

WAKO

Ring Sports General Rules





WAKO Rules of Ring Sports – General Rule

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WAKO Rules of Ring Sports – General Rule

Art. 1. Officials

Art. 1.1 Chairman of Technical/Appeal Committee

The Chairman of the Referee Committee shall act as head of the Appeals Board together with a designated member of the Technical Committee and the members of the WAKO Board of Directors present

Art. 1.2 Tournament Committee

- Will act as announcers
- Will control the Ring
- Will deal with official weigh-in, drawing, disposition of fighting areas in the sport hall

Art. 1.3 Chief referee of the Ring Sports

The WAKO International Referee Committee of Ring Sports will select 2 chief referees per fighting ring. Their main responsibility is to organize the central referees and judges according to the nationalities of fighters and to observe every single match in order to be ready to educate referees and judges in case of mistakes or to be able to handle protests. They can alternate their role. Also, they

- May interrupt the Fight to answer or deal with protests.
- May interrupt the Fight if the Rules are not being applied correctly.
- Shall act as Chief Arbitrator for the Ring Areas.
- May remove Referee and Judges who are not performing at an acceptable standard.
- May appoint an assistant to substitute a member when necessary.

Art. 1.4 Referee and Judges

During World or other international championships, each bout in a ring must be supervised by a WAKO international acknowledged Observer/Organizer of the Ring, especially appointed by International Referee Committee, who can officiate in the centre, but will not fill out score sheets.

Each bout is graded by three International Judges. The three WAKO Judges will be seated away from the spectators and close to the ring. Each of the three Judges must be seated in the middle of three respective sides of the ring.

WAKO judges/referees must attend the pre agreed WAKO referee international seminars before they will be allowed to officiate in a WAKO World or Continental Championships that year. (Irish Open WAKO World Cup Italy – Austrian Classic) Their referees license/card must be renewed every two years.

To ensure neutrality, the Referees and the three Judges for each bout will be chosen by the Observer/Organizer of the Ring on duty in that ring, according to the following rules:

- Each official will come from a country and Federation different from that of the others and from that of the fighters.
- In no way may two of the Officials of the same bout come from the same country, unless it is due to an uncontrollable event.
- An official may not be born or live in a country which is a dominion, colony or in any way dependant of the country of either Kickboxer taking part in the bout.
- In the case of an official having changed nationality, he will not officiate in a bout where one of the fighters or other officiating Judges comes from his native country.
- In the case of the Observer/Organizer of the Ring not being able to apply the above-mentioned directives due to special circumstances, it will find a solution which will ensure neutrality and impartiality of appointed officials, followed by a prompt report to the International Referee Committee.
- In the case of the Observer/Organizer of the Ring not being able, for any reason, to apply the preceding directives, the name or names of the Official or Officials will be chosen by drawing lots, by the Chairman of the International Referee Committee, or any other person on his behalf, for the bout in question.



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- In the case of international matches between the Teams of two or more National Associations, a bout could be supervised according to an agreement between the official representatives of the Federations in question, provided that the agreement does not go beyond basic Refereeing principles set forth in the in the WAKO regulations.
- Persons in charge of Refereeing or judging of a bout, or a series of bouts, will not at any moment of the bout or bouts be allowed to act as a manager, trainer, coach or second of a Kickboxer or team of Kickboxer taking part in a bout; or to act as an official in a match in which a fighter from his country participates.
- The International Referee Committee or its official representatives, to comply with the request of the jury, temporarily or permanently can suspend from his functions any Referee who, in their opinion, does not respect WAKO regulations; or any Judge whose marks are not considered satisfactory.
- Should the Referee be inadequate in the course of a bout, the Observer/Organizer of the Ring will hold him back and stop the match. The Referee next on the WAKO international list of neutral Referees will receive the necessary instructions to direct and officiate the rest of the bout. A Referee will officiate in the ring. He will wear a WAKO uniform (navy blue jacket with WAKO insignia on it, black gym shoes, grey pants, white WAKO shirt, WAKO bow-tie for qualification/finals or title matches).

