INTERNATIONAL SHOTOKAN KARATE FEDERATION

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5TH ISKF WORLD SHOTO CUP 2026

MÉRIDA, MÉXICO

Mérida, Yucatán, México, july 17 of 2026.

Dear Members of the ISKF Family,

The Organizing Committee of the 5th ISKF World Shoto Cup 2026 is pleased to announce the following updates regarding competition categories and competitor registration for the event to be held October 22–25, 2026, in Mérida, Yucatán, México.

- Six new Shobu Ippon Kumite Categories for Brown Belts have been added: 12–14 years, 15–17 years, and 18+ years, in both Female and Male divisions. These categories will be open to all Shotokan Karate organizations, whether affiliated with ISKF or not.

  These Shobu Ippon Kumite categories will be offered in addition to the existing Jiyu Ippon Kumite categories, and competitors may choose to participate only in one or the other **NOT both**.
- All Shotokan brown belts practitioners are welcome.

INDIVIDUAL KUMITE			
Key	**Gender and Age Range**	**Level**	**Comment**
KU 40	MALE 12 – 14 YEARS OLD	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite
KU 41	MALE 15 – 17 YEARS OLD	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite
KU 42	MALE 18 – YEARS OR OLDER	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite
KU 43	FEMALE 12 – 14 YEARS OLD	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite
KU 44	FEMALE 15 – 17 YEARS OLD	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite
KU 45	FEMALE 18 – YEARS OR OLDER	BROWN BELT	Shobu ippon kumite

- The Black Belt Kumite 55+ category has been expanded to include competitors 65 years of age and older, in both Female and Male divisions. All senior age categories will do Jiyu Kumite
- In the 18-44 years categories, the maximum number of competitors per country has increased from 8 to 10 competitors per category. In both male and female divisions

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all participating countries, dojos, instructors, competitors, and families for their enthusiasm and continued support.

It will be a great honor to welcome you to Mérida as we come together to celebrate this outstanding international Shotokan Karate event, strengthening the values of friendship, unity, sportsmanship, and the enduring spirit of the ISKF.

We look forward to welcoming you to México!

Sincerely,
Pedro Torre
Tournament Director
Vice President, ISKF Mexico
Chief Instructor, ISKF Southeast Mexico Region