2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships

Official Regulations

Registration and Video Submission Period:
November 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Organizing Body:
WWC16 Administration Inc. (WWC16)

Sanctioning Body:
United States of America Wushu Kungfu Federation (USAWKF)

Competition Format:
Global Virtual Video Submission

Official Website:
usainternationalopen.com

Inquiries:
info@wwc16.org



Dear Athletes, Coaches, Officials, and Taijiquan Friends,

On behalf of WWC16 Administration Inc., it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships.

This championship brings together Taijiquan practitioners of all ages and backgrounds from around the world to demonstrate their skills, share their traditions, and celebrate our common passion for this treasured martial art.

I encourage all participants to compete with integrity, respect, and good sportsmanship. Beyond awards and rankings, this event offers a valuable opportunity to learn from one another, build friendships, and promote the continued development of Taijiquan worldwide.

My sincere appreciation goes to the athletes, coaches, judges, volunteers, schools, and organizations whose participation and support make this championship possible.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Welcome, and best wishes to all participants!

With warmest regards,

Anthony Goh
President
WWC16 Administration Inc.

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2026 USA INTERNATIONAL OPEN ONLINE TAIJIQUAN CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships is organized by WWC16 Administration Inc. and officially sanctioned by the United States of America Wushu-Kungfu Federation (USAWKF).

The tournament provides an open, elite, and accessible international stage for world Taijiquan athletes, practitioners, schools, and enthusiasts worldwide to showcase technical excellence under recognized standard scoring criteria, uniting the global Taijiquan community to celebrate heritage preservation and promote international wellness.

A. GLOBAL PARTICIPATION SHOWCASE & REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

1. Geographic Zones & International Tagging

Upon registration, every individual competitor, school, and team is officially registered and tagged under one of five designated geographic zones based on residency:

- Zone 1: United States of America (USA & U.S. Territories)
- Zone 2: Pan-America & the Caribbean (Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America, Caribbean Islands)
- Zone 3: Asia (East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia)
- Zone 4: Europe (Western, Central, Eastern Europe, and the UK)
- Zone 5: Oceania, Africa & Middle East (Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands, Africa, Middle East)

2. Dual Ranking Structure & Regional Analytics

Competition routines are judged within a single, unified global scoring pool under standard international judging criteria. To honor both worldwide excellence and regional community growth, the tournament employs a dual-ranking framework alongside certified demographic reporting:

- **Unified Global Championship Rankings:** All competitors in an event category compete directly against one another worldwide to establish overall international placements and championship honors.
- **Regional Zone Standings:** Official scores will also be filtered by Geographic

Zone (Zones 1–5), generating distinct regional leaderboards to recognize top-ranking performers within each geographic zone.

- **Regional Demographics & Analytics Report:** Following score certification, the Organizing Committee publishes a comprehensive global report featuring:
- Active Athlete Headcounts: Total individual and team registrations indexed by zone, country, and gender.
    - Discipline & Division Breakdown: Comparative entry rates across Contemporary Taiji, Traditional Lineages, Duilian, Jiti, and Creative Costume Showcase events.
    - Demographic Distribution: Age bracket representation across Youth (Groups A–B), Adult (Groups C–E), and Senior (Groups F–G) divisions.
    - Participating Delegations Registry: An official international roll of honor documenting every registered school, club, and lineage academy by geographic zone.

B. DATES AND FORMAT

3. Key Dates & Schedule

All deadlines adhere strictly to U.S. Eastern Time (ET). Late entries or late video submissions will not be accepted once the technical review period commences.

Phase	Effective Date / Deadline: U.S. Eastern Time (ET)	Operational Scope
Phase 1: Registration Opening	October 1, 2026 (00:00 EDT)	Online entry portal opens for athlete declarations, waiver execution, fee payments, and video URL submissions.
Phase 2: Final Entry Deadline	December 31, 2026 (23:59 EST)	Registration closes definitively. All routine entries, fee payments, and video URLs must be submitted.
Phase 3: Technical Screening	January 1 – 10, 2027	Audit of competitor qualifications, age validation, video accessibility, resolution parameters, and audio screening.
Phase 4: Official Scoring	January 11 – 25, 2027	Judges evaluate performance, record deductions, audit scoring logs, and establish final rankings.
Phase 5: Results	January 31, 2027	Official global release of final standings, immediate availability of verifiable E-Certificates, and launch of

Phase	Effective Date / Deadline: U.S. Eastern Time (ET)	Operational Scope
Announcement		featured online showcases.