Art. 1.5 Referee

The Referee must:

- Check the safety equipment and clothes of the fighters (unless differently decided by Tournament Committee)
- Make sure that a weakened Kickboxer does not suffer unjust and unnecessary blows.
- Make sure that the rules of fair play are strictly observed.
- Supervise the whole of the bout.
- At the end of a bout, gather and check the score sheets of the three Judges (If applicable).
- After verification, he must hand them to the Observer/Organizer of the Ring, or, if he is absent, to the announcer. He may also announce the winner by electronic scoring.

Art. 1.6 Referee Commands

He must use three command words:

- STOP when he orders Kickboxer to stop fighting
- BREAK to break a body to body position, after which each boxer must draw back without kicking or punching before continuing the fight
- FIGHT when he orders the fight to continue

The Referee must not announce the winner by raising the Kickboxer's arms or in any other way announce decisions. If a Referee (after having so decided by majority decision with the three Judges) disqualifies a Kickboxer or stops the fight, he must first indicate to the Observer/Organizer of the Ring the Kickboxer who has been disqualified and give the reasons for stopping the fight, so that the Observer/Organizer of the Ring can inform the announcer, who will then, make a public announcement.

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- In order not to disturb a close fight, the Referee should not stand in the way or break in too early. He must indicate to the Kickboxer, by appropriate signs or gestures, any violation of the Regulations.

Art. 1.7 Referees power

The Referee has the power to:

- Stop a fight at any moment if he finds it too one-sided due to health and Safety reasons.
- Stop a fight at any moment if one of the Kickboxer has received an unauthorized blow or is wounded, or if he considers a fighter unable to continue.
- Stop a fight at any moment if he finds the fighters behaving "unsportsman-like". In such a case, he may disqualify either Kickboxer or both.



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- Warn a Kickboxer or stop the bout and give a minus point or warning to a Kickboxer for an offence.
- Disqualify a coach or a second who has broken the regulations or a Kickboxer himself if the coach or the second fails to obey to his orders.
- Disqualify, with or without a warning, a fighter who has committed an offence.
- In the case of a KO, suspend the count if a Kickboxer deliberately refuses to withdraw to a neutral corner, or is reluctant to do so.
- Interpret the rules as long as they are applicable or compatible with the fight taking place,

If a Kickboxer breaks the rules but does not necessarily deserve a disqualification, the Referee must stop the fight and give a warning to the Kickboxer of a foul. Before the warning, the Referee must order the Kickboxer to stop fighting. The warning must be given clearly, so that the Kickboxer understands the reason and cause of the penalty.

The Referee must hand signal to each Judge that a particular warning has been given and clearly show which Kickboxer has been punished. After having given the warning, the Referee orders the Kickboxer to fight. If a fighter has been given 3 official warnings within the same bout, he is disqualified.

A Referee may give a caution to a Kickboxer. A caution means a warning given by a Referee to a Kickboxer for breaking a rule. In order to do this he doesn't need to stop the fight, and may reprimand the Kickboxer during the fight verbally,

Art. 1.8 Health and security

- The Referee in ring-sports must use plastic gloves and must change them after every fight in which blood has occurred.
- At ringside there must be soft paper tissue to be used by the central Referee on the fighters
- Soft paper tissue used on one fighter cannot be used on another fighter.
- If there are common gloves used, there must be plastic gloves at ringside, which each fighter MUST wear.

Art. 1.9 Kick-Counter

A kick-counter is a Judge who sits in neutral ring corners. The coaches must be able to see the counter. It is mandatory to use kick-counter in all WAKO World and Continental Championships. It is also recommended to use this in all other WAKO sanctioned tournaments like World Cups or Open Tournaments. The kick-counter reports to the Referee after every round if any missing kicks.

The only responsibility of the kick-counter is to assure that the fighters have delivered enough kicks (6) in each round. In all WAKO World and Continental Championships it is mandatory that the kick-counter use a board with visible red and blue numbers. In other tournaments there can be used clickers even though it is recommended to use boards.

