

WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE

AMATEUR RULES FOR TOURNAMENTS

Version 4.7 - 2025

Chapter 1: General rules

Chapter 2: Responsible persons and officials





© Copyright 2014 (Harald Folladori) World Martial Arts Committee

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1- GENERAL RULES	4
ARTICLE 1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	5
ARTICLE 2. GENERAL COMPETITION FORMAT	7
ARTICLE 3. GENERAL COMPETITION AREA	7
CHAPTER 2: RESPONSIBLE AND OFFICIAL	8
ARTICLE 4. SELECTION OF ARBITRATORS, JUDGES AND OFFICIALS	8
ARTICLE 5. OFFICIAL	8
ARTICLE 6. GENERAL DUTIES OF A SUPERVISOR & REFEREE	10
ARTICLE 7. GENERAL ORDERS / COMMANDS BY A REFEREE	11
ARTICLE 9. SCORING BY JUDGES	12
ARTICLE 10. DUTIES OF THE TIMEKEEPER	12
ARTICLE 11. DUTIES OF THE SCOREKEEPERS/ LIST KEEPERS	12
ARTICLE 12. STANDARDISATION OF COMMANDS BY OFFICIAL	13
ARTICLE 13. DISPUTES & COMPLAINTS (Protest Procedure)	14
ARTICLE 14. WEIGHT CLASSES	16

Introduction:

This rulebook replaces all previously issued rules and contains the official WMAC amateur competition rules. These rules are valid for all members. However, local requirements and circumstances may be taken into account if necessary.

circumstances may be taken into account if necessary.

become. The official language of IRC is English. These rules may translated into other languages by IRC. However, in the event of discrepancies, only the official English version shall apply.

Version. Without special written authorisation from the WMAC or the IRC, this

Version. Without special written authorisation from the WMAC or the IRC, this These rules may not be copied, published or distributed. This includes electronic, digital, physical and all other forms of reproduction. This rulebook can be downloaded free of charge as a PDF from the official WMAC website.

WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE International rules & guidelines



January 2025

Dear readers,

We are very pleased to release version 4.7 of our World Martial Arts Committee Rules and Guidelines. This is definitely the most comprehensive set of tournament rules available today and we are proud to publish it for your use. This has been made possible solely through the hard work and dedication of individuals from around the world. We would like to thank everyone for their contribution to this comprehensive rulebook.

All of these rules and guidelines contained in this document are to be applied at WMAC sanctioned events. In this case, they may not be deviated from except in exceptional circumstances and then only with the written permission of the IRC in conjunction with the Chief Referee (Supervisor) of the respective event. The instructions and decisions of the IRC regarding these rules are decisive and binding. In the event of complaints/protests, his decision is decisive and final.

This rulebook can also be used for non-sanctioned events. In this case, the organiser of the event must include the following statement in writing in the announcement: "This event is organised in accordance with the official WMAC rules and regulations".

The World Martial Arts Committee is constantly endeavouring to develop further. We are constantly working on the expansion of our rules and regulations and their dissemination at events and tournaments. This set of rules should be checked before the events in order discuss and incorporate any changes with us.

With best regards

Harald Folladori WMAC World President

CHAPTER 1- GENERAL RULES

The following general rules apply to all disciplines. Please read them and ensure that they are fully understood. By participating in a WMAC event, you accept the rules out in this document, as well as any changes announced on the day of the event. Enclosed you will find the general explanation (for more information = official WMAC handbook):

WMAC - World Martial Arts Committee

The WMAC is the World Martial Arts Committee (non-profit organisation) based in Bregenz, Austria. The national and international associations are members of the WMAC. The word and figurative mark is protected by patent (see trade mark register "Deutsches Patentamt") in the name of Harald Folladori.

Types of membership (status) of the WMAC

Members: (Individual Member, National Member & International Member)

Ordinary members: (Members of the Executive Board)
Honorary members: (deserving and long-standing members)

Membership of the WMAC

Membership of the WMAC is evidenced by payment of the annual membership fee by 31 January of the respective year at the latest. Proof of membership is the sports pass, which must validated with the respective annual membership stamp. The sports pass can be used for a total of 12 years.

BOD - Board of Directors (WMAC Board of Directors)

The BOD is the highest authority of the WMAC and consists of:

- 1. President
- 2. Vice President
- 3. Secretary General
- 4. Chairman of the Member Representatives
- 5. Chairman of the Rules Committee
- 6. Sports manager
- 7. Event manager
- 8. Treasurer

Beisitz:

Athletes' representative Minority representative Auditor

The association is managed by the Executive Committee, consisting of the President, General Secretary and Treasurer. The Presidium can make decisions by simple majority, but these must be subsequently approved by the Executive Board. This Executive Board is elected for 4 years (01/09/2027) and is subject to Austrian association law. (see statutes).

