



Waterpoort Cup Tournament Regulations

Preface

The Waterpoort Cup is an International Kyokushinkai karate tournament for children, cadets, junior as well as senior competitors who participate from various European countries. It is open to all Kyokushinkai groups which like to participate and test their skills under the Waterpoort Cup Tournament Regulations.

No system of rules will cover every specific situation or problem that may arise. If competitors and coaches of good will follow the principles of the Waterpoort Cup Tournament Regulations, they should always be able to reach an agreement, while at the same time making Kyokushinkai karate more fun and a better sport for all.

Before reading further you might ask yourself: 'As we have a book that contains all the rules of Kyokushinkai karate, why do we need regulations? Isn't it sufficient to know and understand all the rules?' However, we all know that there are a number of things not specifically set forth in the rules that are covered by custom and tradition only, like decorum and tournament courtesy for example. In this respect we specifically refer to The Inner Way Kumite Rules which are provided to you in a separate document and it is our sincere desire that you will be able to participate in this Waterpoort Cup tournament according to the spirit of said document.

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Dear coach, referee, judge,

Kyokushinkai karate has entered an era without its founder and without clear leadership. As such, there is a unique point of time for transferring the inspiring Kyokushinkai elements to a non-person related level in line with the spirit of its honourable founder, Mas. Oyama. To constantly improve the quality of the Waterpoort Cup, we kindly ask you to give us feedback on our tournament rules and regulations. Our objective is to maintain a high quality tournament and we constantly want to develop our tournament organisation to build a transparent organisation and give the participants opportunities to develop themselves as good karatekas.

Name:

Country:

Improvement:

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The organisation reserves the right to take notice of the feedback and use it to improve the tournament quality. You may also send your feedback to info@waterpoortcup.com.



The following rules and regulations apply for both men's and women's tournaments.

1. Senior rules and regulations

1.1 Entry

The Waterpoort Cup organising committee reserves the right to refuse entry and/or participation to anyone not following the rules and regulations set forth herewith. All competitors must wear a neat, complete karate gi and when competing one competitor will wear his/hers own respective belt plus an extra red belt or string. The other competitor will only wear his/hers own belt.

Finger and toe nails must be cut short, no protective clothing, bandages or guards must be worn other than a genital guard for men under the gi. Women must also wear breast protectors (cups only!) under a white T-shirt and white shin protectors and a genital guard. Teeth protectors are optional. All protectors must be approved by the head referee.

It is not allowed to fight with glasses; the use of contact lenses is optional.

In case of injury to a competitor, the wearing of bandages or other protective materials is at the absolute discretion of the tournament doctor and the head referee, whose decision shall be final and binding upon the competitor. In principle no support, bandages or tape shall be worn in the first round and thereafter at the discretion of the doctor.

The said equipment may not contain any metal or hard shell plastic or enhancement and will be verified prior to each match. Competitors must provide their own personal equipment. The competitors must be "on deck" 1 minute prior to their impending match and are solely responsible for arriving at the tatami on time when name is called. If competitors fail to appear after two announcements, they will forfeit their right to compete.

The minimum age for competitors must be 18 years on or before the day of competition. The maximum age will be left to the discretion of the tournament doctor. If members of other associations and styles wish to compete in the Kyokushinkai Open Tournaments, any grade will be allowed to enter.

The duration of possible elimination rounds and normal rounds will be 2 minutes with a maximum of 2 times an extension of 2 minutes in which a decision has to be made. The duration of the final bout will be 3 minutes with a maximum of 2 times an extension of 2 minutes. If there is still no decision, there will be a decision made by the difference in weight. If the weight difference is less than 5 kilograms (LW and MW) or 10 kilograms (HW), the amount of boards broken will point out the winner. If there is still no decision (number of boards broken is equal), there will be a last extension of 2 minutes. In normal cases the Tournament uses the elimination system. The Tournament organising committee reserves the right to make a poule system per weight category if insufficient numbers enter into the different weight categories.



1.2 Courtesy

Kyokushinkai karate is a martial art that requires cooperation and courtesy from all participants (competitors as well as coaches). Make Kyokushinkai Karate a fun sport by praising your opponents' good techniques by not:

- conducting loud post-mortems after points;
- embarrassing a weak opponent by being overly gracious or condescending.
- losing your temper, using vile language, throwing your mouth guard,
- or leaving the tatami in anger.

