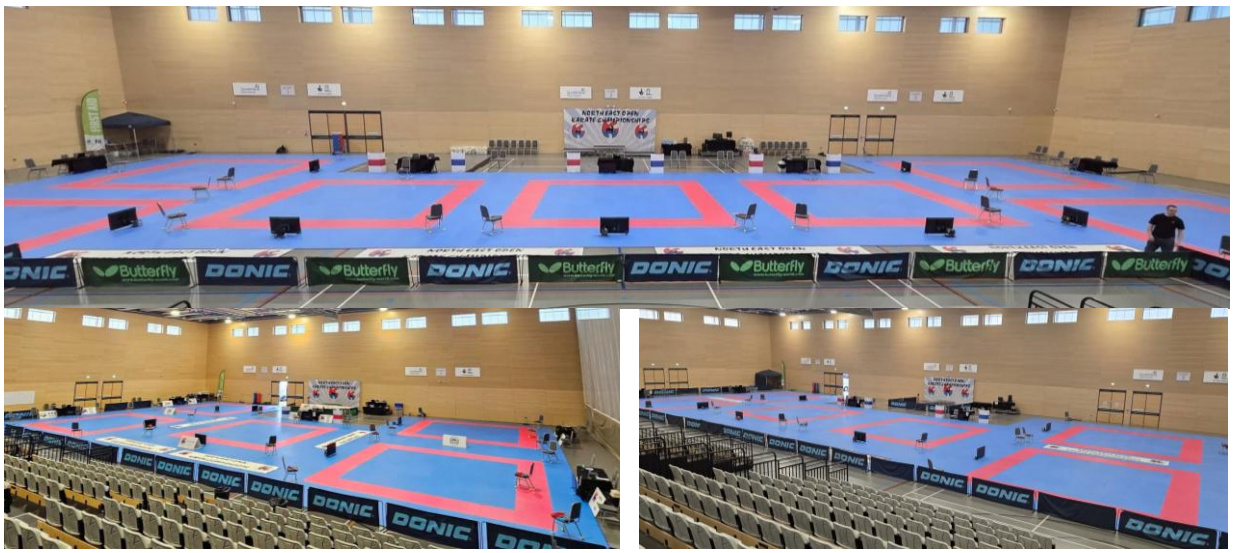
WORLD
WKF
KARATE FEDERATION
NORTH EAST OPEN
BEACON OF LIGHT,
SUNDERLAND, SR5 1SN
29th November 2026
WWW.HARTLEPOOLWADOKAI.COM/NORTH-EAST-OPEN

North East Open Karate Championships

WELCOME

Welcome to the **North East Open Karate Championships**, taking place on **Sunday 29th November** at Beacon of Light, Stadium Way, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, SR5 1SN. Doors open **08:00**, with a **09:00 start**.

The venue is a modern arena with **1000+ bleacher** seating, excellent parking, an onsite hotel, and capacity to continue growing the event, it provides the platform needed for the championships to keep developing year on year.



We are delighted to once again welcome **Peter Bibby**, Chief Referee of the English Karate National Governing Body and a member of the European Karate Federation Referee Commission, supported by a team of **World, European and National officials**.
Awards will be presented for 1st, 2nd and joint 3rd place.
Closing date for entries: Sunday 15th November 2026 – please note this is a week earlier than usual!

Good luck to all athletes and coaches and thank you for your continued support. We hope you enjoy both the championships and your time in the North East of England.

Carl Jorgeson & Nick Gowland
Tournament Directors
northeastopen@gmail.com
Carl: 07984 798634 | Nick: 07975 685597

Future dates: Spring event (date tbc), 15th August 2027, 21st November 2027

Anti-Doping and Clean Sport Statement

The North East Open Karate Championships supports the principles of clean sport and the World Anti-Doping Code.

All athletes, coaches and athlete support personnel participating in this event are expected to comply with all applicable anti-doping rules and regulations relevant to their governing body, federation, or national anti-doping organisation.

Competitors are responsible for ensuring that any medication or supplements used comply with the current WADA Prohibited List.

The organisers encourage all participants to familiarise themselves with guidance provided by UK Anti-Doping (UKAD), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and their relevant national federation.

