



**INTERNATIONAL TAEKWON-DO FEDERATION**



## **UMPIRE RULES**

**ITF**

**Vienna, Austria**

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## **Article 1: PURPOSE**

The purpose of these rules is to ensure fairness and unified judging criteria of the Jury and Referees, to protect the Umpiring Authority and to point out the rights and duties of the Jury and Referees.

## **Article 2: APPLICATION**

These rules are to be applied at all the Championships and Tournaments organized by the ITF and its NGBs.

## **Article 3: UMPIRE COMMITTEE**

The Umpire Committee ensures the ITF Championships and Tournaments progress and that they are carried out in accordance with the ITF Tournament Rules.

### **3.1 Composition of the Umpire Committee**

3.1.1 In World Championships, the Umpire Committee is composed of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and two to three Members, including 1-2 persons from ITF.

3.1.2 In the Tournaments organized by the Continental Federations or National Associations, the Umpire Committee can be composed according to the circumstances.

### **3.2 Authority**

3.2.1 To supervise the referees' and juries' activities during competition.

3.2.2 To deal with official protests and give final judgments.

3.2.3 To undertake the disciplinary actions against unfair judges including the substitution and /or disqualification of the unfair judges.

3.2.4 To undertake disciplinary actions, including stopping of the match, and/or disqualifying a competitor or a team in violation of the ITF Tournament rules and Taekwon-Do ethics.

### **3.3 Duties**

3.3.1 To select and register ITF Class "A" Umpires to officiate in the competitions.

3.3.2 To appoint Ring Councils and designate them to their respective ring.

3.3.3 To conduct Umpire seminars based on the ITF Tournament and Umpire Rules.

3.3.4 To give final judgments on the disputes occurred among the referees that the Ring Council's Jury President not able to solve, if any.

3.3.5 To present the judging results to the ITF Tournament Committee and the Organizing Committee.

**3.4 The Vice Chairman of Umpire Committee shall assume the position of Acting Chairman in the absence of the Chairman.**

**3.5 The Chairman shall designate the Members of the Umpire Committee to various duties and responsibilities and he may invite them to participate in discussions whenever he feels it is necessary.**

#### **Article 4: COMPOSITION OF RING COUNCIL**

Each ring must be governed by a Ring Council and the Composition of the Ring Councils are as follows:

**4.1 The Ring Council for Pattern competition consists of;**

One (1) Jury President

One or Two (1-2) Jury Members

Five (5) referees

One (1) Recorder

**4.2 The Ring Council for Sparring competition consists of;**

One (1) Jury President

One or Two (1-2) Jury Members

One (1) Center Referee

Four (4) Corner Referees

One (1) Recorder

One (1) Timekeeper

**4.3 The Ring Council for Special Techniques consists of;**

One (1) Jury President

Two (2) Referees

One (1) Recorder

**4.4 The Ring Council for Power Breaking consists of;**

One (1) Jury President

Two (2) Referees

One (1) Recorder

**4.5 The Ring Council for Self-defense Routine consists of;**

One (1) Jury President

One or Two (1-2) Jury Members

Five (5) Referees

One (1) Recorder

One (1) Timekeeper

**Article 5: RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE JURY PRESIDENT**

**5.1 The Jury President shall be well versed in the Umpire and Tournament Rules of ITF.**

**5.2 The Jury President is the only official authorized to disqualify a competitor.**

**5.3 The Jury President is the supervisor of the match and the Referees, is allowed to give his or her opinion at any time and substitute the referees if necessary.**

**5.4 The Jury President is the supervisor of the Timekeeper and Recorder of his team and is allowed to substitute them if necessary.**

**5.5 The Jury President shall sign his or her name on the Competition Judging Form after each match, and present the form to the Umpire Committee.**

**5.6 In Pattern competition:**

5.6.1 The Jury President shall appoint one (1) Referee to give commands.

5.6.2 The Jury President shall decide by draw the designated Pattern.

5.6.3 In the case of incorrect situations, the Jury President can call the Referee(s) for consultation.

5.6.4 The Jury President shall stand up and count the number of votes according to the red and blue flags raised by the Judges and indicate the winner by raising the Jury President's red or blue flag.

5.6.5 In the case of a draw, the Jury President must stand up and crosses his or her arms in front of his or her chest in the form of an "X" to indicate a draw. The Jury President shall then select (by drawing) one (1) designated Pattern to be the "tie-breaker". This procedure will continue until a winner is decided.

**5.7 In Sparring competition:**

5.7.1 In the case of incorrect situations, the Jury President shall call for "timestop" and his consultations with the Center Referee and corner referees.