IRC - International Rules Committee

The IRC is the International Rules Committee. The IRC consists of the referee chairman plus other appointed international referees (but at least 3 referees). These can be directly co-opted, appointed or elected by the BOD.

The IRC is authorised to amend existing rules and new ones. The IRC can also be used as a court of arbitration in special cases. The IRC also deals with all WMAC judging matters. The IRC members are appointed exclusively by the BOD for a term of 5 years (1 September 2029) - proposals are submitted by the IRC. They are trained specifically for each division and are not bound by instructions (autonomous voting rights).

ARTICLE 1. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1.1 All WMAC events (e.g. the World Martial Arts Games) are "amateur" events.
 - In this regard, only competitors who hold amateur or Pro AM status in the discipline in which they compete at WMAC events may compete. Competitors labelled as "professional" may not compete in WMAC events if they earn the majority of their income (at least €15,000/year) or are already reigning PRO title holders in more than two martial arts federations. (e.g. European or world champion title holders). This means that a professional kickboxer (K1) cannot in his fighting discipline kickboxing in one of our events. Nevertheless, such athletes could in e.g. forms, break test, self-defence or other disciplines. If someone is unsure of their status, the WMAC National Director can be consulted, who will contact the Chairman of the International Rules Committee (IRC) for a specific ruling. If within 12 months of winning the title no "professional" bout is participated in and the 15000€ limit is not reached, professionals automatically revert to amateur status. This does NOT apply to the PRO AM sector, where amateur status applies.
- 1.2 Participation in all our events is open. The exception is the World Martial Arts Games (ELITE category World Championships). All athletes must be registered & nominated in the national WMAC member country (if national representation exists) for which they wish to compete. International members compete for their country of origin, even if they are resident in another country.
- 1.3 The nationality proof of place of residence make it clear for which country the athlete is competing. Documents such as an ID card may be requested. Unclear cases must be clarified with the commission before the start of the competitions. (Applies ONLY to World Games = WMAC World Championships)
- 1.4 All start registrations must be made with the age of the participants on the day of the competition.
- 1.5 Each fighter is responsible for his/her own safety. Team coaches are responsible for the safety minors in their care. Under no circumstances will the event organisers, staff, officials or management be held responsible for any illness or injury that may occur during the event. Fighters must acknowledge and declare their knowledge of the risks involved in participating in a martial arts tournament by completing the tournament consent form. Persons under the age of 18 may only participate if their legal guardian agrees and signs the participation form. No participant will be admitted to the tournament without signing the declaration of consent and showing it before the start of the tournament.
- 1.6 All participants in contact sports (contact) need a medical certificate for participation that is not older than 12 months. Non-contact sports (e.g. moulds, no contact, etc.) are exempt from this requirement however, we still recommend consulting a doctor here too (voluntary). Exceptions such as conditions of participation under special health risks (e.g. Covid) must be announced separately in each invitation to tender and are subject to the legal framework of the host country.
- 1.7 It is the responsibility of the SUPERVISOR, Referee and/or Judge to enforce the rules to the best of their knowledge and belief. Nevertheless, every coach and competitor must ensure that all participants know and understand the rules of the respective competitions. They must also be made aware of the risk of injury in the participating competitions. Coach and referee meetings before the tournament are mandatory and must be held.
- 1.8 As soon as you enter a WMAC tournament, you declare your willingness to undergo a possible doping test (e.g. WADA conformity) and also recognise its consequences (this applies to amateur and professional events). The doping test may only be carried out on the instructions of the supervisor. The doctor or the respective officials are directly authorised by the supervisor to do so.
- 1.9 The uniform should represent the own country/school or club. The WMAC is free to decide which uniform should be worn. The name of the country or its national colours should be clearly displayed at the World Games, especially in the ELITE category. In general, no indecent expressions or images may be displayed on the clothing.

