

General Rules and Regulations For Point Sparring

Article I. Protective Equipment

I.A. Mandatory. All competitors must wear a:

- I.A.1.** Mouth-guard.
- I.A.2.** Full hand protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
- I.A.3.** Full foot protectors (RED foam dipped/vinyl only).
- I.A.4.** Full headgear including a padded top (RED OR WHITE foam dipped/vinyl only). Headgear that includes padding under and around the chin, or a face shield, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. Other than the head gear, no other item shall be worn on the head.
- I.A.5.** Male competitors must also wear groin cup and supporter on the inside of the dobok.
- I.A.6. Safety equipment may not be taped for any reason.**

I.B. Optional. Competitors may wear:

- I.B.1.** Cloth or foam shin, shin/instep protectors.
- I.B.2.** Cloth or foam forearm guards.
- I.B.3.** Foam dipped/vinyl breast (women) and foam dipped/vinyl rib protectors, at their discretion.
- I.B.4.** All optional equipment must be worn under the dobok.

Article II. Personal Requirements

Competitors shall keep their nails cut short and are forbidden to wear any metallic article. Any competitor whose hair, in the opinion of the Referee/Judges, is so long as to risk causing inconvenience to other competitors then that competitor shall be required to tie it back securely.

II.A. Personal Hygiene. The personal hygiene of all competitors shall be of the highest standard. Any competitor wearing an excessively unkempt or dirty uniform will be required to change it immediately (within one minutes). If the competitor cannot or will not comply, the Referee shall declare the opponent the winner.

II.B. Eyeglasses. Only “sport” eyeglasses will be allowed in point sparring competition. Soft contacts are highly recommended.

II.C. Drugs. The administration or use of any drugs (except antibiotics or other medically prescribed therapeutics), alcohol, stimulants or injections in any part of the body, either before or during a match, to or by any contestant is absolutely prohibited. Any contestant violating this rule will be disqualified.

Article III. Compliance

III.A If a competitor, upon being called to the center of the ring to compete, is found in violation of Articles I and/or II (Protective Equipment and Personal Requirements) that competitor will receive one minute to come into compliance. If within that one minute the competitor returns to the center ready to compete, he/she will receive a kyong-go and the match will begin. If he/she does not return to the center ready to compete at the end of one minute an additional one minute count down will begin. If that competitor returns to the center within the second one minute period then the competitor will receive a gam-jeom and the match will begin. If the competitor does not return within the total two minute grace period then that competitor may be disqualified

Article IV. Officials (Referees, Judges, Technical Advisors and Court Officials)

IV.A. The Referee shall:

- IV.A.1.** Make every effort to insure the safety of the competitors.
- IV.A.2.** Control the competition.
- IV.A.3.** Physically inspect the competitors before the match.
- IV.A.4.** Give pre-competition instructions when necessary, declare the end of the match, and give warnings and commands such as break and continue.
- IV.A.5.** Call the deduction of points, disqualifications and cast a vote for points as he/she sees fit.
- IV.A.6.** Stop the timekeeper’s clock when necessary.
- IV.A.7.** State his/her opinion about decisions, deduction of points, warnings, and the winner when requested by the Technical Advisor and/or arbitration committee.
- IV.A.8.** Verify that the recorded scores are correct prior to the awarding of the match.

IV.B. The Judges shall:

- IV.B.1.** Be positioned around the ring and assist the Referee as needed.
- IV.B.2.** Cast a vote for point through the use of the flag as each occurs.
- IV.B.3.** Offer an opinion on disqualification and minus points when asked by the Referee.
- IV.B.4.** Indicate by use of hand signal when face contact is made upon request of Referee.

IV.C. The Technical Advisor shall:

- IV.C.1.** Consult with the Referee and Judges if necessary.
- IV.C.2.** Inspect the scorecard for accuracy (when using paper scoring).
- IV.C.3.** Confirm the winner only on the basis of the scorecard and inform the Referee (when using paper scoring).
- IV.C.4.** In the case of questions, the Technical Advisor should consult with the appropriate Judge or Referee.
- IV.C.5.** Sign each contested match’s scorecard and present it to the Protest committee in the case of a protested match (when using paper scoring).
- IV.C.6.** Oversee scorekeeper and timekeeper.

