Michigan Sport Karate Circuit Kata/Weapons Rules and Divisions.

Competitors age as of January 1st the year of the competition. Competitors can move up in age and rank but will not be able to move back down.

Judging requirements:

Judges will watch all competitors before giving out scores. Since our scoring system is based on comparative scoring it is imperative that we watch all competitors before deciding our individual scores.

During the championships three judges will be used. The "two maximum deviation" rule is in effect. This rule is used to limit the impact of a judge's score that is significantly different from the other judges. The center referee will look at the 3 scores to determine the middle score (e.g., a 9.92, 9.96 and 9.95 – the 9.95 is the middle score. The other two scores must be .02 from the middle score so the 9.92 must be changed to a 9.93). Other than this obligatory adjustment, judges are not allowed to change their scores. If no score is .02 higher or lower than the middle score no adjustment is made.

Overview:

- In all form divisions, there is no time limit.
- Competitor's choice if they would like to do introductions in all forms divisions.
- If a competitor stops his or her form, they cannot start again in the Black Belt division; they can start again in the Under Belt division with a .5 deduction.
- If a competitor drops his or her weapon, they are disqualified in the Black Belt division, the Under Belt division can start over with a .5 deduction.
- Competitors must either wear a traditional uniform or a team uniform.
- No jewelry should be worn. If a stud cannot come out, a band-aid should cover it.
- Judges will inspect all weapons prior to starting a division.
- Judges will review division criteria prior to starting the event. Any protests of jewelry, uniforms, or weapons being used will be decided before the event starts to give competitors a chance to comply with the rules and avoid disqualification.
- Competitors compete in order determined by a random draw.
- Traditional weapons division must use traditional weapons.