- 1.10 Each participant is responsible for their own equipment and materials (music for music forms, etc.). Under no circumstances will the event organisers, staff, officials or management be responsible for any loss or damage to a participant's equipment, props or personal possessions during the event.
- 1.11 Protective equipment Each participant is responsible for the correct selection and quality of HIS or HER own protective equipment in accordance with the requirements of fair and safe competition according to WMAC regulations. Which protective equipment must be used in the respective discipline is described in the rules of the discipline. Bandages are mandatory in all disciplines that allow full contact (e.g. Kickboxing, Wrestling, Oriental Boxing, Thai Boxing & MMA etc.). Elastic or non-elastic fabric bandages 4-6m long and max. 50mm wide. Gauze bandages are also permitted if they do not have an ankle structure. The application of TAP or other aids to promote hardness is PROHIBITED, but not as a means of holding, stabilising or preventing an injury. These regulations apply to the foot and fist. Bandages in the PRO area will be explained by the respective SUPERVISOR and checked before the fight. Gel bandages, hard plastic inserts are prohibited. Anything that harms the opponent is prohibited.
- 1.12 Each participant is responsible for their own safety and that of their partners (self-defence, team forms, etc.). If physical contact is to be expected during an event, long fingernails or toenails, if exposed, must be cut or covered. The safety of the equipment must always be prioritised.
- **1.13 Jewellery** must removed at all events. Exceptions are piercings in a discipline NOT performed with body contact= e.g. moulds. Here, jewellery can also be taped off.
- **1.14 For identification purposes,** the referee may ask a competitor to put on a coloured belt other suitable textile to be attached to the back of the belt.
- 1.15 Every participant (fighter, coach, etc.) is expected to behave in a sporting manner. Aggressive and uncontrolled behaviour will not be tolerated. If the head referee is of the opinion that a participant is behaving in an unsportsmanlike manner, he/she may conduct a short referee's briefing. This may result immediate disqualification or even expulsion from the tournament, with no refund of fees (the supervisor must be consulted).
- 1.16 **Deliberate damage to the venue facilities** or parts thereof will be penalised as an offence with immediate disqualification from all categories without refund of fees.
- 1.17 **Deliberate misinterpretation, cheating, insults and improper behaviour by** an **official,** coach or athlete will be punished with immediate disqualification. This may result in further penalties being imposed on the national officials (e.g. exclusion, see official WMAC guidelines, but also civil charges).
- 1.18 Human Rights Passage / UN CHARTER: The WMAC is a democratically elected association. Membership is without exception VOLUNTARY and in accordance with the statutes of Austrian association law. We do not tolerate any kind of discrimination political, racist, sexist, religious, criminal, physical, mental, etc. in any form. For us, all people are equal according to the UN human rights charter and must be treated accordingly. All people who identify themselves here and follow this charter are welcome to join the WMAC family.
- 1.19 Sexual harassment & protection of . The WMAC makes no compromises in this situation either. All suspicions will be reported immediately to the relevant authorities! The presumption of innocence applies, but those affected will be immediately excluded from the competition, banned and separated until the authorities arrive. For the protection of minors, the WMAC also has trained pedagogues for supervision. EVERY suspicion is investigated immediately! This agenda is the responsibility of the highest authority = Supervisor & WMAC World President.

ARTICLE 2. GENERAL COMPETITION FORMAT

- **2.1** The official language of WMAC WORLD is English.
- 2.2 National events should have a duration of one day, international tournaments up to a maximum of 2 days. (with the exception of the World Games World Championships, which can last up to 4 days).
- 2.3 International WMAC WORLD tournaments are standardised in terms of procedure and structure and all organisers must implement these regulations 1:1 in their planning in order to guarantee an orderly process for the athletes. (See WMAC ORGANISATION GUIDELINES)
- 2.4 In order to allow competition between an odd number of athletes/classes, some will be granted a non-combat procedure, also classified as a "walk-through". The remaining athletes will compete in regular mode this can be through a consolation round or a knockout system. A walk-through is only possible during the first round of the competition. If there are fewer than 3 in a category, they must be placed in the next higher category. There is no competition with less than 3 persons.

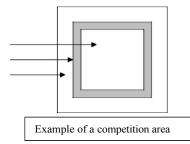
ARTICLE 3. GENERAL COMPETITION AREA

- **3.1** The fighting surface consists of proper floor mats with a suitable thickness of at least 2.5 cm to max. 4 cm to absorb/absorb a throw. The mats, boxing rings, octagon etc. must laid out flat and secured. Any seams and tears must properly taped.
- **3.2** The official mat area/boxing ring area/octagon etc. must kept clear of spectators and other non-participants. During the fight, only the two fighters and the judges may be on the competition area.
- **3.3** Unless otherwise arranged, the fighting area should consist of three zones covering an area of at least 7 x 7 metres to a maximum of 12 x 12 metres.

Competition area - 6 x 6 (mat 6x6 metres & boxing ring= AIBA NORM)

Safety zone - 1 metre wide

Danger zone - if possible 1 - 2 metres wide



- **3.3.1** Competition zone for mat boxing rings, octagon should be 6 x 6 metres. Boxing rings for national events may 5 x 5 metres! Exceptions are the forms here the mat area must be at least 8 x 8 metres.
- **3.3.2** Safety zone should be coloured red around all 4 sides of the competition zone, fixed and attached, 1 m wide
- **3.3.3 Danger zone** a cordoned-off zone approx. 1-2 metres wide (approx. 6 feet wide) around the safety zone.
- 3.3.4 Mat thickness for forms and fighting disciplines at least 2.5 cm, for grappling / MMA min. 2.5 to max. 4 cm.

