

Mid-America Tournament Alliance

Rules of Competition

The Mid-America Tournament Alliance (MTA) is a collaboration of martial arts schools representing different organizations and governing bodies. They have joined together to promote the Arts through competition, sportsmanship and friendship. Rules of competition have been agreed upon to allow those who wish to participate in an Alliance event the ability to know in advance what is and is not allowed during the competition. The MTA is fully aware that our rules are not recognized universally still, ALL martial arts students are welcome. A competitor does not have to be a member of an Alliance school to enter the competition. They simply must know, agree to and adhere to the MTA Rules of Competition as MTA students adhere to the rules of competition at non-MTA events.

Tournaments will consist of, but not be restricted to Forms and Sparring competitions. They can include other activities or items that can make their event unique. Things such as stick fighting, grand champion sparring, medallion awards, trophy awards, etc... are not uncommon.

The Tournament Director is responsible for providing a safe and comfortable environment for both competitors and spectators. The Director will set the pace of the event by breaking the competitors into groups and assigning them to rings where their competition will be held. Non-Black Belt competitors will be divided at the Directors discretion in order to make the groups safe and manageable.

Black Belt competitors compete for points. The Black Belt competitors will be divided according to the Top Ten Black Belt Competition Rules.

FORMS COMPETITION

Forms consist of any Form used for class, testing or competition. Forms will be judged on balance, power, timing and execution of technique. A Form will not be judged on content or if a particular Form was done incorrectly.

The first 3 competitors will do their Form for the judges in order to give the judges some idea of the level of competition. Once the third competitor has completed the Form, all 3 competitors will stand in front of the judges and receive their scores. All other competitors in the division will then proceed to perform and receive their scores immediately following the performance.

The highest score a judge can award is 9.0. The lowest is 6.0.

If a Colored Belt needs a second chance to do a Form because they forget, make a mistake or for any other reason, they will be allowed to do so but they cannot win the Forms competition. The do-over will be judged and scored as usual with a 1 point deduction by each judge. Black Belts get only 1 attempt at Forms. If they stop midway through a Form, judge the performance up to the point it concluded.

In the event of a tie, the competitors involved will perform again. They may choose to do a different Form or their original Form, either is allowed. If it is a 2-way tie, the competitors will stand in front of the judges together and the judges will point to the winner. A 3-way tie will be scored again with no half points.

SPARRING COMPETITION

MTA tournaments are “light contact” and “controlled technique” events. All competitors must wear a mouthpiece. Sparring gear must cover the toes, the knuckles and the head. Cloth shin, forearm and elbow pads are allowed with proper sparring gear but not by itself. Male competitors must have groin protection.

LIGHT CONTACT

Controlled kicks to the head and face are allowed. However, excessive force with any strike or drawing blood puts a competitor at risk of disqualification and/or expulsion from the event.

ILLEGAL TECHNIQUES

Hand strikes to or toward the head

Blows to the throat, back or below the belt

Elbows and knees

Spinning hand techniques

Running out of the ring to avoid fighting

Continually falling down to avoid being scored upon

Turning your back to your opponent (endangering yourself)

***All will be considered illegal techniques and may result in a warning, a point awarded to your opponent or a disqualification.**

Matches will be 2 minutes in duration or the first competitor to accumulate 5 points.

1 point will be awarded for a kick or punch to the body

2 points will be awarded for a kick to the head

An additional point will be awarded for any legal technique executed if the attacker makes contact while in the air (jumping).

*Additional points may be awarded from an opponent who continues to execute illegal techniques.

Fighters can only score while in the ring. At least one foot must be on the floor inside the ring to be considered in the ring. A fighter outside the ring cannot score but can be scored upon.

In the event of an injury, time must be stopped and the injury must be evaluated to see if the match can continue. Call medical staff if necessary! If the injury was self inflicted (slip and fall, strain or sprain) or it occurred due to what is determined to be a legal technique, and the injured person cannot continue, they must forfeit the rest of the match.

*If the injury was due to an illegal technique, points may be awarded or a disqualification may be issued if the injured competitor cannot continue.

***ALL POINTS, WARNINGS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS WILL BE ISSUED AT THE CENTER REFEREE'S DISCRETION.**