



---

## **TRADITIONAL POOMSAE COMPETITION RULES & INTERPRETATION**

**Effective January 1, 2026**

Revision 2

---

Published by USA Taekwondo  
January 2026

© 2026 USA Taekwondo  
All rights reserved

## Table of Contents

Article 1. Purpose	2
Article 2. Application	3
Article 3. Competition Area	4
Article 4. Contestant	6
Article 5. Classification of Competition	8
Article 6. Divisions by Gender and Age	9
Article 7. Method of Competition	10
Article 8. Compulsory Poomsae	11
Article 9. Order of Competition	12
Article 10. Prohibited Acts / Penalties	13
Article 11. Procedures of the Contest	14
Article 12. Competition Coordinator	16
Article 13. Scoring Criteria	17
Article 14. Methods of Scoring	18
Article 15. Publication of Scores	19
Article 16. Decision and Declaration of Winner	20
Article 17. Procedures for Suspending the Contest	21
Article 18. Refereeing Officials	22
Article 19. Recorder	23
Article 20. Formation and Assignment of Refereeing Officials	24
Article 21. Protest and Arbitration	25
Article 22. Other Matters Not Specified in the Rules	29
Official Letter of Protest	30



## **Article 1. Purpose**

1. The purpose of the Traditional Poomsae Competition Rules is to smoothly and fairly manage all matters pertaining to Traditional Poomsae competitions promoted, organized or sanctioned by USA Taekwondo (USATKD), and to ensure the standardization of Taekwondo Traditional Poomsae competition in the United States.
2. A competition that does not follow the fundamental principles of these rules cannot be recognized as USATKD Traditional Poomsae competition.

## **Article 2. Application**

1. These competition rules shall apply to all Traditional Poomsae competitions to be promoted and/or organized or sanctioned by USATKD. Any USATKD association or event promoter wanting to modify any part of the Competition Rules for a particular event must submit the proposed changes to USATKD along with the reasons for the change in writing. Approval for any changes in these rules must be received from USATKD one month prior to the scheduled competition.
2. Changes such as increase or decrease in the number of USATKD Referees and Judges in each ring or their seating arrangement, the number of rounds, the number of Poomsae performed in each round, change in the size of the Contest Area, change in the position of the inspector, recorder and/or commission doctor, etc., may be made after first gaining the written approval of USATKD. However, such essential matters as scoring must not be changed under any circumstances.

## **Article 3. Competition Area**

### **1. The Competition Area**

- 1.1. The Contest Area shall measure at least 10m x 10m and have a flat surface without any obstructing projections.
- 1.2. Only USATKD-approved mats shall be used at USATKD-sanctioned Traditional Poomsae Championships and must provide safe and secure footing for the competitors.

### **2. Indication of Positions (see Figure 1)**

- 2.1. The boundary line that the contestants start facing is boundary line #1, followed by, clockwise, boundary lines #2, #3, and #4.
- 2.2. Judges: The judges are positioned along Boundary Lines 1 and 3. They are at least 1m from the boundary line with 1m separation between adjacent judges.
  - 2.2.1. Judges are positioned clockwise from the left of the boundary line #1.
- 2.3. Referee: The Referee shall be positioned beside Judge No. 1.
- 2.4. Contestants: Contestants' starting position shall be 2m back from the center of the Contest Area, toward boundary line #3.
- 2.5. Recorder's desk: It shall be positioned at 3m from the Referee on the right side.
- 2.6. Competition coordinator(s): Competition coordinator(s) shall be positioned outside the Contest Area, 1m away from the corner between boundary lines #1 and #2.
- 2.7. Standby contestants and coaches: Standby contestants and coaches shall be positioned outside the Contest Area; if possible, 3m away from the corner between boundary lines #3 and #4.
- 2.8. Inspection desk: An Inspection Desk shall be positioned at the entrance of the Contest Area outside the corner of boundary lines #3 and #4.