Art. 1.10 Medical check-up Referees

Before officiating in an international tournament regulated according to the above-mentioned rules, a Referee must submit to a medical check-up in order to prove his physical fitness to fulfil his role in the ring. A Referee is not allowed to wear glasses, but he may wear contact lenses. The Referee is obliged to attend the meeting organized by the Medical Committee, before each Championship.

Art. 2. Judges

Each Judge must independently consider the merits of the two fighters, and must choose the winner, according to the regulations.

During the match, he will not talk to fighter, other Judges, or anybody else, with the exception of the Referee. He may, if necessary, at the end of a round, notify the Referee about any incident that he has missed, for example tell him about the misbehaviour of a second, loose ropes, etc.

A Judge will either use the electronic scoring system or in case of manual system mark the number of points (Total Points at the end of three rounds) granted to each fighter on his score sheet and in professional bouts and only his decision will be announced to the public at the end of the match.



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During the round the Judge will use the back of the scorecard to register the numbers of hits he sees in each round, either by a number or by numbers of lines. Always the red corner is on the left side and the blue corner on the right side of both sides of the scorecard. The points/recorded hits must be tallied at the last round. He will not leave his place until the decision has been announced.

It is mandatory for all Judges to use clicker in fights in case of manual scoring system. It is important to clarify in front of a tournament between WAKO, promoter or Judges themselves to bring this equipment.

Art. 2.1 Special Note

All Referees, Judges working at a tournament, whether on or off duty, are not allowed to take action on behalf of a team/nation as coach or in any other way show favouritism (screaming, cheering like any coach/fan).

Art. 3. Timekeeper

The task of a timekeeper is to keep track of the number and the duration of the rounds as well as of the break time.

- He will be seated at ringside.
- Ten seconds before the beginning of each round, he will clear the ring, giving order "Seconds out"
- He will ring the gong at the beginning and at the end of each round.
- He will announce the number of the round, before it starts.
- He will stop the bout temporarily, when asked to do so by the Referee.
- He will keep track of extra time with a watch or a stopwatch
- If, at the end of a round, a boxer is on the floor, and the Referee is counting him out, the gong must ring at the end of two minutes, even if central Referee must finish his count. Intervals between the rounds will last one minute.
- Time should be visible at all times for the coaches

Art. 4. Competition Area (Ring Equipment)

The following ring equipment must be available:

- A Boxing ring of international standard size including ordinary canvas (no tatamies on the ring floor),
- 4 ropes (3 ropes in case of "force majeure")
- pads in all corners (1 red, 1 blue, 2 white)
- straps between the ropes
- at least 2 stairs
- 2 chairs
- 2 foldaway stools for fighters between the rounds
- 2 cups and bottles of water
- 2 water buckets
- At the neutral corners of the ring there must be a bag or a bucket tied up in the corner for all garbage.
- Ringside
- A table and chairs for the officials
- A sound gong or a bell
- Stopwatches
- WAKO Approved Electronic Scoring System or WAKO Refereeing scoring sheets according to the WAKO model
- A first aid kit including plastic gloves for the Referee to be used at all matches and also tissue papers.
- Plastic gloves to be used for shared gloves
- A microphone linked to a sound system.
- Coaches dressed in sweaters in ring corners will have a towel and a sponge each, to attend to the fighters.
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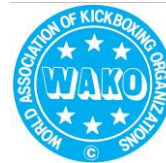
Art. 5. Fighter Uniform and Equipment

- 5.1.1. Full Contact / Obligatory safety equipment:



