US National Poomsae Ranking Rules

January 2024

1. **Poomsae Ranking Points Introduction**
   - The USATKD ranking points will be applied to any recognized USATKD championship and USATKD sanctioned event.

   - World Taekwondo competitions:
     - World Taekwondo World Championships and Pan American Championships will earn national team members 250 bonus points in individual divisions.

   - Team Trial events for team slots 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:
     - 17 and Under: Black Belts
     - 18 and Over: Black Belts

2. **Rankings and Points Standings**
   2.1. Points, rankings, and event results will be posted on the USATKD website.

   2.2. Points will be updated and posted the **first Wednesday of each month**.
   - Once an event organizer has properly submitted all results, event referee documents, membership forms and payments, and other event documents to the USATKD office, then 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. Since seeds 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 take into account the club an athlete is from.

   - For USATKD 10.0 International sanctioned events, if a division has an international athlete confirmed, then seeding for only that division will be done randomly. Random seeding will be performed since the international athletes will not have a ranking in the USATKD Tusah National Ranking.

- There will not be any seeding for any World Taekwondo sanctioned event hosted by USATKD. Only the G2 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.*

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

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.

o *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.

Under 30 and Under 40 recognized individual black belt divisions

2.6. Event Seeding:
- **Individual Poomsae Seeding:**
  o Athletes will be seeded based off the most current posted individual ranking points.
  o 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.
  o 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 the Under 30 and Under 40 recognized black belt divisions use a single elimination bracket all athletes will be seeded based off the most current posted ranking points.

- **Pairs and Teams Poomsae**
  - Due to not all athletes participating 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 the sanctioned by USATKD Events Office. 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 Rankin	Type of Event	Event
2.0	Area events	Area clubs
4.0	Local Events	USATKD: 2 states/5 clubs
10.0	International Events	4 states, 10 clubs, & 5 countries (other than USA) *Athletes must provide proof of residency and must be competing in sparring.* NCTA Collegiate Championships
12.0	State Championships	Hosted by a USATKD State Association
14.0	Regional Events	USATKD Regional Grand Prix Championships
16.0	National Events	USATKD Nationals
20.0	Major Event	US Open, USATKD Grand Prix Final, *PATU Series, *PATU President's Cup

*Points only awarded if tournament is hosted by USATKD

3.2. Event Sanction Minimum Standards
- Events must meet minimum standards to receive the sanction level requested. If an event does not meet the minimum standards, that event will be regulated down to the sanction level where the minimum standards are met. Sparring and Poomsae events will be evaluated separately based on the number of poomsae athletes registered and the number of sparring athletes registered. The sanctioning level could be different if the poomsae registrations do not meet the minimum standards.

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 needs 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.

3.5. International
- To receive credit as an international event there needs to be at least 1 poomsae athlete from 5 countries other than the United States, registered and confirmed 7 days prior to the start of the event. Each country must have at least 1 poomsae athlete registered and confirmed to have representation. One individual registering for multiple events only counts as one registered athlete. The athlete must provide proof of residency for that country. It will be the responsibility of the event host to provide copies of each athlete's proof of residency 7 days prior to the start of the event.

	Minimum Number of Poomsae Athletes Needed Per Category
State	10 per state
Club	5 per club
International	1 per country

- Event organizers will submit a sanction application, which must be approved by USATKD. Organizers will be allowed to select the desired event ranking. If an event fails to meet the required standards set forth by the sanction policies seven days prior to start of the event, the event will be changed to the appropriate sanction level. Athletes will receive points for the actual event sanction level of the tournament. But an event cannot move up in a ranking if it meets the higher-ranking requirements. Athletes will then only receive points based off the event ranking. If an event fails to meet the event standards, they will be fined.

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

3.7. Domestic Points
- Points for all USATKD sanctioned events will be based on the number of competitors competing in the division.

o   If there is only one athlete in a division the single athlete will receive 25% of the first place points for that tournament.

o   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 tournament.

o   If there are four or more athletes in a division at an event the athletes will receive full points for that tournament.

o   To receive the base points, the athlete must check-in, step on the mat, and perform their form. Bowing out and not completing a form, will not earn points.

