
Competition Rules & Interpretation



The document is based on the WTF publication of the same name which was distributed to International Referees in January, 2004.

It includes 2003 amendments approved by the 16th General Assembly on September 23, 2003, as well as certain additional amendments as resolved at the WTF Advisory Meeting on October 27, 2003.

Enacted : May 28, 1973
Revised : Oct. 1, 1977
Revised: Feb. 23, 1982
Revised: Oct. 19, 1983
Revised: June 1, 1986
Revised: Oct. 7, 1989
Revised: Oct. 28, 1991
Revised: Nov. 18, 1997
Revised: Oct. 31, 2002
Revised: Sept. 23, 2003
(Effective as of December 4, 2003)

Printed: November 25, 2003

The World Taekwondo Federation

Contents

Competition Rules & Interpretation	Page 3
Referee's Hand Signals	Page 36
Orthography and Phonetic Symbols of Taekwondo Terms	Page 49

Article 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Competition Rules is to manage fairly and smoothly all matters pertaining to competitions of all levels to be promoted and/or organized by the WTF, Regional Unions and member National Associations, ensuring the application of standardized rules.

(Interpretation)

The Objective of Article 1 is to ensure the standardization of all Taekwondo competition worldwide. Any competition not following the fundamental principles of these rules cannot be recognized as Taekwondo competition.

Article 2. Application

The Competition Rules shall apply to all the competitions to be promoted and/or organized by the WTF, each Regional Union and member National Association. However, any member National Association wishing to modify some or any part of the Competition Rules must first gain the approval of the WTF.

(Explanation #1)

First gain the approval:

Any organization desiring to make a change in some portion of the existing rules must submit to the WTF the contents of the desired amendment along with the reasons for the desired change. Approval for any changes in these rules must be received from the WTF one month prior to the scheduled competition.

(Explanation #2)

Change of weight category, increase or decrease of the number of International Referees, change of positions for the Inspector, Recorder and Commission Doctor, etc., and duration of contest are subjects to be included in the category of subjects which may be modified after first gaining the approval of the WTF; however, such matters as valid points, warnings and deductions, and the competition area are not to be changed under any circumstances whatever.

Article 3. Competition Area

The Competition Area shall comprise a Contest Area measured 12m x 12m in the metric system and have a flat surface without any obstructing projections.

The Contest Area shall be covered with an elastic mat. However, the Contest Area may be installed on a platform 0.5m–0.6m high from the base, if necessary, and the outer part of the Boundary Line shall be inclined with a gradient of less than 30 degrees for the safety of the contestants.

1. Demarcation of the Contest Area
 - 1) The 12m x 12m area shall be called the Contest Area, and a line 1m wide using different color shall be marked on the inside from the marginal line of the Contest Area to call the attention of the contestants not to cross the Boundary Line.
 - 2) The demarcation of the Contest Area and the Attention Area shall be distinguished by the different colors of the two areas' surfaces, or indicated by a white line 5cm wide when the entire surface is one color.
 - 3) The demarcating line between the Contest Area and the Attention Area shall be called the Attention Line and the marginal line of the Contest Area shall be called the Boundary Line.
2. Indication of Positions
 - 1) Position of the Referee

The position of the referee shall be marked at a point 1.5m back from the center point of the Contest Area to the 3rd Boundary Line and designated as the Referee's Mark.
 - 2) Position of the Judges

The position of the 1st Judge shall be marked at a point 0.5m outwards from the center of the 1st Boundary Line facing towards the center point of the Contest Area, and the position of the 2nd Judge shall be marked 0.5m outwards from the bottom corner of the 2nd Boundary Line facing the center of the Contest Area. The position of the 3rd Judge shall be marked at the opposite point of the 4th Boundary Line with the position of the 2nd Judge.
 - 3) Position of the Recorder

The position of the Recorder shall be marked at a point more than 2m back from the position of the 1st Judge.
 - 4) Position of the Commission Doctor

The position of the Commission Doctor shall be marked at a point more than 3m to the right side from the Boundary Line.
 - 5) Position of the Contestants

The position of the Contestants shall be marked at a point 1m to the respective left and right sides from the center point of the Contest Area facing towards the position of the 1st Judge. The right side shall be the Blue Contestant's Mark and the left side shall be the Red Contestant's Mark.
 - 6) Position of the Coaches

The position of the Coaches shall be marked at a point 1m away from the center point of the Boundary Line of each contestant's side.

7) Position of the Inspection Desk

The position of the Inspection Desk shall be near the entrance of the Competition Area for inspection of the contestants' protective equipment.

(Explanation #1)

Elastic mat:

The degree of elasticity of the mat must be approved by the WTF before the competition.

(Explanation #2)

Measurement of Contest Area :

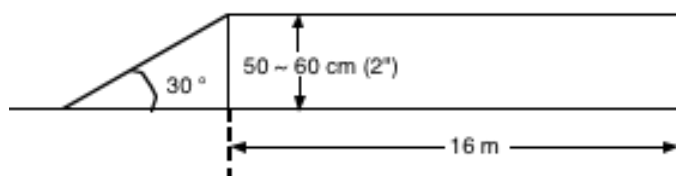
Contest Area shall measure 12m x 12m, while a 1–2m wide outer area from the Boundary Line shall be secured for safety area. Accordingly, a court shall be 14m x 14m or 16m x 16m.

(Explanation #3)

Competition Platform:

The platform should be built according to the following insert diagram.

Diagram 1. Competition Platform



(Explanation #4)

Color :

The color scheme of the mat's surface must avoid giving a harsh reflection, or tiring the contestant's or spectator's eyesight. The color scheme must also be appropriately matched to the contestants' equipment, uniform and the competition surface.

(Explanation #5)

Inspection Desk :

At the Inspection Desk, the inspector checks if all the materials worn by the contestant are approved by the WTF and fit the contestant properly. In case they are found to be inappropriate, the contestant is requested to change the protective equipment.

(Guideline for Officiating 1)

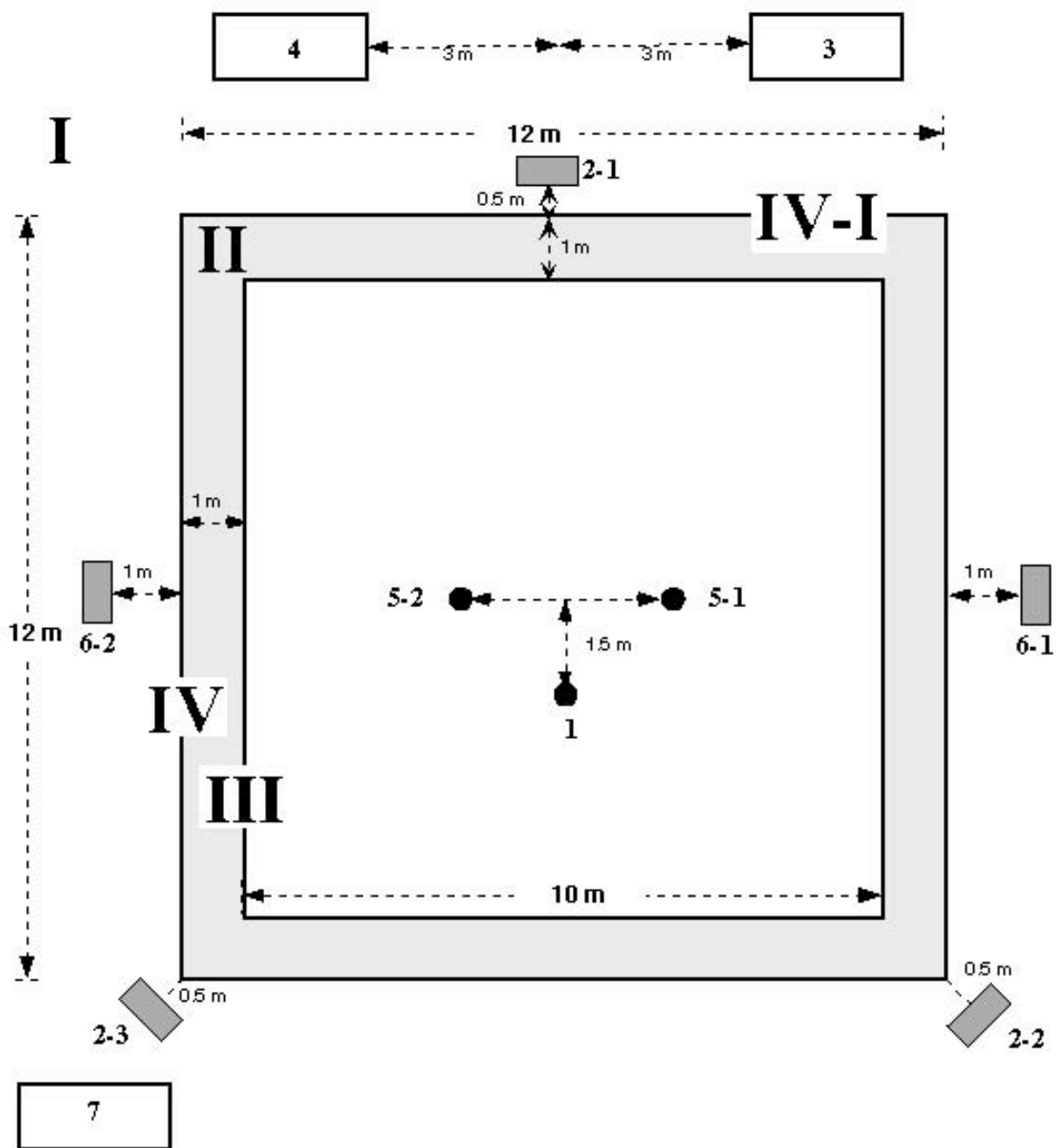
The referee must have a full understanding of the Contest Area's dimensions and of the application of these dimensions in officiating, and utilize the full limits of the Contest Area in order to avoid excessive interruption of the match.