CHAPTER 2: RESPONSIBLE AND OFFICIAL

ARTICLE 4. SELECTION OF ARBITRATORS, JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

- 4.1 Being an official is a prestigious position, which is why all officials must have several years of martial arts experience. It is advantageous and desirable to have the relevant training that makes specialist work possible (event managers, trainer training, referee training, etc.) and that can be confirmed by a recognised international martial arts association. A DAN (black belt) qualification is required to work in the IRC. This rule does not apply if the person is an honorary helper or someone is called upon for special tasks (e.g. a doctor, paramedic). Judges who have international WMAC training are exempt from this rule.
- 4.2 All Supervisors Referees, Judges and other Senior Officials must have completed a WMAC certified course. They must have a sound knowledge of the understanding, interpretation and administration of all aspects of the rules. This can only be achieved through in-depth training and self-study of the rules as well as training under competition conditions. For this reason, a certified international referee course is held at least once a year in Bregenz (AUT). This rule does not apply to voluntary helpers or a group of people who are designated for special tasks (e.g. a doctor).
- **4.3** Officials who are actively involved in the WMAC should not be appointed on the basis of proposals from the respective country. They are co-opted by the WMAC Board after qualification.
- 4.4 A "conflict of interest" exists when the duty or responsibility of a judge or official is compromised. All head judges, judges and officials must ensure that there is no conflict of interest when participating. If a Referee, Judge or Official suspects that a conflict of interest may exist, the person with whom the conflict exists must not assessed by that Referee. This must be made known to the main referee or the supervisor, stating the reasons (example: referee and competitor are from the same club or family at WORLD GAMES / World Championships even from the same country the decision must therefore be as follows: One judge from each participating country and one neutral judge from another country must judge the match, or 3 neutral judges)
- 4.5 The IRC chairman of the supervisor will decide on the main judges for the World Games at the meeting of the WMAC board. One nomination per country (International C/B/A licence only) will be accepted. The supervisor may, to the best of his knowledge and belief, and at any time, even during a competition, remove an official from the field if he does not behave in accordance with the rules and in proper manners. Referees can also be replaced at any time if their performance does not meet the expectations of the WMAC.
- **4.6** The highest authority for judges is the IRC. This is followed by the international supervisor licences (A1 & A/S), the international judges (A/B/C) and the national judges (D/E/F) under the age of 18 (J). National judges may ONLY act as judges at international tournaments.

ARTICLE 5. OFFICIAL

- 5.1 WMAC national directors or board members are to be informed about the course of the event and have free access to ensure decisions, guidelines and compliance with rules. Board members are to be involved in the event area (award ceremony, official activities, etc.)
- 5.2 Medical personnel must be available at all times, easily recognisable and only accessible at one location. The location must be chosen so that deployment can be guaranteed at all times. Barrier-free and designed so that the medical personnel do NOT have to leave the hall. If the medical staff are NOT in the hall, the competition must stopped immediately. It is therefore recommended to have at least 3 persons in the medical team.
- 5.3 The official attire for all referees, judges and officials will be specified by the rules and by the WMAC prior to the event. (black WMAC polo shirt shirt and blue tie and black trousers)

- 5.4 The number of main referees/judges required for an event is specified in the organisation plan for the respective tournament= EVENTMANAGMENT & SUPERVISOR.
- 5.5 Referees in the WMAC there is generally no distinction between points and referees as we believe that a referee should be proficient in and practise ALL areas of their sport. The licences are therefore identical and will be manifested at the annual referee seminars. National licences can be increased from year to year with proof of a minimum of 3x/year. International licences, up to B, require 3 years with also 3x/year. The A licence requires approval of the IRC Supervisor Licences are only issued by the board. ALL licence upgrades will ONLY be officially awarded with a certificate at the International Referee Course.

5.5.1 Judges & Referees

J	Youth licence	Judges for U12 & U15 categories. Minimum age 15 years (NO RINGSPORT), from the age of 18= F licence
F	National	Points judge for national events. Upgrading from a J licence to an F licence is possible from the age of 18.
E	National	Points judges for national events.
D	National	Judges & referees for national and international events
С-В	International	Judges & referees for national and international events (national and international titles)
A	International	Judges & referees for all events
AS	International Area Supervisor	Supervisor for various areas (e.g. mat sports)
A1	International Supervisor	Supervisor for the entire event (RESPONSIBLE)

- 5.5.2 International points and ring judges: minimum age 18 years, membership of an association representing the WMAC, completion of an international seminar, basic knowledge of English for RINGSPORT/RING JUDGES, the national D licence is required (experience). However, the F & E licences may also be used as SHADOW RIDERS.
- **5.5.3 Award and validity of licences:** The national licences J, F, E and D are awarded by the national referee chairman and the NRC (National Rules Committee) by majority decision and after a positive examination at the end of a referee course and are valid for a minimum of 1 year and are extended after positive use as a points judge or participation in the International Referee Seminar (IRS). All other LICENCES from D are awarded at the IRS. Minimum assignment 3 events / year.