### **3. Judging Formats**

- 3.1. Five-Judge Format: The five judges (including the Referee) shall sit 1m away from the Competition Area with 1m separation between adjacent judges. Three judges (including the Referee) shall face the front of the contestants and two shall face the back. The boundary line adjacent to the three front judges shall be deemed boundary line #1, followed by, clockwise, boundary lines #2, #3, and #4. Judges are positioned and numbered clockwise from the left facing boundary line #1.
- 3.2. Three-Judge Format: In the case of a three-judge format, three judges (including the Referee) shall be positioned facing the contestants in the same order as the five-judge format.

### 3.3. Judging Format Requirements by USATKD Event Ranking:

- 3.3.1. All divisions may use either the Three-Judge Format or Five-Judge Format for any Event Ranking.



## **Article 4. Contestant**

### **1. Qualifications of USATKD Traditional Poomsae Contestants**

- 1.1. Contestants must be registered USATKD athlete members.
- 1.2. Contestant must be a USATKD recognized rank (1st & 2nd Geup Red Belt, 3rd & 4th Geup Blue Belt, 5th & 6th Geup Green Belt, 7th & 8th Geup Yellow Belt).
  - 1.2.1. Black belts may only wear a Dan or Poom belt.
  - 1.2.2. Color belt contestants may only wear a yellow, green, blue or red belt, according to the contestant's Geup rank.
- 1.3. All contestants participating in a tournament are required to observe the USATKD Code of Conduct and the rules of the tournament. Violators are subject to sanction by USATKD.
- 1.4. Athlete Protection and Gender Participation Guidelines: In accordance with directives issued by the USOPC, no person who is born as a male shall be permitted to enter any USA Taekwondo event in any category designated as "Female." For purposes of this policy, "male" means a person belonging, at conception, to the sex that produces the small reproductive cell as set out in Executive Order 14168 (January 20, 2025).

### **2. Uniform for Contestants**

#### **2.1. Official Uniform for Contestants**

- 2.1.1. All contestants must wear a white Taekwondo V-neck USATKD approved uniform (dobok) or WT-approved Poomsae competition uniform in good condition, and appropriate to the contestants' division. Black Belts must wear black-collared white uniforms or WT-approved Poomsae competition uniform. Color belts may not wear black-collared or poom-collared uniforms.
  - 2.1.1.1. Female contestants may wear a white or black undershirt. Male contestants may not wear an undershirt.
  - 2.1.1.2. All athletes may wear black pants.
- 2.1.2. Patches, embroidery, logos, team names, country names, contestant names, and stripes are permitted on the uniform. Logos or names on the back of the uniform and patches on the chest area of the uniform are also allowed.
- 2.1.3. Shoes may not be worn.
- 2.1.4. No tape is allowed on any part of the uniform.

### 3. Personal Hygiene & Accessories

- 3.1. All competitors must maintain the highest standard of personal hygiene, keep their nails cut short, and groom their hair neatly. Nail polish must be white or clear.
- 3.2. The only jewelry permitted are earrings, which must be flush to the ear. No other jewelry or piercings may be worn. Inspection may request earrings to be removed if there are safety concerns.
- 3.3. No hats or other items may be worn on the head except for religious coverings.
- 3.4. Hair Accessories
  - 3.4.1. Bobby pins and hair clips shorter than 2 inches are permitted.
  - 3.4.2. Soft hair ties are permitted.
  - 3.4.3. Large Bows are not permitted.
  - 3.4.4. Alligator clips are not permitted.
- 3.5. Any violators of any part of Article 4 will be required to correct the violation within one minute or shall be subject to disqualification.

### 4. Taping

- 4.1. Any taping requires medical approval and can only be for injury.

### 5. Medical Control

- 5.1. At Taekwondo events promoted or sanctioned by USATKD, any use or administration of drugs or chemical substances described in the USOC anti-doping by-laws is prohibited.
- 5.2. USATKD may carry out any medical testing deemed necessary to ascertain if a contestant has committed a breach of this rule. Any winner who refuses to undergo this testing or who proves to have committed such a breach shall be removed from the final standings, and the record shall be transferred to the contestant next in line in the competition standings.
- 5.3. The organizing committee shall be responsible for making arrangements to carry out medical testing.

