**13th ANNUAL I.K.L. KARATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

KEALAKEHE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

Saturday, November **04, 2017**, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

**ANSWERS TO FAQS (5 pages A to K)**

**A. GENERAL**

1. Entry Fee: 1 Event $30.00, 2 Events $40.00, 3 Events $50.00
2. Late Entry Fee: 1 Event $40.00, 2 Events $50.00, 3 Events $60
3. Registration deadline is Monday, October **23, 2017**.
4. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON TOURNAMENT DAY
5. Tournament is open to the public and admission is FREE. Please invite your family and friends.
6. International Karate League (IKL) members must be currently (**2017**) registered with the IKL Membership Administrator Cliff Field, Sensei. Entry form will be verified with IKL **2017** membership roster. A $20.00 fee will be assessed for failure to register.
7. IKL members must have IKL patch sewn on gi.
8. Unless specified, the categories under each division will be boys and girls combined or men and women combined, e.g., Open Brown Belt Kata is men and women combined.
9. IKL Ranking system:

* Juniors (under age 15): white (no kyu), purple (8 kyu), green (7 & 6 kyu), blue (5 & 4 kyu), brown (3,2,1 kyu), junior black (shodan)
* Seniors (15 and over): white (no kyu), green (7 & 6 kyu), blue (5 & 4 kyu), brown (3,2,1 kyu), black (shodan - judan)
* **Note:** IKL green belt is sometimes another school’s blue belt. Be sure to enter your students in the correct rank (kyu) division.

**B. OFFICIALS & PARTICIPANTS:**

1. All officials, judges, referees, competitors and members should be wearing their gis.
2. Officials, judges, and referees should have their own whistles.
3. Head Official in charge of a ring is responsible for assigning corner judges, time keeper, score keeper, and conducting the elimination. He also serves as the ring Arbitrator. If an issue, concern or protest cannot be resolved he is to confer with the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director’s decision will be final.
4. Rules: Guided by The International Karate League Tournament Manual.
5. NO video cameras, cameras, cellular telephones, and other similar electronic devices will be permitted near the competition ring or where the competitors are sitting, awaiting their turn to compete. This conduct/behavior creates distractions, obstructs the view of the audience, and is contrary to proper martial art decorum. Exceptions:
   1. Picture taking is permitted when the medals/trophies are awarded.
   2. Designated and/or contracted photographer.
6. NO coaching within the competition area.
7. Penalties for violation of rules include, but are not limited to:

a. Warning

b. Point awarded to the non-offender

c. Non-offender declared the winner

d. Offender expelled from the tournament

**C. KUMITE:**

1. 3 or 5 official format will be used. 3 officials consist of a referee, judge and arbitrator. 5 officials consist of a referee and 4 corner judges.
2. Ring size: 25’ square. May be reduced in size to accommodate more rings.
3. Duration of match: 1 & ½ minutes elimination rounds, 2 minute final round.
4. 2 points to win. No ½ points.
5. Both contestants must be in the ring to score.
6. Out of bounds (jogai): 3rd infraction results in point awarded to the other contestant. Exception is if the contestant was forced out.
7. Control contact. All techniques must be controlled and pulled or snapped back.
8. No facial/head contact permitted, except in the Senior/Open black belt divisions where touch contact is permitted. Any brown belt fighting in a black belt division competes under the black belt rules.
9. Shuto (knife hand) and haito (ridge hand) techniques to the side of the neck are permitted.
10. No groin strikes/kicks are permitted. Techniques must be above the pelvic bone.
11. Note: We have very few Junior black belts so the only place they can participate in, is with the blue and brown belts. See “Exceptions” below for additional circumstances.
12. Junior Kumite. On the day of the event, the Juniors will be lined-up according to height and placed into either pee wee, lightweight, middleweight, or heavyweight divisions.
13. In Kumite, officials will try to match competitors from different dojos, same rank, and same size if possible.
14. In Kumite, the “Comeback Round” elimination format will be utilized so most of the participants will have to lose twice before they are eliminated from competition.
15. In the “Come Back” round format, those who lose their first match will have an opportunity to “come back” by fighting the other losers. After the “come back” round it will be single eliminations.
16. If there are only two in a division, they are in the finals.
17. If there are only three in a division, a round robin will be used first and only if all competitors have one win and one loss each will a modified round robin be used to determine the winners.
18. The “byes” have to be monitored closely to ensure that no one gets more than one bye.
19. Things are subject to change, e.g., additional divisions, delete a division, combine a division, etc.
20. Exceptions can be made too. For example, in Kumite, a large 14 year old can be placed in the Open Division; a small (15) year old can be placed in the Junior Division, or an inexperienced 1st level junior blue belt could be placed in the Beginners/Novice group, etc.
21. Split second grabs followed by an immediate scoring technique will be allowed. If a “tug of war” ensues, the referee shall stop the match.
22. Train for outside sweeps, practice falling. No inside sweeps. If a contestant falls to the ground, the person standing has two seconds to score. The person on the ground can also score.
23. Permitted Sparring Equipment: Cloth hand pads and mouthpiece are mandatory. For male competitors, groin protection is mandatory. Shin/instep, forearm, elbow, and knee cloth pads are optional. Head gear, face shield, and chest protection is optional. Exception to cloth hand pads that will be permitted are the red, blue, white in color “mitts” used by the World Karate Federation (WKF), the USA National Karate Federation (USA NKF), and the very similar “mitts” sold by Century Martial Arts, Asian World of Martial Arts, Tokon Martial Arts, Kensho International, and other reputable martial art companies. The permitted sparring equipment can also be purchased at the tournament.
24. Black Belt Division, where “touch contact” to the head/facial area is permitted. The above described red, blue, or white in color mitts in #23 will be mandatory.
25. Prohibited Sparring Equipment:

a. Foam dipped gloves and boots.

b. Mixed martial arts grappling gloves, bag gloves.

c. Any hard material protective equipment, e.g., hard plastic shin or forearm guards.

