

Kata Competition Rules – 2015

Excerpted from 2015 Kata World Championships programme

COMPETITION RULES

The official Kata competition recognised for these championships, will be five:

- Nage-no-kata
- Katame-no-kata
- Ju-no-kata
- Kime-no-kata
- Kodokan-Goshin Jutsu

The IJF Kata Competition Rules will be used to judge the Kata with reference also to the official Kodokan Kata video.

FORMULA

Each Kata will be divided in two groups: the top three couples with the maximum points from each group (that is 6 pairs for each Kata) will compete in the finals.

Three or Four mats will be used for the preliminary round and three mats for the final.

If the Number of pairs is less than 10, there will be only one group: the top 6 couples of the group will compete in the final. For each Kata the couple with the maximum points will be awarded the gold medal, the couple with the second least points will be awarded the silver medal; and the third, the Bronze medal.

In each of the five Kata the couple with the highest score will be awarded the gold medal, the couple with the next highest score will be awarded the silver medal and finally the couple with the next lowest score will be awarded the bronze medal. The other finalists will be awarded with a certificate.

POINT SYSTEM

The Judges are five and will award points on the official IJF scoring sheet. For each technique the total score of three Judges will be totalled to produce the final score: the maximum score and the minimum score for each technique will be cancelled. The total score of the whole Kata will be the sum of the score totalled by the five Judges. The evaluation of every technique of Kata has to consider the principle and the opportunity of execution: the evaluation (included the open and close ceremony) has to be comprehensive.

Definition of mistakes:

- Forgotten technique: An omitted technique will score zero and in addition the total final score of the Kata couple will be halved. If more than one technique are forgotten the score for that technique will also be zero but the total final score for the couple will not be halved again. Finally, if the halved total final score is not a whole number then the score will be rounded up.

- Big mistake: When the execution of the principle is incorrect (5 points are deducted and the maximum number of crosses is 1)
- Medium Mistake: When one or more elements of the principle are not applied in the correct way (3 points are deducted and the maximum number of crosses is 1).
- Small mistake: Imperfection in the application of the technique (1 point is deducted and the maximum number of crosses is 2).

For every technique without a big mistake, the minimum score has to be 5.

In the Nage no Kata, right and left techniques will be evaluated comprehensively (only one score).

The couple enters and leaves the competition area at the opposite side of shomen: the Start and end of Kata (opening and closing ceremony) is at 8 m or 10 m distance depending on the dimensions of the mat (bow to the mat).

Any behaviour of Tori or Uke inside the Competition area that is contrary to the spirit of Kata will reduce the score of the ceremony.

In case of equal score between pairs, the following criteria will be applied considering the scoring sheets of five Judges:

- Total value of big mistakes - wins who makes less mistakes;
- If still equal, total value of medium mistakes will be considered. - wins the pair who makes less mistakes;
- If still equal, total value of small mistakes will be considered – wins the pair who makes less mistakes;
- If still equal, the average score (evaluated until the second decimal place) of the whole Kata will decide. Wins the pair who has a better score.

If two pairs, both placing 3rd in the eliminatory (or 6th place in case of only 1 group) are still equal after all the above mentioned criteria, both pairs will qualify for the final. If two pairs placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd during the final are still equal after the above mentioned criteria, the Kata will be repeated so that the medal can be assigned.

SYSTEM OF JUDGING

Each Kata shall be evaluated by five judges under the supervision of the IJF Kata Commission. The five judges will be positioned on the Shomen side and they will seat at about 1 m distance apart from.

The rule of neutrality will be applied: cannot be judged a pair of the same Nation. The position of the five judges will be the same for all the competition. If one judge is temporary replaced, he will take place in the same original position when he re-enters the competition. A Judge cannot be a competitor.

The judges shall always be in their position before the arrival of the couple in the competition area.

The couple enters and leaves the competition area at the opposite side of shomen:
The judge in the centre at shomen side gets up and, with tense arms and palms of the hands turned upward, invites the couple to enter the competition area.
The start and the end of Kata (opening and closing ceremony) is at 8 m or 10 m distance (bow to the mat). Any behaviour of Tori or Uke inside the competition area that is contrary to the spirit of Kata will reduce the score of the ceremony.