4. Competition Format

- **Competition Format:** The 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships will be conducted online via video submission hosted on YouTube (International / Zones 1, 2, 4, 5, and non-mainland Zone 3) and Bilibili (Mainland China / Zone 3) in accordance with the video submission specifications outlined in these regulations.
- **Registration Submission:** usainternationalopen.com

C. ELIGIBILITY, HEALTH & SAFETY

5. Competitor Eligibility

- Eligibility:
  - The competition is open to all Taijiquan practitioners, clubs, martial arts academies, and independent athletes worldwide. There are no citizenship, residency, or mandatory federation membership requirements.
- Entry Quota & Limitations
  - Individual Entries: Athletes may enter an unlimited number of individual events, provided that each entry consists of a different routine. The same routine may not be entered more than once, regardless of division, category, or event designation.
  - Group (Jiti) Entries: Teams, schools, and organizations may register group routines (minimum 6 participants per group).
- Organizational Affiliation (Optional Self-Declaration)
  - During registration, athletes may select or input their home club, martial arts school, or affiliated national federation (e.g., USAWKF, national Wushu federations). Affiliations are self-declared and are not independently verified by WWC16 Administration Inc. or USAWKF.

6. Health, Medical Fitness & Minor Supervision

- **Optimal Health Condition:** All athletes must be in optimal physical health and

proper medical condition to safely execute their registered routines. Competitors assume full responsibility for their physical fitness. The Organizing Committee (WWC16 Administration Inc.) and USAWKF accept no legal or financial liability for injuries sustained before, during, or after recording.

- **Mandatory Guardian Supervision & Consent for Minors:** All minor competitors (under 18 years of age at the time of registration) must be directly supervised by a parent, legal guardian, or certified coach during filming. A signed digital parental/guardian consent and liability waiver is mandatory during online registration. Submissions lacking verified guardian consent will be deemed invalid.

II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

D. APPLICABLE COMPETITION RULES

Unless otherwise stated in these Regulations, the 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable International Wushu Federation (IWUF) competition rules.

- Contemporary Optional Events shall be governed by the IWUF Wushu Taolu Competition Rules and Judging Methods (2024).
- Traditional Taiji, Compulsory Taiji, Duilian, and Group (Jiti) Events shall be governed by the IWUF Traditional Wushu Competition Rules (2019).
- Creative Costume Showcase Events shall be governed by these Regulations.

In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between these Regulations and an applicable IWUF rule set, these Regulations shall prevail. In the event of any conflict between IWUF rule sets, the rule set designated for the specific event category shall prevail.

Note:

1. Unless otherwise specified, individual events shall be conducted separately for Male and Female competitors.
2. Unless otherwise specified, events shall not be combined, consolidated, or modified based on the number of participants.

E. DIVISIONS & AGE GROUPS

7. Age Groups

(Age determined as of December 31, 2026.)

Note: The minimum age for participation in all events is eight (8) years of age as of December 31, 2026.

7.1 Contemporary and Traditional Taiji Division

- Group A: Ages 8 to 13 years old (Born between 2013 and 2018)
- Group B: Ages 14 to 17 years old (Born between 2009 and 2012)
- Group C: Ages 18 to 29 years old (Born between 1997 and 2008)
- Group D: Ages 30 to 39 years old (Born between 1987 and 1996)
- Group E: Ages 40 to 54 years old (Born between 1972 and 1986)
- Group F: Ages 55 to 69 years old (Born between 1957 and 1971)
- Group G: Ages 70+ years old (Born on or before 1956)

7.2 Duilian (Choreographed Sparring / 2–3 Persons)

- Duilian D1: Ages 8 to 17 years old (All participating members must be 17 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2026)
- Duilian D2: Ages 18+ (Or any pair with at least one athlete aged 18 or older)
- Gender Divisions: Male, Female, or Mixed (can be unified into an Open pool if registration volume is light).

7.3 Jiti (Group Routines / Minimum 6 Persons)

Gender Division: Open / Mixed Gender (teams may consist of all male, all female, or mixed gender competitors).