## **Article 5. Classification of Competition**

1. Contestants may compete in any competition divisions, unless they are limited by gender or age.

1.1. Traditional Poomsae Competition

1.1.1. Men's Individual

1.1.2. Women's Individual

2. Divisions are classified by the style of Traditional Poomsae permitted.

2.1. Kukkiwon

## **Article 6. Divisions by Gender and Age**

### **1. Traditional Poomsae Competition**

1.1. Male and female divisions shall be divided according to age as follows:

Division		Dragon	Tiger	Youth	Cadet	Junior	Under 30	Under 40	Under 50	Over 50
Age (Years)		6 – 7	8 – 9	10 – 11	12 – 14	15 – 17	18 – 30	31 – 40	41 – 50	51+
Individual	Male	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Female	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

## **Article 7. Method of Competition**

1. The only method of competition is:

1.1. Single elimination tournament format

1.1.1. In the single elimination tournament, a competitor is eliminated from competition after one loss.

1.1.2. Competitors are matched with opponents randomly.

1.1.3. Competitors perform one form in each round selected by the competitor from the designated Poomsae list for their division.

1.1.4. Competitors perform simultaneously.

## Article 8. Compulsory Poomsae

1. The Compulsory Poomsae for each Traditional Poomsae division by Belt and Style.

Division	Age	Kukkiwon
Yellow (7th & 8th Geup)	All ages	Taegeuk 1, 2 Jang Palgwe 1, 2 Jang
Green (5th & 6th Geup)	All ages	Taegeuk 3, 4 Jang Palgwe 3, 4 Jang
Blue (3rd & 4th Geup)	All ages	Taegeuk 5, 6 Jang Palgwe 5, 6 Jang
Red (1st & 2nd Geup)	All ages	Taegeuk 7, 8 Jang Palgwe 7, 8 Jang
1st Dan/Poom	All ages	Koryo
2nd Dan/Poom	All ages	Keumgang
3rd Dan/Poom	All ages	Taebaek
4 <sup>th</sup> Dan/Poom & Up All Ages	Dragon Tiger Youth Cadet Junior	Pyongwon
	Under 30	Pyongwon Shipjin Jitae
	Under 40	Pyongwon Shipjin Jitae Chonkwon
	Under 50 Over 50	Pyongwon Shipjin Jitae Chonkwon Hansu

## **Article 9.      Order of Competition**

1. The order of the first round will be randomly seeded.
2. The randomization will be accomplished by drawing of lots or by other random process. Some electronic scoring systems can randomly order the competitors in the ring.

## **Article 10. Prohibited Acts / Penalties**

1. The Referee shall declare penalties for any prohibited acts.
2. Penalties are defined as “Kyeong-go” (deduction of points by penalties).
3. “Kyeong-go” shall be declared on the following prohibited acts:
  - 3.1. Uttering undesirable remarks or any misconduct on the part of a contestant or a coach. This includes any act that intentionally interferes with another competitor, coach or official.
  - 3.2. According to the judgment of the referee, a coach, an amateur contestant or Taekwondo practitioner is not behaving with proper manner and respect the code of conduct.
  - 3.3. Athletes or coaches who interrupt or stand in the way of the competition coordinator while they are conducting the competition.
4. Should a contestant be assessed two (2) deductions, the referee shall declare the contestant a loser on penalties. “Kyeong-go,” as defined in this Article, refers to deduction of points due to behavior that disrespects the spirit of sport, rather than due to judges’ scoring in terms of accuracy and presentation.
5. When a coach or contestant commits excessive misconduct and does not follow the referee’s command, the referee may declare a sanction request by raising a yellow card. In this case, the Competition Supervisory Board shall investigate the coach’s behavior and determine whether a sanction is appropriate.



## **Article 11. Procedures of the Contest**

### **1. Call for contestants**

- 1.1. Thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the contest, the names of the contestants shall be announced three times in the contestants' pre-staging. Any contestant who fails to appear in the Competition Area after the "Chool-jeon" command of the competition coordinator shall be regarded as having withdrawn from and forfeited the match.

