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# 1 Initial Greetings

#### 1.1 Head of the host NF

It is a great honour for me to invite all competitors worldwide to participate in the newest competition of Karate 1 – Youth League, which will take place in Sofia from the 25th until the 27th of May, 2018.

Sofia has become a great host for international sports competitions, such as the European Karate Championships in 2017, and many others and is designated as European Capital of Sport in 2018. We hope that all participants will feel the Bulgarian hospitality.

Bulgarian National Federation Karate is working actively to host the number one competition, that will set focus on the impact of karate in young ages. To give the opportunity for Karatekas aged 12 to 17 to develop and progress in karate by competing at the highest level on their way to the first appearance as an Olympic sport at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

Organizing such an event is prestigious and a great responsibility. We have set our aims high and are working very hard to achieve them. We strive to establish the philosophy and spirit of karate, to attract more young people to the tatami because karate is friendship, respect for the opponent and tolerance.

I wish all participants good health and strength, boldness respect and dignity, and many sports victories.

Please accept my most sincere greetings and best wishes for success.

Let the best win!



The President of Bulgarian National Federation Karate





#### 2 Introduction

The Karate 1 -Youth League is a newly created competition conceived to highlight the impact of Karate in young ages.

Established under the umbrella of Karate 1 and designed to complete Karate 1-Premier League and Karate 1-Series A, the Karate 1-Youth League aims at becoming a platform for the development of youngsters in their quest to progress in the sport.

The new competition was devised to respond to the increasing interest of young competitors to have more options to compete at the highest level and it puts the focus on karatekas aged 12 to 17.

The number of competitors is open. All members of WKF are admitted to participate.

The WKF Competition Rules in force will be applied.

### 2.1 WKF Approved Items

The Karate 1 - Youth League complies with the highest level of presentation. In order to guarantee the correct delivery of the event, and to ensure the suitable quality of the tournament, exclusively the following brands are **WKF Approved** for use in the 2018 Karate 1 - Youth League Season.



SPORT PROTECTIONS				
BRAND	CONTACT INFORMATION			
adidas	DOUBLE D 2, rue Vladimir Jankelevitch 77184 Emerainville, FRANCE Phone: +33 1 64 73 00 03 Fax: +33 1 64 73 00 04 E-mail: nicolas.poy-tardieu@doubled.fr http://en.doubled-martialarts.com			
Arawaza® All the power you needl	ARAWAZA 724, Chemin des Anglais Mascouche (QC) J7L 3R6, CANADA Phone: + 1 450 477 4410 Fax: +1 450 477 4400 E-mail: sales@arawaza.com www.arawaza.com			
SELECTED 字	SBI SPORT AB Staffanstorpvägen 115 S-23291 Arlöv- Malmö, SWEDEN Tel: +46 40 948888 Fax: +46 40 940780 E-mail: robert.tegel@sbisport.se www.budo-nord.com			
Daedo	DAEDO INTERNATIONAL  Botánica 116,  08908 Hospitalet de Llobregat,Barcelona,  SPAIN  Tel: +34 93 454 15 14  Fax: +34 93 453 52 51  E-mail: marketing@daedo.com  www.daedo.com			
Hayashí	BUDOLAND Am Grießenbach 8 83126 Flintsbach, GERMANY Phone: +49 (0) 8034 909900 Fax: *49 (0) 8034 9099011 E-mail: info@budoland.de www.budoland.com			
守礼堂 M SHUREIDO	SHUREIDO  1-1-6 Tomari, Naha-City  900-0012 — Okinawa, JAPAN  Tel No: +81(98)861 5621  Fax No: +81(98)861 5525  Email: shureido@orange.ocn.ne.jp  www.shureido-karate.com			





WKF Facemask and Chest Protector for those under 14 years of age are used according to Appendix 10 of the WKF Regulations in force: <a href="https://www.wkf.net/pdf/WKFCompetitionRules2018.pdf">https://www.wkf.net/pdf/WKFCompetitionRules2018.pdf</a>

All the information concerning the WKF homologated items for this event can be found on: https://www.wkf.net/karateprotections/