- Jiti J1: Ages 8 to 17 (All participating members must be 17 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2026).
- Jiti J2: Ages 18 to 54 (All participating members must be between 18 and 54 years of age as of December 31, 2026).
- Jiti J3: Ages 55+ (All participating members must be 55 years of age or older as of December 31, 2026).
- Jiti J4: Open to all ages (Specifically designated for multi-generational or inter-age teams combining competitors across youth, adult, and senior age brackets).

7.4 Taiji Creative Costume Showcase Division (Hanfu & Cosplay)

Gender Division: Open / Mixed Gender (Solo events are contested in a single open pool; Group ensembles may consist of any gender composition).

- Creative Solo CS1: Ages 8 to 17 (All participating competitors must be 17 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2026).
- Creative Solo CS2: Ages 18+ (All participating competitors must be 18 years of age or older as of December 31, 2026).
- Creative Group CS3: Ages 8 to 17 (Choreographed pairs or teams; all participating members must be 17 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2026).

- Creative Group CS4: Ages 18+ (Choreographed pairs or teams; all participating members must be 18 years of age or older as of December 31, 2026).
- Group CS5 (Creative Group - Open / No Age Limit): All ages (Choreographed pairs or teams; open to multi-generational or mixed-age ensembles combining performers of any age).

8. Division Events & Time Limit

8.1 Contemporary Taiji Division Events

Standard Duration: All routines in the Contemporary Taiji Division must run strictly between 3 minutes 00 seconds and 4 minutes 00 seconds.

8.1.1 Optional Routines (with Degree of Difficulty / Nandu)

- Optional Taijiquan (Barehand)
- Optional Taijijian (Straight Sword)
- Optional Taijishan (Fan)

8.1.2 New Standardized Routines (without Degree of Difficulty)

- Standardized Yang Style Taijiquan (Barehand)
- Standardized Chen Style Taijiquan (Barehand)
- Standardized Yang Style Taijijian (Straight Sword)
- Standardized Chen Style Taijijian (Straight Sword)

8.2 Compulsory Competition Routines

8.2.1 Elementary Routines:

- Taijiquan 24 Forms (Barehand): 4 min 00 sec – 5 min 00 sec
- Taijijian 32 Forms (Straight Sword): 3 min 00 sec – 4 min 00 sec

8.2.2 1st Set International Routines:

- Taijiquan 42 Forms (Barehand): 5 min 00 sec – 6 min 00 sec
- Taijijian 42 Forms (Straight Sword): 4 min 00 sec – 5 min 00 sec

8.2.3 3rd Set International Routines:

Standard Duration: All three 3rd Set Routines must run strictly between 3 minutes 00 seconds and 4 minutes 00 seconds.

- Taijiquan 36 Forms (Barehand)
- Taijijian 39 Forms (Straight Sword)
- Taijishan 40 Forms (Fan)

8.2.4 Five Traditional Styles Standard Routines:

Standard Duration: All five Traditional Styles Standard Routines must run strictly between 5 minutes 00 seconds and 6 minutes 00 seconds.

- Taijiquan Chen Style 56 Forms (Barehand)

- Taijiquan Yang Style 40 Forms (Barehand)
- Taijiquan Wu Style 45 Forms (Barehand)
- Taijiquan Wu (Hao) Style 46 Forms (Barehand)
- Taijiquan Sun Style 73 Forms (Barehand)

8.3 Traditional Taiji Division Events

Standard Duration: All routines in the Traditional Taiji Division must run strictly between 3 minutes 00 seconds and 4 minutes 00 seconds.

8.3.1 Traditional Barehand Routines

- Yang, Chen, Wu, Wu/Hao, Sun, and other recognized traditional lineage styles

8.3.2 Traditional Weapon Routines

- Taijijian, Taijidao, Taijishan, Taiji Spear, and other recognized traditional apparatus

8.4 Duilian Events (Choreographed Sparring)

Standard Duration: All routines in the Duilian Taiji Division must run strictly between 1 minute 00 seconds and 3 minutes 00 seconds.

8.4.1 Barehand Duilian Routines: Choreographed barehand vs. barehand sparring routines.

8.4.2 Weapon Duilian Routines: Choreographed weapon sparring routines, including weapon vs. weapon as well as mixed weapon vs. barehand routines.

8.5 Group (Jiti) Events

Standard Duration: All routines in the Group (Jiti) Taiji Division must run strictly between 3 minutes 00 seconds and 4 minutes 00 seconds.

