



*African kurash
Union*



31 George Grey Street Vanderbijlpark 1911 South Africa. Email: thomasdunker@mweb.co.za. Mobile: +27828591905 www.kurash-africa.com

**XXI AFRICAN OPEN KURASH CHAMPIONSHIPS
FOR VETERANS, SENIORS, JUNIORS, CADETS
WORLD SERIES PRO - AFRICAN TEAM SELECTION
IKI REFEREEING AND COACHING SEMINAR
CONTINENTAL REFEREEING EXAM – 5 LINES**

SOUTH AFRICA 07 – 11 AUGUST 2025

IKA Ranking Event



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am pleased to observe the exciting event for Africa's top Kurash players, kurash coaches, referees, officials, and all of Africa's kurash devotees.

According to the agreement between the International Kurash Association and African Kurash Union, this great festival is taking place from July 26-29, where we will witness different Kurash activities, AKU Championships, WSP selection, IKA Referee Examinations, IKI online coaching, and refereeing seminars

I wish you success in this event, and I look forward to meeting you all soon.

Haider Farman
President of IKA



Dear Friends and Colleagues,



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 21st edition of the African Kurash Championships, as well as the IKI Coaching and Refereeing Courses and Examinations. This marks our flagship event for 2025 and represents a significant milestone in the development of Kurash across the African continent.

This championship also serves as the official African Kurash Union (AKU) selection event for the 2025 World Series Pro (WSP), scheduled for the final quarter of the year. The host venue for the WSP will be announced in due course by the International Kurash Association (IKA).

To our dedicated athletes, who have committed countless hours to training and preparation, I offer my heartfelt congratulations for reaching this stage, and I wish you all outstanding performances and personal bests in competition.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. Haider Farman, President of the IKA, and Mr. Reza Nassiri, for their continuous efforts, visionary leadership, and unwavering commitment to the global promotion of Kurash. Without the generous financial and institutional support of the IKA, staging continental events of this scale would simply not be possible.

A special note of thanks goes to the organizing committee of Kurash South Africa. Your dedication in coordinating the complex logistics of this event is commendable, and your efforts are vital to its success.

On behalf of the African Kurash Union, I warmly welcome all guests, athletes, coaches, referees, officials, and spectators to Johannesburg, South Africa. We are honoured to host you in this vibrant city.

I hope your experience here is memorable—full of friendship, mutual respect, and the shared joy of competition. May this event further unite our Kurash community and inspire future generations across Africa.

Warm regards,
Thomas Dunker
President, African Kurash Union (AKU)



Dear IKA members and delegations,

First of all, it is a great pleasure and honour to welcome the Kurash delegations from the African continent, and other dignitaries participating in the 21st African Kurash Championships to be hosted here in South Africa. An athletic event filled with activities and vitality. The event will take place at the Kempton Park Indoor Sport centre. We wish you a pleasant stay and fond memories to take back home with you.

Secondly, I would like to thank all the national teams participating and supporting this event, and we look forward to hosting you here in South Africa

Warm Regards
Bill Barnard
President of Kurash South Africa

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Organizers:

- **African Kurash Union:**

Address: 31 George Grey Street, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa

Thomas Dunker (President) thomasdunker@mweb.co.za Phone: +27 82 859 1905

Marcel Ngoka (General Secretary) martialcg@yahoo.fr Phone: +242 06 669 1787

- **Kurash South Africa (KSA)**

Address: 99 Antiqua Bay, Vaalpark, Freestate South Africa

Bill Barnard (President) – Email: kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com Phone +27 824420576

Melissa Barnard (Secretary) – Email: kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com Phone +27 824585556

Competition Venue: Kempton Park Indoor Sport Centre -
Green Ave, Zuurfontein 33-Ir, Kempton Park, 1619



Dear National Federations Presidents

Invitation to the 2025 African Kurash Championships (7-11 August 2025)

The 2025 African Kurash Championships for Cadets, juniors, seniors, and Veterans will be held at the Kempton Park Indoor Sport Centre from 07 – 11 August 2025. Participants of the different senior categories included in the 2025 WSP event to be held in the last quarter of 2025 will be selected from the results of the African Championships, according to the IKA regulations

The regulations for the event are indicated in this document as per the invitation of the Kurash South Africa and the African Kurash Union; kindly observe the requirements for visa applications and accommodation matters. All accommodation must be reserved with Kurash South Africa.

Program for the African Kurash Championships and the IKA World Series Pro team selection.

