

The following rule changes were ratified by the TKD Board of Directors at the 2018 Convention in Cleveland, Ohio on 10/18/2018

General

1. For Team Trials competition, the AAU will use the WT rules that are in place 30 days prior to the first day of the Team Trials competition. Changes must be posted on the AAU Taekwondo website no later than 15 days before the first day of competition.
2. An official may be evaluated for upgrade to B level at a National Qualifier event with the approval of the National Chief Referee. Applicant must fulfill all B level requirements according to the rulebook. All B level upgrades are exempt from taking a written test as part of the evaluation.
3. Upgrade to A official has been changed to include the requirement that all applicants must officiate a minimum of one day of each type of competition.
4. Clarification has been added that the National event at which an applicant is being evaluated counts as one of the required Nationals.
5. In an attempt to address the situation that has been encountered at the past few Nationals regarding what is labeled as 'underbelting' the following has been added out our rulebook for Nationals competition. A competitor can compete at only one (1) Nationals event as a novice rank, one (1) Nationals events as an Intermediate rank, and two (2) Nationals events as an Advanced rank.
6. The Ultra division of competition (ages 43 and Up) has been added back into our age breakdown.
7. Executive and Ultra will now also break down further into Black 1, Black 2, Black 3, and Black 4 and up.
8. Coaches attire has been redefined as white dobok or ankle-length athletic pants plus the blue coach shirt and sneakers. Coach credentials must be worn at all times and must be plainly visible.

Point Sparring

9. Point sparring rib guards may now be worn on the outside of the dobok top.
10. Point sparring hand/foot foam gear description has been expanded to include artificial leather. Headgear may be made of foam layered-plate construction covered in cloth or made of elastomeric- polyurethane.

Olympic Sparring

11. For all belt ranks age 5-11 years of age, excluding the 10-11 Black belt mini cadets, can now wear "sport" eye glasses or contact when competing in Olympic sparring.
12. Tournament directors have the option of using one referee and two corner judges if E-headgear is used.
13. In Olympic sparring, bonus point kicks are now worth two points, so a turning body kick is worth four points and a turning head kick is worth five points.
14. In Olympic sparring 'Golden Point Round' is now referred to as 'Golden Round'. It now take two points or two gam-jeoms to win in the 'Golden Round'. In the case that there is no winner at the end of the 'Golden Point' time limit, the 1st criteria for determining the winner is now any competitor who scored a punch in the Golden Round. If still tied the competitor with the most hits to the hogu is the winner. If still tied, the competitor who received the least gam-jeoms throughout the match is the winner. If still tied, the judges will use the normal rules of superiority to determine the winner.
15. In Olympic sparring, coaches receiving two misconduct infractions, will receive a yellow card which is an immediate disqualification from the event.
16. In **both** point and Olympic sparring, a competitor is given an out of bounds penalty violation when one foot touches the mat outside the boundary line.

Team Member Issues

17. Second place Team Trials competitors may still be invited to travel with the team to fill a vacant position, but expenses will not be reimbursed even if they should medal at the competition.
18. Cadet 12-14-year-old Team Members must be accompanied by an adult.
19. Transportation stipends will now be given to Team members traveling rather than reimbursing airfare.