



INTEGRAL
FIGHTING SYSTEM

CHILDREN Kiếm Combat RULES & REGULATIONS

KIẾM



COMBAT

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www.vovinam-weo.com
vovinam_world_expansion_office@yahoo.com
integralvovinamworldfederation@gmail.com

INTEGRAL VOVINAM - Kiếm Combat Children Rules

CHILDREN “ KIẾM COMBAT” REGULATIONS

ART. 1.1:

Under U16, as minors of age, all children MUST provide a parental authorization to participate, under the SOLE RESPONSIBILITY of the official coach or Head of Team of which they depend.

ART. 1.2:

All countries MUST give their athletes a translation of these Rules and Regulations in their language. All the participants are supposed to know these rules and regulations in their language.

ART. 1.3:

During the International Competitions, the Coach or the National Person-in-charge must carry with him, on the site of the fights, a printed version of these Rules and Regulations in his language.

ART. 1.4:

In case of problems related to the exact translation, the ONLY basic and legal version that will prevail is the ENGLISH version. Countries are asked to translate correctly in their languages.

ART. 2.1:

The Integral World Federation recognizes the competitions only if the Integral World Federation or a delegation authorized them, whether through a Regional, National, or an International entity.

ART. 2.2:

- 1) The organization of competitions can only be done by the Integral World Federation and/or by a promoter, an association or federation recognized by the Integral World Federation.
- 2) The competitions under the Integral World Federation will only be held in the case the Integral World Federation gave a written authorization, or after agreement of a written application.

ART. 3 A:

All the participants to competitions in the U16 (Children categories) of/or under the Integral World Federation must have less than 16 years old. If the combatants have 16 years old, THEY CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN A COMPETITION IN THAT CATEGORY. They must sign-in in the U18 category (from 16 years old to under 18 years old), which is following the same rules as Adult category of competition of the Integral World Federation.

ART. 3 B:

All the athletes that are minors must present a written parental authorization in English, or in the language of the country organizing the event.

ART. 3 C :

All athletes must present a medical certificate specifying that they present no contraindication to the practice AND TO COMPETE in sword fights. The certificate must have been issued less than 3 months before the competition, or else have been signed and stamped by the doctor on the IVWF Sports Passport for the current season (Pages 7 to 9).

ART. 4:

- 1- Any participation to a competition in the category Children Vovinam Sword Fights held by/or under the Integral World Federation will be permitted only if the participant in Integral Fight Category has a VALID license approved by the Integral World Federation.
- 2- It WILL be asked the participants to perform Vovinam sword techniques, in order to verify that they really are Vovinam athletes.
- 3- the children in categories U8 to U10 will perform the 5 first sword techniques
- 4 - the children in categories from U12 to U16 will perform the whole Sword Quyen (KATA).
- 3- The Quyen asked for the verification will be: Tinh Ho Luong Nghi Kiếm Pháp.
- 4- The performance of the Quyen will not give any point, but if it happens that the athlete does not know the Quyen, he or she will be disqualified.
- 5 - The Quyen must be performed with fluidity, the techniques must be the ones of the programme, the

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directions must be the correct ones, and the cutting and block moves must be executed fast and clear.

6- If the participant shows a bad knowledge of the Quyen or is hesitating, has lack of confidence or is marking pauses, he or she will be eliminated. Then, his or her opponent will ALSO have to perform a Quyen. If he or she is able to perform it, he or she will pass to the next phase. If not, he or she will be eliminated too.

ART. 5:

- 1) A competition of CHILDREN KIẾM COMBATS must be held on a tatami mat with a minimum 6 m X 6 m fighting surface or in a ring approved by the Integral World Federation, which dimensions are at least 5m X 5m.
- 2) The ring floor must be done in a solid construction, flat and covered with foam material of at least 2 cm of thickness, placed under a rigid canvas sheet. In case of a Tatami mat, or must follow to the International Fights with norms related to throwing and falling.
- 3) No norms are imposed about the ropes dimensions and diameter.
- 4) The ropes must be covered by a soft protecting material and will be attached together to each corner of the ring.
- 5) The corners diagonally opposed will be in BLUE for one of them, and in RED for the other. The other corners will be neutral or white.

ART. 6: Fighting Uniforms (Võ Phục)

- 1) The participants will wear a Vovinam Võ Phục (Gi), approved by the Integral regulations.