8.5.1 Barehand Group Routines

8.5.2 Weapon Group Routines

8.6 Taiji Creative Costume Showcase Events

Standard Duration: All routines in the Taiji Creative Costume Showcase Division must run strictly between 1 minute 00 seconds and 3 minutes 00 seconds.

8.6.1 Barehand Solo Routines

8.6.2 Weapon Solo Routines

8.6.3 Barehand Group Routines

8.6.4 Weapon Group Routines

F. JUDGING CRITERIA & ACCOMPANYING MUSIC

9. Scoring Breakdown (10.00-Point Maximum Scale)

All video submissions are evaluated for movement precision, timing, and auditory performance elements (e.g., footwork grounding, weapon snaps, and breathing cadence).

9.1 Optional Contemporary Routines (Evaluated under IWUF 2024 Rules)

- Group A (Quality of Movements): Up to 5.00 points
  Evaluates technical execution, stances, and precision in accordance with the codified deduction standards of the IWUF Wushu Taolu Competition Rules (2024).
- Group B (Overall Performance): Up to 3.00 points
  Evaluates power, rhythm, spirit, style, and harmony
- Group C (Degree of Difficulty / Nandu): Up to 2.00 points
  Evaluates accredited technical difficulty criteria, jump landings, and connection techniques per 2024 IWUF standards.
  Note: Athletes in Contemporary Optional Events are required to submit their official Degree of Difficulty (Nandu) declarations within the online registration portal at the time of entry.

9.2 New Standardized Routines, Traditional, Compulsory & Group Routines (Evaluated under IWUF 2019 Traditional Rules)

- Out of 10.00 points
  Evaluates authentic stylistic flavor, internal-external coordination, smooth rhythmic pacing, breathing cadence, and martial spirit. Takes into account deduction content and standards for other errors as listed in the IWUF 2019 Traditional Rules.

9.3 Creative Costume Showcase Routines

- Taiji Technique & Body Mechanics: Up to 4.00 points
- Costume Craftsmanship & Aesthetic Harmony: Up to 3.00 points
- Artistic Expression, Choreography & Music Integration: Up to 3.00 points

10. Audio & Accompanying Music Regulations

10.1 Audio Balance & Live Sound Integrity

- Live Sound Requirement: The video submission must maintain a balanced audio mix where authentic live performance sounds—including footwork grounding, stances, jumps, breathing cadence, and weapon snaps—remain distinctly audible to the judging panel alongside the music. The accompanying music must not drown out or obscure the competitor's live movement sounds.
- Live In-Room Music Only: Accompanying music must be played live in the performance area (e.g., through an external room speaker) while filming.
- Strict Prohibition of Post-Production Editing: No digital music tracks, audio dubbing, or post-production video alterations are permitted. The submitted file

must contain strictly the raw, unedited footage and audio as captured on camera.

10.2 Division-Specific Music Guidelines

10.2.1 Contemporary & Traditional Divisions (Individual, Duilian, & Jiti)

- Status: Optional.
- Music Selection: Strictly Instrumental. Music selections must consist purely of instrumental arrangements (orchestral, traditional acoustic, or modern instrumental).
- Vocal Restriction: Tracks featuring singing, spoken word narration, chanting, or lyrics of any kind are strictly prohibited in standard Taijiquan events.
- Penalty: Presence of audible vocal lyrics or spoken words will incur a 0.20-point deduction applied by the Head Judge.

10.2.2 Taiji Creative Costume Showcase Division

- Status: Required / Integral to Performance.
- Music Selection: Open (Instrumental or Vocal). Thematic tracks, movie scores, or vocal music that complement the costume narrative and choreography are permitted.
- Content Decency: All audio tracks, themes, and attire must be family-friendly, culturally respectful, and free of profanity, explicit lyrics, hate speech, vulgarity, or political/commercial messaging.
    - Head Judge Deductions: Violations will incur an automatic 0.20 to 0.50-point deduction applied by the Head Judge, depending on severity.
    - Disqualification: Gross violations, including hate speech, vulgarity, or obscene content, will result in immediate disqualification upon review by the Technical Committee.

