



UK Visa and Immigration issues affecting the

The Organising Committee can offer significant help to foreign nationals wishing to attend the UTF Open Championships.

People coming to participate in this sporting event in the UK will find that the event comes under what is called the "Permit Free" category. This is a special concessionary arrangement outside the Immigration Rules and under this category you do not need to obtain a work permit. But you will need a visa if you are a visa national. Go to www.ukvisas.gov.uk and follow Do I Need A UK Visa? to find out. The cost of a visa under this category currently costs £99.

Those who may be admitted permit-free:

Sportspersons (amateur or professional) who wish to take part in a specific event, a series of events or a tournament whether individually or as a team providing they are not seeking to remain in the UK.

In all cases the sportspersons must:

- not intend to stay longer than six months;
- be able and willing to support themselves and any dependants without recourse to public funds;
- not intend to take employment paid or unpaid;
- be able to meet the cost of their onward journey.

Personal coaches and support staff accompanying sportspersons may be treated similarly. Care should be taken to ensure that the true purpose of the visit is not to remain in the UK in order to take up employment. A work permit would be required in these circumstances.

What we the Organising Committee can help you with:

- Any sportsperson, administrator or conference delegate based outside the UK could be sent a formal, personalised letter of invitation from the UK event organiser.
 - Those who do not require a visa to enter the UK will find it useful to have this document if questioned at their port of entry.
 - Those who do require a visa, will need this document as part of the application process. Go to www.ukvisas.gov.uk and follow the How To Apply section.
- The letter can be sent on letter headed paper addressed to the individual, or to the team co-ordinator (listing the name of each individual who is being invited).
- The letter will list the individuals' dates of birth, and their passport numbers.
- The letter of invitation would specify the dates and venue of the event and, the name of the international organisation in whose name the event is being held.
- In addition it should itemise what the entry fee will cover, and stipulate what financial support, if any, your organisation will be contributing during the visit. You will also need to provide documentary evidence of any additional funding or sponsorship that is not being provided by the UK host or sponsor.

Since it is sometimes necessary for visa applicants to be interviewed in connection with their visa applications, and for biometric (fingerprint and photograph) details to be taken when applying, foreign nationals who require visas are encouraged to make early contact with the nearest British diplomatic mission (go to www.ukvisas.gov.uk and click on How To Apply and then UK Missions Overseas to find your nearest centre) in order to minimise possible problems in the processing of your visa application, which could take up to four weeks to process.

Please address any questions or problems to John Webster Universalkdfed@aol.com



Go to www.Utftaewwondo.com for entry forms or www.ma-regonline.com to register online.

NAME OF TEAM			
COUNTRY			
ADDRESS			
TELEPHONE NUMBER			
E MAIL			
FAX			
NAME OF DELEGATES	POSITION (Coach/Player)	Weight category	Passport number