



Media Centre

Taekwondo profiles: Women's up to 49 kg K44/K43

19.07.2018

A look at top contenders in division ahead of sport's Paralympic debut



Nepal's Ranjana Dhami (L) and Mongolia's Enkhtuya Khurelbaatar are two of the key names in the women's K44/43
 © • World Taekwondo



By Lee Reaney | For the IPC

Taekwondo will debut at the **Paralympic Games** at **Tokyo 2020**. Athletes will contend six medal events, and **Paralympic.org** is profiling each event ahead of those Games.

Rapid kicks, precision strikes and one of the sport's great rivalries define the women's up to 49 kg K44/K43, the lightest women's weight division.

Twelve fighters will earn qualification slots for their countries for Tokyo in this division: six via world rankings (four from K44, two from K43), five through continental qualification tournaments (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania), and one from the host country or special invitation.

Here are the top women fighting for a place at the Games:

World rankings route

LATEST NEWS



29.07.2018 [Kuching 2019: All you need to know](#)



29.07.2018 [Stoke Mandeville 70: A 1948 sports snapshot](#)



29.07.2018 [Stoke Mandeville 70: The lasting legacy](#)



29.07.2018 [Stoke Mandeville 70: Celebrating Sir Ludwig Guttmann](#)



28.07.2018 [Lima 2019: Wheelchair basketball spots up for grabs](#)

[More news...](#)

Mongolia's world champion [Enkhtuya Khurelbaatar](#) is the woman to beat in the K44 division. She has lost just once since her international career began in 2016 and has a comfortable 82-point world rankings lead.

Turkey's world No. 2 Meryem Betul Cavdar handed her that loss at the 2017 [International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation](#) (IWAS) World Games and has become a serious rival, with the two engaging in some of the sport's most competitive fights.

Ukraine's Vika Marchuk was one of the sport's first stars. The five-time world champion remains at the top of the K43 category.

Continental qualification route

Those who have not claimed qualification slots through the world rankings route will need to win a continental qualification tournament in early 2020. Countries that have secured four slots already in the six divisions will not be able to send athletes to these tournaments where, for the first time, K43 fighters will face their K44 foes.

Morocco's Soukaina Es-Sabbar (world No. 8 in K44) is the only African athlete in the top 20.

Peru's Leonor Espinoza Carranza, the USA's Sophie Gimeno, and Cuba's Lilisbet Rodriguez Rivero are all in the top 20 K44 fighters and expected to battle it out for the Americas title.

In the Asian tournament, India's Sonali and Nepal's Ranjana Dhimi, both K44 fighters, will have to face serious competition from the K43 side, like India's Aruna (No. 5 in K43).

Australia's Kara Fournie (K44) is favourite to emerge from the Oceania qualifiers.

Host country route

Japan has up to three positions across the six divisions and must select at least one woman. While Japan has world ranked athletes in four of the six divisions, there are currently no ranked Japanese athletes in the women's up to 49kg.

Related News

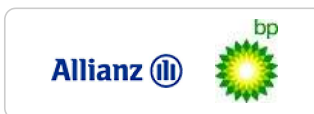
- [Taekwondo profiles: Men's up to 61kg K44](#)
- [Ivan Mikulic fights for Euros redemption](#)
- [Fourth time lucky for Antonino Bossolo](#)
- [Boost for Antonino Bossolo following European title](#)
- [Gersson Mejia goes for another PanAm title](#)
- [Mexico make their mark at Pan Ams](#)

Like 170 | Share | Tweet | G+ | print | send

Worldwide Paralympic Partners



International Partners



[Winter Games](#)

[Sochi 2014](#)

[Rio 2016](#)

[All the results & medallist since 1960](#)

[Games video archive](#)

[Anti-Doping](#)

[Medical](#)

[Partners](#)

[IPC Strategic Plan 2015-2018](#)

[IPC Handbook](#)

[Publications and Documents](#)

[Features & Interviews](#)

[The Paralympian](#)

[Videos](#)

[Athlete of the Month](#)

[Media Office](#)

[Winter Sports](#)

[Biographies](#)

[America](#)

[Asia](#)

[Europe](#)

[Oceania](#)



Official Website of the Paralympic Movement • IPC | [Homepage](#) | [Paralympic Games](#) | [The IPC](#) | [Results, Ranking & Records](#) | [Media Centre](#) | [Videos](#) | [Sports](#)
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
Adenauerallee 212-214, 53113 Bonn, Germany
Telephone: +49-228-2097-200 • Fax: +49-228-2097-209 • E-mail: info@paralympic.org