Chapter 1. General Rules

Article 1. Purpose

The purpose of these rules (hereafter "Rules") is to lay down an official technical status system and any necessary matters concerning its management and application with the aim of encouraging the true spirit of Karatedo.

Article 2. Establishing Official Technical Status

1. No person shall carry out any instruction, judgement of contests and / or any Dan / Kyu tests other than those who hold official technical status as specified below:
   1) Instructor status
   2) Judge status
   3) Examiner status
2. Hereafter in the Rules, the term "official status" refers to the preceding "official technical status", and the term "technical expert" refers to "people holding official technical status".
3. Technical experts have authorization regarding matters specified under these Rules.
4. Each official status is classified into four classes (A, B, C, and D).
5. Persons holding upper class status may serve for the lower classes.

Article 3. Establishing Arbitrators

Arbitrators shall be appointed in order to supervise technical experts with the aim of maintaining an orderly qualification system.

Article 4. Holding Lectures

Various lectures will be held in order that techniques along with official status may progress and that the qualification system may be fruitful.

Article 5. Authorization of Qualifications

1. All authorization of official status shall be done through qualification tests.
2. On the basis of the results of the qualification tests, official status shall be awarded by the Chairman, through the decision of the Board of Instructors.
3. Authorization shall not be granted or revoked except by the Chairman through the Board of Instructors.

Article 6. Miscellaneous

If a question arises regarding matters not specified in the Rules, such matters shall be decided by a conference of the technical committee of the Headquarters.

Chapter 2. Instructor Status

Article 7. Instructor Status

An official instructor is allowed to teach Karate in accordance with the Rules of instruction at a place to which The Japan Karate Association (hereafter "the Association") gives approval.

Article 8. Standard of Status

The following standards must be satisfied in order to obtain instructor status:

1) D class: those who have held 3rd Dan for more than one year.
2) C class: those who have held 4th Dan for more than one year and who have held D class instructor status and judge status previously.
3) B class: those who have held 5th Dan for more than one year and have held C class instructor status and judge status previously.
4) A class: those who have held 6th Dan for more than one year and who have held B class instructor status and judge status previously.

Article 9. The Authority of Instructor Status

In principle, an official instructor may exercise his authority and powers based on his status, within the following limitations.

1) D class: Instruction in Class D(branches or groups whose territory is within an authorized organization)
2) C class: Instruction in Class C(organizations or joint groups whose territory is a prefecture or area similar in size)
3) B class: Instruction in Class B(organization or joint groups whose territory is a region, country or area similar in size)
4) A class: Instruction in Class A(organizations or joint groups whose territory covers an entire country)

Chapter 3. Judge Status

Article 10. Judge Status

Under the Competition Rules and the Judging Rules, an official judge is allowed to act as referee in tournaments to which the Association gives approval.

Article 11. Standard of Judge Status

The following standards must be satisfied in order to obtain judge status.

1) D class: those who have obtained 3rd Dan and finished a given course of lectures.
2) C class: those who have held D class judge status for more than three years.
3) B class: those who have held C class judge status for more than five years.
4) A class: those who have held B class judge status for more than six years.

Article 12. The Authority of Judge Status

In principle, an official judge may exercise his authority and powers based on his status, within the following limitations.

1) D class: Judge in Class D(branches or groups whose territory is within an authorized organization)
2) C class: Judge in Class C(organizations or joint groups whose territory is a prefecture or area similar in size)
3) B class: Judge in Class B(organization or joint groups whose territory is a region, country or area similar in size)
4) A class: Judge in Class A(organizations or joint groups whose territory covers an entire country)

Chapter 4. Examiner Status

Article 13. Examiner Status

Under the Examination Rules, an examiner is allowed to carry out tests for Dan / Kyu to which the Association gives approval.

Article 14. Standard of Examiner Status

The following standards must be satisfied in order to obtain examiner status.

1) D class: Those with a Jitsuryoku-dan (Dan obtained through a examination) of at least 3rd Dan who have held D class instructor status for more than one year.
2) C class: Those with a Jitsuryoku-dan of at least 4th Dan with examiner status of D class and instructor status of at least C class.
3) B class: Those with a Jitsuryoku-dan of at least 6th Dan with examiner status of C class and instructor status of at least B class.
4) A class: Those with a Jitsuryoku-dan of at least 7th Dan with examiner status of at least B class and instructor status of A class.

Article 15. The Authority of Examiner Status

In principle, an official examiner is allowed to exercise his authority based on his status, within the following limitations.