1 – b) the Integral round Logo must be worn on the chest (Blue).



1- c) The IVWF badges **MUST NOT BE COPIED OR MADE**. It is practically the only way of fund source of the IVWF. They are under Copyright. The countries must buy the badges to the Integral World Federation. No local making!

1 – d) the Vovinam Việt Võ Đạo logo is not allowed on the Uniform (Võ Phục).



- 2) Any sharp or hard objects, rings, jewellery, necklace, etc. on the uniform, under the uniform, or on the athlete are forbidden.
- 3) Any kinds of shoes are forbidden.
- 4) On the fighting uniform, advertisements or commercial texts are authorized if they are discreet and only if these advertisements or these texts are non-contrary to the ethic, the courtesy or the interests of the promoter or the Integral World Federation. The club's logo or the name of the athlete is/are authorized.

ART. 7: Protection Gear

- 1) Groin protection is compulsory for all participants (Boys and girls).
- 2) Wearing body gear protection is compulsory.
- 3) Wearing the Homologated IVWF headgear (helmet) provided by the organizer or by the participants, according to the conditions of the competition.
- 4) The helmet **MUST** be the official one, stamped with



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the official logo of the IVWF. Any fake helmet or illegal copied helmet would lead to the disqualification of the bearer.

5) The Referee must check all the protection gears before each fight.

ART. 8: Length of the fight

The actions in sword fighting are really fast. The length of the rounds is the following:

1 x 1 minute in eliminatory phases

2 x 1 minute in semi-final

3 x 1 minute for final phases

Rest of 30 seconds between the rounds

ART. 9: Weight categories

U8	U10	U12	U14	U16
- 19kg to 26.999kg	- 21kg to 28.999kg	- 30kg to 39.999 kg	- 33kg to 42.999kg	- 48kg to 57,999kg
+ 27 kg	+ 29 kg	+ 40 kg	43kg to 52,999kg	58kg to 67,999kg
			53kg to 62,999kg	68kg to 73,999kg
			+63 kg	+ 74 kg

ART. 10: Techniques for the standing part of the fight

Are tolerated: all sword techniques.

Other techniques allowed

- 1) kicks to the body protection only, and ONLY if they are included in a series of sword attacks.
- 2) sweeps if performed in a series of saber attacks (inside and outside sweep)
- 3) Scissors score no points, but the fall counts as a takedown if the scissor was included in a series of saber attacks. If the scissor fails to take-down the opponent, then this opponent scores a point.

ART. 11: Unauthorized techniques

- 1) Grabbing the opponent's sword
- 2) Biting, scratch, clawing, and spitting
- 3) Pull or grab the helmet, the opponent's body gear, the opponent's arm
- 4) All techniques on the groin area
- 5) Elbow and forearm attacks
- 6) Head-butting
- 7) Strikes against the spine
- 8) Kicks against the head
- 9) Knee strikes
- 10) Pressing on Adam's apple
- 11) Grabbing on to the safety fence or the ropes
- 12) Flee the fight under the ropes or outside the fighting area.
- 13) Going down to the floor without having done any technique or planned action.
- 14) Flee clearly the fight and lacking of fighting spirit or defense.
- 15) Pushing or throwing the opponent out of the competition area
- 16) Ignoring the instructions of the referee
- 17) Simulating being hit in the groin area or by a forbidden technique
- 18) If the head protection goes out during the fight, the referee will order a pause. Then, the referee will put the helmet back.
- 19) If a headgear goes out more than twice during a round, it should be removed and replaced by another one tighter. Any tactic using the headgear problems to save time or to receive advices will be

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sanctioned by the referee.

ART. 12: CLINCH (STAND-UP)

The standing clinch is allowed as long as there is no force applied to the swords. Any struggle with tangled swords could break them. The referee must separate the opponents and restart the bout in a neutral position.

ART. 13 A: AWARDING POINTS

- 1) sweeping with falling, 1 point
- 2) sweeping with falling + striking on a valid target, 1 + 1 = 2 points
- 3) Points for Sword strikes: all effective and authorized strikes score 1 point.
- 4) Scissors do not score anything, but the falling does if the scissors has been executed inside a sword strike series. If the opponent does not fall, he will be awarded one point.

ART. 13 B:

For a striking action to score, it must hit a legal target powerfully, and accurately.

Legal targets:

Foot, leg, thigh, hip, hand, wrist, upper arm, arm, head, face, front of body gear, side of body gear.

