



8th WGKF Championship 2026 Pune, India

hosted by

UNION OF GOJU RYU KARATE DO FEDERATION



05-10

OCTOBER 2026

8th WGKF GOJU-RYU
CHAMPIONSHIP

Bulletin No. 1

Shree Shiv Chattrapati Sports Complex, Mahalunge,
Pune, Maharashtra, India



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1. INITIAL GREETINGS

1.1 PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD GOJU-RYU KARATE FEDERATION



Dear Participants, Referees, Officials, and Guests,

I am writing to extend a cordial invitation to the esteemed WGKF members and practitioners of the Asian Goju-Ryu Karate Federation to participate in the upcoming **8th WGKF Championship**, hosted by the Union of Goju-Ryu Karate-do Federation India. This significant gathering of World Goju-Ryu practitioners will take place from **5th to 10th October 2026** at the **Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Pune, India**. We would be honored to welcome talented athletes, dedicated officials, and escorts from your nation.

On behalf of the organizing committee, it is my great pleasure to extend a warm invitation to all of you to the **8th World Goju-Ryu Championship 2026**, held in the vibrant city of Pune—India's major financial, commercial, and cultural hub. We are thrilled to host this prestigious event, bringing together the finest Goju-Ryu practitioners from around the world in a celebration of skill, dedication, and sportsmanship.

India, with its rich cultural heritage and breathtaking landscapes, provides a perfect backdrop for this international gathering of Goju-Ryu enthusiasts. As you embark on this journey, you will not only have the opportunity to showcase your expertise, but also to forge lasting friendships, exchange knowledge, and create memories that will stay with you for a lifetime.

I am confident that the dedicated Indian organizing team, under the leadership of **Dhiraj Pawar Sensei**, will work tirelessly to ensure that this championship exceeds your expectations. From top-level facilities to a meticulously planned schedule, we aim to create an environment where the spirit of Goju-Ryu can truly flourish. Whether you are a competitor, coach, official, or spectator, we are committed to making your experience in India memorable and enjoyable.

As you engage in spirited competition, let us remember the principles of Goju-Ryu: **respect, discipline, and perseverance**. May this championship be not only a test of skill, but also a celebration of the values that make martial arts a transformative journey.

We encourage you to explore the beauty of India, savor its cuisine, and embrace the camaraderie that transcends borders and cultures. Together, let us make the **World Goju-Ryu Championship 2026** an event that unites us through our shared passion for our style.

Once again, I look forward to seeing you all in India. May your time there be filled with success, camaraderie, and the indomitable spirit of Goju-Ryu.

Best wishes,

Humberto Nuno de Oliveira, PhD

President

World Goju-Ryu Karate Federation



1.2 GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORLD GOJU-RYU KARATE FEDERATION



Esteemed Guests,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the approval of India's candidacy to host the **8th WGKF Championship in 2026**. This decision was officially confirmed during the WGKF Congress held in Loipersdorf, Austria, in September 2024.

All of us—participants, referees, officials, and athletes—through our presence will demonstrate our deep passion for Goju-Ryu Karate and continue the vision initiated long ago by our Presidents **Humberto Nuno de Oliveira** and **Marcello Tiberi**, who sadly passed away too soon in 2019.

Their foremost goal was to promote, organize, and popularize Goju-Ryu Karate across the world.

In 2026, we will gather in **Pune, India**, to realize this dream—a dream shared by all of us. This is a significant achievement, and for this, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the **Asian Goju-Ryu Federation**, especially to its President **Dhiraj Pawar Sensei**, who has both the honor and the responsibility of organizing this important event.

Pune is renowned for its historical significance and its harmonious blend of tradition and modernity, making it a truly unique and fascinating destination.

I am confident that the competition will be guided by the great values of karate-do and that the participants will deliver vibrant and fair performances. I wish all **Athletes, Coaches, Spectators, and Sensei** an unforgettable experience filled with achievements that honor the dedication and sacrifices made by karate and its passionate practitioners.

Simonetta Lungo
General Secretary, WGKF





1.3 TREASURER OF THE WORLD GOJU-RYU KARATE FEDERATION



Esteemed guests, dear friends, and respected karateka,

It is with great honor and heartfelt pride that I welcome you all to Pune, India, for the **8th World Goju-Ryu Karate Championships**.

This gathering is not only a celebration of skill and discipline, but also a tribute to the shared values that unite us through the art of karate: **respect, perseverance, and harmony**.