(Guideline for Officiating 2)

Boundary Line:

When one of the feet of a contestant has moved out of the Boundary Line, the referee must declare "Kal-yeo" immediately and give a "Kyong-go" penalty. In the case that the feet of both contestants have moved out of the Boundary Line, the referee must give a "Kyung-go" penalty to both contestants.

Diagram 2. Competition Area



- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| I. | Competition Area | 1. | Referee's Mark |
| II. | Contest Area | 2. | Judge's Mark |
| III. | Attention Line | 3. | Recorder's Mark |
| IV. | Boundary Line | 4. | Commission Doctor's Mark |
| IV-I. | 1st Boundary Line* | 5-1. | Blue Contestant's Mark |
| | | 5-2. | Red Contestant's Mark |
| | | 6-1. | Blue Coach's Mark |
| | | 6-2. | Red Coach's Mark |
| | | 7. | Inspection Desk |

* 2nd, 3rd & 4th Boundary Line clockwise

Article 4. Contestant

1. Qualification of Contestant

- 1) Holder of the nationality of the participating team
- 2) One recommended by the national Taekwondo Association
- 3) Holder of Taekwondo Dan certificate issued by the Kukkiwon/WTF, and in case of World Junior Taekwondo Championships, holder of Kukkiwon Poom/Dan certificate aged 14 through 17 years old based on the year when the Championships are held.

(Interpretation)

The age limits for World Junior Championships is based on the year, not on the date, when the Championships are held, which shall be between 14 through 17 years old. For instance, in case that the Championships are held on September 9, 2004, those contestants born between January 1, 1987 and December 31, 1990 are eligible to participate.

2. The Costume for Contestants

- 1) The contestant shall wear a Taekwondo uniform (Dobok) and protectors recognized by the WTF.
- 2) The contestant shall wear the trunk protector, head protector, groin guard, forearm and shin guards, and mouthpiece before entering the contest area; the groin guard, forearm and shin guards shall be worn inside the Taekwondo uniform, and the contestant shall bring the WTF-approved protectors for personal use. Wear of any other items on the head other than head protector shall not be permitted.

3. Medical Control

- 1) At the Taekwondo events promoted or sanctioned by the WTF, any use or administration of drugs or chemical substances described in the WTF anti-doping by-laws is prohibited. However, IOC doping by-laws shall be applied to the Taekwondo competition of Olympic Games and other multi-sports Games.
- 2) The WTF may carry out any medical testing deemed necessary to ascertain if a contestant has committed a breach of this rule, and any winner who refuses to undergo this testing or who proves to have committed such a breach shall be removed from the final standings, and the record shall be transferred to the contestant next in line in the competition standings.
- 3) The organizing committee shall be liable for arrangements to carry out medical testing.
- 4) The details of the WTF Anti-Doping Regulation shall be enacted as part of the by-laws.

(Explanation #1)

Holder of the nationality of the participating team:

When a contestant is a representative of a national team, his/her nationality is decided by citizenship of the country he/she is representing before submission of the application to participate. Verification of citizenship is done by inspection of the passport.

In the event nationality of a competitor holding more than one citizenship causes conflict, the competitor shall choose the participating team where he/she belongs to.

(Explanation #2)

Mouthpiece:

The color of mouthpiece is limited to white or transparent. However, obligation to use mouthpiece may be exempted upon submission of the medical Doctor's diagnosis stating that use of mouthpiece may cause harm contestant.

—Notes—

Article 5. Weight Divisions

1. Weights are divided into male and female divisions.

2. Weight divisions are basically divided as follows:

Weight Category	Male Division	Female Division
Fin	Not exceeding 54 kg	Not exceeding 47 kg
Fly	Over 54 kg & not exceeding 58 kg	Over 47 kg & not exceeding 51 kg
Bantam	Over 58 kg & not exceeding 62 kg	Over 51 kg & not exceeding 55 kg
Feather	Over 62 kg & not exceeding 67 kg	Over 55 kg & not exceeding 59 kg
Light	Over 67 kg & not exceeding 72 kg	Over 59 kg & not exceeding 63 kg
Welter	Over 72 kg & not exceeding 78 kg	Over 63 kg & not exceeding 67 kg
Middle	Over 78 kg & not exceeding 84 kg	Over 67 kg & not exceeding 72 kg
Heavy	Over 84 kg	Over 72 kg

3. Weight divisions for the Olympic Games are divided as follows:

Male Division	Female Division
Not exceeding 58 kg	Not exceeding 49 kg
Over 58 kg & not exceeding 68 kg	Over 49 kg & not exceeding 57 kg
Over 68 kg & not exceeding 80 kg	Over 57 kg & not exceeding 67 kg
Over 80 kg	Over 67 kg

4. Weight divisions for the World Junior Championships are divided as follows:

Weight Category	Male Division	Female Division
Fin	Not exceeding 45 kg	Not exceeding 42 kg
Fly	Over 45 kg & not exceeding 48 kg	Over 42 kg & not exceeding 44 kg
Bantam	Over 48 kg & not exceeding 51 kg	Over 44 kg & not exceeding 46 kg
Feather	Over 51 kg & not exceeding 55 kg	Over 46 kg & not exceeding 49 kg
Light	Over 55 kg & not exceeding 59 kg	Over 49 kg & not exceeding 52 kg
Welter	Over 59 kg & not exceeding 63 kg	Over 52 kg & not exceeding 55 kg
Light Middle	Over 63 kg & not exceeding 68 kg	Over 55 kg & not exceeding 59 kg
Middle	Over 68 kg & not exceeding 73 kg	Over 59 kg & not exceeding 63 kg
Light Heavy	Over 73 kg & not exceeding 78 kg	Over 63 kg & not exceeding 68 kg
Heavy	Over 78 kg	Over 68 kg

(Interpretation)

1. A Taekwondo tournament is a competition which is decided, within the rules, by direct physical contact and forceful physical collisions between contestants. In order to reduce the impact of the inequality in relative factors between contestants and ensure safety as well as create equal conditions for the exchange of techniques, the weight division system was established.
2. The division of men and women into separate categories, men competing against men, and women competing against women, is a fundamental rule.
3. Weight divisions for the Olympic Games are to be decided in consultation with the International Olympic Committee.

(Explanation #1)

Not exceeding:

The weight limit is defined by the criterion of two decimal places away from the stated limit (in hundredths). For example, not exceeding 50kg is established as until 50.00kg inclusive of 50.009 with 50.01 being over the limit, resulting in disqualification.

(Explanation #2)

Over:

Over the 50.00kg mark occurs at the 50.01kg reading and 49.99kg is regarded as insufficient, resulting in disqualification.

Article 6. Classification and Methods of Competition

1. Competitions are divided as follows:
 - 1) Individual competition shall normally be between contestants in the same weight class. When necessary, adjoining weight classes may be combined to create a single classification. No contestant is allowed to participate in more than one (1) weight category in one event.
 - 2) Team Competition: Systems of Competition
 - (1) Five (5) contestants by weight classification with the following category:

Male Division

Not exceeding 54 kg
Over 54 kg & not exceeding 63 kg
Over 63 kg & not exceeding 72 kg
Over 72 kg & not exceeding 82 kg
Over 82 kg

Female Division

Not exceeding 47
Over 47 kg & not exceeding 54 kg
Over 54 kg & not exceeding 61 kg
Over 61 kg & not exceeding 68 kg
Over 68 kg

- (2) Eight (8) contestants by weight classification
 - (3) Four (4) contestants by weight classification (Consolidation of the eight weight classifications into four weight categories by combining two adjoining weight classes)
2. Systems of competition are divided as follows:
 - 1) Single elimination tournament system
 - 2) Round robin system
 3. Taekwondo competition of the Olympic Games shall be conducted in individual competition system between contestants.
 4. All international-level competitions recognized by the WTF shall be formed with participation of at least 4 countries with no less than 4 contestants in each weight class, and any weight class with less than 4 contestants cannot be recognized in the official results.

