



US National Poomsae Ranking Rules

1. Poomsae Ranking Points Introduction

- The USATKD ranking points will be applied to any recognized USATKD championship and USATKD sanctioned event.
- Team Trial events for team spots will not earn ranking points.

1.1. USATKD will maintain ranking points for the following divisions in Poomsae:

- Individual Recognized Poomsae:
 - Dragon (6-7): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Tiger (8-9): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Youth (10-11): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Cadet (12-14): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Junior (15-17): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Under 30 (18-30): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Under 40 (31-40): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Under 50 (41-50): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Under 60 (51-60): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Under 65 (61-65): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Over 66 (66+): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
 - Over 70 (71+): Yellow, Green, Blue, Red, and Black belts
- Individual Freestyle Poomsae:
 - Under 17: Black Belts
 - Over 17: Black Belts
 - Youth: Black Belts

2. Rankings and Points Standings

2.1. Points and rankings will be published on the [USATKD website](#).

2.2. Points will be updated and published the **first Wednesday of each month**.

- Once an event organizer has properly submitted all results and required documents to the USATKD office, the points will be posted. If an event takes place at the end of the month and results are not submitted in time to be posted by the first Wednesday of the immediately following month, those points will be included the month after.

2.3. Seeding

- Seeding for events will be based on the current posted rankings on the USATKD website. Seeding will be based solely on an athlete's rank, athletes from the same state/school may compete against each other in the first round of an event. This seeding process will not consider the club an athlete is from.
- There will not be any seeding for any World Taekwondo sanctioned event hosted by USATKD. Only the Under30, Under 40, and Over 17 Freestyle divisions will be seeded based on the World Taekwondo rankings.

- If there are multiple athletes with the same points rankings, a random draw will be held to determine the seeding for the athletes with the same points ranking. A random draw will be used to determine the seeding at an event where the competing athletes are tied in the points rankings.
- *Example: If three athletes in one division have the same number of points and are ranked 4th in the rankings that are posted the first Wednesday of the month, then they will be randomly seeded for the tournament. A random draw will be done for seeds 4, 5, and 6.*

Example, Athlete Rankings as of first Wednesday of the month:

Athlete	Points	Rank
A	100	1
B	90	2
C	75	3
D	70	4
E	70	4
F	70	4

Example Event Seeding:

Seed #	Athlete or Pair/Team
1	A
2	B
3	C
4	D/E/F
5	D/E/F
6	D/E/F

If athletes D, E and F compete in the same event, seeds 4, 5 and 6 will be selected by random draw.

2.4. If a cut off system is used and flights are utilized, the top four seeds will be separated into different flights. The top four seeded athletes will compete last in the first round.

○ *Example:*

Athlete	Rank
A	1
B	2
C	3
D	4
E	5
F	6
G	7
H	8
I	9
J	10

Flights	
Flight 1	Flight 2
All other athletes. No seeding	All other athletes. No seeding.
D	C
A	B

2.5. If a Single Elimination Bracket is used, each athlete will be placed in the bracket based on their points ranking.



2.6. Event Seeding:

- **Individual Poomsae Seeding:**

- When a division is using the cut-off system, athletes will be seeded using the most current posted individual ranking points.
- In a cut-off or modified cut-off system, if there are 7 or less athletes in a division only the top two individual athletes, based off of the most current posted ranking points, will be seeded for the first round. The order for all other athletes will be randomized for the first round.
- In a cut-off or modified cut-off system, if there are 8 or more athletes in a division only the top four individual athletes, based off the most current posted ranking points, will be seeded for the first round. The order for all other athletes will be randomized for the first round.
- When a division uses a single elimination bracket all athletes will be seeded based off the most current posted ranking points.

- **Pairs and Teams Poomsae**

- Since not all athletes participate in individual divisions, the recognized and freestyle pairs and teams divisions will not be seeded.

3. Allocation of Points

3.1. Domestic Events

- To receive points for competing in a tournament it must be sanctioned by the USATKD. Athletes who compete in a United States event not sanctioned by USATKD will not receive any points for that event. A non-sanctioned event will not have any effect on an athlete's ranking, and an athlete cannot earn points from competing in such an event. Please check with the tournament organizing committee if you are unsure whether an event is sanctioned or not.
- Each sanctioned event will be assigned a rating prior to registration opening based on the event organizer's application.