Any alleged anti-doping violations reported to the organisers may be referred to the appropriate governing or anti-doping authority where applicable.

Suitable facilities will be made available should testing be conducted by UK Anti-Doping (UKAD), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), or any authorised anti-doping organisation acting under applicable regulations.

North East Open Karate Championships

KATA CATEGORIES

KA1	KA1 - Pee Wee Kata - Open Grade (7yrs & Below)	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA2	KA2 - Beginner to 7th Kyu inc (9yrs & Below)	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA3	KA3 - 6th Kyu to 4th Kyu inc (9yrs & Below)	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA4	KA4 - 3rd Kyu and Above (9yrs & Below)	*Any Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
WK1	WK1 - Wado Kata - 9yrs & Below - MALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Can repeat*
WK2	WK2 - Wado Kata - 9yrs & Below - FEMALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Can repeat*
KA5	KA5 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (10-11yrs inc) - MALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA6	KA6 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (10-11yrs inc) - FEMALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA7	KA7 - 3rd Kyu and Above (10-11yrs inc) - MALE	*WKF Rules*
KA8	KA8 - 3rd Kyu and Above (10-11yrs inc) - FEMALE	*WKF Rules*
WK3	WK3 - Wado Kata - 10 - 11yrs - MALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
WK4	WK4 - Wado Kata - 10 - 11yrs - FEMALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
KA9	KA9 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (12-13yrs inc) - MALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA10	KA10 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (12-13yrs inc) - FEMALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA11	KA11 - 3rd Kyu and Above (12-13yrs inc) - MALE	*WKF Rules*
KA12	KA12 - 3rd Kyu and Above (12-13yrs inc) - FEMALE	*WKF Rules*
WK5	WK5 - Wado Kata - 12 - 13yrs - MALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
WK6	WK6 - Wado Kata - 12 - 13yrs - FEMALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
KA13	KA13 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (14-15yrs inc) - MALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA14	KA14 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (14-15yrs inc) - FEMALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA15	KA15 - 3rd Kyu and Above (14-15yrs inc) - MALE	*WKF Rules*
KA16	KA16 - 3rd Kyu and Above (14-15yrs inc) - FEMALE	*WKF Rules*
WK7	WK7 - Wado Kata - 14 - 15yrs - MALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
WK8	WK8 - Wado Kata - 14 - 15yrs - FEMALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
KA17	KA17 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (16yrs +) - MALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA18	KA18 - Beginner to 4th Kyu inc (16yrs +) - FEMALE	*No advanced Kata, can repeat*
KA19	KA19 - 3rd Kyu and Above (16yrs +) - MALE	*WKF Rules*
KA20	KA20 - 3rd Kyu and Above (16yrs +) - FEMALE	*WKF Rules*
WK9	WK9 - Wado Kata - 16yrs & Above - MALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
WK10	WK10 - Wado Kata - 16yrs & Above - FEMALE	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
KA21	KA21 - Veteran's Kata, Black Belts (35yrs & Above) - MALE	*WKF Rules*
KA22	KA22 - Veteran's Kata, Black Belts (35yrs & Above) - FEMALE	*WKF Rules*
WK11	WK11 - Wado Kata - Veteran's, Black Belts (35yrs & Above)	*Any **WADO** Kata, Min 2 Kata, can repeat alternately*
KA23	KA23 - Pairs Kata, 9yrs & Below	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA24	KA24 - Pairs Kata, 10-13yrs	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA25	KA25 - Pairs Kata, 14-15yrs	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA26	KA26 - Pairs Kata - 16yrs & Above	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA27	KA27 - Team Kata, 9yrs & Below	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA28	KA28 - Team Kata, 10-13yrs	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA29	KA29 - Team Kata - 14-15yrs	*Any Kata, Any round*
KA30	KA30 - Team Kata - 16yrs & Above	*Any Kata, Any round*
PK1	PK1 - Para Kata Visually Impaired (all ages)	*Any Kata, Any round*
PK2	PK2 - Para Kata Intellectually Impaired (all ages)	*Any Kata, Any round*
PK3	PK3 - Para Kata Wheelchair (all ages)	*Any Kata, Any round*
PK4	PK4 - Para Kata Physically Impaired (all ages)	*Any Kata, Any round*

