

INTERNATIONAL JUDO FEDERATION



JUDO

**SARAJEVO WORLD JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS
KATA 2026**

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

26 - 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

#JudoKata

(Version 09 April 2026)





 @MariusVizer

Dear national federations, dear friends,

We welcome you to Sarajevo, an accessible capital city that keeps its doors open for all levels of the judo family. This is a destination which will deliver excellent organisation and warm hospitality, providing our kata specialists with a tried and tested venue in front of an engaged tribune of knowledgeable spectators.

We are looking forward to sharing this very special global event with you in a Central European destination steeped in history, a place of culture and heritage openly shared with the world. Now this incredible city extends arms of friendship to our kata practitioners and their coaches.

Our judo family enjoyed an outstanding stay in Paris in 2025 for the pinnacle kata event of the year, one which broke all records of participation; and so the bar has been set higher than ever. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the local organisers and the IJF Kata Commission, the 2026 edition of the IJF World Kata Championships promises to continue this celebration of judo and be an event to last long in the memory.

I wish all our delegations, friends and the wider judo family a healthy and successful event, filled with excellence. Sarajevo welcomes you!

Yours in judo,

Marius L. VIZER
President
International Judo Federation



Dear Judo Friends,

On behalf of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Judo Federation, I would like to welcome you to the World Judo Championships Veterans and Kata 2026 and Special Olympics 2026, one of the biggest official sports manifestation, which is being held in the Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I am honoured to invite all distinguished members of the International Judo Federation and Special Olympics to our beautiful country and the Mayor City of Sarajevo where we organized these Events on September 20. – 27. 2026.

Our Federation and all persons involved in the technical organization, as always, will do their best to make the event go well.

Therefore, the Judo Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is a relatively young member of the IJF and EJU, but we are proud of the fact that we have so far successfully organized a large number of World Championships, European Championships, European Cups for seniors and juniors, Europe Opens and for the third time we have the honor and pleasure to host an International Judo Federation event and organized World Judo Championships Veterans and Kata 2026 and Special Olympics 2026.

I would like to thank Mr. Marius Vizer, President of the International Judo Federation for the confidence shown in the assignment of the event and the local Authorities for the support provided to the Organizers.

Ognjen PAVLOVIC
President
Judo Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Dear national federations, dear participants,

I would like to thank the President of the Judo Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr Ognjen Pavlovic, for welcoming the World Championships Kata 2026 in the beautiful city of Sarajevo.

This event, which goes beyond high-level sporting competition, features aesthetic performances that demonstrate the key principles of judo—optimal use of energy—in a spirit of mutual assistance and mutual prosperity, which are fundamental values of judo.

Developing kata means promoting judo and its educational aspects with the aim of contributing to the betterment of society.

Bringing together athletes from many countries reaffirms the foundation of our discipline through the pursuit of performance and pushing oneself beyond one's limits in a spirit of solidarity and friendship.

“The important thing is not to win but to take part” is one of the mottos of the Olympic movement, which works to bring together the cultures of different populations and thus contributes to bringing peoples closer together.

The competition will be top-notch, held in high-quality facilities. I want to thank the local organisers, the technical officials, and all the volunteers who work hard to ensure that judoka from around the world are welcomed in excellent conditions.

Best regards,

Jean-Luc ROUGÉ
Chair
IJF Kata Commission

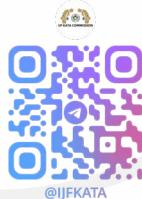
EVENTS DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND HERE: <https://www.ijf.org/competition/3228>

PLEASE RESPECT ALL DEADLINES AND RULES DETAILED IN THESE OUTLINES.

1. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

All event participants participating in the event described in these outlines must respect and accept the authority of the International Judo Federation (IJF) officials, the IJF Statutes and the IJF Sport and Organisation Rules (**SOR**). Individuals deemed to have acted against the IJF, its principles or purposes should be subject to suspension or expulsion from the event and/or cancellation of their accreditation cards.

