



BRITISH UNIVERSITY TAEKWON-DO LEAGUE (BUTL)
NATIONAL STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIPS WT RULES AND REGULATIONS



Your participation and inclusion at any or all BUTL events are conditional upon you entering into this agreement and observing all BUTL rules and regulations.

This is a legally binding document. Therefore, you should read it carefully in order to understand the BUTL, its expectations, its conduct and its delivery of Taekwon-Do events and competition. Detailed rules per World Taekwondo found at www.worldtaekwondo.org.

Updated as of January 2023.

BRITISH UNIVERSITY TAEKWON-DO LEAGUE (BUTL)

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1. BUTL

1.1 MEMBERS (UNIVERSITIES)

A list of participating Universities across the Nationals will be released each year with results posted at www.butl.org.uk

1.2 KEY PERSONNEL

- Mr Ross Sharman - Founder
- Mr Niraj Wadher - Head of International
- Miss Elham Afzal - Head of Volunteering
- Mr Daniel Tuley - ITF Competition Manager
- Mr Nic Mooney - Officials Manager
- Miss Alexandra Hume - Head of Marketing
- Mr Daniel Hubery - WT Competition Manager

1.3 BUTL AIMS

The British University Taekwon-Do League (herein "BUTL") aims to:

1. Create an ethos where club size does not dictate success.
2. Offer a democratically run University club-based competition not limited by politics or affiliation.
3. Promote and develop the social integration of student clubs around the country.
4. Provide unique opportunities to University and College students
5. Advance the sport of Taekwon-Do at an Institutional level and offer the best experience in the world.

1.4 MISSION STATEMENT

The Nationals are a competitive individual-based championship that caters to and officiates with individual Taekwon-Do rules. The Nationals are run to maintain a high standard in University based competition. Catering for University clubs and following rules as discussed and approved by the founding clubs during the creation of the BUTL. (AGM July 2015). The Nationals follows an individual knock out tournament set up for sparring and pattern competition.

2. NATIONAL STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIPS

2.1 NATIONAL STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIPS OVERVIEW

The Nationals take place once every two academic years, alternating with the University Taekwon-Do World Championships.

2.2 VENUE

Each Championship is hosted at alternative venues each year, opportunities to host are available to all institutions, applications can be processed via the BUTL website.

2.3 RING/COMPETITIVE AREA

The competitive ring size (competition area) will be no smaller than 7 metres x 7 metres with the addition of 8 x 8 if possible, at all venues and all match days. Corner seats (4)

placed at the edge of the ring. Jury tables at top of each ring. Nationals features a minimum of 6 competitive rings. Rings are fully matted with BUTL approved jigsaw mats.

2.4 TIME AND ARRIVAL DETAILS

Depending on the distance needed to travel by each club to the specific match day, the time frames of certain teams that day will be taken into consideration and adjusted so that no one is at a disadvantage due to exhaustion etc. Details are confirmed in advance but the event typically runs 9am-5pm, with registration taking place from 8am.

2.5 TROPHY AND MEDALS

All individuals who achieve 1st, 2nd and 3rd place are presented with individual medals.

3. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

3.1 MANDATORY EQUIPMENT - All colour variants acceptable

- Do Boks - must be worn by all competitors, no restrictions on style or colour (Patterns and Sparring)
- WT Hand, Feet, Shin and Arm Guards
- Mouth Guards/Groin Guards
- Head Guards and Body Protector

3.2 OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT

- Breast Guards (Sparring)

4. REFEREES AND UMPIRES

4.1 STANDARD OUTLINED REFEREE/UMPIRE BACKGROUND

- 4 corner umpires, 1 jury and 1 centre referee for each sparring ring. Max of 5 umpires and 1 jury for each pattern ring.
- Centre Referees and senior umpires approved by BUTL and only those will be allowed to officiate. Umpires can also be provided by each institution but must be approved prior to day. Umpires are not restricted to just degree grades if courses have been undertaken. Umpires that are provided by participating clubs will be assessed in order to find out if they have the relevant knowledge and experience.
- Each club lists their judges on the submitted entry sheets.
- Senior referees (Centres) are always BUTL approved no matter of those competing in that ring. Umpires are made up of BT Officials or BUTL officials or approved individuals from attending universities.

4.2 REFEREE RULES AND REGULATIONS

BUTL umpire and referee rules apply to the Nationals. WT rules are that used by National Governing Body British Taekwondo, as part of World Taekwondo. All umpires and referees must be made fully aware of rules and will strictly stick to the regulations of the org as agreed by BUTL. Each event referee and umpires meeting will take place before event start. Scoring etc found in the 'competitive rules & regulations' sections. Basic commands in Korean (ie begin/stop). All others in English.