TATAMI				
BRAND CONTACT INFORMATION				
BRAND	CONTACT INFORMATION			
PROSIME TATAMI BY TROCELLEN	TROCELLEN Italia S.p.A. Via Schiavonesca Nuova 8 31040 Volpago del Montello (TV) Italy Phone: +39 0423 8735 Fax :+39 0423 621434 Email: lcodato@trocellen.com www.progame-tatami.com			
TatamiX®	TATAMIX srlcr Via Don Pedrinelli 48 24030 Carvico (BG) Phone: +39 039 6888492 Fax:+39 035 4362212 Email: info@tatamix.it www.tatamix.it			
TaiShan	TAISHAN SPORTS EQUIPMENT Co., Ltd Address:No.8 Tiyuguan Road,Dongcheng District,Beijing, China Phone: +86-10-84985396 Email: wadezhang@taishansports.com www.taishansports.cn			
WESING	WESING Fujian Weizhixing Sports Goods Co., Ltd. Binjiang Industrial Park, Xiamei Town, Nan'an City, Fujian Province 362302, China Phone: +86-595-2688 9696 Fax: +86-595-8675 6390 E-mail: info@wesingsports.com www.wesingsports.com			
ishii	ISHII CHEMICALS INDUSTRY Co., Ltd. 1-10-8, Ryoke, Kawaguchi-city, Saitama 332-0004 Japan Phone: +81048-223-5148 Fax: +81048-224-3467 E-mail: ikk@ishiikasei.co.jp http://www.ishiikasei.co.jp/ishiikasei.htm			

# KARATEGIS WITH THE BRAND EMBROIDERED ON THE SHOULDERS

The Karategis with the embroidered brand of the manufacturer on the shoulders will be accepted for use in the Youth League by those competitors who wish to do so, both for Kata and Kumite in red or blue colour, depending if the competitor is AKA or AO.

The authorized brands to use these karategi models are:

ADIDAS – ARAWAZA – BUDO NORD – DAEDO – HAYASHI SHUREIDO – SMAI – TOKAIDO – WACOKU - WESING



# 3 Competition Programme COMPETITION PROGRAMME

DAY / HOUR	COMPETITION - ARENA ARMEEC	
Friday 8:00-17:00	Registration and Weigh - In	
Friday 14:30-16:30	Referee meeting	
Friday 16:00-18: 00	Accredited Coach Briefing and Coach Meeting	
Friday 17:00- 18:00	Draw	
Friday 18:00	Junior Kata Male <u>Eliminations &amp; Repechages Kumite Individual</u> Cadet Kumite Male  (+70, -70, -59kg)	
Friday 21:15	<u>Finals</u> Cadet Kumite Male (+70, -70, -59kg)	
DAY / HOUR	COMPETITION - ARENA ARMEEC	
Saturday 8:00	Eliminations & Repechages Individual Kata Individual Juniors Female Eliminations Kumite Individual Kumite Individual Cadet, Male (-52, -63 Kg) Kumite Individual Juniors, Female (-48, -53, -59 +59 Kg) Kumite Individual Juniors, Male (-55, -61, -68, -76, +76 Kg) Repechages Kumite Individual (Cadet Male, & Junior, Male - Female)	
Saturday 20:00	Finals Kata Individual Juniors Female Kumite Individual Cadet, Male ( -52, -63 Kg) Kumite Individual Juniors, Female (-48, -53, -59 +59 Kg) Kumite Individual Juniors, Male (-55, -61, -68, -76, +76 Kg) Medals awards	