IV.D. Court Officials:

- IV.D.1. The Timekeeper** shall be responsible for keeping the official time by starting and stopping the clock on the Referee’s orders, and for announcing the expiration of the official time period.
NOTE: Although the Referee has not declared “keu-man”, the match shall be regarded as having ended when the prescribed time is over. Penalties and points can be **awarded** after time as long as the penalty and point(s) occurred during regulation time.
- IV.D.2. The Weigher** shall determine competitors’ weights according to regulations set down by the tournament director.
- IV.D.3. The Score Keeper (when using paper scoring)** shall keep an accurate record of each warning, minus point, point and disqualification as awarded by a majority of the Judges and Referee.

IV.D.4. The Computer Operator will operate the computer using the tournament software supplied by the tournament director. The computer and monitor will reflect the information and directions supplied by the Officials.

Article V. Official Signals and Language

Officials shall use authorized gestures and terminology, as indicated below during the competition.

V.A. Referee.

V.A.1. *Before the Match* (See Appendix A)

V.A.1.a. Calling the Competitors: The Referee stands at his mark in the ring, with both arms bent at the elbow at a 45 degree angle and the index fingers extended. He then calls the competitors to their marks by saying “Chung” (blue) and pointing the right index finger down to a 45 degree angle and slightly forward towards the athlete’s mark pointed to by the Referee in the ring, and then repeating the same procedure with the left hand for “Hong” (red).

V.A.1.b. Bow in the Competitors: The Referee shall raise both arms (triceps parallel to the floor and at eye level), hands open (palms facing inward) and forearms bent vertically at the elbows and say “Char-yeot” (attention), to indicate that the competitors should face one another and come to attention. Next the Referee shall extend the palms downward and parallel to the floor at chest level while saying “Kyeong-rye” (bow) to indicate that the competitors should bow to one another.

V.A.1.c. Examine the Competitors: The Referee shall then physically examine the two competitors (blue first) to insure that all the requirements listed in Articles I & II above have been followed.

V.A.2. *To Start the Match:* (See Appendix A)

V.A.2.a. The Referee shall then assume a front stance, left foot forward, and execute a chest level right knife hand downward strike between the opponents while commanding, “Joon-bi” (ready).

V.A.2.b. Next, the Referee shall extend both arms out to the side at a 45 degree angle as he/she pulls the left foot back to a “cat stance”, simultaneously bringing the arms in parallel to the floor, shoulder-width apart, palms facing inward and command “Shi-jak” (begin).

V.A.3. *To Temporarily Halt the Match:* (See Appendix A)

The Referee shall say “Kal-yeo” (break) while extending the right hand in a sharp, shoulder-level knifehand downward strike between the opponents while standing in a left foot forward walking stance.

V.A.4. *To Temporarily Halt the Match for a Point Call:*

V.A.4.a. The Referee shall say “Kal-yeo” (break), then the Referee will return to the center of the ring, then with both arms parallel to the floor, palms down and fingertips touching and command “Judges Call”.

V.A.4.b. Upon his own command for “Judges Call” the Referee shall indicate his vote for point by extending the appropriate arm, with the palm up, in the direction of the contestant who he/she thinks scored a valid point (When Referee scores points. See Article VII).

V.A.4.c. Judges must indicate by use of flags whether a Point (s) was scored and by which player.

V.A.4.d. Upon verification that a point(s) was/were scored, the Referee will: use the arm nearest the competitor scoring the point(s), bend the elbow and extend the index finger towards the scorekeeper. Announce the player’s color, either ‘Chung’ or ‘Hong’. He/she will use that same arm that is nearest the competitor who scored the point(s), cross it across his own chest to the shoulder opposite the player scoring the point(s) and then sharply extend the arm with the number of points scored by extending that many fingers over the scoring competitor’s head. At the same time announce the number of points to be awarded. i.e. one or two.

V.A.4.e. The scorekeeper will repeat EXACTLY what the Referee just announced and record the points on the score sheet.

V.A.5. *To Award the Joo-eui.*

V.A.5.a. The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command at the spot where the violation took place. (To declare a Shi-gan is optional.)

