

Important notice regarding ONSITE competition registration at the 2015 Spring Nationals

The goal of the tournament department has been to facilitate efficient, customer friendly national and world events. Our original expectation of a few hundred competitors to register on-site has now reached the thousand thresholds. This creates logistical problems for our judges, staff, and other competitors.

In an attempt to curtail this problem, it has become necessary to alter the registration guidelines for ADULT BLACK BELTS. Beginning with Spring Nationals 2014, **ADULT BLACK BELTS, who register onsite at a World or National event**, will be charged a “late” fee of \$50 **in addition** to their regular registration fees. Those competitors will also only be eligible for ½ regular points. (Half points will be rounded up. For example, a “late” competitor earns ½ of 9 points in his/her ring. The 4.5 points will be rounded up to reflect 5 points earned).

(This policy would not affect Color Belts of any age or Jr. Black Belts.)

This is a necessary step for several reasons:

1. In 2009, the policy was adjusted to allow for Black Belts to register on site, be placed in regular rings, and still earn full points. We are beginning to see a large majority of our Black Belts registering onsite. This hinders our ability to adequately plan an efficient event which in turn lowers the customer’s view of the event.
2. Additional staffing is needed at the registration booth, as well as to measure competitors’ height, place him/her in correct divisions, and splitting full divisions. While our tournament team is very good at splitting rings, it still takes time to ensure it is done properly and sufficient judges are located. In turn, this causes rounds to run late and satisfaction of the tournament begins to drop.
3. Adult Black Belts who register on site also put a burden of extra judging assignments for those competitors who register on time.

We strive to create extra benefits for those who pre-register. Not only does one save money (up to \$105 can be saved), but one can avoid the long registration lines at the event, and receive one’s ring assignment(s) prior to the event. By this process, one can easily check to see if their assignment has a mistake. This will also help to keep all events on time, and with few mistakes.

The tournament department is working to make the registration process easy and user friendly. More of our events are becoming “pre-registration only” events. We started this process with the Inaugural District Championships and heard many positive comments. For the Districts in 2015, as well as the Tournament of Champions at Worlds, the registration process will be with online registration only. PLEASE NOTE: There will be no onsite registrations for Districts or the Tournament of Champions in 2015