(Interpretation)

1. In the tournament system, competition is founded on an individual basis. However, the team standing can also be determined by the sum of the individual standings according to the overall scoring method.

* Point System

Team Ranking shall be decided by the total points based on the following guidelines.

- Basic one (1) point per each contestant who entered the Competition Area after passing the official weigh-in
- One (1) point per each win (win by a bye included)
- Additional seven (7) points per one gold medal
- Additional three (3) points per one silver medal
- Additional one (1) point per one bronze medal
- In case more than two teams are in tie score, the rank shall be decided by 1) number of gold, silver and bronze medals won by the team in order, 2) number of participating contestants and 3) higher points in heavier weight category.

2. In the team competition system, the outcome of each team competition is determined by the individual team results.

(Explanation #1)

Consolidation of the weight divisions: The method of consolidation and the names of the consolidated divisions are as follows:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Fin / Fly	Fly (Consolidated)
Bantam / Feather	Feather (Consolidated)
Light / Welter	Welter (Consolidated)
Middle / Heavy	Heavy (Consolidated)

(Explanation #2)

Eight weight class format:

According to competition in eight weight classes, the team winning five or more divisions is victorious. In the event that the team standings are not decided due to a tie score (four to four), each team shall designate a representative to fight a tie-break match. In this format, contestants may not be substituted.

(Interpretation)

3. In the above format, if before all matches have been conducted, one team achieves a majority of victories, the remaining matches should, in principle, also be conducted. If the losing team wishes to forfeit the remaining matches, the result shall be recorded as loss due to disqualification without consideration of the accumulated record.

Article 7. Duration of Contest

The duration of the contest shall be three rounds of three minutes with one minute of rest between rounds in male division. For female division and World Junior Championships, three rounds of two minutes with one minute of rest will be applied. However, the duration of the contest for male division may be shortened to three rounds of two minutes with one minute of rest between rounds with the approval of the WTF.

Article 8. Drawing Lots

1. The drawing of lots shall be conducted one day prior to the first competition in the presence of the WTF officials and the representatives of the participating nations, and the drawing of lots shall be done from Fin weight up in the English alphabetical order of the official names of the participating nations.
2. Officials shall be designated to draw lots on behalf of the officials of participating nations not present at the drawing.
3. The order of the draw may be changed according to the decision of the Head of Team meeting.

Article 9. Weigh-in

1. Weigh-in of the contestants on the day of competition shall be completed on the previous day of the pertinent competition.
2. During weigh-in, the male contestant shall wear underpants and the female contestant shall wear underpants and brassiere. However, weigh-in may be conducted in the nude in the case that the contestant wishes to do so.
3. Weigh-in shall be made once; however, one more weigh-in is granted within the time limit to the contestant who did not qualify the first time.
4. So as not to be disqualified during official weigh-in, scales, the same as the official one, shall be provided at the contestants' place of accommodation or at the arena for pre-weigh-in.

(Explanation #1)

- The contestants on the day of the competition:

This is defined as those contestants listed to compete on the scheduled day by the Organizing Committee or the WTF.

- The previous day of the pertinent competition:

The time for weigh-in will be decided by the Organizing Committee and should be informed to the participants at the Head of Team meeting. The duration of weigh-in shall be two hours at the maximum.

(Explanation #2)

A separate site for the weigh-in shall be installed for the female contestants, whose weigh-in must be conducted by a female official in charge.

(Explanation #3)

- Disqualification during official weigh-in:

When a competitor is disqualified at the official weigh-in, that competitor's participation point cannot be received.

(Explanation #4)

Scales, the same as the official one:

The practice scale must be of the same type and calibrations as that of the official scale and these facts must be verified previously to the competition by the Organizing Committee.

Article 10. Procedure of the Contest

1. Call for Contestants

The name of the contestants shall be announced three times beginning three minutes prior to the scheduled start of the contest. The contestant who fails to appear in the Contest Area within one minute after the scheduled start of the competition shall be regarded as withdrawn.

2. Physical and Costume Inspection

After being called, the contestants shall undergo physical and costume inspection at the designated inspection desk by the inspector designated by the WTF, and the contestant shall not show any signs of aversion, and also shall not bear any materials which could cause harm to the other contestant.

3. Entering the Competition Area

After inspection, the contestant shall enter into the waiting position with one coach.

4. Start and End of the Contest

The contest in each round shall begin with the declaration of "Shi-jak" (start) by the referee and shall end with the declaration of "Keu-man" (stop) by the referee. Even if the referee has not declared "Keu-man," the contest shall be regarded as having ended when the prescribed time is over.

5. Procedure Before the Beginning and After the End of the Contest
 - 1) The contestants shall face each other and make a standing bow at the referee's command of "Char-yeot" (attention) and "Kyeong-rye" (bow) . A standing bow shall be made from the natural standing posture of "Char-yeot" by bending the waist to an angle of more than 30 degrees with the head inclined to an angle more than 45 degrees and the fists clenched at the sides of the legs.
 - 2) The referee shall start the contest by commanding "Joon-bi" (ready) and "Shi-jak" (start).
 - 3) After the end of the last round, the contestants shall stand at their respective positions facing each other and exchange a standing bow at the referee's command of "Char-yeot" and "Kyeong-rye," and then wait for the referee's declaration of the decision in a standing posture.
 - 4) The referee shall declare the winner by raising his/her own hand to the winner's side.
 - 5) Retirement of the contestants.
6. Contest Procedure in Team Competition
 - 1) Both teams shall stand facing each other in line in submitted team order towards the 1st Boundary Line from the Contestants' Marks.
 - 2) Procedure before the beginning and after the end of the contest shall be conducted as in Item 5 of this Article.
 - 3) Both teams shall leave the Contest Area and stand by at the designated area for each contestant's match.
 - 4) Both teams shall line up in the Contest Area immediately after the end of the final match facing each other.
 - 5) The referee shall declare the winning team by raising his/her own hand to the winning team's side.

(Guideline for Officiating)

Upon completion of contest, contestants shall make a bow with the headgear put on, and take off the headgear while the referee declares the winner.

Article 11. Permitted Techniques and Areas

1. Permitted Techniques
 - 1) Fist techniques:
Delivering techniques by using the front parts of the forefinger and middle finger of the tightly clenched fist.
 - 2) Foot techniques:
Delivering techniques by using the parts of the foot below the ankle bone.

2. Permitted Areas

1) Trunk:

Attack by fist and foot techniques on the areas covered by the trunk protector are permitted. However, such attacks shall not be made on the part of the spine.

2) Face:

This area is the face excluding the back of the head, and attack by foot techniques only is permitted.

(Explanation #1)

Fist techniques:

In the original Korean terminology of techniques, the term “Pa-run-ju-mok” can be interpreted as a correctly clenched fist. Therefore, striking with the front part of the middle and forefinger knuckles of the correctly clenched fist is permitted without consideration of the angle, trajectory, or fist placement of the strike.

(Explanation #2)

Foot techniques:

Any striking techniques using the part of the foot below the ankle bone are legal, whereas any others using the part of the leg above the ankle bone, i.e., part of the shin or knee, etc. are not permitted.

(Explanation #3)

Trunk:

As depicted in the following illustration, the area covered by the trunk protector between the armpit and the pelvis is the legal attacking area. Thus, trunk protector should be worn according to the rule on the size of trunk protector for each weight category and the physique of each contestant.

(Explanation #4)

Face:

As depicted in the following illustration, this is the whole parts of the face including both ears except the back of the head.

[Ed. Note: No illustration was included in the WTF publication. However, in recent IR seminars, participants have been told that the neck is no longer considered part of the face, and is not considered a permitted area, even for foot attacks.]

Article 12. Valid Points

1. Legal Scoring Areas
 - 1) Mid-section of the trunk: The part covered by the trunk protector
 - 2) Face: The whole part of the face including both ears
2. Points shall be awarded when permitted techniques are delivered accurately and powerfully to the legal scoring areas of the body.
3. The valid points are divided as follows:
 - 1) One (1) point for attack on trunk protector
 - 2) Two (2) points for attack on face
 - 3) One (1) additional point shall be awarded in the event that the contestant is knocked down and the referee counts
4. Match score shall be the sum of points of the three rounds.
5. Invalidation of points: When a contestant performs an attack to score through the use of the prohibited acts, the points scored shall be annulled.

(Explanation #1) Legal scoring areas

- Trunk: The whole part of the protector except the spine—vertical center of the back.
- Face: The whole part of the face including both ears except the back of the head.

(Guideline for Officiating)

When any part of the foot touches the opponent's face, it will be regarded as a valid point. It is to prevent from contestant pretends injury as if he/she was attacked on the neck.

(Explanation #2)

Accurately:

This means the proper aspect of a legal attacking technique, fully contacting the opponent within the designated limits of a legal target area.