V.A.5.b. He/she will face the perpetrator of the offense and acknowledge them with “Chung or Hong” while pointing to the perpetrator’s forehead with the right forefinger, extending the interior of the arm to 135 degrees.

V.A.5.c Finally, the Referee will turn the right palm forward to the contestant’s face and wave it once from right to left to right and declare a “Joo-eui” (warning). (The Referee does not have to state the reason for the Joo-eui.)

V.A.6. *To Award a Kyong-go (Half-Point Deduction):*(See Appendix A)

V.A.6.a. The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” command at the spot where the violation took place and then turn to the timekeeper to declare “Shi-gan” (non-injury time-out).

V.A.6.b. Next, the Referee will face the perpetrator of the offense and place his/her right fist, forefinger extended behind his/her right ear and then point to the perpetrator’s forehead, extending the interior of the arm to 135 degrees and acknowledge them as either Chung or Hong. Next he/she will place his/her right fist, forefinger extended to his/her left shoulder and then point at the forehead of the pertinent contestant, arm fully extended and declare “Kyong-go” (Half-Point Deduction).

V.A.6.c. Insure that the scorer shouts back “Chung, Kyong-go” or “Hong, Kyong-go”. (Half-Point Deduction).

V.A.7. *To Award a Gam-jeom (Full Point Deduction):*(See Appendix A)

V.A.7.a. The Referee shall break the competitors with the “Kal-yeo” Command at the spot where the violation took place, and then turn to the timekeeper and declare “Shi-gan” (Non-injury time-out).

V.A.7.b. Next, the Referee will face the perpetrator of the offense, place his/her right fist, forefinger extended behind his/her right ear and then point to the perpetrator's forehead, extending the interior of the arm to 135 degrees and acknowledge them with either "Chung" or "Hong".

V.A.7.c. Still facing the perpetrator, the Referee will assume Char-yeot stance, drop the hands down to his/her sides, close the fist and then vertically raise his/her right fist, forefinger extended, and declare "Gam-jeom"(Full-Point Deduction). Insure that the scorer shouts back "Chung, Gam-jeom" or "Hong, Gam-jeom" (Full-Point Deduction).

V.A.8. To Continue the Match: (See Appendix A)

The Referee shall say "Kye-sok" (continue) while striking sharply downward from the ear with a right knifehand and returning upward again.

V.A.9. To Reverse a Violation Call: The Referee shall repeat the wrong signal, then wave the right palm twice horizontally from right to left as wide as the shoulders while facing the Technical Advisor table. He will then declare the proper infraction. (See Appendix A)

V.A.10. To End the Match: (See Appendix A) The Referee shall say "Keu-man" (stop) and command the competitors return to the starting position. The Referee shall then approach the Technical Advisor's table and be informed of the winner (when using paper scoring). The Referee will bow out the competitors following the same procedure used in VI.A.1.b. to bow In the competitors. (Athletes should not remove their headgear until they are bowed out.)

V.A.11. To Award the Winner: (See Appendix A) Next, the referee will instruct the athletes to remove their headgear. Still standing between the two competitors and facing the Technical Advisor, he/she will drop both hands to the his/her side, raise the right arm with the closed fist to the sternum, continuing to raise the right arm in a knifehand up at a 45-degree angle with the palm facing upward and declare "Chung Sung" if Blue is the winner. If Red is the winner, follow the same procedure with the left hand and declare "Hong Sung".

V.B. Judges.

V.B.1. To Temporarily Halt the Match for a Point Call:

The Judge shall "Ki-hap" (yell) loudly while extending his/her flag to a position parallel to the floor at chest level. This signifies the intent to score a point if called to do so. Any Judge who sees a point should ki-hap and extend his/her flag to a position parallel to the floor at chest level regardless of the number of other officials who do so.

V.B.2. To Make a Call: The Judge that has presented their flag, signifying the intent to score a point(s), will upon the referee's command "Judges Call", flip the flag perpendicular to the floor. The color of the flag corresponding to the player that the judge feels scored the point(s) will be pointed upward.

V.B.2.a. To award one point the judge will flip the appropriate color flag perpendicular to the floor upon the Referee's command "Judges Call".