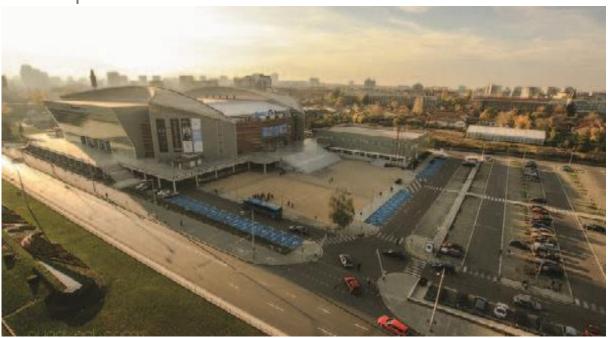


Sunday 9:00	Eliminations & Repechages  Kata Individual Under 14, & Cadets Male/Female  Eliminations Kumite Individual  Kumite Individual Under 14, Male  (-40, -45, -50, -55, +55 Kg)  Kumite Individual Under 14, Female (-42, -47, +47 Kg)  Kumite Individual Cadet, Female (-47, -54, +54 Kg)  Repechages Kumite Individual  (Under 14, Male & Female, Cadet Female)
Sunday 18:00	Finals Kata Individual Under 14, & Cadets Male/Female Kumite Individual Under 14, Male (-40, -45, -50, -55, +55 Kg) Kumite Individual Under 14, Female (-42, -47, +47 Kg) Kumite Individual Cadets, Female (-47, -54, +54 Kg) Medals award

# 4 Site and Date

**Date**: 26-27 May 2018 **Place**: Sofia, Bulgaria **Starting Time**: 08:00

# 5 Competition Venue



Venue: Arena Armeec



#### Address: bul. "Asen Yordanov" 1, 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria

"Arena Armeec Sofia" has more than 12 000 seats, press equipped seats, VIP area, Warmup Hall, Press Centre, Restaurants & Snack Bars. The hall is equipped with 11 elevators, 16 refreshment areas, 9 changing rooms, 30 entrances and 202 toilets for spectators.

This Karate 1 – Youth League event will be performed on Progamme by Trocellen tatami, WKF approved.

#### 6 Media

Press accreditation can only be given to professional journalists working for a media and having proof of their credentials.

Media professionals can register to request press accreditations through the on line registration form which can be found here: <a href="https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung">https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung</a> info main.php?active menu=calendar&vernr=170&ver info action=pressregistration#a presshead

#### Video recording will not be allowed

Should you need more information about press or media related issues, please contact directly the World Karate Federation's office: press@wkf.net.

# 7 Organizer and contacts

#### **Bulgarian National Federation Karate**

Bulgarian National Karate Federation was founded in 1992. It unites the recognized by the World Karate Federation styles of Wado Ryu, Goju Ryu, Shito Ryu and Shotokan. Since 1998 the federation also unites the clubs in Kyokushin. Today the Bulgarian National Karate Federation has over 80 member karate clubs and is one of the largest sports organizations in the country. There is a karate club functioning in almost every city, where young people are striving to discover the secrets of karate. The total people practicing karate in Bulgaria is about 20 000.

#### 7.1 Organizer contact details

Phone: +359 2 9879413

Address: 75 vasil Levski blvd., 1142 Sofia, Bulgaria



#### 7.2 Local Organising Committee

Boris Nikolov	General Secretary	+359 888 468 545
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# 8 Online Registration

All competitors, referees, coaches and media representatives must be registered online using the online platform (<a href="https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung">https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung</a> info main.php?active menu=calendar&vernr=170#a eventhea d).

No onsite registration will be accepted. The registration will be validated once completed the online payment through the payment platform. In case of any questions concerning the online registration please directly contact the Sportdata software team via the email address office@sportdata.org.

National Federations and clubs are responsible for the quality of the entered registration data. Once close the online registration, any comments will have to notified to the software and to the WKF at latest five day before the first day of competition.

## 8.1 Technical Support for Online Registration

Web: <a href="https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung">https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set-online/veranstaltung</a> info main.php?active menu=calendar&vernr=170#a eventhea d

Email: karate1@sportdata.org

The official registration session will take place on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018 from 08:00h to 17:00h.

If changes are required during the official registration session because of incorrect, or missing registration data, a fee of € 20 is charged for each change.

At registration, accreditation cards will be issued with the participants main data, a photograph and information about registered categories. The accreditation card must be worn at all times during the event.



Only members of national federations recognized by WKF are admitted to participate, as per Youth League Organizing Rules 2018 (PL OR Point 6 Registration)

Please note that all participants have to show their passports at the registration session.

