



ATA SONGAHM TAEKWONDO TOURNAMENT RULES 2014-2015

This printer friendly version of the rules *may not* be complete. For a full, interactive, and most up-to-date rule book please visit www.ATArules.com

ATA Rules

From ATA Rules

American Taekwondo Association Tournament Rules 2014-2015

Contents

- 1 TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES
- 2 DUTIES OF ATA SENIOR INSTRUCTORS AND JUDGES
- 3 JUDGING LEVELS and CERTIFICATIONS
- 4 UNIFORMS, SAFETY EQUIPMENT & WEAPONS
- 5 COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES
- 6 COMPETITION DIVISIONS AND RING ASSIGNMENTS
 - 6.1 Black Belt Divisions
 - 6.2 Color Belt Divisions
- 7 TOURNAMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
- 8 TRADITIONAL FORM COMPETITION
- 9 TRADITIONAL WEAPONS COMPETITION
- 10 TRADITIONAL POINT SPARRING / ONE-STEP COMPETITION
- 11 COMBAT WEAPONS SPARRING COMPETITION
- 12 ATA-CREATIVE COMPETITION
- 13 ATA-XTREME COMPETITION
- 14 ATA TIGER COMPETITION
- 15 SPECIAL ABILITIES COMPETITION
- 16 CHAMPION PROGRAMS
 - 16.1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM
 - 16.2 DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM
 - 16.3 WORLD CHAMPION PROGRAM
- 17 MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

International Chairman of Tournaments
National Tournament Director
Regional Tournament Team Leader
Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leader
Tournament Arbitrators
Tournament Secretary / ATA Records

DUTIES OF ATA SENIOR INSTRUCTORS AND JUDGES

General Responsibilities
Black Belt Meeting and Attendance
Dress Code for Arriving and Departing an ATA Tournament

JUDGING LEVELS and CERTIFICATIONS

Judging Certification Levels
Obtaining Judging Certifications
Responsibilities of the Judges
Judging Ethics

UNIFORMS, SAFETY EQUIPMENT & WEAPONS

Unifroms
Safety Gear
General Weapon Specifications

COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES

Tournament Classifications
Aspects of Competition

COMPETITION DIVISIONS AND RING ASSIGNMENTS

Permission/Eligibility to Compete
Competition Rank
Competition Age
General Procedure for Creating Divisions

Black Belt Divisions

Color Belt Divisions

Novice Division Guidelines
Competition Division Guidelines

TOURNAMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Ring Size
Order of Events
Tournament Registration
Arrival and Competition Times
Traditional Ring Procedures
Groin Protector Check Procedures
Weapons Inspection
Awards for Competition
Correctable Errors
NO Coaching Rule
Injuries
Competitor's Attitude

TRADITIONAL FORM COMPETITION

Admissible Competition Forms
Judges Area of Concentration
Traditional Form Competition Procedures
Determining and Administering a Score
Resolving Ties

TRADITIONAL WEAPONS COMPETITION

Color Belt Rules and Guidelines
Black Belt Rules and Guidelines
Traditional Weapons Form Competition Procedures
Determining and Administering a Score

TRADITIONAL POINT SPARRING / ONE-STEP COMPETITION

Position of the Judges
Bye System
Traditional One-Step Sparring Competition
Traditional Point Sparring Competition

COMBAT WEAPONS SPARRING COMPETITION

Introduction
Eligibility Requirements
Equipment
Combat Weapons Sparring Procedures
Legal Target Areas
Points
Dropped & Broken Weapons
Warnings and Penalty Points

ATA-CREATIVE COMPETITION

Eligibility Requirements for Creative Competition
General Rules & Guidelines for Creative Forms & Weapons Competition
ATA Creative Form Composition Guidelines
Approved ATA Creative Weapons
ATA Creative Weapons Form Composition Guidelines
ATA Creative Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures
ATA Creative Divisions

ATA-XTREME COMPETITION

Eligibility Requirements for ATA Xtreme Competition
General Rules & Guidelines for ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons Competition
ATA Xtreme Form Composition Guidelines
Approved ATA Xtreme Weapons
ATA Xtreme Weapons Form Composition Guidelines
ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures
ATA-Xtreme Divisions

ATA TIGER COMPETITION

Establishing Our Goal
Tiger Age and Rank Guidelines
Tiger Division Breakdowns
Tiger Ring Staff
Tiger Traditional Form / Traditional One-Step Knowledge
Tiger Judging Criteria / Scoring Format
Categories of Tiger Awards

SPECIAL ABILITIES COMPETITION

Introduction
Special Abilities Competitor Eligibility
Definitions of Permanent Physical Limitations / Impaired Mental Acuity
Special Abilities Eligibility Procedures
Special Abilities Divisions
Special Abilities Rule Adjustments
Traditional Forms / Traditional Weapons Competition
Traditional Point Sparring Competition

CHAMPION PROGRAMS

Introduction
Tournament Year
Competitive Events
Proper Division Placement
Competition Age
Rank Placement
Class "C" Tournaments
Class "B" Tournaments|
Class "A" Tournaments
Class "AA" Tournaments
Class "AAA" Tournaments
Point Structure and Maximum Points
Top Ten Standings

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM

Introduction
State Championship Eligibility Requirements
State Championship Program Procedures
Divisions for the State Championship Program
Awarding the Title of State Champion

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM

Introduction
District Championship Eligibility Requirements
Additional Guidelines and Exceptions applying to District Competition Only

Competitor Qualifies in two Different Divisions
District Tournament Procedures
District Tournament Awards

WORLD CHAMPION PROGRAM

Introduction
World Champion Eligibility Requirements
Divisions for World Champion Program
Qualifying for the Tournament of Champions (TOC)
Tournament of Champions
Tournament of Champions Awards

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Opening Ceremony Agenda
Judges' Oath
Competitors' Oath

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=ATA_Rules&oldid=439"

- This page was last modified on 10 May 2014, at 08:59.
- This page has been accessed 16,061 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

From ATA Rules

TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

Contents

- 1 Tournament Officials
 - 1.1 International Chairman of Tournaments
 - 1.2 National Tournament Director
 - 1.3 Regional Tournament Team Leader
 - 1.4 Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leader
 - 1.5 Tournament Arbitrators
 - 1.6 Tournament Secretary / ATA Records

Tournament Officials

As in every organization, there is a specific and detailed chain of command that must be followed in order to achieve consistent success. Any person having a question concerning an aspect of a tournament should adhere to the chain of command listed below to obtain the answer:

- Speak to the judge.
- Ask your instructor.
- Have one's instructor speak to the Regional Tournament Team Leader in one's area.
- Have one's instructor speak to the Tournament Department at Headquarters.

International Chairman of Tournaments

The International Chairman of Tournaments is the overseer of all aspects of tournaments. He/she is part of the ATA International Headquarters staff and is appointed by ATA International Headquarters. The Tournament Department is responsible for maintaining all tournament sanction paperwork, the oversight of tournament judging certification, the preparation for world and national tournaments, the arbitration of disputes, and rule revisions.

The International Chairman of Tournaments at this time is: **Senior Master Nominee Betsy Stevens — 7th Degree Black Belt**

National Tournament Director

The National Tournament Director is appointed by the Grand Master of Songahm Taekwondo with the input of the International Chairman of Tournaments based upon their experience with the individual and any recommendations of the organization's seniors. This person is in charge of the general operations of world and national tournaments and supplies a great deal of input on operation procedures and rule revisions. The ATA currently has two National Tournament Directors and two Assistant National Tournament Directors .

National Directors of Tournaments (NTD) at this time are:

- Senior Master Richard Harman — 7th Degree Black Belt

- Senior Master Izel Rivera — 7th Degree Black Belt

Assistant National Tournament Directors:

- Senior Master David Kowkabany - 7th Degree Black Belt
- Master Nominee Kelly Harman - 6th Degree Black Belt
- European: Mr. Antonio Monteiro – 4th Degree Black Belt
- STF: Mr. Rodolpho Cavenatti -5th Degree Black Belt

Regional Tournament Team Leader

The Regional Tournament Team Leader (RTTL) for each region is appointed by the Grand Master in consultation with the International Chairman of Tournaments. This volunteer leadership position is based upon the International Chairman's experience with the individual, the person's willingness to volunteer, plus the recommendation of the seniors of the region. The duties of this position vary according to the region in which they are involved. These duties include, but are not limited to:

- Approving the tournament sanction documents for his/her region.
- Verifying that tournament sites are adequate for a regional event.
- Planning and/or approving the competition schedule for regional tournaments.
- Organizing and running the regional tournaments including arbitration issues that may arise.
- Administering judging certification clinics and tests.
- The RTTL will send the original result sheets, packets (competitor slips & ATA strong coin sheets) and tournament staff sheet to ATA Headquarters within 7 business days of the event at the tournament host's expense.
- The RTTL will keep the copy of the result sheets for at least two years in case of association research needs.
- The RTTL will email data files within two business days of the tournament.

One should check with one's Instructor as to the name of the Regional Tournament Team Leader for your region.

Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leader

Many regions have elected to ask for volunteers to serve as Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leaders or as part of the Regional Tournament Volunteer Staff. Two main reasons for this are:

- The enormous responsibility of running regional tournaments.
- To provide a training ground for future volunteer Regional Tournament Team Leaders.

Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leaders are selected by the Grand Master in consultation with the International Chairman of Tournaments based upon the chairman's experience with the individual, the person's willingness to volunteer, plus the recommendation of the seniors of the region. The responsibilities of these assistants are assigned by Regional Tournament Team Leader. One should check with one's Instructor as to the name of the Assistant Regional Tournament Team Leader and the Regional Tournament Volunteer Staff members for your region.

Tournament Arbitrators

The position of Tournament Arbitrator is a temporary volunteer assignment during an individual tournament. It is not a perpetual volunteer position. The International Chairman of Tournaments or the Regional Tournament Team Leader is in charge of supervising the event and the arbitrators are under their guidance. During National or World Tournaments, the International Chairman of Tournaments, the National Tournament Director, and/or the Assistant National Tournament Directors will perform the duties of arbitrator.

An arbitrator is responsible for:

- Supervising assigned rings and for enforcement of tournament rules.

- He/she will make on-the-spot corrections and will assist in resolving problems in a diplomatic and respectful manner.
- If necessary, he/she may suggest to the RTTL to replace a judge for appropriate cause.

Tournament Secretary / ATA Records

The tournament secretary will be named by the tournament host unless there is a regional tournament staff volunteer fulfilling the duties of tournament secretary. This person(s) volunteers to staff the control table at all times until all results and all entry cards have been returned from all the rings. The secretary should have a check-out system to be certain that all results have been returned. If results are missing, tournament officials shall assume that the fault is that of the center judge rather than the secretary.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=TOURNAMENT_OFFICIALS_AND_THEIR_DUTIES&oldid=394"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 11:23.
- This page has been accessed 831 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

DUTIES OF ATA SENIOR INSTRUCTORS AND JUDGES

From ATA Rules

General Responsibilities

It is the duty of all adult black belts, regardless of rank or position, to earn appropriate judging levels and volunteer to judge at any ATA event they are attending. This rule applies to every black belt in attendance. All adult black belts shall arrive prior to the judge's meeting held at every regional event, attend the meeting, and remain at the tournament until the final "Bow-out" has been completed unless they receive permission from the RTTL and the Senior Rank in attendance. It is the duty of every senior instructor to insure that their junior instructors and black belts comply with this rule. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of any points earned at that event. Each region may set its own guidelines pertaining to attendance at black belt meetings for junior black belts attending a regional tournament. Senior instructors shall refrain from interfering in the competition. If anyone feels there is a problem in the ring they shall notify the RTTL and take no further action unless instructed.

If a black belt does not follow proper protocol at the tournament, the following actions will be taken:

- For the first infraction the RTTL will speak to the student involved, discuss the proper expectations of an adult black belt, and notify the student's instructor.
- Any further occurrences will result in a letter being written to the student with copies to that student's senior instructor and the tournament department at National Headquarters advising them of the repercussions for future occurrences of the behavior. The possible consequences include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Those who arrive late will not be allowed to compete.
 - Those who leave early may forfeit any top ten points earned toward state or world champion top ten during the day's competition.

Black Belt Meeting and Attendance

The Regional Tournament Team Leader or his/her assistant is to coordinate a Black Belt judges meeting prior to every regional tournament. The purpose of such meeting is to:

- Address judging concerns and/or any rule clarifications.
- Make special announcements concerning the tournament.
- Make judging assignments.
- Begin the process of black belt competition assignments.

Dress Code for Arriving and Departing an ATA Tournament

Prior to and after competition, color belts may wear normal "street" clothes, bearing in mind appropriate styles for the occasion. Black belts are held to a higher standard due to their position in the organization and in the eyes of the color belt students. Black Belts in attendance (whether competing or not) should either wear "dress" clothes, a white traditional dobok or certified instructor suit. Females can wear "dress" slacks, or skirts and tops, or dresses. Males should wear "dress" slacks and shirts (or sweaters) with a tie, sport coats or suits. It is understood that younger junior black belts have "trouble" keeping nice clothes clean and they will be given special consideration. Teenagers and above should be able to care for themselves and are expected to comply with the dress requirements. Certified Instructors **MUST** wear either their instructor "dress suit" or their white traditional dobok. This dress code is in effect from the first appearance at the tournament site until away from the tournament site. A proper ATA white uniform is appropriate at all times.

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 11:25.
- This page has been accessed 521 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

JUDGING LEVELS and CERTIFICATIONS

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Judging Certification Levels
 - 1.1 Level 1
 - 1.2 Level 2
 - 1.3 Level 3
- 2 Obtaining Judging Certifications
- 3 Responsibilities of the Judges
- 4 Judging Ethics

Judging Certification Levels

The ATA takes great pride in the training of black belts to be judges at regional, national, and world tournaments. Black belts are trained over a period of time to be qualified as a Level 1 Corner Judge, a Level 2 Center Judge, or a Level 3 Chief Judge. Each competition ring (except ATA Tiger rings) will have 3 qualified black belts to judge the competitors. All certifications are valid for one year. This requirement is mandatory for all ranks 1st through 9th Degree Black Belt.

Level 1

The following rules and guidelines apply to a Level 1 judge:

- Must be at least 14 years of age, and a 1st Degree Black Belt Decided or higher.
- May corner judge color belt competitions.
- Judges age 17 or younger may not judge any division that contains competitors older than their age.
- Must know all the following material:
 - All color belt forms.
 - One-steps for white, orange and yellow belt ranks.
 - Be familiar with all the weapons allowed for traditional color belt weapons competition.
- It is highly recommended that any person who desires to certify as a Level 1 Judge have prior tournament experience as a time and score keeper.

A Level 1 judging chevron is a 1-inch wide blue chevron to be put on the right sleeve of the uniform jacket. The chevron should be centered (on a diagonal) on the crease in the right edge 4 inches from the sleeve bottom and on the left edge (as you look at the uniform) 2 inches from the bottom of the sleeve.

Level 2

The following rules and guidelines apply to a Level 2 judge:

- Must be at least 16 years of age and a 1st Degree Black Belt Decided or higher.
- May corner judge or center judge for color belt rings.
- May corner judge for black belt rings up to his/her current rank.
- The following caveats apply:
 - Judges age 17 and younger may not center any ring with the exception of ATA Tiger rings.

- Judges age 17 or younger may not judge any division that contains competitors older than their age.
- Must know all material required for a Level 1 judge.
- Must know the black belt forms up to and including his/her current rank.
- Must be knowledgeable in the weapons included in the association's black belt curriculum for the ranks they are judging.
- It is highly recommended that any person who desires to certify as a Level 2 Judge have prior tournament experience as a Level 1 judge.

A level 2 judging chevron is 1-inch wide red chevron to be placed on the right sleeve of the uniform jacket. This chevron should be placed 1/4 inch above the blue chevron.

Level 3

The following rules and guidelines apply to a Level 3 judge:

- Must be at least 18 years of age and a 2nd Degree Black Belt Decided or higher.
- May corner judge or center judge for color belt rings.
- May corner judge black belt rings up to his/her current rank.
- May center judge black belt rings up to one rank lower than his/her current rank.
- Must know all material required for a Level 2 judge.
- It is highly recommends that any person who desires to certify as a Level 3 judge have prior tournament experience as a Level 2 judge.

The level 3 judging chervon is 1-inch wide black chevron to be placed on the right sleeve of the uniform jacket. This chevron should be placed 1/4 inch above the red chevron.

Obtaining Judging Certifications

The requirements to certify or recertify for any level of judging chervon are the same.

1. Read the rules.
2. Receive practical training from their instructor.
3. Students must take and pass, a score of 90% or better, an online test for the appropriate judging certification level. (visit <http://www.atatesting.com> for the online exam)
4. Have your instructors signature verifying that the students has the curriculum knowledge required for that judging level.
5. Attend and participate in a judging clinic held by a RTTL or the person designated to fill that role. Please, bring a copy of the result sheet from the online test with your instructor's signature which verifies your curriculum knowledge.

At the completion of the clinic, the RTTL will forward all passing scores via mail, fax or email to the tournament department at International Headquarters. At that time, the student may order, through their instructor, the appropriate chevron. The RTTL will not be responsible for collecting money or ordering chevrons for judges. All judging chevron clinics are at no cost to the student.

The cost of a level 1 chevron is \$8.00. The cost of a level 2 chervon is \$7.00. The cost of a level 3 chevron is \$5.00 . Chevrons of any level for extra uniforms can be purchased for \$4.00 each. All costs subject to change.

Notes:

- Attending black belt meeting the morning of a tournament will not fulfill the judging clinic attendance requirement for certification or recertification.
- No black belt or Senior should ask or imply that a RTTL should certify or recertify a judge for any level without that person actually attending a seminar and taking the test regardless of rank or experience.

- Any student who, with their instructor's permission, desires to attend a regional judging certification clinic for practical application of rules is permitted to attend.

Responsibilities of the Judges

During competition, judges will:

- Remain at their assignment or assigned ring until relieved or replaced by the RTTL or their assistant.
- Refrain from showing prejudice regardless of the students' school or region.
- Recognize that small differences in form technique demonstrated by students from other schools and regions are natural and to be expected.
- Be courteous and respectful to all competitors in both word and deed.
- Ensure the safety and positive experience of every competitor.
- Insure that each competitor abides by the official tournament rules.
- Conducting each aspect of competition in the proper order.
- Award the proper winners in each division his/her tournament award (trophy or medal).
- Complete the required paperwork for each completed division, and returning that signed paperwork to the Regional Tournament Team Leader or their assigns.
- Responsible for the areas surrounding their ring. In the interest of safety, the judges should make sure that spectators allow ample room around each ring for competition to progress unimpeded. Judgment as to what determines ample room is based on the type of competition taking place.
- **Judges who find difficulty in resolving a given problem should ask the Regional Tournament Team Leader or his/her assigns for rulings.**

Judging Ethics

At any ATA tournament, demonstrations of prejudice, lack of attentiveness in the ring, etc., shall be cause for warnings and/or reprimands from higher officials and the International Chairman of Tournaments. Use of cell phones, blue tooth devices etc. used for the purpose of communication such as sending and receiving text messages, receiving calls, etc. is strictly prohibited for judges as well as scorekeepers and timekeepers during the running of their ring. Failure to follow this rule will subject the offender to immediate disciplinary action. A judge's focus should be completely on the competitors in their ring. Any such warnings shall become part of the judge's permanent record. Three warnings within one year's time shall bring mandatory suspension from all official activities, including judging, participating in tournaments or testing for a period of two years.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=JUDGING_LEVELS_and_CERTIFICATIONS&oldid=427"

-
- This page was last modified on 9 May 2014, at 15:54.
 - This page has been accessed 1,544 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

UNIFORMS, SAFETY EQUIPMENT & WEAPONS

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Uniforms
 - 1.1 Traditional Dobok
 - 1.2 ATA Creative / ATA-Xtreme Uniform
 - 1.3 ATA-Xtreme Uniform
 - 1.4 ATA Tiger Uniform
 - 1.5 Belts
 - 1.6 Tang Bagee Pants
 - 1.7 Shoes
 - 1.8 Competitor Appearance During Competition
- 2 Safety Gear
 - 2.1 Required Safety Gear
 - 2.2 Color of Safety Gear
- 3 General Weapons Specifications
 - 3.1 Type of Weapons
 - 3.2 Style of Weapons
 - 3.3 Size of Weapons
 - 3.4 Adornment Restrictions

Uniforms

Traditional Dobok

- An Official uniform **MUST**:
 - Be a white cross-over style top with matching white pants.
 - Be in good repair (no holes or frayed edges).
 - Have an Official ATA patch.
- An Official uniform **MAY** include the following:
 - School patch.
 - Karate Kid or Tiny Tiger Victory patch.
 - School patch is permitted on top of Victory patch if it is round and the same size.
 - ATA Tiger animal patch.
 - Official ATA program patches.
 - Black Belt Club.
 - Master Club.
 - Leadership Club.
 - Uniform Lettering.
 - If the Dobok is lettered, that lettering on the back of uniform top must be in compliance with ATA standards.
 - All State, District & World Champion uniforms must be done by World Martial Arts to insure validity.
 - *No alterations of “years” or “patches” is allowed.*
- 4th Degree Black Belts or higher will wear a 1" black stripe on the side of each pant leg.