### **2. Standby**

- 2.1. Each contestant, accompanied by only one coach, shall wait at the contestants' waiting area for the physical and uniform inspection.

### **3. Physical inspection and uniform inspection.**

- 3.1. After being called, the contestants shall undergo a physical inspection and a uniform inspection at the specified inspection desk by an inspector designated by USATKD. The contestant shall not show any signs of aversion and shall not bear any object that may cause harm to the other contestant.

### **4. Entering the Competition Area**

- 4.1. Following the inspection, the contestant(s) shall enter the contestant standby waiting area with one coach. Upon the Competition Coordinator's command of "Chool-jeon" (enter) the contestant(s) shall enter the Contest Area. When issuing the command "Chool-jeon" the Competition Coordinator motions with his/her left hand directing the contestant(s) into the Contest Area to the contestant's designated spot. The coach remains in the designated contestant standby area.

### **5. Single Elimination Tournament**

- 5.1. In individual competitions, the competitors, designated as Chung and Hong enter together.
- 5.2. Contestants shall make a standing bow at the competition coordinator's command of "Cha-ryeot" (attention) and "Kyeong-rye" (bow).
- 5.3. When issuing the command "Kyeong-rye" the Competition Coordinator motions with his/her hands directing the contestant(s) to bow to the judges along Boundary Line #1.
- 5.4. The Contestants perform their forms simultaneously.
- 5.5. Beginning of the Performance. The performance begins when the Competition Coordinator announces "Chool-jeon," "Cha-ryeot," "Kyeong-rye," "Joon-bi" and "Shi-jak" (start).

### **6. Completion of performance**

- 6.1. The performance ends with the Competition Coordinator commanding "Bah-roh" (back to ready), "Shi-ah", contestant(s) shall stand in their respective positions wait until the coordinator's declaration

of “Judges Ready” then “Pyo-chul”. Then “Cha-ryeot,” “Kyeong-rye.” When issuing the command “Kyeong-rye” the Competition Coordinator motions with his/her hands directing the contestant(s) to bow to the judges along Boundary Line #1.

7. Awarding of the winner

- 7.1. The Referee and Judges shall display their individual selection of a winner when the Competition Coordinator announces “Judges Ready”, waits for the judges to be ready, followed by “Pyo-chul”. The Coordinator shall then award the winner by declaring “Chung/Hong Sung”.

8. Retirement of the contestants

- 8.1. The contestant exits on the Competition Coordinator's command “Tuae-jahng” (exit). When issuing the command “Tuae-jahng” the Coordinator motions with his/her hand directing the contestant(s) from the designated spot out of the Contest Area. The hand motion shall be respectful, performed with formality, not in a dismissive fashion.

## **Article 12. Competition Coordinator**

### **1. Qualifications**

- 1.1. The Referee Chair or his/her designee shall assign the Competition Coordinator(s).

### **2. Duties**

- 2.1. One or two Competition Coordinators shall be assigned.
- 2.2. The Competition Coordinator(s) shall verify the contestants' identities and direct contestants in and out of the contest area and shall assist the refereeing officials to ensure the unimpeded progress of the competition and declare the winners/medalists.

### **Article 13. Scoring Criteria**

1. Scoring shall be made in accordance with the principles of Traditional Poomsae according to each individual Style.
2. The superiority of a contestant shall be determined by greater Technique, Balance, Power, Speed, Rhythm, Tempo, and Expression of Energy as defined by the specific Style for the division.
  - 2.1. The definition of Superior for each Style is determined by its history, training conventions, and official publications. i.e. the Kukkiwon Textbook for Kukkiwon Style.

## **Article 14. Methods of Scoring**

### **1. Traditional Poomsae**

- 1.1. Technique is the specific performance method of each movement.
- 1.2. Balance is the stability of the athlete during and between each movement.
- 1.3. Power is the generation of force to make the technique effective.
- 1.4. Speed is the correct quickness or slowness of each movement.
- 1.5. Rhythm is the connection between different movements in the form as specified by the definition of that form.
- 1.6. Tempo is the overall pace of the form.
- 1.7. Expression of Energy is the presence and confidence of the contestant.