I trust that each of you has arrived with a spirit grounded in humility and dedication—ready to test your limits, honor your opponents, and represent your dojos and nations with dignity. Let us remember that true victory lies not only in triumph, but also in the courage to participate, the will to improve, and the respect we show one another.

May these championships be marked by **fair play, friendship, and mutual admiration**. And may the finest spirit of Goju-Ryu guide us through every match, every kata, and every moment we share.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to the organizing committee for their tireless efforts in bringing this prestigious event to life.

Let the championships begin—and may they be a memorable celebration of **excellence, unity, and the true spirit of karate**.

Sensei Pieter Harms
Treasurer, WGKF–EGKF



1.4 PRESIDENT,



Union of Goju-Ryu Karate-Do Federation, India

It gives us immense pride and great honour to welcome all distinguished officials, masters, coaches, athletes, and delegates from around the world to the **8th WGKF Goju-Ryu Karate Championship 2026**, hosted in the vibrant cultural capital of Maharashtra—**Pune, India**.

This prestigious championship brings together the finest exponents of Goju-Ryu Karate, united by discipline, respect, and the true spirit of martial arts. As organizers, we are committed to providing a world-class competition environment, exceptional hospitality, and an unforgettable cultural experience for all our international guests.

The 2026 edition, held from **05th to 10th October**, marks a historic moment for India as we proudly host this global event. We believe this championship will not only showcase extraordinary talent but also strengthen international friendship, sportsmanship, and the shared values that define the WGKF family.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the WGKF Executive Committee, participating nations, volunteers, and supporters whose dedication and cooperation have made this grand event possible.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we wish all participants the very best. May you compete with honour, perform with excellence, and carry home cherished memories from India.

Welcome to Pune.

Welcome to India.

Welcome to the 8th WGKF Goju-Ryu Championship!

Regards,

Dhiraj Pawar

President, Union of Goju-Ryu Karate-Do Federation, India



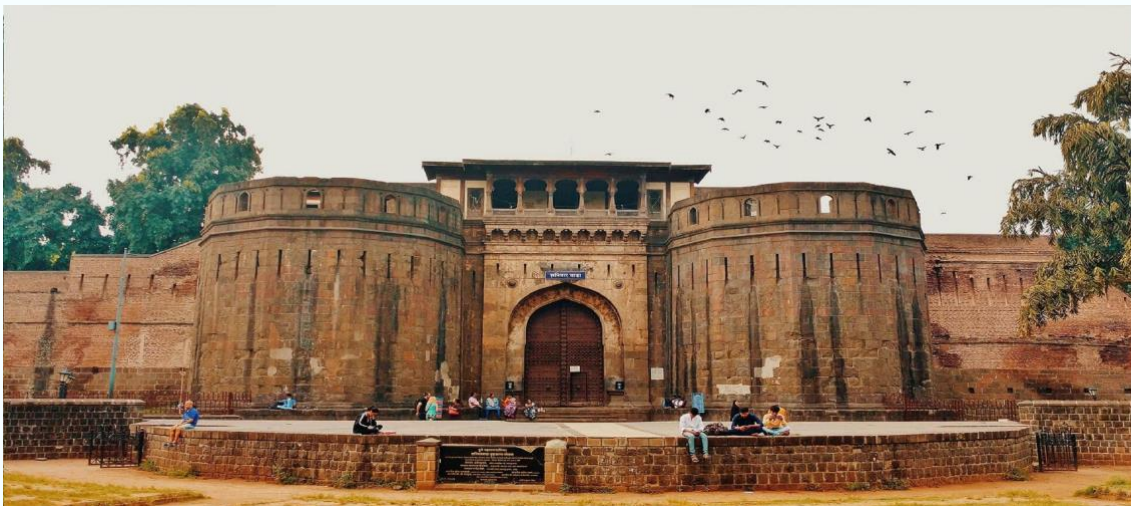
2. CITY INFORMATION

2.1 ABOUT CITY

The 8th World Goju-Ryu Karate Federation Championships will be hosted in Pune, a vibrant city in the state of Maharashtra, India. Known as the “Oxford of the East,” Pune is a center of education, culture, and innovation, blending traditional Indian heritage with modern development.

Located approximately 150 km from Mumbai, Pune offers a pleasant climate, rich history, and warm hospitality. Visitors can enjoy its diverse culture, historical landmarks, and culinary variety while experiencing the welcoming spirit of India.

