

## To All Black Belt Competitors:

Our region is making a better effort to raise and uphold ATA standards. To do this I have enclosed the ATA guidelines that we are to follow. In the event a student and/or instructor fail to adhere to these guidelines, they may receive a warning. The goal is to continue and improve positive ATA spirit through the year. I am confident all those who choose to compete will set the very best example regardless of what takes place in the rings and during tournaments.

### ATA Etiquette Rules

White tennis shoes only. No sandals, no black tennis shoes, etc.

Full uniform must be worn all day.

No additions to uniform (i.e. hats, head bands, jackets, etc.)

All uniform requirements were sent out by Sr. Master Kohl, we need to abide by them.

The proper color belt requirements need to be followed (belt color, stripes, etc.).

Bow to fourth degree black belts and above.

Black belts must attend meeting on time; instructors, red/black collars may be denied competition if late.

You must judge when assigned, getting a replacement without permission from Chief of Tournaments is not allowed.

Do not leave tournament before bow out or without proper permission from the Chief of Tournaments.

You must display positive ATA attitude during competition.

Judges must remain attentive to his/her judging assignments (Pay attention).

You must keep all gear on and headgear fastened until you are dismissed from the ring.

Positive cheering is allowed but no coaching of the student while in the ring.

If you are a judge or a timekeeper, you may not cheer for the competitor in that ring.

No arguing with the judge's calls or improper body language.

There will be no negative discussion about judges or competitors at all while on the tournament site.

If errors are made, request a private talk with those concerned and/or with the Chief of Tournaments.

I guess what I would like to say is anything that takes place at tournaments must be addressed with proper courtesy and respect at all times. If you have been done an injustice, you still do not have the right to return it as such. How we conduct ourselves in all situations is of the utmost importance. There are people all around watching your actions. Your example is a reflection of our region and your integrity. It takes all of us to make our region the best it can be. Thanks for your efforts.