

- i. Shall recommend Clinic Administrators to the Executive Committee
- j. Shall ensure that the local Districts conduct championships in accordance with the guidelines of the National Taekwondo Sport Committee
- k. Shall work with District Sports Directors so as to facilitate growth and excellence sport of Taekwondo within their Region

District Structure

Purpose – Districts are divided as per AAU Code. It is the aim of the AAU Taekwondo Program to have a District Taekwondo Sport Director in each District. It will be the responsibility of the AAU Taekwondo District Sport Director to disseminate information about AAU Taekwondo for the purpose of growing AAU Taekwondo in their respective Districts and to conduct annual District Qualifying events. This annual event will qualify competitors to compete in the AAU Taekwondo National Championship.

Sport Committee Meetings

National Sport Committee Regular Meetings – Regular Meetings of the National Sport Committee shall be in conjunction with the AAU Convention.

Non-Regular Sport Committee Meetings – National Sport Committees may hold a Non-Regular National Sport Committee meeting in odd years subject to the following provisions:

- 1. The meeting is called by the Chair following approval of the National Office.
- 2. The National Office has the right to coordinate the meeting and pick the site for the meeting.

National Sport Committee Special Meetings – Special meetings of a Committee are scheduled at the request of the Chair or upon written request of at least one-half of the Committee Members. The purpose of the Special meeting must be stated in the Notice for the meeting.

National Sport Executive Committee Meetings – The National Chair shall determine the date and location of the Executive Committee Meetings.

Agenda Additions – Sport Committee Meeting Order (Agendas) – The Regular National Sport Committee meetings, the Non-Regular National Sport Committee meetings, and National Sport Committee Special meetings shall follow meeting order (agenda format) as establish by AAU Code.

Officials Program Governance and Administration

Officials Program Administrator – The Officials Program Administrator will work directly with the National Sport Chair and National Chief Referee to administer all aspects of the Officials Program. The Officials Program Administrator will:

- 1. Work directly with the Clinic Administrators from across the country to process information about those that have attended clinics. The Administrator will maintain a database of information about Officials that will be used in order to conduct local, regional and national competition.
- 2. Work with the Clinic Administrators (CAs) to ensure they are given the information and materials that are needed to train the most highly informed Officials in the country.
- 3. Update the Officials Database with information on attendance and upgrades of Officials at local, regional and national competition. Compile a list of those that are certified for use by those conducting sanctioned events.
- 4. Work with the National Executive Committee to make sure that the Officials Program is being run effectively.
- 5. Prepare Official Badges and Coaches Passes with ID photos for those that register to participate in National Events.

Officials Program/Purpose and Function

How to Become Certified or Recertified – All AAU officials are required to become (re)certified through a recognized Clinic Administrator on a yearly basis. Officials must be (re)certified EACH YEAR prior to District or Regional qualifying competition. Certified officials wishing to officiate at a National event are expected to also take ONE of the National Clinics, offered at the National Championships and AAU Junior Olympic Games, before they will be allowed to work either National event. Since the Nationals are NORMALLY held first, an official must attend the Nationals' clinic in order to work the Nationals and his/her certification will allow him/her to also work the AAU Junior Olympic Games. Should an official only work the AAU Junior Olympic Games, they must attend the AAU Junior Olympic Games Clinic that will be offered at that event.

Who is Authorized to Conduct Clinics – Only certified Clinic Administrators and the National Chief Referee may conduct clinics. Clinic Administrators are appointed by the National Sports Chair upon the recommendation of the National Chief Referee. A complete list of clinic administrators is listed on the website at www.aautaekwondo.org. All questions regarding clinics and clinic administrators should be directed to the Officials Program Administrator.

When are Clinics Allowed to be Conducted – Clinics cannot be held until the current years rules are finalized. This is NORMALLY accomplished no later than September 15. No clinic may be held between June 1 and September 1 without special permission from the Officials Program Administrator.

Clinic Administrator Timelines – All Officials' clinic applications, digital photos on CD and appropriate fees, must be forwarded to the Officials Program Administrator no later than seven days after the clinic. A complete list of Coaches and Officials that have completed clinic will be posted at www.aautaekwondo.org

What if Classification Isn't Kept Current – All officials holding a classification of B or higher will be required to participate as an official in some capacity at a minimum of one national event within a two-year period to maintain their current status. Not meeting this

requirement will result in a downgrade in status of one level every two years, not to be lowered past C level official.

