



Austin Martial Arts Festival

Presented by TaiChi People Herb Co.

AMAF General Rules

These are **general rules**. Each martial art may have a specific set of rules.

General

Dress: Competitors are expected to dress appropriately for their events (i.e. karate gi for Karate Point Sparring, Shuai Chiao jacket for Shuai Chiao). No events require shoes, but cotton-soled shoes, martial arts shoes, and wrestling shoes are acceptable footwear (boots, street shoes, etc. are not). The specific rules for each event will include more detailed guidelines.

Competition

Notice of match and overlapping events: Competitors will be given ten to fifteen minutes notice prior to the start of an event. If a competitor realizes that he/she is competing in overlapping events, he/she is responsible for immediately notifying the head official of the events.

Beginning of match: When the referee is ready, he/she will call the first competitors and the next two competitors will be announced. When a competitor's name is called to compete, he/she will approach the ring and wait for the referee (for sparring/wrestling) or head judge (forms) to signal it is okay to enter the ring.

Upon receiving the signal to begin, the competitor will walk to the starting position or corner without speaking to the referee or any of the judges. Once at the starting position, the competitor will wait for instructions from the referee, or a signal to begin for the head judge.

Timed (Form/Kata) Events: For timed events, the clock will begin at the official's signal. The clock will stop when the form is finished. Upon completion, the competitor will exit the competition area at the same place he/she entered to wait for his/her score. After receiving his/her final score, the competitor will acknowledge the score by saluting the chief judge. The competitor may then leave the competition area.

A competitor in a form event may re-start if the competitor is interrupted by an external event. A single re-start may be taken at the competitor's discretion for any other reason (lost concentration, broken weapon, shoelace untied, etc.), but a half-point deduction must be accepted.

Physical Contact Events: For sparring/wrestling events, the competitors will wait together in the center of the competition area once the competition has ended. The referee will gather the scores from the judges and announce the winner of the match. The competitors may then leave the competition area, exiting at the same point they entered the area.

Protective Gear: Each participant is responsible for providing their own protective gear. Make sure you know the gear requirements for the events you plan to participate in.

Forbidden techniques: All forbidden techniques will be announced by each individual group of judges before each competition starts.

Adherence to rules

All competitors are expected to understand and adhere to any rules given verbally by officials prior to competition, as well as those published in print or on the Festival website. Ignoring rules may result in disqualification, ejection, or barring from future competitions.

Awards

Medals will be presented to the First, Second, and Third place finishers at the end of each event.