

A. OFFICIALS

- 1) Chairman of the Tournament: The duty of the Chairman of the Tournament is general supervision of the event. All officials and competitors are under the Chairman's jurisdiction. The Chairman has ultimate responsibility for resolution of any disputes and any decisions made at the tournament.
- 2) Arbitration Committee: The Arbitration Committee will consist of the Tournament Chairman and any senior Black Belts whom he may appoint at each tournament. The Arbitration Committee has the responsibility to help insure that the tournament is run safely and fairly and see that the rules are properly interpreted.
- 3) Tournament Director: The Tournament Director and Staging Manager will be appointed from the 5th degrees and up of the Federation by the Tournament Chairman to serve on an annual basis. The Tournament Director will be responsible for the assignment, overseeing training and supervision of Officials to the rings. The Tournament Director will oversee the Staging Manager who will be responsible for assigning competitors to their rings.
- 4) Master of Ceremonies: The Tournament Chairman will appoint The Master of Ceremonies annually. The Master of Ceremonies will be responsible for introductions of senior officials, calling competitors to rings and announcing results, as well as any other appropriate announcements during the tournament.
- 5) Master Level Referee's Qualifications: Master Level Referees represent our most experienced referees. They must possess at least the rank of 5th Degree Black Belt. They must have completed all rules clinics and exams satisfactorily. They must have years of continuous tournament experience in all judging positions exhibiting complete knowledge and understanding of the intent of all tournament rules, excellent judgment in their application and unquestionable integrity at all times. When, in the judgment of the National Director, they have met these qualifications, he will award this rank. Master Level Referees should wear their special black shirt (with Master Level Referee designation) at tournaments so they will be easily recognizable.
- 6) Chief Referee's Qualifications: Chief Referees must meet qualifications of all prior levels of officials through Center Referee including recent satisfactory completion of a Tournament Rules Clinic. In addition, they must have a minimum of two active continuous years of recent tournament experience as a Center Judge and receive

at least 2 nominations by the Tournament Chairman, Director, or Master Level Referees.

- 7) Center Referee's Qualifications: Center Referees must be at least 18 years old and possess the rank of 3rd Degree Black Belt (Decided Rank) and above. They must be of equal or greater rank than the competitors in the division that they are judging. Chief Referees must successfully complete regional or national rules clinics to qualify for certification. They must also have sufficient ring experience and demonstrated good judgment and an understanding of the application of tournament rules. Attendance at the Black Belt Meeting held prior to tournament competition is **mandatory** so that they will be aware of any rules updates or problems encountered at prior tournaments unless the Tournament Chairman specifically exempts them.
- 8) Senior Corner Judge's Qualifications: Senior Corner Judges must have met the qualifications of a Corner Judge as well as demonstrate a minimum of 2 continuous years of recent tournament experience as a corner judge. They must demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the tournament rules and have successfully completed a tournament rules clinic and exam within the last 6 months. They must receive at least 2 nominations from the Tournament Chairman, Director, or Master Level Referee.
- 9) Corner Judge's Qualifications: Corner Judges must possess the rank of 1st Black Decided and demonstrate mature judgment. In addition, they must be tall enough to see all sparring from an enhanced viewpoint. They must attend the Black Belt meetings held before each tournament and successfully complete regional or national rules clinics annually.
- 10) Scorekeeper & Timekeepers: The Scorekeepers and Timekeepers should be adults and people of alertness and responsibility or any Black Belt in appropriate dress. This is an ideal position for adult competitors and any 1st Recommended or inexperienced Black Belt to learn more about the tournament process and begin to develop the skills needed to be a competent Corner Judge. Black belts serving as timekeepers must be at least 10 years old and scorekeepers must be 13 years old.