



Kobe Osaka International

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MODIFICATIONS TO RULES OF COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PERSONS UNDER 16 YEARS.

KUMITE RULES

World Karate Federation Rules apply with the following amendments.

ARTICLE 1: COMPETITION AREA

The competition area will be as defined by WKF for all age groups.

ARTICLE 2: COACHES AND PARENTS

The coach shall at all times during the tournament, wear a tracksuit and display their coach's licence. They will be given a place to sit during the bout and must not interrupt the match by calling advice or making gestures to their contestants. Parents will not be allowed in the competition areas (unless they are registered as the competitor's coach) and are not allowed to protest official's decisions. Behaviour deemed unacceptable may result in disqualification of the contestant or the entire team or delegation.

ARTICLE 5: DURATION OF BOUT

Duration of the Kumite bout is defined as two minutes for those of 12 years and over, and one and a half minutes for those up to and including 11 years old.

ARTICLE 8: PROHIBITED BEHAVIOUR

All techniques to the head, face, and neck must have absolute control. Should the foot or mitt touch the target, face mask, or head protector, the Referee Panel will **not** award a score. In the first instance a light touch may receive Chukoku, but subsequent "touches" will receive Keikogu, Hansoku Chui, and finally Hansoku. There need be no actual injury caused. Any technique to the head, face, or neck, which causes injury, no matter how slight, must be warned, or penalised, unless caused by the recipient.

Any discourteous behaviour from a competitor, fellow team member, coach, or parent, can earn the disqualification of the offender, the entire team, or delegation from the tournament.

EXPLANATION:

In the case of children and young people it cannot be expected that they exhibit the same degree of control and co-ordination as adults. Therefore the referee panel must allow a wider margin of safety in the distance required for scoring techniques. Jodan kicks, punches, and strikes, which satisfy all other criteria and are stopped at a distance up to ten centimetres from the target, should be scored.

*Referees and judges must remember that children and young people have not matured physically and the hard body contact seen in adult matches is not permitted at this level. Techniques to the body may make **light**, controlled contact only. The use of body protection is compulsory when available.*

When assessing contact, the Referee must take all the circumstances into account. Was the victim to blame by failing to take defensive or protective measures (Mubobi), or was the offender to blame by carelessness, lack of skill or over-excitement; or was it deliberate and/or malicious? The Referee must also consider the effects of a marked disparity in size between contestants as can often occur in children's matches.

An alert Referee can often prevent injury before it occurs by carefully observing the behaviour of the young contestants.

KATA RULES

There is no longer any requirement for Shitei kata; any traditional kata may be performed. The first three kata performed must all be different. If competitor numbers are such that more than three kata are required then the fourth and subsequent kata may be repeats. No kata may be performed more than twice. For sixteen years and over WKF Rules apply.