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- Obligatory safety equipment:
- Obligatory safety equipment:
- Head protection
- Mouth-guard
- Breast protection for female fighters,
- 10OZ Gloves for contact sports (10 Oz),
- Groin protection
- Shin guards (Note from 2012 only sock type shin guards can be worn in ring sports)
- Foot protection (Boot).
- Uniforms are the same for seniors and juniors, naked torso for men and long pants, sport top and long pants for women. See Appendix 1 for examples.
- 5.1.2. Low Kick / Obligatory safety equipment:
- Obligatory safety equipment:
- Head protection
- Mouth-guard
- Breast protection for female fighters,
- 10OZ Gloves for contact sports (10 Oz),
- Groin protection
- Shin guards
- Foot protection (Boot).
- Uniforms are the same for seniors and juniors – bare torso and shorts for men, sport top and shorts for women. No shorts are allowed with name of Muay Thai or any other Martial Art name. If any logo, only name of the country.
- 5.1.3. K-1 Rules :
- Obligatory safety equipment:
- Head protection
- Mouth-guard
- Breast protection for Females
- 10oz enclosed gloves
- Groin protection
- Shin guards (Velcor/Strap see appendix 3)
- NO foot protection only ankle protection. Uniforms are the same for seniors and juniors – bare torso for men and shorts, sport top and shorts for women. No shorts are allowed with name of Muay Thai or any other Martial Art name. If any logo, only name of the country.
- 5.1.4. Hand wraps (Bandage):
- Hand wraps are used for wrapping the fist to avoid injuries. Using hand wraps are mandatory. Hand wraps are 250 cm long and 5 cm wide cotton strips without sharp edges. Hand wraps will be fastened on the upper part of fighter’s wrists with self-adhesive cotton-base strips; maximum length 15 cm and width 2 cm.
- 5.1.5. Tooth protection (Mouth-guard) :
- Mouth-guards must be made from soft and pliable rubber-plastic material. Protection on only the upper teeth or on both upper and lower teeth is allowed. Mouth-guard must enable free breathing and must be adapted to the competitor's mouth configuration. It is not allowed to use a mouth-guard over tooth correction apparatus (braces, retainers). Using tooth protection is mandatory for all fighting disciplines, in all age categories and in both amateur and professional matches.
- 5.1.6. Breast/Groin protection :
- Breast protection is mandatory for all female competitors in older cadets, junior and senior categories and is mandatory in all ring sport fighting disciplines Breast protection is made from hard plastic and can be covered with cotton material. Breast protection can be made in one piece and cover all the chest or in two pieces for insertion into bra to cover each breast individually. It is worn under the T-shirt or under the top (bodice).
- Groin protector is mandatory for all male competitors. Groin protector is made of hard plastic material and fully covers genital organs to protect this part of competitor’s body from any injury. The groin protector can be



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made as a cup for covering genitals, or for covering the entire abdomen. Competitors must wear the groin protection under their pants. Groin protection for women is recommended.

▪ 5.1.8 Shin Guard

Shin guards are made from hard foam-rubber material. A shin guard must cover the shinbone from under the knee to the top of the feet. From 2012 Shin guards will be sock type only.

5.1.9 Foot protection

Foot protection is made from special synthetic foam rubber, a compact and soft material which is covered with genuine or artificial leather. Foot protection covers the upper part of the foot (instep), lateral and medial malleolus and heel - all in one piece - with open sole of the foot. They must be long enough (adequate size) to completely cover the competitor's feet and toes. The front part of the foot protection is fastened by elastic strips for the big and second toes. Foot protection is fastened to feet with elastic self adhesive strips on the back of feet, above the heel.

Art. 6. Rounds

Amateur fights have 3x2 minute rounds with a minute break between each round in all WAKO tournaments. Outside a tournament a single amateur fight can have up to 5x2 minutes rounds with a minute break between each round. If using more than 3 rounds, it must be due to a mutual agreement between the fighters, coaches and promoter.

Art. 7. Coaches/Coaches Second

A coach and a second must obey the following rules during the fight.

Only the coach and the second may get into the ring

Only one of them at time may be inside the ropes.

No advice, help or encouragement will be given to the fighter during the round.

A second can give up the fight on behalf of his fighter, and can also, if the fighter is in great difficulty, toss the sponge or the towel into the ring, except while the Referee is counting a fighter.

During the match, neither the coach nor the second can be on the ring platform. They must, before each round, remove stools, towels, buckets, etc. They must remain seated at all times, during the round.

Any coach, second or official, encouraging or prompting the spectators to give signs of advice or encouragement to a kickboxer during a round, can be suspended from his function in the competition in course.

