

BRISTOL OPEN 2026

Event Information Summary

Compiled from the Bristol Open Facebook page (facebook.com/TheBristolOpen) · 19 August 2026

23-25 OCT DATES	BRISTOL VENUE CITY	£40 EARLY BIRD / DIV.	3 DAYS FORMAT
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◆ OVERVIEW

The Bristol Open is one of the UK's leading WAKO kickboxing competitions. After several years based just outside the city in Bath, the event is returning to Bristol for 2026 with its biggest edition yet: for the first time, the competition runs across three full days at a brand-new venue.

◆ DATES & LOCATION

- **Competition dates:** Friday 23 – Sunday 25 October 2026
- **Weigh-ins:** Thursday 22 October (evening)
- **Venue:** Clifton College, Chellaram Sports Ground, Beggar Bush Lane, Abbots Leigh, Bristol, BS8 3TG
- **Access:** ~5 minutes from the motorway, ~15 minutes from Bristol Airport, walking distance from Clifton Village, with extensive on-site parking

◆ COMPETITION FORMAT

2026 is the first year the Bristol Open has run across three full days of competition, covering Points Fighting, Light Contact, Kick Light, K1, Full Contact and Forms, plus Ring Sports, which are new for this year, and Tag Teams. The schedule below is indicative and may be adjusted once registrations close.

Day	Disciplines
Friday 23 Oct	Advanced Kick Light, Advanced Light Contact, Points Fighting Tag Teams, Light Contact Tag Teams
Saturday 24 Oct	Points Fighting, Forms, K1, Full Contact
Sunday 25 Oct	Grand Champion Points Fighting, Grand Champion Forms, Rookie & Intermediate Kick Light, Rookie & Intermediate Light Contact, K1, Full Contact

◆ DIVISIONS & CLASSIFICATIONS

New for 2026 is a Rookie, Intermediate and Advanced pathway, designed to give newer competitors a fairer route in while still showcasing the sport's best athletes.

- **Tatami sports** (Points Fighting, Light Contact, Kick Light): Rookie = 1st year of competition, Intermediate = 2nd year, Advanced = 3rd year onward. Classification carries across all tatami disciplines.

- **Ring Sports & Forms:** Rookie and Intermediate are combined into one category, with Advanced remaining separate.
- **Moving up:** Competitors may fight up one weight category and up one skill level, but never up an age category.
- **Fair play:** Organisers reserve the right to move a competitor into the appropriate division if they are clearly entered at the wrong level.

◆ REGISTRATION & PRICING

Registration opened on 26 July 2026 via SportData. Entries are pre-payment only — a place is only confirmed once payment has been received, and unpaid entries remain on a waiting list.

Entry type	Price per division	Deadline
Early Bird	£40	Registered & paid by 13 Sept, 11:59pm
Standard	£50	Registration closes 16 October

Spectators do not need to pre-book — tickets are available to purchase on the day.

◆ WEIGH-IN DETAILS

- **Thursday 22 October, 6:00–9:00pm:** recommended venue weigh-in slot, for a stress-free start to the weekend.
- Weigh-ins otherwise continue throughout the weekend, up to one hour before each competitor's division — but organisers recommend weighing in first thing each morning rather than leaving it late.
- This is an international WAKO event, so there is zero weight allowance. Full Contact competitors must weigh in on each day they compete.
- Once the draws are published, no changes can be made for missed weight; single entries and double starts are reviewed and adjusted before draws are finalised.

◆ ATMOSPHERE & FACILITIES

Alongside the competition, organisers are running an indoor and outdoor “mini festival” area with:

- Food and drink vendors throughout the day
- Daytime music, building up to live DJ sets each afternoon/evening
- Plenty of seating to relax, eat and socialise between divisions

◆ STAYING CONNECTED

A dedicated WhatsApp Community has been set up as the main hub for competitors, coaches, officials and supporters, sharing announcements, schedules and event updates:

WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

— <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KENMfaaNBOD62L7ZDRBkce>

◆ ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

The Bristol Open is run by promoters Sean Veira and Andy Cleeves, who have worked together for well over a decade to build the event into one of the UK's leading kickboxing competitions, bringing together clubs from across the UK and beyond.