1. No eyeglasses permitted, except “Rec Specs” (recreation spectacles) which are glasses designed specifically for impact sports such as racquetball.

D**. KATA**:

1. Scoring. All five judge’s scores will count.
2. Format. First three competitors perform then sit down. They then re-enter the ring individually to receive their scores. Competition resumes with the remaining competitors who will be scored immediately after their performance.
3. In the event of a tie, a different Kata will be performed in the tie-breaker. The exception to a different Kata being performed is if the person only knows one Kata. Consideration should be made for the person who knows more Katas and is capable of performing the higher and more difficult Kata. To ensure no additional ties, the Head Judge will score in the tenths.
4. Whole numbers with ½ point (.5) increments will be used to score. Median score for all ranks will be: **5.**  No one gets a 0 score. It is also very rare that anyone scores a perfect 10.
5. Kihon Kata (Basic Kata) will be permitted for beginners who do not know a formal Kata.
6. Selection of kata must be rank appropriate. Please follow this guide:

* White belts: Kihon kata or Pinan Shodan.
* Purple belts: Kihon kata, Pinan Shodan, Pinan Nidan.
* Green belts: Pinan Shodan, Nidan, or Sandan.
* Blue Belts: Pinan Sandan, Yodan, or Godan.
* Brown belts: Naihanshi, Kushanku, or Juroku.
* Black belts: Any traditional karate kata.
* In Kata, drawing cards will determine who goes 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.

**E. KOBUDO:**

1. Divisions:

* Junior Boys & Girls combined, Beginner (up to 1 year training with weapon)
* Junior Boys & Girls combined, Intermediate (1 – 2 years training with weapon)
* Junior Boys & Girls combined, Advance (over 2 years training with weapon)
* Senior Men & Women combined, Colored Belts
* Masters (50 and over) Brown & Black Belt
* Women Open, Brown & Black Belt
* Men Open, Brown & Black Belt

1. Judges have the authority and are encouraged to inspect the weapons used.
2. Common weapons of choice have been the Bo, Sai, Nunchakus, Kama, Tonfa, Boken, Katana & Wakizashi.

**F. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES.**

At the conclusion of each division, trophies will be presented to the winners in the middle of the ring. Winners line up facing the audience in this order**: 2nd / 1st /3rd**. Procedure: Call up 3rd place first, then 2nd, then 1st. Allow parents and contracted photographer(s) to take photographs at this time.

**G. MOST OUTSTANDING DOJO PERPETUAL TROPHY**

In 2007, Sensei James Kudo, International Kobudo League – Hilo, donated this trophy for our tournament. To win this trophy, individual Dojo points are added and the Dojo with the most points wins the trophy. 1st place (5 points), 2nd place (3 points), 3rd place (2 points). FYI, the trophy is retained by the Kona IKL Dojo and put on display each year at the tournament for everyone to see.

**H. MOST OUTSTANDING COMPETITOR PERPETUAL TROPHY**

In 2010, Tony Brigoli Sensei, of Brigoli Brothers Karate Association, Kailua-Kona, donated this trophy for our tournament. To win this trophy, an individual’s overall performance is considered, e.g., placed 1st in Kata, 3rd in Kobudo, and 2nd in Kumite. The Tournament Director with input from our Founder and Chief Instructor Walter K. Nishioka Shihan, and Craig Hamakawa Hanshi will select the Most Outstanding Competitor. Again, this trophy will be retained by the Kona IKL Dojo and put on display each year at the tournament for everyone to see.

**I. HOUSEKEEPING**

1. NO smoking, eating, or drinking in the gym.
2. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is PROHIBITED.
3. This is a Drug Free event.
4. Food and beverage concession is planned. You can still BYOB (bring your own brunch) and potluck.
5. Supermarkets and fast food establishments are a quick drive away.
6. Lunch break is outside the gym. Shade is limited and there are no picnic tables so Big Islanders, please bring pop-up tents, folding tables and chairs for you, our guests from the other islands and the mainland.

**J. SCHEDULE:**

Time: Event:

08:00-08:45: Set-up gym

**Black Belt Meeting**:

Instructions, questions & answers. Rings assignments.

08:45-09:00: Start: **Introduction**

All Dojos line up in uniform (gi) on the floor.

Shihan Walter K. Nishioka, Founder & Chief Instructor

National Anthem & Hawaii Pono’i

09:00-11:00: **KATA** Competition

11:00-11:45: **KOBUDO** Competition

11:45-12:15: Lunch

**Note**: Juniors line up for Kumite matching/division assignment

12:15-03:15: **KUMITE** Competition

03:15-03:30 Closing: All Dojos Line-up in uniform (gi) for Mahalo & Closing

Presentation of Most Outstanding Dojo Perpetual Trophy and

Presentation of Most Outstanding Competitor Perpetual Trophy

03:30-04:30 Clean-up, inspect gym, close.

**K. FOR MORE INFORMATION**:

I hope this answers most of the questions. If you have additional questions or concerns feel free to call or email me. Mahalo and I look forward to your attendance and participation.

Sincerely,

Julian Shiroma, Hanshi

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