G. VIDEO RECORDING & SUBMISSION PROTOCOLS

(Adapted from IWUF Wushu Taolu Virtual Competition Technical Regulations)

11. Platform Hosting & Public Visibility (YouTube & Bilibili)

11.1 **Hosting Platforms:** All submitted videos must be hosted on an approved public video-sharing platform and submitted as an active web link:

- International Entries (Zones 1, 2, 4, 5 & Non-Mainland Zone 3): YouTube. Links must be configured as "Public" or accessible via an "Unlisted" link sharing to ensure visibility. Submissions marked "Private" cannot be evaluated.

- Mainland China Entries (Zone 3 Domestic): Bilibili (哔哩哔哩). Entries must be uploaded as open public submissions (公开投稿) with unrestricted URL access (bilibili.com/video/BV...) that can be viewed internationally without login walls.

11.2 **Standardized Video Title Convention:** To ensure rapid administrative indexing and prevent misattribution, all uploads to YouTube and Bilibili must strictly follow this title format:
2026 USA Int'l Open Taiji - [Athlete Full Name] - [Group] - [Event Name]

Examples:
YouTube: 2026 USA Int'l Open Taiji - Jane Doe - Group E - 42 Form Taijiquan
Bilibili: 2026 USA Int'l Open Taiji - Jane Doe - Group E - 42 式太极拳

11.3 **Public Link Longevity:** Video URLs must remain valid, active, and accessible from registration submission through at least thirty (30) days following the official publication of results.

11.4 **Separate Video Distinction:** Competitors submitting multiple events must provide a distinct, separate video link for each registered event. Each routine video must be clearly distinguishable by displaying an identifying placard stating the competitor's name and division before the routine begins.

12. Video Authenticity, Prohibition of AI & Opening Protocol

12.1 **Dedicated Recording:** All routines must be recorded exclusively for the 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships during the active registration window. Reusing footage from prior virtual competitions, in-person tournaments, or archival social media posts is strictly prohibited.

12.2 **Prohibition of Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Editing:** Any intentional AI or digital manipulation that alters the athlete's performance, movement, timing, body position, or continuity is strictly forbidden. Splicing, cutting, digital transitions, video compositing, slow-motion, speed ramping, or CGI filters are prohibited. The use of Generative AI, AI motion smoothing, algorithmic stability filters, or post-production body position adjustments is strictly forbidden and results in immediate disqualification.

12.3 **Official Identification Sign:** Before executing the opening salute, the competitor must momentarily display a clear placard toward the camera displaying:

"2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships (Athlete Full Name and Event Name)"

*The athlete **must** display the placard, set it outside the field of play, salute, and assume the opening stance without cutting or pausing the recording.*

12.4 **Martial Salute Protocol:** After setting aside the placard, the competitor must face the camera, execute the formal martial arts salute (Palm-Fist salute, holding weapon in the left hand if applicable), pause momentarily, and proceed into the starting stance. Upon finishing the routine, the athlete must return to the resting stance, execute the concluding salute, and end the recording.

13. Recording Technical Standards

13.1 **Background:** Videos must be filmed in indoor or outdoor locations with a clean, distraction-free background. No school names, academy logos, commercial banners, political symbols, or religious messages are permitted in the filming frame.

13.2 **Camera & Framing:**

- Recordings must be captured using a single camera positioned at approximately a seated adult's eye level.
- The athlete's entire body must remain visible within the camera frame (head to toe) throughout the entire performance. Moving partially or fully out of frame may result in scoring deductions.
- The center of the camera frame should generally be maintained between the athlete's hip and shoulder level.
- A tripod-mounted camera may be manually panned horizontally (left or right) along the competition sideline as necessary to keep the athlete fully within the frame. However, the camera angle and perspective must remain consistent throughout the performance; switching between front, side, rear, or diagonal viewpoints is not permitted.
- To ensure image stability, recordings must be made using a stationary tripod, tripod-mounted camera, or comparable mechanical stabilizing device.

13.3 **Recording Integrity:** Filmed as a single, continuous, uncut real-time take from display of the identification placard to closing salute in landscape orientation (16:9 widescreen, minimum 1080p Full HD at 30 or 60 fps).

13.4 **Lighting:** Adequate, even lighting (indoor or natural outdoor) must be provided throughout the performance space without dramatic shadows, backlighting glare, or fluctuations.

13.5 **Audio:** Background ambient noise must be minimized to ensure the natural sound of movement, footwork, and apparatus handling is clear and uninterrupted.

13.6 **Attire:** Standard Taijiquan competition uniforms with regulation martial arts shoes are mandatory for all Contemporary, Traditional, Duilian, and Jiti events. Creative Costume Showcase participants may wear Hanfu, historical garments, or cosplay outfits suited to their artistic narrative.

