

## Color/Under Belt Rules

### **Divisions**

Competitors compete their age as of January 1st.

Each school has a different belt system. It is the competitor's responsibility to know what category they should enter

{Novice, Intermediate, Advanced}.

*It is the competitor's responsibility to have a proper uniform {no shorts or tank tops, school t-shirt only} and proper sparring equipment. {Helmet, mouth guard, foam dip gloves, foam dip kicks, groin protection.} Equipment must cover toes and fingers and be in good condition. NO GEAR WITH OPEN FINGERS / TOES ALLOWED*

### **Weapons**

Competitors compete in random order.

***Judges watch all competitors before scoring. \*\****

Judges use the "2 point deviation rule" before presenting scores. \*\*

All weapons will be checked for safety before the start of the division. Any weapon deemed unsafe will not be allowed in the competition.

If a weapon breaks during a form, the competitors receives a "0" score.

If a competitor drops their weapon, they can re-start once with a .05 deduction. This deduction is done by the judges before scores are presented.

If the division is just "weapons" then competitors may perform a traditional or open style form

In case of a tie, individual scores are compared to determine if 2 judges scored a competitor higher.

### **Forms**

Competitors compete in random order.

***Judges watch all competitors before scoring. \*\****

Judges will use the "2 point deviation rule" before presenting scores. \*\*

If a competitor forgets their form they may re-start once with a .05 deduction. This deduction is done by the judges before scores are presented.

Competitors are encouraged to use introductions before their performance.

If the division is just "Forms" then competitors may perform a traditional or open style form.

In case of a tie, individual scores are compared to determine if 2 judges scored a competitor higher.

### **Point Sparring**

***Matches are determined by who reaches 5 points first or who is ahead after 2 minutes.***

In the youth division, the competitors should be lined up by height (Smallest to the tallest) and split into tall and short divisions if required or offered. Determining tall and short divisions is for safety reasons, not just to split the division equally. A true break in size should be found to determine the taller competitors from the shorter competitors.

Once the tall and short divisions are determined by height, determine who fights whom by random draw. Consideration should be given to competitors who are from the same school or team that have been drawn to fight each other in the first round.

**1 point for all hand and kicking techniques.**

Proper equipment is mandatory. Head guard, mouth guard, foam dip hand pads that cover thumb, foam dip feet pads that cover heel and toes, groin cup and shin guards. Chest guards and face shields are permitted BUT NOT required.
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All techniques thrown must display; control, balance and focus.

***Legal scoring areas: stomach, chest, rib cage and padded areas of the head.***

***Non –scoring areas: groin, spine and back of head and face.***

Competitors may touch the body and head gear with a light or medium controlled technique, however no facial contact is permitted.

**Il-legal techniques include: kicks below the belt, sweeps, grabbing, throws, knees, elbows, blind spinning kicks, all spinning back fists or excessive contact.**

***If a fighter throws an illegal technique or an uncontrolled technique, they will be penalized, hit or miss.***

***If a fighter draws blood or causes any visible swelling or bruising to an opponent, it will result in disqualification***

***Any infraction of these rules will result in an immediate penalty point or disqualification. No warnings.***

Fighters are allowed one coach; however coaches must address their fighters not the referees. Any abuse of an official will result in a penalty point being awarded. The center referee has the power to award this penalty point. Coaches can respectfully ask for clarification of a call. If the call is still in dispute an arbitrator can be called.

#### **\*\* 2 POINT DEVIATION RULE**

Divisions with three officials will use the Maximum Deviation Rule. Since high and low scores are not dropped when three officials are used, the Maximum Deviation Rule has a similar effect of limiting the impact of a judge's score that is significantly higher or lower than the other judge's scores. This prevents a single score from being so high or so low that it controls the placing order.

When a form or other performance is ready to be scored, the Chief Official will say "Ready", then, "Check", at which point the three judges show their score to each other only (not to the competitors or spectators).

The center judge will then look at the 3 scores to determine which one is the middle score (for example, a 9.92, 9.96 and a 9.95 – the 9.95 is the middle score. The other 2 scores must be .02 from the middle score. So in the example the 9.92 must be upgraded to 9.93.

Other than this mandatory adjustment, a judge may not change his score. If no score is more than .02 higher or lower than the middle score, then there is no adjustment. After assuring that any necessary adjustment has been made, the Chief Official then says, "Score", and the scores to the audience, the competitors, and the scorekeeper as usual.

#### **\*\*RELATIVE RANKING RULE**

The Relative Ranking Rule has replaced the old "score-as-you-go" system in all divisions at all NASKA tournaments. Since all competitors run their forms before anyone is scored, this system eliminates the possible disadvantage early-running competitors were subject to, and the scoring advantage last-running seeds may have enjoyed. In

addition, it prevents judges from getting “boxed-in” by giving scores too high early on, and eliminates “scoring creep” where judges who starts with very low scores gradually raises his/her scores as the divisions progresses.

For the Relative Ranking Rule to operate properly, all judges must use the scoring worksheets provided in the ring boxes. As each competitor runs their form, they are given a place number relative to the competitor who has already run. For example, each judge gives the first competitor up a “1” next to his/her name on the worksheet. The next competitor gets a “2” if their form isn’t as good; or if their form is better, they get a “1” and the first competitor get his “1” changed to a “2”. The third competitor then gets a number that grades his form relative to the first two, and so on down the division. When all competitors have run, each judge’s Worksheet will have all the competitor’s names listed in the order they ran, but with numbers next to their names that reflects their place relative to one another.

The Center Judge will then allow up to two minutes for the judges to assign decimal scores to each competitor based on their relative ranking. Each judge decides how high to score his number “1” competitor – usually a 9.99 or 9.98 in the black belt divisions – and assigns that score to the top competitor. The number “2” competitor will be scored one-hundredth lower at 9.98 or 9.97 (or even lower if the judge feels there was a great gap between the number “1” and number “2” competitors). Number “3” will get a score at least one-hundredth lower than number “2, and number “4” will get a score at least one-hundredth lower than number “3”. This is done until all the competitors are ranked relatively to each other. None of the top four competitors ever receives the same score, and the top four scores a judge gives are only given once. A judge may give the same score to competitors he/she has ranked as “5” or lower, though it is discouraged unless there are many competitors in the division and giving incrementally lower scores would take the lower-ranked competitors to scores that were undeservedly low. (Judges may prefer to use slash marks rather than numbers to rank each competitor: I, II, III, IIII and so on. By using this method you do not have to mark out or erase as often, you only add slashes.)

Once all judges are ready, the Center Judge will have each competitor step forward as his or her scores are announced, using the Maximum Deviation Rule procedure listed above.