges - 1 passport photo (with name on back)
 - Athletes - 2 passport photos (w/ name on back)
 - T-Shirts
- Participation Fees
 - For specific fees, see appropriate registration forms

- B. **Regional Directors** are requested to endorse and send a copy of the AAKF Official Entry Documents to the AAKF National Office . **All entrance fees should be written out to the "JSKA INTL" and sent to the Tournament Office (PO BOX 7009, SILVER SPRING, MD, 20907) together with copies of the entrance forms by May 20, 2008.**

- C. Final Athlete Check-in: All athletes must check in as they arrive at the tournament site. Deadline will be Friday June 20th, 2008 at 4pm. **Remark: After this deadline, athletes' names will not make the placement drawing and will not be able to compete.**

JUDGING REFRESHER COURSE:

The Judging Refresher Course is open to anyone who has attained the registered ITKF rank of Shodan and above. Please note this is only a refresher course for judges, therefore all participants should have read the ITKF Competition Rules book and have a working knowledge of the ITKF competition rules. Examinations for Class D Kata and Class D Kumite (two separate tests) will be given on Friday, June 20, and requires separate **registration and fees**, which will be done at the site. Having a minimum rank of Nidan and full participation at the Judging Refresher Course are prerequisites for taking the Class D examinations.

Sensei Nishiyama and the AAKF Technical Committee will make the final judging assignments on Friday evening, June 20, 2008.

Judges Uniform: all judges are required to wear a black *Hakama* with a white karate-gi as a standard uniform for judging. Since personalized sizing is required, all judges should obtain his/her *Hakama* before coming to the tournament. The *Hakama* is required only for Finals (Sunday).

Necessary Items for Participants:

1. Athletes

- a. White karate gi
- b. Official ITKF competition gloves (kumite athletes only)
- c. For protection, kumite athletes may choose to wear:
 - i) Mouthpiece
 - ii) Groin protection (men)
 - iii) Chest protection (women)

2. Judges

- a. White karate gi
- b. Hakama
- c. Whistle
- d. ITKF Competition Rule Book

TRAVEL:

Please contact airlines, hotel, and car rental agency directly for your travel needs.

LODGING:

Official Tournament Hotel:

Crown Plaza Tysons Corner

1960 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22102

(703) 893-2100

(703) 893-2062 (fax)

WWW.CPTYSONSCORNER.COM

Please request the “Karate National Championship” Rate of \$179 per room / night for Wednesday and \$89 per room / night for Thursday thru Sunday; the rates we have negotiated. The Tournament office will be there, along with the Placement Drawings and AAKF Meetings, and possibly, the Judges Refresher Course. **Rooms will be held until May 28th.**

In case of emergency call the Tournament Committee at (301) 254-8884.

The Tournament Host Committee will be available to provide data and a listing of potential activities. A variety of restaurants and stores are across the street from the hotel.

RECEPTION:

There will be a cocktail hour on Saturday night from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the O’Malley’s pub inside the Crown Plaza Hotel with the cash bar.

Please direct any questions to:

47st AAKF National Traditional Karate Championships
Tournament Organizing Committee (TOC)
C/o: JSKA International
P.O. Box 7009
Silver Spring, MD 20907

Tel: (301) 254-8884

Email: JSKAINTL@aol.com

Website: www.jskaintl.org - click on 2008 AAKF National Championship

HELPFUL CHECKLIST:

- Competition forms mailed to AAKF national office by May 20, 2008
- Registration fees and copies of competition forms mailed to Tournament Office at PO BOX 7009, SILVER SPRING, MD 20907, by May 20, 2008
- Purchase *Hakama* for tournament judging
- Book Hotel by May 28, 2008
- Book Flight
- Book rental car