



International Taekwon-Do Federation (ITF)

By Laws

ITF Umpire Rules - Rules and Regulations

Appendix 7 – Glossary of Terms

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acrobatic Sequence

An acrobatic sequence is defined as one (1) continuous series of techniques of an acrobatic, gymnastic, tumbling, or other like nature, performed by one competitor, which terminates upon the performance of an interceding TaeKwon-Do technique.

Acrobatic sequence/techniques include, though are not limited to; splits, flips, tumbles, rolls, dives, etc.

Adding a Movement

In Patterns, when a competitor/team performs more than the total number of movements than that required by the technical directions of the pattern, they have added a move. This will result in a total score of zero (0).

Approved Safety Equipment

Approved model of personal protective equipment (gloves, feet, headgear) from an official manufacturer, as approved by the I.T.F. Umpire Committee in accordance with their bylaws. Equipment must be in good condition, with no damage compromising the coverage or effectiveness of the protective features. No hard fasteners, plastic, laces, studs, zippers or metal are permitted. No repairs using tape or glue are permitted. *(Refer to Official I.T.F. releases for the official specifications pertaining to approved safety equipment.)*

Belt

The symbol of rank. Produced by one of the official I.T.F. suppliers and worn as part of the official uniform of I.T.F. TaeKwon-Do practitioners. The belt must be worn wrapped once (1 time) about the waist and knotted in the front. The belt must be a true indication of the wearer's earned rank, by way of colour and/or stripe, and (for black belt competitors) by Roman numeral pertaining to their earned degree. *(Refer to official I.T.F. Bylaws and Releases for the official specifications pertaining to approved belts.)*

Bent Board

A bent board is defined as any board that has a noticeable concave deviation from its normal joined position, and which remains in a position where it is no longer flat, with a noticeable line of separation at the joint.



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Broken Board

1. In Power Breaking, a broken board is defined by the successful and complete separation of the two halves of a target board so that there is no portion remaining connected.

2. In Special Technique Breaking, a broken board is defined as the successful movement of the target surface from its plane of rest, to, or past, one of the pre-set scoring planes.

Centre Referee

The Official assigned to a specific Ring Council and tasked with the fair and professional operation of the competitions held in a specific ring. As such they are in command of the behaviour and actions of the competitors during a match, as well as the administration of penalties for infractions of the rules. Referees are responsible to, and take directions from, the Jury President of their assigned Ring Council.

Certified Official

Any Jury President, Jury Member, Center Referee, or Corner Umpire who has successfully taken the official I.T.F. Umpire Training Course and has been accredited by the I.T.F. Umpire Committee to grade the performance of any given event within the competition. Certified Officials must possess qualification of Class "A" ITF Umpire.

Chong

The "Blue" competitor.

The competitor whose name is listed in the second (lower) position on a match key, who takes their position on the left (L) side of the ring (to the left of the center when looking towards the front of Jury Table) when ready to compete.

Clothing Factor

A (+500 grams) factor used as a standard measure to accommodate for any variations in competitor's weight due to the required clothing for weight verification. The clothing factor is NOT A TOLERANCE AND IS ONLY to allow for a variance in clothing weights.

Coach

The official representative of an athlete who has registered and received coach's accreditation by the Tournament Committee. Only one registered coach, or a registered competitor acting as a coach, may be on the competition floor, represent an athlete, and/or present a protest.



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Coach (continued)	Coaches must wear the appropriate Coach's Dress, wear protective medical gloves on their hands while at ringside, and carry a towel. Coaches must not bring any other items/equipment to the ringside.
Competition Floor	The area within the competition venue upon which the Rings, Head Table and Jury Tables are located. Only Officials, Competitors, Coaches and Qualified Medical Personnel are permitted to be on the competition floor. The competition floor should have a substantial barrier between it and the spectators/supporters.
Competitor	A registered member of an I.T.F. affiliated organization. Competitors must be in good standing, having earned and been issued an Official I.T.F. Certificate of Grade, as verified by means of an ITF Black Belt Identification Card and Degree Certificate Number.
Concussion	A serious cerebral or traumatic brain injury (TBI) resulting from the sudden jarring of the brain or spinal cord, usually caused by a blow or fall, that may result in a bad headache, altered levels of alertness, or unconsciousness. A concussion temporarily interferes with the way your brain works, and can affect memory, judgment, reflexes, speech, balance, coordination, and sleep patterns.
Corner Umpire	The Officials who grade the performance of the competitors while engaged in a match. Corner Officials are responsible to, and take directions from, the Referee, who in turn is responsible to, and takes direction from, the Jury President of their assigned Ring Council.
Delegate	A person assigned administrative or special authority on behalf of a member school or organization, who is empowered to make decisions and take actions on behalf of the school's/organization's members.
Direct Result	"As a direct result" refers to the term used in U7: Rights & Duties of the Jury President ; 2(a) Due Process for T39 , 1(b) Note: Procedure to determine responsibility whereby the BLUE competitor has been injured and cannot continue the match due to the consequence of a potentially warned action or foul and the doctor has been called.



