

KATA COMPETITION

Kata – formal complex

1. Formats of competitions

1.1 Competitions can be held in the following formats:

- a) individual: in «kata», participants compete with each other in demonstration of relevant complexes of formal exercises.
- b) team: in «team-kata», groups of several athletes simultaneously perform one formal complex. In this case, performance of the team is evaluated as a whole.

Format of competition must be stated in Provision.

1.2. Competitions in all disciplines are held separately for male and female participants, with the exception of:

- a) Kata competitions among boys and girls (8-9 years old) and boys and girls (10-11 years old) - (held at the national level: Championship and Youth Championship of the country);
- b) competitions in a “team kata” disciplines.

2. Age groups

2.1. Sports competitions are held in age groups according to the Table 1.

Table 1.

№	Age group		Program of competition		Tournament
	Name male / female	Age (inclusively)	Kata yes / no	Team-kata	
1	Boys, girls	8-9	yes	yes	Youth Championship of the country
2	Boys, girls	10-11	yes	yes	Youth Championship of the country

3	Boys, girls	12-13	yes	yes	Youth World Championship, Continent
4	Boys, girls	14-15	yes	yes	Youth World Championship, Continent
5	Juniors	16-17	yes	yes	Youth World Championship, Continent
6	Men, women	18 and above	yes	yes	World Championship, Continent

3. Draw Procedure

3.1. Draw procedure is held in order to

- a) to set the order of athletes entering the tatami in personal competitions in kata discipline;
- b) to set the order of teams entering the tatami in team competitions in kata discipline;

4. Panel of judges

4.1. The minimum composition of judges for international competitions:

Chief judge + 2 assistants (each from different organizations IFK, KI, KWF);

Referee

Corner judges

- IFK – 8 judges (6 corner judges and 2 referee)
- KI – 8 judges (6 corner judges and 2 referee)
- KWF – 8 judges (6 corner judges and 2 referee)

The panel of judges for a kata competition consists of one referee and four corner judges.

4.2. Referee panel must:

- a) make fair and impartial decisions;
- b) announce the decisions in a clear and understandable for athletes and spectators way;

- c) ensure the safety of athletes.

Members of the referee panels are not allowed to leave the referee area without the permission of the Supreme Judge or his deputies.

Members of referee panels are not allowed to leave or change their panel without permission. It is not allowed to change the members of the referee panel in the course of its work. The change of referee panels or the change of referees in a panel is made by the chief referee. If the position of a chief referee is not provided for at the competition, the change of referee panels is made by the Deputy Supreme Judge. If the position of a Deputy Supreme Judge is not provided for at the competition, the change of referee panels is made by the Supreme Judge.

Members of referee panels are not allowed to talk to outside parties during competition. Persons that are not members of referee panels of a particular tournament are not allowed to enter the referee area, to give comments and express their opinion on the actions of the referee.

All members of referee panels and members of the main panel of judges shall attend a seminar led by the Supreme Judge that shall be held after the end of the draw procedure or immediately before the bouts, but no later than one hour before the start of the bouts.

5. Referee

Referee (Syushin) is the head of a referee panel.

Referee must:

- a) control the process of the Referee Panel entering and leaving the tatami;
- b) control the process of competitors entering and leaving the tatami;
- c) control the procedure for the beginning and end of the performance of athletes in a specific discipline;
- d) control the performance of athletes and signals from corner judges, suspend and resume performance;
- e) gather corner judges (Fukushin-shugo), if necessary, to discuss controversial issues. If a chief referee is assigned to the tatami, he or she must be involved into the discussion of controversial issues;
- f) maintain calm during the performance of athletes and ensure safety of athletes;
- g) make decisions on the result and announce the result.

6. Corner judge

Corner judge (Fukushin) observes the performance of athletes and makes a decision.

7. Judges assigned to contestants

Judges assigned to contestants control the timely presence of the participants near the competition area and their entry to it, control the readiness of participants for a bout, and also control the behavior of the seconds and the support group during the bout. For each tatami, there are at least two judges assigned to contestants, one for each side of the tatami ("shiro" and "aka").

7.1. Judges assigned to contestants must:

a) Verify the identity (back numbers) of athletes;

Verify the following:

b) the presence of a doctor's permission (personal stamp) to use bandages, adhesive plaster stickers;

c) overall appearance (neat dogi);

d) Provide the support group of an athlete with colored ribbons (white or red) to wear over the shoulder, and collecting them back after the end of the bout;

e) The judge assigned to the "aka" competitor puts a red tape on the athlete around his or her waist and takes it off after the end of a bout.

8. Judge-secretary

In kata competitions, the secretary judges keep the protocols of the competition, in which the results of the athletes are entered.