5.7.2 After receiving the Sparring judging forms, the Jury President shall check all the points, foul(s) and warning(s). The Jury President shall stand up to indicate the winner.

5.7.3 In the case of a draw, the Jury President shall stand up and cross his or her arms in front of his or her chest in form of an "X" to indicate a draw.

The Jury President shall arrange one extra round, and in the case of another draw, then a "golden point" round ( A Golden Point means the Competitor who scores the first point wins the match or Competitor who receives three warnings or a yellow card lose the match and his or her opponent wins.) This procedure will continue until a winner is decided.

**5.8 In Power and Special Techniques competitions:**

5.8.1 The Jury President shall appoint one (1) Referee to check the boards and the attempts, and one (1) Referee to give the commands and indicate the points scored.

5.8.2 In the case of a tie, the Jury President will select (by drawing) one (1) item to be the "tie-breaker", this procedure will continues until a winner is decided.

**5.9 In Self-defense Routine competition:**

5.9.1 The Jury President shall appoint one (1) referee to give commands.

5.9.2 After receiving the Self-defense Routine judging forms, the Jury President shall check

them, and stand up to indicate the winner.

5.9.3 In the case of a draw, the Jury President shall stand up and cross his or her arms in front of his or her chest in form of an “X” to indicate a draw.

An extra 25 seconds will be given to each team to perform and the teams are free to choose whatever techniques and routines they wish.

This procedure will continue until a winner is decided.

### **5. 10 Duties of the Jury Member**

5.10.1 The Jury Member shall supervise the match and the referees in Pattern, Sparring, Power, Special Techniques and Self-Defense competitions and help the Jury President in checking the Judging Forms.

5.10.2 The Jury Member shall assume the position of Acting Jury President in the absence of the Jury President.

## **Article 6: RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE REFEREES**

### **6.1 In Pattern Competition**

6.1.1 The referee shall at all times be updated with the ITF Tournament and Umpire Rules.

6.1.2 The referee shall be allowed, if required by the Jury President, to participate in the consultations.

6.1.3 The referee is not allowed to talk at any time during competition.

6.1.4 The referee shall sit properly at 150cm on either side from his or her colleagues.

6.1.5 The referee shall observe with attention the competitors’ performance and judges by the following parameters;

#### **INDIVIDUAL PATTERN**

\* Precision 10

\* Power 6

\* Balance 6

\* Breath control 6

#### **TEAM PATTERN**

\* Team work 10

\* Precision 10

\* Power 6

\* Balance 6

\* Rhythm 6

\* Rhythm 6

As for Scoring Method, consult the Article 48, Section 13 of Tournament Rules.

6.1.6 After each bout, the Referee shall add up all the points on his/her pattern judging form, circles the winner with his/her pen, raises the flag to indicate the winner when the Chief Judge gives the command: "Judges, Flags ready, Hana, Dul, Set!".

6.1.7 Duties of the Recorder in Pattern Competition

6.1.7.1 The Recorder shall prepare the Judging Forms and distribute them to the Referees.

6.1.7.2 After every match, the Recorder shall collect the Judging Forms from the Referees and hand them over to the Jury President.

6.1.7.3 The Recorder shall record the result of a match correctly.

## **6.2 In the Sparring Competition**

6.2.1 Rights and Duties of the Center Referee

6.2.1.1 The Center Referee controls the match during competition. He should start and end the match in accordance to the Ring Protocols.

6.2.1.2 The Center Referee shall at all times be well versed in the ITF tournament and Umpire rules and be updated with Judging Terms and Signals and their usages.

6.2.1.3 The Center Referee can, after consultation with the Jury President and with the Jury President's agreement, disqualify a competitor in serious violation of the ITF Tournament Rules.

6.2.1.4 The Center referee shall check the ITF dobok, safety equipment, the groin guard and the shin guards of the competitors. If any of the mentioned items is not in order, the Center Referee shall give the competitor two (2) minutes to correct the disorder.

6.2.1.5 The Center Referee shall have the competitors bow to the Jury desk and each other before and after a match by giving commands.

6.2.1.6 The Center Referee shall control a match to be displayed in accordance with the Tournament Rules by awarding warning(s) and foul(s).

6.2.1.7 The Center referee shall stop a match, when the required order in the ring is broken,



until the order is recovered.

6.2.1.8 The Center Referee shall receive the Sparring judging forms from the Corner Referees and delivers them to the Jury President.

6.2.1.9 When the competitors are fighting for the “golden point”, the Center Referee shall make the Corner Referees stand up with red flag in right hand and blue flag in left hand, shall stop the round with the command “HECHO!” when the golden point is recognized and make the Corner Referees raise the red flag or blue flag to indicate the winner by giving the command “HANA, DUL, SEK”.