(Explanation #3)

Powerfully:

- a. In the use of electronic scoring trunk protector: Force of impact is measured by the electronic sensor of the protector with the level of force by which points are scored varying by weight division and sex.
- b. Trunk protector not equipped with electronic sensor: Sufficient power is demonstrated as the opponent's body is abruptly displaced by the impact of the strike.

(Guideline for Officiating)

- The criterion of declaration “Kye-soo”

When a contestant is knocked down, the referee should first check over the condition of the contestant and then count. After counting, the referee shall instruct the recorders to add one (1) additional point.

- The criterion of “Knock-down” shall be in accordance with the Article 17.

(Explanation #4)

Invalidation of a point:

It is a rule that points gained through illegal techniques or actions cannot be valid. In this situation the referee must indicate invalidation of the point by hand signal and declare the appropriate penalty.

(Guideline for Officiating)

In the above situation the referee shall immediately declare “Kal-yeo” and shall first invalidate the point by hand signal, and then declare the appropriate penalty.

Article 13. Scoring and Publication

1. Valid points shall be immediately recorded and publicized.
2. In the use of body protectors not equipped with electronics, valid points shall be immediately marked by each judge by using the electronic scoring instrument or judge’s scoring sheet.
3. In the use of electronic trunk protectors
 - 1) Valid points scored on the mid-section of the trunk shall be recorded automatically by the transmitter in the electronic trunk protector.
 - 2) Valid points scored to the face shall be marked by each judge by using the electronic scoring instrument or judge’s scoring sheet.
4. In case of scoring by using the electronic scoring instrument or judge’s scoring sheet, valid points shall be the ones recognized by two or more judges.

(Interpretation)

The electronic trunk protectors must be examined for its appropriateness for enhancement of competing ability and insurance of fair judgment.

(Interpretation)

It is a principle of these rules that points shall be awarded immediately. This principle must be followed regardless of the scoring method used.

(Explanation #1)

Points shall be immediately recorded:

Immediate scoring means awarding the point immediately after delivery of the scoring technique. Points awarded after a period of time has elapsed cannot be considered valid.

(Explanation #2)

Immediately recorded and publicized:

A point having been awarded by the judges shall be immediately publicized on the scoreboard.

(Explanation #3)

Use of trunk protectors not equipped with electronic sensors:

All scoring must be done according to the judge's own decision. There must be equipment available which is capable of immediately conveying the recorded point to the scoreboard. However, when electronic publication equipment is not available, the points shall be immediately recorded on the judge's scoring sheet and publicized at the end of the round.

(Explanation #4)

The use of electronic protectors:

Scoring techniques striking the body protector will be automatically recorded. Judges will award points resulting from face attacks or scoring attacks on areas outside of the scoring targets of the trunk protectors.

(Guideline for Officiating)

The judges will abide by the principle of immediate scoring regardless of the scoring system. Awarding a point at the end of the round is a violation of this regulation.

—Notes—

Article 14. Prohibited Acts

1. Penalties on any prohibited acts shall be declared by the referee.
2. Penalties are divided into “Kyong-go” (warning penalty) and “Gam-jeom” (deduction penalty).
3. Two “Kyong-gos” shall be counted as deduction of one (1) point. However, the odd “Kyong-go” shall not be counted in the grand total.
4. A “Gam-jeom” shall be counted as minus one (-1) point.
5. Prohibited acts
 - 1) The following acts shall be classified as prohibited acts, and “Kyong-go” shall be declared.
 - a. Crossing the Boundary Line
 - b. Evading by turning the back to the opponent
 - c. Falling down
 - d. Avoiding the match
 - e. Grabbing, holding or pushing the opponent
 - f. Attacking below the waist
 - g. Pretending injury
 - h. Butting or attacking with knee
 - i. Hitting the opponent’s face with the hand
 - j. Uttering undesirable remarks or any misconduct on the part of a contestant or a coach
 - 2) The following acts shall be classified as prohibited acts, and “Gam-jeom” shall be declared.
 - a. Attacking the opponent after “Kal-yeo”
 - b. Attacking the fallen opponent
 - c. Throwing down the opponent by grappling the opponent’s attacking foot in the air with the arm or by pushing the opponent with the hand
 - d. Intentionally attacking the opponent’s face with the hand
 - e. Interrupting the progress of the match on the part of a contestant or a coach
 - f. Violent or extreme remarks or behavior on the part of a contestant or a coach
6. When a contestant intentionally refuses to comply with the Competition Rules or the referee’s order, the referee may declare the contestant loser by penalty after one (1) minute.

7. When the contestant receives minus four (-4) points, the referee shall declare him/her loser by penalties.
8. “Kyong-go” and “Gam-jeom” shall be counted in the total score of the three rounds.
9. When the referee suspends a contest for declaration of “Kyong-go” or “Gam-jeom,” the contest time shall not be counted from the moment of the referee’s declaration of “Shi-gan” [*ed. note: WTF publication incorrectly gives this as “Kye-shi”*] until “Kye-sok” is declared for resumption of the contest.

(Interpretation)

Objectives in establishing the prohibited acts and penalties:

- (1) To protect the contestant
- (2) To ensure fair contest management
- (3) To encourage appropriate or ideal techniques

(Explanation #1)

Two “Kyong-gos” shall be counted as a deduction of one (1) point: However, the final odd “Kyong-go” shall have no value in the total score.

Every two “Kyong-gos” shall count as minus one (-1) point regardless of whether the committed violations are the same or different acts, and regardless of the round in which they occur.

(Explanation #2)

Prohibited acts resulting in Kyong-go penalty:

a. Crossing the Boundary Line

Even though one of the feet crosses the Boundary Line, “Kyung-go” shall be declared. In case of crossing the Boundary Line without intention while exchange techniques, “Joo-eui” (verbal warning) shall be first given and “Kyung-go” shall be declared for repeated acts.

b. Evading by turning the back to the opponent

This act involves turning the back to avoid the opponent’s attack and this act should be punished as it expresses the lack of fair play spirit and may cause a serious injury. Same penalty should also be given to evading the opponent’s attack by bending down the waist level or crouching.

c. Falling down

“Kyung-go” shall be immediately declared in the case of intentional falling down. In the case that a contestant falls down due to the opponent’s prohibited acts, “Kyung-go” penalty shall not be given to the fallen contestant, and penalty shall be given to the opponent. In the case of falling down due to the opponent by accident, “Joo-eui” (verbal warning) shall be given to the fallen contestant, and “Kyung-go” shall be given for each repeated act. As for unintentional falling down during exchange of techniques, no penalty shall be given.

d. Avoiding the match

This act involves avoiding the match with no intention to attack, and the one more defensive and stepping back more frequently will be given the penalty. However, the referee shall distinguish the intentional avoidance from tactical defense, and the penalty shall not be given to those acts made for tactical defense.

e. Grabbing, holding or pushing the opponent

This includes grabbing any part of the opponent's body, uniform or protective equipment with the hands. Also included is the act of grabbing the foot or leg or hooking either one on top of the forearm. Holding includes pressing the opponent's shoulder with the hand or arm, hooking the opponent's body with arm with the intention of hindering the opponent's motion. If, during the competition the arm passes beyond the opponent's shoulder or armpit for the above-mentioned purpose, a penalty must be declared.

Pushing acts include pushing to displace the opponent's balance for the purpose of gaining an advantage in attacking, pushing to hinder the opponent's normal execution of technique and pushing with the palm, elbow, shoulder, trunk or head, etc.

f. Attacking below the waist

This article applies to an intentional attack on any part of the body below the waist. When an attack to below the waist is caused by the recipient of the blow or occurs in the course of an exchange of techniques, no penalty will be given. This article also applies to strong kicking or stamping actions to any part of the thigh, knee or shin for the purpose of interfering with the opponent's technique.

g. Pretending injury

Punishing the absence of the spirit of fair play is the intention of this sub-article. This means exaggerating injury or indicating pain in a body part not subjected to a blow for the purpose of demonstrating the opponent's action as a violation, and also exaggerating pain for the purpose of elapsing the game time. In this case, the referee shall give the indication to continue the match to the contestant two times with five (5) seconds interval, and then shall give "Kyong-go" penalty unless the contestant follows the instruction of the referee.

h. Butting or attacking with the knee or forehead

This article relates to an intentional butting or attacking with the knee when in close proximity to the opponent. However, actions of attacking with the knee that happen in the following situations cannot be punished by this article:

- a. When the opponent rushes in abruptly at the moment of performing foot techniques.
- b. Inadvertently, or as the result of a discrepancy in distance in attacking.

i. Hitting the opponent's face with the hand

This article includes hitting the opponent's face with the hand (fist), wrist, arm, or elbow. However, unavoidable actions due to the opponent's carelessness such as excessively lowering the head or carelessly turning the body cannot be punished by this article.

j. Uttering undesirable remarks or any misconduct on the part of a contestant or a coach

In this instance, the undesirable behavior includes physical actions or attitudes which cannot be accepted from a contestant or a coach as amateur sportsmen or Taekwondoists. Details of these actions are as follows:

- Any actions interfering with the progress of the contest
- Any action or behavior severely criticizing the referee's decision or any match officiating by using an irregular method
- Physical or verbal behavior insulting the opposing contestant or the coach
- Loud or excessive coaching
- When any unnecessary or undesirable act with regard to the contest, or any behavior regarding the contest itself, which is not within normally accepted limits is committed

** This article must be understood in relation to "Gam-jeom" Sub-Article "f" regarding the degree of illegality and intention of the action. In severe cases, Sub-Article "f" is applied and in less severe cases, this sub-article is used. However, if the less severe cases are repeatedly seen, Sub-Article "f" may be used to penalize them. Distinguishing the above cases is the sole authority of the referee. When misconduct is committed by a contestant or a coach during the rest period, the referee can immediately declare the penalty and that penalty shall be recorded on the next round's results.