Points for Cut-Off Tournament Format:

	US 2.0	US 4.0	US 6.0	US 8.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 14.0	US 16.0	US 18.0	US 20.0
1st	20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200
2nd	15	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135	150
3rd	11	23	34	45	56	68	79	90	101	113
4th	11	23	34	45	56	68	79	90	101	113
5th	10	21	32	43	52	63	71	84	95	106
6th	9	19	30	40	48	58	67	78	89	99
7th	8	18	28	37	44	54	63	72	83	93
8th	8	17	25	34	42	51	59	68	76	85
Semi-Finals	6	13	19	25	32	38	44	51	57	64
Preliminaries	5	10	14	19	24	29	33	38	43	48

Points for a Single Elimination Tournament Format:

	US 2.0	US 4.0	US 6.0	US 8.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 14.0	US 16.0	US 18.0	US 20.0
1st	20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200
2nd	15	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135	150
3rd (SF)	11	23	34	45	56	68	79	90	101	113
5th (QF)	8	17	25	34	42	51	59	68	76	85
9 th (R16)	6	13	19	25	32	38	44	51	57	64
17th (R32)	5	10	14	19	24	29	33	38	43	48
33rd (R64)	4	8	11	14	18	22	25	29	32	36
65th (R128)	3	6	8	11	13	16	19	22	24	27

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

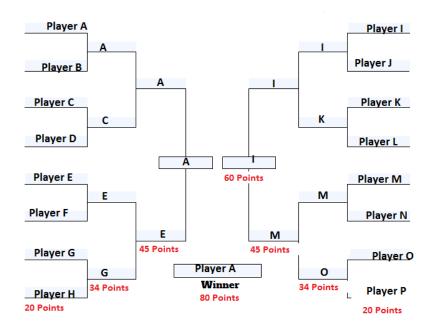|	US 2.0	US 4.0	US 6.0	US 8.0	US 10.0	US 12.0	US 14.0	US 16.0	US 18.0	US 20.0
1st	20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200
2nd	15	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135	150
3rd (SF)	11	23	34	45	56	68	79	90	101	113
5th (QF)	8	17	25	34	42	51	59	68	76	85
Semi-Finals	6	13	19	25	32	38	44	51	57	64
Preliminaries	5	10	14	19	24	29	33	38	43	48

3.8. Points from Sanctioned Events
- An athlete will only be permitted to earn a maximum number of points for US 2.0, US 4.0, and US 10.0 USATKD sanctioned events each calendar year. A maximum of 120 points can be earned from US 2.0, maximum of 180 points earned from US 4.0, and a maximum of 220 points earned from US 10.0 events can count toward an athlete's overall ranking. When points from a 12-month-old event roll off, the points earned from a remaining event will go towards the overall point total to max out the points for that event ranking type.

- 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 three State Championships. An athlete can compete in any three State Championships

- If an athlete competes in more than three USATKD State Championships, they will receive the highest number of points they earned from the complete state championship.

- There will not be a cap on the total number of points an athlete can earn by competing in US 16.0 or US 20.0 sanctioned events.

Sanction	Maximum Number of Points (per calendar year)
2.0	120
4.0	180
10.0	220
12.0	3 State Championships
14.0	1 Regional Event
16.0	No limit to number of events
20.0	No limit to number of events

3.9. Competing at 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 at.

- *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 athletes 12 and under 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, Pan American Series, and PATU President's Cup tournaments hosted by USATKD. All athletes can earn points towards their overall ranking in divisions contested at these tournaments. These tournaments will be considered US 20.0 ranked events.

- Athletes in individual divisions will earn 250 bonus points toward their USATKD ranking for the World Taekwondo World Championships and the Pan American Championships.

  - Points will be awarded to athletes competing in the individual divisions in the National Team spot earned through Team Trials.

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 the 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	
March		**July**	**October**
CO State	NV State	Nationals	US 8.0 Event
60	60	100	80

Blue Belt Final Ranking
120

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

    - 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 rolls 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	
18 18	30	80	**146**

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