- Undershirts are permitted for any member (male or female) but must be plain white.
 - This is NOT a requirement for females, although a plain white garment is encouraged.
- Other patches allowed are:
 - S.W.A.T.
 - D.E.L.T.A.
 - A-Team.
 - President’s Council on Physical Fitness.
 - Demo Team.
 - Competition Team.
- Leadership Collar Stripes.
 - Red/White/Blue Collar for junior students.
 - Red Collar for adult students.
 - Blue stars (round patches) used to measure accomplishments set within school or club can be used with or without collar stripe.
 - *The following collars may be worn by any student in the leadership program only if and when the student has received a letter from ATA International Headquarters stating that they have been accepted into the Leadership Program.*
- Instructor Collar Stripes.
 - Black/Red (All students, all belt ranks).
 - Black/Red/Black (All students, all belt ranks).
 - Solid Black (Black Belts only, minimum age of 18).
 - *Instructor Collar Stripes shall be worn by Instructors only when they have received a letter from ATA International Headquarters informing them of their successful promotion to that collar level.*
- An Official Uniform **MUST NOT** have the following:
 - A pull-over V-neck top.
 - Manufacturer tags (all tags must be removed from uniform top, uniform bottom and belt).
 - Stripes, patches, pockets, or anything else not listed above.

It is the ATA Licensee’s decision as to the amount of patches allowed on a uniform for his/her school.

A traditional dobok IS REQUIRED to be worn by all competitors and judges during traditional forms, weapons, sparring and combat weapons sparring competition at ATA sanctioned tournaments. It MAY also be worn by competitors involved in ATA-Xtreme forms, ATA-Xtreme weapons, creative forms, creative weapons, team synchronized form competition or in team demo competition (as long as all members of the team are wearing the same uniform).

ATA Creative / ATA-Xtreme Uniform

The official ATA Creative/ Xtreme Black Uniform – Must be the one with the Xtreme logo on the back and Songahm Taekwondo in Korean calligraphy on the leg of the pants. This uniform may be worn by competitors or judges involved in either ATA-Xtreme or ATA-creative events and team synchronized form competition or team demo competition (as long as all members of the team are wearing the same uniform). It may not be worn in traditional forms, weapons, sparring or combat weapons sparring events regardless of whether or not the events are held on the same day.

ATA-Xtreme Uniform

This is the last year this uniform will be allowed in competition.

The Xtreme Uniform **must** be one of the following:

- “ATA-Xtreme” Uniform (top and pants).
- “XR1” uniform (top and pants).
- “XR2” Uniform (top and pants).
- The Xtreme Uniform **must** include the ATA logo patch displayed on the top section of the back of the uniform top. No other logos or symbols can be added or changed.
- Color Belts must wear their traditional rank belt with their ATA-Xtreme uniform.

- Black Belts may wear either their traditional rank belt or the belt that comes with the uniform.
- Undershirts may be worn by any competitor. If worn, the undershirt:
 - Must be either black or white.
 - May have sleeves or be sleeveless.
- No other patches including the official ATA patch, school patches, program patches, team patches, etc are to be worn on the ATA-Xtreme uniform.

The above uniforms may only be worn by competitors or judges involved in ATA-Xtreme events. They may not be worn in any traditional forms, weapons, sparring or combat weapons sparring events. This applies to all tournaments regardless of whether or not the competitions are held on the same day. It may be worn by competitors involved in a team synchronized form or team demo competition as long as all members of the team are wearing the same uniform.

ATA Tiger Uniform

There are two different traditional uniforms a tiger competitor may wear, the traditional uniform or the new ATA Tiger uniform. Only students competing as a tiger may wear the ATA Tiger uniform. The ATA Tiger uniform may not be worn in a junior division.

Belts

For tigers competitors, only the following colors and marking are permitted:

- The new ATA Tiger belts.
- Traditional color belts, see below.

For color belts, only the following colors and markings are permitted:

- White, orange, yellow, camo, green, purple, blue, brown, red, red/black, black.
- “Knowledge Stripes” (color belts only) **MUST** be black and are limited to a maximum of 3 stripes.
- Color belts **MAY** include either a black or gold stripe the length of the belt.
- 1R Black Belts **MAY** wear full black belts that do not have embroidery.
- **NO** other belt colors, combinations, or stripe colors are allowed.

For black belts, the following rules for markings apply:

- Any and all embroidery **MUST** be gold.
- If a rank indicator is used, it **MUST** be the bar or star patch from World Martial Arts.
- Student’s name and rank **MUST** both be on the same end of the belt (left end when worn).
- Black Belts **MUST NOT** have “knowledge Stripes”

Tang Bagee Pants

Tang Bagee (“hakama”) **all black** pants may only be worn when competing with the Gum Do weapon. The judges will not pause the ring for a competitor to put on Tang Bagee pants.

Shoes

The only shoe acceptable to wear with any ATA uniforms, traditional, creative or xtreme, are predominately white sport shoes. Other color sport shoes, flip flops, “Crocs”, or sandals are not acceptable.

Competitor Appearance During Competition

The follow is a guide for proper appearance while competing at an ATA Tournament:

- During competition, competitors will wear clean, pressed ATA uniforms.
- An ATA patch is required on each white uniform for competitors excluding white belts.
- All other lettering, striping, and patches must be in good repair and positioned according to ATA guidelines.
- NO JEWELRY is allowed once one puts on their uniform or during competition. This includes watches, rings, earrings, or other piercing (male or female), necklaces, etc. Wedding rings may be worn if taped or the stone turned toward the palm as well as medical bracelets and mandated religious medals. This is for the safety of the wearer as well as other competitors. Master Instructors are allowed to wear their Masters ring while not competing.
- Finger nails and toe nails should be trimmed for safety as well.

Safety Gear

Required Safety Gear

The following safety gear is required by all competitors in a sparring competition including combat weapon sparring:

- Dipped foam or vinyl covered hand pads (all finger joints must be covered when a fist is made).
- Dipped foam or vinyl covered foot pads (back of heel & all toes must be covered).
- Dipped foam or vinyl covered martial arts style foam head gear with attached plastic face shield. (full coverage).
- Attached face shield MUST be one of these four models:
 - Universal face shield.
 - Dyna Rival face shield.
 - ProForce Lightning Clear face shield.
 - Ventilator face shield.
- Black martial arts style chest protector with an ATA logo. It must cover all ribs and sternum and be worn over the uniform top.
- Mouthpiece (even while wearing the mandatory face shield).
- Groin protector for males (NO age exceptions / MUST be worn under uniform pants).

All gear MUST be in good repair. (Torn, taped, or worn out gear will NOT be allowed). ***No one, including Instructors or parents, has the ability to give permission to alter the rules pertaining to the use of safety gear.*** A competitor who does not have all of his/her proper equipment may borrow from another competitor or purchase the equipment at the event if possible.

Color of Safety Gear

The following guidelines apply to the color of safety gear:

- Color belts MUST wear either red or black safety gear.
- Black belts MUST wear BLACK safety gear.
- Hand, foot and head gear must match in color.
- All gear MUST have the ATA logo on it.

If a competitor has mismatched safety gear or gear of the wrong color, the student will be allowed to compete. It should be brought to the attention of the RTTL and a note made on the outside of the ring packet. The RTTL will address the issue with the student's instructor.

General Weapons Specifications

Type of Weapons

ATA competition weapons included the following:

- Bahng Mahng Ee.

- Ssahng Jeol Bong.
- Jahng Bong.
- Ssahng Nat (This is a double weapon only and may not be used as a single weapon during competition).
- Jee Pahng Ee (The rubber cap on the end must be removed).
- Gum Do.
- Oh Sung Do (This is a single weapon only. OSD flags are recommended to properly balance the weapon. Flags should be 12 inch squares and colors should be yellow, red, blue).
- Sam Dam Bong.

Style of Weapons

During weapon's competition, two styles of weapons are used.

- ATA Protech safety weapons. These weapons may be black, blue, or red in color.
- ATA Xtreme weapons.

Note:

- The “collapsible” Ssahng Nat are considered Protech safety weapons.
- An ATA approved combat bahng mahng ee may not be used in traditional forms competition.

Size of Weapons

- Single or Double Bahng Mahng Ee:
 - If competitor is under 60” tall, they MAY use either 21” or 25” weapon.
 - If competitor is 60” or over, they MUST use 25” weapon.
- Single or Double Ssahng Jeol Bong:
 - If competitor is under 60” tall, they MAY use either 9” or 12” weapon.
 - If competitor is 60” or over, they MUST use 12” weapon.
- Jahng Bong:
 - Color Belts: Length of weapon MUST be at least shoulder height .
 - Black Belt Mid-Range: Length of weapon MUST be at least shoulder height.
 - Black Belt Long-Range: Length of weapon MUST be at least 4” taller than competitor.
 - There is no maximum length for this weapon.
 - Minimum height requirement is suspended if it requires a Jahng Bong over 7 feet long
- Ssahng Nat:
 - If competitor is under 60” tall, they MAY use either 9” or 12” weapon.
 - If competitor is 60” or over, they MUST use 12” weapon.
- Jee Pahng Ee:
 - No restrictions on size.
- Gum Do:
 - Color Belts: No length requirement.
 - Black Belts: The act of sheathing and unsheathing the Gum Do makes dictating a size of the weapon more difficult. It is up to the instructor to decide which length of weapon is appropriate for the competitor.
- Oh Sung Do:
 - No restrictions on size.
- Sam Dam Bong:
 - No restrictions on size.

Adornment Restrictions

Decorating a weapon is defined as putting anything on the weapon that was not included in the manufacturing of the weapon. **Altering** the weapon is defined as changing the weapon's from its original size, shape, or form by any means.

- For traditional weapons competition (all ranks),
 - The weapon must not be **decorated** in any fashion.
 - The weapon must not be **altered** in any fashion.
- For creative & ATA-Xtreme weapons competition (all ranks)
 - The weapon MAY be **decorated**. If in the opinion of the RTTL, the decorations alter the weapon, the weapon will not be allowed to be used in competition. The RTTL's decision is final.
 - The weapons must not be **altered** in any fashion.
- **Grip tape** is allowed on all weapons, but must not alter the shape or reduce size of the weapon.
- Weapons used in competition will not have **“knowledge” stripes** on them.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=UNIFORMS,_SAFETY_EQUIPMENT_%26_WEAPONS&oldid=428"

- This page was last modified on 9 May 2014, at 15:56.
- This page has been accessed 328 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES

From ATA Rules

Tournament Classifications

The ATA provides many opportunities for members to compete at a variety of levels. Currently there are five classifications of tournaments. The classifications are:

- **Class AAA Tournament:** World Championships hosted by the Grand Master of Songahm Taekwondo in Little Rock, AR.
- **Class AA Tournament:** Fall and Spring Nationals hosted by the Grand Master of Songahm Taekwondo. Check ataonline.com for the date of these events each year.
- **Class A Regional Tournament:** Regional Tournaments hosted around the country by qualifying ATA Licensee.
- **Class B Regional Tournament:** Regional Tournaments hosted around the country by qualifying ATA Licensee.
- **Class C Tournament:** In-School Tournaments hosted by individual ATA Licensee.

Aspects of Competition

There are currently eight competitive events in which a student has the opportunity to compete at every ATA sanctioned tournament. Those events are:

1. Traditional Forms.
2. Traditional Point Sparring / Traditional One-Steps.
3. Traditional Weapons.
4. ATA-Xtreme Forms.
5. ATA-Xtreme Weapons.
6. ATA-Creative Forms.
7. ATA-Creative Weapons.
8. ATA-Combat Weapons Sparring.

Participants are not required to compete in all aspects of competition. The student should consult his/her instructor to determine the extent of his/her participation at every event. An instructor or judge should not force or intimidate students into something in which they are not confident.

OBJ:OBJ:

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=COMPETITION_OPPORTUNITIES&oldid=397"

-
- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 11:29.
 - This page has been accessed 683 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

COMPETITION DIVISIONS AND RING ASSIGNMENTS

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Permission / Eligibility to Compete
- 2 Competition Rank
- 3 Competition Age
- 4 General Procedure for Creating Divisions
- 5 Black Belt Divisions
 - 5.1 Juniors
 - 5.2 Adults
 - 5.3 Guidelines for Dividing or Combining Black Belt Rings
- 6 Color Belt Divisions
 - 6.1 Novice Division Guidelines
 - 6.2 Dividing Novice Color Belts Divisions
 - 6.3 Competitive Divisions Guidelines
 - 6.4 Dividing Competitive Color Belt Divisions

Permission / Eligibility to Compete

THIS APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF RANK

In order to compete in any sanctioned Songahm Taekwondo event, a competitor must comply with all three of the following requirements:

1. Be a member in good standing of the ATA, STF or WTTU. In good standing means that any member regardless of rank belt or leadership collar, must have a current membership with the organization. A Certified Instructor must also have a current instructor's certification.
2. Be a member and train regularly at an ATA licensed school or club.
3. Have his/her Instructor's permission to attend and compete.

Failure to comply with any of the three requirements listed above will result in the competitor being denied the opportunity to compete, or if discovered after the completion of the event, any points or place winnings will be nullified. The eligibility requirement is applicable for all competition divisions including Traditional Forms, Traditional One-Step Sparring, Traditional Point Sparring, Traditional Weapons, ATA-Xtreme Forms, ATA-Xtreme Weapons, Creative Forms, Creative Weapons, Combat Weapons Sparring, Team Synchronized Forms and Team Demo Competitions. This rule will apply to all future competition divisions as well.

Competition Rank

All Rank Competitors:

A student is considered to have earned their rank when **either** of the following criteria have been met:

- Rank testing is submitted and processed by the ATA School Licensing Department.
- The student is given his/her new rank belt by their instructor.

Color Belt Competitors:

Color belt competitors must wear the appropriate belt and compete in the division for the rank that they currently hold regardless of how long they have held that rank. A student should take pride in what they have earned and be honored to wear the correct belt. If the student has been awarded a rank at their school, they should wear that belt even if the instructor has not “officially” sent in the results to headquarters. 1st Degree Rec Black Belts are considered color belts for tournament competition and may NOT compete with black belts.

Example #1: A new camo belt is not comfortable with free-sparring; he/she may choose to only compete in the form and/or weapons portion of the competition. He/She should not wear their yellow belt.

Example #2: An orange belt should not wear a camo belt they have not earned so that they may compete in traditional sparring.

Black Belts Competitors:

Competitors of 1st Degree Decided Black Belt rank or higher who are planning to test for a higher rank during the current tournament season, MAY opt to compete in the next higher rank division. See State and World Champion programs for additional information.

Competition Age

A competitor's competition age is determined by their age as of midnight December 31st of the tournament season. The age that they are at that time will indicate the division in which they should compete in throughout the entire tournament season.

General Procedure for Creating Divisions

Division breakdowns are handled by the Regional Tournament Team Leader or his/her assigns. The one rule that is standard is that divisions will be limited to no more than 16 competitors.

The following procedure will be followed to divide divisions for regional tournaments.

- The competitors will be called to the “staging area”. This area is usually separate from the main competition floor.
- The divisions will be made according to the number of competitors in each of the age and rank groups.
- NO ONE (Competitors, Parents, ATA Seniors, or Spectators) will attempt to influence the Regional Tournament Team Leader (or his/her assigns) in the forming of divisions.

Black Belt Divisions

The divisions for the black belts are set by the International Tournament Department and are designed to give everyone an equal chance. Divisions are based on gender, age of the competitors, and rank. At the conclusion of each tournament season, the International Chairman of Tournaments will evaluate the number of competitors in each division and determine if any changes are to be made for subsequent tournament seasons.

The current Black Belt divisions for Traditional Forms, Traditional Point Sparring, Traditional Weapons, Combat Weapons Sparring , and all Creative and Xtreme events are:

Juniors

Junior Boys

8 & under	1st, 2nd & 3rd degrees	
9 & 10	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
11 & 12	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
13 & 14	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
15, 16 & 17	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees

Junior Girls

8 & under	1st, 2nd & 3rd degrees	
9 & 10	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
11 & 12	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
13 & 14	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees
15, 16 & 17	1st degrees	2nd & 3rd degrees

Adults

Men

18-29	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
30-39	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
40-49	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
50-59	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
60 & Up	1st, 2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree	

Women

18-29	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
30-39	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
40-49	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
50-59	1st degree	2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree
60 & Up	1st, 2nd & 3rd degree	4th & 5th degree	

OBJ:

Guidelines for Dividing or Combining Black Belt Rings

These divisions will be strictly followed at National and World events. On a regional level, however it is often times difficult to strictly follow these divisions. Thus on a regional level, black belt divisions MAY be combined. The Regional Tournament Team Leader (or their assign) has the ability to combine divisions where necessary. They will follow the guidelines given them by the International Chairman of Tournaments.

Notes:

- For black belts, genders may not be combined with the exception of creative and xtreme competition.
- Junior black belt **age divisions** must never be combined.
- Adult black belt age and rank divisions may be combined.
- Junior black belt **rank groups** can be combined when one or more rank group within that age division does not contain at least 5 competitors. This is only applicable for competitors of the same age and gender only. Consider the following cases:
 - **Case 1:** One rank group has 1 competitor and one rank group has 5 or more competitors. Combine for one ring of 1st/2nd/3rd degrees. If the combined ring has more than 16 competitors, line up by height and divide.
 - **Case 2:** One rank group has 2 to 4 competitors and one rank group has 5 or more competitors. Do not combine.
 - **Case 3:** Both rank groups have 1 to 4 competitors. Combine for one ring of 1st/2nd/3rd degrees.
- Adult rank groups may be combined at the discretion of the RTTL to facilitate competition.
- At regional events, all black belt rings, junior and adult, **will not be divided unless there are more than 16 in the ring regardless of height.** Black belts are vying for World Champion points and need to have the experience of going against the taller or shorter opponent throughout the year.

Color Belt Divisions

In trying to promote color belt competition at regional events and provide them with a positive experience color belt rings will be either classified as Novice or Competitive.

Novice Division Guidelines

The Masters Council has approved a novice division starting in the 2012-2013 tournament season for all ATA sanctioned regional tournaments. The purpose of the novice division is to give an inexperienced student the option to gain tournament experience before moving into the competitive divisions.

