

International Federation of Karate Australia Inc (IFK-AU)

# COMPETITION RULES FOR KARATE KATA TOURNAMENT

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極真会



Version 1.1

Updated on March 2019 by Jenny Fuller (4<sup>th</sup> Dan)  
Adapted from the British Karate Kyokushinkai Kata Tournament Rules  
Shihan Janine Davies (5<sup>th</sup> Dan) January 2010

## **Article 1: Competition**

1.1 The competition area must be flat and devoid of hazard. In principle the floor should be wooden.

1.2 The competition area has no fixed size, though it must be large enough to permit the correct performance of kata.

## **Article 2: Official dress**

2.1 Referees and judges must wear official uniform.

2.2 Contestants must wear a clean white karate gi with Kyokushin badges (If an IFK event, IFK badges should be worn)

2.3 The jacket, when tightened around the waist with the belt, must be in principle be of an overall length that it covers the hips. In the case of women, a plain white T shirt maybe worn underneath the karate jacket

2.4 The sleeves of the jacket must come, in principle, at least half the length down the forearm and may not be rolled up.

2.5 The trousers must be long enough to cover at least two thirds of the shin.

2.6 If a contestant is of shodan or above the belt must be worn with the name and grade on the right hand side.

2.7 Any person who does not comply with these regulations may be disbarred from the event.

## **Article 3: Organization of Competition**

3.1 Kata competitions take the form of team and individual matches. Teams shall consist of three persons. In theory both the individual and team events may consist of exclusively male, exclusively female or mixed competitors (pee wee, juniors and/or seniors), however the categories are predetermined by the tournament organisers and will be changed to accommodate the age and grade range of the entries for the event.

3.2 There are 9 categories in kata competition, which are as follows:

- Category 1 - Red belts (10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Kyu)
- Category 2 - Blue belts (8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Kyu)
- Category 3 - Yellow belts (6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Kyu)
- Category 4 - Green belts (4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Kyu)
- Category 5 - Brown belts (2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu)
- Category 6 - Black belts (Dan Grades)
- Category 7 - Team Event Brown and Black Belts
- Category 8 – Team Event Yellow and green belts
- Category 9 – Team Event up to Blue Belt

3.3 These categories may be broken into the following age sub groups;

Categories 1, 2, 3 & 9 will have 3 ages groups:

- Pee Wee 8years & under,
- Junior 9 to 13years
- Senior 14years & over

All other categories will have 2 ages divisions Junior 13years & under and Senior 14 years & over.

## **Article 4: The Judging Panel**

4.1 Five judges will be appointed to judge each match. If there is not enough for 5 judges then 3 judges will be used in this case then all three scores will be used for the Actual score.

4.2 In addition, for the purposes of facilitating the operation of kata competitions, scorekeepers and callers/announcers will be appointed.

## **Article 5: Procedure for Competitions**

### **CATEGORIES 1 to 5 and 7 to 9**

5.1 In all categories (with the exception of category 6), in round 1, the contestant/team chooses the kata they wish to perform.

5.2 The contestant/team responds to the calling of his/her/their name by going directly to the edge of the competition area and bows. On the signal of the centre judge, the contestant/team moves forward to the starting position and bows. The centre judge then shouts "Kata". The contestant/team spokesperson states the name of the kata they wish to perform. The centre judge MUST then repeat the name of the kata and gives the command to start the kata.

5.3 The contestant/team will hold their last position until the centre judge calls "Noare". Upon completion of the kata, the contestant/team will return to the designated line and await an award from the panel.

5.4 The centre judge will call for a decision “Hantei” and blow a sharp blast on the whistle. All 5 judges in unison will hold up their scorecards facing towards the table officials. The table official will announce the scores and, when the scores have been registered, the centre judge will blow a further sharp blast on the whistle. The judges will then show the scorecards to the spectators. The centre judge will blow a third blast whereupon the scorecards will be lowered.

5.5 The table official will announce the ACTUAL score. The contestant/team will bow to the centre judge before leaving the competition area. The Actual score are the 3 mean scores.

5.6 The contestants who are successful in proceeding to Round 2 and any subsequent rounds will choose another kata and submit their choice of kata to the table official before the start of the round. Note that a kata cannot be repeated in any subsequent rounds.

5.7 The contestant will wait for their name to be called then stand on the edge of the competition area directly in front of the centre judge. The same procedure as outlined in Articles 5.2 – 5.5 will be followed.

### **CATEGORY 6 (Black Belts)**

5.8 In Round 1 the contestants shall wait for their names to be called by the table official whereupon they shall stand on the edge of the competition area and bow. On the signal from the centre judge the contestant will move forward to the designated line and bow to the centre judge.

5.9 The centre judge will choose a card upon which a kata is written and then call out the name of the kata to be performed. The contestant MUST then repeat the name of the kata and wait for the command to begin.

5.10 Upon completion of the kata, the contestant will return to the designated line and await an award from the judging panel.

5.11 In Round 2 and any subsequent rounds the same procedure as outlined in Articles 5.2 – 5.5 will be followed.

## Article 6: Scoring

6.1 The result of a kata competition is determined by the summation of points accumulated by contestants or teams during the final round of the competition.

6.2 The scoring ranges for each category is as follows:

CATEGORIES 1,2,3,4, 5, 8 & 9 - Range from 5.0 to 7.0 points

CATEGORIES 6 & 7 Range from 6.0 to 8.0 points

Should category 5 & 6 be combined then the category 6 scoring will be used

6.3 The starting point when considering an appropriate score for a particular kata should be the "mean" score for the relevant scoring range (i.e. for categories 1-5 the scoring range is 5.0-7.0 therefore the "mean" score is 6.0, for categories 6 & 7 the scoring range is 6.0-8.0 therefore the "mean" score is 7.0). Only one decimal place is used in the scoring

6.4 Points should then be added or deducted after considering the following criteria :

**TECHNIQUE** – The kata must be performed with competence and the contestant must demonstrate a clear understanding of the principle contained within it.