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Direct Result (<i>continued</i>)	If it is the case that the BLUE competitor cannot continue the match, either due to the nature of the injury or that the allocated treatment time of 3 minutes has expired, the RED competitor can only be held negatively responsible if no additional match action has occurred since the consequence of the warned action or foul. If match action continues after the initial visit of the doctor and the match is stopped again due to a reoccurrence of the original injury, the RED competitor is not negative responsible AS THEY CANNOT BE SANCTIONED A SECOND TIME for the past (original) infraction and the BLUE competitor must surrender the match.
Displaced Obstacle	In Special Technique Breaking, if any part of the competitor's body, uniform or belt comes into contact with either the barrier or any of its components, and subsequently caused the barrier to be moved from its normal position of rest and either activated or dislodged, resulting in an incomplete and therefore ineligible attempt to break.
Disqualification	The disbaring of a competitor from continuing a match due to prohibited or unsportsmanlike actions, words, or behaviour. A competitor who has been disqualified from a match cannot win that match; however they are still permitted to compete in any other match for which they are eligible. Depending on the type and severity of infraction, a Competitor may be disqualified for a match, an event, or an entire competition. Disqualified competitors are still permitted to receive any award(s) they may have earned up to and including the time of disqualification.
Dobok	The official uniform of I.T.F. TaeKwon-Do practitioners, consisting of both a jersey and pants, complete with the appropriate I.T.F. crest and all appropriate logo marks, as produced by one of the Official I.T.F. Suppliers. (<i>Refer to official I.T.F. Bylaws and releases for the official specifications pertaining to approved Doboks.</i>)
Doctor	A person licensed to practice medicine, as a physician or surgeon, appointed to be in charge of all first aid, emergency medical care, and medical decisions at a tournament.
Doctor	The official Tournament Doctor(s), as appointed by the ITF Tournament Committee, is/are the final authority in any medical decision pertaining to the tournament and, as such, their decision is final and binding.



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Excessive Contact

Any interpersonal contact during sparring competition, whether intentional or not, committed in gross violation of the rules, that is intended or likely to cause injury to the opponent; that is executed in an unsafe, uncontrolled, disrespectful or unsportsmanlike manner. These actions may or may not have caused injury and/or been the result of Negative Responsibility. This is a major violation of the rules that results in the offender being disqualified.

Falling Down

When any part of the competitor's body, (other than the feet) comes into contact, for any period of time, with the playing surface of the ring.

Final Sequence

In Pre-Arranged Sparring, the last continuous, uninterrupted series of blows, performed by one member of the team, which are not defended or interrupted in any manner by the opponent. The Final Sequence is the only series of unblocked attacks permitted throughout the performance. It is the terminal sequence designed to incapacitate or stop the opponent. The effects of this final sequence may be made evident by the opponent falling, twisting, flipping, or tumbling in representation of the impact.

The effect of the final blow is not considered an acrobatic sequence, so long as it is a single reaction (i.e., it is a logical representation of the final blow, such as flips resulting from the final impact, throws that are not avoided/released, sweeps that are not avoided or moved through, etc.).

First Aid

A person accredited to provide emergency care for injuries of a non-life threatening nature, and appointed to provide care for all minor treatment of wounds or injuries at a tournament. In the event there is no official Tournament Doctor in authority, First Aid reserves the final authority in any medical decision pertaining to the tournament and, as such, their decision is final and binding.

Approved First Aid is any person certified at a minimum of an Advanced Level of First Aid or higher, including though not limited to: Doctors, Physiotherapists, Paramedics, First Responders, and Professional First Aid Personnel.