The following guidelines apply for a novice division:

- Novice divisions are for junior and adult color belt students only. (no tigers or black belts).
- The choice to compete in the novice division is made by the competitor and their instructor on a tournament-by-tournament basis.
- A competitor may elect to compete in the novice division at a tournament even if they have previously competed in a competitive division.
- The choice to compete as a novice applies to the entire tournament that the choice is made. i.e. A competitor may not compete in the novice division in some events and in the competitive division in others.
- Novice competitors may compete in forms, traditional weapons, sparring/one-steps and combat weapons, but are not required to compete in any specific event.
- Novice competitors may compete in creative and xtreme events. This competition will take place in their traditional ring after the traditional events have been completed. A novice competitor must remain in their traditional white uniform for creative and extreme events.
- Novice divisions are required at all sanctioned regional tournaments and must be advertised accordingly.
- Novice division traditional forms competition: Competitors are not required to perform a complete form. Judges will base their score according to what the competitor demonstrates based on their traditional judging assignments. Competitors will not be penalized by any judge for an incomplete form.
- For traditional weapons competitions, the novice division will run exactly as the competitive divisions.
- For sparring/one-step and combat weapons competitions, the novice division will run exactly as the competitive division.
- No State or World Championship points awarded in a novice division. (even if one competes in the event by mistake).

Dividing Novice Color Belts Divisions

- Novice rings will be split if there are 11 competitors or more.
- If there are 10 or less competitors, the ring will not be split.
- If a ring of 10 has been sent to the competition floor (on deck) and an additional competitor arrives, the ring will not be further split at that time.

Competitive Divisions Guidelines

Competitive divisions are available for the student who wishes to compete at a higher level and possibly earn points for the State Top Ten standings.

Dividing Competitive Color Belt Divisions

Due to the vast difference from region to region of number of competitors at each event, it is not feasible to issue comprehensive rules concerning how the color belt divisions will be formed. Regional Tournament Team Leaders will try whenever possible to follow the black belt junior and adult divisions for color belt competitions. They may at their

discretion combine or alter color belt divisions to facilitate competition. However, **All Adult color belt rings will not be split unless there are more than 16 in the ring regardless of height.** Adults have a better understanding of the concept of competition and in general want more competition.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=COMPETITION_DIVISIONS_AND_RING_ASSIGNMENTS&oldid=430"

- This page was last modified on 9 May 2014, at 16:02.
- This page has been accessed 1,562 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

TOURNAMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Ring Size
- 2 Order of Events
- 3 Tournament Registration
- 4 Arrival and Competition Times
- 5 Traditional Ring Procedures
- 6 Groin Protector Check Procedure
- 7 Weapons Inspection
- 8 Injuries
- 9 Awards for Competition
 - 9.1 Songahm Spirit Awards
- 10 Correctable Errors
- 11 NO Coaching Rule
- 12 Competitor's Attitude
 - 12.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct Warnings

Ring Size

Ring dimensions for competition shall be square and should measure in the range of 14 - 18 feet per side, depending on the type of division (adult or junior). For ATA Tiger divisions, the previously described rings can be “cut” in half and two divisions may be run side-by-side.

Each ring should:

- Have clearly marked boundary lines.
- Have centering marks for sparring competition.
- Be numbered.

Order of Events

The host of each tournament will publish the tournament schedule, as provided by their Regional Tournament Team Leader, for that particular tournament. If the host has a particular schedule in mind, the host must submit their proposed tournament schedule to and receive approval from the Regional Tournament Team Leader before it is published to the general public.

The order of competition at regional, national, and world events will be:

- Traditional Form Competition.
- Traditional Weapons Competition.
- Traditional One-Steps / Traditional Point Sparring.
- Combat Weapons Sparring.

ATA-Xtreme and ATA creative competitions are held at different times from the traditional events. The time varies from region to region. Students should check published times for event schedules. ATA International Headquarters will publish the competition times prior to each national and world event. Check the website at www.ataonline.com prior to each event for the current competition schedule.

Tournament Registration

For regional tournaments, all competitors are encouraged to pre-register with their instructor. The following guidelines apply to all registrations and registration cards:

- It is the responsibility of the competitor to obtain a registration card from their instructor, and with his/her guidance, fill out the registration card fully. This includes but is not limited to their Name, ATA number, Date of Birth, Age, Rank, School Number, and the Name of their instructor.
- If the student is competing at an event that their instructor cannot attend, as long as they have their instructor's permission, they may register at the event.
- If the ATA membership number is absent or incorrect on the registration card, the Instructor of the competitor will have 5 business days after the event to contact ATA International Headquarters with the missing or incorrect number to avoid the forfeiture of points.

To better prepare for **world and national tournaments** all competitors, regardless of their rank, are asked to pre-register to compete. All registration cards must be filled out completely. **ADULT BLACK BELTS**, who register onsite at a world or national event, will be **charged a "late" fee** of \$50 in addition to their regular registration fees. Those competitors will also **only be eligible for ½ regular points**. (Half points will be rounded up. For example, a "late" competitor earns ½ of 9 points in his/her ring. The 4.5 points will be rounded up to reflect 5 points earned).

Arrival and Competition Times

It is recommended that each participant arrive prior to opening ceremonies in time to be on the main floor to line up and bow-in before the competition. However, many regional and all national and world events now post the approximate competition times for each division. In those instances, each color belt competitor should arrive at the tournament site approximately 30 to 45 minutes prior to their posted competition time unless otherwise notified in the tournament information packets.

If for some unforeseen legitimate reason, a competitor is late for his/her division, the center judge will allow the competitor to enter the division if possible based on the following:

- The Regional Tournament Team Leader approves the entry.
- The rule governing late competitors is as follows:
 - If traditional forms competition has started but has not been closed, the competitor will be allowed to compete in the traditional forms.
 - Traditional forms competition is closed when one of the following events have occurred:
 - If there are any ties, when the tie run offs have begun.
 - If there are no ties, when the first weapons competitor has been called up to compete.
 - If traditional forms competition has been closed and traditional weapons competition has started, the competitor will not be allowed to compete in the forms event, but can be added into traditional weapons.
 - Traditional weapons competition is closed, when one of the following events have occurred:
 - If there are any ties, when the tie run offs have begun.
 - If there are no ties, when the first point/one-step sparring match has begun.
 - If the traditional weapons competition has been closed, the competitor will not be allowed to compete in the traditional forms or weapons event, but may compete in one-step or sparring and combat weapons.
 - If the first round of one-steps or sparring competition has started, no late entries will be allowed in this event because a late entry would disrupt the bye system, but may compete in combat weapons sparring.
 - If the first round of combat weapons sparring has already started, the competitor will not be admitted to the ring.

At that time the Regional Tournament Team Leader will determine if there is another ring available. At national and world events, that decision will be made by the National Tournament Director or his/her assigns.

If in the opinion of the RTTL the student has purposefully arrived late in order to receive an advantageous position, the RTTL may refuse entry into any competition.

For the sake of competition, the Regional Tournament Team Leader will make every effort to see that a junior competitor is allowed to compete. If their ring is completed the Regional Tournament Team Leader MAY create another ring of competition for the purpose of awarding trophies. These rings will not receive points in the World or State Champion Top Ten standings.

Traditional Ring Procedures

The following procedures are indicative of how each ring is to be run at every ATA tournament:

- **Collect all the competitor registration cards.** The center judge should re-count the number of competitors and the number of registration cards to insure these numbers match.
- The center Judge should not physically “warm-up” the competitors in any manner.
- A **groin protector check** should be preformed by the judges for all competitors participating in free sparring or combat weapons sparring.
- A **traditional weapons check** should be preformed by the judges for all competitors participating in traditional weapons competition.
- To officially start the division, the competitors will **line up and bow in** to the assigned judges.
- The center judge will **introduce the judges** to the competitors and announce who is judge A, and who is judge B, and what area of form competition each judge is scoring.
- While facing the competitors, judge A will be on the left hand side of the center judge and judge B will be on the center judge’s right.
- See **Traditional Forms competition.**
- See **Traditional Weapons competition.**
- See **Traditional One-Step / Point Sparring competition.**
- See **Combat Weapons Sparring competition.**
- **Announce Awards** : Each judge should shake the hand of each competitor and congratulate them after the awarding of the trophies.
- To officially end the division, the competitors will **line up and bow out** to the assigned judges.
- **Double check paper work and return it to the Tournament Secretary.**

Notes:

- All judges have equal authority to call points or penalties. A center judge cannot overrule a call by a corner judge, except through his own vote on a point or warning, which has no more weight than each of the other two judges’ votes.
- No judge is allowed to alter, add, or modify any ATA rules.
- If anyone (Senior, Parent, Competitor, Spectator, or Judge) feels there is a problem in a ring, that person should notify the National Tournament Director or Regional Tournament Team Leader with the concern. The National Tournament Director or Regional Tournament Team Leader will decide if any changes should occur.

Groin Protector Check Procedure

Judges should, at the start of every traditional ring in which male competitors are involved, conduct a discrete groin protector check. One of the adult male judges should gather the competitors competing in either traditional or combat sparring together, forming a tight circle, and ask each person to tap on their protective groin cup so that the judge can hear the knock sound. No judge should perform this task for the competitor. If all 3 judges are female, they should ask an adult black belt judge nearby to do the groin protector check to avoid any uncomfortable situation for both the male

competitors, and/or the female judges. Any male competitor who is not wearing a protective groin cup/supporter will not be allowed to compete in any sparring event. They may purchase one onsite provided one is still available at the tournament pro-shop. If a competitor did not have his cup at the initial check, they must pass the a groin protector check prior to their first sparring match. If the competitor does not pass this second check, they forfeit the match. The ring will not be held up to wait for competitors who did not pass the this check. The cup should not be worn on the outside of the uniform or inserted ring side. All male competitors should arrive at the ring wearing their cup and supporter. A competitor will not be given the opportunity to compete last, while they go to put on their proper equipment. Forms and weapons competition should occur without a delay. If a student needs to put on the proper equipment, this should occur during the "down time" between weapons and sparring. If a student does not bring the proper equipment, a reasonable amount of time will be given for the student to purchase the missing safety gear. In most instances, a delay of more than 10 minutes would not be considered "reasonable," and the competitor may be eliminated from the competition.

Weapons Inspection

The center judge will call for each weapons competitor to come forward and present the weapon intended for use in that competition.

The weapon shown will be inspected to insure that:

1. Based on the competitor's rank, they are eligible to compete with that type of weapon.
 2. The weapon is appropriate style for their rank and competition event.
 3. The weapon is the appropriate size for the height of the competitor.
 4. The weapon does not violate weapon adornment restrictions in any way.
 5. The weapon is in good repair and safe to use in competition.
- If in the opinion of the judges, it is determined that the weapon has been altered before the competition takes place, the competitor will be allowed to replace the weapon.
 - If it is determined after the student competes that the weapon was altered, the competitor will be disqualified.
 - Presenting an appropriate weapon for the weapon inspection, then exchanging it for an incorrect size, type or style after the inspection process will result in a disqualification of the competitor.
 - If a weapon breaks during competition it is not the fault of the judge who preformed the weapons check. The weapon is the responsibility of the competitor.

Injuries

Every effort has been made to ensure that competing in a Songahm Taekwondo tournament be as safe as possible. However, injuries may occur. **The following guidelines will be applied to all injuries during competition:**

- If a competitor is injured the judge will have him/her lie down (or remain where he/she has fallen).
- Keep the competitor as still as possible, and DO NOT remove the headgear.
- The medical team on site will be called to the ring.
- If there was no blow to the head or face, the competitor may be asked to remove his/her mouth piece.
- Until the medic arrives at the ring, every effort will be made to help the competitor stay calm, making sure he/she is advised not to move around.

The injured competitor will only be allowed to continue when a certain criteria is met. **The criteria are as follows:**

- It is the opinion of the medical team that he/she will not be further injured by continuing. The decision of the medical team the day of the event is final, and may not be overruled by a parent or instructor.
- If the competitor is under 18 years old, he/she MUST ALSO receive permission from his/her parents (if present), instructor (if present).
- If a health-care professional is not available, ALWAYS err on the side of caution.

Injuries and Concussions: ALWAYS err on the side of caution. You are not expected to “diagnose” a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional. If an appropriate health-care professional on the side determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to competition. If an appropriate health-care professional determines an athlete HAS suffered a concussion, that athlete MAY NOT return to competition that day. No one may “overrule” the health-care professional. This includes parents, competitors, guardians, other judges, and/or spectators.

Awards for Competition

There will be three places awarded in Traditional Form, Traditional Weapon, ATA-Xtreme Form, ATA- Xtreme Weapon, Creative Form, Creative Weapon, Synchronized Team Form and Team Demo competitions. They are as follows:

- 1st Place - Awarded to the competitor/team with the highest cumulative point total.
- 2nd Place - Awarded to the competitor/team with the next highest cumulative point total.
- 3rd Place - Awarded to the competitor/team with the third highest cumulative point total.

One-step Sparring, Traditional Point Sparring and Combat Weapons Sparring competitions will culminate with the following awards given:

- 1st Place - Awarded to the person who wins the final round of competition.
- 2nd Place - Awarded to the person who reaches, but is defeated in the final round of competition.
- 3rd Place - Awarded to the winner of the 3rd place match which will be held between the two competitors defeated in the semi-final matches.

Songahm Spirit Awards

The Songahm Spirit Awards are commemorative competitor awards. **Please note that forms/sparring are considered one event for the purpose of awarding a Songahm Spirit Award.**

These will be awarded in the following way;

- **All competitors in 12 & younger divisions (all belts/ranks)** will either receive a 1st, 2nd, 3rd place award OR a Songahm Spirit Award for each event in which he/she competes.
- **All ATA Tigers** will receive a Songahm Spirit Award for each event in which he/she competes.
- **Novice division competitors (all ages/ranks)** will receive 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place awards OR a Songahm Spirit Award for each event in which they compete.
- **All competitors in a 13 & older division (all belts/ranks)** will receive ONE Songahm Spirit Award if they did not place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any of the events.
- **Disqualified competitors** are still eligible for Songahm Spirit awards.

Example: A 11 year old competes in forms, traditional sparring and traditional weapons but does not place in any event. The competitor would received two Songahm Spirit Awards.

Correctable Errors

As in most competitions, there exists the possibility of "correctable errors". Judgment calls such as scores given or points called in sparring are not considered a correctable error. An instructor/parent/competitor may ask for clarification if they believe a "correctable error" has been made. The Regional Tournament Team Leader will be responsible for this determination, and his/her decision will be final. If an instructor/parent/or competitor would like to discuss the decision of the Regional Tournament Team Leader, they may do so after the conclusion of the tournament. This should occur through the proper "chain of command."

NO Coaching Rule

It is the responsibility of the judges to insure that no one is allowed to receive coaching during any type of competition. There will be no coaching from the sidelines by anyone, including color belts, black belts, instructors, family members or friends. This no-coaching rule is in effect from the time the competitors are "bowed into their ring" through the time they are "bowed out of their ring." This includes quietly telling a student what to do between matches in sparring, or before a tie-breaker in forms/weapons. Cheering and offering encouragement is indeed allowed and encouraged. A competitor may receive a warning during sparring events for receiving coaching from anyone during the prescribed time they are in a ring (See Contact / Non-Contact Penalties).

Competitor's Attitude

One of the most important tenants of Songahm Taekwondo is the concept of DISCIPLINE. While it is important to show the discipline of being a good loser, it is equally important to exhibit the discipline of being a good winner. Songahm Taekwondo students are known for their discipline, courtesy and respect. Any kind of exhibition of disgust, frustration or dissatisfaction with the outcome of competition will not be tolerated. This includes leaving the ring or ring area before awards are given and the ring being formally dismissed. Neither will over-exuberance with winning be allowed.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Warnings

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Warnings are in the sole discretion of the center judge. Unsportsmanlike conduct warnings may, in the sole discretion of the center judge result in a penalty point and/or disqualification. At the discretion of the center judge, a competitor may be given an unsportsmanlike conduct warning if the competitor's family, friends or fans engage in such conduct. If a competitor is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct after places are awarded, that competitor will forfeit his/her place. Other competitors will not move up in place if this occurs. At the discretion of the International Chairman of Tournaments, unsportsmanlike conduct may result in the loss of all or part of one's accumulated top ten points, or being barred from future tournaments. The offender will receive official written notification from the International Chairman.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=TOURNAMENT_STANDARD_OPERATING_PROCEDURES&oldid=445"

-
- This page was last modified on 19 May 2014, at 05:56.
 - This page has been accessed 925 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

TRADITIONAL FORM COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Admissible Competition Forms
 - 1.1 Color Belts
 - 1.2 Black Belts
- 2 Judges Area of Concentration
 - 2.1 Corner Judge A
 - 2.2 Corner Judge B
 - 2.3 The Center Judge
 - 2.4 Score Keeper / Time Keeper
- 3 Traditional Form Competition Procedures
- 4 Determining and Administering a Score
 - 4.1 Score Range & Meaning
 - 4.2 Incomplete Form
- 5 Resolving Ties

Admissible Competition Forms

Color Belts

Color belts that participate in the form portion of competition will demonstrate the form selected by their instructor. For integrity reasons, the instructor should not have a color belt student do a form that would be considered below his/her current ability level. However, competitors will not be questioned by the judges about the appropriateness of the form a color belt demonstrates. There will not be any special consideration given in regard to the color of belt the students are wearing and the form with which that they compete (neither higher scores for a higher level form nor lower scores for a lower level form). The students will be judged according to their performance in comparison to the others in their division that day.

Black Belts

Black Belts may not compete with a form designated for a rank higher than their current rank, even if they are “competing up” for the tournament season.

1st Degree Black Belt competitors:

- Must compete with Shim Jun form after 6 months from the date of their successful decided rank test. This is commonly referred to as the “6 month rule”.
- The lowest form that can be performed in a 1st Degree Black Belt ring is Choong Jung 2.

2nd Degree Recommended Black Belt competitors:

- Must compete with Shim Jun.

2nd Degree Decided Black Belts and higher competitors:

- May choose to do any of the black belt forms up to and including the form designated for their rank during the regular tournament season.
- The lowest form that can be performed is Shim Jun.

Note: Please see District and World Championship for additional information on selecting the appropriate form for your competitive goals.

Judges Area of Concentration

Scoring of traditional forms is divided into three judging aspects. Judge A, Judge B, and Center Judge. Each judge is scoring a different aspect of the competitor's presentation. An important aspect of judging forms is not letting personal preferences concerning techniques influence scoring. It is not feasible to expect every member of Songahm Taekwondo to do every technique exactly the same. Differences in body styles, age, and other criteria can make a difference in how an Instructor may teach a student certain techniques. Form judges must base their score on the overall look and effectiveness of the techniques. The best "rule of thumb" is to watch the competitor as a judge and not as an Instructor. When seated, Judge A will be on the left hand side of the Center Judge and Judge B will be on the Center Judge's right hand.

Corner Judge A

Will grade only stances and kicks.

For **stances**, the judge should look for:

- A strong base with correct length and width.
- Correct weight distribution.
- A level center of gravity while moving (head height in stance transition should remain the same).
- Proper position of their feet during the stance.

For **kicks**, the judge should look for:

- Proper execution (Chamber, execution, re-chamber and return).
- Balance (Pivot, hand & body position, solid sole, eye contact, control of height & power).
- Speed.
- Power.
- Proper joint setup.
- Height of kick is **not** a major consideration.

Judge A will only judge the techniques that are shown and will not make point deductions for moves left out, wrong type of kick or an incomplete form. Those areas are the responsibility of the center judge.

Corner Judge B

Will grade only hand techniques.

For **hand techniques**, the judge should look for:

- Proper execution (Starting position, direction, rotation, ending point, & eye contact).
- Speed.
- Power.
- Proper joint setup.

Judge B will only judge the techniques that are shown and will not make point deductions for moves left out, wrong type of block or strike, or an incomplete form. Those areas are the responsibility of the center judge.

The Center Judge

Will grade the overall form presentation.