SPARRING RULES

4.2.1 OUTLINED DECISIONS

1. Referees score techniques, athlete with highest point count wins the round. Athlete that wins 2 of the 3 rounds, wins the match.
2. Athletes can also win rounds by scoring a total of 12 point difference. There are no draws, each round must have a decision in win or lose.
3. Winning individual progresses to the next round of their category.

5. COMPETITIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

5.1 SPARRING RULES AND REGULATIONS OVERVIEW

The sparring rules and regulations regarding all competitions are strictly those that follow the BUTL competition system of Taekwon-Do. All grades are eligible to enter, there are no restrictions regarding belt level. Sparring events use approved British Taekwondo Electronic Scoring Systems as a first option.

5.2 CATEGORIES

Within the Nationals all competitors are matched up by grade as much as possible. We aim to ensure a perfect match by having same grades compete, in rare occasions competitors may compete against one or two grades higher. Eg Yellow Belt (8th Kup) vs Green Belt (6th Kup). Colour belt rounds are 1 minute 30, Black belt rounds are 2 minutes. A total of 3 rounds will take place, but not all 3 rounds may be needed.

If umpires give a draw at the end of the bout, then the round continues until a winner.

5.3 MATCHING UP INDIVIDUALS

5.3.1 WEIGHT/HEIGHT

- Each category will have matched up weight categories, these viewable below. The individual's weight will be matched up as close as possible. E.g. A lower heavy weight won't be matched up against a larger heavy weight if avoidable.
- Each category will allow a 0.5kg leeway to avoid extra worry and stress to competitors.
- Weight is the main separation but as a secondary we also go by height in order to get the fairest draws possible.

Male Weights:

- -54kg
- -58kg
- -63kg
- -68kg

- -74kg
- -80kg
- -87kg and +87kg

Female Weights:

- -46kg
- -49kg
- -53kg
- -57kg
- -62kg
- -67kg
- -73kg and +73kg

5.3.2 ADDITIONAL MATCHING CRITERIA

Competitors are additionally matched into their individual categories by use of the following.

1. Belt (competitors may be up or down one belt level) - MANDATORY
2. Weight (of Individual) - MANDATORY
3. Height (of individual) - FIRST ROUND FAIRNESS
4. Sex - MANDATORY
5. Experience - Primarily: Actual amount of time spent competing and sparring.
Secondary: Events entered previous, experience in other martial arts.

5.3.3 POTENTIAL CHANGES TO CATEGORIES

If participant entries in any category are unable to be perfectly matched, at event officials and BUTL discretion categories can be made as close and fair as possible for all affected participants. All coaches will be made aware and involved in discussions for full transparency.

5.4 SCORING AND DEDUCTION/PENALTIES/WARNINGS

5.4.1 SCORING

Scoring will follow the BUTL scoring system and will consist of the following.

- 1 point for punch to body protector
- 2 points for a kick to body protector (4 if a turning kick)
- 3 points for a kick to the head (5 if a turning kick)
- 1 point awarded for every one 'Gam-Jeom' given to opponent

5.4.2 SCORING PROCEDURE

In competition a technique is valid when:

- A. It is executed correctly
- B. It is dynamic, delivered with strength, purpose, rapidity and precision.
- C. It is controlled on the target.

5.4.3 DISQUALIFICATION/FOULS/WARNINGS

Points will be deducted in standard BUTL rules as derived from World Taekwondo as follows:

Competitors will be giving three warnings and then 1 point will be deducted. Warnings can continue through the match and are deducted at the end. A participant can only be disqualified after committing 3 fouls.

5.4.3.1 DISQUALIFICATION

- A. Misconduct against officials by continuously ignoring instructions
- B. Failing to turn up or compete on a match day
- C. Committing 5 Gam-Jeom
- D. Any competitor suspected of being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs.

5.4.3.2 GAM JEOM

Gam Jeom given for the following offences:

- A. Crossing Boundary Line
- B. Falling Down
- C. Avoiding or delaying match
- D. Grabbing or pushing opponent
- E. Blocking with Leg, Kicking Leg
- F. Kicking below the waist
- G. Attacking opponent after Kal-Yeo
- H. Hitting opponenets head with hand
- I. Use of the knee
- J. Attacking a fallen opponent
- K. Attacking the back of the head

5.4.3.3 MISCONDUCT FROM COACHES/COMPETITORS

Gam Jeoms will be assigned for the following offences.

- A. Not complying with referee command or decision
- B. Inappropriate protesting behaviour
- C. Inappropriate attempts to disturb or influence match
- D. Provoking or insulting the opposing competitor or coach
- E. Any other unsporting behaviour and severe misconduct

5.5 MATCH RULES

The Nationals sparring will cover one variation of WT sparring, this being continuous. Depending on the grade and experience level these will be applied in the following way:

5.5.1 CONTINUOUS

- Continuous rules for all belts - Colour belts kept at a lighter level

- Continuous is continuous. Time stopped when injury or decision.
- Scoring system reveals winner at the end of match, umpires if manual.