Note: shoulders do not score any point!

ART. 13 C:

- 1- Simultaneous strikes (clashes) of the two contenders: they do not score.
- 2- Simultaneous strikes, but one of them was a “blocking + counter attack”, then the counter attack scores 1 point (principle of the Counter attack priority).

ART. 14

K.O. and K.O. technique (TKO)

- 1) K.O.'s are not authorized as a mean of winning the fight. These fights are sword fights, not kicking fights.
- 2) When a contender has received a kick to the body gear, and cannot resume the fights, if the referee sees that it was not a deliberate intention to knock out the opponent, then he or she will be declared losing the fights: the body protection MUST cover the power of a kick.
- 3) Any knock-out to the head will lead to the disqualification of the author of the strike.
- 4) Any kicking to other parts that the body gear will lead to the disqualification of the author of the kick (low kicks are forbidden!).
- 5) Big weight difference: in case of a big weight difference, the Referee will ask the heavier contender not to use too much power. It must remain a sword fight, and not a kicking fight.
- 6) Combat swords are made to be used like swords, not baseball bats. If a fighter breaks his weapon because he hit too hard, he will have to use another sword immediately (it is his responsibility). If he cannot change his weapon, he will be disqualified (TKO).

ART. 15

- 1) Any legal technique started inside the limit of the fight area of the ring or the tatami mat and finished outside the legal limit of area will be considered valid, and will award the corresponding points, unless there was a clear intention to execute the technique outbound.
- 2) Any technique started outside the limit of the fight area of the ring or the tatami mat will be penalized.
- 3) Any legal technique started after the starting round bell sounded will be considered as valid and the points awarded.
- 4) Any technique started after the end of round bell sounded will be considered as illegal and the contender responsible of the action will be penalized.

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ART. 16

1) Draws. In case of equality of results, if the 2 contenders reached the same amount of points after the fights, then they will perform the Sword Quyền Tinh Hoa Lương Nghi Kiếm Pháp. The better technician will win the fight.

ART. 17: END OF THE FIGHT

A fight is over if:

- 1) If a contender cannot resume the fight due to the doctor's or the referee's decision.
- 2) If a contender is disqualified.
- 3) The contestant's coaches stop the match by throwing in the towel and thus forfeiting the match.
- 4) The length of the fight is over.

ART. 18: PUBLIC WARNINGS and DISQUALIFICATION

1) If a contender performs a forbidden technique or action, or if he is violates the INTEGRAL Code of Ethics in a blatant and unsportsmanlike manner, then he will receive a public warning and will be automatically disqualified.

2) A fighter will be directly disqualified:

- a) If he or she acted contrary to the fair sport attitude of the competition, or if he or she violated the moral integrity of his/her opponent, or if the Security of the competition if put in danger.
- b) If the fighter or his/her coach do not follow the referee's orders.
- c) If the fighter or his/her coach has a behavior that is not allowing the competition to be held normally.
- d) If one (or several) action(s) of a fighter (can be) are seen as forbidden techniques or movements.
- e) If a fighter does not show enough fight spirit or is only defending during the fight.
- f) If a fighter does not wear the protection gears imposed by the present rules and regulations, he then should have to wear them right away; on the contrary, he (she) will be disqualified by the referee.
- g) If a contender has covered his/her body of (massage) oil. However, neutral Vaseline is authorized on the face.
- h) If he or she is wearing some clearly "no sport" clothes.
- i) If there are more that 3 coaches/helps on his/her corner.

3) In case of a disqualification, the Main Referee will write a report that will be communicated to the secretary of the corresponding Federation or Association.

4) During the fight, the referee can give informal warnings without limits. This will not influence directly the scores.

ART. 19: Competition Administration Committee

1) Composition of the Competition Administration Committee

- Person-in-charge of the competition
- Person-in-charge of the Stopwatch and the sound signal
- Chief of jury, Score keeper
- (Head of the referees)
- Referees
- Communication Referee
- Competition Control Referee
- Judges
- Doctor
- (Speaker)

ART. 20: Injuries

1) In a contender is "out" due to an illegal action (forbidden action of his/her opponent) and that the

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referee has seen such action, he will have to apply immediate sanction against the contender that committed the faulty action.

2) If a contender is “out” due to an illegal action (forbidden action of his/her opponent) and that he or she cannot keep fighting, according to the doctor’s judgment, then his opponent will be disqualified.