V.B.2.b. To award two points the judge will flip the appropriate color flag perpendicular to the floor while raising a hand high above the

shoulder and extending two fingers upon the Referee's command "Judges Call".

V.B.3. To Confer with the Referee: The Judge shall Ki-hap loudly and raise hand.

V.C. Technical Advisor.

V.C.1. To Interrupt the match

The Technical Advisor shall rise from his/her seat and ki-hap loudly. The Technical Advisor shall then indicate to the Referee the reason for stopping the match (time must be halted by the Referee).

Article VI. Awarding Points

VI.A. A majority of the officials must concur for a point to be awarded.

VI.B. Examples of majority calls with five officials:

VI.B.1. In the case of 3 Officials calling for point:

If two Officials call for two points and one Official calls for one point, two points shall be awarded.

VI.B.2. In the case of 4 Officials calling for point:

If two Officials call for two points and two Officials call for one point, one point shall be awarded.

VI.C. Examples of majority calls with three officials:

VI.C.1. In the case of 2 Officials calling for point:

If one Official calls for two points and one Official calls for one point, one point shall be awarded.

Notes:

Article VII. Age, Belt and Weight Divisions in General

VII.A. Competition shall be divided by Age, Belt, Weight (lbs), & Gender.

VII.B. Ages 5 – 17 Junior Divisions

Male			Female		
Ages	Weight Groups		Ages	Weight Groups	
5	Light Heavy	45.0 & Under Over 45.0	5	Light Heavy	45.0 & Under Over 45.0
6-7	Light Middle Heavy	Under 45.0 45.0 - 55.9 Over 55.9	6-7	Light Middle Heavy	Under 45.0 45.0 - 55.9 Over 55.9
8-9	Light Middle Heavy	Under 60.0 60.0 - 70.9 Over 70.9	8-9	Light Middle Heavy	- 60.0 60.0 – 70.9 Over 70.9
10-11	Light Middle Heavy	Under 75.0 75.0 - 85.9 Over 85.9	10-11	Light Middle Heavy	Under 80.0 80.0- 90.9 Over 90.9
12-13	Light Middle Heavy	Under 100.0 100.0 - 115.9 Over 115.9	12-13	Light Middle Heavy	Under 105.0 105.0 - 120.9 Over 120.9
14-15	Light Middle Heavy	Under 115.0 115.0 - 145.9 Over 145.9	14-15	Light Middle Heavy	Under 110.0 110.0 - 140.9 Over 140.9
16-17	Light Middle Heavy	Under 135.0 135.0 - 165.9 Over 165.9	16-17	Light Middle Heavy	Under 115.0 115.0 - 145.9 Over 145.9

VII.C. All Senior, Executive and Ultra Divisions

Males		Females	
Division	Ages	Division	Ages
Senior	18 to 34	Senior	18 to 34
Executive	35 to 44	Executive	35 to 44
Ultra	45 and up	Ultra	45 and up
Weight Groups		Weight Groups	
Light	Under 125.0	Light	Under 110.0
Welter	125.0 - 155.9	Welter	110.0 - 125.9
Middle	156.0 - 185.9	Middle	126.0 - 155.9
Heavy	Over 185.9	Heavy	Over 155.9

Article VIII. Duration of Competition

VIII.A. Colored Belt Rounds. All colored belt matches shall consist of two 90-second rounds with a 30-second rest between rounds

VIII.B. Black Belt Rounds. All Black belt matches shall consist of two, two-minute rounds with a 30-second rest between rounds

VIII.C. Advanced & Black Belts Combined. When Advanced (Red/Brown) belts are combined with Black belts, all matches shall consist of two, two-minute rounds with a 30-second rest between rounds

VIII.D. Rest Time Between Semi-Final & Final Match. Competitors shall be allowed at least two-minute rest between semi-final and final matches

Article X. Authorized Implements for Scoring Points

IX.A. Hand. Closed Fist (Forefist and Backfist) and reverse knifehand (a.k.a. ridgehand). All other hand techniques will be considered unauthorized and the proper penalty will be assessed.

IX.B. Foot. Any part of the foot below the ankle.