A coach or a second who violates the rules may receive a warning or be disqualified by the Referee for bad behaviour and prevented from coaching during the event.

Art. 8. Male weight categories

Light bantam	-51 kg
Bantam weight	-54 kg
Feather weight	-57 kg
Light weight	-60 kg
Light welter-weight	-63.5 kg
Welter weight	-67 kg
Light middle-weight	-71 kg
Middle weight	-75 kg
Light heavy weight	-81 kg
Cruiser weight	-86 kg



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Heavy weight	-91 kg
Super heavy weight	+91 kg

Art. 8.1 Female weight categories

Bantam weight	- 48 kg
Feather weight	- 52 kg
Light weight	- 56 kg
Middle weight	- 60 kg
Light heavy weight	- 65 kg
Heavy weight	- 70 kg
Super heavy	+ 70 kg

Art. 8.2 Younger juniors – male (Full Contact Only)

Light bantam	-48 kg
Bantam weight	-51 kg
Feather weight	-54 kg
Light weight	-57 kg
Light welter-weight	-60 kg
Welter weight	-63 kg
Light middle-weight	-66 kg
Middle weight	-69 kg
Light heavy weight	-74 kg
Cruiser weight	- 79kg
Heavy weight	-84 kg
Super heavy weight	+84 kg

Art. 8.3 Younger Juniors Female (Full Contact Only)

Bantam weight	- 40 kg
Feather weight	- 44 kg
Light weight	- 48 kg
Middle weight	- 52 kg
Light heavy weight	- 56 kg
Heavy weight	- 60 kg
Super heavy	+ 60 kg



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Art. 8.4 Juniors Older All Ring Divisions (Same as Seniors)

Art. 8.5 *note* Juniors Older weight classes are the same as seniors

Art. 8.6 Age Determination:

Age is determined by the age of the athlete on the first day of the tournament. A tournament period is defined as from the day of the official weigh-in/registration and until the finals are finished

Art. 8.6.1 Juniors Younger Category:

15 – 16 Years Old: Meaning from the date he/she turns 15 years and up to the day before he/she turns 17. As defined in Art 8.6.

Art. 8.6.2 Junior Older:

17 and 18 years old: Meaning from the date he/she turns 17 years and up to the day before he/she turns 19. As defined in Art 8.6.

The date, in which he/she turns 18, he/she can decide to be either a junior or senior. However if he/she has competed as a senior at the age of 18 he/she cannot go back to competing as a junior again.

Art. 8.6.3 Seniors Category:

19 to 40 years old. Meaning from the date he/she turns 19 years and up to the day before he/she turns 41. As defined in Art 8.6

Art. 8.6.4 Specification during championships/tournaments:

In case of birthday during a tournament that changes the age category, he/she can compete in the lower category until the tournament is over. A tournament period is defined as from the day of the official weigh-in/registration and until the finals are finished As defined in Art 8.6.

Art. 8.6.5 Legitimizing:

Positive proof of age will be required at all championships (passport or Government ID or driving license). □

Art. 9. Maximum Weight Class

In WAKO Continental and World championships, it is only possible to start and compete in one weight class.

Art. 10. Health Certificate

All fighters participating in WAKO World or Continental Championships must present a valid fit to fight notice from a qualified sports doctor or doctor at registration.

Art. 11. Weigh In Procedures

Chairman of the referee committee and/or the Technical Director appoint the WAKO official's to organize the weigh-in. During the weigh-in, two WAKO officials will be present, 1 Female official -1 Male official.

Also one representative of a national federation connecting to each national team may be present, but only when their own teams weigh-in. However they are not allowed to intervene on any occasion. The national representative cannot be in physical contact with the fighter, and should stand away from the scales - at least 1 meter.

Each fighter must have his own WAKO sports pass with medical certificate included, valid for 1 year, to be shown at weigh-in. In addition he/she must have available his/hers official passport. After being weighed, each fighter must be declared fit for fighting by a qualified doctor.