KATA RULES

- Competitors may enter the next category up **in their age group**, if they wish to compete using advanced Kata.
- No Bunkai in teams
- Children's sections will be performed 2 athletes at a time, including finals
- Flags will be used for all none-WKF sections, points may be used for WKF sections
- Wado Kata sections – only Wado Kata may be used, Wado athletes can also enter the 'open' sections
- WKF Rules
  - Must perform a different Kata, up to 5, for each round until medal matches.
  - No more than five (5) different kata are required to complete a competition
  - A kata cannot be performed twice in a row
  - No kata can be performed more than twice by an athlete.
  - Any kata may be performed in the medal round, unless already performed twice.

KUMITE CATEGORIES

KU1a KICKMASTER	KU1a KICKMASTER - 7yrs & Below, Open Grade
KU1b KICKMASTER	KU1b KICKMASTER - 8 - 9yrs, Open Grade - MALE
KU1c KICKMASTER	KU1c KICKMASTER - 8 - 9yrs, Open Grade - FEMALE
KU2	KU2 - Pee Wee Kumite - Open Grade (7yrs & Below) - MALE
KU3	KU3 - Pee Wee Kumite - Open Grade (7yrs & Below) - FEMALE
KU4	KU4 - 8-9yrs (Open Grade & Weight) - MALE
KU5	KU5 - 8-9yrs (Open Grade & Weight) - FEMALE
KU6	KU6 - 10-11yrs (5th Kyu & Below) - MALE
KU7	KU7 - 10-11yrs (4th Kyu & Above) - MALE
KU8	KU8 - 10-11yrs (5th Kyu & Below) - FEMALE
KU9	KU9 - 10-11yrs (4th Kyu & Above) - FEMALE
KU10	KU10 - 12-13yrs (5th Kyu & Below - Open Weight) - MALE
KU11	KU11 - 12-13yrs (-50kg) - MALE
KU12	KU12 - 12-13yrs (+50kg) - MALE
KU13	KU13 - 12-13yrs (5th Kyu & Below, Open Weight) - FEMALE
KU14	KU14 - 12-13yrs (-45kg) - FEMALE
KU15	KU15 - 12-13yrs (45kg+) - FEMALE
KU16	KU16 - 14-15yrs (-57kg) - MALE
KU17	KU17 - 14-15yrs (-63kg) - MALE
KU18	KU18 - 14-15yrs (63kg & Above) - MALE
KU19	KU19 - 14-15yrs (-47kg) - FEMALE
KU20	KU20 - 14-15yrs (-54kg) - FEMALE
KU21	KU21 - 14-15yrs (54kg & Above) - FEMALE
KU22	KU22 - 16-17yrs (-68kg) - MALE
KU23	KU23 - 16-17yrs (68kg & Above) - MALE
KU24	KU24 - 16-17yrs (Open Weight) - FEMALE
KU25	KU25 - 18yrs+ (Open Weight, 5th Kyu & Below) - MALE
KU26	KU26 - 18yrs+ (-60kg) - MALE
KU27	KU27 - 18yrs+ (-67kg) - MALE
KU28	KU28 - 18yrs+ (-75kg) - MALE
KU29	KU29 - 18yrs+ (-84kg) - MALE
KU30	KU30 - 18yrs+ (84kg+) - MALE
KU31	KU31 - 18yrs+ (Open Weight) - MALE
KU32	KU32 - Veteran's Kumite, 35yrs & Above, (Open Weight) - MALE
KU33	KU33 - 18yrs+ (Open Weight, 5th Kyu & Below) - FEMALE
KU34	KU34 - 18yrs+ (-55kg) - FEMALE
KU35	KU35 - 18yrs+ (-61kg) - FEMALE
KU36	KU36 - 18yrs+ (61kg & Above) - FEMALE
KU37	KU37 - 18yrs+ (Open Weight) - FEMALE
KU38	KU38 - Veteran's Kumite, 35yrs & Above, (Open Weight) - FEMALE
KU39	KU39 - TEAM KUMITE, 9yrs & Below - MALE
KU40	KU40 - TEAM KUMITE, 9yrs & Below - FEMALE
KU41	KU41 - TEAM KUMITE, 10-11yrs - MALE
KU42	KU42 - TEAM KUMITE, 10-11yrs - FEMALE
KU43	KU43 - TEAM KUMITE, 12-13yrs - MALE
KU44	KU44 - TEAM KUMITE, 12-13yrs - FEMALE
KU45	KU45 - TEAM KUMITE, 14-15yrs - MALE
KU46	KU46 - TEAM KUMITE, 14-15yrs - FEMALE
KU47	KU47 - TEAM KUMITE, 16-17yrs - 2 MALE 1 FEMALE
KU48	KU48 - TEAM KUMITE, 18yrs & Above - 2 MALE 1 FEMALE