III. AWARDS & RECOGNITION

H. AWARDS, E-CERTIFICATES & ONLINE SHOWCASE

14. Award Determination Structures

14.1 Traditional Taiji Division

To honor traditional martial arts development, awards in all Traditional Division events are distributed proportionally based on total verified entries per event category, with any fractional result rounded up to the next whole number:

- 1st Category Prize (Gold Award): Awarded to the Top 10% of participants
- 2nd Category Prize (Silver Award): Awarded to the next 20% of participants
- 3rd Category Prize (Bronze Award): Awarded to the next 30% of participants

14.2 Contemporary, Duilian, Group & Showcase Divisions

All other events adhere strictly to top three placements

- 1st Place: Official 1st Place Gold E-Certificate & Featured Online Video Showcase
- 2nd Place: Official 2nd Place Silver E-Certificate & Featured Online Video Showcase
- 3rd Place: Official 3rd Place Bronze E-Certificate & Featured Online Video Showcase
- 4th to 8th Place (Contemporary Division Only): Official Certificate of Merit E-Certificate

15. Digital Credential & Media Spotlight

15.1 Verifiable E-Certificates

Every placing competitor will receive an official, high-resolution downloadable E-Certificate with a unique verification code, accessible immediately upon the announcement of results on January 31, 2027.

15.2 Featured Performance Spotlight

Winning routines from all divisions will be featured permanently in the WWC16 Virtual Hall of Honor on the official championship portal and distributed across

affiliated martial arts media channels.

15.3 Electronic Certificate of Participation

All registered athletes with verified routine submissions will receive an official electronic Certificate of Participation.

16. Global and Regional All-Around Rankings and Awards

16.1 Division Structure (Broad Age Categories & Gender)

To foster equitable competition across athlete developmental stages, Global and Regional All-Around Rankings are divided into three (3) broad age categories and contested separately for Male and Female competitors (six divisions total):

- Junior All-Around Division: Groups A–B (Ages 8 to 17 years old as of December 31, 2026) — Male & Female
- Adult All-Around Division: Groups C–E (Ages 18 to 54 years old as of December 31, 2026) — Male & Female
- Senior Master All-Around Division: Groups F–G (Ages 55+ years old as of December 31, 2026) — Male & Female

16.2 Qualification Criteria

- Athletes shall be eligible for Global and Regional All-Around Rankings upon successful completion of a minimum of six (6) individual competition events selected from the following categories:
    - Contemporary Optional Events
    - Compulsory Competition Events
    - Traditional Taijiquan Barehand Events
    - Traditional Taijiquan Weapon Events
- Athletes may enter an unlimited number of individual events; however, only the athlete's six (6) highest-scoring eligible events shall be counted toward the All-Around Rankings.
- Scores and entries from Duilian (Choreographed Sparring), Jiti (Group Routines), and Creative Costume Showcase Events shall not be counted toward All-Around qualification or ranking calculations.

16.3 Qualification Threshold

- To be eligible for Global or Regional All-Around Ranking recognition, each of the athlete's six (6) highest-scoring eligible events must achieve an official final score of 8.90 points or higher.
- Athletes whose sixth-highest eligible score is below 8.90 shall not qualify for All-Around Ranking consideration regardless of the total number of events entered.

16.4 Ranking Calculation

- Aggregate Calculation: Rankings shall be determined by the cumulative total of the athlete's six (6) highest qualifying individual event scores (all scoring 8.90 points or higher).
- Tie-Breaking Protocol: In the event of a tie in the aggregate score, rankings shall be determined in the following order:
  1. The athlete with the highest single qualifying event score shall rank higher.
  2. If still tied, the athlete with the second-highest qualifying event score shall rank higher.
  3. If still tied, the athlete with the third-highest qualifying event score shall rank higher, and so forth through all six qualifying scores.
  4. If a tie remains after comparison of all six qualifying scores, the tied athletes shall share the same ranking position.

16.5 Recognition & Honors

- Global All-Around Recognition Awards:
  - Global Taiji Champion (1st Place)
  - Global Taiji Second Place (2nd Place)
  - Global Taiji Third Place (3rd Place)
- Regional All-Around Recognition Awards (Zones 1–5):
  - Regional Taiji Champion (1st Place)
  - Regional Taiji Runner-Up (2nd Place)
  - Regional Taiji Third Place (3rd Place)

Recipients shall receive an official Electronic Certificate of Achievement (E-Certificate) and recognition on the official Championship website and results publication.

