

Shoshin Ryu

Karate Kata Contest Rules And Regulations

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Purpose

To set a standard of rules and regulations for competitors and the officials judging the Karate Kata Competition under the direction and control of The Shoshin Ryu System.

To assure a fair and impartial method of judging for all competitors regardless of style or affiliation.

To promote a friendly, sportsman like atmosphere where competitors are able to demonstrate their abilities and interpretation of a Karate Kata.

To encourage an open-minded, mutual respect between different styles and systems of Karate.

To insure a comradery amongst competitors and officials from every field of the Martial Arts.

To practice and compete with others beyond the limits of one's own particular system of Karate.

To promote a lasting interchange of thoughts, opinions and respect for other members of The Martial Arts community.

To instill the true purpose for the practice of The Martial Arts with respect, dignity and self confidence.

That winning is **NOT** a trophy or award, **BUT** of knowing that one has done their **VERY BEST.**

General Guidelines

Contest Area:

The contest area shall be a minimum of 20 feet by 20 feet, (400 square feet) free of obstructions that might interfere with the movements or the safety of competitors. A marking on the floor or mats where the contestant will start his/her kata shall be plainly visible. It should be in the center of the mat, (side to side) and 15 feet from the front edge of the mat.

The seating for the judges shall be five feet in front of the front edge of the mats in the center side to side. Three chairs shall be provided for the three judges. The center chair for the Head Judge and the two side chairs for the additional judges.

Duties of The Head Judge:

The Head Judge is responsible to insure that all officials are in proper Karate gi's of their system and the competitors are properly attired as well. Clean and freshly laundered uniforms. Female competitors shall wear a t-shirt under their Karate gi jacket.

The Head Judge is also responsible for proper decorum and etiquette throughout the contest. He shall line up each division prior to the bow-in and make any last minute announcements concerning the contest. The Head Judge shall then seat the competitors to the rear of the mats where they will wait their turn to demonstrate their katas. At the close of the contest the Head Judge will conduct the comments to the competitors and close with the bow-out.

Duties of the side judges:

They will sit on each side of the Head Judge and follow his/her direction and instructions. During the contest each judge will receive a grading paper for each contestant. These are to be filled out and signed by each judge immediately following the demonstration of the kata by the participant. The forms are then to be released to the runner for delivery to the scorer for tabulation.

Duties of the runner:

The runners are appointed by the Tournament Director and will be responsible to deliver the score sheets to the Head Judge and the two side judges prior to the presentation of Kata by the competitors. They will then stand aside until the competitor has finished and the three judges have finished filling out the forms. The runner will then collect the score sheets and deliver them to the scorer. The runner shall not attempt to read the score sheets but shall deliver them directly to the official scorer.

Duties of The Scorer:

The Scorer is appointed by The Tournament Director and will be responsible for collecting the score sheets from the runner and to tabulate the scores for each of the participants in the contest. Scorer will then record the results and present them to The Tournament Director at the close of the contest.

Restrictions:

The kata presented by the competitors shall be without weapons and clearly define the actual meaning of the word "Karate." The empty hand. Although there are katas that do demonstrate the use of weapons, The Shoshin Ryu System has determined that there is too much of a risk for injury, therefore, no weapons.

Awards and certificates of participation:

1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards shall be presented for the top scorers of each division. Also, certificates of participation and medals for all competitors will be presented.

Grievances:

All complaints, disputes and grievances shall be presented to The Tournament Director for resolve. The decision of The Tournament Director is final.

Presentation of awards:

The timing and location of the presentation of awards shall be under the direction of The Tournament Director.

Selection of officials for tournament:

All Head Judges, Side Judges, Runners and Scorers will be selected by The Tournament Director after each completes a Clinic to be given by The Shoshin Ryu System.

Scoring of Kata Contest:

Scoring is based on a 10 point system. The highest score a competitor can receive from any one Judge is a 10. The average score for a kata is a 7 with points added for an exceptional performance or points deducted for a kata beneath an average performance level. Judges must remember that the scoring is not to embarrass or ridicule any participant but for the purpose of encouragement for each student for a demonstration well done. Scoring should never fall below a 5 unless the kata is not completed. Points are awarded on a full point or a percentage of a full point basis. Such as, 7.0 or 7.7 at the opinion of each Judge.

In addition to the actual presentation of the kata competitors will also be judged on their etiquette displayed before and after their performance of the kata.

Also the Judges will take into consideration the degree of difficulty, style, technique and overall presentation of the Kata.

Competitors Etiquette:

After the group bow-in the competitors shall remain seated at the rear of the presentation area in an orderly fashion until his/her name is called. The participant shall rise, turn away from the judges and straighten their uniform, turn back toward the judges and bow before entering the presentation area, walk to the starting point and bow again to the Head Judge. Clearly give your name, your system and dojo location and the name of the kata you wish to perform. Once the Head Judge tells you to begin, you may start your kata. When you have finished stand on the finish point and await the Head Judge to dismiss you. Bow again to the Judges and return to your waiting area.

Competitor Safety:

Any injury must be reported to The Head Judge by the contestant or a representative of the injured party's system. The Head Judge will determine if the injured person is able to continue or not. The decision is the sole responsibility of The Head Judge.

Injuries that were sustained prior to the starting of the contest shall be brought to the attention of The Tournament Director prior to the start of the contest. Any entry fee shall be returned to the injured contestant.

An emergency first aid kit shall be present at each contest area for treatment of any injury.

Group Divisions:

Competitors shall be divided into four groups:

Group one:

Juniors:

Ages 5 through 7 Years.

Ages 8 through 9 Years

Ages 10 through 11 Years

Three Divisions each age group:

Novice	White Belts/Yellow Belts	8 th Kyu
Intermediate	Purple Belts/Orange Belts	7 th , 6 th , 5 th , 4 th Kyu
Advanced	Brown Belts	3 rd , 2 nd , 1 st Kyu

Group Two:

Youth:

Ages 12 through 13 Years

Ages 14 through 15 Years

Ages 16 through 17 Years

Three Divisions each age group:

Novice	White Belts/Yellow Belts	9 th , 8 th , 7 th Kyu
Intermediate	Blue Belts/Green Belts	6 th , 5 th , 4 th Kyu
Advanced	Brown Belts	3 rd , 2 nd , 1 st Kyu

Group Three:

Adult:

Ages 18 and older

Three Divisions in this group.

Novice	White, yellow, orange and purple Belts	9 th , 8 th , 7 th Kyu
Intermediate	Blue/Green Belts	6 th , 5 th , 4 th Kyu
Advanced	Brown Belts	3 rd , 2 nd , 1 st Kyu

Group Four:

Black Belts

Ages 18 and older

Two Divisions in this group.

Intermediate	Black Belt	1 st , 2 nd Degree
Advanced	Black Belt	3 rd degree and up

Fees:

The costs for entry to the Kata contest, the Clinics and the banquet shall be determined and posted prior to each individual event.