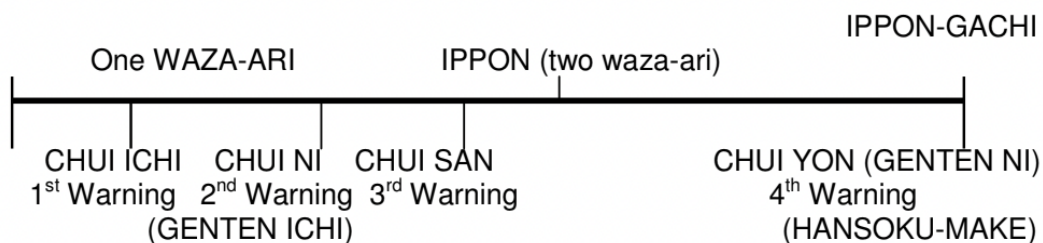
1.3 Scoring

With the exception of techniques which are fouls and not allowed by the contest rules, any technique that connects and instantaneously downs the opponent for longer than 5 seconds scores a full point. (Counting one thousand and one, one thousand and two, etc.).

When a contestant informs the referee or judges that he is beaten as the result of techniques allowed within the contest rules, his opponent shall be awarded a full point (IPPON) and the match. The disqualification of a contestant will automatically give the other contestant the win.

Where a contestant is knocked down by a technique allowed within the contest rules and regains a standing position within 5 seconds, a half point will (WAZA-ARI) be awarded to his opponent. The (downed) opponent will be allowed to continue with the contest, only if in the opinion of the referee and the doctor he is able to do so. This will be after consultation with the doctor, who can stop the continuation of the match on medical grounds.

When an opponent is downed with any allowed technique including foot sweeps which are followed up by a well focused non-contact technique to the body, waza-ari is awarded.



For men's tournaments, in the case of their weights being equal the contestant who has broken the greater amount of boards will be declared the winner. If the weight and boards are equal, they must fight one more round (of 2 minutes duration) and a decision must be made (ENCHOSEN). For women at the moment there is no tameshiwari test.

When no definite ippon or waza-ari has been scored, the judges may award a win by decision on the basis of superior techniques, technical skill and fighting spirit. If one of the contestants has a GENTEN this can be considered as a handicap.

In case of no damage seen in the both competitors, the first priority to judging shall be given to the number of punches and the number of kicks.

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In case there is no difference in numbers of punches and kicks between the two competitors, the one who shows more fighting spirit will win the bout (in case of a final round where a winner has to be decided).

1.3.1 Allowed techniques:

- all punches to the body
- all kicks to the head, body and legs

1.3.2 Forbidden techniques:

- all punches and blows to head, neck and back
- all kicks to any part of the knee, crotch and back
- punching or kicking the adversary while laying on the floor
- Failing to obey the referee's instructions during the bout, or making comments to the referee
- leaving the tatami on different occasions during the fight
- producing indecent, disrespectful and aggressive behaviour
- grabbing and pulling
- Any other techniques or practice that the referee of the contest shall decide is improper or unfair.

1.4 Hindrance issues

- a competitor shall not talk to the referee of opponent while in a match;
- when a competitor deliberately injures an opponent (with an illegal technique) and affects the opponent's ability to proceed, then the opponent wins the match by default. Hitting the opponent with an illegal technique or throwing a mouth guard in anger is considered a deliberate act.
- stalling. The following actions constitute stalling:
 - warming up longer than the allotted time;
 - contestants who arrive late (the maximum time is 1 minute) for bouts or who fail to appear at all.
 - Contestants who refuse to engage in kumite during a match after 3 calls by the referee.

Physical disability arising during the tournament shall allow a contestant to withdraw after examination and verification of the injury, and agreement between the Tournament Doctor and the Tournament Referee. This decision is final and must be documented in the passport.

1.5 When to contact an official

Withdrawing from a match or tournament. A competitor shall not enter a tournament and then withdraw when the karateka discovers that tough opponents have also entered. A karateka may withdraw from a match or tournament only because of injury, illness, or personal emergency. A competitor who cannot play a match shall notify the referee at once by means of his coach.



1.6 Tameshiwari

Before the start of the tournament all senior male competitors will take part in tameshiwari. The materials used for the breaking test shall be boards of pine. The tournament Head Referee shall check whether the materials correspond to the standards set by the Waterpoort Cup Tournament Rules and Regulations.

Points are awarded on the basis of the number of boards broken.

The winner of the tameshiwari competition need not be the same as the tournament winner, but shall be the person completing all four required breaking tests who has gained the highest number of points.

Each contestant must break a minimum of 2 boards in all categories with each of 3 different techniques:

1. SEIKEN (Fore fist)
2. SHUTO (Knife hand)
3. HIJI (Elbow)

A contestant may attempt to break the minimum requirement or in excess of this minimum up to any number in the first attempt.

If he fails to break any boards, he shall have one more attempt at the minimum requirement. If after this second strike the contestant fails to break his minimum requirement he will then be given 0 points.

Only support apparatus supplied by the tournament organisers, will be used, i.e. stands or blocks.

Contestants are not allowed to touch or move the boards or the supporting blocks. This can only be done by one of the tameshiwari officials.