7 August 2025	Arrival of AKU DC and delegations	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
16h00 – 19h00	IKA 'B' level coaching course	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
	Accreditation	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
19h30 – 21h00	Dinner	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
8 August 2025	Arrival of all players	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
09h00 – 17h00	Referee seminar	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
09h00 – 17h00	Coaching course	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
	Accreditation	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
19h00 – 19h30	Weigh-in for Cadets and Seniors	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
19h30 – 21h00	Dinner	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
9 August 2025	Breakfast	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
06h30 – 07h00	Weigh-in for Cadets and Seniors	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
09h00	Competition for Cadets and Seniors	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
18h00	Medal Ceremony	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
19h00 – 19h30	Weigh in for Juniors and Veterans	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
19h30 – 21h00	Dinner	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
20h00	AKU Congress Meeting	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
10 August 2025	Breakfast	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
06h30 – 07h00	Weigh-in for Juniors and Veterans	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
09h00	Competition for Juniors and Veterans	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
18h00	Medal Ceremony	Kempton Park Indoor sport centre
19h00 – 19h30	Weigh in for Juniors and Veterans	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
19h30 – 21h00	Dinner	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo
11 August 2025	Departure of delegations	Garden Court Hotel OR Tambo

AFRICAN KURASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the African Championships, **all** federations may enter 4 players per category in the cadet and junior divisions for the senior event, the host federation may enter a maximum of 2 players. Other participating federations may enter 2 players in every weight category as follows:

MALE AGE AND WEIGHT CATEGORIES

Cadets 14 and 15 years	Junior Men 16 and 17 years	Senior Men 18 years up
-38	-42	-60
-42	-46	-66
-46	-50	-73
-50	-55	-81
-55	-60	-90
-60	-65	-100
-65	-71	-120
-71	-77	+120
-77	-83	
-83	-90	
+83	+90	
Born 2011 - 2010	Born 2009-2008	Born 2007 and older
3 Minutes	4 Minutes	4 Minutes

FEMALE AGE AND WEIGHT CATEGORIES

Cadets 14 and 15 years	Junior Ladies 16 and 17 years	Senior Ladies 18 years up
-33	-36	-48
-36	-40	-52
-40	-44	-57
-44	-48	-63
-48	-52	-70
-52	-57	-78
-57	-63	-87
-63	-70	+87
+63	+70	
Born 2011 - 2010	Born 2009-2008	Born 2007 and older
2 Minutes	3 Minutes	4 Minutes

VETERANS (weight divisions may be combined if there are not a minimum of 2 persons per weight entered)

VETERANS WOMEN	VETERANS WOMEN	VETERANS MEN	VETERANS MEN
-60	-60	-60	-60
-65	-65	-65	-65
-70	-70	-70	-70
-75	-75	-75	-75
-80	-80	-80	-80
-85	-85	-85	-85
-90	-90	-90	-90
-95	-95	-95	-95
+95	+95	+95	+95
AGE 35 – 45	AGE +46	AGE 35 – 45	AGE +46
3 Minutes	2 Minutes	3 Minutes	2 Minutes

Junior players may compete in both the junior and senior divisions, provided the maximum allowed number of entries are not exceeded. Cadet players may compete in both Cadet and Junior Competition, provided maximum allowed entries are not exceeded.

The AKU reserves the right to combine weight categories in the event of low participation numbers.

The elimination system to be used for the African Championship in all divisions will be the loser's pool.

Weight categories with 5 or less players will be conducted in Round Robin System

All entries must be submitted on the **attached Microsoft excel sheet** to allow for the seamless import of entries into the draw program.

Entry Deadlines:

- **Entry Numbers:** Submit entries by number by June 20, 2025, to ensure sufficient accommodation. (Please submit the accommodation and transport request form.)
- **Entries by Name:** The final date for submitting entries by name and passport copies is July 4, 2025, to ensure timely receipt of your visa support letter. (Please complete the application form.)

Accommodation and local transport requests must be sent to the Kurash South Africa Organizing Committee by **4 July** to the following email addresses: kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com , thomasdunker@mweb.co.za, and darrenlouw4@gmail.com

Visa Requirements:

You are responsible for making your own visa arrangements and covering the associated costs.

Individuals requiring a visa for South Africa must apply at their nearest South African embassy.

Please note that NO VISAS ARE AVAILABLE ON ARRIVAL.

For federations requiring a **visa** to enter South Africa, the last date for a visa support letter request is **28 days before entry** into South Africa. Kindly complete the designated form and submit with passport copies to the following email address kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com (WhatsApp - +27 824585556). Persons traveling by road between bordering countries must ensure that they meet the visa requirements if applicable.

Please send your application forms and passport copies to KSA for your official visa support letter at kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com , thomasdunker@mweb.co.za, and darrenlouw4@gmail.com

Final list of entries per federation (Excel Application form) must be sent to AKU president at thomasdunker@mweb.co.za and the AKU Sport Director darrenlouw4@gmail.com not later than 04 July 2025 on the prescribed Excel entry form.

Awards: Medals and certificates will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

Participation Fee: \$50 USD per person (\$25 to the host federation and \$25 to the African Kurash Union).

REFEREE AND COACHING SEMINAR / COURSE

The Referee Seminar will be under the guidance of Mr. Teddy Rita, our AKU acting Referee Director, on 08 August 2025.

A Practical Coaching Course will be conducted by the IKI for coaches on 07 and 08 August 2025. IKA 'B' Level exam is possible for interested coaches.

A 5-Line Continental and 1 Star Referee Exam and Level 'B' Coaching Exam can be scheduled upon request for those who are interested.