6.2.1.10 The Center Referee is allowed to have authority to decide the winner by raising the red flag or blue flag when a draw occurs in the “golden point” round.

6.2.1.11 The Center Referee shall raise the hand of the winner according to the signal of the Jury President.

6.2.2 Rights and Duties of the Corner Referee

6.2.2.1 The Corner Referee shall be updated with the Tournament and Judging Rules.

6.2.2.2 The Corner Referee shall sit properly at the designated place and observe with attention the competitors’ actions.

6.2.2.3 The Corner Referee shall register on the Sparring judging form for point(s), warning(s) and reduction point(s) of the competitors.

6.2.2.4 The Corner Referee shall do the judgment fairly in accordance with the Scoring Method for Sparring of the Tournament Rules (Article 55 and 56, Section 14).

6.2.2.5 The Corner Referee shall deliver the Sparring judging form, completely filled and signed, to the Center Referee.

6.2.2.6 When the competitors are fighting for the “golden point”, the Corner Referee shall stand up with the red flag in the right hand and blue flag in the left hand and observes the fight from his or her corner. When the golden point is recognized, the Corner Referee shall signal by blowing a whistle.

6.2.2.7 At the Center Referee’s command of “HANA, DUL, SEK”, the Corner Referee shall

raise the red or blue flag to indicate by whom the valid score is made.

6.2.2.8 The Corner Referee is allowed to participate in the consultation with the Jury President and the Center Referee, if required.

6.2.3 Duties of the Recorder

6.2.3.1 The Recorder shall prepare the Judging Forms.

6.2.3.2 The Recorder shall register the results of a match correctly.

6.2.4 Duties of the Timekeeper.

6.2.4.1 The Time Keeper shall check the status and correctness of the gong and clock.

6.2.4.2 The Time Keeper shall operate the clock and signal the start of a match, upon the Jury President's command of "SIJAK".

6.2.4.3 During a match, the Timekeeper shall halt the clock upon the Center Referee's command of "HECHO" and operate the clock upon the command of "KESOK".

6.2.4.4 When the time of a match is up, the Timekeeper shall stop the clock and signal the end of a match.

6.2.4.5 The Time Keeper shall be responsible in the duration of match, stopping the match and the duration of a break.

### **6.3 In the Power and Special Technique Competition**

6.3.1 Rights and Duties of the Referees

6.3.1.1 The Referee shall at all times be updated with the ITF Tournament and Judging Rules.

6.3.1.2 The Referee is allowed to participate in the consultations with the Jury President, if required.

6.3.1.3 The Referee shall check the equipments including the boards and the heights of the targets.

6.3.1.4 The Referee shall give the command to begin and check the correctness in the execution of each attempt.

6.3.1.5 The Referee shall announce the number of points scored in each attempt in accordance with the procedure indicated in Art.67, Section 15 and Art. 71, Section 16

of the ITF Tournament Rules.

#### 6.3.2 Duties of the Recorder

6.3.2.1 The Recorder shall prepare the Judging form.

6.3.2.2 The Recorder shall register the results of the competition correctly.

### **6.4 In the Self-Defense Routine Competition**

#### 6.4.1 Rights and Duties of the Referee

6.4.1.1 The referee shall at all times be updated with the ITF Tournament and Umpire Rules.

6.4.1.2 The referee shall be allowed, if required by the Jury President, to participate in the consultations.

6.4.1.3 The referee is not allowed to talk at any time during competition.

6.4.1.4 The referee shall sit properly at 150cm on either side from his or her colleagues.

6.4.1.5 The referee shall observe with attention the competitors' performance and judges by the following parameters;

- Technical content (designated technical movements)
- Team work (including timing and precision)
- Presentation (including realism and artistic beauty)

Scoring Method can be consulted in the Art. 80 and 81 of the Tournament Rules.

#### 6.4.2 Duties of the Recorder

6.4.2.1 The Recorder shall prepare the competition form.

6.4.2.2 After each match, the Recorder shall collect the judging forms from the Referees and hand them over to the Jury President.

6.4.2.3 The Recorder shall register the result of a match correctly.

### **Article 7: BEHAVIOR**

All officials must observe the following rules;

**7.1 They must behave with conscience and dignity.**

**7.2 They must pay maximum attention during competition.**

**7.3 They must be at all times well unbiased when giving a decision.**

**7.4 They must take distance from the competitors.**

**7.5 They must have a basic knowledge of First-Aid-Assistance.**

## **Article 8: UMPIRE CLASS AND REQUIREMENTS**

Umpire Class is divided into “A” and “B”.