Article X. Authorized Areas for Scoring Points

X.A. Head Area. Only that area of the head protected by the headgear shall be considered a legal target area including that area of the forehead covered by the gear. **The facial area shall NOT be a target area!**

X.B. Body Area. Includes the area of the body from the collarbone to the navel in the front and to the “posterior axillary line” on both sides (i.e. to the imaginary line drawn down the side from the back crease of the armpit).

Article XI. Illegal Target Areas

XI.A. Illegal target areas shall include, but are not limited to:

- XI.A.1.** The facemask area
- XI.A.2.** The neck and throat
- XI.A.3.** The back, including the kidney area
- XI.A.4.** The groin
- XI.A.5.** The joints
- XI.A.6.** The legs

Article XII. Points (Valid Scores)

XII.A. One point shall be awarded for any valid hand or foot technique executed to the legal body area.

XII.B. One point shall be awarded for any valid hand technique executed to the legal head area.

XII.C. Two points shall be awarded for any valid foot technique executed to the legal head area. For head techniques to be awarded a point or points, the contact must be light. Contact to the legal scoring area of the body must be light to moderate. A majority of the Judges and Referee **must** also concur that a valid point was indeed scored.

XII.D. Invalidation of points. When a contestant scores a point or points through the use of an infraction, the point(s) shall be annulled (*Appendix A*). To remove point(s) that were scored due to the use of an infraction the Referee should face the perpetrator and issue the appropriate penalty, then turn to face the Technical Advisors table, wave the right palm face high from left to right and then back to center.

Article XIII. Referee Stops Contest (RSC)

The Referee may stop any match under the following circumstances:

XIII.A. When the Referee or tournament physician determines that a contestant should not continue for safety reasons.

XIII.B. When the contestant's coach throws in a towel to stop the fight.

XIII.C. When a contestant or coach disregards a Referee's command.

Article XIV. Action Taken By Referee In The Case Of Injury

XIV.A. The Referee shall immediately call "kei-shi" (official time-out), separate the players and attend to the needs of the injured contestant and immediately call for medical assistance.

XIV.B. If a contestant is injured due to a gam-jeom (full point) infraction of the rules by the opponent and cannot continue, then he/she shall be declared the winner.

XIV.C. If both competitors are injured and cannot continue the match, the contestant leading on scorecard shall be declared the winner. If score is tied and both cannot continue, then the judging panel must render a decision based on fighting spirit, superiority of tactics, and superiority of techniques.

XIV.D. If a contestant wins two matches through injury, he/she must withdraw.

XIV.E. If a contestant does not demonstrate a willingness to continue the match within one minute of receiving a legal technique to a legal target area than he/she shall be declared the loser by withdrawal.

XIV.F. Contestants will receive one injury 'time out' per match per injury. Once initial injury 'time out' has expired, contestant may not receive another injury 'time out' for the same injury.

Article XV. In the event of a Tie Score

XV.A. If at the end of regulation time the score is tied, the competitors shall continue the match until the first full point net change in score to determine the winner.

XV.B. This may occur through actual scoring or deductions.

XV.C. At the conclusion of regulation time, any odd kyong-go infractions will be dropped before sudden death.

Article XVI. Decision

XVI.A. Determination of the winner shall be made as follows:

1. Disqualification of the opponent
2. Withdrawal of the opponent
3. Points
4. Seven Point Gap
5. Deduction Points
6. Referee Stops Contest

XVI.B. Seven Point Gap Rule

XVI.B.1. For ages 14 & Up, the match ends immediately upon a seven point gap In score.

XVI.B.2. For ages 13 & Under, the seven point gap is not considered until the end of the 1st round. If a seven point gap or greater exists at the end of the 1st round then the match is over. Otherwise the 2nd round will begin and continue until a seven point gap is obtained or end of match time.

Article XVII. Prohibited Acts

XVII.A. Joo-eui (*Verbal Warning*)

XVII.A.1. Only one Joo-eui per infraction, per round, per competitor.

XVII.A.2. A Joo-eui does not affect points, but a "Kyong-go" must be given in the event the athlete repeats the same act during the same round. Therefore, if an official gives a Joo-eui for going out of bounds, he/she must give a Kyong-go the next time the athlete goes out of bounds.