Join our digital notice board: <https://t.me/IJFkata>



2. DEADLINES FOR DELEGATIONS

Days before Competition day 1	Deadline	Action
106	12 June 2026	Hotel first reservation
76	12 July 2026	Visa application (with passport photocopies)*
32	25 August 2026	Hotel final reservation and full payment
32	25 August 2026 (23:59 CET)	Full refund in case of hotel cancellation
15	11 September 2026 (23:59 CET)	Event inscription (Judobase)

*Entry letters and visa applications will only be accepted for people who are inscribed in **Judobase**.

3. EVENT INSCRIPTION AND ENTRY FEES

Entries will be accepted from a national federation or with the permission of a nation federation from a national club or individual athlete.

Entries		Price
Entries to:	until 31 May 2026 (23:59 CET)	160 euro per athlete
Entries from:	from 01 June 2026 to 19 July 2026 (23:59 CET)	180 euro per athlete
Entries from:	from 20 July 2026 to 31 August 2026 (23:59 CET)	200 euro per athlete
On-site entries:	from 01 September 2026 to the end of accreditation	250 euro per athlete

The entry fee covers up to two kata and is **non-refundable**.

All participating delegates must have a valid IJF card. There are two types of IJF cards:

- IJF international cards (renewable every two years) can be used for all functions (athlete, coach, team official, doctor etc.) at IJF World Judo Tour events including world championships kata and veterans.
- IJF veterans/kata card (valid for life) can be used for all functions (athlete, coach, team official, doctor etc.) at the world championships kata and veterans. It cannot be used at other IJF World Judo Tour events.

Inscriptions must be done in **Judobase** by the national federation by **11 September 2026, 23:59 CET**. For assistance, please contact registration@ijf.org before the end of the deadline.



In case of unforeseen delay of arrival or if someone has to be cancelled from the event you must inform both the IJF (registration@ijf.org and kata@ijf.org) and the local organising committee (LOC) (sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com).

KATA JUDGES EXAM

The IJF Kata Commission will organise a judge examination on Thursday 24 September 2026 at 09:00.

The cost is USD 50 per exam. An invoice will be sent to the candidate following the exams.

Registration link: https://judocompmanager.abacusai.app/registration?comp=cmnepbf7v0007oa087uxhmbmj&type=JUDGE_EXAM

4. PAYMENTS AND CANCELLATION POLICY

PAY ATTENTION TO FRAUDULENT EMAILS! USE ONLY THE BANK DETAILS FROM THE OFFICIAL OUTLINES.

According to the IJF rule enacted on the 2 December 2012 in Tokyo, «the organising country should not request penalties fee for participating countries who cannot make bank transfers but can pay in cash upon arrival. Those countries who cannot make bank transfers should inform the LOC well in advance that they will pay cash on arrival».

All event fees, bank fees and bank transfer costs must be paid by the participating national federation to the following bank:

Beneficiary's name	Udruzenje ZDZK Sarajevo, street Mis Irbina 8, 71000 Sarajevo
Bank name	Raiffeisen Bank DD Bosna i Hercegovina
Bank address	Zmaja od Bosne BB, 71000 Sarajevo
IBAN	BA391610000105380035
SWIFT/BIC Code	RZBABA2S
Payment reference	WCK 2026 - Number of the invoice

If payment is being made by bank transfer the bank information must be inserted correctly and completely on the transfer document and any procedures related to amendment of the bank transfer must be done before arrival. Participants must ensure that all bank charges are paid at their end so that the LOC receive the correct amount of funds without any deductions. Participants must have proof of the bank transfer, upon arrival.

Whenever possible, cancellations should be made before accreditation. The LOC has the right to charge cancellation fees below.

If participation is cancelled the local organising committee has the right to charge as follows:	
Accommodation - 100% refund from	Up to and including 25 August 2026
Accommodation - no refund, 100% of the hotel costs must be paid from	26 August 2026
Entry fee	No refund

5. PARTICIPATION RULES

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Section 4 Entries and Accreditation and Appendix B Regulations for Kata.

National federations must follow IJF nationality rules – refer to IJF **SOR** Section 1.7.

