

WELCOME BACK TO THE FRANCO CUP

We are excited to invite you and your dojo to the 2023 **THE FRANCO CUP**. This event will continue to be an open tournament. As we move forward, our goals are the safety of all competitors, to educate the next generation of judges and volunteers, and to create an environment for all to experience safe, fun, and challenging competition. Every year we are excited to combine old rules with the new rules. This year, we continue to use a modified version of the AAU/USA karate rules. Below is a basic description of the rules that we will follow at the **FRANCO CUP**. We will walk through and explain this document at our judge's meeting before the tournament. Those interested in reading the full AAU Karate rules can find them at www.aaukarate.org/rules. We encourage all of you to go over these guidelines and familiarize yourself with them.

THE FRANCO CUP TOURNAMENT RULES

Judges:

1. Referee and judges may wear
 - a. An official AAU judge attire
 - b. A blue judging vest over their respective gi and obi. Vests will be distributed during the judges meeting and returned to the announcer's desk.

Competitors:

1. All competitors will wear a traditional martial arts uniform for competition, respectful of their style.
2. All competitors will wear their respective belt of rank (we will not be using the AAU belt designation)
3. Jewelry (iwatch, fitbits, earrings, necklaces) will not be allowed to be worn during the division.
4. No metal hair accessories will be allowed during the division.

Kata/Forms:

1. Modified AAU/USA kata rules
 - a. 5 judges will be used in all divisions (3 judges can be used depending on available officials)
 - b. Judges will use the flag scoring system (red & white)
 - c. All judges have an equal vote
2. All kata divisions, excluding 18-34 black belt divisions, all senior divisions and grand championship divisions, will be performed two at a time, side by side.
 - a. 18-34 men & women Black Belt Kata will be done 1 at a time. The competitor that is on the center-judge's right side will be represented by the red flag and will perform first. The competitor on the center-judge's left side will be represented by the white flag and will perform second.
 - b. All senior divisions will be judged 1 at a time and use the numeric score cards
 - i. The scoring process will be conducted as described in the Kobudo rule set
 - c. Grand championship kata division will be judged 1 at a time and use the numeric score cards
 - i. The scoring process will be conducted as described in the Kobudo rule set
3. White belt through green belt (beginner/novice) competitors should perform kata equivalent to beginner and novice ranks.
4. Brown belt (intermediate) & Black Belt (advance) competitors may use any traditional kata from their respective style
5. White belt through Brown belt (beginner/novice/intermediate) competitors can perform the same kata for every round
6. Black Belt (advance) competitors must change kata from the previous round in all medal rounds.
7. Criteria for judging
 - a. Correct stances
 - b. Correct focus and concentration
 - c. Correct/proper breathing
 - d. Correct basics of style being performed
 - e. Correct timing, rhythm, speed, focus of power
 - f. Believability of technique

Kumite/Sparring:

1. Modified AAU/USA kumite Judging
 - a. Mirror system judging
 - i. Shushin (Referee)
 - ii. Fukushin (Judge)
 - iii. Kansa (Arbitrator)
 - b. Referee and judges have equal casting vote
 - c. The Referee will conduct the match.
 - d. If a score or penalty is not agreed upon between the Referee and Judge, the Kansa vote will be asked and offered
2. Half point for
 - a. Punch to the body
 - b. Non-contact punch to the head/face
 - c. Kick to body

WAZA-ARI



3. Full point
 - a. Non-contact kick to head
 - b. Sweep that puts an opponent off balance followed by scoring technique
 - c. Controlled sweep that takes opponent to the ground followed by a scoring technique

IPPON



- d. A majority must be met to award a point or penalty
 - e. In the case of a tie, the contestants will have an additional minute during which the first point wins
4. Time and scoring for each division
 - a. All 7-12 year-old divisions
 - i. 1:30 run time
 - ii. 3 full points
 - b. All 13-17 year-old divisions, all 18-34 divisions (below Black Belt), & all senior (35+) divisions
 - i. 2:00 run time
 - ii. 3 full points

- c. All 18-34 Black Belt divisions
 - i. 2:00 stop time
 - ii. 3 full points
 - 5. Scoring Area (everything above the pelvic bone)
 - a. Head
 - b. Face
 - c. Neck (including throat, but not touching the throat)
 - d. Abdomen
 - e. Chest
 - f. Side
 - g. Back
 - 6. Scoring Criteria, each judge must look for all criteria to score a point
 - a. Good distancing
 - b. Good timing
 - c. Good body position
 - d. Awareness before, during, and after the technique
 - e. Sporting attitude
 - f. Vigorous Application
 - 7. Penalties
 - a. Category 1 (2 warnings and then disqualification)
 - i. Contact (crossing your flags towards the competitor who committed the foul)
 - 1. This is a no face/head contact tournament for all divisions
 - 2. Any offensive techniques that strike below the pelvic bone
- EXCESSIVE CONTACT**



JOGAI



- ii. Dangerous and uncontrolled attacks
 1. Techniques that pass the target without regard to safety

DANGEROUS AND UNCONTROLLED ATTACKS



- c. Any poor attitude displayed that does not represent the merits of martial arts at any time during the tournament can result in immediate disqualification and/or dismissal from the tournament

Kobudo/Weapons:

1. Point System
 - a. White Belt through Green Belt (beginner/novice) – 5.0-7.0
 - b. Brown Belt (intermediate) – 6.0-8.0
 - c. Black Belt (advance) – 7.0-9.0
2. Competitors will perform their weapon kata one at a time
3. 5 Judges will be used
4. All Weapons will be examined by the head judge prior to the division, no sharpened “live” blades are allowed.
5. Any loss of control to any weapon will result in a foul, but will not be disqualified
6. Any technique used in a manner that disrupts, hinders, or flat out endangers the judges will result in a foul or disqualification.
7. Any drop or break of any weapon will result in disqualification by being awarded the lowest score possible
8. Drop high and low scores and add the remaining scores
9. In case of a tie
 - a. Add in the remaining low score
 - b. Add in the remaining high score
 - c. All ranks may repeat kata after a tie