

Judging Certification

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How much does it cost and what do I get?

There is a \$15 fee and the student has two years to pass both a written test as well as a practical test to be certified. Certification is good for 5 years. You get a certificate and a judging patch.

2. Who can be a certified judge?

Certification is open to any Dan member 16 years old and above in good standing with WTSDA. Cho Dan Bo members 16 and above can also be certified however, they will not be permitted to judge until they become Dan members.

3. What is covered during certification? How do I prepare?

This is not a teaching session! The certification starts with a very brief overview of the certification process, the rules and addendums to the rules. There is also an opportunity to ask questions. The practical part of the certification involves a mock sparring match. The mentors will evaluate the corner and center judges' ability to control the ring while correctly applying the rules. To prepare for a certification, you should be familiar with the rules in the newest (2016) rulebook. The written test contains questions that test your knowledge of all aspects of the Championship. It is also helpful if you practice in your studio with certified judges.

4. What are the different certification levels and the requirements for each level?

The first level of certification is the corner judge. Everyone starts here. The next level is the Regional Center. Regional Center requires:

- a. Being a Certified Corner with documented experience at 3 Championship (log sheet required)
 - b. Pass written test
 - c. Pass center practical test
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- a. Being a Certified Regional Center with documented experience as Regional Center (log sheet required)
 - b. Judging at World Championship
 - c. Pass written test
 - d. Pass center practical test

Details of the requirements for each level can be found in the 2016 rulebook.

5. What happens when I fail part of the certification?

You will have 2 years to make up any deficiency. If you failed the written portion, you can make arrangements with the Judging Coordinator to retake the test. If you failed the practical portion, you will have to wait until the next scheduled certification. If you failed the practical portion, the mentors will discuss with you why you are not ready to be a judge.

6. How do I get assigned as a judge and get the documented experience?

Does judging at open tournaments count?

Judging lists are determined several weeks to months before a Championship. The best way to ensure an assignment is to volunteer early. You can volunteer by using the Championship's application. An electronic copy of the judging logs can be provided when you receive your results and will be also available the day of the Championship. Signatures from the Judging Coordinator can be obtained the day of the tournament. Do **not** rely on the Coordinator remembering if you were at the tournament so get your log sheet signed. Participation at non-sanctioned WTSDA tournaments does not qualify for experience. However, judging in other WTSDA regional Championship does count and be sure to have the judging coordinator or person assigning the judges sign your log sheet.

7. What is the process to be recertified?

When your certification has expired, you will need to go through the process again. If you are recertifying as a Center or International judge, you will need your completed log sheet. If you cannot verify that you do have the required experience as a Center judge, you will have to start again as a Corner.

8. What is the process to be upgraded from Corner to Regional Center or Regional Center to International Center? Are there any timetables to upgrade?

To be upgraded you will need to go through the entire process including the \$15 fee. You will need your log sheet. There are no set timetables to upgrade. You can upgrade when you feel you are ready. Remember certification for Regional Center has more stringent qualifications and not everyone will pass.

9. When are certifications scheduled?

There is always a certification session scheduled during the Adult Dan clinic. Numerous certifications are also scheduled during the year. Check with your instructor for the dates.

10. Are there any exemptions for Masters?

At this time, Masters do not have to be certified at the Master's clinic. They can recertify at the regional level. Masters are not required to maintain a judging log. As a side note, one of the requirements for being invited to the Master's Clinic is being a certified international judge.