



Montana Taekwondo Association

MTA Agreement & Guidelines for Hosting an MTA-Affiliated Taekwondo Tournament

What “Affiliating” Your Tournament with the MTA Means...

The Montana Taekwondo Association feels that it is important to the development of Montana Taekwondo that tournaments hosted throughout Montana share a common set of standards in order to ensure fairness, consistency, and quality. This in turn helps to ensure that everyone’s Taekwondo tournament experience is as good as it can be. Affiliating your tournament with MTA means that you will have the support of the MTA, its resources, and its affiliated clubs and members. All that is required is:

- That you will organize your tournament in a manner that is consistent with MTA guidelines and quality standards.
- That you will run your tournament using the MTA’s competition rules.
- That you will follow MTA requirements for tournament entry fees and charge non-MTA members a \$10.00 tournament participation fee to support and encourage membership in the MTA (the fee goes to the MTA to support programs and maintain resources).
- That the host school be an MTA member.

What are the Benefits of Affiliating My Tournament With the MTA?

By affiliating your tournament with MTA and agreeing to meet MTA guidelines and following MTA Taekwondo competition rules, you gain the following benefits:

- **MTA Instructor Assistance:** MTA instructors, many of whom have decades of experience hosting successful tournaments of their own, will assist you in planning, promoting, and running your tournament on the day it is held.
- **Referee Training & Certification:** If requested, the MTA will send an MTA Referee Certifier to your location the day (evening) before the tournament to provide an MTA Referee Training/Certification Seminar in support of your tournament (application and fees apply).
- **Referee & Coach Support:** An MTA representative will run your referee and coach meetings (free of charge) and distribute credentials on the morning of the tournament to ensure that everyone is aware of MTA guidelines and rules to ensure that your tournament runs smoothly.
- **MTA Resources for Promoting Your Tournament:** Use of MTA resources (free of charge) to promote your tournament (the MTA’s web site and mailing and email lists) to help you get the word out to a larger group of potential participants.
- **Mats & Scoring Equipment:** Access to MTA resources for sparring competition – mats and electronic scoring equipment – for use on the day of the tournament (rental fees apply).
- **MTA-Affiliated Club, Referee, and Member Support:** MTA-affiliated clubs will promote your tournament in their clubs, encourage MTA-certified referees who are members of their clubs to work your tournament, and provide volunteers to help run your tournament on the day it is held.

MTA Tournament Guidelines

- **Insurance:** The tournament must carry suitable liability insurance. Proof of insurance must be submitted to MTA no later than the day before the tournament. Many insurance companies offer policies for martial arts competitions. Contact MTA if you have questions about coverage or need help arranging for insurance coverage.

- **Schedule:** The tournament must be scheduled on a day that does not conflict with another MTA-affiliated tournament or activity with consideration for traditional holidays. The tournament also may not fall on the same day as an AAU or USAT national tournament.
- **Duration:** The tournament must be planned in such a way as to reasonably ensure that competition begins at 9:00 AM and concludes at 5:00 PM.
- **Venue:** The tournament must be held in a venue that is suitable for a large athletic event. The ideal venue is typically a basketball gymnasium that also includes adequate seating, concessions, restrooms, locker rooms, and a meeting room. Typically, for every competitor, there will be two additional persons at your tournament (staff, support, referees, medical, MTA officials, and spectators), so plan accordingly.
- **General Admission:** REGISTERED athletes, coaches, MTA-certified referees, MTA officials, and tournament staff must be admitted free. All other attendees may be charged up to \$5.00 for admission. Note that this requires check-in for coaches and athletes, that referees arrive at the tournament wearing their MTA Referee polo identifying them as MTA-certified Referees, and that MTA Officials arrive wearing their MTA polo shirts identifying them as MTA officials.
- **Medical:** The tournament must provide for adequate medical personnel and equipment suitable for treating Taekwondo-related sports injuries on-site for the entire day. This person may be either a volunteer or a paid professional.
- **Referees:** Every effort must be made to ensure that the MTA referee pool is utilized at the tournament so that all rings are fully staffed by MTA-certified referees. As a courtesy, free beverages and a special meal or meal allowance must be provided to the referees in appreciation of their efforts. The MTA will provide an MTA Referee Training/Certification Seminar the day before your tournament if so desired (application and fees apply).
- **Competition Area:** The following guidelines must be observed.
 - Tournaments with 100 (estimated) competitors or less must have at least two (2) rings, tournaments with 101 to 150 (estimated) competitors must have at least three (3) rings, and tournaments with 151 competitors (estimated) or more must have at least four (4) rings.
 - The tournament must utilize a holding/warm-up area for organizing the players into their brackets/divisions that is also large enough to allow them to prepare for competition.
 - The competition and holding/warm-up areas must be roped off and access must be limited to athletes, coaches, tournament staff, medical, and MTA officials only.
 - Rings must be matted and no smaller than 8 meters by 8 meters in size (total matted area – note that current rules no longer require a boundary area). The MTA will provide mats (rental fees apply and you must arrange to transport the mats to the tournament).
- **Scoring:** The tournament must use electronic scoring. The MTA will provide electronic scoring equipment (rental fees apply).
- **Sparring Competition:** As competition at this level should be designed to create the most opportunities for athlete development possible, sparring competition will follow either a double-elimination or round-robin format that guarantees that all competitors have a MINIMUM of two fights.
- **Forms Competition:** Forms competition must be bracketed single or double-elimination competitions using the “decision” method (rather than the traditional scoring method). In the “decision” method, players are bracketed as they would for sparring (two players perform their forms at a time, competing against one another). Judges (three or five judges for each ring) then indicate which competitor they feel is the winner for that match-up. The winner then continues to work through the bracket until the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for the division are determined (if the double-elimination format is used, losers compete in a second bracket for 3rd place).

- **Awards:** The tournament must provide high quality awards for the winners and these awards must be presented in a way that allows parents to photograph their children as they receive their awards (i.e. an awards podium). Specifically, trophies or custom medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners as well as participation medals for competitors who do not place. It is further suggested that you award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place team trophies/awards, as well as trophies/awards for outstanding male and female athletes, and the outstanding referee.
- **Documents:** MTA-approved entry forms and bracket and score sheets (provided on the MTA web site) must be used for registration and sparring and forms competition which will be collected and stored as the "official record of the day's competitions.
- **Official Report:** No later than by one week following the tournament, you must provide (1) results for the tournament, (2) a 100-200 word summary of the tournament written in the form of a news story or sports recap, and (3) photos taken at the tournament. These three items will be posted on the MTA web site.

AGREEMENT

By affiliating my tournament with the Montana Taekwondo Association (MTA), I agree...

- I will follow MTA all guidelines (above) for organizing my tournament. These guidelines cover competition format guidelines that may not be specifically covered in the rules but are designed to maximize development opportunities for athletes, coaches, and referees while creating the best possible Taekwondo experience for all.
- I will follow MTA Taekwondo competition rules for managing and governing the competitions at my tournament. The MTA competition rules are a modified version of USAT and AAU competition rules that reflect the specific needs and safety concerns that have been voiced by the Montana Taekwondo community.
- I will offer both (but not be limited to) Olympic-style free-sparring and forms competition at my tournament and that the entry fee for my tournament (for two events) shall be \$50.00 for MTA members and \$60.00 for non-members (the \$10.00 difference is the "MTA Tournament Participation Fee" noted previously).

Name of Your Tournament:		
Expected Date:	Expected Location:	
Your Name:	Name of the Host Club:	
Club Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP:
Phone:	Email:	

Signature _____

Date _____