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The fighters of each weight category will be weighed the day before the start of competition or on the same day that they have been drawn to fight. For a single fight for a fighter, a normal procedure is to have weigh-in approx 24 hours before the fight.

If weigh-in the same day of the fights the fights will start at least 3 hours after the weighing time, or in a shorter lapse of time if the Board of Directors so decide, after consulting the Medical Committee, provided that the decision is not prejudicial to any fighter taking part in the first bouts of the tournament.

The weigh-in will be held according to the tournament schedule. The announced time in each competition is understood as official and must be respected. Weigh-in outside the official announced time will not be allowed, except if the weigh-in is not considered as finished of those teams present within the announced time. For the first official weigh-in (in the registration period) there may be given possibility to weigh-in after the official time, if any delays of travel for a team, properly announced and warned from the national federation if such may happen. However it is not allowed for any team to speculate in arrival after official weigh-in time announced in the invitation papers. All teams must have weighed-in before drawing.

Official weigh-in (registration period): If the fighter exceed his/hers weight, he/she can within the official time get a second chance to reach the limit. However the fighter must wait in line and the WAKO official decides when the second weigh-in will be made. The weight registered on that occasion is final. If the fighter does not make the weight at this second weigh-in, there are two options:

Direct disqualification. Decision of WAKO official is final and cannot be appealed.

To move up one weight category, but only if the national federation has got a vacancy in that category and if the weigh-in is not yet closed.

It is also allowed for all national federations to substitute one fighter with another, before the end of the official weigh-in and before the medical check-up, on condition that, within each competition where substitutes are allowed, the fighter in question has been registered as a reserve for that, or in any other weight category.

Daily weigh-ins: In tournaments, ring sports have daily weigh-ins or at least 3 weigh-ins during the tournament. The weigh-in is done in the morning at an announced time, considered as official. Weigh-in outside the official announced time will not be allowed, except if the weigh-in is not considered as finished of those teams present within the announced time. All fighters must bring their own national passport as identification. If the fighter exceed his/hers weight, he/she can within the official time get a second chance to reach the limit. However the fighter must wait in line and the WAKO official decides when the second weigh-in will be made. The weight registered on that occasion is final. If the fighter does not make the weight at this second weigh-in he/she will be disqualified.

The weight is what the scale shows when the fighter is undressed. The weight must be displayed in metric measures. Electronic scales can be used. A fighter is allowed to fight solely within the category defined by the weigh-in. The weight must be on hard floor and not on carpet.

The weigh-in must be done in a discrete manner, respecting both male and female's need for discretion. It is to preferred to use separate rooms for male and female."

Any speculation or deliberate actions that will question or break the above rules will be sanctioned, both for fighters involved and the national federation responsible.

Only the official WAKO Weight Control Personnel may be allowed beside the athlete. NO Person may be standing beside, behind, in front or near the Athlete when the official weight is taken there is no weight allowance; you must be on or below your weight category.

Art. 12. Fighter's Nationality.

In Continental or World Championships, competitors must represent nationality for the country he/she represent, showing the passport for the respective country. Under special circumstances a competitor can change representation one time but the requirements for that is:

Official national confirmation of permanent residence in his/hers new country.

The change of representation must be applied on to WAKO HQ, explaining the reason for the change.

There must be a written agreement formal acceptance by the country of origin.

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Any speculation for such representation will not be allowed. Such can be punished for the competitor as well as for the new country.

He/she cannot again switch back and participate for his/hers origin country.

A competitor having two passport from different countries can only make a switch one time. If changing representation, it must be done according to a written agreement between the countries and applied on to WAKO HQ. At weigh-in, official passports must be shown to the registration/weigh-in officials in charge. In Continental Championships competitors from other continents are not allowed to participate.

Art. 13. International Bouts

In case of tournaments or competitions between two or more nations, the weigh-in will be carried out by a member appointed by the National Association of the organizing country, with a representative of the participating country or countries present and allowed to verify the weight of each Kickboxer.

