

2015 Rule Changes Recap

1. The requirements for A officials have been increased
 - The time-in-grade for B officials to move to 'A' changed from two years to three years
 - The minimum number of National Championships required increased from two events to three events
 - The National Referee Chair has the ability to bypass the time requirements
2. The requirements for AA officials have been increased
 - The time-in-grade for A officials to move to AA changed from 3 years to 5 years
 - The minimum number of National Championships required increased from 3 events to 5 events
 - The National Referee Chair has the ability to bypass the time requirements
3. Several new non-qualifying events have been added to the types of events offered at AAU TKD competition. These new events are offered at the newly formatted Junior Olympic Games competition which is fashioned after the Hanmadang tournaments. Rules that will be used at the J.O. Games will be available as an appendix in the AAU Taekwondo handbook.
 - Board Breaking (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Creative Forms (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Weapons Forms (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Musical Weapons Forms (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Creative Musical Forms (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Demo Team Competition (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Self Defense (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
 - Padded Weapons Sparring (see Appendix E for the J.O. Games rules)
4. Junior Olympic Games competition has been opened to Intermediate belt ranks.
5. Making contact with an unauthorized implement in point sparring has been moved from a gam-jeom penalty to a kyong-go penalty.
6. The duties of E officials has been amended to include being corner judges at local events
7. The maximum layers of tape allowed has increased from two layers to three layers
8. Changes have been made for determining the winner if there is a tie situation at the end of regulation time when using PSS.
 - The first criteria will be the number of points scored by the chest protector
 - The second criteria will be the person who has received the least amount of penalty points
 - If a winner still cannot be determined, the corner judges will determine the winner through the rules of superiority in the Golden Point (tie breaker) round
9. The Referee will no longer announce shi-gan for the score keeper to stop time. The score keeper will wait one second after the Referee breaks the competitors with kal-yeo, then automatically stop the match time.

10. The term 'knock out' has been removed. If an eight count occurs and the competitor cannot continue the Referee will call the match with 'Referee Stops Contest'.
11. The term 'Sanctioned Event' has been changed throughout the handbook to read 'Licensed Event' compliant with the terminology currently used by AAU.
12. Shi-jak will now be a walking stance rather than a cat or tiger stance.
13. For Olympic style sparring only, disqualification penalty points have been increased from four to five.
14. Any incident which was not a legal attack to a legal target area and was not a malicious attack, which results in a competitor staggering or going to the floor due to pain, the procedure followed by the Referee will:
 - a. Give a command to resume the match with the call "stand up"
 - b. After three seconds, if the contestant refuses the command, the Referee will give the command a second time
 - c. After three more seconds, if the contestant still refuses the command, the Referee will give the command a third time
 - d. After three more seconds, if the contestant still refuses the command, the Referee will call the match with 'Referee Stops Contest'
 - e. If at any time during this process it is determined that the competitor has an injury, which is defined as broken bone, dislocation, ankle sprain, bleeding, etc, kye-shi will be declared and the competitor will be given one minute for medical treatment
15. The kyong-go penalty of blocking with the knee has been expanded. It now reads "lifting the knee to block and/or impede the opponent's kicking attack, or lifting a leg to impede the opponent's attacking movements without execution of any kicking movements with the intent to actually hit a target.
16. Many explanations have been inserted throughout the handbook by the National Chief Referee which will require everyone to carefully read the handbook in its entirety.