

# **JUJITSU AMERICA KATA COMPETITION RULES**

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of traditional Kata competition along with the venue of modern sport Jujitsu is to provide competitors from various Jujitsu styles and various backgrounds an opportunity and format to compete in traditional Jujitsu Kata Competition. The Jujitsu Kata competition shall be the cooperative effort of a pair of individuals who perform pre-selected Jujitsu techniques and who demonstrate these techniques in an effective choreographed traditional manner emphasizing quality of style, effectiveness, and aesthetic value of the art.

Jujitsu America, by including traditional Kata, demonstrates the progression of modern sport Jujitsu as well as the historical tradition of classic Jujitsu. The preservation of traditional Kata will maintain the integrity of classical Jujitsu. This is the best of both worlds': progression (sports Jujitsu), and preservation (Kata). A freestyle self-defense demonstration division will also be supplemented to display even a broader diversity of competition.

## **SECTION 1. JUJITSU KATA PROCEDURE**

### **Article A. Starting of match**

- 1: Competitors will give the names of the Kata's to be performed to the head table before the match begins. (Kata committee will review competitors list of arts in advance).
- 2: When called upon by the announcer, the participants will immediately proceed outside the match area.
- 3: When instructed by the head judge to enter onto the mat area, the participants will bow onto the mat.
- 4: Competitors will step to the center of the mat, bow to the panel of judges and then to each other.
- 5: Competitors will maintain a position of attention until the head judge recites the arts that will be performed.

## **Article B. Performance of Kata**

- 1: The head judge will clearly repeat the name of the Kata art to be performed.
- 2: When the head judge recites the art, the participants will perform their Jujitsu Kata form. (One team member performs all 6 arts in their entirety before the next team member performs).
- 3: When Tori completes an art, Tori will step away from the Uke in a defensive stance.
- 4: The Uke will rise to their feet and assume a defensive stance.
- 5: Tori and Uke will then come to attention, and both competitors will assume their starting positions.
- 6: After the competitors have assumed their starting positions they may straighten their gi if necessary. (The straightening of the gi is done simultaneously with both competitors).
- 7: Competitors will stand at attention awaiting the head judge's instruction to proceed with the next art.
- 8: After the completion of both the competitors Kata both competitors will bow to each other.

## **Article C. End of match**

- 1: Upon completion of both competitors performance: Both participants will stand at attention until the scoring judges display the final score.
- 2: The head judge will indicate (Hantei, or Score) for the judges to raise their scoreboards in unison.
- 3: The scoring judges will leave their scoreboards raised until the recorder finishes the tabulations.
- 3: A recorder shall record the displayed score, and calculate the final score.
- 4: After the final score has been displayed, the participants will bow to the scoring judges.

## **SECTION 2. JUDGING & SCORING**

The judging and scoring of Kata competition will be based in the traditional roots of Jujitsu. The common denominator for all classical Jujitsu systems is traditional Kata choreographed and performed by partners. This emphasizes detailed patterns of movements in addition to combinations of pre-arranged techniques. ALL JUJITSU STYLES ARE WELCOMED, AND ENCOURAGED TO COMPETE.

### **Article A. Function of Officials**

#### 1: Head Judge

The function of the Head Judge is to repeat the names of the arts to be performed by the contestants, and to oversee the competition. The Head Judge may intervene, and stop the competition at any time during the competition if necessary.

#### 2: Scoring Judges

The function of the scoring judges is to score the various arts performed by the competitors.

#### 3: Recorder

The function of the recorder is to record and to tabulate the scores of the judges.

### **Article A. Judging**

- 1: Each contest will have three scoring judges, one head judge, and one recorder.
- 2: The three scoring judges will be seated, spaced apart on the far side of the competition area.
- 3: The head judge and recorder will be seated center opposite the scoring judges on the nearside of the competition area.
- 4: Each Judge will have a minimum Jujitsu rank of Godan (5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt).
- 5: Each Judge shall be certified by the Kata committee of Jujitsu America.
- 6: At the discretion of the Jujitsu America Kata Committee, an uncertified judge may be utilized.
- 7: An uncertified judge shall be knowledgeable in regard to the matters to be judged.

8: Each of the three scoring judges will be equipped with a scoreboard, a marking pen, and an eraser.

9: The recorder will have a note pad, a pen and a calculator to tabulate the scores.

10: If the Kata does not conform to the rules, or there is some other irregularity, the head judge, or Kata committee may call the other judges in order to establish a verdict.

### **Article B. Criteria for Decision**

1: Kata techniques are to be executed & performed in a traditional manner. Kata is not subject to improvisation or interpretation. Improvisation is permitted, and encourage for the freestyle self-defense demonstration division.

2: In Kata there must be a state of continued commitment and the competitor must maintain a total state of concentration, observation, and awareness of the opponent.

3: In Kata, part of the criteria for a decision depends on essential elements of the art:

- A. Technique, and correct form of the style being performed.
- B. Attitude
- C. Understanding the Kata technique
- D. Ceremony
- E. Stances
- F. Coordination
- G. Stability and Balance
- H. Perfection
- I. Harmony
- J. Breathing
- K. Concentration, and focus of attention.
- L. Spirit
- M. Degree of difficulty

### **Article C. Scoring**

1: Scores will range from zero (0) to ten (10). The following guideline is a base for specified experience levels. Decimal points are essential in scoring.