## **Article 15. Publication of Scores**

1. The final result shall be announced immediately following the competition.

## **Article 16. Decision and Declaration of Winner**

1. Traditional Poomsae is scored by each Referee and Judge voting by raising the hand on the side of the Contestant they determined to have the superior performance.
  - 1.1. The winning contestant is the contestant who receives the most votes from the Referee and Judges assigned to the match.
2. Contestants performing a form not on their Compulsory List are disqualified.

## **Article 17. Procedures for Suspending the Contest**

1. When a contest is to be stopped during the competition, the Referee shall:
  - 1.1. At the time of suspending the match, the Competition Coordinator is to determine the reason(s) for the stoppage of the competition.
  - 1.2. In the case in which a contest is stopped due to problems related to a contestant, and should a contestant not demonstrate the will to continue the contest within 90 seconds, the referee shall declare the opposing contestant as the winner. In the case where the stoppage of a contest is not related to the contestants, the problem shall be resolved quickly and another chance to perform shall be given to pertinent contestants.
  - 1.3. All the other problems that may arise shall be resolved through the meeting of the Referee and Judges of the pertinent competition, Referee Chairperson, and the Competition Supervisory Board members.



## **Article 18. Refereeing Officials**

### **1. Qualifications**

- 1.1. Judges shall be USATKD Referees.
- 1.2. Referee shall be a USATKD Referee.

### **2. Duties**

#### **2.1. Referee**

- 2.1.1. The Referee shall determine the superior athlete.
- 2.1.2. The Referee shall declare the winner and issue “Kyeong-go” (deduction of points by penalties). The Referee shall declare the winner only after the Referee’s and Judges’ decision has been confirmed.
- 2.1.3. The Referee is permitted to summon the Judges during the competition, if the need arises.

#### **2.2. Judges**

- 2.2.1. The Judges shall determine the superior athlete.
- 2.2.2. The Judges shall state their opinions forthrightly when requested to do so by the Referee.

### **3. Uniform of the Refereeing officials**

- 3.1. Refereeing officials shall wear uniforms designated by USATKD.

### **4. Refereeing officials shall not carry or take any materials to the Competition Area that might interfere with the contest.**

### **5. The Chairman of the Competition Supervisory Board may request the Chair of the refereeing officials that a refereeing official be reassigned in the event that refereeing officials have been improperly assigned, or when it is judged by the Competition Supervisory Board that any of the assigned refereeing officials have unfairly conducted the contest or made unreasonable mistakes.**

## **Article 19. Recorder**

1. The recorder shall record the Referee and Judges' votes and document the winner. The recorder shall time any suspension of time during the contest.

## **Article 20. Formation and Assignment of Refereeing Officials**

1. Composition of refereeing officials
  - 1.1. Five-Judge Format: 1 Referee, 4 Judges
  - 1.2. Three-Judge Format: 1 Referee, 2 Judges
2. Assignment of refereeing officials
  - 2.1. The assignment of the Referee and Judges shall be made after the contest schedule is set.
  - 2.2. Referee and Judges with the same state or club as that of either contestant or with a conflict of interest shall not be assigned to such a contest. However, an exception shall be made for the Judges when the number of refereeing officials is insufficient, as the case may be. Prior to the beginning of the pertinent contest, Referee and Judges must disclose any conflict of interest to the Referee Chairperson or his/her designee.