The International C and B licence is nominated by the International IRC or the WORLD Head Referees (Supervisor) and awarded for 3 years in each case after a successfully completed international referee seminar, at least 3 assignments / year must also be proven.

The A licence is only issued by a majority of the IRC, but must be proposed by a member of the IRC & BOD and is valid for 4 years. At least 5 assignments per year are required for the A licence and the referee must perform main referee duties in at least 3 different areas (e.g. kickboxing, forms, karate kumite etc.).

The AS (assigned area supervisor = example KB Mattensport) licence is issued by the respective IRC member / specialist referee according to their responsibility and the majority decision of the IRC & BOD. This licence is valid for 6 years and includes at least 4 different areas as main referee.

A1 Supervisor Licence, also nominated by the IRC, is only appointed by the President - but, as it is the highest licence in the WMAC, must be elected by a unanimous decision of the Board. This licence is valid for 8 years and must then also be renewed.

All referees must have their licences renewed and confirmed in good time at the relevant international referee seminars. Without participation in the International Referee Seminar (at least every 2 years) and the minimum number of assignments, the licence expires and is downgraded.

S.5.4 Referee training: The training of national referees for the J, F, E and D licences is carried out by members of the NRC at national referee seminars.

The training of international judges for the C, B and A licences is carried out by members of the IRC at international judges' seminars. However, if required, judges with the A, AS and A1 licences (supervisors) can also be included in the training as lecturers.

5.5.5 Minimum assignments of the judges

National referee licence	At least 3 assignments per year, as well as annual attendance at a referee seminar				
International referee licence	At least 3 assignments per year C & B - 5 assignments per year from A, as well as an obligatory international referee seminar every 2 years				

ATTENTION: The upgrading of the respective licences can only take place after the participation in international referee seminars and assess PERFORMANCE, KNOWLEDGE, APPLICATION and BEHAVIOUR.

5.5.6 Medical time / time out by doctor or referee

Medical time is the maximum amount of time that an injury may be assessed during a match without stopping the match. The medical staff check the condition of the athlete (e.g. by palpation or blood removal), but **without treatment**, as this could give an unfair advantage. Treatments are only permitted during breaks between rounds.

The medical time is to a maximum of 2 minutes per fight, regardless of the number of rounds. If this time is exceeded the fight will be cancelled. The rule protects the safety of the athletes and ensures fair competition conditions.

Mat sports:

The judges are arranged in a pyramid shape. Judges move along the edges of the mat (PF) and return to their positions after scoring. In the LC/KL, with four judges, two sit at the corners (towards the MRC table) and one in the centre behind them. With three judges, the arrangement is diagonal: left front and right back.

Wrestling & MMA:

The judges sit on straight edges to the left and right of the HKR table. In the cage, they are positioned diagonally and in the centre. The tables must ensure optimum visibility and sufficient distance from the coaches' corners.

These arrangements ensure fair decisions and a clear view of the battle different perspectives.

5.5.7 Colour of the CORNERS in the ring or colour of the sides of the mat

The ring corners must always have the same colours from the judges' table in order to ensure clear orientation for athletes and judges. The following applies when looking towards the competition area: the red corner is always on the left and the blue corner is always on the right. This fixed colour assignment ensures uniform conditions and makes it easier to keep an overview during the match.

ARTICLE 6. GENERAL DUTIES OF A SUPERVISOR & REFEREE

- 6.1 The supervisor is responsible for the supervision of the event the categories and their organisation. His primary goal is the safety of the athletes, an orderly process, the allocation of the judges, the monitoring of the list, the rules and regulations, as well as the support of the judges in problem situations. He is the HIGHEST authority of the federation at every event and is authorised to issue instructions.
- **6.2** The head judge is responsible for his area / ring starts and stops the competition, gives warnings, communicates & directs the table crew and the judges. He gives clear signals and scores to the scorekeeper and timekeeper. He announces the winner at the end of the competition. The Referee should give all official decisions in a clear and distinct voice and make them clear to the athletes concerned by voice and gestures.

