



WFMAA LABAN LARO TOURNAMENT Rules & Divisions

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WFMAA LABAN LARO General Information

The tournament and event organizers, promoters and directors reserve the right to change and/or modify the rules as necessary in order to preserve and improve the safety of the participants, tournament officials/staff and spectators. The WFMAA organizers and tournament officials reserve the right to reject any application. The goal of this tournament is to promote excellence in the spirit of good competition and brotherhood.

1. Code of Conduct

Honor, respect, and brotherhood are expected from all participants, coaches, instructors, tournament officials/staff and spectators. Inappropriate behavior and language (such as swearing, disrespect and unsolicited remarks) may result in immediate disqualification of match, and/or expulsion from event premises. You will be held responsible for your actions, and remember that you not only represent yourself. You represent your instructor, teammates, school and organization. Your instructors, family, friends and guests will be present to witness and experience an action-filled Laban Laro. Please lead by example!

2. No Video Recording

There will be an official video crew to capture the actions throughout the events. The public, including participants, coaches and instructors, are not allowed to video record any of the tournament matches and events within the event premises. Violators will be warned and may be escorted out from the tournament area. Additionally, penalty point(s) may be imposed on the associated participant or team.

3. Photography is allowed

The public, including participants, coaches and instructors, are allowed to photograph (still pictures only) any matches and any part of the events.

4. Pre-Registration Only

Participants must pre-register to compete. No late entries at the day of the event will be accepted. No exceptions. **Completed registration forms and payment in full must be received no later than 21 days before the event.** Pre-Register early and save money! Registration details are available in the official WFMAA website www.Worldfma.com.

5. No Refunds, Non-Transferable and No Alternate Participants

There will be NO refunds issued for any payments received. No exceptions. Completed and paid registrations will NOT be transferable. Registered participants cannot have an alternate or fill-in if they are no-show or late reporting to their division(s). Your name will be called and announced three times (3x) during division roll call. Please be prepared.

WFMAA LABAN LARO Tournament Rules

1. Check-In

Participants **MUST** report and be physically present during roll call of divisions. It is highly advisable to be ready with all your required sparring gears 15 minutes prior to the start of your division. Penalty points may be imposed if you are late and not ready for your match.

2. Weigh-in

Please make sure to indicate your current weight as of the date you submit your registration form. Weigh-In is not mandatory at day of tournament; however it may be necessary if there is a discrepancy to confirm weight prior to your match. Please check the tournament divisions section for your proper weight class.

3. Mandatory Uniforms / Dress Code

All competitors **MUST** wear compete uniforms representative of your system/school or organization. Uniforms (pants, shorts, shirts or kali vest) **MUST** have your logo or symbol of your school or organization. At your shirt/kali vest have the logo or insignia of your system/school. Competitors without complete uniforms will not be allowed to compete and will be disqualified.

4. Filipino Martial Arts Stick-Fighting Tournament

This is a Filipino Stick Fighting tournament. Scoring of points will be determined by the contact made by the weapon(s) only. Only WFMAA endorsed, sponsored or sanctioned tournament weaponry will be allowed for the competition. Official WFMAA Laban Laro weapon will be supplied. Other required safety equipments, as specified in this manual, must be provided by you.

5. SCORING SYSTEM

All matches will be judged by 2 side judges and 1 center referee. Points are awarded for strikes that have good, clean, power and accuracy. The side judges will utilize *clickers* to score points. For fairness of scoring, judges will be moving around for better viewing of the fighters. There will be two (2) 1-minute rounds. Most accumulated points after 2 rounds will determine the winner. The center referee will be the only person in the ring that can give penalty, deduct points, or stop the fight.

TIE-BREAKER – In case of a tie after 2 rounds the following will apply:

- Eliminations & Semi-Finals Matches
 - 2 Side Judges and the Center Referee will review and decide based on the fighter's overall performance.
- Final & Championship Matches
 - 3 Masters/Grandmasters will review and decide based on the fighter's overall performance.
 - Base their decisions on any criteria they wish.
 - Cannot judge their own student in the match.
 - This group will be selected before the start of the tournament.

1 POINT will be awarded for the following **Legal Target** areas:

- Clean strikes to front, side, or top of headgear (*no striking to the unprotected neck areas*)
 - Punyo (*butt of the stick*) to the face cage only
 - Open hand (palm) check to the face cage allowed, but **MUST** be followed by a weapon strike. If not followed by a weapon strike, a penalty will be called
- Clean strikes to weapon hand or arm
- Clean strikes to empty hand or arm
- Clean strikes to front and side of body, shoulders (*no striking to kidney areas or back*)
- Clean strikes to thighs, knees and shins
- **You have 2 seconds to strike AFTER a player drops his weapon** (*points will be counted for any legal strike by the opposing fighter*)

Penalties, point deductions and disqualifications

Center Referee may give “verbal warning” for the first non-flagrant and non-dangerous actions, such as running out of the ring or attempted strikes to illegal targets. Other than these verbal warnings, the following penalties will be imposed.