WSP SELECTION AND REGULATIONS

All Senior weight categories that will be contested for the grand prize tournament of the Uzbekistan President are:

- MALE
 - o -60kg, -66kg, -73kg, -81kg, -90kg, -100kg, -120kg +120kg
- FEMALE
 - o -48kg, -52kg, -57kg, -63kg, -70kg, -78kg, -87kg +87kg

For the WSP final event in Uzbekistan all the costs are covered, including visa, flight, and accommodation for the selected athletes.

WSP requirements: 5 countries per weight category must compete to qualify for WSP Finals

CONTINENTAL REFEREE EXAM

- Continental referee exam (5 Lines) \$50 payable at accreditation & 1 Star \$200 payable to IKA
- Referee exams are taken during the championship.
- Level 'B' coaching exam \$200 payable to IKA
- Entries will be taken on the 4th July 2025
- Certificates will be issued to successful candidates

FLIGHTS AND TRANSPORT DETAILS

- For all delegations, flights are at your own cost.
- Transport between the hotel and **OR Tambo International Airport** is provided by the hotel shuttle (arrival and departure)
- Transport for all players and officials between the hotel and the venue will be provided daily
- Travel costs for invited referees and AKU directing committee may be paid by the host federation and the AKU. (Partially or fully)

VISA MATTERS

SOUTH AFRICA

Everyone traveling to South Africa is responsible for his/her own visa arrangements and costs. Please check your country's visa requirements to see if a visa is required to enter **South Africa**. If applicable, please request a visa support letter from AKU President at thomasdunker@mweb.co.za, and KSA secretary at: kurashsouthafrica@gmail.com

(Example of info: – to be on official federation letterhead)

	NAME	PASSPORT No.	Expiry date	Country of Citizenship	Male or Female	Port of Entry
1						
2						

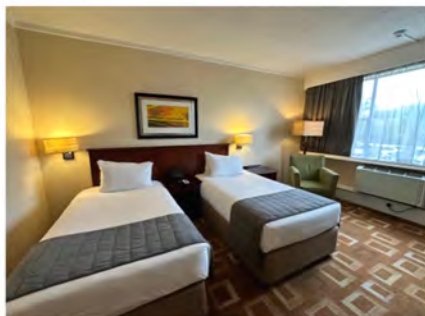
Countries not requiring visas

Lesotho, Botswana, Ghana, Gabon, Namibia, Eswatini, Zambia, Malawi, Benin, Seychelles, Rwanda, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Tanzania, Iran.

ACCOMMODATION

All Accommodation will be at the following hotel:

Garden Court OR Tambo Hotel: Address 2 Hulley Road Isando Ext. 3, Kempton Park, Gauteng, South Africa



Official Hotel	Single Room	Double Room
Garden Court OR Tambo Hotel	\$90pp	\$60pp

- The price **per person** per day includes breakfast and dinner, quoted in US dollars.
- Accommodation in the tournament hotel is mandatory for all participants.
- A third meal (Lunch) is available for lunch at an additional cost of \$7 per day per person.
- **Subsidised Accommodation:**
 - Federations participating in the African Championships with at **least 3 athletes** will receive 1 room sleeping 2 athletes free for **1 day only** in the official hotel.
 - Invited officials and AKU directing committee members will also be allocated accommodation in the hotel. Based on 2 persons sharing a room. (Persons requiring a single room or wishing to stay in another hotel are responsible for the difference in cost.)
 - Anyone not booking accommodation by the deadline date must pay the normal hotel rates.
 - Federations are responsible for all bookings and **non-arrivals** not cancelled one week before the event, and will be invoiced for the balance accordingly.
 - Kindly complete the attached accommodation request.
 - All delegations and guests are responsible for their own accommodation costs.

DOPING CONTROL

Doping control in all weight categories will be done with the cooperation of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADO) in accordance with WADA guidelines.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

General Conditions:

- All players must be citizens of the country they represent in order to compete.
- The draw will be conducted automatically one day before the competition in accordance with the rules and regulations of IKA.
- Refugees will be allowed to participate under the following conditions:
 - o Refugee passport or travel document
 - o All refugees, even from different countries, will be sorted under “REFUGEE”
 - o Where entries exceed the maximum number of entries, there will be an elimination round first, before being entered in the final draw.

LIABILITY

- (1) Neither the AKU, nor Kurash South Africa shall hold any liability in case of injury or any personal loss experienced by the delegates throughout their visit.
- (2) All delegates and participants are liable for their own insurance.
- (3) Kindly observe if any COVID 19 protocols during your journey are applicable. There are currently no restrictions in South Africa

RULES OF THE KURASH COMPETITION

- (1) The International Kurash Association rules will govern the championship.
- (2) The English language version of the rules is available on the IKA website www.kurash-ika.org

THE FOLLOWING FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED

1. KURASH AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025 ENRTY LIST
2. ACCOMMODATION REQUEST 2025
3. VISA SUPPORT LETTER
4. REFEREE AND COACHING SEMINAAR ATTENDENCE FORM

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Best Regards



Thomas Dunker
AKU President



Bill Barnard
South Africa President.