## **Article 21. Protest and Arbitration**

1. A procedure for protest is provided in case there is a clear erroneous decision from the refereeing officials in identification of the winning contestants, errors in the scoring system, or other administrative errors resulting in the wrong players being named as winners. However, as a first recourse, the coach/team captain should respectfully bring the matter to the attention of the officiating team; if the situation cannot be resolved, then a formal protest may be filed.
  - 1.1. Note that only procedural and administrative errors are subject to protest (including errors in addition or calculation of winners when an electronic system is not in use). Disagreements about scoring are not protestable.
2. Composition and Authority of the Competition Supervisory Board
  - 2.1. Qualifications of the members:
    - 2.1.1. Qualified Competition Supervisory Board members shall be persons with sufficient Taekwondo experience recommended by the USATKD Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee.
  - 2.2. Composition:
    - 2.2.1. One Chairman and no more than six members.
      - 2.2.1.1. One (1) Referee Chair or their designee.
      - 2.2.1.2. One (1) credentialed coach, selected by the USATKD Performance Department, Coach Advisory Group or onsite USATKD events management lead.
      - 2.2.1.3. One (1) athlete representative, eligible and participating in the current event.
      - 2.2.1.4. One (1) USATKD staff member, designated by the USA Taekwondo CEO, USA Taekwondo Managing Director of Operations or designee.
      - 2.2.1.5. One (1) Medical Staff member, designated by the USATKD Event Managing Director.
    - 2.2.2. If there are officials from the same state or the same training affiliation, as either contestant involved on the Competition Supervisory Board, those members must be excluded from the Board. In all cases, the number of Board members must be an odd number. If the Chair is one who is ineligible, a temporary chair must be elected by the remaining members.
    - 2.2.3. The chair and members of the Competition Supervisory Board will be appointed by the USATKD Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee.
      - 2.2.3.1. For USATKD owned, operated or sanctioned events, the CSB for each event will be appointed prior to the beginning of the tournament.
  - 2.3. Responsibility

- 2.3.1. The Competition Supervisory Board shall adjudicate protests and correct misjudgments if necessary. In their concurrent capacity as the Sanction Committee, the Competition Supervisory Board may also take disciplinary action against the officials committing the infraction. Documented records and results shall be sent to the USATKD Chief Executive Officer.

## 2.4. Powers and Authority of the Competition Supervisory Board

- 2.4.1. The CSB shall have the authority to:

- 2.4.1.1. Review all relevant circumstances and available evidence.
- 2.4.1.2. Interview involved parties and witnesses.
- 2.4.1.3. Recommend or implement solutions, remedies, or disciplinary actions, even if those remedies are not explicitly detailed in the existing rulebook, provided they are grounded in fairness, integrity, and the safety and well-being of the athletes.
- 2.4.1.4. Issue temporary rulings or guidance for the remainder of the event if immediate resolution is required.

- 2.4.2. The Chair of the Competition Supervisory Board may recommend that the USATKD Referee Chairman for that event or USATKD designee replace referees or judges.

## 2.5. Guiding Principles of Competition Supervisory Board

- 2.5.1. Fairness over Formalism: When rules are silent, fairness and athlete protection will prevail.
- 2.5.2. Transparency and Accountability: All actions taken will be documented and reported post-event for transparency and possible rule amendments.
- 2.5.3. Inclusivity: Solutions will prioritize the inclusive spirit of taekwondo and consider the diverse needs of all participants.

## 2.6. Post-Event Review

- 2.6.1. Decisions made by a CSB during an event will be subject to post-event review by USA Taekwondo leadership, with the opportunity to codify new precedents or propose rulebook amendments for future clarity.

## 3. Protest Procedure After the Match

- 3.1. In case there is an objection that cannot be resolved with the officiating team, within 10 minutes after the match in Single Elimination or the final round of the Combination system, or round in Cut-Off, Modified Cut-Off, or the preliminary or semi-final round of the Combination system, the certified coach representing the athlete may submit an application for re-evaluation of decision (protest application) together with the prescribed, non-refundable fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the Event Director.