With its excellent infrastructure and dynamic atmosphere, Pune provides an ideal environment for hosting this prestigious international karate event.



3. HOW TO GET TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

3.1 FLIGHT

The nearest airport to the Championship venue is Pune International Airport (PNQ), located approximately 21 km from the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Mahalunge, Pune, Maharashtra.

Pune Airport offers several international and domestic connections, including regular flights from Dubai, Doha, Singapore, and most major Indian cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Chennai.

For international delegations, another option is to arrive via Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (BOM) in Mumbai, one of India's busiest international hubs. The distance between Mumbai and Pune is approximately 150 km, which takes around 3 to 4 hours by road depending on traffic.

Recommended transfer options:

- From Pune Airport (PNQ):
 - Taxi or ride-share service (Uber/Ola) – approx. 45 minutes / ₹ 600–1000 (€ 7– 10).
 - Pre-paid taxis are available at the arrival terminal.
 - Airport shuttle or private van can be arranged for groups upon request.
- From Mumbai Airport (BOM):
 - Private transfer or chartered bus service – approx. 3–4 hours / ₹ 3 000–5 000 (€ 35–55).
 - Express train service (Mumbai CST – Pune Junction) – approx. 2.5–3 hours travel time.

Travel advice:

- Please allow sufficient time for traffic delays, especially during peak hours.
- Group transfers organized through the Local Organizing Committee are recommended for convenience.
- Major hotels (The Orchid – HQ Hotel) are within 02 minutes driving distance from the venue.

3.2 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Pune has a well-developed transport network, making travel between hotels, the venue, and city attractions convenient and affordable.

Available options:

- Taxi and ride-share services (Uber, Ola) – widely available and the easiest way to reach the venue.
- Public buses – operated by PMPML, connecting most areas of the city, including Balewadi and central Pune.
- Hotel shuttles or private minivans – can be arranged through the Organizing Committee or directly via hotel reception.
- Pune Metro – currently expanding; several stations operate in proximity to key city districts.

Recommendation:

- For delegations staying at official hotels, daily shuttle service to the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex will be coordinated by the Organizing Committee according to the official event schedule.
- It is advised to confirm transport arrangements at least one day before your matches or official duties.

3.3 VISA & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Foreign participants must hold a valid passport and obtain an Indian visa prior to travel. Most visitors can apply for an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) online via the official government portal:

<https://indianvisaonline.gov.in>

(Please check Visa Details, Note: Visa takes about 30 – 45 days for clearance).

Required documents:

- Valid passport (minimum validity of 6 months beyond the date of entry).
- Return flight ticket and proof of accommodation.
- Invitation letter from the Union of Goju-Ryu Karate-Do Federation India (available upon request to the LOC).

Processing time:

- Standard e-Visa approval: 3–5 working days.
- Participants are advised to apply at least 4 weeks before departure to avoid delays.

Upon arrival:

- Present your e-Visa approval and passport at immigration for verification.
- Ensure you carry a printed copy of your invitation and event registration confirmation.

For assistance with visa documentation or invitation letters, please contact:

 gojukarateindia@gmail.com

 +91 99308 04242 / +91 93727 34141

4. ACCOMMODATION

4.1 HOTEL

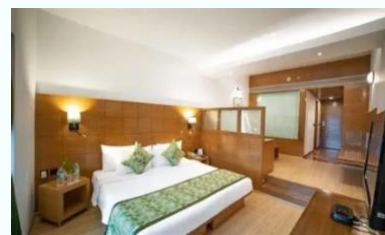
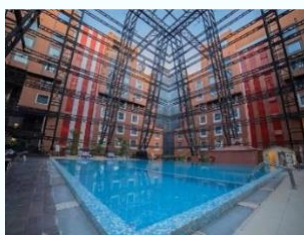
HQ Hotel - The Orchid Hotel Pune

Address:

