



WTF Tae Kwon Do Association of Canada ("Taekwondo Canada")

National Competitions Policy

This policy provides policy and guidance to the structure and conduct of all national competitions. It replaces these previous, and now superseded, guidance documents:

- National Championships

National Competitions; Raison d'être

National Competitions are scheduled, planned and managed by Taekwondo Canada as integral elements of the National High Performance Programme. They are the principal means by which emerging talent is identified, and through which coaches, athletes and referees gain experience and standing for selection to national teams and to participate in other national and international events. National competitions include senior and junior competition in kyorugi and poomse competition, as well para-Taekwondo events and combination events such as Hanmadang.

"Canada", "Canadian", "National" and "Championships" are controlled identifiers and will not be used, individually or together, in TC-sanctioned tournaments except those which are conducted by TC as part of the National Competitions framework

Eligibility for competitions

Athletes and referees participating in National Competitions must be Canadian citizens and all participating athletes, coaches and referees must be members in good standing of Taekwondo Canada. Eligible participants who are members of a member organization require approval of the President of that member organization.

Coaches and Referees must adhere to Taekwondo Canada's minimum standards of certification to be eligible to participate in National Competitions.

Note; Athletes or coaches who have participated for another country or in another country's National Championships are advised to confirm their obligations under the terms of the TC Canadian Citizenship Policy.

General Rules for the Conduct of National Competitions

All National Competitions will be held in accordance with the current WTF rules pertinent to that event. The use of electronic scoring systems will apply and the system to be used will be an approved WTF system. Exceptions may be made to aspects of the rules, which do not affect international compliance and athlete standing, when and if necessary, and if approved by the Board not less than one month in advance of the competition. Competitors, coaches, referees volunteers and spectators are subject at all times to the Taekwondo Canada Code of Conduct.

1. All national sparring competitions for Junior and Senior black belts will be double elimination format. National colour belt and poomsae championships format will

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be determined according to the number of participants per event (e.g. single vs. double elimination).

2. All Taekwondo Canada events will be seeded as per the annually approved Taekwondo Canada point system.
3. Head striking rules will be permitted at Junior A and Senior Divisions for black belt participant categories only.
4. The duration of rounds and rest periods, and the minimum allowed time to recover between matches may be adjusted to provide more effective competition formats. Such changes do not require the consent of coaches and athletes at the technical meeting preceding the competition.
5. Competition will be according to belt level and weight division. Where it improves the conduct of a tournament, colour belts may be grouped. Weight divisions will be according to the current version of the WTF rules
6. Chest protectors will be provided by Taekwondo Canada. Both athletes in a match will wear the same size chest protector, and Junior A and Senior Black Belts will wear the size set out in the WTF Rules.
7. Athletes will provide their own head gear (red and blue), shin guards, groin protector, arm pads, gloves and mouth guard. The mouth guard is mandatory and MUST be white or clear. Junior A and Senior Black Belts must have their own sensor socks. All other divisions will wear instep protectors. Only WTF approved equipment will be permitted at National Competitions. Athletes will pass inspection before each match.
8. Dobuks may be marked to represent an athlete's Province, however no other markings (excepting the manufacturer's logo) will be allowed.
9. Coaches will dress (while coaching) in an appropriate manner. Dobuks, jeans, shorts, urban outerwear, sandals, slippers, hats or headwear (other than that of a religious nature) and sunglasses are not appropriate. Non-marking, mat-friendly footwear is required
10. The use of electronics such as cell phones, PDAs in the competition area is prohibited.
11. Use or administration of drugs or chemical substances described in the WTF Anti-doping by-laws is prohibited at all events sanctioned by TC. TC may cause to be carried out any medical testing deemed necessary to ascertain if a contestant has committed a breach of this rule. Testing will be conducted in accordance with the Canadian Policy on Doping in Sport and Canadian Doping Control Regulations. Please see www.cces.ca.



Administrative Procedures

Competition-specific rules and regulations will be published well in advance of the registration deadline for any National Competition. Cut-off dates and documentation requirements will be rigorously enforced. Where significant weather events interrupt travel plans, the Board has the responsibility to decide on whether late-arrivals may participate in the remainder of the competition

1. All events will have one ID pick up, on the day before the first day of competition. No late ID pickups will be permitted.
2. All athletes must weigh in during the specified time for the weight class that they have registered to at each event. Weigh in requests outside of the allotted timeframe will not be permitted.
3. All registered coaches must attend the coaches' / technical meeting relevant to their competition to be eligible to coach.

Protest / Arbitration

Arbitration of protests/appeals raised at National Championships will be conducted in accordance with WTF rules and in accordance with the applicable TC Policies.

1. The CEO, or their designate, will nominate a pool of eligible individuals in consultation with the Sanctions Committee to serve as arbitration panel to hear all match-related protests; each arbitration panel which hears a protest will include an N1-level referee and at least two Directors not affiliated with the athletes/coaches involved in the protest.
2. Protests regarding infractions to the WTF rules will be heard by the arbitration panel. Protests will be prepared by the affected coach and submitted within 10 minutes of the end of the match, with a protest fee of \$200.00 in cash or money order. The panel's decision will be provided to the Vice Chair (HP), who will debrief both coaches before the decision is announced. The Panel's decision is final.
3. Appeals to any other matter unrelated to the WTF rules will be submitted and adjudicated in accordance with the applicable TC policies.

Selection and Appointment of Referees

Referees will be selected, and notified of their selection for a National competition no later than two (2) months before the competition start date. Selection criteria will consist of a combination of the following:

- First Dan or higher in rank as certified by the Kukkiwon;
- Member in good standing with Taekwondo Canada and the WTF (Korea);
- Successful completion of a Canadian National or International Referee Refresher seminar every two years (or as new rules are adopted);

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- Must complete an annual health report supported by an MD's signature and on file with Taekwondo Canada and the Referee Chair