A national federation may register a maximum of three (3) pairs in a kata.

Participants must be a minimum of 15 years of age in the calendar year of the competition. They shall have a minimum of 1st dan for seniors age group. For the U21 age group both tori and uke must be under 21 years old in the calendar year of the competition and shall have a minimum of 1st kyu. For the U18 age group both tori and uke must be under 18 years old in the calendar year of the competition and shall have a minimum of 3rd kyu (green belt).

Athletes can participate in two (2) kata.

Participants will have the opportunity to play the same role in the second kata or reverse roles or to do the second kata with a different partner. U21 athlete can participate for his second kata in the senior division in a different kata than the one performed in U21. U18 athlete can participate for his second kata in the junior or senior division in a different kata than the one performed in U18. The nage-no-kata 5 sets is considered a different kata than the nage-no-kata 3 sets.

A pair can be made up of athletes of any gender.

For more details please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.1 Eligibility to Participate and B1.2 Kata.

6. LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Name	Judo Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Address/telephone number	Alipasina 14L, 71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina / +38761929188
Website	https://www.judosavezbih.ba
Email	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com

7. LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE EVENT CONTACTS

Accommodation	Ms Arijana JAHA	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38761929188
General Enquiries	Ms Arijana JAHA	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38761929188
Training	Ms Aleksandra SAMARDZIC	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38765860967
Visa	Ms Lejla SABETA	kovacevic.lejla@gmail.com	+38761379395
Emergency (24 hours, English-speaking)	Ms Arijana JAHA	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38761929188

8. PROGRAMME

Date	Time	Activity	Location
Wednesday 23 September 2026	All day	Arrivals of the participants, continental union kata delegates and candidates for kata judges' examination	
Thursday 24 September 2026	09:00 - 12:00	Kata judges' examination and results	Hotel Hills
	10:00 - 18:00	Warm-up	
	14:30 - 16:30	IJF Kata Commission meeting	
Friday 25 September 2026	10:00 - 16:00	Accreditation for judges and participants	Hotel Hills
	10:00 - 16:00	Warm-up	
	16:00 - 18:30	Judges' meeting on the mat	
	19:00 - 20:00	Draw	Online
Saturday 26 September 2026	08:30*	Nage-no-kata (U21 & senior) Katame-no-kata (senior) Ju-no-kata (senior) Koshiki-no-kata (senior)	Arena Hotel Hills
	TBC	Finals (U21 & senior)	
Sunday 27 September 2026	08:30*	Nage-no-kata (U18) Katame-no-kata (U18 & U21) Ju-no-kata (U18 & U21) Kime-no-kata (senior) Kodokan goshin-jutsu (senior) Itsutsu-no-kata (senior)	Arena Hotel Hills
	TBC	Finals (U18, U21 & senior)	
Monday 28 September 2026	All day	Departures	

* The start time will be confirmed once the final number of athletes is known.

9. COMPETITION VENUE

Name	Arena Hotel Hills
Address	Butmirska cesta 18, 71000 Sarajevo
Website	https://hotelhills.ba
Seats for spectators	300
Tickets	Free

10. ENTRY TO THE HOST COUNTRY

Each individual is responsible to ensure they follow the entry rules (passport validity, visas, entry permission letter etc.) for the host country. Entry rules may be subject to change, the current information can be found here: <https://mvp.gov.ba/bs/vize>

The LOC will assist with visas where possible but having the correct visa is the responsibility of each participant. Visa applications will only be accepted for people who are inscribed in **Judobase** for the event.

It is the responsibility of the national federation to ensure that their delegation respects the conditions of stay defined by the Government of the country hosting the event. If any participant does not respect these conditions, any costs arising will be borne by the national federation concerned.

Please note that visa approvals or rejections are done by the Government authorities and the LOC has no control over this and cannot be held responsible for any rejections.

Contact the LOC if you need help for a visa			
Complete the form	Sarajevo WCVKSO 2026 Form Visa		
Deadline	12 July 2026		
Visa contact	Ms Lejla SABETA	kovacevic.lejla@gmail.com	+38761379395

11. TRANSPORT

Transport is NOT provided by the LOC.