The center judge will score overall presentation of the form. In addition to those criteria assigned to the judge A and judge B, the center judge will also consider the following aspects of the form:

- Memory.
- Rhythm and timing of the form.
- Competitor's attitude and enthusiasm.

The quality of technique is being judged by the corner judges hence the center judge can focus on the showmanship of the presentation.

Score Keeper / Time Keeper

The scorekeeper and timekeeper at an ATA tournament play an important part in the overall running of a ring. While these volunteers are not considered to be judges, they have responsibilities and obligations that must be followed. The Center Judge should select a student who is in dobok to fill the role of the scorekeeper or timekeeper. Street clothes are not considered appropriate attire for this position.

The Scorekeeper/Timekeeper should:

- Make sure that his/her duties in the ring are understood, and ask the Center Judge for any clarifications necessary.
- Write legibly and completely fill in any and all scores given by the Center Judge.
- Repeat the score back to the Center Judge in a loud clear voice.
- Make every effort to get the Center Judge's attention if he/she becomes unclear with a score or time issue at any point during competition.
- Pay complete attention to the ring in which they are working.
- Refrain from cheering for any particular competitor. He/she should remain unbiased as if he/she were one of the three judges.

Traditional Form Competition Procedures

The following procedures are indicative of how each ring is to be run at every ATA tournament:

- The Center Judge will turn the cards face down and shuffle them so that the competitors are called in a random manner. At national and world events, the scoring sheets are pre-printed. The order of the competitors called will be based upon the directions given by the National Tournament Director the day of the event.
- To begin form competition, the center judge will draw one card at a time and call the competitor's name. He/she will hand the card to the scorekeeper so the scorekeeper can record the name while the person is doing his/her form. It is not necessary to fill in all of the competitor names before starting the competition. The scorekeeper will do this while the competitor is demonstrating the form to the judges. As an additional courtesy to the competitors and their families, the Center Judge should also announce the competitor "on deck" (meaning the next competitor up for competition).
- When their name is called, the competitors will answer, "Yes, Sir/Ma'am", run to the center of the ring, stand at attention, and wait for the judges' directions. They will follow the judges' instructions, and when given the command to begin, will demonstrate their form on their own count.
- They will hold the position of the last movement until given the command to return and will not leave the ring until dismissed.
- In every division, the first three competitors will demonstrate their form and then be dismissed to the side. This will allow the judges to evaluate the ring by determining the general ability of the competitors. At the conclusion of the third competitor's demonstration of his/her form, all three competitors will be brought back and given scores. Every subsequent competitor will be scored immediately following the performance of their form.
- The Center Judge will announce scores from his/her left, calling out Judge A's Score, then the Center Judge's score, and finally Judge B's score. Judges should keep their scores visible until the scorekeeper has repeated the scores back to the Center Judge for verification.

- When the scores are recorded on the score sheet, the only number recorded is the number following the decimal. These scores given will be added to determine the winner.
- After every competitor has had an opportunity to demonstrate his/her form, the center judge will check the addition of the scores and determine if there are any ties.
- If a tie in scores should occur for first, second or third place, the run-off system will occur see resolving ties.

Determining and Administering a Score

It is important to understand how to determine a competitor's score.

- The first three competitors will complete their form before being scored. This gives the judges a base for their scores.
- Each judge will give a score ranging from 9.0 through 9.9.
 - **The score is a comparison score based on the competitors in the ring, and not based upon the excellence of the form itself.**
 - It is highly possible that the scores from each judge may greatly vary because each judge is scoring a different part of the performance and the scores do not have any relationship to each other.
 - This method of scoring also gives the competitors instant feedback on what part of their form may need improvement.
- There are no boundary restrictions during forms competition. Competitors will not be penalized for stepping beyond the ring boundaries, nor will they be penalized for adjusting their position to avoid obstacles, people, or the ring boundaries. Competitors may not realize that they will not be penalized for stepping beyond the ring boundaries and may adjust to prevent this. It is also possible that equipment bags, spectators, etc., may be in their way and they should be permitted to adjust to avoid these obstacles.
- There are no specific time restrictions during forms competition. When forms are described and taught, the written material has a suggested time frame in which the form should be performed. This suggested time frame is there for the purpose of helping the student understand the speed and flow of the form. It is not included as judging criteria to be used for tournament competition.

Score Range & Meaning

The meaning of the scores are as follows:

- 9.9 = Considered among the best of the group.
- 9.6 thru 9.8 = Better than the average of the group.
- 9.5 = The group average.
- 9.2 thru 9.4 = Below the group average.
- 9.1 = Complete, 2nd attempt (Black belt competitors are not allowed a 2nd attempt so this score is for color belts only, and must be given by all three judges).
- 9.0 = Incomplete (only to be given by the center judge on the incomplete first attempt or all three judges on an incomplete second attempt).

Notes:

- An incomplete form will receive a score of 9.0 from the Center Judge only if it is the first attempt, and from all three judges if it is the second attempt.
- All color belts are allowed two chances to complete their form. The highest score they may receive on the second attempt is 9.1 which should be given by all three judges.
- Black belts are not given the opportunity of a second attempt.
- If any black belt competitor fails to complete the form, he/she should receive a score of 9.0 from the Center Judge for an incomplete form. Corner judges should always base their score based on the quality of technique shown in comparison to the other competitors that day in that ring.

Incomplete Form

An incomplete form is defined as a competitor leaving out at least an entire segment or stopping any time during the form and not finishing. If competitors leave out a technique or two, turn the wrong direction, or does an incorrect technique, this would NOT be classified as an incomplete form. The emphasis of the organization's teaching is on quality of technique rather than solely memorization. Only the Center Judge will deduct points based on presentation and the corner judges should not deduct for this type of mistake.

During form competition, the Center Judge may assist a competitor in completing their form through verbal cues and possible physical demonstrations if the competitor is unable to complete their form. This is done solely to help the self-esteem of the competitor by giving them the opportunity to finish their form in front of their peers and audience. The Center Judge must then score the form as if it were incomplete (with the score of 9.0) which would be the same as if the judge did not offer assistance and the competitor had not completed their form. The corner judges should not deduct for this assistance. They only judge the techniques demonstrated.

Example: A competitor demonstrating Songahm #3 leaves out both knifehand high blocks, or does sidekicks in place of the two round kicks, but does correct techniques during the rest of the form. The Center Judge may make score deductions for the competitor doing the wrong techniques or leaving out techniques, while Judge A and Judge B should give scores that reflect the quality of the techniques demonstrated when compared to the other competitors.

Resolving Ties

Should two or more competitors have the same score for first, second, or third place, there is a tie in the division.

- Ties are to be run off rather than decided in conference.
- The tied competitors will be asked to do their form again, individually.
- **Each competitor must do the same form they did originally.**
- All three judges will now be judging the entire form overall rather than their original assignments.
- All ties will be decided by the judges pointing to the best form instead of giving scores.
- If there is a tie for more than one place, the judges will decide the highest place first.

The following method for determining the winner is in place:

- After all the tied competitors (for that place) have done their form, they will line up facing the judges.
- On the command of the center judge, all judges will point at the competitor they felt did the best.
- If at least two judges pick the same person, that person wins and will receive that place in the competition.
- If more than one place was at stake, the judges will immediately decide the next best form, and so on, until all the positions are filled.
- If all three judges point to different competitors, those three will step forward one step.
 - Next, the two competitors on the right (the judges' left) will take one more step forward. The Center Judge will now ask the judges to pick the better form from those two.
 - This winner now steps forward with the competitor on the left; and the judges will again point to the better form. This person is the winner.
 - If more than one place was at stake, those competitors eliminated by the original vote will now be brought back and the judges will point to the one they felt deserved the next place. This procedure will be used until all places have been determined.
- A judge will remain consistent with his/her choice for best form when deciding ties. If a judge points for "Competitor A" in his/her initial voting, that judge must continue to vote for competitor A in all subsequent voting until competitor A places or is eliminated.

Example #1: There is a two-way tie for first place and a two-way tie for third place. The Center Judge would have the two competitors tied for first place demonstrate their forms again and a decision would be made as to the victor. Then the two that tied for third place would perform next and a decision made.

Example #2: Sue, Mary, Jane, and Betty tied for first place. All four competitors demonstrate their form a second time. All four competitors' line up in front of the judges and at the direction of the Center Judge, each judge points to the competitor they felt earned first place. If each judge points to a different person, one competitor is eliminated from the first place voting (for this illustration Mary was eliminated). Once first place has been decided per the above procedures, second place needs to be determined. In order to do this, Mary would be brought back to be eligible to earn second place. This procedure would be used if there are four or more tied for first or second place; those eliminated in the deciding for one place will be brought back for the next place.

Example #3: There is a three-way tie for 1st place in one a divisions. The top finishers are Ellen, Sally and Jane. After all 3 competitors have completed their form a second time, the center judges call for the judges to point to the competitor they feel should win 1st place for the best form, and Judge Brown votes for Ellen. The other judges each vote for Sally and Jane. When the Center Judge calls Ellen and Sally to step forward and the judges to vote, Judge Brown must vote for Ellen again. If Ellen wins that vote and then goes against Jane, Judge Brown must vote for Ellen again.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=TRADITIONAL_FORM_COMPETITION&oldid=393"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 11:21.
- This page has been accessed 347 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

TRADITIONAL WEAPONS COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Color Belt Rules & Guidelines
 - 1.1 Type & Style of Weapons Available to Color Belt
 - 1.2 Content of Color Belt “Free-Style” Demonstration
 - 1.3 Judging Criteria for Color Belt "Free-Style” Demonstration
- 2 Black Belt Rules & Guidelines
 - 2.1 Black Belt Weapons Forms & Rank Requirements
 - 2.2 Style of Weapon Approved for Black Belt Weapons Competition
 - 2.3 Judging Criteria for Black Belt Forms
- 3 Traditional Weapons Form Competition Procedures
- 4 Determining and Administering a Score
 - 4.1 Scoring Range
 - 4.2 Dropping or Breaking a Weapon

Color Belt Rules & Guidelines

Type & Style of Weapons Available to Color Belt

The color belt student must confer with their instructor concerning the weapon they will use in competition. If competing in weapons, a color belt MAY ONLY compete with one of the following:

- Single or Double Bahng Mahng Ee.
- Single or Double Ssahng Jeol Bong.
- Jahng Bong.
- Ssahng Nat.
- Jee Pahng Ee.
- Gum Do.
- Oh Sung Do.

Color belts may use only Protech safety weapons for traditional weapons competition except for Jahng Bongs and Jee Pahng Ees which any style is acceptable.

Content of Color Belt “Free-Style” Demonstration

The color belt student will demonstrate a “free-style” routine of his/her own creation that has a maximum duration of 30 seconds. Their **entire** free style form cannot be all or part of a black belt weapons form. Competing with large sections of a traditional black belt form is not considered an "original creation" of the competitor and therefore can not be used. The routine must be approved by the competitor's instructor prior to competition; therefore it is vital that the color belt student consult his/her instructor as to the presentation.

Judging Criteria for Color Belt "Free-Style” Demonstration

In traditional color belt weapon's competition, Judge A, Judge B and Judge C will score the entire performance of the form rather than one specified aspect. Also, there are no incomplete traditional color belt weapon forms since it is a "free style" form.

This presentation will be judged on the following criteria:

- Overall control of the weapon (deductions for drops, mishandling, etc.).
- Difficulty (more difficult maneuvers deserve more recognition).
- Originality (is the competitor being creative).
- Presentation (was the display exciting and fun).
- Practical application of the weapon.
- Stances, timing and rhythm of the form.

This is not intended to be a specific order of importance but rather a guide for the judge to compare one presentation against another.

Black Belt Rules & Guidelines

Black Belt Weapons Forms & Rank Requirements

Here is the list of black belt weapons forms and their rank requirements. The following weapons, as well as which black belt rank may use them, are listed below:

- Single Bahng Mahng Ee for 1st Degrees or above.
- Double Bahng Mahng Ee for 2nd Degrees or above.
- Single Ssahng Jeol Bong for 1st Degrees or above.
- Double Ssahng Jeol Bong for 2nd Degrees or above.
- Ssahng Nat for 2nd Degrees or above.
- Jahng Bong Mid-Range for 1st Degrees or above.
- Jahng Bong Long Range for 3rd degrees or above.
- Sam Dan Bong for 4th Degrees or above.
- Jee Pahng Ee for 4th Degrees or above.
- Oh Sung Do for 1st Degrees or above.
- Gum Do: Level 1 for 1st Degrees or above.
- Gum Do: Level 2 for 4th Degrees or above.

Note: The sheath of the Gum Do is required during traditional competition.

Style of Weapon Approved for Black Belt Weapons Competition

Black belts may use only Protech safety weapons for traditional weapons competition except for Jahng Bongs and Jee Pahng Ees which any style is acceptable.

Judging Criteria for Black Belt Forms

In traditional black belt weapon competition, Judge A, Judge B and Judge C will score the entire performance of the form rather than one specified aspect. **The center judge has the additional judging criteria of the completeness of the form. The center judge is the only judge that will consider completeness and make necessary deductions.**

All judges will consider the following criteria:

- Accurate, effective strikes (as they relate to the nine angles of strike).
- Timing: The judge will look for the coordination of hand and foot movements.
- Fluid handling of the weapon: The judge will look for smooth exchanges and transitions from one move into the next.

- Equal precision of the left and right sides of the body: The judge will look for a balance of technique quality from one side to the other.
- Consistency between the first half of the form and the second half: The judge will look for equal speed and direction of the weapon during both halves.
- Proper stances.
- The attitude of the competitor.

This is not intended to be a specific order of importance but rather a guide for the judge to compare one presentation against another.

Traditional Weapons Form Competition Procedures

Traditional weapon competition procedures will be consistent with traditional form procedures with following additions:

- During color belt weapon competition: The time-keeper of the ring will start the clock running at the command of the center judge and will call out “Time” when 30 seconds has expired (at which time the student must stop performing within a second or two).
- Black belt weapon forms do not need to be timed.
- The use of resin, resin bags, or other products intended for use to dry the hands prior to competition is allowed.

Determining and Administering a Score

Scoring Range

The range of scores are the same as traditional forms. The judges will give a score ranging from 9.0 through 9.9.

Notes:

- There are no incomplete traditional color belt weapon forms since it is a free-style form.
- If a color belt's entire weapon form is all or a section of a black belt weapon form, the competitor will receive a 9.0 from the center judge only. The judge A & B will give scores based on the criteria given.
- There will be no penalty for a color belt weapons form that is less than 30 seconds.
- No part of the presentation that exceeds 30 seconds will be considered when the judges give scores, even a weapon's dropped.
- An incomplete black belt form, will receive a 9.0 from the center judge only and judges A & B will give scores based on the criteria given.
- During a black belt's weapon form, deductions for left out moves that do not result in an incomplete form will be the sole responsible of the center judge.

Dropping or Breaking a Weapon

- In Traditional Weapons, there is an **automatic one tenth point deduction** from each judge's score for **dropping** the weapon(s).
- In Traditional Weapons, there is an **automatic one tenth point deduction** from each judge's score for **picking up the weapon(s) incorrectly**. The correct way to retrieve a dropped weapon is with a traditional pick-up, meaning going down to one knee and picking up the weapon correctly with two hands.
- A competitor is considered to be active in competition from the time they are bowed in to do their presentation until the “Bah-roh” command is given to return the student to their ready position . Any weapon drops between those two actions will impact the score given by the judges. The Double Ssahng Jeol Bong form's active time extends beyond "Bah-roh" until the handling of the weapon is complete.
- There will be a **one tenth point deduction** from each judge's score if a competitor's **weapon breaks** during his/her competition. If a weapon should break, the competitor will be given a maximum of 30 seconds to replace the weapon from his/her own gear, or borrow one from another competitor. Once the student has replaced the weapon,

the form will be continued from the point that the weapon broke. **If for any reason the damaged weapon is not replaced, the competitor will then receive a score of 9.0 from the center judge**

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=TRADITIONAL_WEAPONS_COMPETITION&oldid=402"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 13:38.
- This page has been accessed 762 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

TRADITIONAL POINT SPARRING / ONE-STEP COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Position of the Judges
- 2 Bye System
 - 2.1 Procedure for Awarding Byes
 - 2.2 Same School Rule
- 3 Traditional One-Step Sparring Competition
 - 3.1 Rules and Guidelines
 - 3.2 Traditional One-Step Sparring Competition Procedures
 - 3.3 Traditional One-Step Sparring Judging Criteria
- 4 Traditional Point Sparring Competition
 - 4.1 Rules & Guidelines
 - 4.2 Traditional Point Sparring Competition Procedures
 - 4.3 Target Areas & Techniques
 - 4.3.1 Legal Target Areas and Techniques
 - 4.3.2 Illegal Target Areas and/or Illegal Techniques
 - 4.3.3 Neutral Area
 - 4.4 Points
 - 4.4.1 How a Competitor Scores a Point
 - 4.4.2 The Signals Used for Point Calling
 - 4.4.3 Making a Call – Points
 - 4.4.4 Out of Bounds for Point Sparring
 - 4.5 Warnings
 - 4.5.1 Procedures for Calling a Warning
 - 4.5.2 Non-Contact Warnings
 - 4.5.3 Contact Warnings
 - 4.5.4 No-Fault Rule
 - 4.5.5 Excessive Contact
 - 4.5.6 Disqualification for Contact Warnings

Position of the Judges

Each judge is assigned a particular position in the ring which will allow him/her the best view for judging traditional point sparring or traditional one-step competition. The other two judges should take a position in the opposite corners from the center judge, creating a triangle. All three judges should try to maintain this triangle, so that as the competitors move around the ring, so do the judges. The center judge must maintain his/her primary position directly facing the scorekeeper and timekeeper during any calls. This is to insure the scorekeeper and timekeeper receive, understand, and write down all instructions and scores. When the center judge has confirmed a point(s) and calls that out to the scorekeeper, the scorekeeper should repeat the point(s) back to the center judge. This will confirm that the proper information was heard and recorded.

Bye System

The ATA bye system is to be set up before any traditional one-steps or traditional point sparring begins. The ATA bye system is based on the concept that each division must achieve a point at which exactly four competitors are left to spar in the semifinal matches. Simply having an even number of competitors will not insure that a division will reach this point. A bye would be considered an “automatic win.” The competitor who receives a bye would not have to do one-steps or free-spar in the first round of the competition and would automatically move into the next round.

Procedure for Awarding Byes

All World champions and last tournament season's District and State champions in sparring events will receive preference in the awarding of byes. For the 2014-2015 tournament season, All World champions, 2014 District champions and 2014 State champions will receive bye preferences. Notice that District and State champions only receive bye preferences for the competition year after the title is earned.

The procedure for administering byes will be as follows:

- The center judge will calculate the number of byes needed.
- The center judge will have all the competitors turn around so he/she can view the uniform backs and determine who is wearing the appropriate uniform to receive a bye preference. You must be wearing the uniform that day to get the bye preference. Verbal or written confirmation of champion status will not be allowed.
- The byes will be awarded in this order:
 1. World Champions: The most current World Champion receives the first bye, then byes are awarded in descending order of year.
 2. District Champions (For competition year after the title is earned).
 3. State Champions (For competition year after the title is earned).
 4. Award any remaining byes needed by a random drawing.
- If there are two or more champions of the same year and status, a random drawing among those tied will be used.
- This rule does not guarantee that everyone that is eligible for a bye preference will receive a bye.
- Should a competitor receive a bye in the first round, thus placing him/herself in the medal round and then refuse to spar in the next round, the competitor will forfeit any points.
- A competitor who wishes to change dobok tops for sparring events at the ring may do so, provided that the ring is not delayed in any manner. Competitors may not "share" dobok tops.

Same School Rule

When the center judge is pairing the competitors for traditional point sparring or traditional one-step competition, he/she will make every effort to prevent competitors from the same school from competing against each other in the first round of competition. If a competitor receives a bye in the first round, they may face an opponent from the same school the first time they actually spar. The procedure for determining byes will take precedence over the rule of competitors being separated by school for the first round. The byes cannot be reassigned if this procedure leaves only members from the same school competing against each other in the first round.