Pune-Bangalore Road (Mumbai-Pune
Highway) Near Balewadi Sports

Complex, Balewadi

Pune – 411045, Maharashtra, India

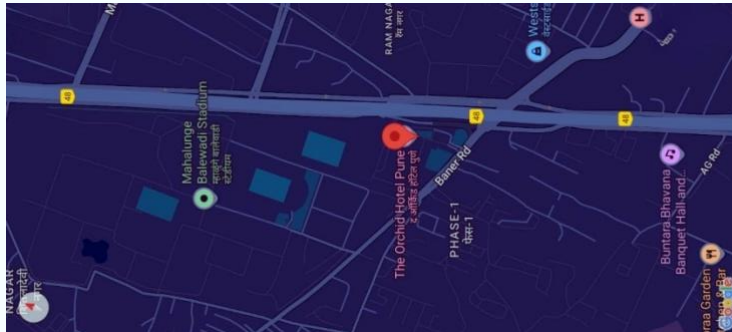


4.2 HOTELS RESERVATIONS AND PRICES (USD)

Price in (USD) per Night. Local Taxes included.						
No.	HOTEL NAME	STAR RATING	Per Night In (USD)			
				Single	Double	Triple
1.	The Orchid Hotel - HQ (Official Hotel)		With Breakfast	USD 90.00	USD 110.00	USD 130.00

4.3 HOTELS MAP – CITY HOTELS

Hotel is located at Baner, Pune 5 mins walking Distance from the Sport Hall and about 60 mins drive from Pune International Airport



4.4 ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

The number of available rooms is limited, and a first-come, first-served policy will be implemented.
The above rates are inclusive of buffet breakfast.

4.5 RESERVATION, PAYMENT, AND CANCELLATION

Reservations can be made through ugkfi.india@gmail.com
Whats app : +91 99308 04242

RESERVATION

- A reservation will be confirmed once the first payment has been completed.
- Reservations are available upon request. To ensure the best possible accommodation for all athletes, please make your reservations as early as possible.
- Check-in and check-out time: 11:00 AM

4.6 BOOKING CONFIRMATION BY EMAIL

Please confirm your room booking by email to ugkfi.india@gmail.com no later than 01 August 2026, stating the total number of rooms required.

4.7 PAYMENTS

- 50% of the total reservation amount is required to guarantee the booking before 01 August 2026.
- The remaining 50% must be paid before 15 August 2026.
- For any reservations received after 20 August 2026, full payment will be required upon confirmation.

For any questions or inquiries, please contact:
Email: gojukarateindia@gmail.com
WhatsApp: +91 91520 07070 / +91 93727 34141

4.8 CANCELLATION

In case of cancellation, any deposit made will be non-refundable.

4.9 TRANSPORTATION

The above rates include transportation between the Official Hotels and the Championship Venue, valid for the four days of competition only.

NOTE: Those who do not book accommodation through the OC but wish to use OC transportation will be charged for transfers (Airport – Hotel – Airport).

4.10 ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR ALL ATHLETES AND COACHES

Online registration can be made from the 1st June 2026 until 1st September 2026 under the following

Link: [SET Online Karate: 8th WGKF Championship](#)

4.11 ONLINE REGISTRATION & ACCREDITATIONS

Registration will be arranged in HQ Hotel on Tuesday, 6th October 2025 from 09.00 to 15.00 hours HQ Hotel.

Each participating country is requested to provide 2 national flags and a USB flash drive containing the national anthem in MP3 format.

5. COACH & REFEREE PROGRAM

5.1 REFEREE COURSE PROGRAM

DAY	TIME	MEETING	ROOM
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TUESDAY 06 Oct. 2026	08:30- 9:30	Referee Commission Meeting	HQ Hotel
	09:00-09:30	Referee Course Payment & Registration for candidates *	HQ Hotel
	09:30-11:00	Kata / Kumite theory	HQ Hotel
	11:00-12:00	Part 1: Kata / Kumite Written Test	HQ Hotel
	12:00-13:00	Part 2: Kata Practical examination	HQ Hotel
	13:00-14:00	Lunch	HQ Hotel
	14:00-16:00	Part 3: Kumite Practical examination	HQ Hotel
	16:00-16:30	Examination Result	HQ Hotel
	16:30-18:00	Coach seminar & Referees Briefing **	HQ Hotel

* For new candidates and those upgrading their referee license.

** Mandatory for all referees not taking the examination but officiating during the championship.

(Referees who have taken the examination are not required to attend this session.)

5.2 COACH & REFEREE REGISTRATION

Referee Course & Upgrade License

The WGKF competition, held from Wednesday to Saturday, will serve as the confirmation event for candidates who have previously passed the referee examination. Therefore, all candidates are required to be available for officiating during these two days of competition.

Registration Deadline: 1st September 2026

Registration Method:
Please register via email at gojukarateindia@gmail.com
and through Sportdata.

