

St. Patrick's Classic Karate Tournament

Sunday, March 16th, 2025

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS RULES AND REMINDERS

In All Divisions-

All competitors must be wearing a complete Martial Arts Uniform. This includes your uniform top. Competitors cannot compete in a t-shirt.

There is NO COACHING by parents, family members, or instructors from any school while a competitor is in a ring competing. Talk to them before, talk to them after, just don't try to coach them when they're in the ring competing. Thanks!

Encouragement and support of students is the best thing you can do for them. However, it is their tournament, it is their competition, and you'll help them the most by cheering them on regardless of what place they come in. Competition is about getting out there and doing it, it is NOT about the size of the trophy.

In Divisions where age is a factor, which would be Under Black Belt Kids and Black Belt Kids, the age a competitor will compete in is their age on the day of the tournament, Sunday, March 16th, 2025

In the Under Black Belt Divisions-

Under Black Belt competitors can compete in the Weapons, Forms, and Sparring divisions.

There are no "musical forms" divisions for under Black Belt competitors.

In the Weapons and Forms Divisions, competitors that forget their form or get lost can choose to start over if they wish. However, by starting over the center judge will take a one time .5 point deduction from their total score.

In the Weapons Divisions-

Competitors who drop their weapon may pick it up and continue, but they will not be given a score. Competitors will be judged on their use and mastery of the weapon, not only their athletic ability.

There is NO music allowed in any Weapons Division. Black Belts who win their Black Belt Weapons Division will be allowed to use music when competing for the Black Belt Grand Championship. In the Black Belt Weapons division competitors can choose to compete in either Open Weapons or Traditional Weapons, but not both.

In the Sparring Divisions-

We will use standard WSKL point fighting rules, 1 point for a kick to the body, 1 point for a punch, 2 points for a kick to the head. There is NO ground fighting. All techniques must be above the belt. Competitors can sweep the front leg only to break balance, and only to the back of the opponents front leg foot pad.

As in any Martial Art sparring event, when the Center Judge calls "Break" or "Point", both competitors must instantly stop and control their techniques. Late techniques thrown after the Center Judge has stopped the action will not be allowed or accepted and will result in a warning. Further disregard for this rule will result in that fighter's disqualification.

All sparring competitors, including Black Belts, must wear headgear. All sparring competitors in the Under Black Belt Divisions are encouraged to wear some type of chest protector or rib guard. Headgear cages or face shields are not required but **HIGHLY recommended.**

Fighters must wear hand and foot protection that covers the fingers and toes of their hands and feet. Just wearing shin guards and forearm guards that leave a portion of the fighters hands and feet exposed are not allowed.

Fighters must wear EITHER traditional foam dipped kicks and punches, or as an option for foot protection we will allow fighters to wear the *Ringstar* brand sparring safety shoe as approved by NASKA. This is the only brand we approve as an option for fighters to wear, if you're not sure if you're gear is allowed feel free to call me at 608-845-1333 before the day of the tournament and we'll take a look!

All competitors in all Sparring divisions MUST wear a complete Martial Arts Uniform! Sparring Competitors will not be allowed to compete in just a t-shirt.

There will be a fight to determine 3rd and 4th place in all sparring divisions at all levels and all age groups.

→ Head Contact rules! ←

There is light head contact allowed in All Divisions at all belt levels at all ages.

→→→ NEW! NEW! NEW! ←←←

In ALL Black Belt Sparring divisions, both kids and adults, there will be double elimination sparring for the last (4) fighters left in the division! In other words, if you make it to the semi-finals, with four fighters left in the competition, you keep fighting until you've lost twice.

There are a LOT of great tournaments out in the world run by different organizations. This means there are a lot of different rule systems and point systems.

IF you have any questions about how we score or keep track of scoring at our tournament my advice would be to give me a call ahead of time at 608-845-1333 and we'll talk it over and make sure we both know how we run our event.

The goal is to have an AMAZING DAY where everyone has fun, learns something, and does their very best. If you have questions about you, your kids, or your students, it's better to ask me ahead of time so everyone knows what's going on and that way we eliminate any confusion on the day of the tournament.

In order to run a tournament of this size we need everyone's help to keep things running smooth.

If you are a Black Belt and would like to help judge on Sunday, March 16th we'd love to have your help. If you're interested, make sure you contact me at least a week before the event so I can have all of our rings organized ahead of time.

Thanks again for your support!

**Jeff Christensen – Tournament Director
St. Patrick's Classic Karate Tournament 608-845-1333**

Web site: www.southernwisconsinopen.com

Email: kaverona@chorus.net

**Mailing address:
Karate America Verona
535 Half Mile Road
Verona, WI 53593**