Traditional One-Step Sparring Competition

Rules and Guidelines

- All white, orange, and yellow belts are eligible to compete in traditional one-step sparring. They cannot free-spar. This guideline is subject to change. Please, review this prior to each national event.
- If a student is wearing a camo belt at a tournament, they will not be allowed to compete in traditional one-step sparring even if they have just recently been promoted.

- A competitor cannot mix one-steps from two different ranks, but the set of one-steps which a competitor uses does not have to match the form the competitor used during form competition (i.e. a competitor may do Songahm 2 Form and Songahm 1 One-Steps).
- A competitor must do at least two different one-step combinations on the first two attempts to win both points.
- If a competitor does repeat a one-step during the first two attempts, they are prohibited from winning the second attempt. They may, however, repeat a one-step during the final round and win the tie breaker.
- One-step #1 and #2 can be performed in any order.
- The #3 one-step will not be allowed.
- If there is a tie and a tie breaker is necessary, the competitor will use his/her choice of the #1 or #2 one-step.
- A one-step match will last for a maximum of three one-steps.
- If a competitor accidentally makes slight contact during one-step sparring, he/she will not be penalized. If excessive contact is made, a penalty point may be awarded or the student may be disqualified if appropriate.
- The only one-steps options are from the White, Orange, or Yellow curriculum.

Traditional One-Step Sparring Competition Procedures

- Traditional one-step sparring bracket will be set up using the ATA bye system. Once the bracket is complete, announce the competitors that received the byes.
- One-steps must be done with a “partner” facing each other and as if in a self-defense situation.
- After the competitors bow in, the center judge assigns one competitor to be red (using a piece of red cloth attached to the competitor’s belt in the back) and one competitor to be white.
- The competitor on the center judge's right will always be red and low block first.
- The center judge will start each one-step segment by telling the red competitor to “Step Back, Low Block!”
- The center judge will break the competitors between each one-step.
- Using flags, the judges will score the first one-step as soon as both competitors have finished. One point will be awarded to either red or white.
- This will continue until one competitor scores two points and is declared winner of the match.
- The winner of the match should then confirm his/her name with the scorekeeper to insure that the proper competitor is credited with the win, and advances to the next round.

Traditional One-Step Sparring Judging Criteria

All one-steps will be judged by the following criteria. The judges will check each of the criteria, moving down the list until he/she sees a significant difference between the competitors. This determines the winner of the one-step.

The following criteria is in order of importance:

- The quality of the basic techniques: stances, blocks, kicks, etc. As mentioned earlier about forms, memorization is not the organization’s sole objective. A student that has “great” technique but leaves out a move (or does an incorrect move) should not lose to a student that does the one-step “correctly”, but has only “fair” technique.
- If both are even, the judges will look at power; which competitor uses the stronger techniques.
- Next, look at the flow (or smoothness) of the one-step.
- If the judge still can’t decide, choose the competitor striking closer to the target.
- If they are still tied, the competitor with the better competitive attitude should win.

Traditional Point Sparring Competition

Rules & Guidelines

- All ranks of camo belt and up are eligible to free-spar.

Traditional Point Sparring Competition Procedures

- Prior to the first sparring match, the center judge will personally check the stop watch to insure it is working properly.
- Prior to sparring competition, the center judge must verify that all competitors are wearing all the required sparring gear and all gear is ATA approved.
- Traditional point sparring bracket will be set up using the ATA Bye system. Once the bracket is competed, announce the competitors that recieved byes.
- The center judge will call up the competitors in pairs according to the sparring bracket.
- Each competitor will answer “Yes, Sir/Ma’am!” when his/her name is called, and run to the mark indicated by the center judge. From that point to the end of the match, the competitors will follow the instructions of the center judge.
- The competitor on the center judge's right will always be red and this will be indicated by using a red piece of cloth attached to the competitors belt in back.
- Each round will be timed for a maximum of 2 minutes.
- Time runs continuously unless the center judge or corner judge indicates that time should be stopped.
- If one competitor reaches five points before the end of the two minutes, he/she will be the winner.
- Unless a disqualification is declared, the competitor who scores the greater number of points at the end of regulation time will be declared the winner.
- Ties will be determined by “sudden victory” -- the first competitor to score a point will win.
- There is no time limit on “sudden victory.”
- "Sudden victory" match may be decided by penalty points.
- At the conclusion of a match, the winner should then confirm his/her name with the scorekeeper to insure that the proper competitor is credited with the win, and advances to the next round. It is the center judges responsibility to insure the correct competitor is advanced to the next round.
- After the semifinal matches, the competitors not advancing to the finals will spar for 3rd place.
- There will be a one minute break before the 3rd place match begins.
- Once the 3rd place match is completed, the final match will determine 1st & 2nd place.
- A disqualification or warning given during traditional sparring competition does not carry forward to combat weapons sparring with the exception of unsportsmanlike conduct.

Target Areas & Techniques

Legal Target Areas and Techniques

In a traditional point sparring competition, points are scored by competitors using only hand or foot techniques to legal target areas. The following guidelines apply:

- **Hand techniques** may only strike the front of the torso.
 - The front of the torso is restricted to the front of the body starting at the bottom of the belt and going up to the base of the throat, and from one side seam of the uniform to the other side seam.
 - Legal hand techniques include only the following: punch, backfist, hammerfist, ridgehand and knifehand techniques..
 - Striking techniques going towards or making contact with areas outside of this definition will be considered illegal. (See Warnings)
- **Foot techniques** may strike the following:
 - Front of the torso.
 - The head and neck, excluding the throat. The sides and back of the neck are legal as are all areas of the head including the face mask, the sides, back, and top.
 - Kicking techniques directed towards or making contact with areas outside of this definition will be considered illegal (See Warnings).

Illegal Target Areas and/or Illegal Techniques

Illegal target areas include any part of the body not described in the above definitions. The type of technique, striking or kicking, will determine which definition to use.

In traditional sparring, Illegal target areas include:

- All areas below the belt. This includes side, front or back areas and applies to kicks or strikes.
- The back of the torso.
- Techniques that strike any part of the head not covered by headgear this includes the throat.
- Blind hand and kicking techniques are illegal techniques. A hand or kicking technique is considered “blind” if the attacker is not looking at the target at the time the technique is thrown. A spinning backfist would be an example of a “blind” hand technique. Throwing a spinning heel kick while not looking at the target would an example of a “blind” kicking technique.
- Fingertip techniques are not allowed.
- Any hand techniques to the head & neck.

Neutral Area

Neutral areas are define as areas of the body which when contact is made it is **not illegal** and does **not score**. The arms and top of the shoulders are neutral areas.

Points

How a Competitor Scores a Point

Scoring points will be done by striking legal hand or foot techniques to or near the legal target areas.

The following techniques will score points:

- **Non-jumping or jumping hand techniques** to the legal target area will score **one point**.
- **Non-jumping foot techniques** to the legal target area other than the head will score **one point**.
- **Non-jumping foot techniques** to the head, face, side or back of the neck, will score **two points**.
- **Jumping foot techniques** to the legal target area other than the head will score **two points**.
- **Jumping foot techniques to the head** target areas score **three points**.
- The criteria for a technique to qualify as a jump kick is that the non-kicking foot must be off the ground at the time of the kick coming close to or touching the legal target area.
- Techniques cannot score if the competitor (the attacker) is falling during the execution of the technique.
- No technique can score if any part of the competitor other than the base foot is touching the ground.
- Neither color belts or black belts are required to make contact to score points, but may make light to moderate contact to legal areas.
- In the interest of safety, if a judge feels that the technique was close enough to score, (no attempt was made to block or evade) but contact was not made because of exceptional control by the attacker, a point should be awarded.

Example: Competitor A strikes the chest of Competitor B with a side kick, but in the process puts his/her hand on the floor while executing the kick. The judges should use the "No point" call.

Note: It is imperative that judges understand the importance of calling a point for a student that is obviously trying not to hit a less talented student. If Competitor A does a spin kick just over the head of Competitor B, and it is obvious to the judges that Competitor A did so in order to not hurt Competitor B (competitor B did not evade, attempt a block, or otherwise demonstrate that the kick was seen ~~to~~ and dealt with), the judges should award 2 points to Competitor A just as though the kick had actually hit the head of Competitor B. This is strictly a judgment call, and not open to interpretation by other competitors, judges, spectators, or seniors. It is put in the rules to remind judges that the most important aspect of judging is competitor safety. If Competitor A is continually denied points because he/she is looking out for the other competitor, the student will become frustrated and be more inclined to "make contact".

The Signals Used for Point Calling

A competitor is considered completely out of bounds when any part of the foot (or more) is touching the floor beyond the ring boundary during sparring. Judges should tap the floor if they see a competitor is out of bounds to help him/her realize his/her ring position.

The following rules apply:

- A competitor out of bounds cannot score.
- A competitor out of bounds can still be scored upon.
- A competitor is not required to “let” the person out of bounds return in bounds. If in the judgment of the officials, there is no danger to the competitors, or spectators, they may allow the ring to continue even if one competitor is out of bounds.
- If a competitor has one foot in bounds and one foot out of bounds, the competitor can only score with the foot that was out of bounds. By picking up this foot, he/she is now back in the ring.
- A competitor cannot score with a jump kick if initiated with both feet out of bounds. However, a #3 style kick can score if the out of bounds foot is the one that initiates the elevation for the kick (and the other foot was in bounds). Once the out of bounds foot lifts off the floor, the base foot is in bounds and the competitor would be considered in bounds.
- A competitor can score on an out of bounds competitor with a jump kick if initiated inside the ring and the scoring occurs while both feet are still in the air.

Warnings

The safety of all competitors is the main concern of every judge involved. It is because of this safety concern that the calling of warnings is a very important aspect of the judge’s responsibility. Warnings are given when the judge sees the competitor do something illegal. There are three different types of warnings: Noncontact, Contact & Excessive Contact or Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

Procedures for Calling a Warning

The following procedures and guidelines are used in the calling of a warning:

- If a judge sees an illegal technique or illegal action, that judge will call “Break” to stop the action.
- Any judge that saw the warning, will immediately wave the matching colored flag of the offender towards the ground.
- The center judge will look at the time-keeper and say “Stop Time!”
- A discussion will then take place about what that judge saw and whether any of the other judges saw that illegal action.
- The center judge should then call for verification of the warning similar to calling for verification of points. The signals used to verify a warning are as follows:
 - **Verify the warning** - Wave the matching colored flag of the offender towards the ground. This indicates the judge saw the action and agrees that it was illegal.
 - **Disagree with the warning** - cross the arms low. This indicates the judge saw the action, but did not agree that was illegal. This could be because of a different visual position to the action and did not see the action as illegal.
 - **No See** - hands cover the eyes. This indicates that the judge did not see the action and cannot agree or disagree with the call.
- The results of this call are handled similar to calling for points. The majority indicates the final call. It is important to remember that two calls of “No See” do not negate a warning or a point. The “No See” calls are treated as if the judge wasn’t there at the time and the majority of what is remaining indicates the final call, even if the majority is only one judge.
- A competitor cannot be issued a warning and be awarded a point at the same time
- Judges should make every effort to make sure the competitor and spectators understand any discussions that occur.

Example: During the action, one judge saw “Red” punch towards “White’s” face and two judges saw “Red” kick towards “White’s” head. After break is called, the judge that saw the punch waves his/her red flag towards the ground. The center judge sees the call for a warning and stops time so the judges can discuss what was witnessed. After the discussion, the center judge asks for official verification. During the verification process.

- **Case #1:** One judge votes for a warning and the other two vote "no warning" by crossing their arms low. The warning is not verified. The center judge calls for points 1 judge votes "no point" and the other two vote 2 points red. Result: no warning for red and 2 points awarded to red.
- **Case #2:** One judge votes warning and 2 judges vote "no see." The warning is verified and red can not receive points for the kick to the head.

Non-Contact Warnings

A competitor may be issued a non-contact penalty. Non-contact penalties include, but are not limited to the following:

- The technique was going in the direction of an illegal target area (this would include fakes or feints).
- The technique came close to an illegal target area.
- The competitor was running out of the ring to avoid being scored upon.
- The competitor was purposely falling to avoid being scored upon.
- The competitor is delaying the match (slow returning to mark, slow getting up, etc).
- The competitor is receiving coaching.
- The competitor is grabbing an opponent.

Non-contact warnings will receive the following penalty:

- For the first infraction in the match, the competitor will receive a warning only.
- For each additional infraction in the match, a penalty point will be awarded to the competitor's opponent.

Contact Warnings

Contact warning rules are for the safety of competitors. The safety equipment is only effective in stopping cuts and bruises from accidental contact made with controlled technique. It will not protect against full-power attacks. Contact warnings are awarded when contact is made to an illegal area.

Examples would be:

- Contact made with any hand techniques to the head.
- A legal technique makes contact to any illegal target area .
- The technique used was illegal and made contact.

Contact warnings will receive the following penalty:

- The first infraction in the match, will result in a penalty point awarded to the competitor's opponent.
- The second infraction in the match, will be result in the automatic disqualification of the competitor.
- All contact penalties will result in a point awarded the defender. This includes non-intentional contact that does not fall under the “NO FAULT” rule.

No-Fault Rule

If a competitor throws a technique that is intended for a legal target area, but due to actions outside of his/her control, strikes (or comes close to) the opponent in an illegal target area, the competitor will not be penalized. An important factor in determining if the no-fault rule should be exercised is if the competitor recognized what was about to happen and tried to further control the technique. It is also important to remember that this is a judgment call by those judges in the ring. Judges will use their experience and the attitudes of the competitors as guidelines when using the no-fault rule.

Example #1: A competitor throws a sidekick towards his opponent’s ribs. The opponent does a spinning hook kick at the

same time and is kicked in the back. This would result in a no-fault call.

Example #2: A competitor throws a reverse punch towards his opponent's chest. The opponent ducks down and is hit in the face, or blocks the punch up into his/her face. This would result in a no-fault call.

Excessive Contact

Excessive conduct warnings are in the sole discretion of the center judge and may result in a penalty point or disqualification. Remember that the purpose of this rule is to protect the competitors physically and mentally. It may result in disqualification if excessive contact was due to malice or a negligent lack of control.

Disqualification for Contact Warnings

If a competitor is disqualified for contact warnings during sparring, he/she is eliminated from competition during that tournament only, not from future tournaments.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=TRADITIONAL_POINT_SPARRING/_ONE-STEP_COMPETITION&oldid=444"

-
- This page was last modified on 15 May 2014, at 10:12.
 - This page has been accessed 712 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

COMBAT WEAPONS SPARRING COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Eligibility Requirements
- 3 Equipment
- 4 Combat Weapons Sparring Procedures
- 5 Legal Target Areas
- 6 Points
- 7 Dropped & Broken Weapons
- 8 Warnings and Penalty Points
 - 8.1 Procedures for Calling a Warning
 - 8.2 Non-Contact Warnings
 - 8.3 Contact Warnings
 - 8.4 Excessive Contact Warnings

Introduction

Every program sponsored by the ATA is a constantly evolving process. They grow, change and adapt to the uses of our organization. For this reason, Grand Master In Ho Lee has approved the development of Combat Weapons Sparring as the newest competitive event in our tournament arsenal. This event is meant to be one that is an extension of the traditional weapons through practical applications.

Eligibility Requirements

Combat Weapons Sparring will be offered at all regional and national events to those competitors who meet the following requirements. The competitor must:

- All ranks camo belt and up are eligible for combat weapons sparring.
- Meet the general eligibility requirements.

Equipment

Weapon

The Protech Combat Bahng Mahng Ee sold through World Martial Arts, is currently the only combat sparring weapon approved for competition. It differs greatly from the Protech traditional safety Bahng Mahng Ee in both weight and dimensions. The height of the competitor does not dictate the length of the combat weapon.

Sparring Gear

The sparring gear requirements are the same for combat weapons as traditional point sparring with the exception of the gloves. There are two options for gloves, traditional sparring gloves or ATA branded combat gloves.

Optional equipment includes

- Forearm Pads.
- Knee Pads.

- Shin Pads.

Combat Weapons Sparring Procedures

- Prior to combat weapons sparring competition, it is the responsibility of the center judge to verify that all competitors are using all of the mandatory safety gear including groin protection for males and that all such gear is ATA approved. The judges must also verify that an approved combat weapon is being used.
- Combat weapons sparring bracket will be set up using the ATA bye system. Once the bracket is completed, announce the competitors that received byes.
- Following traditional point sparring procedures, the center judge will call up competitors in pairs until 1st place, 2nd and 3rd place are determined.
- Each combat weapons sparring match will last a maximum of 2 minutes.
- If one competitor reaches 10 points before the end of the two minutes, he/she will be the winner.
- Ties will be determined by "sudden victory", the first person to score, and there is no time limit for "sudden victory."
- Unless a disqualification is declared, the competitor who scores the greater number of points at the end of regulation time will be declared the winner.

Legal Target Areas

Points in a combat weapons sparring competition are scored by striking or stabbing with the weapon to a legal target area using one of the combat weapons sparring techniques or by causing one's opponent to drop his/her weapon.

The following guidelines apply:

- The entire body is a legal target area in combat weapons sparring with the following exceptions:
 - Groin.
 - Stab to the eyes.
 - Any area of the neck not covered by head gear (face shield is considered part of the headgear).

Points

Strikes with the weapon to a legal contact area will result in the following points with a maximum of 4 points given at any one time:

- **1 point** will be awarded for a legal strike or stab to the body not including the head or weapon-holding arm below the elbow.
- **2 points** will be awarded for a legal strike to the head, weapon-holding arm below the elbow, or stab to the front leg
- **Add one point** to the score for jumping techniques.

The strike or stab must be effective and under control to be considered a scoring technique by the judges.

Dropped & Broken Weapons

If a competitor drops his/her weapon any time after the beginning of the match, an additional point will be awarded to the opponent. If the weapon breaks during the competition, the competitor will be given an opportunity to replace it. A broken weapon is not a dropped weapon and the competitor will not be penalized in this case. If the weapon is not replaced in a timely manner, the competitor will forfeit the match.

Procedures for a Dropped Weapon

- When a weapon is dropped, the center judge will look at the time-keeper and say "Stop Time"
- A discussion will then take place about when the drop occurred. There are two options.

- The drop occurred during the active part of the match. The competitor who dropped the weapon can not be awarded points for scoring techniques.
- The drop occurred after break was called as the competitors are returning to their starting positions. This is the inactive part of the match and the competitor who dropped the weapon may be awarded points for scoring techniques.
- Award point for drop.
- Call for points if necessary.
- Time resumes when center judge restarts the match.

Example #1:The red competitor preforms a scoring strike but during the follow through drops his/her weapon. White is awarded a point for red's dropped weapon and the red competitor **cannot** be awarded points for the scoring technique.

Example #2:The red competitor preforms a scoring strike and break is called. As red moves back to his starting position, he drops his weapon. A point is awarded to white for red's drop and red **can** receive points for his scoring technique.

Warnings and Penalty Points

The safety of all competitors is the main concern of every judge involved. It is because of this safety concern that the calling of warnings is a very important aspect of the judge's responsibility. Warnings are given when the judge sees the competitor do something illegal. There are three different types of warnings: Noncontact, Contact and Excessive Contact.

Procedures for Calling a Warning

The procedures for calling warning in combat weapons sparring are the same those used in traditional point sparring.

Non-Contact Warnings

A competitor may be issued a non-contact penalty. Non-contact penalties include, but are not limited to the following:

- The competitor was running out of the ring to avoid being scored upon.
- The competitor was purposely falling to avoid being scored upon.
- The competitor is delaying the match (slow returning to mark, slow getting up, etc).
- The competitor is receiving coaching.

