

Kingdom of the East

Youth Combat Authorization Procedure

1. Authorization Guidelines

- 1.1 Two Marshals are required for all authorizations. Only Marshals of full or Provisional status may conduct Youth Combat Authorizations. While Marshals in Training are encouraged to observe the process, they are not eligible to conduct the authorization bouts or sign the form for the authorization.
- 1.2 A legal custodian/guardian must be present for the entire authorization process; *there are no exceptions to this rule.*
- 1.3 The appropriate paperwork must be filled out in its entirety, the bottom portion should be detached and given to the Youth Combatant or his/her legal custodian/guardian and the rest of the form given to the attending MoL or should no MoL be present on the Youth Field, the Youth Combat Marshal in Charge will assume responsibility and forward the form(s) to the Mistress of Lists for Youth Combat who is a special deputy responsible for issuing cards and maintaining an accurate database.
- 1.4 If a currently authorized Youth Combatant fails to pass the authorization bout for the next division, the authorizing marshals may allow him/her to continue to participate in the previous division for the remainder of the event. After this event the Marshal in Charge should contact the combatants local marshal and the regional marshal to determine what additional training may be needed or if it is appropriate to keep the combatant in their previous division for a time.
- 1.5 A Youth Combatants authorization is valid until the minor achieves an age, which advances her/him to the next division, successfully passes a special authorization to change division or upon achieving 18 years of age. At the occasion of a division change, an authorization for the new division must be held in conformance to division specific standards and stated procedure for authorizations.
- 1.6 The age divisions are; Division 1 ages 6-9, Division 2 ages 10-13 and Division 3 ages 14-17.
- 1.7 Combatants need not be authorized in order to participate in official fighter practices as long as the legal custodian/guardian has signed the appropriate waivers and completed any other forms that may be required.

2. Authorization Procedure

- 2.1 Prior to authorizing the candidate and his/her legal custodian or guardian must complete a Minor's Waiver.
- 2.2 The candidate must present him/herself on the field for armor inspection. The armor must be inspected on the body and meet the requirements for the specific Division of the authorization. The inspection must be complete and exacting and any deficiencies must be permanently corrected before the authorization may proceed.

- 2.3 When possible, the opponent of the authorization candidate should be armed in the same weapons form as the candidate.
- 2.4 If an experienced Youth Combatant from the same division as the candidate is not available to participate in the authorization bout, an opponent from the next division up may be utilized at the Marshal's discretion, as long as they are safe and understand they are to calibrate to the division standards of the candidate.
- 2.5 The authorization bout is broken down into 2 parts
- 2.5.1 The combatants shall engage at ½ speed, and verbally acknowledge all blows landed. At this time the Marshals conducting the authorization should evaluate the candidates ability to properly acknowledge blows, engage with proper form and technique, and ability to defend him/herself. If this portion of the authorization is not satisfactorily completed, the authorization procedure shall be stopped and the combatant and legal custodian/guardian shall be informed and problems discussed with instruction on how to correct any problem(s).
- 2.5.2 At the next stage of the authorization, the combatants will be instructed to engage at full speed and to count all blows. The candidate's opponent will further be instructed to "press" the candidate at a time indicated by the Marshals. During this phase the authorizing marshals should evaluate the candidates control, reaction to blows and the ability to cope with and aggressive offense and judge the candidate on the following criteria;
- (a) Does the authorizing fighter know and apply the Rules of the Lists and the Conventions of combat?
 - (b) Does the authorizing fighter exhibit safe behavior on the field, both for him/herself and for their opponent?
 - (c) How does the authorizing fighter react to pressure? Does he/she fight back or become disoriented and confused?
 - (d) Is the authorizing fighter able to feel and judge blows, both those received and thrown in a manner consisted with the calibration of their specific Division?
- 2.6 If the marshals agree that the authorizing fighter meets these requirements for authorization and the legal custodian/guardian has been consulted as to their satisfaction with the performance of the authorization process and any questions or concerns they may have, have been addressed to their satisfaction, the Marshals shall notify the combatant that he/she is authorized and all required paperwork shall be completed. The Marshal will be responsible for either turning the paperwork over to the Minister of the Lists who ran the youth tournament if there was one, or if there was not one present, the Marshal accepts responsibility for forwarding the completed paperwork to the Special Deputy Minister of Lists for Youth Combat listed on the form.