# 9 Categories

#### Junior (16-17 years old): 11 categories (9 Kumite + 2 Kata)

• Female Kumite: -48kg, -53kg, -59kg, +59kg

Male Kumite: -55kg, -61kg, -68kg, -76kg, +76kg

• Kata: Female, Male

#### Cadet (14-15 years old): 10 categories (8 Kumite + 2 Kata)

• Female Kumite: -47kg, -54kg, +54kg

Male Kumite: -52kg, -57kg, -63kg, -70kg, +70kg

- Kata: Female, Male

#### **Under 14 (12-13): 10 categories (8 Kumite + 2 Kata)**

• Female Kumite: -42kg, -47kg, +47kg

Male Kumite: -40kg, -45kg, -50kg, -55kg, +55kg

• Kata: Female, Male

#### 9.1 Age

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The age limit of competitors for the corresponding category will be the first day of the entire event.

# 10 Entry Fee

The entry fees are € 40 per individual category entry, and € 60 for those who do not book their accommodation with the organizer in an official hotel at <a href="mailto:youthleague@bnfk.bg">youthleague@bnfk.bg</a>



#### 10.1 Payment

All payments must be process through the online payment platform. No onsite payment will be accepted.

#### 11 WKF Accredited Coach

According to the Coach License Manual, the minimum level required to take part in the Karate 1 events is the "Accredited Coach" level. To obtain such certification, coaches must attend a compulsory Coach Briefing. Therefore and in order to give the opportunity to the WKF Coaches to get this certification, a Coach Briefings will be held in the first event of the Youth League Season in 2018.

• Karate 1-Youth League League, Sofia, Bulgaria.

# 12 WKF Accredited Coach Briefing, Bulgaria 2018

Please find below the Coach schedule and the details for the registration process:

DAY / HOUR	COACH BRIEFING		
Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 from 16:00 to 17:00h	COMPETITION - ARENA ARMEEC		

#### **Registration (only online)**

Those coaches who wish to attend to the "Accredited Coach Briefing" in BULGARIA must be registered online and must fill out the "Accreditation Agreement for Coaches" that can be downloaded from the online registration site.

All coach registrations must be made online latest until 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2018, through the following link: <a href="https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set.php?id=234">https://www.sportdata.org/wkf/set.php?id=234</a>

Should you have any difficulties when registering, please contact support@sportsid.org for technical support.

#### Fees and payment

We would like to remind you that the fee to attend to the "Coach Briefing" and to obtain a new license or to renew your expired license of WKF Accredited Coach is 300 CHF.

All payments must be made through Sportsdata platform.



No other methods of payment will be accepted.

Registrations and payments onsite will not be accepted.

#### 13 Prizes

The event prizes (medals and trophies) are to be provided by the host.

In each individual category the first prize will be a gold medal.

The second prize will be a silver medal. The third prizes will be bronze medals.

# 14 Ranking

Competitors can earn ranking points in every Karate1 event according to the official WKF Ranking Regulations. U14 Competitors do not earn ranking points: <a href="https://wkf.net/pdf/rules/Organizing%20Rules%20">https://wkf.net/pdf/rules/Organizing%20Rules%20</a> Series%20A 2018.pdf-eng.pdf .

## 15 Ticket for spectators

Event entrance is FREE to all spectators on Saturday and Sunday.

#### 16 HQ Hotel

#### **HQ Hotel Metropolitan\*\*\*\***

Address: 64 "Tsarigradsko shosse" Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria



In Metropolitan you will find coziness, friendly service and special compliments such as free internet, mini-bar, parking and airport transfer. The discreet friendly service, the home-like feeling and the entertainment possibilities will make your stay a memorable experience.



As of January 1<sup>st</sup> Bulgaria holds the presidency of the Council of the European Union on rotation basis. Until June, our country will host a number of forums, which will lead to higher occupation of the hotels in Sofia. Due to the limited places available, the "first come first serve" rule will apply.