**SKILL** – the contestant must demonstrate correct focus, use of power, speed, good balance and correct breathing.

**PRESENTATION** – The performance should also be evaluated with a view to discerning other points.

6.5 The full scoring range should be utilised.

6.6 The kata competition is organised into 3 rounds. The first round selects 16 contestants, the second round selects 8, 4 or 3 contestants and the third round selects the winner and final placings. The Tournament Coordinator, Chief Referee, Technical Committee or Tournament Committee on the day may alter or change the number of contestants for the first round depending on the number of competitors in a particular category.

6.7 On the command of the centre judge the judges, in unison, display the score by means of points. The card bearing the points awarded is held in the right hand.

6.8 When the scorekeeper summates the score for each contestant or team in a round, the maximum and minimum scores awarded are deleted. The three remaining scores are added together to calculate the ACTUAL score. In the case of only 3 judges, all scores are accepted

6.9 In the event of a tie in any round the lowest score is added to the actual score. If a tie persists, the highest score is incorporated. In the event of a continuing tie, the contestants must perform a further kata of their choice. Note that a contestant or team cannot perform the same kata twice.

6.10 The scores of each round stand in isolation and do not accumulate towards a total score over 3 rounds.

## **Article 7: Disqualification**

7.1 A contestant is disqualified if they vary, interrupt or bring a kata to a halt or if they perform a kata different from that drawn, or announced, or perform a kata out of their category.

Only contestants with grades up to and including 7<sup>th</sup> kyu will be allowed to restart their kata, this restrt will only be allowed in round one. Should the person elect to compete in a higher grade then that category guidelines will apply.

7.2 the centre judge will call the judges in and discuss whether this is a disqualification. The score of 5 will be awarded, this represents a Hansoku.

7.3 When hansoku is called the contestant may still take part in the individual or team event if they have entered more than one event.

7.4 When shikkaku is called the contestant or team members cannot take part in the tournament for the remainder of the event.

## **Article 8: Interpretation**

8.1 Any situation not defined by these rules shall be resolved by Tournament Coordinator, the Chief Referee, Technical Committee or Tournament Committee on the day.

# TOURNAMENT KATA

## Tournament Individual Kata

The following tournament individual Kata guidelines will apply in kata tournament run by the IFK-AU, this is subject to review.

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| <p><b>Category 1–ungraded and red belts (up to 9<sup>th</sup>Kyu)</b></p> <p>Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Taikyoko Sono Ichi</li> <li>2. Taikyoku Sono Ni</li> <li>3. Taikyoku Sono San</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p>  | <p><b>Category 2 – Blue Belts (8<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> Kyu)</b></p> <p>Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Taikyoku Sono Ichi</li> <li>2. Taikyoku Sono Ni</li> <li>3. Taikyoku Sono San</li> <li>4. Pinan Sono Ichi</li> <li>5. Pinan Sono Ni</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p> |
| <p><b>Category 3 – Yellow Belts (6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>th</sup> Kyu)</b></p> <p>Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Taikyoku Sono San</li> <li>2. Pinan Sono Ichi</li> <li>3. Pinan Sono Ni</li> <li>4. Pinan Sono San</li> <li>5. Sanchin No Kata</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p> | <p><b>Category 4 - Green Belts (4th &amp; 3rd Kyu)</b></p> <p>Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pinan Sono Ni</li> <li>2. Pinan Sono San</li> <li>3. Pinan Sono Yon</li> <li>4. Pinan Sono Go</li> <li>5. Gekisai Dai</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p>                                    |
| <p><b>Category 5 – Brown Belts (2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Kyu)</b></p> <p>Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pinan Sono Go</li> <li>2. Yantsu</li> <li>3. Tsuki No Kata</li> <li>4. Saiha</li> <li>5. Tensho</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p>                                 | <p><b>Category 6 - Black Belts</b></p> <p>Compulsory Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pinan Sono Go</li> <li>2. Yantsu</li> <li>3. Tsuki No Kata</li> <li>4. Saiha</li> <li>5. Pinan Sono Yon</li> </ol> <p>NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p>   |
| <p><b>Category 6 - Black Belts– Free Kata</b> Choice of Kata:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Garyu</li> <li>2. Seipai</li> <li>3. Sushiho</li> <li>4. Kanku Dai</li> <li>5. Seienchin</li> <li>6. Saiha</li> </ol>   | <p><b>Category 6 - Black Belts – Free Kata cont</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Gekisai Sho</li> <li>8. Tensho</li> <li>9. Gekisai Dai</li> <li>10. Yantsu</li> <li>11. Tsuki No Kata</li> </ol>   |
| <p style="text-align: center;">NOTE A KATA CANNOT BE PERFORMED TWICE</p> <p>Yantsu, Tsuki No Kata and Saiha can be performed in the free kata category if not already performed as a compulsory kata</p>  |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Due to the numbers in Australia Catagory 5 &amp; 6 may be combined. Should this occur the the brown belt will still be alloed to select their kata in round one</b></p>   |  |

**Note:** All individual and team competitors should prepare a minimum of 4 kata to be performed, in case they are successful in making it through 3 rounds and to the finals. In the event of a draw, a different kata must be performed. Category 1 will be the only exception to this.

**Black belts** must be familiar with all compulsory kata listed, they will be advised which kata to perform in round 1 by the referee.

