Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Youth Olympic Competition Format

In the Beach Wrestling competition at Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games there are four men's and four women's events as follows:

Men	Women
60kg	45kg
70kg	55kg
80kg	65kg
90kg	75kg

Each weight category has an ideal number of 12 wrestlers. In the group stage rounds, the wrestlers are divided into 3 groups of 4 athletes. The athletes will be paired according to a random draw. Each group is disputed as a Nordic system. Each athlete in a group will compete against every other athlete in the group.

The top wrestler from each group and the best 2nd placed athlete will advance to the semifinals. The semifinals will be composed of the winner of group A against the best 2nd placed athlete, and winner of group C against the winner of group B. If the best 2nd placed athlete is from group A, then the semifinals will be composed of the winner of group A against the winner of group C, and the winner of group B against the best 2nd placed athlete. The winners of the semifinals will compete in the gold medal match and the wrestlers who lost in the semifinals will compete in the bronze medal match.

The matches will be scheduled as follows:

- Morning session:
  - Group stage rounds 1, 2
- Evening session:
  - Group stage round 3
  - Semifinals
  - Bronze medal match
  - Gold medal match

Each match consists of one period of three minutes. The winner is declared by the points scored in the period. The first athlete to score 3 points wins the match.

Beach wrestling is only practiced in a standing position. The use of the legs is allowed in all actions.

Differences between the UWW Beach Wrestling Series and the Summer Youth Olympic Games

The age group for Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games is 15-17 years old, whereas the UWW Beach Wrestling Series are conducted only for seniors men and women.

At the UWW Beach Wrestling Series, the competition format may differ to include less or more than 12 wrestlers per weight category.

Changes since Buenos Aires 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games

Beach Wrestling is on the programme for the first time in Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games.

Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Sport Rules and Procedures

A match may be won:

a) By a 3-point takedown or throw

b) By injury

c) By 3 points but without a 3-point takedown or throw

d) By less than 3 points

e) By 3 cautions

f) By disqualification of the opponent

g) Following a forfeit or an injury

Tie Break Rules

If there is a tie at the end of the match, the following criteria will be used to declare the winner:

1. Last point scored
2. Weight of the athletes, as measured at the weigh-in of the concerned day. The lighter (lightweight) wrestler will be declared as the winner.
3. The lowest draw/rank number

Each athlete will be ranked in their group based on the number of victories. In case of a tie in the group (same number of victories), if it concerns only two wrestlers, their direct match will determine the ranking.

If it concerns more than two athletes, the ranking will be determined following these criteria, across all matches:

1. The highest classification points
2. The highest technical points scored
3. The fewest technical points given
4. The weight of the athletes, as measured at the weigh-in of the concerned day. The lighter (lightweight) wrestler will be ranked higher.
5. The lowest draw number

The best 2nd placed athlete that will move to the semifinals will be determined by the number of victories, and then by the criteria mentioned above if there are ties.

The final ranking of each weight category will be based on the number of victories and the above criteria will be used if there are ties. The athletes who qualified for the final rounds phase will be ranked above athletes who did not advance from the group phase.

Penalties / Disqualification Rules

Each match should have a winner, except in the case of a double disqualification, double injury or double forfeit.

Protests / Appeals

No protest may be lodged after the end of a match, only the result obtained on the ring counts.

Under no circumstances may the results of a match be modified.



Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Officials

In all competitions, the technical officials for each match shall consist of the following refereeing body:

- One referee
- One Technical Secretary

Replacement of an official during a match is strictly prohibited, except in the case of a serious illness that is medically confirmed. In no case may two officials be of the same nationality. Furthermore, it is strictly forbidden for an official to officiate in matches involving compatriot wrestlers.

Note:
For further information please consult: uww.org