12. PRE-EVENT TRAINING

Training during the event is the responsibility of the LOC. Planning and scheduling of training sessions will be organised taking into consideration requests made by delegations daily on a first request made first served basis. To book training contact the LOC.

Training venue 1	Hotel Hills		
Address	Butmirska cesta 18, 71000 Sarajevo		
Training dates and times	Thursday 24 September - Saturday 26 September 2026: 09:00 - 21:00		
Booking contact	Ms Aleksandra SAMARDZIC	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38765860967

13. ACCOMMODATION

Delegations can optionally book their accommodation through the LOC.

Complete the form	Sarajevo WCVKSO 2026 Form Accommodation		
Deadline final reservation and full payment	25 August 2026		
Accommodation contact	Ms Arijana JAHA	sarajevo.wcvkso2026@gmail.com	+38761929188

DELEGATION HOTELS

Bed and breakfast includes breakfast at the hotel.

CATEGORY A - Hotel Hills	
Address	Butmirska cesta 18, 71000 Sarajevo
Phone	+38733947947
Website	https://hotelhills.ba
Check-in time	14:00
Check-out time	11:00
Early check-in / Late check-out	Early check-in from 08:00 (no charge if the room is available). Late check-out until 18:00 (30 euros).
Air-conditioning	Yes (free)
Gym and pools	Yes (free)
Wi-Fi	Yes (free)
Room service	Yes
A La Carte restaurant	Yes
Food delivery allowed	No

All prices are per person per night in: **euro**

CATEGORY A - Hotel Hills	Bed & breakfast	Full board
Single	150	170
Twin	120	140
Triple	120	140
Deposit required by hotel at check-in	No	

Distance and approximate travel time from hotel to:	Km	Time (hh:mm)
Airport Sarajevo (SJJ)	3.7	00:11
Training venue	Same hotel	
Accreditation	Same hotel	
Sport hall	Same hotel	

CATEGORY B - Hotel Hollywood	
Address	Dr. Mustafe Pintola 23, 71000 Sarajevo
Phone	+38733773100
Website	https://www.hotel-hollywood.ba/bs/
Check-in time	14:00
Check-out time	11:00
Early check-in / Late check-out	Early check-in from 08:00 (no charge if the room is available). Late check-out until 18:00 (30 euros).
Air-conditioning	Yes (free)
Gym and pools	Yes (free)
Wi-Fi	Yes (free)
Room service	Yes
A La Carte restaurant	Yes
Food delivery allowed	No

All prices are per person per night in: **euro**

CATEGORY B - Hotel Hollywood	Bed & breakfast	Full board
Single	130	150
Twin	110	130
Triple	110	130
Deposit required by hotel at check-in	No	

Distance and approximate travel time from hotel to:	Km	Time (hh:mm)
Airport Sarajevo (SJJ)	3.7	00:11
Training venue	0.4	00:05
Accreditation	0.4	00:05
Sport hall	0.4	00:05

CATEGORY B - Hotel Spa Terme/Austria/Bosna/Hercegovina/Crystal	
Address	Hrasnicka Cesta 14, 71000 Sarajevo
Phone	+38733772000
Website	https://hoteliilidza.ba/spa-hotel-terme/
Check-in time	14:00
Check-out time	11:00
Early check-in / Late check-out	Early check-in from 08:00 (no charge if the room is available). Late check-out until 18:00 (30 euros).
Air-conditioning	Yes (free)
Gym and pools	Yes (free)
Wi-Fi	Yes (free)
Room service	Yes
A La Carte restaurant	Yes
Food delivery allowed	No

All prices are per person per night in: **euro**

CATEGORY B - Hotel Spa Terme/Austria/Bosna/Hercegovina/Crystal	Bed & breakfast	Full board
Single	130	150
Twin	110	130
Triple	110	130
Deposit required by hotel at check-in	No	

Distance and approximate travel time from hotel to:	Km	Time (hh:mm)
Airport Sarajevo (SJJ)	4.0	00:15
Training venue	0.85	00:08
Accreditation	0.85	00:08
Sport hall	0.85	00:08

14. GENERAL INFORMATION

INSURANCE

Please refer to IJF **SOR** 1.3 Insurance and Civil Liability.