COMPETITION AREA

The Competition area has dimensions Minimum 8 x 8 or Maximum 10 x 10 metres and shall be covered by Tatami or similar acceptable material.

The Competition area must be fixed to a resilient floor. When more adjoining competition areas are used, a common safety area of minimum 2 meters is necessary. A strip of visible colour adhesive tape, approximately 10 cm. wide and 50 cm. long, shall be fixed on the centre of the competition area 6 m. apart, to indicate the starting position of Tori and Uke. The centre of the Competition area shall be indicated with a strip adhesive tape of the same colour.

JUDGES

The competition will be judged by IJF qualified Kata Judges. Kata rules to be followed are as published by the IJF. The number of judges per federation is limited to:
Participating countries may enter 4 Judges. Non participating countries may enter 2 Judges.

The IJF KATA COMMISSION may decide on the number of Judges according to the entries.

Each participating Federation having IJF Judges has to enter at least one judge.

Only the judges entered by their Federation can judge. The participation in a meeting organised on Friday 18th of September 2015 at 04.00 PM will be a mandatory to confirm the participation as judges in these Championships. Only judges are to attend this seminar.

DRAW

The draw to establish the groups and the sort of each group will be done the day before the Competition at the Novotel Amsterdam City official hotel: the pairs medallist of the World Championship 2014 will be considered head of series and will be shared in the two groups.

The pair that is head of series will be the last pair of the group that shows the Kata. The draw for sort of the final will be done in the Sport Hall after the eliminatory.

JUDOJI CONTROL

The competitions will be held in white judogi and black belt.

Approved judogi: Competitors should wear an IJF approved judogi with blue or red label supplied by one of the following manufacturers: Greenhill, SFJAM NORIS, DANRHO, MIZUNO, Double D Adidas, HAYAKAWA, Fighting Film, Budo Sport AG, ESSIMO, MATSURU B.V, Kappa. Judogi must have an IJF Official Label "APPROVED JUDOGLI" with an optical code which cannot be falsified. The label will be controlled with an optical lamp.

Each of the competition clothing articles (jacket, trousers and belt) must have an IJF official label. The jacket and the trousers must have the same label color: the belt can have a different color from that used for jacket and trousers.

Backnumber: Each competitor is obliged to have sewn on the back of his judogi a back number bearing his surname and his National Olympic Committee abbreviation. The back numbers must be fixed horizontally and centered on the back of the judogi. They must be placed at a distance of 3cm from the bottom of the collar. The back number can be ordered from www.mybacknumber.com. The delivery can take up to 4 weeks.

Advertising: Competitors should carry on the back of their jacket the IJF and organizer dedicated sponsors of the event. Advertising on the judogi must be in compliance with the IJF regulations. Refer to Guidance of Judogi Control Document.

National Emblem: Athletes can have their national emblem on the left front part of the jacket within a space of 100cm².

The Judogi Control will be done at the Registration of the Participants. It is the responsibility of the judoka to comply with the IJF regulation rules.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Each Nation can enter a maximum of 7 pairs with maximum 2 pairs for each Kata: the competitors can only participate in one Kata.

The competitors must be of the same nationality as the country, which enters them. Competitors who have double nationality can only represent only 1 participating Nation. When a competitor changes nationality, he must wait 3 years before he can represent the new country, unless the two countries concerned (the old country and the new country) agree to authorize his entry for the new nationality and this is accepted by the IJF (According to the Olympic charter Art. 42).

Competitors are to be 18 years of age on 1ST January 2015 (born on or before 1996) and a minimum of 1st Dan.

Couples can be composed of either 2 males, 2 females, or a male and a female.

IJF Kata Judges Examination 2015

The candidature is opened for new IJF Kata Judges or to extend the number of Kata licences for the Judges that have not license for all Kata.
Each National Federation can enter up maximum 3 candidates having Continental License for the Kata they ask to do the examination.

Minimum Age = 30 years old - Minimum grade = 4th dan

Each Candidate can be examined by the IJF Kata Commission for the Kata recognized in the IJF competitions for a maximum of 5 Kata. The examination will be written and oral and it will be based on the knowledge of the principles of kata and IJF competition rules.