The Global Taiji Champion may additionally be featured in official Championship promotional materials, media releases, and spotlight publications at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

IV. REGISTRATION, FEES & APPEALS

I. OFFICIAL FEE SCHEDULE

- **Entry Fee Structure:**
  - Individual Competition Events: $40.00 USD per registered event.
  - Group (Jiti) & Duilian Events: $40.00 USD per team entry.
  - Creative Costume Showcase (Solo or Group): $40.00 USD per entry.

- **Single-Event Entry Model:** Each registration entry accommodates exactly one (1) competition event and one (1) corresponding video link. Submitting multiple routines within a single registration submission is not permitted.
- **Independent Submissions & Rolling Registration:** Athletes entering multiple events must complete a separate registration entry and pay the applicable fee for each event. Competitors are strongly encouraged to register and submit entries on a rolling basis by submitting each routine as soon as it is filmed and uploaded, rather than waiting until all routines have been completed.

J. PAYMENT PROCESSING & VERIFICATION PROTOCOL

- **Online Portal:** All athlete registrations, guardian consent waivers, entry fee payments and YouTube/Bilibili links must be completed at usainternationalopen.com on or before **December 31, 2026, at 23:59 EST.**
- **Refund Policy:** Registration fees are strictly non-refundable once the registration is submitted and payment has been processed.
- **No Exceptions:** Refunds, credits, or fee transfers will not be issued for any reason, including but not limited to competitor withdrawal, late or missing video submissions, disqualification for regulatory or decency violations, technical/hardware malfunctions, or improper video file links.
- **Event Finality:** All entry fees directly cover administrative costs, platform hosting, credential processing, and international judging panel allocations.
- **Event Modification & Timeline Adjustments:** The Organizing Committee (WWC16 Administration Inc.) reserves the right to modify competition timelines, submission windows, or score announcement dates due to technical interruptions, major video platform service outages (YouTube or Bilibili), or unforeseen administrative requirements. In such instances, reasonable submission or evaluation extensions will be granted, and entry fees remain non-refundable.
- **Event Cancellation & Force Majeure (Organizer Initiated):** In the event that the 2026 USA International Open Online Taijiquan Championships is cancelled in its entirety by the Organizing Committee prior to the commencement of the official scoring phase due to force majeure or circumstances beyond reasonable control, registered participants will receive a full refund of entry fees paid, less any non-reimbursable third-party merchant transaction processing fees.
- **Limitation of Liability:** In the event of tournament cancellation or postponement, the liability of WWC16 Administration Inc. and USAWKF is strictly limited to the refund of entry fees as outlined above. Neither the organizing body nor the

sanctioning body assumes liability for incidental, preparatory, or consequential expenses incurred by competitors, schools, or coaches.

K. APPEAL PROCEDURE

- **Scope of Appeals:** In accordance with standard international Wushu regulations, appeals may only contest administrative errors, mathematical calculation discrepancies, or demonstrable rule misapplications by the judges. Subjective scoring assessments (e.g., individual marks for artistic expression or movement quality) are non-appealable.
- **Filing Window & Format:** Following the release of provisional scores, all scores enter an official Provisional Review Period. Competitors or registered team leaders have forty-eight (48) hours from the exact timestamp of score publication on the championship portal to submit a formal written appeal. Submissions must explicitly state the athlete's full name, event division, exact video timestamp in dispute, and the specific regulatory clause in question.
- **Appeals Deposit Fee:** An appeal must be accompanied by a $100 USD appeal deposit submitted through the official registration portal. If the Arbitration Committee upholds the appeal and adjusts the score or outcome in favor of the athlete, the deposit will be fully refunded. If the appeal is denied, the deposit will be forfeited and retained as an administrative processing fee.
- **Review & Certification:** The Arbitration Committee and Head Judge will review the original submitted video file and scorecards. Formal rulings will be rendered within forty-eight (48) hours after the appeal window closes, after which scores are locked as final and certified.
- **Jurisdiction:** WWC16 Administration Inc., subject to applicable USAWKF sanctioning requirements and competition regulations, reserves the right to administer and interpret these regulations.