



## **Statistics Report**

### **Oceania Open Aikido Championships 2016 Gold Coast Australia**

#### **KATA EVENTS**

Events were judged by three judges on a points basis the same as a normal grading/examination and as was done in the past by the original JAA. The judges were separated and did not collaborate. Each judge entered a score for each section of the kata judged from a median mark of 70% either upward or downward (as we do in a normal grading/examination). Total points out of 90 were recorded for each team. A qualifying mark of more than 60 was needed to be judged for a winning place.

The resulting marks showed only 5 teams out of 11 attained a mark above 70, showing that the majority of entrants though good enough to pass an examination would not meet an international competition standard.

The method of judging was found to be accurate and fair and OAKR will be researching its application further. Our Shinpan bu (referee and judgement department) did not feel that a knockout competition judged by hata age (flag judgement) allowed for the top practitioners to be judged in the finals and that non-credible winners/champions and favouritism in judgment were past results of the flag method in kata competition.

#### **RANDORI EVENTS**

The OAKR shinpan bu (referee and judgement department) studied the 2009 Kyoto randori rules very thoroughly and came to the realization that almost all referees, internationally and in Japan did not know the rules well enough. The rules pertaining to penalties for all Muko Waza (sutemi waza/illegal or non aikido waza, dangerous waza and intention to injure) were well described in the rules either by the articles or the Notes 1-4 page 14 and 15 and also the judgement of ippon waza ari and yuko though we see the need to take those notes and include them with the related articles. We think this is the problem with the poor standard of refereeing both from Japan and overseas, lack of intense study of the rules. Further exacerbating the situation is the fact that some of the flag judgements are not included in the articles.

With the above in mind we made some adjustments (clarifying the rules) in the following areas and fully in keeping with the existing rules.

- 1) In the situation where tanto has been grasped properly by Toshi, Tanto can and should place the knife against Toshi's body, anywhere in the target area, rather than struggle. This may sound simple yet it is constantly missed by players and referees.
- 2) Tanto cannot apply tsuki while moving backwards but should if possible place the knife on the front of Toshi's body to indicate the lack of taisabaki and maai by Toshi (similar to san byo kitei). The rule on taisabaki shido clearly indicates that forcing Tanto to retreat and chasing

Tanto without taisabaki should be penalized. It also should mention that this is a maai infringement.

- 3) We strictly judged Muko Waza as described in the first paragraph. Referees were encouraged to watch for waki gatame, kote gaeshi, gyaku gamae ate, gedan ate, sumi otoshi being performed as sutemi waza or dangerously such as body weight being applied to the elbow, or combined with the judo technique of leg hooking or sweeping (ashi barai, ashi gake). With regard to judging a penalty for Dogi Mochi, referees only penalized intentional attempts to control Tanto by holding the collar, the sleeve or the obi (belt) in the manner of judo method. (essentially a muko waza). Accidental grasping and immediate release were not penalized).
- 4) With regard to Jogai, only if a player INTENTIONALLY stepped out of the competition area with both feet to avoid combat was a player penalized (the rules clearly state this). Otherwise the referees paused (matte) and restarted the bout. The side judges were allowed to signal only if an infringement occurred. If both players went out while in the process of engagement then no penalty was given. If a player was pushed out, including using a faked technique intended just to push a player out then Oshi Dashi penalty was given.
- 5) Referees were encouraged to strictly penalize for kakae komi (grappling the body).
- 6) We also instructed side judges (fukushin) NOT to call a gogi (conference) unless it is a serious event or error and should NOT call a gogi to enforce a petty infringement which has passed or has been waved off by the chief referee (Shushin).
- 7) Finally Judgement is clearly described in good spirit under "Notes" on page 14 so there is no need for poor or stupid decisions if these notes are studied and understood. Both players and club instructors were made to pay attention and a rule was made for instructors to follow up on these points after each competition.

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