Link: [SET Online Karate: 8th WGKF Championship](#)

Referees attending and officiating at the WGKF Championships 2026

All referees officiating at the championship must be registered before the Registration
Deadline: 1st September 2026

Registration Method:
Please register via email at gojukarateindia@gmail.com
and through Sportdata.

Link: [SET Online Karate: 8th WGKF Championship](#)

All registered referees attending the event must submit the official registration form
upon arrival. The form can be downloaded here:
https://www.wgkf.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/wgkf_referee_course_application_2022.pdf

Coach Certification & License Renewal

All coaches participating in the championship must be registered before the Registration
Deadline: 1st September 2026

Registration Method:
Please register via email at gojukarateindia@gmail.com
and through Sportdata.

Link: [SET Online Karate: 8th WGKF Championship](#)

All registered coaches attending the event must submit the official coach registration form upon
arrival. The form can be downloaded here:
https://www.wgkf.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/wgkf_coach_course_application_2022.pdf

6. WGKF EVENTS SCHEDULE

MONDAY 05 Oct. 2026	09:00-18:00	Arrival of Teams
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TUESDAY 06 Oct. 2026	09:00-15:00	Registration for Delegations	HQ Hotel
	18:00-20:00	Open Draw for Coaches (On-line)	On-line
	18:00-20:00	WGKF Congress	HQ Hotel

WEDNESDAY 07 Oct. 2026	09:00-11:00	KATA - COMPETITION DAY
	11:00-12:00	OPENING CEREMONY
	12:00-13:30	KATA & KUMITE COMPETITION DAY

THURSDAY 08 Oct. 2026	09:00-13:00	KATA - COMPETITION DAY
	13:00-20:00	KUMITE - COMPETITION DAY

FRIDAY 09 Oct. 2026	09:00-13:00	KATA - COMPETITION DAY
	13:00-20:00	KUMITE - COMPETITION DAY

SATURDAY 10 Oct. 2026	09:00-13:00	KATA - COMPETITION DAY
	13:00-20:00	KUMITE - COMPETITION DAY

A detailed schedule of categories will be published on Sportdata and available for download after the registration is closed. Please note that all times are approximate.

7. COMPETITION INFORMATION

7.1 CATEGORIES

YOUTH CATEGORIES

CATEGORIES				
CHILDREN	KIDS	MINICADETS	CADET	JUNIOR
<i>Individual Kata (age 8/9)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age 10/11)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age 12/13)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age 14/15)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age 16/17)</i>
Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male Female
<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 8/9)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 10/11)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 12/13)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 14/15)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 16/17)</i>
-27 Kg. -32 Kg. +32 Kg.	-36 kg. -43 kg. +43 kg.	-40 kg -45 kg -50 kg -55 kg +55 kg	-52 Kg. -57 Kg. -63 Kg. -70 Kg. +70 Kg.	-55 Kg. -61 Kg. -68 Kg. -76 Kg. +76 Kg.
<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 8/9)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 10/11)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 12/13)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 14/15)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 16/17)</i>
-27 Kg. -32 Kg. +32 Kg.	-37 kg. -45 kg. +45 kg.	-42 kg. -48 kg. +48 kg.	-47 Kg. -54 Kg. +54 Kg.	-48 Kg. -53 Kg. -59 Kg. +59 Kg.
<i>Team Kata - KIDS (age 8-10)</i>		<i>Team Kata - MINICADET (age 11-13)</i>	<i>Team Kata - CADET & JUNIOR (age 14-17)</i>	
Male Female		Male Female	Male Female	
<i>Team Kumite (age 8/9)</i>	<i>Team Kumite (age 10/11)</i>	<i>Team Kumite (age 12/13)</i>	<i>Team Kumite (age 14/15)</i>	<i>Team Kumite (age 16/17)</i>
Male (3+1) Female (3+1)	Male (3+1) Female (3+1)	Male (3+1) Female (3+1)	Male (3+1) Female (3+1)	Male (3+1) Female (3+1)