Beginner:	6.0 – 7.0
Novice:	7.0 – 8.0
Intermediate:	8.0 – 9.0
Advanced:	9.0 – 10.0

2: Scores are based on teams of two. The score will be based on the overall performance as a team.

- 3: 65% of the team's score will be determined by their form, technique, and spirit.
- 4: In line with traditional Kata, 35% of the competitors score will be based on their precise choreographed accuracy, ceremony, and combative engagement attitude.
- 5: In Kata there must be a state of continued commitment in which the competitor must maintain total concentration, observation, and awareness of the opponent's potentiality to counter-attack. Even after executing a technique if a competitor partially turns away from their opponent, both the competitors will still maintain this continued state of readiness.
- 4: The highest scoring team wins that division. (1<sup>st</sup> place 2<sup>nd</sup> place 3<sup>rd</sup> place, etc).
- 5: In the event of a tie, or discrepancy the head judge will make the final determination.

#### **Article D. Rescoring**

A redo of a specific art may take place for the following reasons:

- 1: At the request of one of the judges
- 2: At the request of Kata committee
- 3: At the request of one of the contestants
- 4: In the event a competitor wishes to redo an art, the team will be penalized.
- 5: If a head judge, a scoring judge, or the Kata committee asks to see an art again there will be no penalty points deducted.

#### **Article D. Guideline for Penalties**

- 1: In the event a team wishes to redo an art, the team will be deducted between a half point to a full point. (This is with regard to the art being performed, not the over score).
- 2: If a scoring judge, or head judge asks to see an art again there will be no penalty points deducted.
- 3: A team will also be penalized between a half point to a full point if the Kata is interrupted or varied.
- 4: If the performance is brought to a halt, the contestants will be penalized between a half point, up to a full point.

5: If weapons are used improperly or in a dangerous or irresponsible manner, the team could be subject to penalty, or disqualification.

5: If contestants display poor etiquette the team will be penalized accordingly.

## **Article E. Divisions**

### 1: Adults

Beginner:

Novice:

(The criteria of the divisions will also be based on rank, experience, and the kata series to be performed).

Intermediate:

Advanced:

2: Children (14 and under) Due to the possible variance of age there may be sub categories within the children's division.

Beginner:

Novice:

(As with the adult division, the criteria of the divisions will also be based on rank experience, and the kata series to be performed).

Intermediate:

Advanced:

3: Divisions will further be determined by the Kata series to be performed. (Yawara, Nage no Kata, Shime no Kata, Oku no Kata, Shinin no Maki etc.). All Jujitsu stylists will be thoroughly accommodated accordingly based on traditional Kata.

3: Based on rank, age and the level of the Kata to be performed, the Kata committee may add or collapse divisions in order to have sufficient pools of competitors.

## **SECTION 3: WITHDRAWAL & WALKOVER**

### **Article A. Withdrawal**

1: In the event that one of the competitor is unable to continue a match due to injury: The team will still retain its' points up to that point.

2: In the event of bleeding or injury the match will be stopped and the injury attended to immediately. There will be no penalty. There will a maximum time of 5 minutes for the injured party to rest. (A total time of 5 minutes per team is permitted).

### **Article B. Walkover**

1: The decision of loss by Walkover shall be given to any team that fails to appear for their match after the team has been called 3 times over at least 3 minutes.

## **SECTION 4: APPAREL FOR COMPETITION**

### **Article A. Competitors**

1: The competitors shall wear a clean traditional gi in good condition. (Gis' that are ripped or torn are not permitted).

2: Depending on the Jujitsu style being performed, a hakama or black gi pants may be utilized if appropriate for that style of Jujitsu being performed.

### **Article B. Officials**

1: The Kata officials' uniforms shall be the same as of the Sport Jujitsu dress code.

2: At the discretion of the Kata Committee, officials may all wear traditional gi's. This will be determined prior the start of the competition.

## **SECTION 5: PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **Article A.**

1: The personal hygiene of the competitors shall be of a high standard.

2: The competitors must have short fingernails and toenails.

3: Jewelry will not be permitted that may endanger a competitor.

4: Gis' will be clean and in good condition.

5: Long hair shall be tied back.

## **SECTION 6: COMPETITION AREA AND ORGANIZATION**

### **Article A.**

- 1: The competition area for the contest shall cover a minimum area of 18' x 18'.
- 2: The contest area shall be covered with mats of good quality and weight for safety.
- 3: The organizer of the tournament shall provide three scoreboards, three marking pens, three erasers, two notebooks, two pens, and a calculator.

## **SECTION 7: BEHAVIOR OF COACHES**

### **Article A.**

- 1: Coaches will be provided a designated area at the edge of the mat, where they must stay during the course of the match.
- 2: If a coach displays any misbehavior toward any official, the coach may be removed from the mat area. If this misbehavior continues, the coach may be expelled from the tournament.

## **SECTION 8: SITUATIONS NOT COVERED BY THE RULES**

A: The Jujitsu America committee may authorize additional special rules as needed for a particular event, tournament, match, or competition, or may utilize unique or novel rules to meet unusual circumstances.

B: Any situation which is not covered by these rules will be dealt with by the judges of the contest question by working together to come to a decision.

