

# Policy: Child and Cadet Head and Face Contact



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Policy Owner:	Kyorugi Referee Committee
Compliance:	Mandatory
Approved by:	Board
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Category:	Sport
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## POLICY STATEMENT

### Intent

To ensure the safety of Child and Cadet Division athletes in relation to head and face contact in sparring competition.

### Objectives

- To ensure that Sports Taekwondo Australia Limited (STAL) complies with the World Taekwondo Federation's (WTF) Junior Sparring Rules pertaining to the refereeing of Head Contact.
- To ensure that consistent rules are applied where Head Contact is made. Head Contact is defined as kicking to the head area above the collarbone as per the WTF Competition Rules

### Scope

Kyorugi Performance Committee, Athletes, Coaches and Kyorugi Referees

### Policy Principles

In all STAL sparring competitions including National Championships, State Championships and other sanctioned events, the rules concerning a kick to the head or face shall be as follows:

1. Children (11 years & under) all belts and Cadet (12-14 years) blue & yellow belts
  - 1.1 Kicking to the head or face area is not permitted.
  - 1.2 Any foot technique contacting to the head or face area which does not cause any injury shall be given a Kyong-go warning by the referee.
  - 1.3 Any foot technique causing injury to the head area (abrasion, bruising, bleeding, jarring) shall be given a one point Gam-jeom penalty by the referee. The referee will immediately call the tournament physician to inspect the injured contestant.
  - 1.4 Even in the absence of visible injury the referee may deem the contact to be excessive, and declare the appropriate penalty. If the kick to the head/face is powerful enough to warrant an eight (8) count, it shall be considered excessive, and a Gam-jeom penalty shall be declared.
  - 1.5 The contestant who executes a kick to the head or face of the opponent which results in the inability of the opponent to continue due to the injury shall be declared the loser. The referee, with or without consultation with the tournament physician, shall determine if the injury is severe enough to prevent continuation.
  - 1.6 Inability to continue because of fright, crying or loss of will following a kick to the head which did not cause injury does not constitute grounds for declaring the attacker the loser.

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## 2. Cadet (12-14 years) black & red belts

2.1 Cadet black/red belt divisions will follow the head and face contact rules as prescribed in the WTF Competition Rules.

2.2 Cadet red and black belt division athletes must qualify at a State level championship using the same head or face contact rules prior to entering the National Championships or Australian team selections.

## 3. Junior (15-17 years) all belts and Senior (17 years & over)

3.1 The rules concerning head and face kicks shall be as prescribed in the WTF Competition Rules.

## ACCOUNTABILITIES

Implementation:	National Kyorugi Referee Committee
Compliance:	Board
Monitoring and Evaluation:	Chief Executive Officer
Development and Review:	National Kyorugi Referee Committee
Interpretation and Advice:	National Kyorugi Referee Committee

## ASSOCIATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## WHO SHOULD KNOW THIS POLICY

1. All Sports Taekwondo Australia registered Referees, Athletes and Coaches are responsible for informing themselves of this policy.
2. The Board is responsible for the approval and maintenance of this policy.
3. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring adherence to this policy.
4. The National Kyorugi Referee Committee is responsible for implementation of this policy.
5. The Kyorugi Performance Committee is responsible for educating athletes of this policy.
6. The Coaching Committee is responsible for educating coaches of this policy.

## HOW WILL THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS POLICY BE MEASURED?

1. The policy will be inserted in the Kyorugi Referee Course and disseminated to all current Kyorugi Referees.
2. The policy will be inserted in the Coaches Course and disseminated to all current Coaches.
3. All sparring Sports Members will have knowledge of the policy.

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## Document Management

Version	Date	Change	Authorised
1.0	25Jul16	Original Policy approved	Board Email

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