- **6.3** Only the Referee may call a time out for the following reasons:
 - to check the equipment
 - to pass on the points of the judges
 - to award points, impose penalties and issue warnings
 - to bring the athletes back to the centre, the neutral zone
 - to check on an athlete in case of injury
 - to receive lawful protests

ARTICLE 7. GENERAL, ORDERS / COMMANDS BY A REFEREE

- **7.1 Competition Start** After the Chief Judge has confirmed that the athletes, judges, list leaders and timekeepers are ready, he or she must call "BEGIN" or "FIGHT" to start the time and the competition.
- **7.2** End of the round At the end of each round, the main referee calls "STOP" to stop the competition. He then sends the athletes to the centre of the mat. Scoring = The judges their scores with hand signals at the same time as the Referee. The main judge awards the victory to the corresponding athlete.
- **7.3 Breaking the rules** The main referee stops the competition and gives the athlete who has broken the rules a warning or a minus point. The main referee can also stop the competition, consult with the judges and then a decision. For this situation, he makes a time interruption= "Time Out".
- 7.4 Leaving the competition area If an athlete is outside the competition area, the Referee will call "STOP EXIT" to stop the competition and send the athletes back to the centre of the competition area and restart the competition.
- **7.5 Judging** The judges can only give a score if the athlete is not outside the competition area. Please note: to be outside the competition area, the athlete must leave the competition area with both feet. Then he cannot score point. However, if he has one foot in the competition area, he can still score points with his hands and the opponent can hit him anywhere and score points.
- **7.6 Time-out** When awarding all penalties and violations, the Referee must call "TIME-OUT" to avoid shortening the bout time unnecessarily.
- 7.7 Excessive harshness If there is no majority vote of the judges regarding excessive harshness, the head judge can independently issue a warning. Depending on the degree of severity, this may even a disqualification.
- 7.8 Judges Majority Decision The Referee MUST NOT under any circumstances overrule the "majority" of the Judges.

7.9 Rating symbol

Semi-contact/Pointfight	see pictures at 12.3 and Referee seminar documents
Light contact and kick-light	see Referee seminar documents

ARTICLE 8. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE JUDGES

- **8.1** Certification: All judges are required to be certified if they wish to judge at an event (see point 4.6)
- **8.2 Restricting movements:** Judges are obliged to restrict their movements to their respective area of the competition area and must move continuously within this area.

8.3 Conflict of interest: Due to this obligation, all judges must ensure that there is no conflict of interest. In such cases, all judges must act in accordance with Article 4.4. Failure to do so may lead to CONFLICTS.

ARTICLE 9. SCORING BY JUDGES

9.1 Each judge awards points based on their own observations and should not be influenced by the actions or votes of others. The only exception to this is after consultation with the other judge and the main judge in case of ambiguity. Points must be awarded in accordance with the criteria for each category.

ARTICLE 10. TASKS OF THE TIMER (table crew)

- 10.1 The timekeeper should sit next to the competition area. He stops and starts the time as instructed by the Referee. The timekeeper may signal to the Referee that the time has expired by a verbal and visual signal (a suitable object) thrown into the centre of the mat area, or if he or she has received a formal protest from the Supervisor or his representative (scoreboards with an audible signal may be for this purpose).
- 10.2 The time has officially expired only when the judges and athletes have been verbally informed by the main referee that "TIME" has expired. The doctor and tournament supervisor can also stop the bout at any time (injury, irregularity, etc.).

ARTICLE 11. TASKS OF THE POINT COUNTERS/ LIST-KEEPERS (table crew)

- 11.1 The table crew must record all athletes' scores and penalties as instructed by the Referee or Head Referee.
- 11.2 Fights won and lost and the rounds must be recorded by the list leader.
- 11.3 They indicate the winner by means of the visible points on the electronic boards or hand signals.
- 11.4 Laps are assessed, counted and decided individually. He calls the athletes to the start based on the lists. This also applies to those already present in order to check them. The RED corner is always called first. This is followed by the BLUE corner.
- 11.5 The list leaders must have a table, all the specified sheets, hand counters, stopwatches and scoreboards or computers and screens. They must also have sufficient writing materials.
- 11.6 The scorekeepers must ensure that the scoreboard visible to the Referee, Judges and athletes. Computer, television, electronic boards or manual board.

ARTICLE 12. STANDARDISATION OF COMMANDS BY OFFICIAL

12.1 Referee:

"Begin" or "Fight"	Start of the fight
"STOP"	Stop the fight
"Hold down"	Holding down/fixing
"Exit"	outside the fighting area
"Score"	Award rating
"Time Out"	Time expired
"Time"	Start or stop time
"Fight"	To start after a stop
"Break"	The fight is briefly interrupted, the fighters take a step back and start on their own.
1st - 2nd or 3rd warning	The fight is interrupted and the Referee makes the hand signal and clearly pronounces
_	the warning and points to the corner of the fighter.
"Minus point"	The Referee stops the fight, awards the minus point and takes the hand of the
	The referee will then point downwards with his hand and to the respective judge so
	that they can judge this.