1. Participation within a two-year period at the AAU National Championships would be as follows:
 - a. AA officials must work 5 days
 - b. A officials must work 4 days
 - c. B officials must work 3 days
2. Participation within a two-year period at the AAU J.O. Games would be as follows:
 - a. Only B officials may use the J.O. Games to maintain their classification
 - b. B officials must work the entire event, including weigh-ins if requested, if not working Nationals and needing the J.O. Games to maintain their classification.
3. In order to meet the minimum number of work days at either the National Championship or J.O. Games, the total number of required work days must be worked at the same event. (that is, an official cannot split the required work days between multiple events).

Upgrade Requirements – Upgrades in classification are not automatic, nor are they a “right.” An upgrade is based on satisfactory performance of an official during AAU sanctioned competition at the District and Regional level, as determined by the Tournament Head Referee (up to level C) appointed by the tournament director or by the National Chief Referee at National events.

In addition, an official **MUST** first meet the requirements listed later in this document to be considered eligible for an upgrade. ALL officials upon entering the program will be issued classification based on minimum age and rank requirements.

All D officials who meet rank and age requirements, as outlined, may be upgraded upon request to C classification after working two district or regional qualifiers or one national event.

In order to upgrade to a B or higher classification, the candidate must have successfully completed the annual district/regional course, have worked a qualifying event, and then requested to be evaluated at the AAU National Championships or J.O. Games. (Upgrades to B only are allowed at the J.O. Games). In order to be evaluated, an applicant must request to be reviewed for upgrade at the time of registering for an event. The applicant must attend the national seminar, pass a written test and be evaluated while officiating at the event, **ALL WITHIN THE SAME COMPETITION YEAR.**

Officials’ Certification Requirements

Class E Official – Refers to Court Officials (scorekeepers, computer operators, timekeepers, etc.) at District, Regional and National levels.

Requirements

1. Basic understanding of official rules and procedures
2. Working knowledge of time keeping and score keeping
3. Minimum age of 14
4. Yearly attendance of a District/Regional Clinic Workshop

How Certified

1. Certification issued by Officials Program Administrator upon completion of first officials’ clinic

Class D Official – Refers to Judges at District, Regional or National competition. D officials can also assume aforementioned position as authorized.

Requirements for Upgrade

1. Understanding of official rules and procedures
2. Adequate proficiency as a judge at district or regional competition
3. Adequate proficiency in charting
4. Adequate proficiency in time keeping and score keeping
5. Minimum age of 15
6. Minimum rank of Red/Brown Belt
7. Must attend a yearly district/regional clinic

How Certified

1. Certification issued by Officials Program Administrator upon completion of first officials’ clinic

Class C Official – Refers to Officials at District or Regional competitions or Judges at National competitions. C officials can also assume any of the aforementioned position as authorized.

Requirements for Upgrade

1. Must meet all above requirements for class E through D
2. Adequate knowledge of Referee terms and methods of signaling
3. Adequate proficiency as Referee at District or Regional competition
4. Must have officiated as a corner judge as a D level official for a minimum of two local or regional AAU sanctioned events or one AAU sanctioned National event
5. Minimum age of 16
6. Minimum rank of 1st Dan Black Belt
7. Must attend a yearly District/Regional Clinic and Workshop
8. Must request to be evaluated for an upgrade at either the local, regional or national level. Request for upgrade at the local level should be made to the tournament director who will supply a list of applicants to the tournament Head Referee
 - a. A head Referee for a local event who evaluates an applicant for upgrade must be a Clinic Administrator and/or a AA official.

How Certified

1. Certification is issued by the Official’s Program Administrator upon recommendation from the tournament’s Head Referee based on an evaluation of the candidate’s officiating skills at local, regional or national events

Class B Official – Refers to Officials at the National level. B officials can also assume any aforementioned position as authorized.

Requirements for Upgrade

1. Must meet all above requirements for class E through C
2. Must be able to demonstrate adequate proficiency as a judge and referee for forms and sparring competition.
3. Must have been a class C official for a minimum two years
4. Minimum age of 18
5. Must attend a yearly District/Regional Clinic and workshop
6. Must request to be evaluated at the AAU National Championships or AAU Junior Olympic Games when registering for the event
7. Must pass written test by 80% and practical evaluation by 80%. Candidate will be evaluated on performance as a judge and referee for forms and

sparring competition. To be eligible for evaluation, a candidate must work a minimum of three full days during the Nationals Championship or the entire J.O. Games event.