5.6. INJURY

- When a competitor is injured, the centre referee must stop the match and the competitor must be assessed and receive valid treatment. Given 1minute 30 to return to the ring, longer if fit but needed.
- When a competitor cannot continue due to injury, they are declared the winner if the opponent is responsible (excessive contact etc) or the loser if the opponent is not responsible (accidental/walked into technique etc). Centre Referee holds the decision after discussion with corner umpires and jury. Head Injury assessed by Centre Ref, medics, their discretion.
- A competitor who refuses to accept the decision of the medic and centre referee is disqualified.
- If two competitors injure themselves at the same time and are unable to continue, the competitor with the highest point score is declared the winner. If a draw at that time, discretion is with the corner judges.
- Injured participants must be treated immediately by first aid. On site First aiders and medical teams are supplied at all host venues by BUTL, each team should also have their own qualified first aider accompanying them at all match days for extra protection.

5.7 SPARRING MATCH PROCEDURE

- The bout will commence with the competitors on the start positions each with a red or blue marker to differentiate between them.
- At the command of the centre referee the competitors bow to the centre referee and then one another.
- The centre referee starts the bout with the command 'Si-Jak' and the competitors continue to spar until the referee issues the command of 'Goman'.
- At this point the competitors cease to spar and remain where they are until restarted.
- On completion of the time the timekeeper will signal the centre referee, the bout will only end on the command of 'Goman' by the centre referee.
- Bowing procedure will ensure.
- If a competitor leaves the ring they must re-start one metre inside the ring.

POOMSAE

5.8 POOMSAE RULES AND REGULATIONS OVERVIEW

The poomsae rules and regulations regarding all competitions are strictly those that follow the BUTL competition system of Taekwon-Do. All grades are eligible to enter, there are no restrictions regarding belt level.

5.9 CATEGORIES

Within the Nationals all competitors are matched up by grade as close as possible. We aim to ensure a perfect match by having the same grades compete against each other. In rare occasions grades may compete against one or two grades higher. Eg Yellow Belt (8th Kup) vs Green Belt (6th Kup). Main Pattern rounds are one pattern per bout and are choice. Finals are one designated and one choice pattern. Designated being that of the grade below. Eg, 1st Dan Black Belt category will be designated a 1st Kup or below pattern.

If umpires deliver a draw at the end of the bout, then grades will be asked to perform an additional pattern as selected by centre umpire.

5.10 MATCHING UP INDIVIDUALS

5.10.1 MATCHING CRITERIA

Each competitor will have one to multiple opponents on the day and matching will consist of achieving the closest in the following categories:

1. Belt (current grade)
2. Sex

5.10.2 POTENTIAL CHANGES TO CATEGORIES

If participant entries in any category are unable to be perfectly matched, at event officials and BUTL discretion. categories can be made as close and fair as possible for all affected participants. All coaches will be made aware and involved in discussions for full transparency.

5.11 SCORING AND DEDUCTION PENALTIES/DISQUALIFICATION

5.11.1 SCORING PROCEDURE

Referees will score patterns based on the BUTL level scoring system.

Referees will deduct points for each technical error noted, or will give a result of 0 if a major penalty is observed. A winner will be chosen based on the individual who performs the pattern with the least amount of technical errors. The competitor with the majority of umpire votes will be declared the winner. In the case of a draw, another pattern will be selected until a winner is decided.

5.11.2 DEDUCTION PENALTIES

Minor technical penalties will be deducted in standard BUTL rules, 1 point deducted for the following offenses:

- A. Not calling, or calling the incorrect pattern name
- B. Performing a technique at the incorrect height
- C. Losing balance
- D. Hesitating and/or stopping for more than a split of a second
- E. Not returning to starting spot
- F. Lack of power on specific techniques
- G. Inaccurate or incorrect stepping
- H. Inaccurate or incorrect breathing
- I. Inaccurate or incorrect preparation or execution of a technique

- J. Inaccurate or incorrect stance
- K. Inaccurate or incorrect motion
- L. Attacking or defending with wrong technique
- M. Incorrect holding or retraction of a kick
- N. Incorrect rhythm

Major technical penalties will be deducted in standard BUTL rules, award results of 0 for:

- A. Stopping the poomsae completely and/or not finishing the pattern
- B. Pausing and/or stopping for a few seconds
- C. Starting the pattern from the wrong direction
- D. Starting a different pattern than the designated one, or with any techniques other than those defined
- E. Failing to perform the total number of movements required

5.11.3 DISQUALIFICATION

- A. Misconduct against officials
- B. Failing to turn up or compete on a match day
- C. Lack of integrity and courtesy shown to opponents, coaches and officials
- D. Any competitor suspected of being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs.