Event Sanction Rankings

Event Rank		Type of Event	Event
2.0	Prelim Event	Area Events	Area Clubs
6.0	Prelim Event	Intrastate Event	USATKD: 2 states/5 clubs
10.0	Prelim Event	Regional	USATKD: 4 states/10 clubs
12.0	Prelim Event	NCTA	NCTA Collegiate Championships
12.0	Prelim Event	State Championships	Hosted by a USATKD State Association
30.0	Major Event	National	USATKD American Open
40.0	Major Event	National	USATKD Season Final
50.0	Major Event	International	*Other WT G1 Sanctioned Events
60.0	Major Event	National	US Taekwondo Championships
70.0	Major Event	International	US Open and *other WT G2/G3 Sanctioned Events

***Points only awarded if tournament is hosted by USATKD**

3.2. Event Sanction Minimum Standards

- Events must meet minimum standards to receive full points at the sanction level requested. If an event does not meet the minimum standards, the base points will be decreased by 25% for that event. Kyorugi and Poomsae events will be evaluated separately based on the number of kyorugi athletes registered and the number of poomsae athletes registered.

3.3. State

- To receive credit for a state in attendance at a sanctioned event there needs to be 10 different poomsae athletes registered and confirmed for the event from that state. The event will not be considered to have a state represented at the tournament unless there are 10 different individual poomsae athletes with confirmed registrations 7 days prior to the start of the event. One individual registering for multiple events only counts as one registered athlete. If there are less than 10 poomsae athletes confirmed for the event, it will not count as a state being represented at the event.

3.4. Clubs

- To receive credit for a club in attendance at a sanctioned event there need to be 5 different poomsae athletes registered and confirmed for the event from that club. The event will not be considered to have a club represented at the tournament unless there are 5 different individual poomsae athletes with confirmed registrations 7 days prior to the start of the event. One individual registering for multiple events only counts as one registered athlete. If there are less than 5 poomsae athletes confirmed for the event, it will not count as a club being represented at the event.

	Minimum Number of Poomsae Athletes Needed Per Category
State	10 per state
Club	5 per club

- Tournament hosts will submit a sanction application, which must be approved by USATKD. Organizers will be allowed to select their desired event rating. If an event fails to meet the required standards set forth by the sanction policies ten days prior to start of the event, the event base points will be decreased by 25%. Athletes will receive points based on the 25% decrease of the base points. An event cannot move up in rate if it meets the higher-rating requirements. Athletes will only receive points based off the event rating.

3.5. Sanctioning Points

- Below are the maximum points that can be earned for a USATKD sanctioned event determined by the event rating.

3.6. Domestic Points

- Points for all sanctioned events will be based on the number of competitors competing in the division.
- If there are three or less athletes in a division at an event the athletes will receive a maximum of 50% of the points for that sanctioned event.
- If there are four or more athletes in a division at an event the athletes will receive full points for that sanctioned event.
- To receive the base points, the athlete must check-in, step on the mat, and perform their form. Bowing out and not completing the form, will not earn points.

Points for Cut-Off Tournament Format:

	US 2.0	US 6.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 20.0	US 30.0	US 40.0	US 50.0	US60.0	US 70.0
	20	60	100	120	200	300	400	500	600	700
	15	45	75	90	150	225	300	375	450	525
	11	34	56	68	113	169	225	281	338	394
	11	34	56	68	113	169	225	281	338	394
	8	25	42	51	85	127	169	211	254	296
	7	19	32	38	64	95	127	158	191	222
7th	6	17	28	33	56	83	111	139	167	195
8th	5	14	24	28	48	71	95	119	143	167
Semifinals	4	11	18	21	36	53	71	89	107	125
Preliminaries	3	8	13	16	27	40	53	67	80	94

Points for a Single Elimination Tournament Format:

	US 2.0	US 6.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 20.0	US 30.0	US 40.0	US 50.0	US60.0	US 70.0
1st	20	60	100	120	200	300	400	500	600	700
2nd	15	45	75	90	150	225	300	375	450	525
3rd (SF)	11	34	56	68	113	169	225	281	338	394
5th (QF)	8	25	42	51	85	127	169	211	254	296
9th (R16)	6	19	32	38	64	95	127	158	191	222
17th (R32)	5	14	24	28	48	71	95	119	143	167
33rd (R64)	4	11	18	21	36	53	71	89	107	125
64th (R128)	3	8	13	16	27	40	53	67	80	94

Points for Combination System Format (Cut-off + Single Elimination):

	US 2.0	US 6.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 20.0	US 30.0	US 40.0	US 50.0	US60.0	US 70.0
1st	20	60	100	120	200	300	400	500	600	700
2nd	15	45	75	90	150	225	300	375	450	525
3rd (SF)	11	34	56	68	113	169	225	281	338	394
5th (QF)	8	25	42	51	85	127	169	211	254	296
Semifinals	4	11	18	21	36	53	71	89	107	125
Preliminaries	3	8	13	16	27	40	53	67	80	94

3.7. Points from Sanctioned Events

- An athlete will only be permitted to earn a maximum number of points for US 2.0, US 6.0, US 10.0, and US 12.0 sanctioned events each calendar year. A maximum of 250 combined points can be earned from the preliminary rated tournaments. An athlete will be able to earn any number of points from US 20.0, US 30.0, US 40.0, US 50.0, US 60.0, and US 70.0 sanctioned events each calendar year. There is no limit to the amount of points an athlete can earn from the major rated tournaments.
- Athletes will be limited to the number of State Championships they can compete in from January 1 – December 31. Athletes can earn points for their overall ranking in a total of two State Championships. An athlete can compete in any two State Championships
- If an athlete competes in more than two USATKD State Championships, they will receive the highest number of points they earned from the two state championships.