Each national federation is directly responsible for all its delegates registered on **Judobase** for any event. It must assume all responsibility for accident, health and civil liability insurance for everyone under their charge during events.

National federations are responsible to provide insurance guarantees to their delegates during any IJF event. If the national federation does not provide insurance to the members of their delegation, those members shall be liable for any damages caused by or incurred to them. The LOC of the event and the IJF will not be responsible in the absence of insurance.

The LOC of the event and the IJF accept no liability for any claims of injury, illness or death arising from the travelling to and the participation in this event nor any claims relating to the cancellation of the event or medical costs related to illness that may affect a participant during the event.

CONSENT FOR USE OF DATA/PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOS/FILMING

Please refer to IJF **SOR** 2.8.5 Consent for use of data/photography/videos/filming.

The national federation must ensure that they have the permission of each delegate or in the case of a minor the permission of the parent/guardian.

If a delegate does not give consent for use of data, photography, videos and filming then the national federation must inform the IJF by writing to registration@ijf.org

ACCREDITATION

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Section 4 Entries and Accreditation and Appendix B1.3 Accreditation.

Quota for officials for accreditations:

- One – three (1-3) pairs = five (5) officials.
- Four – fourteen (4-14) pairs = ten (10) officials.

DRAW AND SEEDING FOR KATA

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.4 Draw.

The draw will be held online: <https://sites.google.com/view/ijfkata/>

The draw to establish the groups and the sort of each group will be done the day before the competition.

The draw of the finals will be done in the sports hall after the preliminary rounds.

RANKING

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.5 Ranking Points.



JUDOJI CONTROL AND OFFICIAL IJF BACKNUMBER

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.12 Judogi Control.

The list of official judogi and backnumber suppliers can be found here: www.ijf.org/supplier-list.

SEWING SERVICE

The LOC will provide delegations with a sewing service. They have the right to charge for this service. The place, time and rate (if applicable) will be communicated to delegations on the event's official notice boards. In case of non-respect of the place and persons providing this service to the delegations, the LOC, in agreement with the IJF, may refuse this service to those who were disrespectful.

COACHING

Coaches will be admitted, but coaching is not allowed.

JUDGES AND THE SYSTEM OF JUDGING

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.7 Judges and the System of Judging.

The contests will be judged by IJF qualified kata judges. The number of judges per national federation is limited to:

- Participating countries may enter four (4) judges.
- Non-participating countries may enter three (3) judges.

Depending on the number of entries, the IJF Kata Commission Chair may decide to allow more judges per participating national federation.

A judge cannot be an athlete.

Judges must be registered on **Judobase**.

The IJF "2025 Criteria for Kata Evaluation" will be used to judge the kata with reference also to the official Kodokan kata textbooks.

Judges must attend the technical meeting the afternoon before the first day of competition to confirm participation as judge in these championships. Time and place are stated in the event outlines.

The costs for travel, board and lodging of the judges are at the costs of the member national federation.

COMPETITION AREA

The competition area dimension is 10 m x 10 m and shall be covered by tatami. Two strips of visible white adhesive tape, approximately 5 cm wide and 50 cm long, shall be fixed 3 m apart from the centre, to indicate the starting position of tori and uke. The centre of the competition area shall be indicated with a strip of adhesive tape of the same colour. The safety area between and around the mat must be a minimum of 2 m. The IJF Kata Commission Chair or his representative can modify the competition area dimension.



AWARDING CEREMONY

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.9 Awarding Ceremony.

Medals will be awarded following a performance by a pair according to standings regardless the number of pairs.

All finalists, including 4th to 9th place will receive a certificate.

Each athlete who has won a medal must be present at the ceremony to receive their medal personally. Any athlete who is absent from the awarding ceremony without a good reason may forfeit the medal.

