



AZERBAIJAN
KARATE
FEDERATION



EKF
KARATE
EUROPE



Baku 2026
WORLD CAPITAL OF SPORT

OLYMPIC HOPES

INTERNATIONAL KARATE TOURNAMENT

🏆 *European Karate Federation confirms.*

July 17–19, 2026



SOSIAL MEDIA

Karate aləmindəki mühüm yeniliklərdən
dərhal xəbərdar olmaq üçün sosial
şəbəkələrdə bizi izləyin.

🌐 azkf.az | [YouTube](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [TikTok](#) [WhatsApp](#) [Telegram](#) / [akf.karate](https://www.instagram.com/akf.karate)





AZERBAIJAN
KARATE
FEDERATION

OLYMPIC HOPES
INTERNATIONAL KARATE TOURNAMENT
GANJA - 2026



INTERNATIONAL KARATE TOURNAMENT

“OLYMPIC HOPES”

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

17-19 JULY 2026

GANJA - REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN



Dear athletes, coaches, referees, distinguished guests, and members of the international karate community,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the International Karate Tournament “Olympic Hopes”, which will be held on 17-19 July 2026 in the beautiful city of Ganja, Republic of Azerbaijan.

This tournament brings together young talents and experienced athletes from different countries in the spirit of friendship, mutual respect, fair play, and sporting excellence. Karate is not only a sport of competition, but also a school of discipline, honor, determination, and unity. I firmly believe that events such as “Olympic Hopes” play an important role in strengthening international cooperation and promoting the values of sport among younger generations.

The Azerbaijan Karate Federation continues its efforts toward the development of karate in Azerbaijan and the successful organization of international sporting events in accordance with modern international standards. We are proud to welcome all participants and guests to our country and are confident that this tournament will leave unforgettable impressions for everyone.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all federations, clubs, athletes, referees, coaches, volunteers, and organizers contributing to this prestigious event.

On behalf of the Azerbaijan Karate Federation, I wish all participants success, fair competition, strong spirit, and memorable moments in Azerbaijan.

Welcome to Azerbaijan.
Welcome to Ganja.
Welcome to “Olympic Hopes 2026”.

Ulvi Guliyev
President
Azerbaijan Karate Federation



ORGANIZER

The International Karate Tournament “Olympic Hopes” is organized by the Azerbaijan Karate Federation in cooperation with the relevant state institutions, regional sports authorities, and official partners.

The tournament shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, regulations, and international competition standards recognized by the European Karate Federation.

HOST CITY AND VENUE

Host City

Ganja - Republic of Azerbaijan

Competition Venue

Ganja Sport Hall

Official Dates

17-19 July 2026



OFFICIAL PROGRAM

| DATE | PROGRAM |
|-------------------------|---|
| 17 July 2026 (Friday) | Accreditation, Registration, Weight Control |
| 18 July 2026 (Saturday) | Qualification Rounds and Eliminations |
| 19 July 2026 (Sunday) | Finals and Award Ceremonies |

COMPETITION DISCIPLINES

KATA

- Individual Kata

KUMITE

- Individual Kumite



AGE CATEGORIES

- U10
- U12
- U14
- Cadets
- Juniors
- U21

OFFICIAL WEIGHT CATEGORIES

| AGE CATEGORY | FEMALE | MALE |
|-------------------|--|--|
| U10 (8-9 YEARS) | -25 KG, -30 KG, -35 KG, +35 KG | -23 KG, -28 KG, -33 KG, -38 KG, +38 KG |
| U12 (10-11 YEARS) | -30 KG, -35 KG, -40 KG, +40 KG | -30 KG, -35 KG, -40 KG, -45 KG, +45 KG |
| U14 (12-13 YEARS) | -37 KG, -42 KG, -47 KG, -52 KG, +52 KG | -40 KG, -45 KG, -50 KG, -55 KG, +55 KG |
| CADET KUMITE | -47 KG, -54 KG, -61 KG, +61 KG | -52 KG, -57 KG, -63 KG, -70 KG, +70 KG |
| JUNIOR KUMITE | -48 KG, -53 KG, -59 KG, -66 KG, +66 KG | -55 KG, -61 KG, -68 KG, -76 KG, +76 KG |
| U21 KUMITE | -50 KG, -55 KG, -61 KG, -68 KG, +68 KG | -60 KG, -67 KG, -75 KG, -84 KG, +84 KG |

KATA CATEGORIES

INDIVIDUAL KATA

- U10
- U12
- U14
- Cadets
- Juniors
- U21

ENTRY FEES

CATEGORY ENTRY FEE

Individual Kata 50 EUR

Individual Kumite 50 EUR

All entry fees must be paid prior to the registration deadline.



REGISTRATION

Official Registration Platform

[SmartArena Registration Platform](#)

Registration Deadline

01 July 2026

Late registrations may not be accepted by the Organizing Committee.

