

2005 AAU National Convention – Detroit, MI

AAU Taekwondo Rule Change Proposals

Note: All rule change proposals are listed in numerical order and include the submitting district name. The proposal then has “accepted” or “rejected”, to denote how it was voted on at the AAU National Convention.

1) Ozark District - Withdrawn by author

Current Text – Page 14-15 General Competition Guidelines

Article IV. Uniform Requirements For National Events

IV.A. All contestants must wear a clean white dobok. (Note: In the event the athlete’s uniform becomes bloody, he/she may be required to change it).

IV.B. Patches will be limited to the AAU Taekwondo patch worn on the upper left breast of the uniform.

IV.C. Black trim is limited to collar/lapel trim for black belts ONLY (v-neck or crossover). Other than this, the uniform must be totally free of any other embellishment including school logo, with the exception of corporate brand names (i.e. Adidas, Tekno, etc.).

IV.D. The Adidas Grandmaster uniform is NOT allowed.

IV.E. Tekno’s AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.)

IV.F. Athletes may wear a shirt underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.

IV.G. For district and regional qualifiers, athletes are allowed to wear their school uniforms, but must be white. Uniforms may have school patches and logos at local, district, and regional qualifiers ONLY.

IV.H. No rolled sleeves will be allowed and the cuff of the sleeve must be no higher than one-half the distance between wrist and elbow. The cuff of the pant may not be rolled and must be no higher than one-half the distance between the ankle and knee. Uniforms must be neatly hemmed at the cuff of the sleeve and the pant leg. Uniform jacket may not be tucked into the pants.

IV.I. All competitors must wear a belt appropriate to their rank with the knot of the belt in the front.

IV.J. Junior black belts (15 years of age and younger) are permitted to wear “Poom belts” (half-red, half-black) as well as “Poom collars”.

Suggested Change

Article IV. Uniform Requirements For National Events

IV.A. All contestants must wear a clean white dobok. (Note: In the event the athlete’s uniform becomes bloody, he/she may be required to change it).

IV.B. Patches will be limited to the AAU Taekwondo patch worn on the upper left breast of the uniform.

IV.C. Black trim is limited to collar/lapel trim for black belts ONLY (v-neck or crossover). Other than this, the uniform must be totally free of any other embellishment including school logo, with the exception of corporate brand names (i.e. Adidas, Tekno, etc.).

IV.D. The Adidas Grandmaster uniform is NOT allowed.

IV.E. Tekno’s AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.) Also Tekno’s previous years’ AAU Nationals championship uniform is allowed.

IV.F. AAU Team Uniforms are allowed.

~~**IV.F.**~~ **IV.G.** Athletes may wear a shirt underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.

~~**IV.G.**~~ **IV.H. For district and regional qualifiers, athletes are allowed to wear their school uniforms, but must be white. Uniforms may have school patches and logos at local, district, and regional qualifiers ONLY.**

~~**IV.H.**~~ **IV.I.** No rolled sleeves will be allowed and the cuff of the sleeve must be no higher than one-half the distance between wrist and elbow. The cuff of the pant may not be rolled and must be no higher than one-half the distance between the ankle and knee. Uniforms must be neatly hemmed at the cuff of the sleeve and the pant leg. Uniform jacket may not be tucked into the pants.

~~**IV.I.**~~ **IV.J.** All competitors must wear a belt appropriate to their rank with the knot of the belt in the front.

~~**IV.J.**~~ **IV.K.** Junior black belts (15 years of age and younger) are permitted to wear “Poom belts” (half-red, half-black) as well as “Poom collars”.

Rationale: Tekno offered championship uniforms. As long as they are advertising for the AAU program, why not allow them to be worn. Also same goes for team uniforms. Most people know the current team

members anyway, so it is not any more intimidating to have something written on their uniforms that identifies them as team members.

2) Ozark District - **REJECTED**

Current Text – Page 14-15 General Competition Guidelines

Article IV. Uniform Requirements For National Events

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- IV.B.** Patches will be limited to the AAU Taekwondo patch worn on the upper left breast of the uniform.
- IV.C.** Black trim is limited to collar/lapel trim for black belts ONLY (v-neck or crossover). Other than this, the uniform must be totally free of any other embellishment including school logo, with the exception of corporate brand names (i.e. Adidas, Tekno, etc.).
- IV.D.** The Adidas Grandmaster uniform is NOT allowed.
- IV.E.** Tekno's AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.)
- IV.F.** Athletes may wear a shirt underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.
- IV.G. For district and regional qualifiers, athletes are allowed to wear their school uniforms, but must be white. Uniforms may have school patches and logos at local, district, and regional qualifiers ONLY.**
- IV.H.** No rolled sleeves will be allowed and the cuff of the sleeve must be no higher than one-half the distance between wrist and elbow. The cuff of the pant may not be rolled and must be no higher than one-half the distance between the ankle and knee. Uniforms must be neatly hemmed at the cuff of the sleeve and the pant leg. Uniform jacket may not be tucked into the pants.
- IV.I.** All competitors must wear a belt appropriate to their rank with the knot of the belt in the front.
- IV.J.** Junior black belts (15 years of age and younger) are permitted to wear "Poom belts" (half-red, half-black) as well as "Poom collars".

