



WORLD KARATE FEDERATION

12th February 2009

TO ALL REFEREES AND JUDGES

Dear Friends,

I understand that there is some uncertainty about two parts of Version 6 of the Competition Rules.

The first of these is the interpretation of face contact for Cadets and Juniors. In the explanations of Article 8 it says;

*For Cadet and Junior competitors no contact to the head, face, or neck, (including the face mask) is allowed with hand techniques. Any contact, **no matter how light**, will be penalised....*

This means exactly what it says "no matter how light". In order to clarify the matter further the following has been added to the explanation;

*For Cadet and Junior competitors no **touch or** contact to the head, face, or neck, (including the face mask) is allowed with hand techniques. Any **touch or** contact, no matter how light, will be penalised....*

The second area of misunderstanding is what to do when the referee calls Yame and two judges do not signal (which means Mienai) and the other judge gives a signal not in agreement with the referee. In this respect nothing has changed. Article 12 Powers and Duties (Referees) paragraph 8 gives the referee the power to resolve ties. That also means exactly what it says, whenever there is a tie whether it be two/two, or one/one, the referee has the power to resolve it. However to make things even clearer the following has been inserted in Article 12, Explanation VII;

In the event that two judges fail to signal and the other is in disagreement with the Referee, then the Referee will decide what action to take.

I hope that this has been helpful.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tommy Morris', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Tommy Morris
WKF RC Chair