3) If a contender had one or several injuries during the competition that were not caused by his opponent (or were accidental) but do not allow him/her to keep fighting, and that he/she wishes to quit the fight, or when the doctor wants him/her to stop the fight, then he will be declared losing the fight by TKO.

4) If the 2 contenders are injured simultaneously, and that, following these injuries both of them cannot resume the fight, then the fight decision will be a “draw”.

5) The Doctor’s judgment and decisions cannot be appealed.

ART. 21: stopping a fight

The referee of the Chief Referee can stop a fight:

1- if a contender has a too different level from the other (clear technical inferiority) then, the best of them will be declared Winner by intervention of the referee.

2- if the Doctor says that one or several injuries could be a risk for a contender’s health.

3- if a contender’s coach cannot behave properly, then his fighter will receive a public warning, and if this behavior keeps going on, the fighter will be disqualified.

4- if the audience is not behaving as it should, and if that is not allowing the competition to be held correctly and securely.

5- if a contender has more than 3 people in his/her corner. He or she will be punished by a public warning, and if the situation is repeated, he or she will be disqualified.

6- if the referee decides to end the fight, he will inform the head of referees of the motive of the end of the fight.

7- if the competition is stopped during the fight due to natural disaster or for any other involuntary. In that case, no victory will be declared (« NO CONTEST »). The results will not be published.

ART. 22: doping and stimulating products or substances.

1) The use of any drug, stimulating or doping substances is strictly forbidden.

2) Any contender participating in a competition organized by, or under, INTEGRAL WORLD FEDERATION (IVWF) must pass through medical examination by the Doctor of the competition, or by the Commission of anti-doping control.

3) If a contender, or his/her coach, is declared positive to anti-doping control, then this or these person(s) will be suspended for an undetermined period, and the result of the fight will be estimated again.

4) The Rules and Regulations of our federation are applicable in ALL event of the INTEGRAL WORLD FEDERATION.

ART 23: Team and assistants

1) A fighter can have up to 3 persons as assistants for his/her fight near the ring or the fighting area.

2) Contender assistants must be clearly identifiable, either by wearing a uniform such as sport clothes of the club or the country, or by wearing a same T-shirt showing the belonging to a club or a country.

3) The assistants will remain during the whole length of the fight in the place that had been assigned to them, whether the Red or the Blue corner.

4) The assistants or coaches can only give instructions in a decent way.

5) The assistants or coaches can never interfere in the proper progress of the fight.

6) Only the Main Coach can enter the ring/the fighting area during the beginning of the fight or during the rest times.

ART. 24: Contesting a result (disputes)

A dispute must be started ONLY if a clear wrong result was given.

As a famous boxing champion said once: “if the victory is not evident, don’t blame the referees for

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having lost the fight. You should have fought better!”

Therefore, a dispute must be stated ONLY if it was a real and CLEAR mistake.

- 1) if a referee decision or a final result is in conflict with the above rules and regulations, the only persons allowed to contest this decision are the contender, his/her coach, or any of his/her official representatives.
- 2) to dispute a result, an official letter must be sent to the Organizing Committee, to the Federation or Association, directly after the fight concerning that dispute
- 3) the Person-in-charge of the competition will consult the chief referee and the JUDGES.
- 4) if all the facts available are considered, the Person-in-charge of the competition will take a decision.
- 5) the right of contesting a result expires one month after the day of the competition in question.
- 6) the party who is asking for a revision of the result must do it with a video of the fight, as a proof of arguments.
- 7) this video will be asked to the organizer
- 8) videos taken by the public or by the member of the Team can be studied too in case of no having videos of the organizer.
- 9) any dispute without a video to prove the fact will not be taken into account.



ART. 25: Insurance and Sports Passport

- 1) All the contenders must present, before the beginning of the event, a valid insurance and a valid IVWF Sports Passport.
- 2) The results of the competitions must be noted (signed and stamped) in the IVWF passports of each participant, by the Director or Person-in-charge of the Organizing Committee of the Competition.
- 3) Any false result noted on the IVWF passport will conduct to the lifetime expulsion of the author(s) and accomplices.
- 4) If a contender has not reached the podium (1st, 2nd or 3rd place) a “slash” will be noted on the space for the results. But the date and place of the competition will be noted and signed/stamped, as a proof of the participation to the competition.