Suggested Change

Article IV. Uniform Requirements For National Events

- IV.A.** All contestants must wear a clean white dobok. (Note: In the event the athlete's uniform becomes bloody, he/she may be required to change it).
- IV.B.** Patches will be limited to the AAU Taekwondo patch worn on the upper left breast of the uniform.
- IV.C.** Black trim is limited to collar/lapel trim for black belts ONLY (v-neck or crossover). Other than this, the uniform must be totally free of any other embellishment including school logo, with the exception of corporate brand names (i.e. Adidas, Tekno, etc.).
- IV.D.** The Adidas Grandmaster uniform is NOT allowed.
- IV.E.** Tekno's AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.)
- IV.F.** Athletes may wear a shirt underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.
- IV.G.** Non-compliance with uniform requirements listed in sections IV.B – IV.F will result in the appropriate penalty listed below.
- IV.G.1.** Forms competition: Competitor will have 1 minute to change uniform or receive a .5 (5 tenths) deduction point from the overall score.
- IV.G.2.** Point & Olympic sparring competition: Competitor will have 1 minute to change uniform or receive a minus ½ point (kyung-go) penalty. Penalty can be administered anytime during the match when the uniform violation is noticed, but only one time per match. Penalty will be assessed every match competitor is in.
- IV.G.3.** These non-compliance penalties do not apply to section IV.A. Dobok must be all white.
- IV-G. IV.H** For district and regional qualifiers, athletes are allowed to wear their school uniforms, but must be white. Uniforms may have school patches and logos at local, district, and regional qualifiers ONLY.
- IV-H. IV.I** No rolled sleeves will be allowed and the cuff of the sleeve must be no higher than one-half the distance between wrist and elbow. The cuff of the pant may not be rolled and must be no higher than one-half the distance between the ankle and knee. Uniforms must be neatly hemmed at the cuff of the sleeve and the pant leg. Uniform jacket may not be tucked into the pants.
- IV-I. IV.J** All competitors must wear a belt appropriate to their rank with the knot of the belt in the front.
- IV-J. IV.H** Junior black belts (15 years of age and younger) are permitted to wear "Poom belts" (half-red, half-black) as well as "Poom collars".

Rationale: Policing that competitors meet all of the uniform requirements is a full time job and makes us all look like 'bad guys' when we try to administer the rules. Giving a penalty for incorrect uniforms puts

the burden of responsibility onto the competitor and the competitor's coach. If accepted consider adding penalties to each individual competition section (ie. Forms, pt sparring, etc) (If this proposal is accepted and #1 rule change proposal is accepted, change numbering appropriately).

3) Ozark District - REJECTED

Current Text – Page 15 General Competition Guidelines – Article V

V.B. All coaches shall wear:

- V.B.1. White dobok (uniform) pant – no stripes
- V.B.2. Official Blue AAU Coach's shirt
- V.B.3. Sneakers

Suggested Change

V.B. All coaches shall wear:

- V.B.1. White dobok (uniform) pant – ~~no stripes~~
- V.B.2. Official Blue AAU Coach's shirt
- V.B.3. Sneakers

Rationale: The blue shirt is the most important factor to identify the coaches on the floor followed by the white pants. Policing to make sure there is no writing down the leg or stripe down the side (possibly mostly covered if the shirt is worn on the outside) is a full time job for someone and is not only a nightmare, but it is not effective.

4) Ozark District - ACCEPTED

Current Text – Page 16 General Competition Guidelines – Article VIII

VIII.B. National Competition. All competitors' weight must be verified within 48 hours of the start of the event.

- VIII.B.1. A weight may be measured twice if necessary to make weight.
The second reading of a competitor's weight may take place any time during the posted weigh-in times.
- VIII.B.2. During the weigh-in, the contestant may be required to verify his/her membership in the United States AAU and provide proof of age.
- VIII.B.3. Weigh-ins shall be taken in full dobok (uniform) or street clothes.
- VIII.B.4. Competitors unable to make the weight for which they Registered, **MAY BE DISQUALIFIED!**

Suggested Change

VIII.B. National Competition. All competitors' ~~weight~~ weights must be verified within 48 hours of the start of the ~~event~~ the individual competitor's sparring event day.

- VIII.B.1. A weight may be measured twice if necessary to make weight.
The second reading of a competitor's weight may take place any time during the posted weigh-in times.
- VIII.B.2. During the weigh-in, the contestant may be required to verify his/her membership in the United States AAU and provide proof of age.
- VIII.B.3. Weigh-ins shall be taken in full dobok (uniform) or street clothes.
- VIII.B.4. Competitors unable to make the weight for which they Registered, **MAY BE DISQUALIFIED!**

Rationale: within 48 hours of the start of the event is incorrect for Olympic sparring competitors.

5) Ozark District - ACCEPTED

Current Text – Page 26 Point Sparring

Article XVII. Protests

XVII.A. Filing a Protest. In case there is an objection to a decision; the appointed coach (and he/she alone) representing the athlete may file a written protest to the Chief Arbitrator or Tournament Arbitration Committee, along with a fee of \$25 (cash only). The protest will be submitted on the official protest form (See Appendix B). The appointed coach **MUST** inform the TA of that match immediately that it is their intent to protest the match. The written protest itself must be filed within a reasonable period of time. However, if the protest involves in error in the management of that division such as miscalculating the score or misidentifying an athlete then the 10 minute time limit does not apply and the correction must take place immediately.

Suggested Change

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Rationale: The 10 minute reference does not appear anywhere so either needs to be clarified or deleted.

6.) Ozark District – Withdrawn by author

Current Text – Page 28 Olympic Sparring

Article III. Competition Area

III.A. Ring Dimensions. In principle, ring sizes at AAU competitions shall be a minimum as follows:

III.A.1. Regional & District Events: 20 feet X 20 feet

III.A.2. National Championships & AAU Junior Olympics: 8 meters X
8 meters

III.A.3. AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring): 12 meters X 12 meters
with a one meter inside warning track

Suggested Change

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~~**III.A.3. AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring):** 12 meters X 12 meters
with a one meter inside warning track~~

Rationale: Repetitive. Listed under General Guidelines page 14.

7.) Ozark District - ACCEPTED

Current Text – Page 38 Olympic Sparring

Article XVII. Protests

XVII.A. Filing a Protest. In case there is an objection to a decision; the appointed coach (and he/she alone) representing the athlete may file a written protest to the Chief Arbitrator or Tournament Arbitration Committee, along with a fee of \$25 (cash only). The protest will be submitted on the official protest form (See Appendix B). The appointed coach MUST inform the TA of that match immediately that it is their intent to protest the match. The written protest itself must be filed within a reasonable period of time. However, if the protest involves in error in the management of that division such as miscalculating the score or misidentifying an athlete then the 10 minute time limit does not apply and the correction must take place immediately.