SENIOR CATEGORIES

CATEGORIES					
UNDER 21	SENIOR	VETERAN	MASTERS	GRAND MASTERS	GRAND MASTERS
<i>Individual Kata (age 18/19/20)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age +16)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age +35)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age +45)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age +55)</i>	<i>Individual Kata (age +65)</i>
Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male Female
<i>Male Individual Kumite (age 18/20)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age +18)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age +35)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age +45)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age +55)</i>	<i>Male Individual Kumite (age +65)</i>
-60 Kg. -67 Kg. -75 Kg. -84 Kg. +84 Kg.	-60 Kg. -67 Kg. -75 Kg. -84 Kg. +84 Kg. OPEN	≤1,7M +1,7M	≤1,7M +1,7M	≤1,7M +1,7M	≤1,7M +1,7M
<i>Female Individual Kumite (age 18/20)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age +18)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age +35)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age +45)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age +55)</i>	<i>Female Individual Kumite (age +65)</i>
-50 Kg. -55 Kg. -61 Kg. -68 Kg. +68 Kg.	-50 Kg. -55 Kg. -61 Kg. -68 Kg. +68 Kg. OPEN	≤1,6M +1,6M	≤1,6M +1,6M	≤1,6M +1,6M	≤1,6M +1,6M
<i>Team Kata - SENIOR (age +16)</i>		<i>Team Kata MASTERCLASS (age +35)</i>			
Male Female Mix		Male Female			
<i>Team Kumite (age +18)</i>		<i>BLIND-VISUALLY IMPAIRED Kata (age +16)</i>	<i>WHEELCHAIR USER Kata (age +16)</i>	<i>LEARNING DISABILITIES Kata (age +16)</i>	
Male (5+2) Female (3+1) Mix (3M and 2F + 1M and 1F)		Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	

7.2 AGE

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The age limit of competitors for the corresponding category will be the first day of the entire event. This means competitors must have the eligible age by 7th October 2026.

8. WGKF APPROVED PROTECTIONS EQUIPMENT

SPORT PROTECTIONS “Approved”



TATAMIS “Approved”



9. VENUE

Venue location

Date:

5th – 10th October 2026

Venue:

Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sport Complex
Baner – Mahalunge Rd, National Games Park,
Mahalunge, Pune, Maharashtra 411045, India



10. TRAINING FACILITIES - BOOKINGS

Address:

The OC will provide the National Federations, who submit the relevant applications in due time, with a place and time for training. The application must be received before 15th August 2026.
(Limited Booking with First Come).

Transportation to the training area will not be provided, as this is in walking distance from most hotels.

For the Training inquiries, requests and bookings, please send mail to:

11. RESERVATION FORMS

11.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Organizer and Contacts

Union Of Goju Ryu Karate Do Federation India
(National Goju Ryu Federation)
Krishna Kunj, Malad, Mumbai 400 095, India

Email: gojukarateindia@gmail.com
Contact 1: +91 9930804242
Contact 2: +91 93727 34141
WhatsApp: +91 99308 04242/ +91 93727 34141

11.2 SAFETY EQUIPMENT

The following protective equipment is compulsory:
WGKF-approved gloves, gum shield, body protection plus chest protector (for females), shin pad and foot protection, and helmet for Children, Kids & Mini Cadets.
All contestants must provide their own WGKF-approved protective items. The OC is not in charge of providing these items to any participant.

11.3 RULES – WGKF Rules

The tournament shall be conducted in accordance with WGKF Rules of Competition, and the WGKF & OC will not be responsible for any injury that may occur during the championship.

- The duration of bouts for Senior and Under-21 Kumite matches is 3 minutes.
- The duration of bouts for Cadet, Junior, Veteran, Master, and Grand Master categories is 2 minutes.
- The duration of bouts is 1.5 minutes for Mini-Cadets and 1 minute for Kids & Children.

11.4 COMPETITION FEES

8th WGKF Goju-Ryu Karate Championships – 2026

- Individual category – € 35
- Team category – € 120
- Additional category – € 30
- Referee Course and up-grade – € 100
- Referee Briefing – € 35
- Coach Certification – € 35



11.5 LATE REGISTRATION (After September 1st)

- Late registration fee: €25 will be charged.

11.6 CATERING FORM

Participants can purchase food from the Counter/ Canteen at the Venue. No Food will be provided by the Organising Committee.

12. CONTACT DETAILS – HOST

INQUIRIES AND CORRESPONDENCE

Union Of Goju Ryu Karate Do Federation India
(National Goju Ryu Federation)

Krishna Kunj, Malad, Mumbai 400 095, India

Email: gojukarateindia@gmail.com

Contact 1: +91 9930804242

Contact 2: +91 93727 34141

WhatsApp: +91 99308 04242/ +91 93727 34141