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation Date

17 July 2026

All delegations are required to complete:

- *Athlete verification*
- *Passport verification*
- *Weight control (where applicable)*
- *Coach accreditation*
- *Referee accreditation*

ACCOMMODATION

| HOTEL CATEGORY | SINGLE ROOM (PER NIGHT / 1 PERSON) | DOUBLE ROOM (PER NIGHT / 2 PERSONS) | PER PERSON IN DOUBLE ROOM |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2★ Hotel | 35 EUR | 50 EUR | 25 EUR |
| 3★ Hotel | 55 EUR | 100 EUR | 50 EUR |
| 4★ Hotel | 80 EUR | 140 EUR | 70 EUR |
| 5★ Hotel | 140 EUR | 220 EUR | 110 EUR |

Accommodation requests shall be processed according to hotel availability.

The Organizing Committee strongly recommends early reservation for all delegations.

Official accommodation and transportation information shall be provided separately.



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION PRICES

| SERVICE | PRICE |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Baku Airport - Ganja Hotel (1-4 persons) | 100 EUR (Private Car) |
| Baku Airport - Ganja Hotel (4-14 persons) | 300 EUR (Minibus) |
| Baku Airport - Ganja Hotel (14-50 persons) | Price upon request (Bus) |
| Ganja Hotel - Competition Venue - Hotel | 10 EUR per person / per day |
| Full Transportation Package | Price upon request |

Transportation Services Include

- Airport pickup and departure transfer
- Baku International Airport – Ganja hotel transportation
- Official shuttle services
- Hotel to competition venue transportation
- Scheduled transport services for official delegations
- Comfortable private cars, minibuses, and buses with professional drivers

Transportation Policy

Transportation requests must be submitted in advance to the Organizing Committee. All transportation services shall be arranged according to the number of participants and delegation requirements. Early reservation is strongly recommended to ensure availability during the tournament period.

Transportation Contacts

- office@azkf.az
- +994(50)2103706





MEAL SERVICES

PRICE

SERVICE

Lunch Package at the Competition Venue

10 EUR per person

Dinner

18 EUR per person

Meal Services Include

Fresh daily meals during competition days

Packed lunch delivery to the arena

Hot dinner service at the hotel or official restaurant

Menu options suitable for athletes and official delegations

Meal requests must be submitted in advance to the Organizing Committee.

Special dietary requirements may be arranged upon prior request.

RULES

The competition shall be conducted under current international karate competition rules and regulations.

All athletes must compete wearing:

- Official white karate gi
- Approved protective equipment
- Official belts and gloves where applicable

AWARDS

The following awards shall be presented:

- Gold Medal
- Silver Medal
- Bronze Medal(s)
- Diplomas and Certificates



INSURANCE

All participants and delegations are responsible for their own:

- Medical insurance
- Travel insurance

- Accident insurance

The Organizing Committee shall not bear responsibility for injuries, illness, theft, accidents, or other unforeseen circumstances occurring during the event.

CHIEF SECRETARY

Mr. Gabil Sayadov
Secretary General of the Azerbaijan Karate Federation
E-mail: office@azkf.az
Tel: +994 (99) 399 3399

CHIEF REFEREE

Mr. Jahangir Babayev
International Referee
Chairman of the Referee Committee of the Azerbaijan Karate Federation
E-mail: office@azkf.az
Tel: +994 (55) 773 46 76



VISA SUPPORT

Mr. Vusal Abdullazade

Assistant to the President of the Azerbaijan Karate Federation

Delegations requiring visa assistance are kindly requested to contact the Organizing Committee before the registration deadline.

Visa Support Contacts

- visa@azkf.az
- v.abdullazade@azkf.az
- +994(50)2103706

LIVE SERVICES

The tournament shall provide:

- Live Draws

- Live Schedule
- Live Results
- Live Scoreboards
- Tatami Management System
- Podium Presentation System

through the official platform:

[SmartArena Official Platform](#)



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CONTACT INFORMATION

Organizer

Azerbaijan Karate Federation

Official Website

[SmartArena Official Website](#)

Official E-mail Addresses

- office@azkf.az
- support@smart-arena.org

FINAL PROVISIONS

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to make any necessary changes concerning the competition schedule, categories, accommodation, and technical matters where required for the successful conduct of the tournament.

Participation in the tournament confirms acceptance of all regulations and provisions stated in this Official Bulletin.





WELCOME TO AZERBAIJAN

The Organizing Committee cordially welcomes all athletes, coaches, referees, officials, and guests to Ganja and wishes all participants success and memorable moments at the International Karate Tournament “Olympic Hopes 2026”.



Ganja is one of the oldest cultural and historical cities of Azerbaijan, famous for its rich heritage, beautiful parks, museums, and unique natural attractions.

- Goygol National Park - One of the most breathtaking natural destinations in the Caucasus, known for its crystal-clear lake, forests, and mountain landscapes.
- Heydar Aliyev Park Complex - One of the largest urban park complexes in the Caucasus, featuring fountains, artificial lakes, walking areas, and modern recreation facilities.
- Nizami Mausoleum - A magnificent architectural monument dedicated to the world-famous Azerbaijani poet Nizami Ganjavi.
- Imamzadeh Mausoleum - One of Azerbaijan’s most important religious and historical architectural complexes.
- Khan Baghi - One of the oldest parks in the Caucasus, famous for its centuries-old trees and elegant atmosphere.
- Ganja History-Ethnography Museum - A major museum presenting the rich history, culture, and traditions of the region.



