

**2026
USAWKF NATIONAL KUNGFU CHAMPIONSHIPS
AND NATIONAL KUNGFU RANKING
REGULATIONS**



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A. GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2026 United States of America Wushu-Kungfu Federation (USAWKF) National Kungfu Championships will be held from August 8 to August 9, 2026, at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Houston, Texas. This National Championships provides a premier competitive platform for USAWKF National Team athletes across Kungfu and Taiji styles, and serves as an official ranking event for the National Kungfu Rankings system, which can be viewed on our website: <https://usawkf.org/national-rankings/?type=kf>

1. DATES AND PLACE

- **Competition Dates:** August 8 - August 9, 2026
- **Event Venue:** Royal Sonesta Hotel
Legends and Discovery Ballrooms
2222 W Loop S,
Houston, TX 77027
- **Registration:** <http://registration.usawkf.org/>
- **Registration Period:** May 30 - July 19, 2026

2. ELIGIBILITY

All registering competitors must strictly fulfill the following requirements at the time of entry:

- **National Team Certification:** Must be a certified 2024 - 2026 USAWKF Taolu, Kungfu, Taiji, and Sanda Team Member.
- **Legal Status:** Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- **Federation Standing:** Current USAWKF membership maintained in continuous good standing.

3. AGE GROUPS

The competition is open to the following age groups (ages determined as of January 1, 2026):

- A: 11 years of age and below (born January 1, 2015, or later)
- B: 12 to 14 years old (born between January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2014)
- C: 15 to 17 years old (born between January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2011)
- D: 18 to 39 years old (born between January 1, 1987 – December 31, 2008)
- E: 40 to 59 years old (born between January 1, 1967 – December 31, 1986)
- F: 60 years of age and above (born on or before December 31, 1966)

B. COMPETITION EVENTS

All contested event categories will offer dedicated empty-hand and weapon divisions. Here is a list of categories that athletes can register for:

4. TRADITIONAL KUNGFU DIVISION

- **Barehand**

Category	Styles
Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chaquan• Huaquan• Paoquan• Hongquan• Tongbeiquan• Piguaquan• Fanziquan• Other Northern Styles
Nanquan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yongchunquan (Wing Chun)• Cailifoquan (Choy Lay Fut)• Hongjiaquan (Hung Gar)• Other Nanquan Styles
Animal Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yingzhaoquan (Eagle Style)• Tanglangquan (Mantis Style)
Mountain Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wudangquan• Emeiquan
Songshan-Shaolinquan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional• Compulsory• Traditional Imitation Styles

- **Weapons**

Category	Styles
Short Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dao (Broadsword)• Jian (Straight Sword)• Shanzi (Fan)• Nandao (Southern Broadsword)• Other Short Weapons
Long Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gun (Cudgel/Staff)• Qiang (Spear)• Pudao• Guandao

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nangun (Southern Staff) • Other Long Weapons
Double Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shuangdao (Double Broadsword) • Shuangbishou (Double Daggers) • Shuangjian (Double Straight Sword/Double Long Tassel Straight Sword)
Flexible/Soft Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jiujielian (Nine Section Whip Chain) • Other Flexible Weapons
Songshan-Shaolin Short Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Broadsword • Traditional Straight Sword • Compulsory Broadsword • Compulsory Straight Sword
Songshan-Shaolin Long Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Cudgel • Traditional Spear • Compulsory Cudgel • Compulsory Spear
Songshan-Shaolin Soft Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Soft Weapons

5. INTERNAL DIVISION

- **Barehand**

Category	Styles
Taijiquan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chen Style • Yang Style • 24-Posture Taijiquan • 42-Posture Taijiquan • Wu Style (吴式) • Wu style (武式 / Wu-Hao lineage) • Sun Style • Zhaobao Style • Other Taijiquan Styles

- **Weapons**

Category	Styles
Taiji Short Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32-Posture Taijijian • 42-Posture Taijijian • Other Taijijian • Taijidao • Taijishan • Other Taiji Short Weapons
Taiji Long Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taijiqiang • Other Taiji Long Weapons

6. DUILIAN AND JITI DIVISION

Category	Styles
Duilian (2 or 3 athletes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kungfu Barehand and Weapon Duilian • Songshan Shaolin Barehand and Weapon Duilian
Jiti Group (6+ athletes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barehand and Weapon Jiti • Songshan Shaolin Barehand and Weapon Jiti

C. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

7. COMPETITION METHODS

- **Competition Methods**

Unless otherwise stated within these regulations, the competition will be conducted in accordance with the IWUF Traditional Wushu Competition Rules and Judging Methods 2019 (Trial) (hereinafter referred to as “rules”). The Rules and Methods may be interpreted solely at the discretion of the USAWKF.

- **Event Time Limits**

- Kungfu Events: The duration of the performance shall be 40 seconds to 1 minute 30 seconds total.
- Contemporary Events: Performance shall be no less than 1 minute and 20 seconds total.
- Traditional Chen Style Taijiquan, Traditional Yang Style Taijiquan, Other Traditional Taijiquan, and 42 Movements Taijiquan: 5 to 6 minutes total.
- 24 Movements Taijiquan: 4 to 5 minutes total.
- Taijijian and Weapon Forms: 3 to 4 minutes total.

- Duilian: From 40 seconds to 4 minutes in total duration.
- Jiti Group: From 2 to 4 minutes in total duration.

The power of interpretation of the Rules rests solely with the USAWKF.