The reservation in official hotels, transfers and catering should be done by:

#### **Bulgarian National Federation Karate**

Online Registration: <a href="mailto:youthleague@bnfk.bg">youthleague@bnfk.bg</a>

Phone: +359 87 8879413, +359 87 810 4044

### 17 LIST OF OFFICIAL HOTELS

#### Novotel \*\*\*\*

Address: 115 "Tsarigradsko Shosse" Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria



This new 4-star hotel provides latest generation rooms and meeting rooms with state-of-the-art equipment in Sofia's main business district. With plenty of entertainment options at the adjacent mall and views of the city or Vitosha Mountain, it is a pleasure to do business at Novotel.



#### **Best Western Premier Airport Hotel** \*\*\*\*

Address: 11 "Brussels" Blvd. Sofia, Bulgaria



The new, 4-star BEST WESTERN PREMIER Sofia Airport is ideally located at the new business district of Sofia, just 900 m from Terminal 1 and 1000 m from Terminal 2 of Sofia International Airport. With the "Airport" Metro Station nearby, the public transport station at the doorsteps of the Hotel and taxi service within several minutes, our guests have a variety of options — administrative and business premises, shopping areas, dining and sightseeing.

#### Hotel Rila \*\*\*

Address: 6 "Tsar Kaloyan" Str., Sofia, Bulgaria

Hotel Rila is proud with its unbeatable location in the center of Sofia. In the heart of the capital, meters away from the hotel are the Presidency Building, the National Theater, the Archaeological Museum and Vitosha Blvd. Many of Sofia's sights include the National Opera, the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, the Russian Church, the National Palace of Culture and many others. We are surrounded by museums, theaters, banks, restaurants, bars and shops.



#### **Hotel Hemus** \*\*\*

Address: 31 "Cherni Vrah" Blvd., Sofia, Bulgaria





#### **Hotel Forum** \*\*\*

Address: 41 "Tsar Boris III" Blvd., Sofia, Bulgaria



Hotel Forum is a business hotel located near the city center with convenient transport links to important administrative centers and sightseeing. Hotel Forum combines all services of the business hotel and the opportunity to relax. The hotel has free wireless internet access, 3 restaurants, 2 summer gardens with a place for smokers, business center, spa center with sauna, fitness, dzen relax room, Jacuzzi, massage and beauty treatments.

#### 17.1 HOTEL RATES

For those booking their accommodation via the Host Organizer (BNFK), the following special hotel rates apply:

Hotel	Distance to Venue	Room Type	Price (BB)	Price(HB)
Metropolitan ****	2,4 km	Single Room	83 €	98 €
		Double Room	59 €	74 €
		Tripple Room	42 €	57 €
Novotel ****	2,4 km	Single Room	82 €	97 €
		Double Room	54€	69 €
Rila ***	5,4 km	Single Room	58 €	71 €
		Double Room	39 €	52 €
		Triple Room	36 €	49 €
Hemus ***	5,5 km	Standard Single Room	49 €	62 €
		Standard Double Room	36 €	49 €
		Apartment / 2 beds	41 €	54 €
		Apartment / 3 beds	36 €	49 €
Forum ***	9,6 km	Standard Single Room	51 €	65 €
		Standard Double Room	39 €	53 €
		Luxury Single Room	60 €	74 €
		Luxury Double Room	42 €	56 €
		Luxury Tripple Room	36 €	50 €
		Apartment / 2 beds	42 €	56 €



Prices in **EURO** (€) person per night. Local taxes included. per The price doesn't include additional services minibar, spa, Check in: 14:00 and Check out: 12:00

#### 17.2 CATERING

Catering can be arranged at the event venue will be arranged by the Host Organizer (BNFK) at a price of € 12 for buffet lunch or € 5 for handout package, via the online registration at <a href="mailto:youthleague@bnfk.bg">youthleague@bnfk.bg</a> Applications for catering are to be registered no later than 18th of May, 2018.

#### 17.3 AIRPORT TRANSFERS - Sofia Airport (SOF)

The airport is located only 10 km from the city centre, in the eastern part of the capital. Over 25 airlines fly in and out of the Sofia Airport with daily direct flights to/from major European cities. Make sure you check the terminal that you are arriving at or departing from carefully.