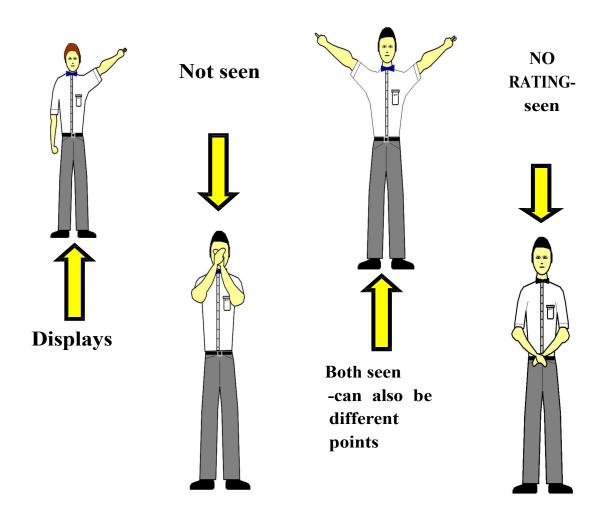
- **12.2 Referee cards:** Referee cards are a good tool for better REPRESENTATION of warnings and minus points as well as disqualification. YELLOW CARD = WARNING and RED CARD= Disqualification. Here we use the traffic light system for better non-verbal communication. As it is also used in football, we no longer have any comprehension problems.
- 12.3 Judges: indicate immediately on the command "Stop" without being asked if a point is awarded (PF), or after the bout at the request of the referee "JUDGES SCORE" with a hand signal to the side of the winner (LK, KL, etc.) depending on the discipline! The judge's hand must to the side of the winner. They stand with their backs to the main judges' table during the HAND SIGNAL VARIANCE.
- **12.4 Official dress code**: For all judges: black shirt, black trousers and blue or black shoes (WMAC emblem/writing on the back or on the chest), blue tie, blue bow tie for international events.
- 12.5 Official hand signals: Example semi-contact (see referee seminar)

12.6 Number of judges on the areas / ring / cage at WMAC events & category

Pointfight	3
Light contact	3 - 4
Kicklight	3 - 4
Kumite	2
Grappling	2
Rumble	2
No Contact	2
MMA Light	3 - 4
MMA Full	3 - 4
Oriental Boxing	3 - 4
Fullcontact	3 - 4
K1	3 - 4
Thai boxing	3 - 4
Moulds	3
Kids Run	3

In the above-mentioned categories, the centre judges are allowed to JUDGE with 3-4 referees in exceptional situations without counting the points, but by contributing their experience while observing the fight. In mat sports by means of MANUAL SIGNS and in ring sports by means of a points protocol WITHOUT indicating the hits, but only the final result / per round. Applies ONLY to the amateur sector and in exceptional situations where a judge is temporarily absent or cancelled! (break, injury etc.)

Classification " Pointfight - Semi-Contact ":



ARTICLE 13. DISPUTES & COMPLAINTS (protest procedure)

13.1 Complaints procedure

Should the need arise to make a complaint on the day of the event in relation to the implementation of the rules or in relation to an official/judge, in any area, only the following methods will be accepted:

- Attract the attention of the main referee / judges on the bout area immediately and before the next bout starts.
- He/she (Referee & Referee Team) will stop the match and call the Supervisor.
- Explain the nature of the complaint calmly and objectively.
- Wait for the supervisor's decision.
- The supervisor's decision is final and binding.
- Only the registered national country coach (for national teams) or team coach (clubs) can initiate/submit an official complaint= PROTEST.
- The protest costs €100 or the equivalent in the local currency as an initiation fee and this will be refunded if the protest is too justified. The protest will NOT be processed without a FEE. (Seriousness of the protest)
- Video recordings, photos and persons who are not identified as HEADCOACH will NOT be recognised
 as parties and will not be admitted to the proceedings.

13.2 Formal complaints procedure (complaints procedure after the event)

Formal complaints will be referred for investigation by the WMAC committee that investigates these complaints. This must be done in writing to the IRC or supervisor. It will require the names and contact details of all witnesses who were present at the action and will be accompanied by a fee of $\in 200$. If the appeal is justified, the $\in 200.00$ \in will be returned, otherwise it will go towards WMAC referee training.

13.3 The arbitration tribunal

Conflicts between two parties can lead to problems that cannot be resolved either in the rules or in a sporting sequence. This is where the arbitration tribunal comes in. The arbitration tribunal is a panel of 3 high-ranking personalities with a minimum age of 40 years and at least 10 years of association membership. The members may NOT be PART of the conflict or the parties and may NOT of the current Executive Board. Furthermore, they must have at least 4 DAN in their respective sport. However, they may be IRC members as they act AUTONOMOUSLY and without instructions. The chair is held by the oldest member - in the event of a tie for age, rank decides. The arbitration tribunal has 14 days to propose a solution the board, including both parties to the dispute. This is then binding for ALL and immediately LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE.