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Forgetting a Movement	In Patterns, when a competitor/team performs <i>fewer</i> than the total number of movements required by the technical directions of the pattern, they have forgotten a move. This will result in a total score of zero (0).
Foul	A penalty issued to a competitor for a medium to severe infraction of the rules, resulting in the immediate deduction of one (1) point from that competitor's total score. The accumulation of three (3) fouls automatically results in a disqualification.
Heavy Contact	Any interpersonal contact that is administered with emotion, aggression, mal-intent and/or a loss of control, or any technique that is executed without an attempt to control or retract the attacking tool, and/or that causes the opponent's body (head or torso) to be displaced more than acceptable for the situation. This violation of the rules results in a foul being assessed against the offender.
Holding	Gripping, grasping, or retaining any part of the opponent's body for any period of time. Holding is a violation of the rules and will result in a foul.
Hong	The "Red" competitor. The competitor whose name is listed in the first (upper) position on a match key, who takes their position on the right (R) side of the position on the right (R) side of the ring (to the right of the center when looking towards the front of Jury Table) when ready to compete.
Injury Time	The three (3) minute maximum <i>accumulated</i> time period during a match in which the official timer is stopped, allowing the tournament medical personnel (doctor, or appropriate first aid attendant) to diagnose and treat an injury sustained during the course of the match. The three-minute Injury Time will begin the moment the doctor is in front of the injured competitor, and will end when the doctor departs. This time will be recorded, and if the doctor is called again during the same match, the injury clock will resume counting down from the last time point recorded.



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Injury Time (<i>continued</i>)	At the end of the three (3) minute Injury Time, the medical personnel must make a final declaration as to the competitor's ability to continue with the competition. Any competitor requiring more than three (3) total minutes of medical attention during a match will not be allowed to continue and will forfeit the match.
Interfere (Interference)	Any actions, articulations, words, sounds, or behaviours, which cause a disruption or distraction, or otherwise influence or manipulate a competition, a competitor's performance, the duties of an Official, or the potential outcome of a match.
Jump	To propel oneself rapidly upward, such that momentum causes the body to become airborne and lose contact with the ground. The jump is executed at the moment when both feet are no longer in contact with the surface of the playing area.
Jury Member	One of two officials assisting the Jury President in the administration of a Ring Council. The Jury Member is responsible for aiding in the management of the Competition Draw; recording data (i.e. fouls, warnings, round number, winners); ensuring that the correct competitors are present when called; and performing any other necessary business of the Ring Council. Jury Members are responsible to, and take directions from, the Jury President of their assigned Ring Council.
Jury President	The Head Official in charge of and responsible for the overall administration of the rules of competition and the fair and professional operation of one (1) Ring Council at a tournament. The Jury President is the designated representative of the Tournament Committee for all matters pertaining to that individual ring and its operation, and is responsible for the supervision of all other Officials assigned to that Ring Council.
Light Contact	Any interpersonal contact during sparring competition, whether intentional or not, that is executed with care, control, sportsmanlike behaviour, an attempt to control and retract the attacking tool, and does not result in the excessive displacement of the opponent's body (head or torso). This contact is deemed acceptable and does not result in either a warning or foul being assessed. This amount of contact is neither intended nor likely to cause damage or harm to the opponent.



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Loss of Consciousness	An altered mental state characterized by the inability of a person to respond to verbal and physical stimuli, often resulting from impact or trauma to the head or spine.
Measure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For Power Breaking - The extension of any attacking tool towards the target board(s).2. For Special Technique Breaking – Taking a minimum of one (1) or more steps towards the target.
Medical Decision	<p>The final decision or declaration by the tournament’s Qualified Medical Personnel regarding the treatment of injuries and/or the subsequent ability of a competitor to continue the competition, either immediately or in the near future.</p> <p>The decision of the tournament’s Qualified Medical Personnel is final and irrefutable; as such it must be respected and adhered to by all persons* (i.e. competitor, coach, officials, family). Any person insisting on contravening the Medical Decision will be immediately disqualified from the tournament and subject to future Administrative Action.</p> <p>*NOTE: The ITF TUC reserves the right to overrule a Medical Decision and prevent an athlete from returning to competition if, in their opinion, there is a continued risk to the competitor, the opponent, competition ethics, or other such concern. However, the ITF TUC cannot overrule a Medical Decision and allow a competitor to continue against medical advice.</p>
Negatively Responsible	A competitor that is deemed to be the cause of an injury or loss of consciousness due to having performed an action that is considered illegal, unsafe, unsportsmanlike, executed with a lack of control, or executed with the intent to cause harm to the opponent.
Official Protest	A formal complaint presented to the Tournament Committee by an accredited coach as to an action or decision in contravention of the rules of competition, ethics, protocols and procedures, or concepts of equitable and fair play. An official protest may only be presented by an accredited coach, and must be presented within five (5) minutes of the end of the match, in writing (In English) on the official protest form, and must be accompanied by the appropriate tax.