Sanction	Maximum Number of Points (per calendar year)
2.0	Maximum 250 combined points
6.0	
10.0	
12.0	
12.0	
30.0	No limit to number of points
40.0	No limit to number of points
50.0	No limit to number of points
60.0	No limit to number of points
70.0	No limit to number of points

3.8. Competing in Events

- To receive the base points, the athlete must check-in, step on the mat, and complete their form and receive a score. Stepping on the mat and bowing out will not earn an athlete ranking points.
- If an athlete competes and moves on to the next round and then bows out in any upcoming rounds in the tournament and does not complete any other forms, that athlete will only receive the points for the place they finish based off their previous round. Athletes will not receive points for making it to a round and bowing out of that round.
- Athletes can only compete in one State Championship tournament within a five-day period or per weekend, Friday through Monday. An athlete cannot compete and earn points in multiple tournaments in the same weekend. If an athlete does compete in two sanctioned events over the same weekend, they will only receive points for the first tournament they compete in.
- *Example: an athlete cannot compete in the Colorado State Championship on Saturday and then compete in the Nevada State Championship on Sunday. If an*

athlete does compete in both tournaments the athlete will only receive points for the Colorado State Championship, since that was the first tournament the athlete competed in.

- USATKD does not recommend 12 and under athletes competing more than once every month.
- USATKD does not recommend athletes 15 and older competing more than once every two weeks.
- Below is an example of a 16-person US 8.0 Single Elimination Event. Everyone performs a form and there are no ranked athletes competing in the event. Each athlete will only earn the points available for that event.



International Events

- No points will be earned for international tournaments sanctioned by World Taekwondo. The only exception will be the US Open, and any other World Taekwondo sanctioned G1, G2, or G3 hosted by USATKD. All athletes can earn points towards their overall ranking in divisions contested at these tournaments.

4. Validation of Points

4.1. The points earned by an athlete will remain for 12 months.

- Points will be updated as events are completed, and the organizer properly submits all requirements and payments. If an event takes place in January 2023 of one year, those points will roll off in January the following year, after the 12-month period from the last event. If an event moves dates, from July of one year to January the following year, those points will be removed in January the following year at the conclusion of the new event. Points will be updated as events are finished, and the organizer properly submits all requirements and results. Points will be earned in the division an athlete competes in.

4.2. Changing Belt Color During the Year

- If an athlete changes belt colors during the year the points they have earned will decrease by 60%. The athlete will then keep 100% of the points earned at the new belt color. The points at the new belt color and updated current points from the old belt color will remain until the points roll off after 12 months.

4.3. Example: Player A starts the year as a Blue Belt, but in April moves up to a Red Belt.

Blue Belt		Red Belt		Blue Belt Final Ranking
March		July	October	
CO State	NV State	Nationals	US 8.0 Event	120
60	60	100	80	

New Points Now Competing as Red Belt:				
March		July	October	Final Red Belt Total
CO State	NV State	Nationals	US 8.0 Event	228
24	24	100	80	

- If athletes change to World Class Black Belts at Cadet, Junior, or Senior level, they will keep 30% of the points earned from events at the lower belt color, since these divisions compete for the potential to attend World and Pan Am Championship events. The points at the new belt color and updated current points from the old belt color will remain until the points roll off after 12 months.

4.4. Example: Player A starts year as Red Belt. After Nationals moves to World Class Black Belt.

Red Belt			World Class Black Belt	Red Belt Final Ranking
March		July	October	
CO State	NV State	Nationals	US 8.0 Event	220
60	60	100	80	

New Points Now Competing as World Class Black Belt:				
March		July	October	Final WC Black Belt Total
CO State	NV State	Nationals	US 8.0 Event	146
18	18	30	80	

4.5. Aging up Divisions

- When an athlete ages up and moves up to the next age division, that athlete will carry 50% of the points earned from events at the younger age division. These points will remain for 12 months. These points are valid for their remaining life and will expire 12 months after the date of the event in which they were earned in the previous year.

4.6. Example: Player A is a Cadet Black Belt Athlete in one year and ages up to Junior Black Belt Athlete the following year.

Cadet Black Belt				Cadet Final Ranking
March		July	October	
CO State 60	NV State 60	Nationals 100	US 8.0 Event 80	300
New Points for now Competing as Junior Black Belt:				
March		July	October	Junior Black Belt Total
CO State 30	NV State 30	Nationals 50	US 8.0 Event 40	150