With each victory, the Kickboxer will win 2 points for his team: with each defeat, he will win 1 point for his team, except in case of being disqualified, when no points will be granted. The Association of the country which hosts a "visiting" team will provide it with weigh-in scales for the purpose of weight check and a training area when the last visitor has arrived in the town where the match takes place. WAKO Referees (world, international or national matches) will Referee each bout: two or three judges may equally officiate if necessary. Each fighter must, before weigh-in, be judged fit for fighting by the doctor appointed by the Tournament Committee. In order to assure successful weigh-in, the Tournament Committee can decide to start the medical check-up earlier.

Art. 14. Special violations of Rules

If a Fighter, Coach or a whole team protests by entering or not leaving the Ring immediately after the fight, the Chairman of Ring Sports after consultation with the Board of Directors or the tournament organization is allowed to disqualify the whole team.

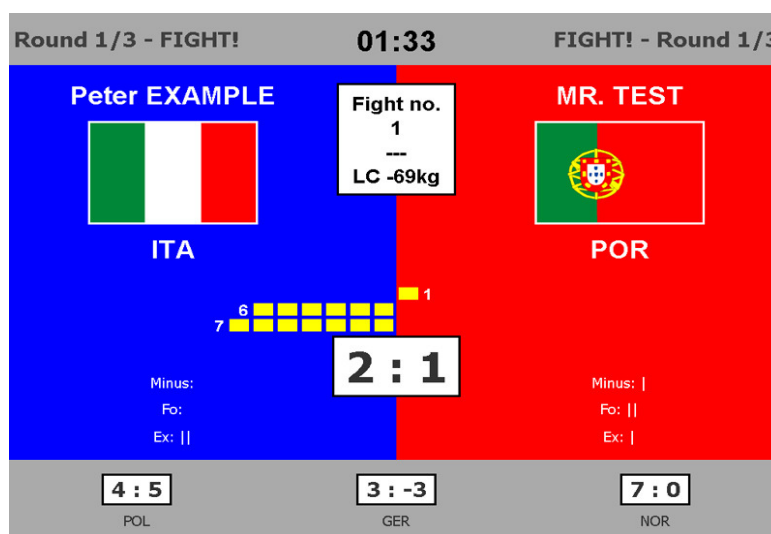
Art. 15. Open Scoring Electronic System

For all ring sports open scoring electronic system scoring shall be used. This system is as follows:

All three judges use a mouse with buttons indicating the two corners.

A screen will show the point status for both fighters from the various judges at all time. The displays will be visible for audience and for the coaches involved either with TV screens and/or roll-up screen. Fouls, warnings, minus points a time is also shown on the screen, administrating from the computer of the secretariat of each ring.

The system will be administered by the timekeeper. The fight and its history are stored as a PDF-file in the computer at jury's table.



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An example display of an Electronic Scoring System.

Art. 16. Note!

For better readability the text uses masculine pronouns throughout. However, all references to persons apply to both genders.

Art. 17. Muslim women athletes wearing special clothes while participating in WAKO's events

In order to respect all religion beliefs, WAKO allow female Muslim athletes to wear appropriate clothes while participating in WAKO's events.

The following rule regarding that issue was decided by WAKO Board of Directors back in 1994.

All competitors taking part in any WAKO competition must follow Rules in connection to fighter uniform as described in article 4 of WAKO Tatami Sports General Rules and article 5 of WAKO Ring Sports General Rules respectively.

However the female Muslim athletes are allowed to wear during their competition a special uniform (underwear) covering their body apart the face.

The uniform (underwear) must be in stretch form and tight to the body in order not to move around.

Female Muslim athletes are allowed to wear a scarf under their head guard covering the head but not the face and the same without head guard when competing in musical forms.

Female Muslim athletes participating in any WAKO competition under the conditions described above must give their written consent to WAKO that in case of emergency (injuries, cuts etc.); the medical staff on duty can proceed to any examination of the case if needed.



Appendix 1: Full Contact Clothing



Appendix 2: 10oz Gloves

WAKO Rules of Ring Sports – General Rule



Appendix 3: Shin Guards.



These Rules will remain in place a minimum of two years from 28th April 2011 Until WAKO Board Meeting April 2013.