Non-contact warnings will receive the following penalty:

- For the first infraction in the match, the competitor will receive a warning only.
- For each additional infraction in the match, a penalty point will be awarded to the competitor's opponent.

Contact Warnings

Contact warning rules are for the safety of competitors in their different divisions. The safety equipment is only effective in stopping cuts and bruises from accidental contact made with controlled technique. It will not protect against full-power attacks. Contact warnings are awarded when contact is made to an illegal area.

Examples would be:

- Strikes to illegal targets.
- Stabs to illegal targets.
- Take downs of any kind.
- Throwing one's opponent.
- Grapping one's opponent.

Contact warnings will receive the following penalty:

- The first infraction in the match, will result in a penalty point awarded to the competitor's opponent.

- The second infraction in the match, will result in the automatic disqualification of the competitor.

Excessive Contact Warnings

Excessive Contact Warnings follow the same procedures as traditional point sparring guidelines.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=COMBAT_WEAPON_SPARRING_COMPETITION&oldid=407"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 13:46.
- This page has been accessed 313 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

ATA-CREATIVE COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Eligibility Requirements for Creative Competition
- 2 General Rules & Guidelines for Creative Forms & Weapons Competition
 - 2.1 Uniform Requirements for Creative Competition
 - 2.2 Music
- 3 Creative Form Composition Guidelines
- 4 Approved ATA Creative Weapons
- 5 Creative Weapons Form Composition Guidelines
- 6 Creative Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures
 - 6.1 Competitor Bow in Procedures
 - 6.2 Determining and Administering a Score
 - 6.3 Judging Criteria for Creative Forms & Weapons
 - 6.4 Penalties and Disqualifications
 - 6.5 Dropped Weapon in Creative Competition
- 7 ATA Creative Divisions

Eligibility Requirements for Creative Competition

In addition to the regular eligibility requirements, in order to compete in any ATA creative competition, the competitor must also compete in the traditional event that correlates to the ATA creative event in which they wish to compete. Failure to compete in the corresponding event, will result in the loss of points earned at the creative event. This applies to all ATA sanctioned tournaments regardless of the tournament's classification.

Example: If a competitor wishes to compete in ATA Creative Forms, the competitor must also compete in Traditional Forms at that tournament. The same would apply for ATA Creative Weapons competition.

General Rules & Guidelines for Creative Forms & Weapons Competition

The competitors should use the materials taught in Traditional Songahm Taekwondo to "create" their own form which enhances their strengths as a martial artist. The most simple guideline to follow is that if the basis of the technique is not taught in Songahm Taekwondo forms, then it should not be used in a student's presentation. There are no rolls, splits, kip-ups, cart-wheels, or other gymnastic type techniques taught in Traditional Songahm Taekwondo forms, hence they are not allowed in creative competitions. The key to this guideline is the term "basis of the technique". A student who learns an inner crescent in class, may use that technique to perform a jump reverse inner crescent. Scissor kicks, triple(side-twist- round) kick and quadruple (side-twist-round-side) kicks are allowed. All of these techniques are the result of combined basic kicking techniques taught in Songahm Taekwondo. If a competitor feels that a technique is questionable, he/she should contact the tournament department for clarification before inserting it into their routine.

Uniform Requirements for Creative Competition

- Student may wear traditional white dobok.
- ATA Creative/Xtreme Traditional Black Uniform.
- They may **not wear** the sleeveless ATA-Xtreme uniform.
- **Competitors may not remove any part of their clothing during performance.**

Music

- Music is allowed but not mandatory.
- In keeping with the concept that judges will consider difficulty, then, if music is used, a competitor who performs “in time” with the music may receive a higher score.
- All music must be approved by the student’s instructor.
- Music is the responsibility of the competitor. Each competitor must have their own sound system in good working order. Dead batteries, ipod malfunctions are the result of the poor preparation and malfunctions will not change the time limit. The total time limit of 2 minutes will stand regardless of any music malfunction. Competitors should continue without music if there is any delay and have the person designated to play their music take the appropriate action in keeping with the wishes of that competitor.

Creative Form Composition Guidelines

The following guidelines are in place for ATA Creative competition (Forms & Weapons):

- At least 50% of the form must be original material.
- The entire presentation must be no longer than 2 minutes from judge's command to start time until the competitor finishes their performance.
- The following techniques are **not allowed**:
 - No movements with greater than 360 degree turn or twist in the air.
 - No Chinese Wushu Butterfly Kicks or Butterfly kicks with twists.
 - No intended movements where head is below the waist (leaning to kick high is acceptable).
 - No Rolls, kip-ups, cartwheels or other gymnastic type movements.
 - No "illusion" techniques.
 - No "gyro" techniques.
- The following techniques **are allowed**:
 - Multiple traditional butterfly kicks are allowed.
 - Multiple spinning kicks are allowed.

Approved ATA Creative Weapons

General Guidelines:

- All traditional weapon size requirements apply in creative weapon competition.
- Competitors may not use single Ssahng Nat, nor may they combine any weapon types (example: they cannot use one Bahng Mahng Ee and one Ssahng Nat)

Color Belts

The same weapons rules apply as in Traditional Weapons Competition.

- The same selection of the type weapons applies – NO others are added.
- The same style of weapons applies - Protech safety weapons for all types of weapons except Jahng Bongs & Jee Pahng Ees.

Black Belts

- May choose the following types of weapons:
 - Any weapon from within the entire “Protech” curriculum.
 - The use of double Gum Do swords is allowed.
 - The use of double Jahng Bong is allowed.
- Black belts have two styles of weapons from which to choose:
 - Black belts may use Protech safety weapons.

- XMA or ATA-Xtreme branded weapons. The “XMA” branded Xtreme competition sword has the logo on the scabbard and an “X” shaped hand guard.
- Jahng Bongs & Jee Pahng Ees may be of any type.

Creative Weapons Form Composition Guidelines

- In addition to the above rules, the following additions apply to the creative weapon competitions.
- Weapons releases are not allowed.
- Weapon rolls are allowed. A weapon roll is where the weapon remains in contact with the body.
- It is also considered a release if a competitor drops the weapon and catches it before it hits the ground.
- The sheath of the **Gum Do** is considered part of the weapon. **In creative weapons, if a student elects to enter the ring with the sheath, it may not be set down or released.**

Creative Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures

Creative forms and weapons competition procedures will parallel traditional forms and weapons competition procedures with the addition of the scorekeeper timing the competitors performance.

- Prior to the start of the ring, the judges will perform a weapons inspection.
- The score keeper will start the time when the center judge says, "Your time begins now."
- The scorekeeper will inform the center judge when the 2 minutes have expired.

Competitor Bow in Procedures

1. When a competitor's name is called, he/she enter the ring and run to the center of the ring for their traditional bow-in.
2. Upon the completion of the traditional bow-in, the center judge will say, “Your time begins now”. The scorekeeper will start the clock.
3. Competitor may not back up and exit the ring or go to the back corner and re-enter to present themselves to the judges. Competitor must either start their form or may step forward and present themselves to the judges. (The competitor may adjust their starting point to begin their form, but if they do so, they may not then come forward and present themselves to the judges.)

Determining and Administering a Score

Scoring for creative forms and weapons will be awarded in the same manner as traditional forms competition and will have a consistent meaning. [LINK](#)

Judging Criteria for Creative Forms & Weapons

All 3 Judges will score the entire form. The judging criteria are the following. They all should be considered and are not in any particular order.

- Creativity.
- Difficulty
- Presentation.
- Attitude.
- Precision.
- Control of weapon is added to the judging criteria for creative weapons.

Penalties and Disqualifications

Penalties

- A competitor that fails to follow the bow in procedure will receive a .1 deduction for each judge.

Disqualifications

- If a competitor exceeds the time limit he/she is disqualified and no score will be given.
- Any performance that includes a technique that is not allowed will result in disqualification.
- A creative form that is not 50% original will result in the competitor being disqualified.
- When a disqualifications occurs, the judge will say: **“Thank you for your performance today but because you . . . , no score will be given”**.

Dropped Weapon in Creative Competition

- **Dropping the weapon:** A dropped weapon will result in a **two (2)** tenths of a point deduction from all three judges.
- **Retrieving the Weapon:** A weapon that is retrieved must be picked up in the traditional manner. If a weapon is picked up incorrectly, an additional **two (2)** tenths of a point will be deducted from all three judges.
- **Multiple Drops:** If the competitor drops the weapon more than once, a **two tenths** penalty per drop &/or incorrect pick up will be deducted.
- **Minimum Score:** The lowest possible score in creative weapons is 9.1.
- **Procedure:** If there are mandatory deductions, the center will explain them to the corner judges before scores are given.

ATA Creative Divisions

Divisions are based on gender, age, and rank of the competitors. At the conclusion of each tournament season, the International Chairman of Tournaments will evaluate the number of competitors in each division and determine if any changes are to be made for subsequent tournament seasons. Divisions change as the organization grows and more students in different age and rank groups compete. The current divisions are either black belt or color belt, and follow the current age divisions.

Creative divisions at national and world events will reflect these age groups. At Regional events Creative divisions may be combined in the following way:

- **Case 1:** One gender group has 1 competitor & the other has 5 or more. Male and females will be combined.
- **Case 2:** One gender group has 2 - 4 competitors & the other has 5 or more. Male and females will be not combined.
- **Case 3:** Both gender groups have less than 5 competitors. Male and females will be combined.
- **Age groups will not be combined, nor will black belts be combined with color belts.**

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=ATA-CREATIVE_COMPETITION&oldid=442"

-
- This page was last modified on 12 May 2014, at 11:15.
 - This page has been accessed 676 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

ATA-XTREME COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 **Eligibility Requirements**
- 2 ATA-Xtreme Competition Rules & Guidelines
 - 2.1 Uniform Requirements for ATA Xtreme Competition
 - 2.2 Music
- 3 ATA Xtreme Form Composition Guidelines
- 4 Approved ATA-Xtreme Weapons
- 5 ATA Xtreme Weapons Form Composition Guidelines
- 6 ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures
 - 6.1 Competitor Bow in Procedures
 - 6.2 Determining and Administering Scores
 - 6.3 Judging Criteria for ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons
 - 6.4 Penalties and Disqualifications
 - 6.5 Dropping Weapons in ATA Xtreme Competition
- 7 ATA-Xtreme Divisions

Eligibility Requirements

In addition to the regular eligibility requirements, in order to compete in any ATA- Xtreme competition, the competitor must also compete in the traditional event that correlates to the ATA-Xtreme event in which they wish to compete. Failure to compete in the corresponding event will result in the loss of points earned at that event. This applies to all ATA sanctioned tournaments regardless of the tournament's classification.

Example: If a competitor wishes to compete in ATA-Xtreme Forms, the competitor must also compete in Traditional Forms at that tournament. The same would apply for ATA-Xtreme Weapons competition.

ATA-Xtreme Competition Rules & Guidelines

ATA Xtreme form & weapon competitions are a "free Style" performance that allows the mix of traditional and contemporary martial arts techniques. The ATA Xtreme division category for forms and weapons competition is based in traditional Songahm Taekwondo but allows for non-traditional movements spanning all martial arts styles and disciplines where as the ATA Creative division categories do not. Competitors are free to create their own choreography based where martial arts techniques and combinations carry the highest value over non-martial arts techniques such as gymnastics, acrobatics, and dance.

Note There are no “qualifying techniques” that must be performed.

Uniform Requirements for ATA Xtreme Competition

Student may wear:

- Traditional Dobok.
- Sleeveless ATA-Xtreme uniform.
- ATA Creative/Xtreme black uniform.
- **Competitors may not remove any part of their clothing during performance.**

Music

Follows the same guidelines as creative events.

ATA Xtreme Form Composition Guidelines

The following guidelines are in place for ATA-Xtreme competition (Forms & Weapons):

- Competitors in these divisions must demonstrate a form or weapons form that reflects the essence and values of ATA-Xtreme.
- At least 50% of the form must be original material.
- The entire presentation must be no longer than 2 minutes from judge's command to start time until the competitor finishes their performance.
- There is no limit to the number of "tricks" allowed.
- All types of kicks and combinations are allowed as long as the instructor of the competitor approves of the safety aspect of the presentation. Safety is the number one concern.
- No props are allowed.

Approved ATA-Xtreme Weapons

Same as Creative Weapons .

ATA Xtreme Weapons Form Composition Guidelines

In addition to the rules for ATA Xtreme forms competition, the following additions apply to the ATA-Xtreme Weapon Competitions:

- Releases of the weapon are allowed in ATA-Xtreme competition.
- During ATA Xtreme competition the sheath of the Gum Do may be set aside as long as it is done in a way that is not disrespectful to the weapon.

ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons Competition Procedures

ATA Xtreme forms and weapons competition procedure will mirror creative forms and weapons competition procedures.

Competitor Bow in Procedures

ATA Xtreme forms and weapons competition bow in procedure will mirror creative forms and weapons competition bow in procedures.

Determining and Administering Scores

Scoring for ATA Xtreme forms and weapons competition will be awarded in the same manner as creative forms and weapons competition and will have consistent meanings.

Judging Criteria for ATA Xtreme Forms & Weapons

- All 3 judges will score the entire form.
- The **first aspect** of the form demonstrated will be as follows and these 5 should all be considered, but not weighted in any particular order.
 - Creativity.

- Difficulty.
- Presentation.
- Attitude.
- Precision of the taekwondo techniques presented.
- Control of the weapon is added to the judging criteria for ATA Xtreme weapons.
- The **second aspect** a judge will consider are the "tricks" and "variety of tricks" presented in the form.

Example #1: Competitor A, who is equal in presenting an "XTREME" form that is creative, has strong, difficult, precise techniques with a great attitude, may not score as high as Competitor B who adds a variety of "tricks" to the that same type of form.

Example #2: Competitor A, whose taekwondo techniques are not crisp and strong but has many difficult "tricks" within their form, may not score as high as the Competitor B who has strong, crisp, precise techniques, but does not include as many tricks in their Xtreme form presentation.

Example #3: Competitor A and B are equal in techniques and creativity, but Competitor A only does tumbling passes as his/her "tricks" he/she may not score as high, if Competitor B performs martial arts kicking "tricks" verses gymnastic/acrobatic type "tricks".

Example #4: If Competitor A and B are equal in everything including "tricks", the competitor that demonstrates a stronger ability to integrate the "tricks" into martial arts combinations may score higher.

- **Case A:** Both competitors do aerial cartwheels but Competitor A performs it in combination - Butterfly kick, hook kick into the aerial ending with a punch in a front stance, Competitor A demonstrates higher level difficulty through integration of this acrobatic move into a martial arts combination verses just doing a stand- alone aerial.
- **Case B:** Performing a Jump Split kick, back tuck, pop front kick turn punch is more difficult than just a back tuck and landing in a stance or on one's knee.

Penalties and Disqualifications

Penalties

- A competitor that fails to follow the bow in procedure will receive a .1 deduction from each judge.

Disqualifications

- If a competitor exceeds the time limit he/she is disqualified and no score will be given.
- If a competitor competes with a form that is not 50% original, then he/she is disqualified and no score will be given.
- When a disqualifications occurs, the judge will say: **"Thank you for your performance today but because you . . . , no score will be given"**.

Dropping Weapons in ATA Xtreme Competition

Same point deduction will be used for ATA Xtreme weapons as in creative weapon competition. See Dropping Weapons in Creative Competition.

ATA-Xtreme Divisions

Same as divisions as in ATA creative divisions.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=ATA-XTREME_COMPETITION&oldid=424"

-
- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 15:49.
 - This page has been accessed 5,676 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

ATA TIGER COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Establishing Our Goal
- 2 Tiger Age and Rank Guidelines
- 3 Tiger Division Breakdowns
- 4 Tiger Ring Staff
- 5 Tiger Traditional Form & One-Step Knowledge
- 6 Tiger Judging Criteria & Scoring Format
- 7 Categories of ATA Tiger Awards

Establishing Our Goal

The overall goal of encouraging ATA Tigers to participate in the Songahm Taekwondo tournament process is to provide them with an **introduction to competition**. By handling “ATA Tiger” divisions as an **introduction to competition** we insure that there will not be any “losers,” only “winners.” All children will be rewarded for what is important, their participation and effort. A key element to this ring is that it should be FUN!

Tiger Age and Rank Guidelines

The recommended ages for ATA Tigers are from 3 to 6 years old. If a student trains as a ATA Tiger in their school, then they will be allowed to participate in the tiger division of an ATA tournament. Likewise, if a child is training as a junior student rather than an ATA Tiger, then they should participate in the junior divisions. The student’s instructor will determine in which division the child should participate. **At each tournament, leadership students of tiger age have a choice to participate as a tiger or as a junior but not as both. If a student participates as a tiger for one event in a tournament, then they must participate as a tiger for all events at that tournament. Conversely, if a student competes as a junior for one event in a tournament, then they must compete as a junior for all events at that tournament.**

Tiger Division Breakdowns

The following are guidelines for tiger divisions:

- It is strongly recommend that a tiger divisions have no more than 8 participants with a maximum number of 10.
- At regional events, it is preferable to keep tiger white belts in a separate division from orange and yellow belts. However, it is sometimes not possible.
- It is recommended, but not required that no more than three rank groups be combined.
- In tiger rings, male and female participants may be in the same ring. This is true for all ranks, including those that spar.

Tiger Ring Staff

Due to the fact that ATA Tigers do not actually compete, the ring staff can be different from the normal tournament guidelines. Only one judge and one helper are required in each ring.

- Every effort will be made to ensure that tiger judges have experience working with this age group.
- The helper will be a leader through forms and one-steps. These leaders will be available if the child needs help with any of the material they are performing and must know the material for which they are providing help.
- The helper may be a junior leader, younger trainee instructor, or specially trained color belt that knows the material.
- Leaders will only be used for those participants that have indicated they need help on their registration card or if the tiger gets stuck during the demonstration of their form or one-steps.
- Leaders will perform each form and/or one-step in such a manner that the tiger will be able to follow along.
- The leader may also verbally lead the student. They should use the proper names for each technique and include a descriptive term that will remind the child how to do the technique.

Tiger Traditional Form & One-Step Knowledge

The decision of what material the ATA Tiger will participate with will be left up to their instructor and should be indicated on their registration card. Tigers may compete with only one one-step or they may use two one-steps.

Tiger Judging Criteria & Scoring Format

Since this is an **introduction to competition**, scoring for forms, one-steps, and sparring will be totally different from other divisions.

Judging of Tigers will be as follows:

- A tiger will not receive a numerical score. Instead the judge will make a positive comment about the performance of the student.
- For one-step competition, call tigers up two at a time and have them face the front of the ring, and not each other. The judge will direct and the leader will help each tiger to do his/her one-step(s). The judge will not award points, but will comment positively about the effort and techniques demonstrated.
- For free sparring competition, points will not be issued. Instead, when the judge sees something special to comment on, he/she should call "break" and make a positive comment about the move. Free-sparring rounds for tigers will be 1 minute each.
- Each tiger will do 2 rounds of one-steps or free-sparring. If there is an odd number of tigers, one of them will do three rounds. The judge should pick a good positive reason for having that tiger perform an additional time.

Categories of ATA Tiger Awards

Once the tigers have completed their demonstration, the judge will decide on which participant will receive an award in each of the following suggested categories:

- Best Kicks.
- Strongest Punches.
- Loudest Yells.
- Amazing Power.
- Best Black Belt Attitude.
- Fantastic Focus.
- Best Memory.
- Fastest Moves.
- Awesome Blocks.
- Most Energy.

A separate set of awards are given to those tigers who competes in Traditional Weapons, ATA-Xtreme Forms, ATA-Xtreme Weapons, Creative Forms or Creative Weapons competitions. The categories will be very similar to the categories for forms and sparring. The following are suggested categories:

- Incredible Control.
- Super Speed.
- Black Belt Weapon Demonstration.
- Powerful Weapon Handling.
- Terrific Twirling.
- Cool Creativity.
- Best ATA Spirit.
- Amazing Combos.
- Strongest Strikes/cuts.
- Weapon Super Star.
- Xtreme combos.