(Explanation #3)

Prohibited acts resulting in "Gam-jeom" penalty:

a. Attacking the opponent after "Kal-yeo"

This action is extremely dangerous due to the high probability of injury to the opponent. The danger arises from:

- After "Kal-yeo," the opponent might be in a state of unprotectedness in that moment.
- The impact of any technique which strikes a contestant after "Kal-yeo" will be greater.

These types of aggressive actions toward a contestant are not in accordance with the spirit of Taekwondo competition. With this regard, penalties should be given on attacking the opponent after "Kal-yeo" intentionally regardless of the degree of impact. "Gam-jeom" penalty should also be given in case a contestant pretends to attack the opponent after "Kal-yeo."

b. Attacking the fallen opponent

This action is extremely dangerous due to the high probability of injury to the opponent. The danger arises from:

- The fallen opponent is in an immediate state of unprotectedness.
- The impact of any technique which strikes a fallen contestant will be greater due to the contestant's position. These types of aggressive actions toward a fallen opponent are not in accordance with the spirit of Taekwondo and so are not appropriate to Taekwondo competition.

c. Throwing down the opponent by grappling the opponent's attacking foot in the air with the arm or pushing the opponent with the hand.

Action to interfere with the opponent's attack by grappling the opponent's foot in the air or pushing with the hand.

d. Intentionally attacking the opponent's face with the hand

"Gam-jeom" penalty shall be given to the one who has committed any of the following by the referee's own decision:

- When the starting point of the fist attack was over the shoulder.
- When the fist attack was made upward.
- When the attack was made in a close distance for the purpose of causing an injury, not as a part of technical exchanges.

e. Interrupting the progress of the match on the part of a contestant or a coach

This includes:

- When a coach leaves the designated coach's mark during the match creating a disturbance or intentionally leaving the competition area.
- When a coach goes around the competition area with a purpose of interfering with the progress of the match or making a protest against the referee's decision.
- When a coach or a contestant threatens the refereeing officials or infringes on the refereeing officials' authority.
- When a coach or a contestant protests in illegal way and interrupts the progress of the match.

f. Violent or extreme remarks or behavior on the part of a contestant or a coach
(Refer to the Sub-Article "j" of "Kyung-go" Penalties.)

(Explanation #4)

The referee may declare the competitor the loser by penalty:

The referee can declare a contestant loser without the accumulation of minus 4 (-4) penalty points when the contestant or coach ignores or violates the basic principles of conduct in Taekwondo competition or fundamental principles of the Competition Rules or referee's directives. Particularly, if the contestant shows the intention to injure or commit a flagrant violation in spite of the referee's cautionary directives, such a contestant must immediately be declared loser by penalty.

(Explanation #5)

When the contestant receives minus four (-4) points the referee shall declare him/her loser by penalties. Minus four points means a total accumulation of minus four (-4) points regardless of classification as to "Kyong-go" or "Gam-jeom." When a contestant accumulates minus four (-4) points, that contestant is automatically declared the loser. In this instance, the referee must declare the other contestant the winner unconditionally.

Article 15. Decision of Superiority

1. In the case of a tie score by deduction of points, the winner shall be the contestant awarded any point or more points through the three rounds.
2. In case of a tie score other than case 1 above, (where both contestants received the same number of points and/or deductions) the winner shall be decided by all refereeing officials based on superiority throughout all three rounds. In case that the judges' decision becomes 2:1, the referee shall decide the winner.
3. Decision of superiority shall be based on the initiative shown during the contest.

(Explanation #1)

In case that the judges' decision becomes 2:1, the referee shall decide the winner, while the referee shall not need to excise his/her right to decide the winner if the judges' decision becomes 3:0.

Upon completion of the contest, the referee shall instruct judges to decide the winner and mark on the Superiority Card. All judges shall submit the Superiority Card to the referee on the center of the court and confirm the winner. Then, the referee shall declare the winner.

(Explanation #2)

Decision of superiority shall be based on the initiative shown during the contest. The initiative is judged by technical dominance of an opponent through aggressive match management, the greater number of techniques executed, the use of the more advanced techniques, both in difficulty and complexity, and display of the better competition manner.

Superiority card			
Please circle the particulars.			
Match No. _____ Rf. J1. J2. J3.			
CHUNG		HONG	
Signature _____			
.....			
Referee only :			
J1	J2	J3	REF
C	H	C	H
C	H	C	H
Referee's final decision : CHUNG HONG			

(Guideline for Officiating)

Procedure for superiority decision shall be as follows:

- 1) Prior to the contest, all refereeing officials take the superiority Card with them.
- 2) In case of decision of superiority, the referee shall declare "Woo-se-girok" (superiority record).
- 3) Upon declaration of the referee, the judges shall hang his/her head to record the winner within 10 seconds and sign his/her signature, and give it to the referee.

- 4) The referee shall collect all Superiority Cards and record the final result. Then, declare the winner.
- 5) Upon declaration of winner, the referee shall hand over the cards to the recorder and the recorder shall submit the cards to the Technical Delegate of the World Taekwondo Federation.

Article 16. Decisions

1. Win by K.O.
2. Win by Referee Stop Contest (RSC)
3. Win by score or superiority
4. Win by withdrawal
5. Win by disqualification
6. Win by referee's punitive declaration

(Explanation #1)

Win by K.O.:

The referee shall declare this result when a contestant who has been knocked down by a legitimate technique cannot demonstrate the will to resume the contest by the count of "Yeodul," and when the referee determines that the competitor is not able to resume competition, this result may be declared before 10 seconds have elapsed.

(Explanation #2)

Referee Stop Contest:

If it is determined by the judgment of the referee or Commission Doctor that a contestant cannot continue, even after one minute recovery period, or when a contestant disregards the referee's command to continue, the referee shall declare the contest stopped and the other contestant the winner.

(Explanation #3)

Win by score or superiority:

In this case the winner is determined by the final score or the decision of superiority.

(Explanation #4)

Win by withdrawal:

The winner is determined by the withdrawal of the opponent.

- a. When a contestant withdraws from the match due to injury or other reasons.
- b. When a contestant does not resume the match after the rest period or fails to respond to the call to begin the match.
- c. When the coach throws a towel to the court to signify forfeiture of the match.

(Explanation #5)

Win by disqualification:

This is the result determined by the contestant's failure in weigh-in or when a contestant loses contestant status before the competition begins.

(Explanation #6)

Win by the referee's punitive declarations:

This is the result declared by the referee after the accumulation of four minus (-4) points or by the referee's decision according to Article 14.6 of Competition Rules.

Article 17. Knock Down

1. When any part of the body other than the sole of the foot touches the floor due to the force of the opponent's delivered technique.
2. When a contestant is staggered showing no intention or ability to pursue the match.
3. When the referee judges that the contest cannot continue as the result of any power technique having been delivered.

(Explanation #1)

A knock down:

The situation in which a contestant is knocked to the floor or is staggered or unable to respond adequately to the requirements of the match due to a blow.

Even in the absence of these indications, the referee may interpret as a knock down, the situation where, as the result of contact, it would be dangerous to continue or when there is any question about the safety of a contestant.

Article 18. Procedure in the Event of a Knock Down

1. When a contestant is knocked down as the result of the opponent's legitimate attack, the referee shall take the following measures:
 - 1) The referee shall keep the attacker away from downed contestant by declaration of "Kal-yeo" (break).
 - 2) The referee shall count aloud from "Ha-nah" (one) up to "Yeol" (ten) at one second interval towards the downed contestant, making hand signals indicating the passage of time.
 - 3) In case the downed contestant stands up during the referee's count and desires to continue the fight, the referee shall continue the count up to "Yeodul" (eight) for recovery of the downed contestant. The referee shall then determine if the contestant is recovered and, if so, continue the contest by declaration of "Kye-sok" (continue).