Athletes must attend the medal ceremony barefoot, without any hat, cap or any similar head covering and wearing their IJF approved white judogi that conforms to the IJF judogi rules with special attention being paid to the publicity rule.

It is strictly prohibited for athletes on the podium to have national flags or similar items other than those on their judogi. Any demonstration with religious, political, personal or commercial connotation is prohibited.

MEDICAL SITUATION

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Appendix B1.11 Medical Situation.

INFORMATION FOR MEDIA

EVENTS DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND HERE: <https://www.ijf.org/competition/3228>

PLEASE RESPECT ALL DEADLINES AND RULES DETAILED IN THESE OUTLINES.

1. DEADLINES FOR MEDIA

Days before Competition day 1	Deadline	Action
76	12 July 2026	Visa application (with passport photocopies)*
8	18 September 2026 (23:59 CET)	https://my.ijf.org/media/info

All media representatives must have the necessary documents to enter the host country, including a visa if necessary.

All requests are subject to approval by the IJF and the LOC, so the inscription is not a guaranty to be accredited. All accreditation requests coming after the deadline will be refused.

2. PARTICIPATION RULES

- Inscribe in the IJF media platform - <https://my.ijf.org/media/info>
- If you have any problems, you can contact administrators on the form - <https://my.ijf.org/media/contact>
- Accommodation and local transport is the responsibility of each media participant.

3. GENERAL INFORMATION

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

All local and international media representatives participating in the event described in these outlines must respect and accept the authority of the IJF Officials, the IJF Statutes and the IJF Sport and Organisation Rules (SOR, www.ijf.org/ijf/documents/26), as well as the media protocol in place on spot. Individuals deemed to have acted against the IJF, its principles or purposes should be subject to suspension or expulsion from the event and/or cancellation of their accreditation cards.

INSURANCE

Everyone is responsible for their own insurance and must assume all responsibility for accident and health insurance as well as civil liabilities during any IJF WJT event.

It is the responsibility of the media participant to ensure that in addition to their normal insurance they have sufficient insurance in place to cover any disease related costs, including repatriation.

The LOC of the event and the IJF accept no liability for any claims of injury, illness or death arising from the travelling to and the participation in this event nor any claims relating to the cancellation of the event or medical costs related to illness that may affect a participant during the event.

COMPETITION RULES

All media matters are the responsibility of the IJF Media Director. It is expressly forbidden for all media including photographers to live stream at any time during the draw, competition or any other official IJF activity.

They are not allowed to film, or photograph injured or bleeding athletes anywhere in the venue. Mobile devices must not be used for any function while mat side.

Proper attire is required, especially for media working matside. Shorts and head coverings are not permitted on the field of play. Religious, political, personal or commercial connotation is prohibited for everyone on the field of play.

Please refer to the IJF **SOR** Section 8.9 Media.

Media are not allowed to access the warm-up area unless special access has been granted from the IJF.

Any member of the media who does not follow the above risks losing their accreditation and access to the competition.

ACCREDITATION

The purpose of accreditation is to identify people and their roles at events and allow them necessary access to perform their roles. It is the personal identity document of the participant for all security and access controls. This card contains: last (family) name, first (given) name, country, IJF ID number, media status (writer, photographer...) and a picture.

Accreditation cards may be picked up from the accreditation centre, from the welcome desk at the hotel after the draw, from the media entrance welcome desk in the sport hall, or from any other place dedicated to media which will be indicated prior to the event.

An accredited person should never wear another person's accreditation card. The accreditation card remains the property of the IJF and can be withdrawn, with immediate effect, at the IJF's sole discretion.

Replacement of lost or forgotten accreditation will be charged at 50 USD to be paid to the IJF.

RESPECT TOWARDS ATHLETES

Throughout the event, from arrival to departure, media representatives must observe strict respect for the athletes and their delegation. The delegations need calm to prepare and concentrate, the international media will only have access to the athletes under the conditions of the competition, at the stadium, in a mixed zone.

Any other request must be the subject of a written request to the IJF: press@ijf.org



IJF Headquarters and Presidential Office

József Attila Street 1
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IJF General Secretariat

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