8. DRAWING LOTS

- There shall be no formal drawing of lots ceremonies conducted for the National Championships. Athlete performance order within each contested division will be randomized automatically via a computerized registry system.
- The official competition schedule and finalized running orders will be distributed electronically to all participating teams prior to the commencement of the event.
- Competitor identification badges (IDs) must be collected individually at the official Event Check-In Desk, located at the tournament headquarters within the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

9. COMPETITION AREA

All tournament matches and performances will take place exclusively within a USAWKF-approved competition area.

The main field of play measures 14 meters in length by 8 meters in width and must be securely surrounded by an outer safety perimeter spanning a minimum of 2 meters in width. This active contest zone shall be clearly defined on all four borders by a 5-centimeter-thick white boundary line. To ensure safety and accommodate high-flying aerial routines, the unobstructed vertical headspace above the mat surface must measure at least 8 meters in height, and the primary stage configuration may be elevated to a height ranging between 0.6 meters and 1 meter.

10. COMPETITION ATTIRE, ENTRANCE INTO AND DEPARTURE FROM THE ARENA AND EQUIPMENT

- **Attire, Equipment, and Arena Etiquette**

Competitors are required to provide their own regulation wushu competition costumes and weaponry, all of which must strictly satisfy federation technical guidelines.

- **Shaolin Category Attire Exceptions**

Competitors registered under the Shaolin category may choose to utilize the following traditional variants:

- Standard Shaolin robes of traditional solid colors: saffron, orange, red, maroon, blue, gray.
- Traditional Shaolin socks, configured either with or without leg ties.
- Uniforms may be worn with one arm completely bare out of respect for traditional Shaolin lineage practices.

- **Ceremonial Salutes**

Upon entering the arena when called and upon the final declaration of their score, competitors must execute a formal 'palm-and-fist' salute toward the Head Judge.

- **Bare-Hand Routines:** For bare-hand routines, this requires standing with feet together while pressing the left palm and right fist together 20 to 30 centimeters from the chest.
- **Weapon Routines:** For sword routines, the apparatus must be held securely in the left hand with the right palm extended in front of the chest, while staff and spear routines require holding the weapon completely upright in one hand paired with a single flat palm held in front of the chest.
- **Shaolin Alternative Salutes:** In place of the mandatory "palm-and-fist" salute, competitors registered within the Shaolin category maintain the option to perform traditional alternative greetings. These include:
 - i. Standard Buddhist Bow: Performed by joining both palms with fingers pointing upward and bowing at the waist.
 - ii. Traditional Shaolin Bow: Executed by holding one hand vertically at the chest while placing the opposite hand horizontally underneath it.

11. PLACING AND AWARDS

- Official USAWKF Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the top three (3) finishers of each individual event, with all results officially recognized as part of the USAWKF National Kungfu Rankings.
- To further highlight elite competitive achievements, the top ten (10) placement finishers in each advanced event will be officially recorded and displayed on the USAWKF National Kungfu Rankings page.

D. REGISTRATION

The 2026 USAWKF National Kungfu Championships and the National Kungfu Rankings are administered as separate but concurrent systems. To streamline the entry process, competitors are only required to submit registration forms for the National Championships. No independent application or secondary registration is required for the National Kungfu Rankings.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to combine or separate competition groups and divisions at their discretion based on final enrollment status.

12. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

- Registration Timeline: Registration starts June 1, 2026. Final registration ends July 19, 2026.
- **No registrations will be accepted after the July 19 deadline.**
- Online Registration: All groups, schools, and individual competitors must submit their

event entries via the official electronic system at: <http://registration.usawkf.org/>

- For Jiti (Group Sets) and Duilian (Choreographed Fighting Sets), the registering coach or primary athlete must input the names of all group participants during the online entry process to link team profiles correctly.
- All tournament entries must clearly identify the specific styles and Taolu routines being performed.
- Event Changes: You must notify the Organizing Committee of any changes at least 18 days prior to the event, which is Tuesday, July 21. There is a \$25 charge for each change. No changes will be made after the Tuesday, July 21 deadline.
- Credential Entitlements: Each participating group or school roster shall designate one (1) official Team Leader and a maximum of two (2) coaches. Official competition identification badges (IDs) shall be generated for all verified team leaders, coaches, and athletes. Valid credential holders are fully exempt from purchasing standard general admission spectator tickets. All credentials must be picked up in bulk and distributed directly to the squad by the designated Team Leader or primary group organizer.

13. FEES

- **Registration**

The Kungfu National Championships Registration Fees are:

- Solo: \$85 including first event and \$25 per additional event
- Duilian (Choreographed Fight Set): \$70 per participant if no solo event is entered; \$10 per participant as an additional event if a solo event has been entered.
- Jiti (Group Set min 5 athletes): \$70 per participant if no solo event is entered; \$10 per participant as an additional event if a solo event has been entered.
- Event Change: \$25/change

There is no limit to Kungfu National Championships events that athletes may compete in.

- **Observer Passes**

Competition observer tickets are \$20 per day (Saturday, or Sunday). Kids 7-12 tickets are \$10 per day.

14. INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

Each participant registering in any competition event is responsible for their own accident insurance. A waiver form must be signed, and every participant must agree to the terms before entering the online registration system.

E. ACCOMMODATION

15. OFFICIAL HOTEL

The hotel is the Royal Sonesta Hotel via Longhorn International Wushu Kungfu

Championships.

Official Hotel Link with special discounts: <https://book.passkey.com/e/51251224>

Royal Sonesta Hotel
2222 W Loop S,
Houston, TX 77027

16. AIRPORTS

- George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
- William P. Hobby Airport (HOU)

17. KEY CONTACTS

- **Email Address:** usawkf@usawkf.org
- **General Information:** <https://usawkf.org>
- **Registration Website:** <http://registration.usawkf.org/>