- 4) When a contestant who has been knocked down cannot demonstrate the will to resume the contest by the count of “Yeo-dul,” the referee shall announce the other contestant winner by K.O.
- 5) The count shall be continued even after the end of the round or the expiration of the match time.
- 6) In case both of the contestants are knocked down, the referee shall continue counting as long as one of the contestants has not sufficiently recovered.
- 7) When both of the contestants fail to recover by the count of “Yeol,” the winner shall be decided upon the match score before the occurrence of Knock Down.
- 8) When it is judged by the referee that a contestant is unable to continue, the referee may decide the winner either without counting or during the counting.

2. Procedures to be followed after the contest

Any contestant suffering a knock-out as the result of a blow to the head, will not be allowed to compete for the next 30 days. Before entering a new contest after 30 days, the contestant must be examined by a medical doctor designated by the National Taekwondo Association, who must certify that the contestant is recovered and able to compete.

(Explanation #1)

Keep the attacker away:

In this situation the standing opponent shall return to the respective Contestant’s Mark; however, if the downed contestant is on or near the opponent’s Contestant’s Mark, the opponent shall wait at the Attention Line in front of his/her coach’s chair.

(Guideline for Officiating)

The referee must be constantly prepared for the sudden occurrence of a knock down or staggered situation which is usually characterized by a powerful blow accompanied by dangerous impact. In this situation, the referee must declare “Kal-yeo” and begin the count without any hesitation.

(Explanation #2)

In case the downed contestant stands up during the referee’s count and desires to continue the fight:

The primary purpose of counting is to protect the contestant. Even if contestant desires to continue the match before the count of eight is reached, the referee must count until “Yeo-dul” (eight) before resuming the match. Counting to “Yeo-dul” is compulsory and cannot be altered by the referee.

- * Count from one to ten: Ha-nah, Duhl, Seht, Neht, Da-seot, Yeo-seot, Il-gop, Yeo-dul, A-hop, Yeol.

(Explanation #3)

The referee shall then determine if the contestant is recovered and, if so, continue the contest by the declaration of “Kye-sok”:

The referee must ascertain the ability of the contestant to continue while he/she counts until eight. Final confirmation of the contestant’s condition after the count of eight is only procedural and the referee must not needlessly pass time before resuming the contest.

(Explanation #4)

When a contestant who has been knocked down cannot express the will to resume by the count of “Yeo-dul,” the referee shall announce the other contestant winner by K.O. after counting to “Yeol.”

The contestant expresses the will to continue the match by gesturing several times in a fighting position with the clenched fist. If the contestant cannot display this gesture by the count of “Yeo-dul,” the referee must declare the other contestant winner after first counting “A-hop” and “Yeol.” Expressing the will to continue after the count of “Yeo-dul” cannot be considered valid.

Even if the contestant expresses the will to resume by the count of “Yeo-dul,” the referee can continue counting and may declare the contest over if he/she determines the contestant is incapable of resuming the match.

(Explanation #5)

When it is judged by the referee that a contestant is unable to continue...

When a contestant has received an apparently dangerous blow and has fallen in an urgent condition the referee can suspend the count and call for first aid or do so in conjunction with the count.

(Guideline for Officiating)

- a. The referee must not spend additional time confirming the competitor’s recovery after counting to “Yeo-dul” as a result of failing to observe the contestant’s condition during the administration of the count.
- b. When the contestant clearly recovers before the count of “Yeo-dul” and expresses the will to resume and the referee can clearly discern the contestant’s condition yet resumption is hampered by the requirement of medical treatment, the referee must first resume the match with the declaration of “Kal-yeo” and “Kye-shi” and the procedures of Article 19 must then be followed.

Article 19. Procedures for Suspending the Match

When a contest is to be stopped due to the injury of one or both of contestants, the referee shall take the following measures, while in case of the situation which warrants suspending the contest beyond the prescribed procedure, the referee shall declare “Shi-gan” (time) and resume the contest by declaring “Kye-sok” (continue).

1. The referee shall suspend the contest by declaration of “Kal-yeo” and order the Recorder to suspend the time keeping by announcing “Kye-shi” (suspend).

2. The referee shall allow the contestant to receive first aid within one minute.
3. The contestant who does not demonstrate the will to continue the contest after one minute, even in the case of a slight injury, shall be declared loser by the referee.
4. In case resumption of the contest is impossible after one minute the contestant causing the injury by a prohibited act to be penalized by “Gam-jeom” shall be declared loser.
5. In case both of the contestants are knocked down and are unable to continue the contest after one minute, the winner shall be decided upon points scored before the injuries occurred.
6. When it is judged that a contestant’s health is at risk due to losing consciousness of falling in an apparently dangerous condition, the referee shall suspend the contest immediately and order first aid to be administered. The referee shall declare as loser the contestant causing the injury if it is deemed to have resulted from a prohibited attack to be penalized by “Gam-jeom,” or in the case the attack was not deemed to be penalized by “Gam-jeom,” shall decide the winner on the basis of the score of the match before suspension of the time.

(Explanation #1)

When the referee determines that the competition cannot be continued due to injury or any other emergency situation, the referee may take the following measures:

- 1) If the situation is critical such as a competitor losing consciousness or suffering a severe injury and time is crucial, first aid must be immediately directed and the match must be closed. In this case the result of the match will be decided as follows:
 - a. The causer shall be declared the loser if the outcome was the result of a prohibited act to be penalized by “Gam-jeom.”
 - b. The incapacitated contestant shall be declared the loser if the outcome was the result of a legal action or accidental, unavoidable contact.
 - c. If the outcome was unrelated to the match contents, the winner shall be decided by the match score before suspension of the match. If the suspension occurs before the end of the first round, the match shall be invalidated.
- 2) When the injury is not serious, the contestant can receive necessary treatment within one minute after the declaration of “Kye-shi.”
 - a. Permission for medical treatment:
When the referee determines that medical treatment is necessary, he/she can direct treatment by the Commission Doctor.
 - b. Order to resume the match:
It is the decision of the referee whether or not it is possible for the contestant to resume the match. The referee can, any time, order the contestant to resume the match within one minute. The referee can declare loser any contestant who does not follow the order to resume the match.

- c. While the contestant is receiving medical treatment or is in the process of recovering, 40 seconds after the declaration of “Kye-shi,” the referee begins to loudly announce the passage of time in five seconds interval. When the competitor cannot return to the Contestant’s Mark by the end of one minute period, the match results must be declared.
 - d. After the declaration of “Kye-shi,” the one minute time interval is strictly observed regardless of the Commission Doctor’s availability. However, when the Doctor’s treatment is required but the Doctor is absent or additional treatment is necessary, the one minute time limit can be suspended by the judgment of the referee.
 - e. If resumption of the match is impossible after one minute, the decision of the match will be determined according to Sub-article 1)a. of this Article.
- 3) If both contestants become incapacitated and are unable to resume the match after one minute or urgent conditions arise, the match result is decided according to the following criteria:
 - a. If the outcome is the result of a “Gam-jeom” penalty by one contestant, that person shall be loser.
 - b. If the outcome was not related to any prohibited act to be penalized by “Gam-jeom” the result of the match shall be determined by the match score at the time of suspension of the match. However, if the suspension occurs before the end of the first round, the match shall be invalidated and Organizing Committee will determine an appropriate time to recontest the match.
 - c. If the outcome is the result of prohibited acts to be penalized by “Gam-jeom” by both contestants, both contestants shall lose.

(Explanation #2)

The situation which warrants suspending the match beyond the above-prescribed procedures shall be treated as follows:

- 1) When uncontrollable circumstances require suspension of the match, the referee shall suspend the match and follow the directives of the Organizing Committee.
- 2) If the match is suspended after the completion of the second round the match shall be determined according to the match score at the time of suspension if the match cannot be concluded.
- 3) If the match is suspended before the conclusion of the second round, a rematch shall, in principle, be conducted and shall be held in three rounds.

Article 20. Refereeing Officials

1. Qualifications

Holders of International Referee Certificate registered by the WTF.

2. Duties

1) Referee

- (1) The referee shall have control over the match.
- (2) The referee shall declare “Shi-jak,” “Keu-man,” “Kal-yeo,” “Kye-sok” and “Kye-shi,” winner and loser, deduction of points, warnings and retiring. All the referee’s declarations shall be made when the results are confirmed.
- (3) The referee shall have the right to make decisions independently in accordance with the prescribed rules.
- (4) The referee shall not award points.
- (5) In case of a tie or scoreless match, the decision of superiority shall be made by all refereeing officials after the end of three rounds in accordance with Article 15.2.

2) Judges

- (1) The judges shall mark the valid points immediately.
- (2) The judges shall state their opinions forthrightly when requested by the referee.

3. Responsibility for Judgment

Decisions made by the referees and judges shall be conclusive and they shall be responsible to the Board of Arbitration for those decisions.

4. Uniform of the Referees and Judges

- 1) The referees and judges shall wear the uniform designated by the WTF.
- 2) The referees and judges shall not carry or take any materials to the arena which might interfere with the contest.

