

American Amateur Karate Federation

NATIONAL TRADITIONAL KARATE GOVERNING BODY OF THE UNITED STATES

AAKF Conflict Resolution Committee

Purpose

The purpose of AAKF Conflict Resolution Committee is to give guidance and procedure to settle disputes between individuals and/or groups that cannot be resolved within the regions, amongst the regions and against the AAKF, in efforts to perpetuate positive growth, goodwill, and maintain harmony within the organization.

Standards of Good Faith & Conduct

All parties in dispute will operate under the Standards of Good Faith & Conduct, where each person or group will openly discuss their differences in effort to reach a mutual agreement. The following are the guidelines:

- Maintain an open mind to opposite viewpoints
- Allow each party to finish speaking before replying
- No yelling, screaming or use of profanity at any time
- Be willing to make concessions
- Stay focused on the task, of reaching a equitable resolution

Failing to cooperate during the meeting or the hearing, and/or refusal to sign the final resolution document by any member of the conflicting parties will be considered as violation of Standards of Good Faith & Conduct, and will be subject to pertinent disciplinary action(s) as written in the AAKF Rules & Regulations.

The Statement of Resolution

When a resolution is reached between parties or groups, the representative(s) of each involved party will sign The Statement of Resolution. This is considered as the official biding document, and will be filed to the AAKF Executive Board.

Classification of Conflict

- 1. Regional
- 2. Inter-Regional
- 3. Regional-National

Stage 1 Procedures

1. Regional—conflict within the region is brought to the attention of the Regional Board of Governors (Rules & Regulations Article 6), and the



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- board will convene in an official meeting with the parties involved to reach an amicable and satisfactory resolution.
- 2. Inter-regional—conflict between two or more regions are brought to the attention of respective Regional Director(s)/Representative(s), and they along with (if applicable) any other involved parties will convene in an official meeting to reach an amicable and satisfactory resolution.
- 3. Regional-National—conflict between region(s) and the AAKF is brought to the attention of respective Regional Director(s)/Representative(s), the AAKF Executive Committee, and the Executive Director, and they along with (if applicable) any other involved parties will convene in an official meeting to reach an amicable and satisfactory resolution.

Stage 2 Procedures

If a satisfactory resolution is not produced by the end of the meeting as described in Stage 1, then a request for arbitration must be submitted to the AAKF Conflict Resolution Committee Chair. A mediator from the committee will conduct a second meeting between the conflicting parties. If an acceptable agreement is reached and signed by the involved parties, this agreement will then be presented to the AAKF Executive Committee for final approval.

Stage 3 Procedures

If a final agreement cannot be settled between the conflicting parties mediated by the committee member, then a special hearing must take place. The AAKF Conflict Resolution Committee will select five members from the Board of Directors who are not involved parties in the dispute to serve as a Jury for this hearing. The AAKF President will preside over the hearing. After hearing the case, the Jury will pass a verdict based on a majority vote (3 votes will pass a verdict). The Statement of Resolution will be signed by the AAKF President (one who presided the hearing), the members (5) of the jury and the conflicting parties, and will be presented to the AAKF Executive Committee for final approval, at which time it will considered as the official and final resolution to the conflict.

Time Limit

Four-week maximum time limit is allotted for each stage.

Statement of Resolution

AAKF Conflict Resolution Committee

Involved Parties
Name:
Address:
Email:
Name:
Address:
Email:
<u>Conflict</u>
Resolution
Agreement
Date:
Names and Signatures Of involved Parties and Mediators:
1 2
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