Non-WKF Kumite sections MIGHT also be split by weight (depending on entry size), weights must be included for fighters on entry forms.

Any under-subscribed categories may be merged with another or cancelled, and any oversubscribed categories may be split without prior notice at the discretion of the event organiser.

Official Protest

An official protest will cost £50 and must be accompanied by a completed and signed protest form.
The organisers reserve the right to amend/alter any rules without prior notice.

KUMITE RULES

All 9 years & under matches to be 1 minute, All 10-13 years to be 1.5 minutes.
All Cadets, Juniors & Veterans to be 2 minutes, All Senior Male & Senior Female Kumite to be 3 minutes.
All teams are to be three persons (min 2). Bout times for teams may be reduced.
No Repechage in any section.
Timings are at the discretion of the organiser.

WKF (2026) rules will be applied (https://www.wkf.net/structure-statutes-rules)

Kick Master Kumite – KU1a, KU1b, KU1c
This consists of each competitor simultaneously attacking their respective red or blue kick post for 30 seconds.

The competitor who is judged to have attacked most vigorously, most skilfully and most powerfully will be awarded the win. All Karate techniques can be used. Impact with the pad is expected. Three flag system as in kata.

Pricing

Individual Events	£25.00	Spectators	£10.00,
Kick Master	£20.00	Children Under 5's	FREE
Pairs	£30.00		
Teams	£35.00		

Essential Equipment

All competitors to wear a clean white traditional Karate Gi, as per WKF rules.
Red and Blue belts are compulsory for all events., with Kumite events also requiring the following:

- Red and Blue mitts and Gum Shields.
- Body protectors or integrated Body & Chest Protectors for females, all of WKF style.
- Body protectors (WKF style) and Groin guards for males.
- WKF style shin and foot protectors are compulsory for all competitors 10 years and above. Cotton type glove or shin and foot protectors are not permitted.
- **Please note:** Headguards **must** be worn by all children aged **13 years and under**, in line with the requirements of the World, British and English Karate Federations. Headguards will be available at the event for competitors who do not yet have their own. All equipment provided will be cleaned and sanitised between uses.

Licence Checks

Licence checks will be done at the discretion of the event organiser. Failure to produce a valid licence when requested will mean disqualification from all categories. Please don't forget them!

Weight Checks

Please note that weigh-in for kumite competitors will be open from 11am and close promptly at 2pm. The organisers reserve the right to refuse entry to competitors failing to make their weight sections, with no refund offered. Competitors must wear their Karate suit for weight checks. It is the responsibility of coaches to ensure competitors are entered in their correct **age & weight** sections. A 1kg tolerance is permitted.

Transgender & Transsexual Athletes

Guidance around Transgender and Transsexual athletes is constantly being updated. Please refer to the British Karate Federation Transgender and Transsexual Policy for the latest guidance.

Submitting entries

Please use the official entry form for submitting ALL entries, this is available in PDF & MS word format. If we only receive a list of names and category numbers, we are unable to check for errors. It is the responsibility of coaches to ensure competitors are entered into the correct sections. **Athletes must only compete in their own age group, including team/pair events.** Please submit entries via email and pay in advance via BACS. All entries are provisional until payment is received.