(Interpretation)

The Chairman of the Board of Arbitration may request the Technical Delegate to replace the refereeing officials in the event that refereeing officials have been mis-assigned, or when it is judged that any of the assigned refereeing officials have unfairly conducted the contest or made unreasonable mistakes

(Explanation)

In case that each judge awards different score respectively to the legal attack on the face, for instance, one judge gives one point, another gives two and the other gives no point, and that no point is recognized as a valid one, any of refereeing officials may indicate the mistake and ask for confirmation among the refereeing officials. Then, the referee may declare “Shi-gan” (time) to stop the contest and gather the judges to ask for statements. After discussion, the referee must publicize the resolution. This article also applies to the case that the referee makes an error in counting, and the judges may raise a different opinion to the referee while the referee counts “Seht” (three) or “Neht” (four).

Article 21. Recorder

The recorder shall time the contest and periods of time-out, suspension, and also shall record and publicize the awarded points, and /or deduction of points.

Article 22. Assignment of Officials

1. Composition of Refereeing Officials
 - 1) In the use of non-electronic trunk protector:
The officials are composed of one (1) referee and three (3) judges.
 - 2) In the use of electronic trunk protector:
The officials are composed of one (1) referee and two (2) judges.
2. Assignment of Refereeing Officials
 - 1) The assignment of the referees and judges shall be made after the contest schedule is fixed.
 - 2) Referees and judges with the same nationality as that of either contestant shall not be assigned to such a contest. However, an exception shall be made for the judges when the number of refereeing officials is insufficient as the case may be.

(Interpretation)

The details of the qualifications, duties, organization, etc. shall follow the WTF Regulations on the Administration of International Referees.

Article 23. Other matters not specified in the Rules

In the case that any matters not specified in the Rules occur, they shall be dealt with as follows:

1. Matters related to the competition shall be decided through consensus by the refereeing officials of the pertinent contest.
2. Matters which are not related to a specific contest shall be decided by the Executive Council or its proxy.

3. The Organizing Committee shall prepare a video tape recorder at each court for recording and preservation of the match process.

Article 24. Arbitration and Sanction

1. Composition of the Board of Arbitration
 - 1) Qualifications of the members:
Member of Executive Council of the WTF or person with sufficient Taekwondo experience recommended by the WTF President or Secretary General. One Technical Delegate shall be the Ex-officio member.
 - 2) Composition:
One Chairman and less than six members plus the Technical Delegate.
 - 3) The chairman and members of the Board of Arbitration will be appointed by the WTF President on the recommendation of the WTF Secretary General.
2. Responsibility:
The Board of Arbitration shall make corrections of misjudgments according to their decision regarding protests and take disciplinary action against the officials committing the misjudgment or any illegal behavior and the results of which shall be sent to the Secretariat of the WTF. The Board of Arbitration shall also be entitled the Extraordinary Committee of Sanction concurrently at the competition for the matters in relation to competition management.
3. Procedure of Protest
 - 1) In case there is an objection to a referee judgment, an official delegate of the team must submit an application for re-evaluation of decision (protest application) together with the prescribed fee to the Board of Arbitration within 10 minutes after pertinent contest.
 - 2) Deliberation of re-evaluation shall be carried out excluding those members with the same nationality as that of either contestant concerned, and resolution on deliberation shall be made by majority.
 - 3) The members of the Board of Arbitration may summon the refereeing officials for confirmation of events.
 - 4) The resolution made by the Board of Arbitration will be final and no further means of appeal will be applied.
4. Procedure of Sanction
 - 1) The WTF President or Secretary General (in case of their absence, the Technical Delegate) may request the Extraordinary Committee of Sanction for deliberation when any of the following behaviors are committed by a coach or a contestant.
 - a) Interfering with the management of contest
 - b) Stirring up the spectators or spreading false rumor

- 2) When judged reasonable, the Extraordinary Committee of Sanction shall deliberate over the matter and take disciplinary action immediately. The result of deliberation shall be announced to the public and reported to the WTF Secretariat afterwards.
- 3) The Extraordinary Committee of Sanction may summon the person concerned for confirmation of events.

(Interpretation)

Each Board of Arbitration shall be composed of at least five eligible members and the a number of Board members must be an odd number.

(Interpretation #1)

Excluding those members with the same nationality...:

If there are officials with the same nationality as either contestant involved on the Board of Arbitration those members must be excluded from the Board. In all cases, the number of Board members must be an odd number. If the Chairman is one who is ineligible, a temporary chairman must be elected by the remaining members.

(Interpretation #2)

The Chairman of the Board of Arbitration may recommend the Technical Delegate to replace the refereeing officials :

The Technical Delegate may instruct the Referee Chairman to replace the refereeing officials concerned following the request of the Chairman of the Board of Arbitration.

(Explanation #3)

Deliberation procedures:

1. After reviewing the protest application, the content of the protest must be arranged according to the criterion of “Acceptable” or “Unacceptable.”
2. If necessary, the Board can hear opinions from the referee or judges.
3. If necessary, the Board can review the material evidence of the decision, such as the written or visual recorded data.
4. After deliberation, the Board holds a secret ballot to determine a majority decision.
5. The Chairman will make a report documenting the outcome of the deliberation and shall make this outcome publicly known.
6. Treatment of the decision:
 - 1) Errors in determining the match results, mistakes in calculating the match score or misidentifying a contestant shall result in the decision being reversed.
 - 2) Error in application of the rules:

When it is determined by the Board that the referee made a clear error in applying the Competition Rules, the outcome of the error shall be corrected and the referee shall be punished.

3) Errors in factual judgment:

When the Board decides that there was a clear error in judging the facts such as impact of striking, severity of action or conduct, intention, timing of an act in relation to a declaration or area, the decision shall not be changed and the officials seen to have made the error shall be punished.

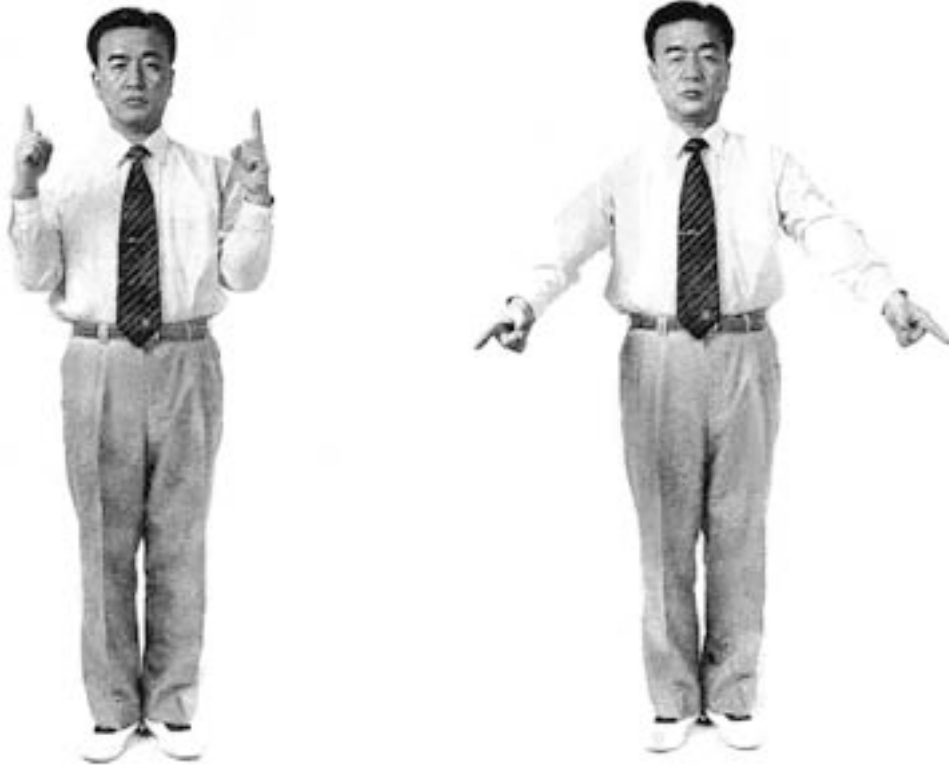
(Explanation #4)

Extraordinary Committee of Sanction:

The deliberation procedure of Sanction shall correspond to that of Arbitration, and the details of sanction will comply with the Regulations on Sanctions.

Referee's Hand Signals

1. Call for Contestants



1. Raise the both clenched fists the thumb on the middle finger and forefinger spread out to the height of the breast.
2. Stretch down the arms in turn, pointing the “Chung” contestant’s mark with right forefinger and then “Hong” contestant’s mark with left forefinger.