Suggested Change

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Rationale: The 10 minute reference does not appear anywhere so either needs to be clarified or deleted.

8) Ozark District - ACCEPTED
Current Text – Page 39 Olympic Sparring

Article XIX. Safety Rules Governing Olympic-Style Sparring For Junior Competitors

The following special section of the Competition Rules shall apply to youths (5-13 years of age all belts and 14–17 year old colored belts) competing in the Olympic Style Division.

XIX.A. General Rules. In the local/preliminary, District, Regional, and National level competition, the rules concerning a kick to the face or neck shall be as follows:

- XIX.A.1.** The competitor is encouraged to kick to the facial area; however, the kick must be light contact with absolute control or the appropriate penalty shall be invoked.
- XIX.A.2.** The competitor who executes a successful technique (light contact) will be awarded two points.
- XIX.A.3.** The competitor who executes a kick to the face or neck, which results in a minor injury, shall receive a one-point deduction. A minor injury is defined as an abrasion or bleeding caused by non-excessive contact. The Referee, with or without consultation with the tournament physician, shall determine if the abrasion or bleeding is a minor injury and if the attack is a non-excessive one.
- XIX.A.4.** The competitor who executes a kick to the face or neck, which results in the inability of the opponent to continue sparring because of the injury, shall be disqualified. The Referee with or without consultation with the tournament physician, shall determine if the attack is excessive contact, and if the injury is a major one.

NOTE: Inability to continue because of fright, crying, or loss of will following a legal kick to the head does not constitute grounds for disqualification of the attacker.

Suggested Change

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- XIX.A.2.** The competitor who executes a successful technique (light contact) will be awarded two points.
- XIX.A.3.** The competitor who executes a kick to the face or neck, which does not cause injury, but, in the opinion of the referee, is excessive, will receive a 1 point penalty (gamjeom)
- ~~**XIX.A.3.**~~ **XIX.A.4.** The competitor who executes a kick to the face or neck, which results in a minor injury, shall receive a one-point deduction. A minor injury is defined as an abrasion or bleeding caused by non-excessive contact. The Referee, with or without consultation with the tournament physician, shall determine if the abrasion or bleeding is a minor injury and if the attack is a non-excessive one.
- ~~**XIX.A.4.**~~ **XIX.A.5.** The competitor who executes a kick to the face or neck, which results in the inability of the opponent to continue sparring because of the injury, shall be disqualified. The Referee with or without consultation with the tournament physician, shall determine if the attack is excessive contact, and if the injury is a major one.

NOTE: Inability to continue because of fright, crying, or loss of will following a legal kick to the head does not constitute grounds for disqualification of the attacker.

Rationale: We are currently giving gamjeom penalties for excessive contact to the head under the junior safety rules, but there is no rule in our rule book to authorize or substantiate this penalty. Since no injury occurred, it should not receive the same penalty as if injury were sustained.

9.) Ozark District - ACCEPTED

Current Text – Page 44 Team Competition - Forms

Article I. Competition Rules

I.A. Competition must be conducted according to the respective rules of individual competition. **Forms CANNOT be altered OR modified.**

Suggested Change

Article I. Competition Rules

I.A. Competition must be conducted according to the respective rules of individual competition. **Forms CANNOT be altered OR modified.** When a group presents themselves to the referee, they should do so with the same decorum used in individual forms competition.

Rationale: Clarification that fancy entrances are not allowed.

10.) Ozark District - ACCEPTED

Current Text – Page 46 Team Eligibility

Article II. Eligibility

II.A. Those invited to National AAU Team Trials will include:

II.A.1. Those who place 1st thru 4th at National AAU TKD Championship

II.A.2. Current Team Members

II.B. If an athlete has qualified to participate in Team Trials through more than one weight division, he or she must compete in that weight division in which they originally registered at the National Championship

Suggested Change

Article II. Eligibility

II.A. Those invited to National AAU Team Trials will include:

II.A.1. Those who place 1st thru 4th at the current year's National AAU TKD Championship in the 14-17 year old Black Belt and Adult Black belt divisions in Olympic Sparring.

II.A.2. Current Team Members

II.B. II.A.2.a If an athlete has qualified to participate in Team Trials through more than one weight division, he or she must compete in that weight division in which they originally registered at the National Championship

Rationale: Clarification that eligibility applies only to these groups.

11. Pacific District REJECTED General Rules and Regulations For Forms/Patterns Competition

Article 1. ~~Competition shall be divided by Age, Belt, and Gender in General~~

Article 2. Competition shall be divided by Age, Belt, and Gender in General

1.A. ~~All Ages and Belt Divisions.~~

1.A. All Ages, Weight and Belt Divisions.

In Forms/Patterns competition if the number of competitors for any one division is less than eight, the sponsoring organization has the option of combining the light weight and heavy weight categories for that division to form one division.

Ages	Male		Female		Category
	Category	Weight	Ages	Weight	
5	Light	-45.0	5	Light	-45.0
5	Heavy	45.0+	5	Heavy	45.0+
6-7	Light	-55.9	6-7	Light	-55.9
6-7	Heavy	56.0+	6-7	Heavy	56.0+
8-9	Light	-75.9	8-9	Light	-75.9
8-9	Heavy	76.0+	8-9	Heavy	76.0+
10-11	Light	-90.9	10-11	Light	-95.9
10-11	Heavy	91.0+	10-11	Heavy	96.0+
12-13	Light	-110.9	12-13	Light	-115.9
12-13	Heavy	111.0+	12-13	Heavy	116.0+
14-17	Light	-160.6	14-17	Light	-138.6
14-17	Heavy	160.7+	14-17	Heavy	138.7+
Adult (18-34)			Adult (18-34)		
Senior (35-44)			Senior (35-44)		
Executive (45-54)			Executive (45-54)		
Ultra (55 & Up)			Ultra (55 & Up)		
	Light	-171.6		Light	-147.4

Heavy 171.7+

Heavy 147.5+

Rationale:

With large groups at our National events it is time for us to break down divisions by weight as well as age, belt and gender. As a general rule thin, wiry athletes will always look better doing his or her form than the heavier, stocky athlete. This rule change will allow the heavier set athletes, who train as hard as their lighter weight competitors, a chance to compete and medal against other athletes in their weight group.