Airport transfers will be arranged by the Host Organizer (BNFK) at a price of € 10 per person via the online registration for accommodation <a href="mailto:youthleague@bnfk.bg">youthleague@bnfk.bg</a> Flight schedule and number of persons for airport transfer is required to be registered no later than 18th of May, 2018.

#### 17.4 TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM VENUE

FREE TRANSPORTATION to and from the event venue Arena Armeec by schedule is arranged for all guests staying in an official hotel and have booked their stay with the organizer.

Please note, that participants who do not book their accommodation with Bulgarian National Federation Karate, will be required to pay a higher participation fee.

#### 17.5 RESERVATION

Reservation will be considered as completed if a payment has been done up to one month before the actual event. To ensure the best possible accommodation for all athletes, please make your reservations as soon as possible.

After confirmation, to make the reservation valid, you need to pay 100% of the full amount within the next business day. At the same time, the guest is obliged to send the confirmation of payment (SWIFT Notification). Bulgarian National Federation Karate is not responsible for outstanding reservations of services caused by not receiving the confirmation and/or payment.

#### 17.6 PAYMENT METHODS / BANK DETAILS

Beneficiary: Bulgarian National Federation Karate /BNFK/ Address: 75 Vasil Levski blvd., Sofia 1142, Bulgaria

Bank: United Bulgarian Bank

Address: UBB Rakovski Branch, 108 Georgi S. Rakovski Str., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Account No.(IBAN): BG55 UBBS 8002 1043 2416 40

**BIC/SWIFT: UBBSBGSF** 

All bank costs are to be paid by the client (when making the bank transfer payment client must put OUR on "Detail of charge"). Reservation should be paid up to one month before actual event. All reservations not paid in full will not be considered valid. For all additional information feel free to contact us.



#### 18 General Information

In case you need emergency medical assistance or you have had an accident abroad you can rely on the security forces and the medical services in the respective country. Yet before you leave, you are advised to have a European electronic healthcare card, car insurance (if you travel by car), as well as a general healthcare insurance.

European Emergency Number: 112

Calls can be answered not only in Bulgarian, but also in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Romanian, Turkish or Russian. Caller location is automatically activated when the call is answered.

The official language is Bulgarian. Most of the people also speak English and/or Russian.

The official currency in Bulgaria is the LEV.

The currency can be exchanged in all bank offices and currency exchange offices, located throughout the city of Sofia, mostly in shopping malls. The lev is pegged to the euro at a rate of 1.95583 LEV for 1 EURO. The most current information can be found on the National Bank website: www.bnb.bg

The time zone in the country is Eastern European Time (UTC+2)

Bulgaria's standard electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC with a frequency of 50 hertz.

Tap water is generally considered safe to drink in all major towns and cities

## 19 Visa Requirements

#### 19.1 Visa free regime up to 90 days

No visas required for visits of up to 90 days in a 6 months period starting from the date of the first entry.

Austria	Bahamas	Barbados	Belgium
Brazil	Brunei	Canada	Chile
China, Hong	China, Macao	Columbia	Costa Rica
Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark
Dominica	El Salvador	Estonia	Finland
France	Germany	Greece	Grenada
Guatemala	Honduras	Hungary	Ireland
Iceland	Israel	Italy	Japan
Kiribati	Latvia	Lichtenstein	Lithuania
Luxemburg	Malaysia	Malta	Marshal Islands
Mauritius	Mexico	Micronesia	Monaco
Netherland	New	Nicaragua	Norway
Palau	Panamas	Paraguay	Peru
Poland	Portugal	Puerto Rico	Republic of Korea
Romania	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Saint Lucia	Saint Vincent and
Samoa	San Marino	Seychelles	Singapore
Slovakia	Slovenia	Solomon Islands	Spain
Sweden	Switzerland	Taiwan	Timor-Leste



Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago	Tuvalu	United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom	Uruguay	USA	Vanuatu
Vatican City State	Venezuela		
Republic of Moldova	Bosnia & Hercegovina	FYR of Macedonia	Albania
Montenegro	Ukraine	Georgia	Serbia *

No visas required for visits of up to 90 days in a 6 months period starting from the date of the first entry (for **biometric passports only**).