1) D class: Kyu Test
2) C class: Examination below 2nd Dan
3) B class: Examinations below 5th Dan
4) A class: Examinations below 7th Dan

Chapter 5 . Qualification Tests

Article 16. Organizing Qualification Tests

1. Qualification tests are carried out subject to approval by an upper class group and a director of the General Headquarters' technical committee(hereafter " Technical Director") in the following classes.
   1) Class C: Organizations or joint groups whose territory is a prefecture or area similar in size.
   2) Class B: Organizations of joint groups whose territory is a region, county or area similar in size.
   3) Class A: Organizations or joint groups whose territory covers an entire country.
   4) General Headquarters
2. Qualification tests are generally carried out once a year, however, some changes may be allowed in exceptional circumstances.
3. As the occasion demands, a special qualification test may be carried out subject to approval by the Technical Director.

Article 17. Locations for Qualification Tests

Given below are the qualification tests able to be carried out in each class.

1) Class C

a) Instructor status D class
b) Judge status D class
2) Class B and above
a) Instructor status C class
b) Judge status C class
3) General Headquarters
a) All classes of Instructor status
b) All classes of Judge status
c) All classes of examiner status

Article 18. Notification

1.)The requirements for qualification tests shall be notified to examinees at least 20 days prior to the date of test.
2. Results shall be reported to examinees within 40 days after the tests.
3. This notification shall be given in writing. It shall be shown in public or sent to those in question.)

Article 19. Qualifications and Procedures for Tests

1. Those who take a qualification test must meet the standards of status stipulated in the Rules.
2. Those who take a qualification test shall fill in an application and present it with the specified fee)before a given deadline to the local main office.

Article 20. Method of Testing

1. Tests are carried out as described below.
   1) Consideration of curriculum vitae, achievements, etc.
   2) Written examination.
   3) Practical test.
2. The requirements of each test shall be separately specified.
3. The result of the tests shall be decided by a majority decision from the attendant examiners. If no)majority can be reached the examinee may not pass.

Article 21. Examiners

1. Examiners shall be elected at each main office and be appointed by the Technical Director.
2. Tests shall be administered by a director of the local technical committee or a technical representative.
3. One chief examiner may be elected from the examiners, if a director of the local technical committee or a technical representative cannot attend for an unavoidable reason. A chief examiner shall administer the examination in question.
4. Each examiner is expected to conscientiously carry out his duties when exercising his powers.
5. In principle, a test shall be carried out by a group consisting of examiners holding the following)examiner status.

Instructor status tests

1) D class: one person at least B class and three people at least C class, or five people of C class.
2) C class: three people at least B class.
3) B class: three people of A class.

4) A class: three people of A class including one person at least 8th Dan.

Judge status tests

1) D class: two people at least B class and three people of C class.
2) C class: five people at least B class.
3) B class: five people of A class.
4) A class: five people of A class including two people at least 8th Dan.

Examiner status tests

1) D class: one person at least B class and two people of C class.
2) C class: three people at least B class.
3) B class: five people of A class.
4) A class: five people of A class including two people at least 8th Dan.

Article 22. Inspection

1. Inspection of qualification tests shall be done by more than one person, who shall be elected by the Board of Instructors.
2. Matters regarding the inspection shall be specified by the Qualification Rules and the Examination Rules.

Article 23. Management of the Results of Examinations

1. Requirements and results of the examinations along with signatures of all examiners shall be made on a given form together with the signature of a director of local technical committee or a technical representative and be presented within 15 days of the examinations to the technical committee.
2. The technical committee shall then hold a conference to certify the qualifications within 20 days after receiving the said paper, and shall take a vote on it.
3. The said paper shall be regarded as approved, if the technical committee does not vote against it within 20 days.
4. A qualification becomes valid only when it is registered and a certificate is issued.

Chapter 6. Special Cases for Tests

Article 24. Special Cases of Qualification for Tests

1. The technical committee may give special approval for giving examinations to the following people even if they don't meet the standards of status.
   1) Those who are registered in the Instructor's Course at the General Headquarters or who have finished this course.
   2) Those who have finished an Authorized Special Course.
   3) People whose ability is considered equivalent to the standard of status and who missed taking the qualification tests for an unavoidable reason.
2. Those who are registered in the Instructor's Course at the General Headquarters or who have finished this course may take the following qualification examinations.
   1) Instructor B class
   2) Judge C class
   3) Examiner D class
3. For Special Courses, approval and qualifications of tests for those who have finished each

course shall be separately specified.

Article 25. Special Cases for Examinations

1. The technical committee may give approval for a special examination or carry one out in the following cases.
   1) When an examinee cannot take an examination in the usual way for an unavoidable reason.
   2) When an ordinary examination cannot be held for an unavoidable reason.
   3) When the Operation Committee or Board of Trustees demands a special examination.
2. In these cases, a director of the technical committee shall separately give instructions about the method of examination.