### **8.1 The “Class A” International Umpire.**

The criteria for the ITF “Class A” International Umpire are;

8.1.1 At least 25 years old.

8.1.2 Possesses a good sense of fairness and conscience.

8.1.3 Holds an ITF 4th degree or over.

8.1.4 Has successfully attended an official ITF International Umpire Course and holds the  
ITF “Class A” International Umpire certificate.

8.1.5 Has a minimum of three (3) years experience in regular domestic umpiring and has  
good recommendations from his or her National Association.

8.1.6 Participates regularly in authorized ITF Refreshers Courses for Referees and Jury  
Members.

8.1.7 Officiates regularly at tournaments within the ITF jurisdiction.

### **8.2 The “Class B” Umpire**

The criteria for the ITF “Class B” Umpire are;

8.2.1 At least 18 years old.

8.2.2 Possesses a good sense of fairness and conscience.

8.2.3 Holds an ITF 2nd degree or over.

8.2.4 Has successfully attended an official ITF International Umpire Course and holds the  
ITF “Class B” Umpire certificate.

8.2.5 Participates regularly in authorized ITF Refreshers Courses for Referees and Jury  
Members.

## **Article 9: DRESS REGULATIONS**

The Umpire's dress code consists of;

- Navy blue blazer jacket
- White long sleeved shirt
- Navy blue trousers
- Navy blue necktie
- White short socks
- White sport shoes

## **Article 10: TREATMENT ON THE UMPIRES**

**10.1 During the Competition, the Organizing Committee shall provide and cover the local transportation, accommodation including 3 meals for the Umpires.**

**10.2 In the competition hall, the Organizing Committee shall provide the Umpires refreshment.**

## **Article 11: PENEALTY REGULATION**

The Umpire, who is considered to bring about the hindrance to the progress and result of the competition and damage the dignity of ITF with his or her unfair judging and immoral conduct, will be analyzed as follows;

### **11.1 Cases**

11.1.1 When an umpire is unfamiliar or does not update himself or herself with the ITF Tournament and Umpire Rules, and displays unsatisfactory work.

11.1.2 When an umpire drinks alcohol or takes drugs (including a stimulant and a hallucinogen) and takes part in judging.

11.1.3 When an umpire receives a bribe (money or goods) from a competitor or team to conduct unfair judging for the competitor or team.

11.1.4 When an umpire bias against a competitor or team purposely.

11.1.5 When an umpire leaves his position of duty during competition without the permission

of the Jury President, and by his or her action costs the competition into chaotic situation.

11.1.6 When an umpire ignores the call of the Umpire Committee or makes improper and immoral speech or action in front of the Umpire Committee.

## **11.2 Penalty**

### 11.2.1 Warning

The umpire who has received a penalty of warning is not allowed to participate in judging within 24 hours from the moment of being penalized.

### 11.2.2 Severe Warning

The umpire who has received a penalty of severe warning is not allowed to work as an umpire at the respective tournament from the moment of being penalized.

### 11.2.3 Suspension of Qualification

The umpire who has received a penalty of suspension of qualification is not allowed to work as an umpire until the next Championships. As for the umpire, the Umpire Committee shall report in written document to ITF HQ within one (1) month.

### 11.2.4 Disqualification

When an umpire is considered that he cannot work as an international umpire, the Umpire Committee presents the proposal of disqualification against him to ITF. Once the EC of ITF decides on the penalty of disqualification against an umpire, the respective person cannot work as an umpire at tournaments within the ITF jurisdiction. The Organizing Committee cannot treat the Umpire who has received the penalty of suspension or disqualification as an umpire from the moment of being penalized.

## **Article 12: OFFICIAL JUDGING TERMS**

CHA RYOT (attention)

KYONG YAE (bow)

JUN BI (ready)

SI JAK (commence)  
HE CHYO (separate)  
GE SOK (continue)  
GU MAN (end)  
SIL KYOK (disqualification)  
GAMJOM (deducting point)  
JU UI (warning)  
HONG (red)  
CHONG (blue)  
IL HE JON (first round)  
YI HE JON (second round)  
SAM HE JON (third round)  
SON TAEK TUL (optional pattern)  
JI JONG TUL (designated pattern)  
YON JANG JON (extension)  
DUK JOM JON (golden point bout)  
SUNG (winner)  
HO SIN KYONG GI (self-defense routine)  
JAYU MATSOGI (free sparring)  
TUK GI (special technique)  
WI RYOK (power breaking)  
GAE IN JON (individual event)  
DAN CHE JON (team event)

### **Article 13: JUDGING SIGNAL**

\* Consult the appendices.