

2018 TOURNAMENT RULES CHANGES

Please note the change highlighted in **RED**

COLORED BELTS – APPROPRIATE PATTERNS FOR FORMS COMPETITION

Colored belts will now be allowed to select any pattern up to their highest rank pattern. Students should understand that the difficulty level of the form is one of the judging criteria.

Below is a summary of patterns by rank. For example, a Senior (3 or 4 stripe) red belt would be allowed to choose any of the colored belt patterns listed below.

Beginner Division
White, Yellow, Orange

Chon-Ji
Dan-Gun

Song Song
Do-San

Intermediate Division
Green, Purple, Blue

Yong Gom
Won-Hyo
Joong-Gun

Yul-Gok
Toi-Gye

And all patterns listed above under Beginner division

Advanced Division
Brown, Red

Hyun Sil
Hwa-Rang

Choong-Moo

And all patterns listed above under Beginner & Intermediate divisions

BLACK BELTS – MAXIMUM SPARRING DIFFERENTIAL

For the past competition year, a Black Belt match was allowed to continue until time expired or one competitor accumulated a 10 point lead. This rule will be changed as follows:

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS – Black belt matches will continue until the 2 minute time has elapsed **or until one competitor accumulates a 5 point lead**. When this occurs, the Center Referee will stop time and call the match.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISIONS –

PRELIMINARY MATCHES - Black belt matches will continue until the completion of 2 rounds of 2 minutes each or until one competitor accumulates a 10 point lead. When this occurs, the Center Referee will stop time and call the match.

FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND – The match will continue for the full time (two rounds of two minutes each) regardless of the differential in the score.

JUMP REAR HAND PUNCH

There has been some confusion regarding what a “jump reverse punch” should be in order to qualify for 2 points. Below is a clarification of this rule –

- Two (2) points will be awarded for a **jump rear hand reverse punch** to any part of the head (allowed only in black belt divisions).
- A jump punch will qualify for two points ONLY if the **striking hand begins the technique in the rear hand position**. The judges will not consider the landing position of the feet, but only if the competitor jumped while executing the strike.

ADULT BLACK BELT DIVISIONS

There will be 3 age groups for Adults – 18 and older, 35 and older, and 45 and older. A competitor will compete in the appropriate division based on their age as of July 1st of the competition year **unless they elect to compete in a younger Adult division. This election is made at the first tournament of the competition year in which they participate. Once they choose an age division, they may not elect to change age divisions during the year.**

If the Tournament Director finds it necessary to place them in a different age division because their normal division did not have at least 2 competitors, then they are free to return to their elective age division at the next tournament and carry forward any points accumulated, regardless of the division in which they were earned.

JUNIOR BLACK BELT DIVISIONS

Junior Black Belts will accumulate points earned based on age (as of July 1st of the competition year) and gender. **The Tournament Director will be free to group them in weight classes deemed appropriate for the size and weight of competitors at each tournament. If a competitor is classified in different weight classes, they will retain all points earned in every weight class within their age division.**

Qualifiers for National Championship divisions will be broken into weight classes based on size (based on height and weight) as determined in September of the competition year. There will be a minimum of 3 qualifiers in each weight class or possibly more based on participation during the competition year in that weight class.