

*Bay Area Cities*  
*Karate and Kobudo Championships*

# TOURNAMENT RULES

## Kumite (General Sparring):

- 1) All competitors must wear a mouth piece to compete. Male competitors must wear a groin cup.
- 2) Hand pads, chest protectors and other protective gear are available at the tournament. Shin pads and head gear are allowed.
- 3) Each match is **1.5 minutes or 2 minutes** in length. The time clock runs continuously unless stopped by the ring referee or official. An “**end of match**” warning will be given by the time keeper **30** seconds prior to the end of the match. \*\* (Advanced and Black Belts 2 Minutes, Below Brown 1.5 Minutes) \*\*
- 4) For divisions below Black belt the first contestant to score **3 points** wins.
- 5) For Brown and Black belt divisions, the first contestant to score **3 points** will win.
- 6) The contestant with the highest point total after the initial time period wins the match.
- 7) In the event of a tie score there is a **1-minute** overtime period. The contestant with the *highest point total* after the overtime period is the winner. \*\*\* Starting all over from Zero Points. \*\*\*
- 8) If no contestant scores or if there is a tie score after the overtime period, a **second overtime, 1-minute overtime** begins, and the first person to score will win. After second overtime and no score, then the winner is decided by a judges’ decision.
- 9) For each match, one contestant designated Blue and the other Red (will be given a red scarf to wear on their belt). Each judge has a Blue and Red flag. The color of flag raised by a judge will indicate contestant either won a point or indicates a foul. Decision will be made if a Penalty may be given.
- 10) Each ring has one referee and four judges.
- 11) Contact penalties are given for: Hitting or Kicking below the belt, contact to the head, use of excessive force, or use of uncontrolled techniques. A contestant may target the head but contact is strictly prohibited. *Black and Brown Belts may have light contact to the head.* The **first contact** penalty receives a warning from the referee. A **second contact** penalty results in the referee’s warning and the opponent will be rewarded a point. A **third contact** penalty results in the contestant being disqualified and losing the match. **Any deliberate** contact, use of excessive force, or use of an uncontrolled technique results in the contestant being immediately disqualified.
- 12) **Jogai (going out of the ring)**. Contestants are penalized for going out of the ring during the match. The first and second Jogai receive a warning from the referee. The third Jogai will result in a point being awarded to the opponent. A fourth Jogai will result in a point, and the fifth Jogai will result in disqualification.

## Kata:

- 1) There are Three to Five Judges per ring. With 3 Judges, a contestant’s score is the sum of all judge’s scores. With 5 judges, only the three middle scores are used (high and low scores are excluded).
- 2) In the event of a tie score, the low score will be added to the contestant’s scores. If still tied, the high scores will be added in. \*\*\*Any remaining tie will be resolved by number 3 below. \*\*\*
- 3) In the event a tied score still exists, contestants are required to perform another Kata. **Beginner and Intermediate** divisions contestants may perform the **same Kata. Advance Division** contestants must perform a **different Kata**.