2. “Cha-ryeot” / “Kyeong-rye”



1. Raise open palms facing forward with thumbs folded to the height of the eyebrow. Keep the arms apart from both sides of the trunk at 45 degrees, giving a verbal command “Cha-ryeot” and then
2. Stretch both arms even to the height of the shoulders with palms down, giving a verbal command “Kyeong-rye.”
3. Raise open palms facing each other with thumbs folded to the height of the eyebrow. Keep the arms apart from both sides of the trunk at 45 degrees, giving a verbal command “Cha-ryeot” and then
4. Bring both hands to the front of the pit of the stomach with palms down while giving a verbal command “Kyeong-rye”. Keep a fist-sized distance between fingertips of both hands and between hands and the trunk.

3. “Joon-bi”



1. Fold the right arm upward at 45 degrees and get the stretched fingers close to the right ear.
 2. Stretch the right arm down to the height of the pit of the stomach in “Wen-Abgubi” stance (a step forward with the left leg), giving a verbal command “Joon-bi.”
- * While these actions are taken, put the left arm alongside the side of the trunk with the hand slightly clenched.

4. “Shi-jak”



1. Take “Bum-seogi” stance from the posture of “Joon-bi” by drawing back the left leg, opening both arms at 45 degree from the shoulder with palms open.
2. Rapidly bring both arms before the breast with 25cm distance and with palms facing each other, giving a verbal command “Shi-jak.”

5. “Kal-yeo” / “Keu-man”



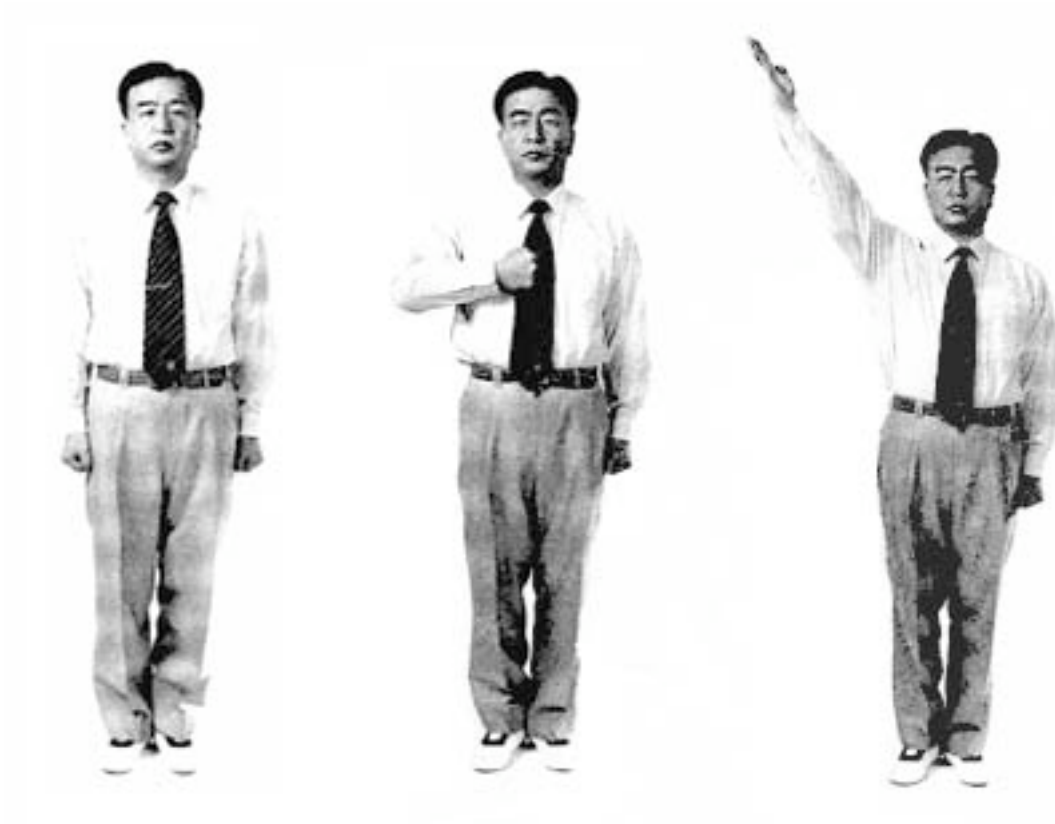
Stretch the right arm with open palm down to the pit of the stomach, taking “Wen-abseogi” stance and giving a verbal command “Kal-yeo” / “Keu-man.”

6. “Kye-sok”



Get the fingertips of the right knife-hand close to the ear in the posture of “Kal-yeo”, giving a verbal command “Kye-sok.”

7. Winner Declaration



1. In case “Chung” contestant is the winner, face the winner
 2. Bring the clenched right fist to the pit of the stomach and then
 3. Stretch the right arm up at 45 degrees with the open palm upward, declaring “Chung-Seung.”
- * While taking these actions, put the other arm alongside the side of the trunk with the fist slightly clenched.
 - * In case “Hong” contestant is the winner, follow the same procedure and declare “Hong-Seung” using the left hand.

8., 9. “Kye-shi” / “Shi-gan”



“Kye-shi”

“Shi-gan”

8. “Kye-shi”

Stretch the bended right arm down with the interior angle of the arm being 135 degrees, pointing at Recorder’s Desk with the forefinger.

9. “Shi-gan”

Cross forefingers of both hands with the left one outside before the perpendicular furrow of the upper lip.

10. Counting



Count from “Hana (one)” through “Yeol (ten)” using both hands.

Stretch the fingers one by one from the thumb of the right hand with one-second interval. When the count gets to “Da-seot (5)” and “Yeol,” turn the open palm towards the pertinent contestant.

11. Declaration of “Kyong-go”



1. Get the clenched right fist with forefinger stretched behind the right ear and stretch the right arm, pointing out the pertinent contestant and saying “Chung” or “Hong,” and then
2. Get the clenched right fist with the forefinger stretched onto the left shoulder and stretch the arm and pointing at the forehead of the pertinent contestant, stretching the right arm and declaring “Kyong-go.”

12. Declaration of “Gam-jeom”



1. Let the two contestants of Chung and Hong stand at their positions.
2. Get the clenched right fist with forefinger stretched behind the right ear and stretch the right arm, pointing out the pertinent contestant and saying “Chung” or “Hong,” and then
3. Take the stance of “Cha-ryeot” and then
4. Raise up the right fist vertically with the right forefinger stretched, declaring “Gam-jeom.”

13. Caution (“Joo-eui”)



1. Stretch the right arm with the interior angle being 135 degrees and point at the forehead of the pertinent contestant with the forefinger.
- 2., 3, 4. Turn the right palm forward and sway it once from left to right and then
5. Get the right fist clenched with only forefinger stretched (to let the pertinent contestant know that the referee has given a caution).

14. Annulment of Points Scored



This is in regard to the Article 12.5 of the Competition Rules that stipulates the annulment of the points scored made immediately after the command “Kal-yeo.”

1. In “Cha-ryeot” stance, raise the right palm before the forehead with 20cm distance from the forehead
- 2, 3. Sway the right palm twice horizontally from right to left as widely as the shoulder to annul the point(s) scored.
* After the motion 3), show the sign of “Shi-gan” to the Recorder’s Desk and declare the penalty to the pertinent contestant. Time shall be recorded again from the point of declaration “Kye-sok” after giving the penalty.

Orthography and phonetic symbols of Taekwondo terms

	Term	Pronunciation	Meaning
1.	Chung	chung	Blue
2.	Hong	hawng	Red
3.	Charyeot	tcha riet	Attention
4.	Kyeong-rye	kieng ney	Bow
5.	Joon-bi	djoon bee	Ready
6.	Shi-jak	shi dzahk	Start
7.	Kal-yeo	kal yo	Break
8.	Keu-man	ku mahn	Stop
9.	Kye-sok	ke sok	Continue
10.	Kye-shi	ke shee	Suspension of match due to injury
11.	Shi-gan	shee gan	Suspension of match for other case
12.	Kyong-go	kyawng go	Warning penalty
13.	Gam-jeom	gahm jum	Deduction penalty
14.	Chung Seung	chung soong	Chung winner
15.	Hong Seung	hawng soong	Hong winner
16.	Ha-nah	hah nah	One
17.	Duhl	dool	Two
18.	Seht	set	Three
19.	Neht	net	Four
20.	Da-seot	da soot	Five
21.	Yeo-seot	yu soot	Six
22.	Il-gop	il gob	Seven
23.	Yeo-dul	yu duhl	Eight
24.	A-hop	ah hob	Nine
25.	Yeol	yool	Ten
26.	Hyu-sik	hju sik	Rest

Enacted : May 28, 1973

Enacted : Oct. 1, 1977

Enacted : Feb. 23, 1982

Enacted : Oct. 19, 1983

Enacted : June 1, 1986

Enacted : Oct. 7, 1989

Enacted : Oct. 28, 1991

Enacted : Aug. 17, 1993

Enacted : Nov. 18, 1997

Revised : Oct. 31, 2002

Revised : Sept. 23, 2003 (Effective as of Dec. 4, 2003)

Printed: Nov. 25, 2003