Regions may decide to change these categories at their discretion, but it should be done with the input of those Instructors that work with tigers.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=ATA_TIGER_COMPETITION&oldid=414"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 13:56.
- This page has been accessed 153 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

SPECIAL ABILITIES COMPETITION

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Special Abilities Competitor Eligibility
- 3 Definitions of Permanent Physical Limitations / Impaired Mental Acuity
- 4 Special Abilities Eligibility Procedures
- 5 Special Abilities Divisions
- 6 Special Abilities Rule Adjustments
 - 6.1 Traditional Form / Traditional Weapons Competition
 - 6.2 Traditional Point Sparring Competition

Introduction

Since the time when Eternal Grandmaster Lee formed the Special Ability divisions for tournament competition and afforded them the opportunity to earn the title of World Champion, the intent has always been to offer safe and fair competition for those who were unable to compete with others of their age, gender, and rank due to a permanent physical or cognitive limitations. The Tournament Department has faced the dilemma of determining who can fairly compete in the Special Ability divisions at regional, national, and world tournaments and accumulate points for the Special Ability State and World Champion divisions. The following information should answer many questions or lead one to the person (or people) who can. The last few years of competition has seen a significant growth not only in the number of Special Abilities competitors, but also in the involvement of Instructors, parents, and interested members. We are very pleased to have so many involved with actual participation, support, and input. This facet of the ATA membership cannot grow and succeed through the efforts of just a few. It takes everyone.

Special Abilities Competitor Eligibility

Those eligible to compete in the Special Abilities divisions must have either of the following:

- Meet the general requirement to compete in an ATA tournament. [Link](#)
- Permanent Physical Limitation.
- Impaired Mental Acuity.

Definitions of Permanent Physical Limitations / Impaired Mental Acuity

Permanent Physical Limitation: This permanent physical limitation would put the competitor at an extreme disadvantage against non-physically challenged peers.

Some examples of a permanent physical limitation that would deem the competitor eligible for a Special Ability division:

- Has a bone, muscle, or nerve disorder that severely limits the physical mobility of the competitor.
- Has an artificial leg(s).
- Is forced to use a wheelchair or other device to maintain mobility.
- Is blind.

Some examples of physical limitations that would **not** make the competitor eligible for a Special Ability division:

- Muscle pulls, strains, or tears, recovering from a surgery or procedure that temporarily limits the physical mobility.
- Is hearing impaired.
- Has a seizure disorder.
- Minor arthritic conditions, or joint replacement.

Impaired Mental Acuity: By impaired mental acuity, the intent is that the competitor is at an extreme disadvantage against non-challenged peers due to the inability to comprehend all aspects of the competition. Some examples of impaired mental acuity would include (but not be limited to):

- Cognitively disabled (impaired ability to function independently).
- Autism.
- Down syndrome.

Some examples of conditions that would **not** make the competitor eligible. These disabilities include but are not limited to:

- Learning disabilities.
- Dyslexia.
- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).
- Attention Deficit/Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD).
- Psychiatric diagnoses.

Special Abilities Eligibility Procedures

Any competitor wishing to compete in the Special Abilities division must be approved by the Special Abilities Eligibility Committee. The committee is a multidisciplinary group made up of medical and psycho-social professionals that review each application and the supporting information provided to ensure that competitors are appropriate for the division. The chairperson of this committee is appointed by the International Chairman of Tournaments. The current director of this committee is Ms. Susan Winter.

The following is required to be done for any competitor to enter into a Special Abilities division:

- Download the Special Abilities application from ATAonline.com
- Complete the application and email along with any support information to: specialabilities@princetonata.com. If one is unable to email the application, it may be faxed to 609-430-2893
- The committee will review the application and support information and render a decision. If additional information is required, the applicant's instructor will be contacted.
- The applicant will receive the committee determination in writing.
- An approval does not have to be renewed each year; however all parties involved should remember that there are times when individuals, especially younger competitors, will outgrow their need to be in the special abilities division.
- Once a competitor has been approved to compete in a Special Abilities division, he/she should not compete in a non-Special Abilities division for that tournament year. Failure to comply may result in Special Abilities status being revoked.

Any Top Ten points awarded to someone who is inappropriately placed in the Special Abilities division for competition will be forfeited.

Please remember, the intent of these divisions is to providing opportunity for those who qualify to earn the self-respect and self-esteem they could not have previously earned. The goal is that the competition be fair and safe.

Special Abilities Divisions

The following Special Abilities divisions will be at all ATA sanctioned events:

Cognitively Challenged

Boys	12 & Under	13 to 17
Girls	12 & Under	13 to 17
Men	18 to 29	30 & Over
Women	18 to 29	30 & Over

Physically Challenged

Boys	12 & Under	13 to 17
Girls	12 & Under	13 to 17
Men	18 to 29	30 & Over
Women	18 to 29	30 & Over

There are separate divisions for those with cognitive challenges and for those with physical challenges. These divisions are for each gender and age group. To determine which division a member should compete in, the competitor's diagnosis that requires the most adaptations for their activities of daily living.

Example: A competitor has been diagnosed as autistic, but in addition has physical challenges such as fine or gross motor limitations of that autism, the competitor has become physically challenged, the competitor will be included in the cognitive division. The assignment of proper division will be done by the eligibility committee on a case-by-case basis with the necessary input from the competitor, parent or guardian, Instructor, and doctor where needed.

In the Special Abilities divisions, the Junior and Adult divisions are divided by age and whether the student is a Black Belt or Color Belt. These divisions are different from the regular ATA competitor divisions because of the limited number of participants.

Special Abilities Rule Adjustments

Traditional Form / Traditional Weapons Competition

Traditional Form and Traditional Weapons competition for the Special Ability divisions will be run the same as other divisions with one exception; **all the judges will watch the entire form quality and the intent of the technique rather than the original assignments.** The logic behind this rule is as follows:

- There are competitors that cannot perform kicks and stances; therefore it is not reasonable to expect a judge that is assigned to judge kicks and stances to give a fair score.
- There are competitors that cannot perform hand techniques; therefore it is not reasonable to expect a judge that is assigned to judge blocks and strikes to give a fair score.
- By allowing the judges to evaluate all aspects of the form and weapon performance the judges, while taking into consideration the intent of the technique shown and what they are capable of doing, can fairly judge and score the competition.

Traditional Point Sparring Competition

Sparring competition for the Special Ability divisions will run the same as other divisions with one exception; **all scoring techniques will be awarded one point.** The logic behind this rule is as follows:

- A person confined to a wheel chair would never have the opportunity to score a two or three point technique.
- It would give an unfair advantage for a standing competitor to be able to score a two or three point technique to a seated opponent.
- The variety of the competitors' individual mobility to evade a two or three point technique could also put a competitor at an unfair disadvantage.

Competitors are still allowed and encouraged to use any legal techniques towards legal targets.

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 14:01.
- This page has been accessed 96 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

CHAMPION PROGRAMS

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Tournament Year
- 3 Competitive Events
- 4 Proper Division Placement
 - 4.1 Competition Age
 - 4.2 Rank Information
- 5 "Class C" Tournaments
- 6 "Class B" Tournaments
- 7 "Class A" Tournaments
- 8 "Class AA" Tournaments
- 9 "Class AAA" Tournaments
- 10 Point Structure and Maximum Points
- 11 Top Ten Standings

Introduction

There are three titles that can be earned by competitors in the ATA: State/Provincial Champion, District Champion and World Champion.

Tournament Year

The tournament year runs from World Championships through the last Saturday in April of the next calendar year. At World Championships one tournament year ends with the Tournament of Champions and another begins with the Class "AAA" World Championship tournament usually on Saturday and Sunday.

Competitive Events

There are eight (8) competitive events that are awarded points in an ATA tournament. These are traditional forms, traditional weapons, traditional free sparrings/one-steps, combat weapons, creative forms, creative weapons, xtreme forms and xtreme weapons.

Proper Division Placement

It is very important to understand into which division a student should be place. The proper division is based on **competition age** and **rank**.

Competition Age

See Competition Age.

Rank Information

The criteria that is important for color belt and black belt students differ. It is important to check rank information provided in State and World Championship programs to understand the best placement for the competitor. Some general notes:

- 1BR competitors are not allowed to compete in a black belt division.
- 2BR competitors must compete as the 2nd degree black belts.

"Class C" Tournaments

Class C tournaments are to be "inner-school" events. There are two ways for a tournament to qualify as "inner-school".

1. Competitors are limited to only members of schools or clubs owned by the same owner. Owner is define as a person included on the license of the school or club on record with the School Operations Department of the ATA International Headquarters.
2. Any school or club that has an average testing number of 35 or less, may combine with any other school or club or multiple clubs/schools as long as the combined testing average is 70 or less. The average testing number will be determined by the testing department by taking the total number of Black Belts and Color Belts who test during the previous year's tournament season and dividing the total number by 6, or the actual number of tests sent in (whichever number is less), to create the average number tested. School Licensees who fail to turn in tests in a timely manner may hamper their ability to combine with other clubs or schools for this process.

If ineligible members of other schools or clubs compete in these events, the results may become null and void and any possible points earned may not be awarded.

Important Sanctions Information for ATA Licensee:

- The Class C event must be sanctioned with the Tournament Department of the ATA International Headquarters at least 30 days in advance of the event.
- Only one Class C tournament may be hosted by an ATA Licensee during any 30 day period.
- These events must not conflict with other regional (in the ATA Licensee's region), national, or international events and will not be officially sanctioned if the dates do conflict.

The points awarded in all divisions (except Special Abilities) at a Class C tournament for the purpose of State or World Top Ten standings are as follows:

For all divisions of 5 competitors or more

1st place	3 points
2nd place	2 points
3rd place	1 point

If the division has fewer than 5 competitors:

Place	4 competitors	3 competitors	2 competitors	1 competitor
1st	2 pts	1 pt	0 pt	0 pt
2nd	1 pt	0 pt	0 pt	
3rd	0 pt	0 pt		

There will be NO points awarded for divisions with fewer than 3 competitors. The creation of divisions is solely in the hands of the school/club owner. They are not bound by any of the same rules governing the other classes of tournaments.

Color belts and black belts may be combined to achieve a full division. To prevent abuse of the system (this limit

applies only to Class C tournaments), there is a four event limit per tournament year that an owner can host and that a student can earn points in towards World or State Champion Top Ten standings. These four Class C tournaments will count in addition to the current number of events allowed towards either “Championship” group. To provide another safeguard against a competitor winning a title with only Class C tournament points, a limit of 50% of a competitor’s point total can come from Class C events.

Example: The most points a competitor can earn from Class C tournaments are 12 (4 tournaments times 3 points for first place). To be able to apply all 12 points to their total, they would need to have at least 12 points come from higher class level tournaments.

Note:

- As a point to remember, if a competitor places at Class C tournaments first, their points will not be reflected in the standings until they place at a higher class level tournament and meet the 50% rule.
- The ATA Licensee has 10 business days from the completion of the tournament to submit the results to headquarters. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of points for the students who participated.

Awarded Points for Special Abilities: For Special Abilities divisions at Class C events, the competitors may earn 1 point per competitor up to a maximum of 3 points provided that all competitors in the division are Special Ability competitors. All other rules concerning Class C events apply to Special Ability divisions. In Class C events, Cognitive and Physical categories of competitors in special ability divisions should be combined.

“Class B” Tournaments

Regional events that have been approved by the ATA Licensee’s region and sanctioned by the Tournament Department of the ATA International Headquarters are considered “Class B” tournaments.

The points awarded for a “Class B” tournament are as follows:

For all divisions of 5 competitors or more

1st place	5 points
2nd place	3 points
3rd place	1 point

If the division has fewer than 5 competitors:

Place	4 competitors	3 competitors	2 competitors	1 competitor
1st	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts	1 pt
2nd	3 pts	2 pts	1 pt	
3rd	1 pt	1 pt		

“Class A” Tournaments

“Class A” tournaments are regional events that have been approved by the ATA Licensee’s region and sanctioned by the Tournament Department of the ATA International Headquarters. In order for a tournament to be eligible for the “Class A” ranking, the history of the previous events hosted by the same ATA Licensee is reviewed.

Because of the larger size of the event and the potential for more competitors and a higher level of competition in each division, the points awarded are increased from that of a “Class B” event. The points awarded for a “Class A” tournament are as follows:

For all divisions of 5 competitors or more

1st place	8 points
2nd place	5 points

3rd place	2 point
-----------	---------

If the division has fewer than 5 competitors:

Place	4 competitors	3 competitors	2 competitors	1 competitor
1st	6 pts	3 pts	2 pts	1 pt
2nd	5 pts	2 pts	1 pt	
3rd	2 pt	1 pt		

OBJ OBJ OBJ OBJ OBJ

“Class AA” Tournaments

“Class AA” tournaments are the two National events. The number of these events may change in the future as may the locations. Due to the size of these events, the potential for more competitors and thus a higher level of competition in each division, the points awarded are of greater value than a Regional Tournament.

The points awarded for a “Class AA” tournament are as follows:

For all divisions of 5 competitors or more

1st place	15 points
2nd place	10 points
3rd place	8 point

If the division has fewer than 5 competitors:

Place	4 competitors	3 competitors	2 competitors	1 competitor
1st	12 pts	8 pts	4 pts	2 pts
2nd	8 pts	5 pts	2 pts	
3rd	5 pts	3 pts		

OBJ OBJ OBJ OBJ OBJ

“Class AAA” Tournaments

There is only one “Class AAA” tournament each year. This is hosted by the Grand Master of Songahm Taekwondo and the ATA International Headquarters. It is typically called the Songahm Taekwondo World Championships and usually has competitors from all over the world from the ATA, STF, and WTTU. Due to the size of these events, the potential for more competitors and thus a higher level of competition in each division, the points awarded are of greater value than all other Sanctioned Tournaments.

The points awarded for a “Class AAA” tournament are as follows:

For all divisions of 5 competitors or more

1st place	20 points
2nd place	15 points
3rd place	10 points

If the division has fewer than 5 competitors:

Place	4 competitors	3 competitors	2 competitors	1 competitor
1st	16 pts	12 pts	8 pts	3 pts
2nd	11 pts	9 pts	5 pts	

Point Structure and Maximum Points

All champion programs will use the same point structure for awarding points. Points are awarded based on the tournament's classification, number of participants in the event, and the competitor's placement in the event. The competitor must be in good standing with the ATA and meet the eligibility requirements for the program. There is limited number of tournaments results that will count towards the standings. They are World Championship results, best national results for each event, 5 best regional results for each event, & 4 qualifying class C results for each event. Point accumulation for individual competitive events are calculated independently.

Example: Mr. Jones competes at both Fall Nationals and Spring Nationals. He has a full ring at each tournament. He places 1st in Forms and 3rd in Traditional Weapons at Fall Nationals (FN) and he places 2nd in both Forms and Traditional Weapons at Spring Nationals (SN). His best national result, which will be used to calculate standings, for Forms is 1st place at FN and for Traditional Weapons is 2nd place at SN. The **maximum point** total is 87 for State and World Top Ten standings,

- World Championships - max of 20 points
- Best national event (You may count 1 out of 2 national events) - max 15 points
- Best five regional tournaments - max 40 points (Assuming 1st place, full ring @ 5 "A" tournaments)
- Four "Class C" events - max 12 points.

SPECIAL NOTE: "PHANTOM COMPETITORS" It has come to the attention of the Tournament Department at the ATA International Headquarters that members of the ATA have been "**bowing in**" to a ring in order to allow the ring to get "**full points**". This practice is strictly prohibited. It not only does not follow the letter of the rules, but violates the spirit as well. Only competitors who have paid for the event and fully intend to compete in that event to the best of their abilities should be allowed to participate in a ring.

Top Ten Standings

During the tournament season, the ATA Tournament Department will collect the results of all sanctioned tournaments. The eligible students who placed will receive Top Ten points according to their placing. These points are awarded in Traditional Form, Traditional Point Sparring, Traditional Weapons, ATA-Xtreme Form, ATA-Xtreme Weapons, Creative Form, Creative Weapons, and Combat Sparring competitions. These points are totaled at the end of the tournament year and those ten competitors in each division with the most points will earn a spot on the appropriate Top Ten list. All tournaments will follow all ATA tournament rules including the current guidelines for separating and combining age & rank groups and for distributing awards. Points will be awarded only for placing in those tournaments properly sanctioned by the ATA International Headquarters. Tournaments are identified by different class distinctions. Each class has different criteria that must be met and offers a different point structure.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=CHAMPION_PROGRAMS&oldid=418"

-
- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 14:05.
 - This page has been accessed 951 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 State Championship Eligibility Requirements
- 3 State Champion Program Procedures
- 4 Divisions for State Champion Program
- 5 Awarding the Title of State Champion

Introduction

Our tournament process has gone through many incarnations through the years with Grand Champions, National Champions, and World Champions. These programs have always been solely for black belts with the color belts watching and waiting for their chance to earn a title. In 2001, at the Songahm Taekwondo World Championships, the ATA introduced the State Champion Tournament Program for color belts and black belts.

State Championship Eligibility Requirements

All color belts and black belts who are enrolled in an official Leadership Program with ATA International Headquarters are eligible to earn points towards the title of State Champion. These programs include the Junior Trainee Instructor Program and the Trainee Instructor, Certified Trainee Instructor, Specialty Certified Instructor, and Certified Instructor Programs.

Note: The ability to start earning points towards the State Champion Program begins once the student has received his/her “welcome” letter from the ATA International Headquarters. It does not start once the student completes the paperwork within his/her school.

State Champion Program Procedures

- Once the official results are received by the Tournament Department of ATA International Headquarters, those competitors who are enrolled in a Leadership Program will be researched and State Championship points will be awarded to them.
- No judge at the regional, national, or world tournaments will be required to confirm a competitor’s enrollment in a Leadership Program. The Leadership requirement will be verified by the Tournament Department at International Headquarters.

Divisions for State Champion Program

Color Belt Divisions: Because color belts change rank frequently during a year, divisions cannot be based on rank. Divisions for color belts will be based on age and gender. Boys and girls will be separate from each other. Also, men and women will be separate from each other. The age breakdowns for junior and adult color belts are consistent with those used for junior and adult black belts. At a regional tournament, if any color belt age divisions are combined and a competitor places, the points will be awarded in their correct age division. The 8 & under division is strictly for those that compete as a the junior, not tiger.

Black Belt Divisions: The black belt divisions will match the divisions used in the World Champion program.

Promoting to Black Belt during competition year: A color belts who receives the rank of 1st degree decided black belt will not lose their existing color belt state champ points, but they may no longer add to their total in the color belt division.

Awarding the Title of State Champion

The title of “State Champion” is earned solely through the accumulation of points throughout the tournament season. **The following guidelines apply:**

- Points will be awarded separately for traditional form, traditional weapons, traditional one-steps/point sparring, ATA Xtreme weapons & forms and creative weapons & forms. This means there will be a State Champion for each event.
- The competitor with the highest point total in each competitive event at the end of the competition year will win the title of State Champion for their state and division.
- There will not be any kind of final competition to determine a State Champion.
- In the case of a tie in point totals, all members tied will be declared the State Champion.
- Students who compete in ATA Tiger or Novice rings will not be eligible to earn points towards the title of State Champion for that tournament.
- Your state of residence on December 31st is the state in which your points will be placed.
- Once the “Final Finals” are posted on the official ATA website at www.ataonline.com, the first place finishers will be able to purchase a special uniform indicating State Champion for his/her state and division through their instructor.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=STATE_CHAMPIONSHIP_PROGRAM&oldid=419"

- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 14:06.
- This page has been accessed 1,281 times.
- Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 General Information
- 2 Eligibility Guidelines
- 3 Additional Guidelines and Exceptions Applying to District Competition Only
 - 3.1 1st Degree Decided Black Belt Guidelines
 - 3.2 2nd Degree Recommended Black Belts and Higher Competitors
- 4 Competitor Qualifies in two Different Divisions
- 5 District Tournament Procedures
- 6 District Tournament Awards

General Information

The following are the guidelines for the 2015 District Championships. District boundaries will be evaluated annually and may change in subsequent years. The districts boundaries for 2015 was been based upon the number of competitors in each state's Top Ten for 2013-2014 and the anticipated travel distance and time for competitors and judges was also taken into consideration. See the District page at ataonline.com for details of the states comprising each district.