Towels or other materials may be placed on the top of boards to be used as protection, subject to the permission of the tournament Head Referee.

The time allowed to complete each break in the tameshiwari event is 1 minute, all contestants will be warned 30 seconds before the expiration of the time limit. Overtime is considered a failure to break the boards. In the case of successfully breaking the boards, the contestants sit down in Seiza. In the case of failure to break the contestants keep standing. There is no way a contestant can refuse to break. If he refuses, he must be disqualified.



2. Children, cadets and junior rules and regulations

Depending on the number of participants, the different categories of the children, cadets and juniors will be drawn up, taking into account age, weight, length, experience and grade. In the junior division (< 18 years) there are three categories:

2.1 Divisions

Kids (8 + 9 years and 10 + 11 years)

From 8 years up and including 11 years, the participants must wear fist protection, head, crotch and shin guards. The kids wear a body protector.

Cadets (12 + 13 years and 14 + 15 years)

From 12 up to and including 15 years, the participants must wear fist protection, head, crotch and shin guards. The cadets must wear a body protector.

Juniors (16 + 17 years)

From 16 up to and including 17 years, the participants must wear fist protection, head, crotch and shin guards. The juniors will not wear a body protector.

Girls are obliged to wear a breast guard (cup type, no breastplate!).

2.2 Amendments for the Junior Waterpoort Cup rules

All basic principles of the senior Waterpoort Cup Tournament rules and regulations apply for the juniors. There is no tameshiwari for the kids, cadets and juniors. Once a competitor has competed as a senior he or she can no longer compete as a Junior.

2.3 Criteria for competing

All competitors under the age of 18 must have written permission from their parents to compete in the Junior tournament. A competitor can be asked for proof of age by producing an ID card or country passport.

2.4 Poule system

A difference between normal Kyokushinkai tournaments and the Waterpoort Cup is the competition system. One of the main objectives of The Waterpoort Cup is to have the kids, cadets and junior competitors gain as much experience as possible and that is why we prefer the poule system. We use a poule system so that each karateka has at least 2 or 3 bouts.

The Kids, Cadets and Junior competition is divided according to the poule system. There are two kinds of poule systems in the Waterpoort Cup.

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1. Regular poule system

In the regular poule system, the poule winner is announced at the end of the tournament. For a graphic display of the regular poule system, see the figure below. Each X represents a competitor, each pair of X's represents a regular fight.

X	X
X	X
X	X

2. Combined poule system

For graphic display of the combined poule system, see the figure below:

	A		B	
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
1.		1 st /2 nd		1.
2.		3 rd /4 th		2.
3.				3.

The difference between both poule systems (regular and combined) is that in the combined poule system, at the end of poule A and B there have to be fights for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place.

The poule divisions are, as said before, drawn up taking into account age, weight, length, experience and grade. We use these parameters to make a weighing factor in case two fighters have the same amount of points. The person who's lighter, smaller has a lower weighting factor.

Fighting time in regular poule for both boys and girls will be (1, 1½ or) 2 minutes depending on the number of fighters in our tournament. The winner receives 3 points, in case of hiki-wake both fighters receive 1 point, the loser gets 0 (zero) points. Fighting time in combined poule is (1, 1½ or) 2 minutes.

2.5 Criteria for Kids, Cadets and Juniors

Controlled kicks with minimum contact to the head are allowed, what you could describe as skin touch.

2.5.1 Criteria for decision

The competitor who shows:

- timing
- speed
- distance
- spirit
- technical skill
- kime



2.5.2 Waza-ari

A controlled kick to the head can be awarded waza-ari. For juniors aged 16 and up, good solid/strong punches to the body resulting in the competitor being unable to defend his/her self can be awarded waza-ari or ippon. A combination of effective techniques (consisting of the above criteria) performed in such a way that the competitor is overwhelmed can be awarded waza-ari.

2.5.3 Disqualification

Contact to any part of the body resulting in a knockout or knockdown will result in a disqualification. Only controlled contact to the body and legs is allowed. We have to protect the children.

2.5.4 Allowed techniques:

- all punches to the body
- all kicks to head, except front kick to the head
- all kicks to the body and legs

2.5.5 Forbidden techniques:

- all punches and blows to head, neck and back
- all kicks to any part of the knee, crotch and back
- front kick to the head (jodan mae geri)
- knee kicks towards the head (jodan hiza geri)
- jumping kicks (tobi hiza geri, etc.)
- kagato otoshi, uchiro mawashi geri
- punching or kicking the adversary while laying on the floor
- Failing to obey the referee's instructions during the bout, or making comments to the referee
- leaving the tatami on different occasions during the fight
- producing indecent, disrespectful and aggressive behaviour
- grabbing and pulling

Any other techniques or practice that the referee of the contest shall decide is improper or unfair.