After the end of the competition, all protocols are submitted to the Chief Secretary for the preparation of the official report of the competition.

9. Judge-informant

The judge-informant announces (comments) to spectators, participants and team representatives the following:

a) program and schedule of the competition;

b) list of members of the Referee Commission and Referee Panels;

- c) information about the organizers of the competition and sponsors;
- d) Rules of competition;
- e) sports achievements and titles of participants;
- f) orders of the Supreme Judge;
- g) results of the competition, names and surnames of the winners and prize-winners;
- h) information about prizes;
- i) information required at kata competition:
- j) participants who are called to start performance;
- k) participants who are preparing for performance;
- l) other required information.

10. Competition area

10.1. Kata competitions are held on a flat surface with both hard and semi-hard surfaces.

For kata competitions held on the tatami, in addition to the chairs for corner referees, there must be a Referee's chair. The Referee's chair is located outside the main square, in the center of the side of the tatami closest to the table of the Supreme Judge.

There must be a chair at the edge of the area on the side of each athlete exit.

10.2. Technical facilities, equipment and materials for competition

The mandatory equipment for competition additionally includes:

- a) 5 sets of flags on each tatami;
- b) 8 chairs for corner judges, referees on each tatami and competing athletes;
- c) 1 chair for athletes in the exit corner of each tatami.

11. Document workflow

Mandatory competition documentation includes:

- a) KWU Kata Judging Rules;
- б) Provision of Competition;
- B) Regulations of Competition (if approved);
- r) approved list of names of members of the Panel of Judges;

- д) approved list of names of competition Officials;
- е) competition venue acceptance certificate;
- ж) applications from all teams, medical certificates and legal documents;
- з) participants registration protocol;
- к) protocols of the competition;
- м) claims and protests made by team representatives;
- н) protocols of decisions of the Supreme Judge regarding applications submitted by team representatives.

12. KATA COMPETITION

12.1. Organization of a competition

Kata competition is organized analogously to kumite competition:

- a) competition is held according to the Olympic system with elimination of the defeated competitor (bouts for the 3rd place are optional);
- б) athletes compete in pairs, which are decided by the draw held in advance;
- в) in each competing pair the judging panel determines the winner, who passes to the next round of the competition.

12.2. Procedures for individual competitions

Procedure for performing kata:

- a) a referee who stands in the centre of the tatami gives commands "shomen ni rei", "shushin ni rei" and "otagai ni rei" to perform the ritual to start a competition;
- b) after that, an athlete wearing a white belt "shiro" sits on a chair at the edge of the area from the side of his exit. An athlete wearing a red belt "aka" comes to the centre of the tatami, announces the name of the kata and starts performing without any further commands from the judges;
- c) When an athlete wearing a red belt "aka" completes kata, he with the permission of the referee, sits on a chair at the edge of the area from the side of his exit. An athlete wearing a white belt "shiro" comes to the centre of the tatami, announces the name of the kata and starts performing without any further commands from the judges;
- d) when both athletes complete their kata, the referee invites them to the starting positions on the tatami and ask corner judges to announce their decision with the command "hantei o torimasu" (make a decision) and "hantei";

e) The referee, based on the decision of all five judges, announces the winner, then gives the athletes the commands "shomen ni rei", "shushin ni rei" and "otagai ni rei" to perform the ritual of the end of the bout and invites them to exit the tatami.

12.3. Kata Competition Etiquette

12.3.1. Panel of judges entering the tatami

Corner judges and referees enter the tatami from the right corner as seen from the table of judges. The referee enters first. Entering the tatami, each judge must bow and say "Osu!" towards the tatami.

The team bypasses the tatami from the right side as seen from the table of judges and line up at the opposite side of the tatami, facing the table of judges at the edge of the zone for performing kata - the referee shall stand in the middle in front, corner judges shall stand behind him.

Referee orders:

- a) "Shomen-ni rei!" (the panel and the referee bow pronouncing "Osu!" towards the table of judges);
- b) "Mawatte!" (the panel and the referee turn at 180 degree);
- c) "Rei!" (the panel and the referee bow pronouncing "Osu!" towards spectators);
- d) "Mawatte!" (the panel turns at 180 degree, while the body of each corner judge must be turned towards the referee; the referee does not turn, but takes a step to the left);
- e) "Rei!" (The referee and the panel bow to each other pronouncing "Osu!").

All turns are performed by judges through the back in a clockwise direction, on the left supporting leg.

Further, corner judges each go to their corner of the tatami, and the referee takes a place on a chair next to the tatami, with his back to the table of judges.