Eligibility Guidelines

Any student, color belt or black belt, who is listed in their state as a “State Top Ten” competitor for one or more of the 8 types of competitions is eligible to compete in the District Championships. When the final State Top Ten points are posted on the ATA official website, students listed in each competition category become eligible in that category with the following provisions:

In order to compete in this event, an eligible competitor must:

1. Be enrolled in an official Leadership program with ATA International Headquarters and a student in good standing, training regularly in a licensed ATA School or Club.
2. Obtain his/her instructor’s permission to compete in this event. Permission to compete in previous competitions does not automatically apply to the District Championship Tournament.
3. Have a current ATA membership.
4. Be listed in his/her state’s top ten for the event in which he/she tries to register.
 - **Example:** A student eligible in Traditional Forms may not be qualified to compete in Traditional Weapons, and would not be allowed to compete in Traditional Weapons at Districts.
5. Be listed as a Camo Belt or higher in rank by **May 15th** in the ATA data base kept current by the testing department of the ATA International Headquarters. It is highly recommended that all licensees have any May testing results *delivered* to HQ by **May 15th** to assure that all belt ranks are current in the ATA data base to insure that their students are able to complete the online registration process by the deadline. These belt ranks will be auto-checked by the online registration process. The registration process will not be complete for any competitor who does not meet the appropriate belt requirement. The information in the ATA HQ data base is the information that will apply to eligibility.
6. Registration will be online only. See ataonline.com for the registration window. Onsite registrations will NOT be allowed. **All registration fees are the responsibility of the competitor.**
 - **SPECIAL NOTE:** Once the online registration is complete, the competitor will not be allowed to change the decision regarding which rank to compete. The assumption will be that the competitor did in fact consult with

his/her instructor prior to registration. If an instructor informs headquarters that the student did not have his/her permission to compete prior to registration, the competitor will be disqualified from that year's District Championship Tournament.

7. If a competitor cancels his/her registration prior to **Cancellation deadline date**, a full refund will be sent to the person whose credit/debit card paid for the event. This is not an "automatic" refund from the registration site. A check will be cut from ATA Headquarters accounting department after the District Championships are completed. **Refunds will not be given after the cancellation deadline date.**
8. Ring assignments, divisions, brackets etc. will be announced, posted online, and emailed to registered competitors by announcement date.

Additional Guidelines and Exceptions Applying to District Competition Only

The rules and regulations for the 2014-2015 tournament season will be enforced with the following additional guideline and/or changes uniquely in place for District Championships.

1st Degree Decided Black Belt Guidelines

1st Degree Recommended Black Belts who have earned the rank of 1st Degree Black Belt Decided, pose some *possible* unique situations. The following rules only apply to those 1st Degree Recommended Black Belts competing in the District Championships:

- A) **1st Degree Decided black belt students who attain their rank ON OR BEFORE March 30th**, but have qualified for the Districts on the Color Belt State Top Ten list **WILL NOT** be able to compete as a color belt at District Championships. Those individuals will be allowed to compete at the Districts **ONLY IF** they earn enough points to qualify as a First Degree Decided Black Belt.
- B) **1st Degree Decided black belt students who attain their rank AFTER MARCH 30th**, and have qualified for the Districts as a color belt, **WILL BE** allowed to compete in the color belt division of Districts. However, if this competitor wins District Champion in a color belt division, he/she **WILL NOT** be eligible to compete in the Tournament of Champions.
- C) It is possible for a 1st Degree Decided Black Belt, who attains their rank after March 30th to qualify both in color belt and black belt divisions for the Districts. Only in this scenario, would the final decision, regarding in which division the student should compete, rest solely with the Instructor of that competitor. The instructor is the most qualified person to determine the competition level of the student in this situation. (ATA International Headquarters will not "over ride" the decision made by the competitor's Instructor.) If the decision, made by the competitor's instructor in this scenario, is for the student to compete as a color belt, then the student may only compete as a color belt. If the decision is to compete as a black belt, then the student may only compete as a black belt. It is not the intention of this guideline to infer that an instructor may always choose for a competitor to compete "up or down" in a belt rank. This scenario is unique only to the district championships and may not be used in any other tournament throughout the year.
- **THE ABOVE RULES, DO NOT APPLY TO ANY OTHER BLACK BELT RANK**

Example #1: At the District Championships, a 1st Degree Decided Black Belt may compete with Chung Jung 2 (red belt) material in a 1st Degree division provided he/she has not been a 1st Degree Decided longer than 6 months.

Example #2: Mr. John Competitor, who attained his rank on April 1st of current tournament year, qualifies in forms and sparring as both a Color Belt and a Black Belt. Mr. Competitor must either compete as a Black Belt or a Color Belt for the Districts. He may not compete in both at that tournament. His/her instructor will make that decision as he trains his student. The student may **NOT** compete in forms as a color belt and in sparring as a black belt.

2nd Degree Recommended Black Belts and Higher Competitors

District Championships will follow the "regular season" rules regarding which material a black may use for competition. See admissible competition forms

Competitor Qualifies in two Different Divisions

- A competitor WILL NOT be allowed to compete in one rank/belt division for one type of event, such as forms or sparring etc., and a different rank/belt division for another type of event.
- If a Black Belt becomes eligible for the same event in two different rank divisions, he/she must compete at the higher rank for the day. In this case, it is not a decision made by his/her instructor, the competitor, or his/her guardian.

Example #1: A person who qualifies as a 1st Degree in Forms, but as a 2nd Degree in Sparring, may not compete in both. He/She, in consultation with his/her instructor, must choose, prior to registering for the Districts, whether to be a 1st Degree competitor or a 2nd Degree Competitor for this tournament.

Example #2: A person qualifies as a 1st degree in Forms and as a 2nd/3rd degree in Forms. Their only option is to compete in the 2nd/3rd degree division.

District Tournament Procedures

- The order of competitors at the District Championships will be done by random draw, and generated by the program currently in place at ATA Headquarters. A competitor's "State Top Ten" placement will have no bearing in determining which competitor name is called first or last.
- In both Traditional Sparring and Combat Weapons Sparring if it is necessary to award one or more BYES, then the byes will be awarded in random fashion as well. If a competitor has been given a bye, and then does not show up for his/her competition, the bracket WILL NOT be redrawn. It is possible in this case, where there are multiple "no shows", for a competitor to reach the finals without ever actually sparring an opponent.

MULTIPLE RINGS - SAME AGE/RANK DIVISIONS in a competitive event.

In order to produce one District Champion per age/rank division in each event, the following will occur:

For traditional form, traditional weapon, all creative and extreme events the division will be divided in the following way:

- 2 preliminary rings: 17-32 competitors
- 3 preliminary rings: 33-48 competitors
- 4 preliminary rings: 49-64 competitors

The winner of each preliminary ring in that division will go to a separate ring, not one of the same rings, for the sole purpose to determine who between those "Ring Winners" is to be named the "District Champion". Each "Ring Winner" will perform his/her material one time for these judges, and the judges will "point" to the winner. No scores will be given in this situation. The winner will be given the 1st place medal and awarded the title of District Champion. 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded in the following way;

- If there were 2 preliminary rings: the runners up in preliminary ring will be awarded 3rd place (finalist compete for 1st & 2nd place)
- If there were 3 & 4 preliminary rings: no awards given in preliminary ring (finalist compete for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place).

For Traditional Sparring and Combat Weapons Sparring events the division will be divided in the following way:

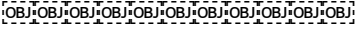
- 2 preliminary rings: 17-32 competitors
- 4 preliminary rings: 33-64 competitors

The winner of each preliminary ring in that division will go to a separate ring, not one of the same rings, for the sole purpose to determine who between those "Ring Winners" is to be named the "District Champion". The "Ring Winners" will spar additional matches in the new ring to determine the District Champion. The matches will be run using regular ATA tournament sparring bracket that is drawn randomly. The winner will be given the 1st Place medal and awarded the

title of District Champion. If there are 4 preliminary rings, the non-advancing semifinalist will compete for 3rd place before the finalist compete. If there are 2 preliminary rings, the runners up in the preliminary rings will each be awarded 3rd place.

District Tournament Awards

There will be one gold medal winner, one silver medal winner, and one bronze medal winner in each division for Traditional Forms, Traditional Weapons, ATA-Xtreme Forms, ATA-Xtreme Weapons, Creative Forms, Creative Weapons, and Traditional Point Sparring and Combat Weapons Sparring competition. The only exception in awarding 2nd and 3rd place medals would be for divisions that have multiple preliminary rings. The competitor who wins the District tournament will gain the title of District Champion in his/her division and can wear a special lettered uniform making this distinction. This uniform is ordered through the student's instructor from World Martial Arts and is done so at the student's own expense.

Black Belts who win the title of District Champion are eligible for the current tournament year's Tournament of Champions (TOC) for that competitive event. 

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=DISTRICT_CHAMPIONSHIP_PROGRAM&oldid=451"

-
- This page was last modified on 31 May 2014, at 07:46.
 - This page has been accessed 1,605 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

WORLD CHAMPION PROGRAM

From ATA Rules

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 World Champion Eligibility Requirements
- 3 Divisions for World Championship Program
- 4 Qualifying for the Tournament of Champions
- 5 Tournament of Champions (TOC)
- 6 Tournament of Champions Awards

Introduction

The competitive events in which it is possible for a black belt to win the title of World Champion are Traditional Forms, Traditional Weapons, Traditional Free-Sparring, Combat Weapons Sparring, ATA-Xtreme Forms, ATA-Xtreme Weapons, Creative Forms and Creative Weapons.

World Champion Eligibility Requirements

Only black belt students who are members in good standing may earn World Champion Top Ten points.

Divisions for World Championship Program

The age and rank division for the World Championship program follow these black belt Divisions.

Rank Placements Rank changes during the tournament season can make a difference as to where a competitor's points will be applied. The following guidelines apply to rank changes during a tournament season:

- If a person changes rank during the tournament season and that rank change places them in a different division, that competitor cannot gain any further points in the previous rank division.
- All subsequent points will be awarded to the new rank division.
- If a competitor is serious about trying for the title of World Champion, they should plan their rank changes accordingly.
- The one exception to points being carried over to another division after a rank change is if the competitor tests and competes at World Championships.
- If a student knows that they are going to test during the current tournament season, they can compete in the higher rank division before they achieve that rank. It is permissible to enter what may be considered a more "difficult" division. It is not permissible to enter a lower rank or "easier" division. The competitor must successfully test to the rank of the "higher" division by the TOC to be eligible to compete in TOC.
- All the competitors that qualify for the "Tournament of Champions" to compete for the title of World Champion in Traditional Forms **MUST** perform one of the standard forms for the division in which they are competing during that final competition. A 2nd Degree Recommended Black Belt that has qualified to compete for the title of World Champion in traditional forms must successfully test and be awarded the rank of 2nd Degree Decided by the Tournament of Champions.
- It is possible to earn sufficient points to be in the Top Ten rankings in two rank divisions, but a competitor can only compete for the title in one. This rule applies regardless of the event in which the person qualifies. **When the time to compete for the title of World Champion arrives, the competitor must compete in the higher rank division.**

Example #1: Mary (an adult) is a 1st degree and after consulting with her instructor, plans to test for 2nd degree in November. Mary can compete in the 2nd & 3rd degree division at World Championships. This would allow her to have all her points awarded in the same division throughout the year. If she competed in the 1st degree division at World Championships and changed ranks in November, all points she earned from World's to November would be in the 1st degree division and all points she earned after November would be in the 2nd & 3rd degree division. This could have a major impact on her World ~~Champion~~ Champion chances.

Example #2: Alice is a 33 year old 3rd degree testing for 4th degree at the World Championships. Alice may compete in either the Women 30-39 2nd & 3rd degree division or the Women 30-39 4th & 5th degree division at the World Championships. If she does choose to compete in the 2nd & 3rd degree division, regardless of the outcome of her testing, her points will be awarded in the appropriate division. If she advances in rank, the points will be awarded in the 4th & 5th degree division. If she is unsuccessful, the points will be awarded in the 2nd & 3rd degree division. If Alice competes in the 4th & 5th degree division and is not successful with her testing, points cannot be awarded in the 2nd & 3rd degree division.

Example #3: A person qualifies to compete in traditional forms competition for the TOC as a 1st Degree, and also qualifies to compete in traditional sparring as a 2nd/3rd Degree. This person's only option is to compete in the 2nd/3rd degree division for the sparring title. They may not compete for forms champion in the 1st Degree division. They may not earn a title in two separate rank divisions in the same tournament year.

Qualifying for the Tournament of Champions

The tournament year culminates with the crowning of ATA's World champions. Qualified competitors will compete in the "Tournament of Champions" (TOC) which will be held at World Championships at the end of tournament season. Starting with the 1999 Songahm Taekwondo World Millennium Expo, competitors from the STF (Songahm Taekwondo Federation) and the WTTU (World Traditional Taekwondo Union) were included in the finals to determine the World Champions for each division. Those competitor's names are provided to the Tournament Department at the end of the tournament year, and will not be posted with the Top Ten standings. The Top Ten standings will be made up of competitors from the United States and Canada. In 2012, black belts who won the title of District champion for the current competition year were also eligible to compete in TOC for the event(s) in which they won.

To qualify for the Tournament of Champions a competitor must meet one of the following requirements:

- Earn a spot on the Final World Champion Top Ten standings for the current competition year.
- Win the title of District Champion for the current competition year.
- Earn a WTTU or STF nomination for current competition year.

The result is that potentially there will be more than 10 competitors vying for the title of World Champion.

Tournament of Champions (TOC)

TOC ends the tournament year and is always a highlight of World Championships. After all qualifying competitors are announced, the tournament will be run in the following way:

- The competition order for traditional form, traditional weapons, creative forms & weapons, and ATA Xtreme form & weapons will be as follows:
 - Random for all places up to the last 4 competitors.
 - The final four to compete will do so in the reverse order of their ranking (starting with the competitor in fourth place and ending with the top ranked competitor)
- During the TOC in Traditional Forms competition, a competitor **MUST** perform one of the standard forms for the division in which they are competing.
- Must be the rank of the division in which they will compete.
- The placement in the competitors in the bracket for traditional point sparring and combat weapons will be as follows:
 - Awarding of Byes: The top 4 ranking competitors will receive byes based upon his/her ranking in the top ten list. If additional byes are needed, they are placed based on the ATA current bye system.

- The top 4 ranking competitors will be placed in the bracket according to their ranking.
- All other competitors will be placed randomly.
- Previous World, District or State Champions in sparring will not have any bearing on the determining of byes for this event.
- Once the sparring brackets are drawn, they will not be redrawn for "no-show" competitors. The "no-show" will be scratched and their opponent will be advanced.
- After the World Champion Top Ten standings are announced, if one or more of the competitors are unable to compete in the final competition (for whatever reason), those empty slots will not be filled.
- Points toward the next year's World Champion Top Ten are **not awarded** for results of this final competition.

Example: James earns the number ten position in the Men 18-29 2nd & 3rd degree division. Due to his work obligations, he cannot attend the World Championships and is unable to compete for the title of World Champion. Sam, who is the number eleven finisher, will not move up to the number ten position because of James's inability to participate. Sam did not earn the number ten position. James will remain in the number ten position. Whomever James would have fought in the during the TOC in the first round will be advanced because James did not show.

Tournament of Champions Awards

Certificates and jacket pins are given to all the Tournament of Champion competitors. There will be one gold medal winner, one silver medal winner, and one bronze medal winner in each competitive event. The competitor who wins the Tournament of Champions will gain the title of World Champion in his/her division and can wear a special lettered uniform making this distinction. This uniform is ordered through the student's instructor from World Martial Arts and is done so at the student's own expense.

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=WORLD_CHAMPION_PROGRAM&oldid=421"

-
- This page was last modified on 8 May 2014, at 14:10.
 - This page has been accessed 1,984 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

From ATA Rules

Opening Ceremony Agenda

The ATA Tournament Department has a proper agenda for the opening ceremonies of a regional tournament. It is very important to follow this agenda and not deviate from it without prior authorization from the ATA Tournament Department or Grandmaster In Ho Lee. Below is that agenda:

1. M.C. - Introduction of the Seniors (lowest to highest rank) and Guests. Announce position, city/state, rank, and then name (if applicable, other achievements such as World Champion, etc. may be included)
2. M.C. - Announces "Ladies and gentlemen, please face the flags"
3. . Korean National Anthem (either via tape, CD, or singer)
4. . American National Anthem (either via tape, CD, or singer)
5. Bow to flags
6. M.C. waits for the "Seniors to face the Juniors" (**Please make sure Seniors have had the opportunity to face the juniors before the M.C. or leading student starts the Songahm Spirit of Taekwondo.**)
7. Songahm Spirit of Taekwondo
8. Bow to Seniors
9. M.C. - Announces "Everyone please be seated"
10. M.C. - Welcomes host of tournament
11. If applicable, have special guest give speech
12. If applicable, give out awards
13. Highest ranking senior recognizes previous and/or current world and state champions present in the following order:
World, National, & State
14. If applicable, announce sponsors
15. f applicable, begin demonstration
16. Regional Tournament Team Leader - swears in judges
17. Regional Tournament Team Leader - administers competitor's oath
18. Regional Tournament Team Leader - gives instructions and explains which divisions are in which rings
19. Regional Tournament Team Leader - asks senior rank for permission to start the competition

It is very important that the opening ceremonies for regional tournaments not exceed a 45 minute time frame (including demonstration). The demonstration should be held to 10 minutes or less.

At the conclusion of the tournament, there should be a bowing out ceremony. This would be conducted the same as the ending of a class including the reciting of the Songahm Spirit.

NOTE: ALL BLACK BELTS ARE EXPECTED TO STAY AT THE TOURNAMENT UNTIL THE OFFICIAL BOW OUT

Judges' Oath

The judges' oath will be administered by the International Tournament Chairman, the National Tournament Director or the Regional Chief of Tournaments to all personnel who will be judging. Although the association holds respect for certified judges' integrity, the oath is a reminder of the great responsibility held by a judge who is seen by all others as representatives of the ATA. It is vital for judges to project a feeling of ATA unity and that all judges are interested in the growth and continued enjoyment of our martial art.

The administering official shall have all judges raise their right hands with the left hand in the support position, as he/she reads the oath:

“Do you swear that your judging of the Taekwondo students here present shall be without prejudice of school, region or other variant, and that your judging will be to the best of your ability in keeping with American Taekwondo Association policy and standards for the best interests of all competitors here involved?”

All judges shall answer: **“I DO.”**

Competitors’ Oath

In an effort to maintain the proper mental attitude of the competitors present, the proper official shall administer the following oath to all competitors.

The administering official shall have all competitors stand and raise their right hands with the left hand in the support position, as he/she reads the oath:

“Do you promise as a competitor in this ATA Regional Tournament, to compete in the spirit of Songahm Taekwondo, demonstrating safety, courtesy, and respect towards your fellow competitors, the judges, and the spectators? And will you always remember that “to compete is to win.”

All competitors shall answer: **“I DO.”**

Retrieved from "http://www.atarules.com/index.php?title=MISCELLANEOUS_INFORMATION&oldid=280"

-
- This page was last modified on 2 October 2013, at 19:58.
 - This page has been accessed 718 times.
 - Content is available under Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike unless otherwise noted.