13.4 WMAC Official Code of Honour

As an official of a WORLD ASSOCIATION that is responsible for the protection and safety of athletes through the transmission of values and NEUTRAL and EQUAL rules for ALL, certain rules also apply. As officials, we are all required to behave in accordance with our position as persons of respect who care for the well-being of the athletes. As this represents an authentic & POSITIVE public image of the entire WMAC, we must observe the following points.

Behaviour in public (event, hotel & outdoor areas):

- No drug use and excessive alcohol consumption (binge drinking etc.) during the entire event
- No vulgar communication and no fisticuffs
- No disputes and agitation towards third parties or other officials
- No public statements about decisions of the association or a fight= Supervisor only
- Exemplary behaviour towards third parties and no disreputable behaviour (alcohol, noise and intrusiveness)
- No influence (mental & physical) on the opposite sex or minors
- No unkempt appearance and clean external appearance (bad breath, alcohol fumes, etc.)
- Do not promote a "bad" environment (blasphemy & causing discord) but seek positive communication.
- Do not bring any personal problems onto the battlefield
- No special greetings & special treatment for athletes/coaches etc. who are personally known

ARTICLE 14 WEIGHT CLASSES (excluding non-contact disciplines - see height, belt colour and age categories)

OFFICIAL WEIGHT CLASSES OF ALL AMATEUR KICKBOXING/FIGHTING DISCIPLINES OF THE WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE (WMAC)

U12 children 7 - 11 years		U15 Juniors 12 - 14 years		U18 Cadets 15- 17 years			+18 adults 18 - 34 years		+40 Veterans 40 - 50 years		+50 Master From 50 years	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
-25	-25	-40	-40	-55	-50	-60	-55	-75	-60	-75	-60	
-30	-30	-45	-45	-60	-55	-65	-60	-80	-65	-80	-65	
-35	-35	-50	-50	-65	-60	-70	-65	-85	-70	-85	-70	
-40	-40	-55	-55	-70	-65	-75	-70	+85	+70	+85	+70	
-45	-45	-60	-60	-75	-70	-80	-75					
-50	-50	-65	-65	-80	+70	-85	+75					
+50	+50	-70	+65	+80		-90						
		+70				+90						

- The WMAC amateur weight classes have a weight tolerance of "0" kg.
- The U12 & U15 participants are excluded from this. They have a weight tolerance of 1 kg.
- If a fighter does not meet the weight, the supervisor/registration team can do the following:
- He cancels the fighter and places him in the next higher weight class. He must pay a second entry fee for this.
- The fighter will be eliminated from the tournament.

OFFICIAL WEIGHT CLASSES OF ALL PROFESSIONAL MARTIAL ARTS DISCIPLINES OF THE WMAC

- The WMAC professional disciplines have a weight tolerance of "0" kg.
- If a fighter does not the weight, the supervisor may do the following:
- He cancels the fight and sets a new date.
- 2. it issues a "non-official weight agreement" (NOWA)
- NOWA: this means that the supervisor can set a weight tolerance (max. 3 kg). Since the fighter has more weight, he must also pay for it. He has to pay 15€ for every 0.1kg more (max. 450€) The opponent and the federation each receive 50% of this money. If both fighters exceed the weight, the money must be paid directly before the fight.

Male (15 - 55 years)			 Female (15 - 55 y	ears)			
Maximum limit			Maximum limit				
Weight class	in <u>kilograms</u> iı	n <u>pounds</u>	Weight class pounds	in <u>kilograms</u>	in		
	(kg)	(lb)	<u> </u>	(kg)	(lb)		
Flyweight	50.5	111.3	Lightweight	50	110.7		
Super flyweight	52	114.6	Welterweight	55	121.3		
Bantamweight	53.5	117.9	Middleweight	60	132.3		
Superbantamweight	55.5	122.4	Light heavyweight	65	143.3		
Featherweight	57	125.7	Heavyweight	No weight limi	it		
Super featherweight	59	130.1					
Lightweight	61.5	135.6					
Super lightweight	63.5	140					
Welterweight	67	147.7					
Super welterweight	70	154.3					
Middleweight	72.5	159.8					
Super middleweight	76	167.6					
Light heavyweight	79	174.2					
Super light heavyweight	83.2	183.4					
Cruiserweight	85.9	189.4					
Supercruiser weight	90	198.4					
Heavyweight Super	95	209.4					
heavyweight	No weight	limit					