

RULE PROPOSALS

USKA Member Name _____

USKA Membership No. _____

If you are a parent voting for your minor USKA member, list your name here:

Only one vote allowed per active USKA membership

Proposal #1: Light Contact to the Face in Advanced Divisions

Objective:

To enhance realism, technique precision, and competitive fairness by permitting controlled light contact to the face in all Advanced divisions across all age groups.

Proposal Option #1:

Controlled light contact to the face shall be permitted in **all Advanced divisions**, regardless of competitor age, under the following conditions:

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal Option #2:

Controlled light contact to the face shall be permitted in **all Advanced divisions, defined as Brown and Black Belt competitors**, regardless of age, under the following conditions:

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal Option #3:

Controlled light contact to the face shall be permitted in **all Advanced divisions, defined as competitors aged 14–17 (divisions 14-15 and 16-17)**, under the following conditions:

1. **Intent and Control:** All facial contact must be controlled and executed with clear intent to score—not to injure.
2. **Definition of Light Contact:** A light-contact technique is defined as a controlled strike that touches or slightly moves the head without causing visible injury, disorientation, or excessive impact.
3. **Excessive Contact:** Any strike resulting in visible injury, disorientation, or requiring medical attention will be deemed excessive and may result in penalty or disqualification at the discretion of the center referee and tournament arbitrator.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal #2: Division Splitting Guidelines

Objective:

To promote competitive fairness and consistency in division management across all USKA-sanctioned events.

Proposal:

Divisions at USKA-sanctioned events shall only be split when there are **eight (8) or more registered competitors** in a single division.

- If a division meets or exceeds this threshold, it may be split retaining a **minimum of 4 competitors**.
- Splits will be conducted using logical criteria such as age, rank, gender, or weight—at the discretion of the tournament director and with the intent to maintain fairness and safety.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal #3: Restructuring USKA MAX Tournament Sanctioning

Objective:

To enhance the quality, geographic reach, and competitive value of USKA MAX sanctioned tournaments by introducing new guidelines.

Proposed Structure for USKA MAX Tournament Sanctioning

- A maximum of **two (2)** USKA MAX sanctioned tournaments per state, per point season.

YES _____ NO _____

- Events must be held at least **200 miles apart** (within the same state) to ensure geographic diversity.

YES _____ NO _____

- Tournaments must have a **minimum of 75 registered competitors** to maintain sanctioning eligibility the following year.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal #4:

A kumite competitor may not grab an opponent's leg

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal #5:

In the event of a tie in kata in intermediate divisions, the competitor may perform the same kata or perform a different kata.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 6:

The set up for a kick cannot swing past the target before chambering again.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 7:

Jabs or back fists to the body are not a score.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 8:

The center referee may issue a penalty point for any rule infraction or unsportsmanlike conduct without verification from the corner judges. In the event of a disqualification call for excessive contact, the center referee will call for a conference with the corner judges and receive a verification vote from at least one corner judge.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 9:

If a match is stopped due to an injury, the center referee shall direct the timekeeper to start a five (5) minute injury timeout. If the injured competitor cannot continue at the conclusion of the five minute injury timeout, then the competitor forfeits the match.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 10:

Center Referees should be certified or have real time center referee experience.

YES _____ NO _____

Proposal No. 11:

Rule 7.2.b. should be rewritten as follows:

7.2.b When beginning, intermediate and advanced divisions are offered, they shall be divided as follows:

A beginning student is a white, orange or yellow belt OR is a student who has been continuously training for 23 months and under, whichever is most restrictive;

An intermediate student is a blue, green, or purple belt OR is a student who has been continuously training for between 24 months (2 years) to 4 years, whichever is most restrictive;

An advanced student is a brown or black belt OR a student who has been continuously training for over 4 years - whichever is most restrictive.

When only beginning and advanced divisions are offered, they shall be divided as follows:

A beginning student is a white, yellow, orange, blue or green belt; OR is a student who has been continuously training for over 2.5 years and under, whichever is most restrictive.

An advanced student is a purple, brown or black belt OR who has been training more than 2.5 years continuously whichever is more restrictive.

If there are no black belts and only beginning and advanced divisions are offered, a beginning student is a white, yellow, orange, or blue belt OR is a student who has been continuously training for under 2 years. An advanced student is a green, purple or brown belt or is a student who has been continuously training for over 2 years.

YES _____

NO _____