

SPARRING COMPETITION RULES - BLACK BELTS

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LENGTH OF MATCHES

- Black Belt matches will be 2 rounds of 2 minutes each, continuous time, with a one minute break between rounds.
- In the event of a tie at the end of the match the centre referee will decide the winner.

POINT SCORING SYSTEM

- Corner judges will record points scored on their judge's score sheets, which are tallied at the end of the match. The centre referee does not award points.
- 1 point for a punch to the body (chest protector) between collar bones and belt, including flanks (includes flurry of punches even if more than one strikes target).
- No point for punch to the head. (no warnings or points removed)
- 1 point for kick to the body (chest protector) between collar bones and belt, and including flanks. Contact to the chest protector with a recognizable legal kick (or punch) must be made to be awarded a point.
- 2 points for kick to head, including entire head (headgear), face, and sides of neck (includes a controlled kick going over the head if the kicker is looking at the kick).
- A point must be marked on at least two judges' score sheets to verify the point.
- A warning counts as half a point minus in the event of a tie in points scored.

WARNINGS

A warning will be given by the referee and recorded by the judges for the following:

- Any attack below the belt. (Note- no warning for a kick to back of thigh or butt if followed immediately by a legal kick before the first foot touches the ground).
- Any deliberate attack to back of neck or spine.
- Any contact to illegal areas - knees, groin, spine, back of neck, even by accident.
- Blind attack, even if no contact is made.
- **Excessive contact** to the face with punch showing lack of control.
- Falling down on purpose after an attack to avoid a counter-attack.
- Turning back to opponent.
- Stepping out of the ring boundary line on purpose.
- Stalling by running around the ring without fighting.
- Feigning injury.
- Grabbing and holding for more than one technique.
- Tripping or throwing the opponent down on purpose.
- Poor sportsmanship, bad language, or taunting the opponent.
- Arguing with an official.

MINUS POINTS

One point minus will be given by the referee and recorded by the judges for the following:

- Any two warnings given during the match.
- Deliberately attacking the groin.
- Attacking a fallen opponent.
- Any attack with knee, elbow, or forehead.

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- Any attack with fingers or open hand to the eyes, even if no contact is made.
- Deliberate attempt to injure with excessive contact or lack of control.
- Continued attack after the command to stop ("Kalyeo!").
- Loss of temper, throwing equipment, or loss of self control.

DISQUALIFICATION

A competitor can be disqualified by the referee for the following:

- Excessive and deliberate contact where the opponent is injured or cannot continue in the competition or where blood appears after deliberate contact to the face. (Requires that both competitors will be out and can not proceed to the next round).
- Injury to the opponent resulting from a prohibited attack.
- Failure to comply with a decision by the referee.
- Showing disrespect to any judge or the referee.
- Two minus points (four warnings) during the match.
- In the event of a possible disqualification, the referee may decide after consultation with the corner judges.

SPARRING EQUIPMENT

- Chest protectors, head protectors, fist/forearm guards, foot/shin guards, and mouthguards will be mandatory in all Black Belt Sparring divisions.
- Groin protectors will be mandatory in Men's Black Belt Sparring.

REFEREE/CORNER JUDGES RESPONSIBILITIES (Black Belt Competition only)

- There will be 1 referee and 4 corner judges.
- The referee will check that contestants are wearing the mandatory chest protectors, groin protectors, fist/forearm guards, foot/shin guards, and head gear.
- The referee will place the appropriate red and blue ribbons on the competitors.
- The referee or any judge should bow out of a match in which one of their own students is competing.
- Judges will record points they clearly see scored on score sheet during the match.
- When the centre referee sees an infraction on the part of either competitor, he will stop the match temporarily and issue a warning or minus point, which must be recorded by the corner judges on their score sheets.
- At the end of the match the referee will collect the judges' score sheets and tally the points and warnings with the timekeeper. Every point must be verified by appearing on at least two judge's score sheets to count.
- In the event of a tie the referee will decide the winner.
- In the event of a dispute, the Tournament Director has the final decision.

COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coaches must ensure that their competitor is ready and wearing the proper protective equipment on time for the match.
- Coaches may not interfere with the matches. and must remain in their seats at the side of the ring and remain quiet during the actual rounds. Instructions can be given to their competitors only during the break between rounds.
- The referee can issue a warning to the coach's competitor for an infraction of the rules by the coach, including for shouting instructions during the round, using bad language, stepping into the ring, arguing with an official, or poor sportsmanship.