11. A - Pacific District – (Is dependent upon #11 passing) REJECTED

Article II. General Guidelines for Divisions & Age Categories II.J. Combining Divisions: If the number of competitors for any one division is less than eight, the sponsoring organization has the option of combining any two or three age groups and/or combining Light & Heavy weights into a single group and assigning the divisions of novice, intermediate, advanced and Black.

12. Adirondack District - Current Rule- Point Sparring - REJECTED

Article I. Protective Equipment

I.A. Mandatory. All competitors must wear a:

I.A.1. Mouth-guard.

I.A.2. Full hand protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).

I.A.3. Full foot protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).

I.A.4. Full headgear including a padded top (RED OR WHITE foam dipped/vinyl only). Headgear that includes padding under and

around the chin, or a face shield, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

Other than the head gear, no other item shall be worn on the head.

I.A.5. Male competitors must also wear groin cup and supporter on the inside of the dobok.

I.A.6. Safety equipment may not be taped for any reason.

I.B. Optional. Competitors may wear:

I.B.1. Cloth or foam shin, shin/instep protectors.

I.B.2. Cloth or foam forearm guards.

I.B.3. Foam dipped/vinyl breast (women) and foam dipped/vinyl rib

protectors, at their discretion. **I.B.4.** All optional equipment must be worn under the dobok.

I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one minutes to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or face disqualification.

PROPOSED CHANGE

Article I. Protective Equipment

I.A. Mandatory. All competitors must wear a:

I.A.1. Mouth-guard.

I.A.2. Full hand protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).

I.A.3. Full foot protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).

I.A.4. Chest protector (Hogu), Red or Blue

I.A.5. Full headgear including a padded top (RED OR WHITE foam dipped/vinyl only). Headgear that includes padding under and

around the chin, or a face shield, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

Other than the head gear, no other item shall be worn on the head.

I.A.6. Male competitors must also wear groin cup and supporter on the inside of the dobok.

I.A.7. Safety equipment may not be taped for any reason.

I.B. Optional. Competitors may wear:
I.B.1. Cloth or foam shin, shin/instep protectors.
I.B.2. Cloth or foam forearm guards.
I.B.3. Foam dipped/vinyl breast (women) and foam dipped/vinyl rib protectors, at their discretion. **I.B.4.** All optional equipment must be worn under the dobok.
I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one minutes to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or face disqualification.

Rationale:

1. Better visibility for judges
2. Better safety for athletes

13. Ohio District – REJECTED

Point Sparring Article I.A.

Mandatory protective equipment Amend Article I.A.3 to align with Olympic-Style Sparring.

Article I. Protective Equipment

I.A. Mandatory. All competitors must wear a:

I.A.1. Mouth-guard.
I.A.2. Full hand protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
I.A.3. Full foot protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
I.A.4. Full headgear including a padded top (RED OR WHITE foam dipped/vinyl only). Headgear that includes padding under and around the chin, or a face shield, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. Other than the head gear, no other item shall be worn on the head.
I.A.5. Male competitors must also wear groin cup and supporter on the inside of the dobok.
I.A.6. Safety equipment may not be taped for any reason.
I.B. Optional. Competitors may wear:
I.B.1. Cloth or foam shin, shin/instep protectors.
I.B.2. Cloth or foam forearm guards.
I.B.3. Foam dipped/vinyl breast (women) and foam dipped/vinyl rib protectors, at their discretion. **I.B.4.** All optional equipment must be worn under the dobok.
I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one minutes to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or face disqualification.

Add verbiage: As optional, the blue player may wear blue headgear and the red player may wear red headgear. I respectfully submit this suggestion for consideration.

Article I. Protective Equipment

I.A. Mandatory. All competitors must wear a:

I.A.1. Mouth-guard.
I.A.2. Full hand protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
I.A.3. Full foot protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
I.A.4. Full headgear including a padded top (RED OR WHITE or optional, the blue player may wear blue headgear and the red player may wear red headgear. foam dipped/vinyl only). Headgear that includes padding under and around the chin, or a face shield, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. Other than the head gear, no other item shall be worn on the head.
I.A.5. Male competitors must also wear groin cup and supporter on the inside of the dobok.
I.A.6. Safety equipment may not be taped for any reason.
I.B. Optional. Competitors may wear:
I.B.1. Cloth or foam shin, shin/instep protectors.
I.B.2. Cloth or foam forearm guards.

I.B.3. Foam dipped/vinyl breast (women) and foam dipped/vinyl rib protectors, at their discretion. **I.B.4.** All optional equipment must be worn under the dobok.
I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one minutes to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or face disqualification.

Rationale:

Amend Article I.A.3 to align with Olympic-Style Sparring.

14. Georgia District **ACCEPTED** Page 13 General Competition Guidelines

Article II. General Guidelines for Divisions & Age Categories

	DIVISION	AGES
II.A.	Junior	5 to 17
II.B.	Adult	18 to 34
II.C.	Senior	35 to 44
II.D.	Executive	45 to 54
II.E.	Ultra	55 and Up

II.F. Senior, Executive & Ultra Athletes. Athletes age 35 and older may compete as Adults or Seniors. Athletes 45 years of age and older may compete as Adults, Seniors or Executives. Athletes 55 years of age and older may compete as Adults, Seniors, Executives or Ultras. Athletes may not compete in more than one age category.