- 3.2. Deliberation of re-evaluation shall be carried out excluding those members of the same state or training affiliation as that of either contestant concerned, and resolution shall be made by majority vote.
  - 3.3. The members of the Board of Arbitration (Competition Supervisory Board) may summon the refereeing officials for confirmation of events.
  - 3.4. The resolution made by the Competition Supervisory Board will be final and no further means of appeal will be applied.
4. Deliberation procedures are as follows:
- 4.1. A coach or head of team representing the protesting player is permitted to make a brief verbal presentation to the Board of Arbitration in support of their position.
  - 4.2. After reviewing the protest application, the content of the protest must be arranged according to the criterion of "Acceptable" or "Unacceptable."
  - 4.3. If necessary, the Board can hear opinions from the referee or judges.
  - 4.4. If necessary, the Board can review the material evidence of the decision, such as the written records (brackets, competitor lists, score sheets, tally sheets), or electronic records of the match. No videotapes can be used.
  - 4.5. After deliberation, the Board holds a secret ballot to determine a majority decision.
    - 4.5.1. In the event of a tie in CSB decision-making, the CEO of USATKD (or their designated representative) will cast the deciding vote.
  - 4.6. The Chair will make a report documenting the outcome of the deliberation and shall make this outcome publicly known.
  - 4.7. Subsequent process following the decision:
    - 4.7.1. Errors in determining the match results, mistakes in calculating the match score or misidentifying a contestant shall be corrected.
  - 4.8. Errors in application of the rules:
    - 4.8.1. When it is determined by the Board that the officiating team made a clear error in applying the Competition Rules (for example, advancing the wrong number of players) the outcome of the error shall be corrected.
  - 4.9. The Chair of the Competition Supervisory Board may recommend that the USATKD Referee Chairman for that event or USATKD designee replace referees or judges in the event that refereeing officials have been wrongly assigned, or when it is judged that any of the assigned refereeing officials have unfairly conducted the contest or made unjustifiable mistakes.

## 5. Procedure of Sanction

- 5.1. The deliberation procedure of Sanction shall correspond to that of Competition Supervisory Board, and the details of sanction will comply with the Regulations on Sanctions.
- 5.2. The USATKD Executive Director (or in case of his/her absence, the USATKD Referee Chairman for that event or USATKD designee) may request that the Sanction Committee meet to deliberate when any of the following behaviors are committed by a coach, contestant, or official:
  - 5.2.1. Interfering with the management of a contest
  - 5.2.2. Stirring up spectators or spreading false rumor
  - 5.2.3. Aggressive or inappropriate behavior toward any technical officials
  - 5.2.4. Not leaving the contest area after the contest
  - 5.2.5. Throwing any materials and/or equipment
- 5.3. When judged reasonable, the Sanction Committee shall deliberate and take disciplinary action immediately. The result shall be announced and reported to the USATKD Chief Executive Officer.
- 5.4. The Sanction Committee may summon involved persons for confirmation of events.

## **Article 22. Other Matters Not Specified in the Rules**

1. In the interest of maintaining fairness, integrity, and responsiveness during competitive events, this rule provides a formal mechanism to address any and all matters not explicitly covered by the existing competition rules.
  - 1.1. Matters relating to a contest shall be decided through consensus by a Competition Supervisory Board
    - 1.1.1. The Competition Supervisory Board shall be composed and operate according to Article 23.2 through Article 23.5
  - 1.2. Matters not related to a specific contest through the event shall be decided by the USA Taekwondo Managing Director of Operations or their designee.
2. In the case where the competition rules are not clearly addressed in the published competition rules, procedures, or guidelines and cannot be resolved with the officiating team, within 10 minutes of the pertinent content, the certified coach representing the athlete may submit an application for re-evaluation of decision (Official Letter of Protest) together with the prescribed, non-refundable fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the USATKD Event Director.



## Official Letter of Protest

Event Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Ring #: \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby officially submit this protest in accordance with  
the Code of Operations of the \_\_\_\_\_  
(event name) and Article \_\_\_\_ of the Traditional Poomsae Competition Rules of USA Taekwondo.

### Details of Protest:

---

---

---

---

### Decision Delivered by the Competition Supervisory Board:

---

---

---

**Name:**

**Signature:**

**Title:**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

NOTE: Protest must be done within ten minutes after the match is complete. A non-refundable \$100 protest-filing fee, in cash, must be submitted along with this protest form. The decision of the Competition Supervisory Board is final, and there is no further recourse. You must sign this form with this understanding.

Coach Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_