



ETU A-CLASS POOMSÆ TOURNAMENTS

A-Class tournament system

A-Class tournaments are the top level Taekwondo championships in Europe and they form the basis for the ETU ranking list. A growing number of organizers are applying for the status of A-Class and, therefore, tournaments have to meet certain standards for obtaining it. In 2011, there will be seven A-Class Poomsae Tournaments. The number will probably grow in 2012, as there seems to be more competent candidates. These tournaments are marked with a red "A"-sign in a circle (A) in the ETU Events Calendar.

A-Class Ranking List

A ranking list for the best European Taekwondo Poomsae competitors is established. The list is based on the results of the ETU A-Class tournaments in one year. The list is compiled according to the following:

- 20 points for each winner
- 15 points for the second place
- 10 points for the third place
- 7 point for the fourth place
- 5 points for the fifth place

Only ETU A-Class tournaments in the current year are considered. If some of the positions 1-5 are occupied by non-European competitors, these places are not counted because this ranking list shows only the ranking of European Taekwondo competitors.

2011 ETU Poomsae A-Class tournaments

Date	Name	Place
27-28 March	Spanish Open Poomsae	Alicante, Spain
9 April	Belgium Open Poomsae	Gent, Belgium
30 April	Danish Open Poomsae	Kolding, Denmark
7 May	Finnish Open Poomsae	Turku, Finland
16 June	Austrian Open Poomsae	Innsbruck, Austria
1 October	Hungarian Open Poomsae	Budapest, Hungary
5 November	Portugal Open Poomsae	Seixal, Portugal

Standards for the A-Class Poomsae

The following **six standards** should be fulfilled to obtain the A-Class status:

- 1) The tournament has a history of an international event at least for three years before applying the status. Several countries must have been participated in the tournament.
- 2) The tournament is judged by objective, experienced and up-dated judges, preferably IR-judges representing several countries. On the day before the tournament should be organized a judge meeting focusing on integration of interpretations of the rules in order to guarantee fair play in the next day's tournament.
- 3) The tournament applies official WTF Poomsae rules. The tournament is run on the official puzzle mats and judged by electronic scoring system with screens (at least 32" TV-size). Tournament has a designated completion manager and a main judge who work together.
- 4) The date of the tournament will be published on the ETU homepage at least six months before the tournament, preferably 12 months. The detailed invitation will be published at least three months before the tournament, preferably earlier.
- 5) The tournament has an internet site with basic information of the tournament: date, place, categories, time-schedule, expenses, prizes, and other important information.
- 6) The thorough results of the tournament will be sent to the ETU office in three days after the tournament, preferably on the same day. This procedure will enable the ETU ranking system to cover also Poomsae athletes.

Selection procedure

The final selection of the A-class tournaments will be made by the ETU A-Class Committee on the basis of the following criteria in this order:

- 1) The most important criterion is, how well the tournament meets the above-mentioned six standards.
- 2) Moreover, the location of the tournament can affect on the decision (A-Class tournaments should be available all over Europe and their accessibility should be effortless).
- 3) Finally, a long history as an international tournament and feedback from the participants of the previous tournaments may influence on the decision, if other criteria are not enough to make the selection.

On behalf of the ETU A-Class Poomsae Committee



Jarkko Mäkinen
Chairman