XVII.A.3. A Joo-eui is only given for incidents related to Kyong-gos and never for Gam-jeoms.

XVII.B. Half Point Deductions/Kyong-go. The Referee shall warn the competitor and impose a half point deduction when any of the following violations is committed. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to declare the half point deduction.

XVII.B.1. Pushing or holding the opponent

XVII.B.2. Evading from fighting by turning his/her back to the opponent

XVII.B.3. Crossing the boundary line with both feet

XVII.B.4. Stalling

XVII.B.5. Presenting a defenseless posture to opponent

XVII.B.6. Interruption by the athlete's coach by word or deed

XVII.B.7. Attacking from the ground

XVII.C. Full Point Deductions/Gam-jeom. The following prohibited acts shall be subject to a deduction of one full point. The Referee shall temporarily halt the match to announce the deduction of one full point.

XVII.C.1. Attacking a fallen opponent

XVII.C.2. Making contact with an unauthorized implement

XVII.C.3. Making non-incidental contact to an unauthorized area

XVII.C.4. Intentional attack after the Referee's "Kal-yeo" command

XVII.C.5. Excessive contact (may also result in disqualification)

XVII.C.6. Throwing the opponent

XVII.C.7. Uncontrolled attack

XVII.C.8. Pretending injury

XVII.C.9. Discourteous behavior on the part of the contestant or coach

XVII.D. Two half-point deductions shall be counted as a deduction of one point. The last odd half-point deduction shall not be counted until another half-point infraction occurs.

XVII.E. Any combination of half point or full point deductions, which brings the total of "minus" points to **four**, shall cause that competitor to be declared the loser.

XVII.F. Automatic Disqualification.

XVII.F.1. Injuring the opponent's face or neck ¹

XVII.F.2. Injuring the opponent by a malicious or excessive attack ²

XVII.F.3. Injuring and/or rendering an opponent unable to continue by using an unauthorized attacking implement or by attack to an unauthorized area

XVII.F.4. Significant unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the contestant or coach

XVII.F.5. Accumulation of four penalty points (any combination of half and full point deductions).

1 Drawing blood does NOT automatically infer that the attack was excessive or malicious, or that the face or neck was, indeed, injured.

2 The Referee, with or without the consensus of the Judges, shall determine if the attack was malicious or excessive.

Article XVIII. Protests

XVIII.A. Filing a Protest. In case there is an objection to a decision; the appointed coach (and he/she alone) representing the athlete may file a written protest to the Chief Arbitrator or Tournament Arbitration Committee, along with a fee of \$25 (cash only). The protest will be submitted on the official protest form (See Appendix B). The appointed coach MUST inform the Referee or TA of that match immediately following the match that it is their intent to protest the match. The written protest itself must be filed within a reasonable period of time. However, if the protest involves an error in the management of that division, such as miscalculating the score or misidentifying an athlete, the correction must take place immediately.

XVIII.B. Deliberation Process.

XVIII.B.1. After reviewing the protest application, the content of the protest must be arranged according to the criterion of “acceptable” or “unacceptable”.

XVIII.B.2. If necessary, the Arbitrator can hear opinions from the Referee, Judges, or Technical Assistant.

XVIII.B.3. If necessary, the Arbitrator can review the material evidence of the decisions, such as the written data (score sheets). Videotapes WILL NOT be admitted as evidence to confirm or disconfirm the protest.

XVIII.B.4. Errors in determining the match results: Mistakes in calculating the match score or misidentifying a contestant shall result in the decision being reversed.

XVIII.B.5. Error in application of rules: When it is determined by the Arbitrator that the Referee made a clear error in applying the competition rules, the outcome of the error shall be corrected and the Referee shall be disciplined.

XVIII.B.6. Errors in factual judgment: When the Arbitrator decides that there was clearly an error in judging the facts such as impact of striking, severity of action or conduct, intentionally, timing of an act in relation to a declaration or area, the decision shall not be changed and the official(s) who have made the error shall be disciplined/sanctioned.

XVIII.B.7. The decision of the arbitrator will be final and there will be no means of further appeal.