Article II. General Guidelines for Divisions & Age Categories

	DIVISION	AGES
II.A.	Junior	5 to 17
II.B.	Open	18 to 34
II.C.	Senior	35 to 44
II.D.	Executive	45 to 54
II.E.	Ultra	55 and Up

II.F. Senior, Executive & Ultra Athletes. Athletes age 35 and older may compete in Open or Seniors. Athletes 45 years of age and older may compete in Open, Seniors or Executives. Athletes 55 years of age and older may compete in Open, Seniors, Executives or Ultras. Athletes may not compete in more than one age category.

Rationale: Senior, Executives and Ultras are also Adults(in layman's terminology anyone over 17). The fact that anyone can compete in the 18 – 34 makes it 'open'.

15. Georgia District – **ACCEPTED** Page 14 General Competition Guidelines

III.A.3. AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring): ~~12 meters X 12 meters~~
with a one meter inside warning track

III.A.3. AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring): 10 meters X 10 meters
with a one meter inside warning track

16. Georgia District – **ACCEPTED** Page 16 General Competition Guidelines

Article VIII. Weigh-In

VIII.A. District and Regional Championship. Competitors will be expected to register in the most proper weight class division listed for that tournament. ~~Any official or coach may question the weight of a prospective opponent prior to the beginning of any match. If a competitor's weight is~~

questioned (protested) and his/her weight is found to be ~~either over or under that weight class in which they have registered to compete, he/she will be disqualified from further competition that day.~~ Competitors **unable to make their weight prior to the beginning of competition may**, with the permission of the tournament director, move into another weight division other than that for which they had registered.

Article VIII. Weigh-In

VIII.A. District and Regional Championship. Competitors will be expected to register in the most proper weight class division listed for that tournament. Competitors **unable to make their weight prior to the beginning of competition may**, with the permission of the tournament director, move into another weight division other than that for which they had registered.

Rationale: Divisions are often combined in the local and regional event. No need to include verbiage that offers the opportunity for a protest.

17. Georgia District - **ACCEPTED** Page 17 Point Sparring

I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one ~~minutes~~ to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or ~~face disqualification~~

I.C. Compliance. A competitor has one **minute** to comply with articles **I.A.** and **I.B.** above or **may be disqualified.**

Rational: Keeping the verbiage consistent with the following article. Allow the Referee to make the final determination to disqualify based on circumstance.

18. Georgia District – **ACCEPTED** Page 17 Point Sparring

Article II. Personal Requirements

Competitors shall keep their nails cut short and are forbidden to wear any metallic article. Any competitor whose hair, in the opinion of the Referee/Judges, is so long as to risk causing inconvenience to other competitors shall be required to tie it back securely. Any competitor who cannot meet these requirements within ~~two minutes shall be disqualified~~

Article II. Personal Requirements

Competitors shall keep their nails cut short and are forbidden to wear any metallic article. Any competitor whose hair, in the opinion of the Referee/Judges, is so long as to risk causing inconvenience to other competitors shall be required to tie it back securely. Any competitor who cannot meet these requirements within **one minute may be disqualified.**

Rational: Consistent with the previous article.

19. Georgia District - **REJECTED** Page 17 Point Sparring

II.A. Personal Hygiene. The personal hygiene of all competitors shall be of the highest standard. Any competitor wearing an excessively unkempt or dirty uniform will be required to change it immediately (within one minutes). If the competitor cannot or will not comply, the Referee ~~shall~~ declare the opponent the winner.

II.A. Personal Hygiene. The personal hygiene of all competitors shall be of the highest standard. Any competitor wearing an excessively unkempt or dirty uniform will be required to change it immediately (within one minutes). If the competitor cannot or will not comply, the Referee **may** declare the opponent the winner.

Rational: Referee should have the flexibility to make the decision based on circumstance.

20. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 20 Point Sparring

IV.A.5. To Award a Half-Point Deduction: (See Appendix A)

IV.A.5.a. The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command at the spot where the violation took place

To Award a Kyong-go (Half-Point Deduction): (See Appendix A)

The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command at the spot where the violation took place, and will then turn to the timekeeper and declare “Shi-gan” (Non- injury time-out).

Rationale: Consistency with Olympic Sparring.

21. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 20 Point Sparring

IV.A.6. To Award a Full Point Deduction:(See Appendix A)

IV.A.6.a. The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” Command and will then bring them back to the center by declaring “Chung-Hong”, while pointing to the competitor marks on the floor.

The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command, and declare “Shi-gan” (Non-injury time-out). He will then bring them back to the center by declaring “Chung-Hong”, while pointing to the competitor marks on the floor.

Rational: Consistency with Olympic Sparring.

22. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 23 Point Sparring

VI.C. All Adult, Senior, Executive and Ultra Divisions

Male	Ages & Weight	Female	Ages & Weight
Adult	18 to 34	Adult	18 to 34
Senior	35 to 44	Senior	35 to 44
Executive	45 to 54	Executive	45 to 54
Ultra	55 & Up	Ultra	55 & Up
Light	– 125.0	Light	– 110.0
Welter	125.0 – 155.9	Welter	110.0 – 125.9
Middle	156.0 – 185.9	Middle	126.0 – 155.9
Heavy	186.0 +	Heavy	156.0 +

VI.C. All Open, Senior, Executive and Ultra Divisions

Male	Ages & Weight	Female	Ages & Weight
Open	18 to 34	Open	18 to 34
Senior	35 to 44	Senior	35 to 44
Executive	45 to 54	Executive	45 to 54
Ultra	55 & Up	Ultra	55 & Up
Light	– 125.0	Light	– 110.0
Welter	125.0 – 155.9	Welter	110.0 – 125.9
Middle	156.0 – 185.9	Middle	126.0 – 155.9

Heavy	186.0 +	Heavy	156.0 +
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23. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 25 Point Sparring

XVI.A. Half Point Deductions. The Referee shall warn the competitor and impose a half point deduction when any of the following violations is committed. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to declare the half point deduction

XVI.A. Half Point / Kyong-go. The Referee shall warn the competitor and impose a half point deduction when any of the following violations is committed. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to declare the half point deduction

Rationale: Consistent verbiage . Training the Point Sparring Competitors to use the same verbiage as the Olympic Sparring Competitors.

24. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 25 Point Sparring

XVI.B. Full Point Deductions. The following prohibited acts shall be subject to a deduction of one full point. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to announce the deduction of one full point

XVI.B. Full Point Deductions/Gam-jeum The following prohibited acts shall be subject to a deduction of one full point. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to announce the deduction of one full point

Rational: Consistent verbiage.

25. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 25 Point Sparring

Joo-eui (Verbal Warning)

XVI.C. Only one Joo-eui per infraction, per round.

XVI.C.1. A Joo-eui does not affect points, but a “Kyong-go” must be given in the event the athlete repeats the same act. Therefore, if an official gives a Joo-eui for falling down, he must give a Kyong-go if the athlete falls again and it is not the result of a knockdown or the result of being pushed down by the other athlete.

XVI.C.2. Joo-euis are only given for incidents related to Kyong-gos and never for Gam-jeoms.

XVI.C.3. To Award the Joo-eui:

XVI.C.3.a The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command at the spot where the violation took place. (To declare a Shi-gan is optional.)

XVI.C.3.b. He/she will face the perpetrator of the offense and acknowledge them with “Chung or Hong” while pointing to the perpetrator’s forehead with the right forefinger, extending the interior of the arm to 135 degrees.

XVI.C.3.c Finally, the Referee will turn the right palm forward to the contestant’s face and wave it once from right to left to right and declare a “Joo-eui” (warning). (The Referee does not have to state the reason for the Joo-eui.)

Rational: Consistency with Olympic.

26. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 26 Point Sparring

XVI.E.5. Accumulation of ~~three~~ penalty points (any combination of half and full point deductions).

XVI.E.5. Accumulation of ~~four~~ penalty points (any combination of half and full point deductions).

Rational: Consistency with Olympic Sparring.

27. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 28 Olympic Sparring

III.A.3. **AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring):** ~~12 meters X 12 meters~~
with a one meter inside warning track

III.A.3. **AAU Team Trials (Olympic Sparring):** 10 meters X 10 meters
with a one meter inside warning track

Rational: New WTF guidelines.

28. Georgia District – ACCEPTED Page 28

IV.B. The Judges shall:

IV.B.1. ~~Be positioned in an equilateral triangle—one on each back corner
and one next to the head table~~

IV.B. The Judges shall:

IV.B.1. When using three Judges they shall be positioned in an equilateral triangle – one on each back corner and one next to the head table. When using four Judges they shall be positioned at the four corners of the competition area.

Rational: The WTF has changed to four Judges. This is not a problem at International events running a few rings. Not practical for competitions running 8 – 12 rings. Having this in our rules will demonstrate our compliance, yet give us the flexibility to manage our events.

29. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 32 Olympic Sparring

VI.B. Adult Colored Belts (18 to 34) and All Belts for Senior, Executive & Ultra

MALE	Age & Weight	FEMALE	Age & Weight
Adult (Colored)	18 to 34	Adult (Colored)	18 to 34
Senior (All)	35 to 44	Senior (All)	35 to 44
Executive (All)	45 to 54	Executive (All)	45 to 54
Ultra (All)	55 & Up	Ultra (All)	55 & Up
Fly	– 127.7	Fly	– 112.3
Feather	127.7-147.4	Feather	112.3-129.8
Welter	147.5-171.6	Welter	129.9-147.4
Heavy	Over 171.6	Heavy	Over 147.4

VI.B. Open Colored Belts (18 to 34) and All Belts for Senior, Executive & Ultra

MALE	Age & Weight	FEMALE	Age & Weight
Open (Colored)	18 to 34	Open(Colored)	18 to 34
Senior (All)	35 to 44	Senior (All)	35 to 44
Executive (All)	45 to 54	Executive (All)	45 to 54
Ultra (All)	55 & Up	Ultra (All)	55 & Up
Fly	– 127.7	Fly	– 112.3
Feather	127.7-147.4	Feather	112.3-129.8
Welter	147.5-171.6	Welter	129.9-147.4
Heavy	Over 171.6	Heavy	Over 147.4

Rational: Keeping consistency with a previous Rule Proposal

30. Georgia District – **WITHDRAWN by author** Page 32 Olympic Sparring

VI.C. Junior Black Belts, Ages 14 to 17

MALE	14-17	FEMALE	14-17
Junior Black Belt	Weight	Junior Black Belt	Weight
Fin	– 99.0	Fin	– 92.4
Fly	99.0 – 105.6	Fly	92.4 – 96.8
Bantam	105.7 – 112.2	Bantam	96.9 – 101.2
Feather	112.3 – 121.0	Feather	101.3 – 107.8
Light	121.1 – 129.8	Light	107.9 – 114.4
Welter	129.9 – 138.6	Welter	114.5 – 121.0
Light Middle	138.7 – 149.6	Light Middle	121.1 – 129.8
Middle	149.7 – 160.6	Middle	129.9 – 138.6
Light Heavy	160.7 – 171.6	Light Heavy	138.7 – 149.6
Heavy	Over 171.6	Heavy	Over 149.6