8. Must work two AAU Sanctioned events per year (must be consecutive) in some official's capacity, for the required time-in-grade for B upgrade

How Certified

1. Certification issued by Officials Program Administrator upon successful completion of performance evaluation

Class A Official – Refers to Officials at the National level. A officials can also assume any aforementioned position as authorized.

Requirements for Upgrade

1. Must meet all requirements for Class E through B
2. Must be able to demonstrate a high degree of proficiency as a judge and referee for forms and sparring competition
3. Must have been a class B official for a minimum of two years
4. Officiate at two National Championships as a Class B official
5. Must attend a yearly District/Regional Clinic and workshop
6. Must request to be evaluated at National Championships when registering for the event
7. Must pass written test by 90% and practical evaluation by 90%. Candidate will be evaluated on performance as judge and referee for forms and sparring competition. To be eligible for evaluation, candidate must work a minimum of four full days during the event
8. Must work five AAU Sanctioned events per year (must be consecutive) in some official's capacity, for the required time-in-grade for A upgrade.

How Certified

1. Certification issued by Officials Program Administrator upon successful completion of performance evaluation

Class AA Official – Refers to Senior Officials at the National Level who have demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism and proficiency. Team Leaders for a ring are usually chosen from the AA officials at Nationals events.

Requirements for Upgrade

1. Must meet all above requirements for Class E through A
2. Must be able to demonstrate a high degree of proficiency as a judge and referee for forms competition and both styles of sparring competition
3. Must have been a class A official for a minimum of three years
4. Officiate at a minimum of three Nationals Championships as a Class A official
5. Must attend a yearly District/Regional Clinic and workshop
6. Must request to be evaluated at the AAU National Championships when registering for the event
7. Must pass written test by 95% and practical evaluation by 95%. Candidate will be evaluated on performance as judge and referee for forms and both styles of sparring competition. To be eligible for evaluation, candidate must work the entire event
8. Must work eight AAU Sanctioned events per year (must be consecutive) in some official's capacity, for the required time-in-grade for AA upgrade

How Certified

1. Certification issued by Officials Program Administrator upon successful completion of performance evaluation

Disciplinary Actions

Officials are expected to maintain the highest standards of professionalism. An official whose conduct is determined to not measure up to these standards shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Committee.

Event Head Referee for District and Regional Sanctioned Events

All AAU Sanctioned events must have an Event Head Referee who has the following responsibilities. The Event Head Referee for District and Regional Sanctioned Events:

1. Is appointed by the tournament director of that event
 - a. The Event Head Referee cannot be the Tournament Director
2. Must be a AA Official or a Clinic Administrator
3. Must obtain a listing of all officials prior to the tournament, confirm their classifications and validate that they have taken a current officials clinic.
4. Must make ring assignments and manage any movement in regards to those ring assignments
5. Evaluate all D officials wishing to upgrade to C after confirming their eligibility to upgrade
6. Submit upgrade recommendations to the Officials Program Administrator within seven days of the event
7. Submit a Head Referee report to the National Chief Referee within seven days of the event

All sanctioned events can be counted toward an official's upgrade requirements, but the report must be on file with the National Chief Referee.

Any variation from the policies outlined above must be approved by the National Chief Referee.

Sport Policies and Procedures

Each year the AAU Taekwondo Program evaluates the rules of competition in order to determine if changes to the rules would create a better competition experience for the athletes. All four categories of competition: Olympic Style Sparring, Point Style Sparring, Forms and Team Forms are considered. Each year AAU clubs have the ability to suggest changes to the program at the local level. These changes are voted on at the annual meetings of the districts. Those changes agreed to at the District level are then submitted to the Technical Rules Committee (TRC) for their consideration. Changes that pass that body become part of the next year's rules of competition pending ratification by the entire National Sport Committee at their next meeting.

It has always been the policy of the AAU Taekwondo Program to consider changes the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) makes to their competition rules. Those WTF rules and competition requirements are mandated to the National Governing Bodies of Taekwondo when conducting WTF sanctioned events. The AAU has the luxury to consider whether to accept or reject WTF changes. Each WTF change is considered independently with consideration to the benefit for the athlete and the competition experience.