12.3.2. Panel of judges exiting the tatami.

After the end of their work, panel of judges lines up at the edge of the contest, facing the table of judges and repeats the above-described greeting procedure.

The panel of judges follows to the left corner of the tatami as seen from the table of judges. Each judge stops and bows saying "Osu!" towards the tatami and exits the tatami. The referee is the third to exit the tatami.

12.3.3. Participants entering the tatami.

After the announcement of the participant (participants) by the judge-informant. The participant approaches the edge of the tatami opposite to the. Entering the tatami, the participant must bow and say «Osu!». After that the participant approaches to the place from which he or she shall start performing the kata and takes fudo-dachi stance facing the table of judges.

12.3.4. Participants exiting the tatami.

After the judge-informant announces the winner, participant bows pronouncing "Osu!". Back forward, approaches the edge of the tatami, which is at the opposite side to the referee, stops and bows pronouncing "Osu!" and exits the tatami, going to the right side as seen from the table of judges.

12.4. Criteria for evaluation at Kata competitions

12.4.1. Major criteria for making a decision:

- a) performing stances, attacking and defensive movements, head turns and concentration of gaze in an accurate and correct way;
- b) maintaining balance when performing movements, transitions and turns;
- c) sufficient amplitude and body rotation;
- d) correct dynamics of movements, balance between relaxation and concentration;
- e) correct pace and rhythm of movements;
- f) breathing control, coordination of movements and breathing, kiai performing;
- g) concentration of attention and functional state;
- h) for team competitions – movements of all the team members shall be synchronized.

12.4.2. Criteria for assessing performance with a significantly lower score:

- a) mistakes in kata text and technique (incorrect positions and movements);
- b) wrong pace (momentary pause, hesitation).

12.4.3. Disqualification: if an athlete forgets kata or makes serious distortion in the text of kata.

12.4.4. Detailed criteria:

a) speed control

«+»	Punches and blocks are performed at a high speed, but without tension, effortlessly and naturally.
«-»	An athlete performs kata with interruptions or monotonically.

b) strength control

«+»	Strong, accented and dynamic techniques with legs and arms.
«-»	Strong punches or kicks are performed at the expense of a proper technique, punches are performed negligently.

c) breathing control

«+»	Sharp and strong “kiai”, as well as correct “ibuki”
«-»	Not strong enough “kiai” or “ibuki” and inappropriate exhales and inhales. “Kiai” and “ibuki” that are missed or performed in incorrect place are not scored, since “kiai” and “ibuki” can be performed in different places of kata, depending on the version.

d) movements control

«+»	All elements are performed precisely, concentration of gaze. The meaning of the demonstrated elements must be understandable.
«-»	Negligent performance of kata elements, evident lack of understanding of what demonstrated movements mean, loss of gaze concentration.

e) balance

«+»	Stable body, stable center of gravity, stances are stable during the whole kata.
«-»	Loss of balance.

f) spectacularity and fighting spirit

«+»	Demonstration of strong spirit in kata.
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12.5. Procedure of starting the performance

Judge-announcer

- invites athlete to the tatami

Athlete (team)

- comes to the edge of the area from the side opposite to the table of the Judge Panel, waits at the place opposite to the designated place for performance
- bows «osu!»

Centre judge (referee)

- makes a gesture with his right hand open palm towards himself, inviting the athlete to enter the tatami

Athlete (team)

- comes to the starting position and makes fudo-dachi stance
- bows «osu!» to the center judge

Centre judge

- asks an athlete «name of kata?»

Athlete (team)

- pronounces the name of the kata loudly and clearly

Judge-secretary

- registers a kata and checks it according to the list of kata in this category

13. Number of participants per country

12-13 years old: 2 participants per country

14-15 years old: 2 participants per country

16-17 years old: 2 participants per country

18+ years old: 1 participant per country

14. List of compulsory kata

12-13 years old:

1 ROUND – Pinan Sono Ichi

2 ROUND – Pinan Sono Ni

3 ROUND – Pinan Sono San

4 ROUND – Pinan Sono Yon

5 ROUND – Pinan Sono Go

14-15 years old:

1 ROUND – Pinan Sono Go

2 ROUND – Gekisai Dai

3 ROUND – Tsuki No Kata

4 ROUND – Yantsu

5 ROUND – Saiha

16-17 years old:

1 ROUND – Tsuki No Kata

2 ROUND – Yantsu

3 ROUND – Saiha

4 ROUND – Gekisai Sho

5 ROUND – Seienchin

18+ years old

1 ROUND – Gekisai Sho

2 ROUND – Seienchin

3 ROUND – Kanku Dai

4 ROUND – Seipai

5 ROUND – Sushiho