

CTF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

1) REGIONS -

a) The following regions represent areas where the CTF has sufficient schools to hold a qualifying tournament. New regions will be added as areas continue to grow.

- i) TENNESSEE, KENTUCKY, INDIANA,
- ii) FLORIDA/SOUTH GEORGIA
- iii) ARKANSAS, TEXAS
- iv) WEST COAST
- v) EAST COAST
- vi) MISSOURI
- vii) NORTH GEORGIA

b) Until a region has sufficient numbers to support a qualifying tournament, their black belts must declare their intention to qualify in another region or the instructor in that area may petition the National Director to appoint one black belt per division to compete in the National Championships.

2) **DETERMINATION OF QUALIFYING DIVISIONS** – The total number of competitors in a division for all qualifying tournaments in a region will determine the status of that division at Nationals. A tentative schedule of divisions will be published by the CTF at the beginning of the competition year.

For example, should the competition level drop below an average of 3 competitors per tournament:

In a 3 or more tournament region, that division will only be allowed to qualify as a 2 tournament regional division

or

In a 2 tournament region, that division will only be allowed to qualify as a 1 tournament regional division.

The effect of this rule would be that the number of competitors qualifying and their seeding position would be reduced.

The National Office may determine that a division that does not meet the above criteria should make due to interest from other regions and declare it qualified.

3) QUALIFYING PROCESS

a) Qualifying Region: A competitor may qualify in his region of residence or he may declare his intention to qualify in another region. In order to qualify in another region, the competitor must send written notification of

his intent to qualify in another region prior to the first tournament of the year in that region or his region of residence. A Black Belt who attempts and fails to qualify in his region of residence may not later attempt to qualify in another region.

- b) Regional Qualifying Process: The number of Black Belts qualifying in each region will be determined by the number of sanctioned qualifying tournaments held in the region (except as noted in paragraph 2 above). In order for the tournament to be sanctioned, the Tournament Director must notify the CTF office in advance of the tournament and submit a \$125.00 sanction fee and tournament results within 30 days after the tournament.
- i) No Sanctioned Tournaments held in region – Any Instructor may petition the National Director for permission to appoint **one (1)** black belt per division to compete in the National Championships. There will be an additional fee of \$25.00 per appointee up to a maximum of \$125.00 per region. Only one (1) competitor from that region will be allowed to compete in the National Championships. Should more than one instructor in the same region wish to send competitors in the same division, the National Director will decide which student will be allowed to compete.
 - ii) One Sanctioned Tournament held in region – The winner of each Black Belt Division is the **only** Qualified Competitor for that Region in the National Championships.
 - iii) Two Sanctioned Tournaments held in region – The top three declared qualifiers in each division will be assigned points based on how they finish in the competition. (e. g. 3 points for a 1st place, 2 points for 2nd place and 1 point for 3rd place) If a “non-declared” black belt competes, they are disregarded in the awarding of points. The Regional Director will tally the points and the **two (2)** top finishers will be the qualifiers for that region.
 - iv) Three or more Sanctioned Tournaments held in region – The same procedure as outlined above under two tournaments will be used, however, there will be **three (3)** qualifiers eligible from each division.
 - v) If a National Champion division fails to make at a regional tournament because it has less than two competitors, then that tournament will not be considered “sanctioned” with respect to that division. This may reduce the number of qualifiers eligible from that division at Nationals to equal the number of times that division made at regional tournaments that year. The seeding will reflect the number of qualifiers.
 - vi) Any region may apply to appoint a Black Belt Competitor in any division that did not make at their Sanctioned tournaments.
- c) Individual Division Qualification: An individual must compete in the appropriate division for his age, rank and gender in both Regional and National Tournaments.

- i) Age - In order to avoid switching divisions, the age of the competitor on July 1st of the competition year will be used to determine his age division for the entire competition year.
- ii) Rank – The Competitor must compete in the appropriate division for his rank at each tournament. *The competitor may **not** carry over regional qualification points earned in one division to another division if he must change divisions due to a change in rank.* If an individual has qualified in a division and moves to a higher ranked division (due to rank promotion) before Nationals, then he would not be eligible to compete in the lower National Championship division and only in the higher division if he qualified in it after receiving his new rank.
- iii) Any exception to these rules must be approved in advance of the Tournament season (prior to February 15th) by the National Director of the CTF.

4) SEEDING PROCESS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competitors will be seeded based on the number of “sanctioned” qualifying tournaments in their region and their qualifying position.

- a) Top seeding position will be given to the first place qualifiers from regions with three or more sanctioned tournaments.
- b) Second level seeding will be given to the top finisher in a region with two “sanctioned” qualifiers and the second place finishers from regions with three or more “sanctioned” qualifiers.
- c) Next level seeding will be given to the qualifier in a one-qualifier region, second qualifier in a two-qualifier region and the third qualifier from a region with three or more qualifiers.
- d) The lowest seeding position will be given to appointees.

5) FORMS COMPETITION RULES

- a) The standard CTF Tournament Rules for forms competition apply.
- b) Qualifiers will be seeded with the lowest seed competing first and the top seed competing last.
- c) Judges will display forms scores immediately upon “judges call” by raising their scorecards.

6) SPARRING COMPETITION RULES

The standard CTF Tournament Rules for sparring competition will apply with the following exceptions:

- a) The Tournament Chairman based on the criteria outlined above will predetermine seeding.
- b) Sparring matches will consist of two two-minute rounds with a 1-minute break in between rounds ~~for coaching.~~
- c) The winner will be the competitor with the most points at the end of the match.

7) DETERMINATION OF THE NATIONAL CHAMPION

- a) The 1st place finisher in the Elimination Round Forms and Elimination Round Sparring will then compete again against each other in the Final Round.
- b) In the Final round, the total points earned by each competitor in the Forms competition will be doubled** and then the difference is added to the forms winner's Point Sparring score to determine the National Championship Jacket winner. For example:

Forms Winner's Form Score - (3 judges @ 9.5)	28.5
Sparring Winner's Form Score -(3 judges @ 9.3)	<u>27.9</u>
Difference	.6
	<u>X 2</u>
Advantage to add to Forms Winner's score	1.2

The sparring winner must now outscore the forms winner in the Final round by at least 2 points in order to win.

** In the event that either the Forms or Sparring Winner was rescored in forms in order to break a tie, the first score earned will be used in the difference above.

8) BOARD BREAKING

The standard CTF Tournament Rules for sparring competition will apply except that top seed will go last in both the foot and upper-body portions of the competition. The last seed will go first in both, etc.