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Official Protest (<i>continued</i>)	Protests are presented to the Tournament Committee who will then meet, investigate, and make a decision as to the validity of the protest. The Tournament Committee's decision is final and binding.
Outside of the ring	The moment that a competitor comes into contact with any area of the floor, outside of the boundaries of the playing surface, and has no portion of either foot in contact with the playing area of the ring. (I.e. two feet completely out of the ring and in contact with the ground; or one foot out of the ring, making contact with the ground, while the other foot is off the ground.)
Playing Surface	The floor, or horizontal portion of the official competition area, which is considered "in play," and upon which a competitor is eligible to receive a score for their performance. The playing surface of the ring must be covered in non-slip safety matting.
Point Deduction	The result of a competitor having received any three (3) warnings for minor infractions of the rules. (Point Deductions are not the same as fouls, and as such, the accumulation of three (3) Point Deductions does not result in a disqualification.)
Pre Action	For Power or Special Technique Breaking - one (1) single and continuous backwards motion performed immediately prior to the attempt to break.
Pushing	The intentional use of any part of the body to exert force on the opponent, with the intention of unbalancing or relocating the opponent, and without the execution of a legal technique intended to score a point.
Ring	One of the official competition areas within a tournament, within which the competitions are conducted. A ring consists of the competition playing area, safety matting, Jury Table and chairs, Umpire Chairs, Coaches' Chairs, and all associated equipment and supplies.
Ring Council	The eight (8) officials assigned to a given ring in order to administer, manage, conduct and score the performance of the competitors. A ring council is comprised of one (1) Jury President, one (1) Jury Member, one (1) Computer Assistant, one (1) Center Referee and four (4) Corner Umpires.



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Safety Matting

An approved flooring system comprised of sponge foam or equivalent, specifically designed to provide a measure of impact absorption and slip/fall resistance for martial arts competition.

Safety Matting must have a tactile or textured surface free of any lacquer or slippery treatment, which might contribute to loss of footing, falls or injury. Safety Matting must cover the entire playing surface of the ring floor in one singular colour, and must also include a one-meter wide warning perimeter of a contrasting colour, which delineates the boundaries of the playing surface.

Square

The actual competition playing area, surfaced with appropriate foam safety mats of one (1) solid colour, surrounded by a perimeter of one (1) meter of mats of an opposing colour.

Step

The complete removal and subsequent replacement of one or more of the feet on the floor, regardless of whether it results in any advancement, withdrawal or lateral motion.

Tax

A monetary fee assessed to a coach in order to initiate or present an Official Protest. This fee is charged in order to discourage frivolous Protests. If the Protest is accepted as valid and is supported by the decision of the Tournament Committee, then the tax will be refunded. If the protest is found to be invalid or without merit, and is ruled against by the decision of the Tournament Committee, then the tax will be forfeited.

Touch

When any portion of the competitor's body comes into contact, whether momentary or continued, with any portion of the target or allied equipment.

Touched Obstacle

In Special Technique Breaking, when any part of the competitor's body, uniform or belt comes into contact with either the barrier or any of its components, yet the barrier has not been displaced and remains in its normal resting position.

A Touched Obstacle may move without penalty, so long as it is not activated or displaced from its normal position of rest.



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TUC Committee

The committee of members that oversees and administers the actual operation of the tournament. The TUC is responsible for the scheduling of rings and competitions, management and supervision of officials, investigation and decision of protests, and all other business of the tournament. The TUC Committee is the highest level of authority at a tournament, with jurisdiction over any and all matters, and, as such, their decisions are final and binding.

Warning

A penalty issued to a competitor for a minor infraction of the rules. The accumulation of any three (3) warnings results in the automatic deduction of one (1) point from that competitor's score. (Note: these point deductions are not considered fouls, and, as such, they do not result in a disqualification.)

Warning Perimeter

A safety zone extending around the entire perimeter of the playing surface of a ring, delineating the boundaries of the playing area, and upon which sparring competitions are not eligible to be graded.

The Warning Perimeter must be comprised of a safety matting colour, which contrasts the colour of the playing area, and measures one (1) meter in width. In the event that a given ring is raised above the ground (i.e., on a platform), then the width of the Warning Perimeter should be extended to a minimum of two (2) meters.

Weigh In Required Clothing

The required items of clothing to be worn by each sparring competitor when mounting the scales to have their weight verified in accordance with the rules. All competitors attending the weight verification must wear an Official Approved ITF Doboks Trousers and either a T-shirt OR Polo Shirt. No other clothing, accessories or other items may be worn or carried onto the scale. Competitors are not permitted to remove any of the required articles of clothing in attempt to lower the weigh measurement.