North East Open Karate Championships

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FORM

Club / Dojo Name:	
Club / Dojo Chief Instructor:	
Instructor contact number:	

Name	Sex	Age	DOB	Grade	Weight (kg)	Enter Category codes (individual Kata & Kumite only) Use the separate sheets for Kick Master, Pairs & Teams							Entry Fees
												Total Entry Fees:	

Disclaimer

"The competitor realises and discharges the organisers and their representatives or agents and all other competitors from all claims that the competitor or his personal representative may have for any injury (however caused) sustained by the competitor and for the loss or damage (however caused) to his personal belongings suffered at any time during the course of the Championships or while on the premises at which the Championships are being held".

Signed (Chief Instructor):		**Date:**	

Closing date for all entries 15th November

BACS: 'North East Open CIC' Sort Code 608371, Account No 31475810, Reference: Club/Association

International Payments: IBAN: GB07SRLG60837131475810 BIC: SRLGGB2L

Please make all cheques payable to **'North East Open CIC'** and email to: northeastopen@gmail.com

North East Open Karate Championships

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY FORM

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North East Open Karate Championships

KICKMASTER ENTRY FORM ONLY

Club / Dojo Name:	
Club / Dojo Chief Instructor:	
Instructor contact number:	

KICKMASTER entry fee is £20.00 per person,

Name	Sex	Age	DOB	Grade	Category number	Entry Fees

Total Entry Fees:	

North East Open Karate Championships

PAIRS / TEAM KATA ENTRY FORM

Club / Dojo Name:	
Club / Dojo Chief Instructor:	
Instructor contact number:	

PAIRS KATA If more than one team please name then A, B, C etc…			
CAT NO	**Team Name**	**Competitor 1**	**Competitor 2**
		Total	£

TEAM KATA If more than one team please name then A, B, C etc…				
CAT NO	**Team Name**	**Competitor 1**	**Competitor 2**	**Competitor 3**
			Total	£

North East Open Karate Championships

TEAM KUMITE ENTRY FORM

Club / Dojo Name:	
Club / Dojo Chief Instructor:	
Instructor contact number:	

TEAM KUMITE If more than one team please name then A, B, C etc…				
CAT NO	**Team Name**	**Competitor 1**	**Competitor 2**	**Competitor 3**
			Total	£

		£
Total individual entries	____ @ £25.00	
Total Kick Master entries	____ @ £20.00	
Total Pairs Kata entries	____ @ £30.00	
Total Team entries	____ @ £35.00	
	Total	

Closing date for all entries 15th November

BACS: 'North East Open CIC' Sort Code 608371, Account No 31475810, Reference: Club/Association

International Payments: IBAN: GB07SRLG60837131475810 BIC: SRLGGB2L

Please make all cheques payable to **'North East Open CIC'** and email to: northeastopen@gmail.com

North East Open Karate Championships

LIST OF ALL COMPETITORS

Please complete and return this page as it allows us to double check for admin errors

Children		Children		Ladies		Men	
1		16		1		1	
2		17		2		2	
3		18		3		3	
4		19		4		4	
5		20		5		5	
6		21		6		6	
7		22		7		7	
8		23		8		8	
9		24		9		9	
10		25		10		10	
11		26		11		11	
12		27		12		12	
13		28		13		13	
14		29		14		14	
15		30		15		15	

Declaration

I confirm that all the competitors have been advised of and will comply with the conditions of entry. I have also advised all the competitors of the potential risk of competition karate and they fully realise and accept these risks. All competitors hold a valid licence and insurance.

Signed (Chief Instructor):		**Date:**	

This must be signed or the entry won't be accepted.