VI.C. Junior Black Belts, Ages 14 – 15 and 16 - 17

MALE	14-15	16-17	FEMALE	14-15	16-17
Junior Black Belt	Weight	Weight	Junior Black Belt	Weight	Weight
Fin	– 99.0	– 99.0	Fin	– 92.4	– 92.4
Fly	99.0 – 105.6	99.0 – 105.6	Fly	92.4 – 96.8	92.4 – 96.8
Bantam	105.7 – 112.2	105.7 – 112.2	Bantam	96.9 – 101.2	96.9 – 101.2
Feather	112.3 – 121.0	112.3 – 121.0	Feather	101.3 – 107.8	101.3 – 107.8
Light	121.1 – 129.8	121.1 – 129.8	Light	107.9 – 114.4	107.9 – 114.4
Welter	129.9 – 138.6	129.9 – 138.6	Welter	114.5 – 121.0	114.5 – 121.0
Light Middle	138.7 – 149.6	138.7 – 149.6	Light Middle	121.1 – 129.8	121.1 – 129.8
Middle	149.7 – 160.6	149.7 – 160.6	Middle	129.9 – 138.6	129.9 – 138.6
Light Heavy	160.7 – 171.6	160.7 – 171.6	Light Heavy	138.7 – 149.6	138.7 – 149.6

Heavy	Over 171.6	Over 171.6		Heavy	Over 149.6	Over 149.6
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Rational: 14 – 17 is too much age disparity. We can combine the 14 -15 winners with the 16 -17 winners for Team Trials.

31. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 32 Olympic Sparring

VI.D. 14 - 17 Year Old Black Belt Competitors will have the option of competing as juniors or as adults. However, they may only choose one category—not both.

VI.D. 14 - 17 Year Old Black Belt Competitors will have the option of competing in their own division or in the Open Division. However, they may only choose one category—not both.

Rational: Consistency with the other proposals.

32. Georgia District – WITHDRAWN by author Page 33 Olympic Sparring

VI.F. Junior Colored Belts, Ages 14 to17

MALE	14-17	FEMALE	14-17
Colored Belt	Weight	Colored-Belt	Weight
Fly	–105.7	Fly	–96.9
Feather	105.7 – 121.0	Feather	96.9 – 107.8
Welter	121.1 – 138.6	Welter	107.9 – 121.0
Middle	138.7 – 160.6	Middle	121.1 – 138.6
Heavy	Over 160.6	Heavy	Over 138.6

VI.F. Junior Colored Belts, Ages 14 – 15 and 16 - 17

MALE	14-15	16-17		FEMALE	14-15	16-17
Colored Belt	Weight	Weight		Colored Belt	Weight	Weight
Fly	– 105.7	– 105.7		Fly	– 96.9	– 96.9
Feather	105.7 – 121.0	105.7 – 121.0		Feather	96.9 – 107.8	96.9 – 107.8
Welter	121.1 – 138.6	121.1 – 138.6		Welter	107.9 – 121.0	107.9 – 121.0
Middle	138.7 – 160.6	138.7 – 160.6		Middle	121.1 – 138.6	121.1 – 138.6
Heavy	Over 160.6	Over 160.6		Heavy	Over 138.6	Over 138.6

Rational: 14 – 17 is too much age disparity

33. Georgia District - REJECTED Page 39 Olympic Sparring

Article XIX. Safety Rules Governing Olympic-Style Sparring For Junior Competitors

The following special section of the Competition Rules shall apply to youths (5-13 years of age all belts and 14-17 year old colored belts) competing in the Olympic Style Division.

Article XIX. Safety Rules Governing Olympic-Style Sparring

The following special section of the Competition Rules shall apply to all colored belts and Black Belts 13 and under.

Rational: Adults who wish to experience Olympic Sparring competition have no guarantee of the experience level of their opponent. Our colored belt competitors are divided into Novice, Intermediate and Advanced. A competitor can stay in the Novice Division for years. He could have come from another fighting back ground with years of experience and cause serious injury to an over matched opponent. The argument against this change is that we are not preparing that competitor for Knock out when they must compete as Black Belts. That argument should not override our concern for safety. Knock out to the body is still in play.

Article I. Competition Shall Be Divided By Age, Belt and Gender In General

I.A. All Ages and Belt Divisions.

Age Divisions	Belt Divisions
5 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
5 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
6 & 7 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
6 & 7 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
8 & 9 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
8 & 9 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
10 & 11 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
10 & 11 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
12 & 13 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
12 & 13 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
14 & 15 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
14 & 15 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
16 & 17 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
16 & 17 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
Adult Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3, Black 4 & Up
Adult Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3, Black 4 & Up
Senior Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Senior Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Executive Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up

Executive Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Ultra Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Ultra Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up

Article I. Competition Shall Be Divided By Age, Belt and Gender In General

I.A. All Ages and Belt Divisions.

Age Divisions	Belt Divisions
5 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
5 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
6 & 7 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
6 & 7 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
8 & 9 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
8 & 9 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black
10 & 11 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
10 & 11 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
12 & 13 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
12 & 13 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
14 & 15 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
14 & 15 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
16 & 17 Boys	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
16 & 17 Girls	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2 & Up
Open Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3, Black 4 & Up
Open Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3, Black 4 & Up
Senior Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Senior Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Executive Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Executive Women	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up
Ultra Men	Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Black 1, Black 2, Black 3 & Up

Rational: Consistency with other change.

35. Georgia District - ACCEPTED Page 43 Forms/Patterns.

IV.D. Proper Protocol for Athlete Introduction to Referee.

IV.D.1. When a player is called to perform his/her pattern/form, they will approach the Referee in order to give their name and the name of their form

IV.D. Proper Protocol for Athlete Introduction to Referee.

IV.D.1. When a player is called to perform his/her pattern/form, they will approach the Referee in order to give their name and the name of their form. When approaching and backing away from the Referee, the competitor should do so quickly. The competitor, after having backed away from the Referee to begin their Form, should begin when ready. Upon completion of the Form the Competitor should return to Joon-Bi position without waiting for the Referee to command to do so.

Rational: Because our NGB conducts Forms competition differently there is some confusion.