5.12 MATCH RULES

The Nationals patterns will cover one variation of patterns, this being choice in main rounds and designated in finals.

Depending on the grade and experience level these will be applied in the following way:

5.12.1 DESIGNATED/CHOICE

- Choice rules for all belts. Any known poomsae up to and including current grade through main rounds of competition.
- Designated poomsae will be held up by the Jury president and spoke by centre umpire during finals.
- Poomsae designated will always be a previous graded pattern (not one selected from current grade held). This is to ensure those who may have just graded aren't put at a disadvantage if not having time to learn their current pattern.
- All recognised WT style poomsae are accepted.
- Umpires all reveal winner by holding up participants colour (flag) at the end of the match.

5.13 INJURY

- When a competitor is injured, the centre referee must stop the match and the competitor must be assessed and receive valid treatment. Given 1 minute 30 to return to the ring, longer if fit but needed.
- When a competitor cannot continue due to injury, they are declared as forfeited. Head Injury assessed by Centre Ref, medics, their discretion.
- A competitor who refuses to accept the decision of the medic and centre referee is disqualified.

- If two competitors injure themselves at the same time and are unable to continue, the competitor with the highest point score is declared the winner. If a draw at that time, discretion is with the corner judges.
- Injured participants must be treated immediately by first aid. On site First aiders and medical teams are supplied at all host venues by BUTL, each team should also have their own qualified first aider accompanying them at all match days for extra protection.

5.14 PATTERNS MATCH PROCEDURE

- Each competitor will wait at the start of the matted area, until called onto the starting positions by the centre umpire. Competitors will walk on and will wait within their red or blue marker with their hands neatly behind their back.
- The bout will commence with the two competitors on the start positions each with a red or blue marker to differentiate between them. (Each University team will all be the same colour during the match).
- At the command of the centre umpire the competitors bow to the front and then one another.
- The jury president will ask choice pattern for main rounds or hold up the designated pattern, centre umpire repeats the pattern name, starts the bout with the command 'Si-Jak' and both competitors continue begin.
- On completion of the pattern each competitor stays in their final stance and technique until asked to return 'Baro' by the centre umpire.
- On centre umpires call, umpires will show their winner (flag), jury will then confirm (flag)
- Bowing procedure will ensure led by centre umpire.

NATIONAL STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

All Nationals results and archives will be published at www.butl.co.uk.

6. ENTRY

6.1 OVERVIEW

Entry consists of participating competitors and any referees/umpires. A list of ALL competitors must be published before the start of the Nationals. Deadline for entry will be set for each event. Entry is made online at www.butl.org.uk/nationals

6.2 CONTENT

Entry Includes:

1. Name of competitor
2. Date of Birth
3. Email Address
4. Belt
5. Sex
6. Weight/Height (if sparring)

7. Experience level. (previous belt in other martial art/years of training)
8. Event disciplines entering (Sparring/Patterns or both)
9. Judges and Referees tick box

All entries are subjected to abiding by the BUTL Code of Conduct, by entering you are agreeing you accept and adhere to the BUTL Code of Conduct

7. TECHNICAL ISSUE BACKUP PLAN

The use of electronic scoring systems will be in place for WT Sparring events. If there are technical failures or reasons the systems cannot be used, then organisers have the right to refer and relate to the manual referee scoring system, of corner umpires scoring via clickers, demonstrating winners by a show of flags. If this system is used, the 12 point round winning score rule will not be in place.

Changes from Electronic Scoring System

1. Technique scoring is conducted by corner referees, via manual scoring clickers, referees have a clicker for each competitor in each hand. Point scoring stays the same.
2. Referees show winner after each round, by revealing the winners colour flag at the end of the round.

8. IMPROVEMENTS/REVIEW

After every event clubs are encouraged to submit a review with any feedback in order for events to be as professional and as enjoyable as possible. Complaints are administered this way officially and sent to the BUTL via website or email. Issues or complaints will be passed on to BUTL officials and organisers where they will act accordingly.

9. CANCELLATION PROCEDURE

BUTL has public liability insurance to cover cancellation of venues, match days and all BUTL events, in which participants will receive refunds in full for all of these situations. Individual personal competitor insurance is also taken out for all events to ensure safety cover is in place for all those attending, Clubs are encouraged to make sure their members are also insured themselves through their bodies or organisations. If teams or individuals pull out of events of their own accord, then a refund will not be applicable.

10. INSURANCE

Health and safety is of the uttermost importance and taken extremely seriously. In order to make BUTL events as safe as possible each competitor is individually insured by BUTL person to person cover. This process ensures regardless of current individual policies held by the competitor, everyone taking part is covered to take part at BUTL events.

BUTL Insurance is provided by leading martial art insurance provider Elite Martial Art Professionals (EMAP). This insurance cover has been put in place since the BUTL was established in 2015. Further information can be viewed at www.emapworld.com.