

Classical Karate Divisions

Classical Karate Divisions will use the same protocol & procedure as prescribed for all other divisions within KICK/USA. These divisions are for solely for traditional Japanese & Okinawan styles of Karate. KICK/USA reserves the right to add or combine divisions as needed to ensure the quality, Safety & Fairness of competition.

Code of Conduct

Competitors

All competitors will also be held to the Highest Standard of Excellence. There will be Zero Tolerance for Unsafe or Un-sportsmanlike Behavior. This includes any disrespectful gestures or behavior while performing or attending.

Spectator/Instructor/Coach or other Participant

1. No Negative Coaching will be allowed at anytime
2. No person may step into a ring unless his or her student or child is injured or invited by the Chief Referee.
3. No acts of vulgarity, profanity, violence or extreme outward displays of anger will be tolerated.
4. Only authorized individuals may be in the competition area.

Violations may be treated with disqualification from the division in which the person is competing in and disqualification from the current and any future event. Violators may also include expulsion from the event.

Our primary goal is to provide a Safe, Fair and Motivating Environment in which a competitor can test their skills. It is through our example of excellence that we can achieve our goal.

Age Divisions

6 & under. beginner, intermediate & advanced male & female together
7 & 8 beginner, intermediate advanced & black belt male & female together
9 & 10 beginner, intermediate, advanced & black belt, male & female together
11 & 12 beginner, intermediate, advanced & black belt, male & female together
13 & 14 beginner, intermediate, advanced & black belt, male & female together
15 to 16 beginner, intermediate, advanced & black belt, male & female separate
17 to 18 beginner, intermediate, advanced & black belt, male & female together

Experience Levels

Since there are many differing ways of rank promotion according to the style of martial arts, there are two factors used when separating competitors into experience levels, years of training and belt color. Whenever possible, School Instructors must register their belt colors and their commensurate experience levels with KICK/USA for future reference. In the event of a rank question, to ensure the safety and fairness of all competitors, the years of training takes preference over belt color. Beginner & Intermediate athletes may compete in those specified divisions for a maximum of (1) calendar year each. Advanced Students a maximum of 2 years. Students must compete at the experience level they will

be on September 30. KICK/USA reserves the right to move competitors into their proper division at anytime.

Once a student competes at a new experience level by their choosing or by the guidelines provided, they cannot compete again at the lower level. If a student is asked to compete at a higher level due to a shortage of competitors, the student is allowed to go back to their original level. Points do not follow division changes.

Competitors with a Black Belt in any style are required to compete in the Black Belt division even if they have started a new style of martial arts. Black Belt takes precedent over any other rank in competition.

Beginner – 1 year or less continuous training, (white, yellow, orange, gold or equivalent belt or sash).

Intermediate – 1- 2 years of continuous training, (green, blue, purple or equivalent belt or sash).

Advanced – over 2 year's continuous training, (red, brown or equivalent belt or sash).

Black Belt – determined solely on Belt Color

Scoring

Beginner/Intermediate	7.50 – 8.00
Advanced	8.50 – 9.00
Black Belt	9.50 – 10.00

Gi/Uniform

Competitors required to wear the gi/uniform of their school or club while competing. Competitors are also required to wear their appropriate belt to signify their proper rank. Uniforms must clean & un-torn.

Kata Competition

Defined as a performance of a pre-arranged series of movements that demonstrate the applicability of the movement, effective technique and poise. No Acrobatic movements will allowed.

Criteria for decision:

Kata Performance

- A. The Kata must be performed with competence & demonstrate a clear understanding of the principles it contains
- B. Kata must be of Okinawan or Japanese origin
- C. Correct breathing, demonstration of power, speed, timing, balance & focus
- D. Balance, consistency & correctness of stances
- E. Correct weight distribution
- F. Smooth transition between stances & Balance
- G. Correct Tension
- H. Feet edges firmly on the floor

Technique Demonstrates

- A. Accuracy
- B. Correct tension, focus
- C. Proper understanding of the Bunkai

Kata should uniformly demonstrate unwavering concentration, understanding of the techniques and present a realistic, rather than theatrical demonstration of movements.

Mandatory Deductions from the point total:
Acrobatic or Theatrical movements 1 point

Kobudo Competition

The Divisions & Rules for Kobudo are the same as the Kata with the following additions:

Criteria for Decision:

The control & manipulation of the weapon is the primary goal of Kobudo competition. More Dynamic movement is allowed in Kobudo competition.

Mandatory deductions from the point total

The loss of control of the weapon ..50

Touching of the floor with the weapon .50

Dropping of the weapon 1.00

Training Weapons made of Foam are allowed, but result in 1.00 deduction

Any technique that endangers another competitor or judge will result in disqualification, including but not limited to one-handed swinging of the Bo.

Acceptable Weapons

Bo – must be made entirely from hardwood, without tapered ends. No Bo made of extremely light materials will be allowed. Bo must be within 1 fist of the top of a competitor's head

Tonfa – must be made of hardwood and have a length when grasped by the handle, to reach the competitor's elbow. 2 Tonfa are to be used

Eku – must be made of hardwood and have a length within 1 fist of the top of a competitor's head when measured from the floor. The Eku must have a flat & rounded side & no sharp point

Nunchaku – One pair consists of 2 hard wood handles connected by a cord, suggested 12" length

Sai – Must be made of Steel or other heavy metal. When grasped the tip should reach the tip of the competitor's elbow.

Kama – 2 Kamas are to be used. Handle should be made of hardwood and the blade should be unsharpened steel. No lanyards or cords are permitted.

The Chief Referee should examine each weapon prior to the competition to ensure safety, authenticity, construction & materials. Any weapon which is deemed unsafe or unfair may be excluded. Weapons that are exceptionally lightweight, coated for grip, or special markings may be excluded. All wood must be hardwood. Competitors will be given 5 Minutes to present a different weapon if their weapon is excluded.

Section 11: Coaching

Section 11A: Coaching/Requirements

A coach is defined as a recognized instructor from a participating school, that is the head of or designated by the head of a martial arts school/team or club. Non martial artists may not coach, including but not limited to parents, guardians or other relatives of an athlete.

Every school/team/club is allowed (1) coach on the competition floor for every 10 athletes registered in the competition. Coaches must be registered and credentialed. Only registered coaches while wearing a credential and in proper attire will be allowed in the competition area.

Coaches are only allowed in the center of the competition area, a minimum of 2 ft from the ring. When their athlete is in the ring, (1) coach will be allowed to sit on the side of the ring in a designated seat & must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner in accordance rules & regulations.

Coaches Credentials that are transferred to any person other than the original person it was issued to will be revoked.

Athletes may not coach when they are through competing, unless they are the designated coach for the team & do not exceed the number of coaches allowed.

Coaches must be dressed in an appropriate manner. Any coach displaying vulgar or offensive clothing will not allowed on or be asked to leave the floor and or the event.

All Coaches must adhere to The KICK/USA Code of Conduct.

No negative coaching is allowed. Rule infractions will result in the coach's athletes being penalized to include revocation of Coaching Credential and expulsion from the event.