36. Georgia District – WITHDRAWN by author Page 40

XIX.C. Junior Ages 5 -13, All Belts

MALE			FEMALE		
Ages	Category	Weight	Ages	Category	Weight
5	Light	—45.0	5	Light	—45.0
	Heavy	45.0 +		Heavy	45.0 +
6-7	Fly	—45.0	6-7	Fly	—45.0
	Feather	45.0—55.9		Feather	45.0—55.9
	Welter	56.0—65.9		Welter	56.0—65.9
	Heavy	66 +		Heavy	66 +
8-9	Fly	—55.0	8-9	Fly	—55.0
	Feather	55.0—75.9		Feather	55.0—75.9
	Welter	76—85.9		Welter	76—85.9
	Heavy	86 +		Heavy	86 +
10-11	Fly	—70.0	10-11	Fly	—75.0
	Feather	70.0—90.9		Feather	75.0—95.9
	Welter	91—110.9		Welter	96—115.9
	Heavy	111 +		Heavy	116 +
12-13	Fly	—90.0	12-13	Fly	—95.0
	Feather	90.0—110.9		Feather	95.0—115.9
	Welter	111—130.9		Welter	116—135.9
	Heavy	131 +		Heavy	136 +

AGE	RANK	DIVISION	MALE WEIGHTS (LBS)	FEMALE WEIGHTS (LBS)
5	Beginner Intermediate Advanced	Fly	Under 35	Under 35
		Light	35.1-43	35.1-43
		Middle	43.1-51	43.1-51
		Heavy	Over 51	Over 51
6-7	Beginner Intermediate Advanced Black Belt	Fly	Under 40	Under 40
		Bantam	40.1-52	40.1-52
		Light	52.1-65	52.1-65
		Welter	65.1-78	65.1-78
		Middle	78.1-90	78.1-90
		Heavy	Over 90	Over 90
8-9	Beginner Intermediate Advanced Black Belt	Fly	Under 55	Under 55
		Bantam	55.1-67	55.1-67
		Light	67.1-80	67.1-80
		Welter	80.1-92	80.1-92
		Middle	92.1-105	92.1-105
		Heavy	Over 105	Over 105
10-11	Beginner Intermediate Advanced Black Belt	Fly	Under 65	Under 65
		Bantam	65.1-78	65.1-78
		Light	78.1-90	78.1-90
		Welter	90.1-102	90.1-102
		Middle	102.1-115	102.1-115
		Heavy	Over 115	Over 115
12-13	Beginner Intermediate Advanced Black Belt	Fly	Under 75	Under 70
		Bantam	75.1-87	70.1-82
		Light	87.1-100	82.1-94
		Welter	100.1-112	94.1-106
		Middle	112.1-125	106.1-120
		Heavy	Over 125	Over 120

Rational: Same as NGB. The ability to combine divisions still exists.

37. Executive Committee – James Henry Page 14

ACCEPTED

IV.E. Tekno's AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.)

IV.E. Tekno's AAU Taekwondo dobok IS allowed. (Identified by the AAU logo embroidered on the right breast.) The letters AAU may be worn on the lower rear portion of the dobok. Additionally Tekno manufactured dobok with the embroidery on the left breast signifying previous years AAU National Medalist is acceptable.

Rational: Allow the Team Members to wear the Uniform they earned. But allow others to also wear the letters that signify our organization. Advertising our program should be something we encourage.

38. Executive Committee – James Henry Page 14

ACCEPTED

IV.F. Athletes may wear a shirt underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.

IV.F. Athletes may wear a t-shirt or females may wear a sports bra underneath the dobok, but it must be white, and free of all lettering or logo.

Rational: Consistency

Article XII. Referee Stops Contest (RSC)

The Referee may stop any match under the following circumstances:

XII.A. When the Referee or tournament physician determines that a contestant should not continue for safety reasons.

XII.B. When the contestant's coach throws in a towel to stop the fight.

XII.C. When a contestant or coach disregards a Referee's command.

X11.D When a point differential of 10 occurs between the scores of the two players or a player scores 15 points, the match will be end with the player having the higher score declared the winner.

Rational: Olympic Sparring is heading to a point differential. Little League Baseball has always had a 'Mercy Rule' for scores. This will create excitement and save many players from being humiliated. Excitement when players get close to that 15 or a player struggles to keep that 10 point differential from occurring. In other point sparring programs it is the first to 3 or 5. We are still giving plenty of opportunity to compete with this is rule.

III.B. Points shall be awarded on a scale of 7.0 to 10.0 in tenth of point (.1) increments, 7.0 being the lowest score awarded for a completed pattern. ~~8.5~~ Shall be the 'average' score awarded.

III.B. Points shall be awarded on a scale of 7.0 to 10.0 in tenth of point (.1) increments, 7.0 being the lowest score awarded for a completed pattern. ~~8.5~~ Shall be the 'average' score awarded.

Rational: To cause a greater range of scores so as to help identify the winning form and more easily identify inferior and superior forms to the audience. Scores ranging in the 7's through the 9's will better serve that purpose than to keep the range of scores locked in the 8's.

Forms

Article III. Judging Procedure

III.B. Points shall be awarded on a scale of 7.0 to 10.0 in tenth of point (.1) increments, 7.0 being the lowest score awarded for a completed pattern. ~~8.5~~ Shall be the 'average' score awarded.

8.0 Shall be the 'average' score awarded.

Rationale:

At both Nationals and J.O.'s officials for the most part in judging forms rarely gave a 7 range score for even a terrible form, myself included. In talking with other officials the consensus was that the athlete who received an 8.0 to 8.4 score for his or her form was not going to medal anyhow. However, when the audience sees a really poor/sloppy form and it gets an 8.3 and then someone does a good form and only gets an 8.7, they think our judges really don't know what they are doing because those forms should have been scored much further apart. Also, bunching everything into the small scoring frame of 8.0 to 8.9 creates more ties than we should really have. With this change the scoring will open up; poor forms will be in the 7 range, average forms will run 8.0 to 8.4, good forms will run 8.5 to 8.9, and great forms will be in the 9 range. This will show a better evaluation of the athletes performances to the audience and will eliminate a lot of the ties which we all dread because we know they add time to the event that day.