#### 19.2 Countries with Visa requirements to enter Bulgaria

Afghanistan	Algeria	Angola	Armenia
Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Bangladesh	Belarus
Belize	Benin	Bhutan	Bolivia
Botswana	Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cambodia
Cameroon	Cape Verde	Central African Republic	Chad
China	Comoros	Congo	Congo-Brazzaville
Cote d'Ivoire	Cube	Democratic Republic of	Djibouti
Dominican Republic	Ecuador	Egypt	Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea	Ethiopia	Fiji	Gabon
Gambia	Ghana	Guinea	Guinea-Bissau
Guyana	Haiti	India	Indonesia
Iran	Iraq	Jamaica	Jordan
Kazakhstan	Kenya	Kosovo	Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan	Laos	Lebanon	Lesotho
Liberia	Libya	Madagascar	Malawi
Maldives	Mali	Mauritania	Mongolia
Morocco	Mozambique	Myanmar	Namibia
Nauru	Nepal	Niger	Nigeria
Oman	Pakistan	Palestinian Authority	Papua New Guinea
Philippines	Qatar	Russia	Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe	Saudi Arabia	Senegal	Sierra Leone
Somalia	South	Sri Lanka	Sudan
Surinam	Swaziland	Syria	Tajikistan
Tanzania	Thailand	Togo	Tunisia
Turkmenistan	Uganda	Uzbekistan	Vietnam
Yemen	Zambia	Zimbabwe	(1

For those who need a visa to enter Bulgaria, please make sure to send the necessary documents/information to the organizer via the official website <a href="mailto:youthleague@bnfk.bg">youthleague@bnfk.bg</a> no later than 25th of April, 2018.

All information regarding entry visa for Bulgaria can be checked on official website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Bulgaria <a href="https://www.mfa.bg/en/pages/109/index.html">https://www.mfa.bg/en/pages/109/index.html</a>

#### Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria

Address: 2, Aleksandar Zhendov Str., Sofia 1113, Bulgaria

Tel.: +359 2 948 2999

Ministry's Reception Desk - Tel.: +359 2 948 2018, +359 2 971 10 54

<sup>\*</sup> Holders of non-biometric passports and holders of passports issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate (in Serbian: Koordinaciona uprava) still require a visa in which case the visa facilitation agreements apply.



Working days: Monday to Friday from 9.30 to 12.00 h and from 14.00 to 16.00 h

# 20 City / Country Information **Sofia**

Sofia is Bulgaria's capital and its largest city. Founded thousands of years ago, today the city continues to develop as the country's cultural and economic center. At present, the city has a population of over 1.4M.

Sofia is located in the western part of the country, on The Sofia Plain and on the lower slopes of Mount Vitosha. Sofia's history spans 2,400 years.

Sofia is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Bulgaria alongside coastal and mountain resorts. Among its highlights is the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, one of the symbols of Bulgaria, constructed in the late 19th century. The city is also known for the Boyana Church, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Sofia holds Bulgaria's largest museum collections, which attract tourists and students for practical studies.

#### **Bulgaria**

Located in the heart of the Balkans, Bulgaria offers a highly diverse landscape: the north is dominated by the vast lowlands of the Danube and the south by the highlands and elevated plains. In the east, the Black Sea coast at-tracts tourists all year round.

Similarly, its traditional dishes are a mixture of east and west. The most famous Bulgarian food must be yoghurt, with its reputed gift of longevity for those who consume it regularly.

Bulgaria's population of 7.4 million people is predominantly urbanized and mainly concentrated in the administrative centres of its 28 provinces. Most commercial and cultural activities are centred on the capital and largest city, Sofia. The strongest sectors of the economy are heavy industry, power engineering, and agriculture, all of which rely on local natural resources.

The country's current political structure dates to the adoption of a democratic constitution in 1991. Bulgaria is a unitary parliamentary republic with a high degree of political, administrative, and economic centralization. It is a member of the European Union, NATO, and the Council of Europe.

#### 21 Omissions

As regards that the specific items are not expressly foreseen in the present bulletin reference is to be made to the general rules and guidelines contained in WKF Regulations.