Club Name:			
Club Postal Address ***inc postcode*:**			
Tel:		**Email:**	
Please submit this entry form via email to northeastopen@gmail.com			

Please ensure you provide a valid email address so that we can send through updates and the running orders.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton
Hilton Garden Inn Sunderland

On-site hotel

https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/nclgigi-hilton-garden-inn-sunderland/

Premier Inn
Sunderland City Centre

Approx 1.7 miles / 10 mins from the venue

https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/tyne-and-wear/sunderland/sunderland-city-centre.html

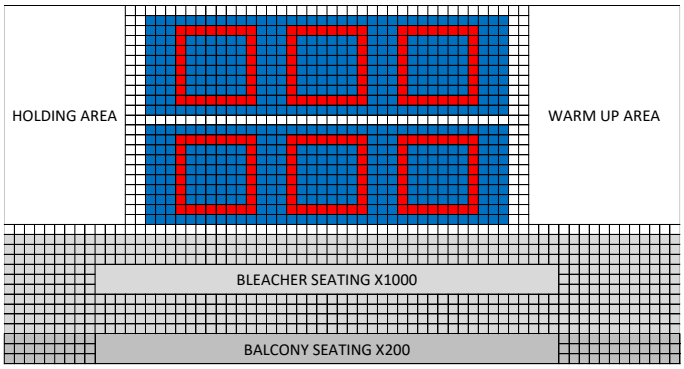
Premier Inn
Sunderland A19/A1231

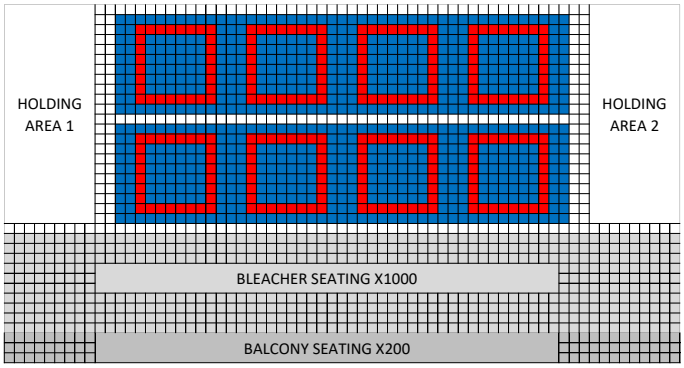
Approx 3.5 miles / 10 mins from the venue

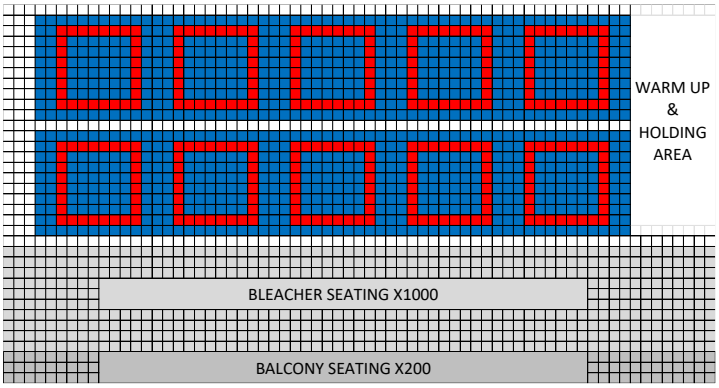
https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/tyne-and-wear/sunderland/sunderland-a19a1231.html

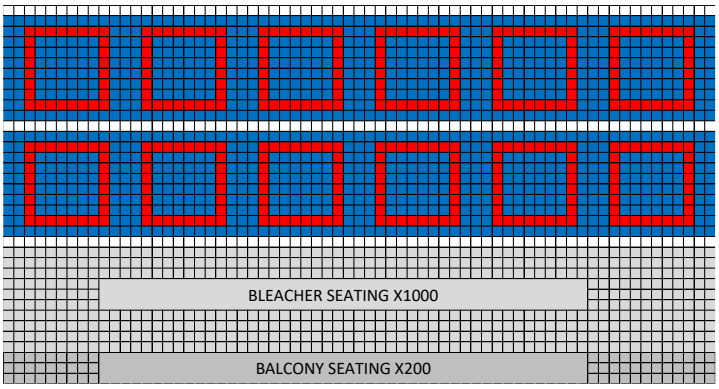
AIRPORTS
The nearest airports are Newcastle International (approx. 40mins by car, or Metro/train) or Teesside International (approx. 50mins). Manchester airport (approx. 2.5 hours) and others are also available.

Beacon of Light – Layout options, depending on athlete entry size









The North East Open is brought to you by:

Great North Karate

EVENT PARTNERS

We couldn't continue to deliver our events without our expert event partners, who are 100% part of the North East Open family.

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