Article 26. Miscellaneous

A director of the technical committee at the General Headquarters may carry out a special test under other exceptional circumstances when consideration of the application for a qualification test shows the circumstances to be unavoidable.

Chapter 7. Arbitrators

Article 27. Establishing Arbitrators

1. Arbitrators shall be classified into three categories.
   1) Instructor arbitrators
   2) Judge arbitrators
   3) Examiner arbitrators
2. A director of the local technical committee or a technical representative shall dispatch an arbitrator to attend in the following cases.
   1) When an inspection is required by the rules, for a competition or for a examination.
   2) When an inspection is considered necessary by a director of the technical committee or a technical representative.

Article 28. Functions of Arbitrators

1. Arbitrators are required in the following matters.
   1) To manage the technical expert's status using his duties and powers.
   2) To check the qualifications for tests, lectures, and entry requirements, etc.
   3) To hold discussions regarding the techniques of a technical expert.
   4) To attend when an inspection is considered necessary by a director of the technical committee or a technical representative.
2. Arbitrators shall give appropriate guidance in the following cases.
   1) When there are violations against the rules and unfair deeds or disputes regarding the foregoing paragraph.
   2) When some instruction or assistance is requested.
3. Arbitrators may demand explanations from those concerned whenever deemed necessary.
4. When arbitrators carry out their duties and powers they do so under the restrictions of the rules of the Association.
5. Arbitrators must immediately report the results of an inspection on paper to a director of the

local technical committee or a technical representative.

Article 29. Arbitrator Status

1. Arbitrator status requires the qualification of technical expert of B class or above.
2. Arbitrators are elected at the technical committee of the General Headquarters and appointed by the Chairman, subject to approval by the Board of Instructors.
3. The number of arbitrators is undetermined.

Article 30. Tenure of Arbitrators

The tenure of an arbitrator shall be three years. However, reappointment is possible.

Chapter 8 . Qualification Lectures

Article 31. Holding of Qualification Lectures

1. Lectures for qualifications are held in the following groups.
   1) Class C (organizations or joint groups whose territory is a prefecture or area similar in size)
   2) Class B (organization or joint groups whose territory is a region, country or area similar in size)
   3) Class A (organizations or joint groups whose territory covers an entire country)
   4) General Headquarters
2. Lectures for qualifications are held, as occasions demand.
3. The requirements for organizing lectures shall be specified at each local main office and announced publicly in advance.

Article 32. Units

1. Lectures are classified into courses, and a unit is awarded to those who attend the lectures and successfully finish each course.
2. At each main office, a qualification card presented by those who attended the lectures shall be stamped with each unit as proof of attendance.
3. The courses to be carried out at lectures for qualifications and units are specified separately.

Article 33. Requirements of Tests

1. A person attending a lecture must present his qualification card.
2. Procedures necessary for lectures, its fees and methods of payment, are specified separately at each main office.

Article 34. Lecturer

1. A lecturer is selected from those who hold the qualification in question and is commissioned at each main office.
2. The number of lecturers is undetermined.

Chapter 9. Supplementary Rules

Article 35. Renewal of Qualifications

1. The authorization of a qualification may be renewed every year.
2. Official status may be renewed only for those who take a lecture specified in the foregoing chapter and obtain the given units during a period of lectures. In some cases, if necessary, tests may be imposed.
3. Chapter 5 shall be applied to the requirements of tests when renewing qualifications.
4. Procedures necessary for the renewal, its fees, and methods of payment shall be specified separately. Fees are non-refundable.

Article 36. Degradation or Deprivation of Qualifications

1. The Chairman may degrade or deprive those of their official status through a decision of the Board of Instructors under the following conditions.
   1) When they are considered unable to exercise their duties and powers of status properly.
   2) When they violate the rules.
   3) When there is conduct unbecoming to a technical expert.
   4) When they are expelled from the Association in conformity with the General Articles.
2. Those who are deprived of their official status shall immediately return their certificates.

Article 37. Loss of Status

Qualifications which are not renewed during a given period lose effect. In this case, the certificate shall be returned immediately.

Article 38. Resignation of an Arbitrator

An arbitrator can resign from his post for any reason. However, it should be reported in advance.

Article 39. Dismissal of Arbitrator

Article 36 of the Rules shall be applied to matters concerning the dismissal of an arbitrator.

Article 40. Revision of the Rules

Revision of these rules requires the approval of the Board of Directors through a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Instructors.

Article 41. Date on which the Rules take effect