Three penalties and you’re out!

- a. Penalties may include, but not limited to the following:
- i. Foul or illegal target
 - ii. Continually running out of the ring
 - iii. Continued disregard of the referee’s instructions or commands
 - iv. Repeated disregard for safety (blatant, malicious, dangerous and flagrant actions)
 1. **1st penalty call = 1 point deduction**
 2. **2nd penalty call = 3 points deduction**
 3. **3rd penalty call = Disqualification**

6. Legal Targets

- Clean strikes to front, side, or top of headgear (*no striking to the unprotected neck areas*)
 - Punyo (*butt of the stick*) to the face cage only
 - Open hand (palm) check to the face cage allowed, but **MUST** be followed by a weapon strike. If not followed by a weapon strike, a penalty will be called
- Clean strikes to weapon hand or arm
- Clean strikes to empty hand or arm
- Clean strikes to front and side of body, shoulders (*no striking to kidney areas or back*)
- Clean strikes to thighs, knees and shins
- You **CAN** use open hand jab **ONLY** if followed by a stick strike, otherwise 1 point penalty will be imposed (*no boxing*)
- **You have 2 seconds to strike AFTER a player drops his weapon**

7. Illegal Targets & Prohibited Moves

- NO Boxing, punching, kicking or kneeing
- NO Grappling or Wrestling
- NO Throwing, takedowns or foots weeps
- NO Thrusting to the neck areas
- NO Groin strikes or Head-butting
- NO Strikes to the back of the neck and head, and back of body
- NO Strikes to ankles and feet
- NO Holding of stick or any part of the opponent's body
- NO Use of foul or inappropriate language

8. Fight Time

Each match will run for 2 rounds (1 minute each round). NO TIME OUTS – No time outs will be called by the competitor or coach. Center Referee can only stop time. There will be 30 seconds between each round (this is the only time for competitors to receive coaching instructions). The stop-watch will continue unless center referee stops time for the following reasons.

- Injury of player(s) in the match
- Issuance of warning or deduction of points
- Replacement of broken weapon

9. Required Sparring Safety Gears

- **All Competitors must supply their own safety gears**
- WEKAF or LAMECO type headgear only (*must be in good condition; will be checked by center referee*)
- Street hockey or La Crosse gloves (*wrist, hands and fingers must be covered and padded*)
- Street hockey knee pads or cloth/foam pads (*must cover knee areas only; not to cover shin or lower thigh*)
- Athletic groin cup and supporter for men/boys

Optional Safety Protections

- WEKAF full body protector or chest protectors will only be allowed for the women's divisions (*both competitors MUST wear them if agreed*)
- Elbow pads to cover ONLY the elbow and not the forearm or upper arm area
- Mouthpiece for all competitors

10. Required Safety Inspections

Safety inspections by the center referee will be done before each match. Please have the required safety sparring gear ready when you enter the ring.

11. Divisions May Be Split or May Be Combined

Divisions may be further divided by weight or size, when there are more than 12 competitors registered. Competitors may be combined if there are less than four (4) competitors registered in a division.

Pre-registration well ahead of the tournament day is extremely important.

Registrations at day of event will not be accepted. No exceptions.

WFMAA LABAN LARO Tournament Divisions

- **Weapons Used:**

- The **PG Stick** (*custom padded rattan stick*) will be used for the following divisions
- **Live Stick** (*skinned rattan stick*)

- **Division Levels:**

- **Beginner** – *Less than 2 year experience*
- **Intermediate** – *2 to 3 years experience*
- **Advance** – *Over 3 years experience*
- **Guro** – Instructors with over 5 years experience; Masters & Grandmasters are not allowed

- **Division Weight Class:**

- Weight class not applicable to Teens & Women's divisions
- Men's:
 - **Light Weight** (*164 lbs and less*)
 - **Middle Weight** (*165 lbs to 195 lbs*)
 - **Heavy Weight** (*196 lbs and above*)

1. TEENS SINGLE **PADDED STICK**

- **TS Ages 12 – 14**
 - **Boys/Girls** Beginner
 - **Boys/Girls** Intermediate/Advance
- **TS Ages 15 – 17**
 - **Boys** Beginner
 - **Boys** Intermediate/Advance
 - **Girls** Beginner
 - **Girls** Intermediate/Advance

2. WOMENS SINGLE **PADDED STICK**

- **WS Ages 18 - 35**
 - **Women** Beginner
 - **Women** Intermediate/Advance
- **WS Ages 36+ NEW**
 - **Women** Beginner
 - **Women** Intermediate/Advance

3. MENS SINGLE PADDED STICK

- **MS MEN'S Ages 18 – 35**
 - **Men's Beginner**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Men's Intermediate**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Men's Advance**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
- **MS SENIORS Ages 36 +**
 - **Men's Beginners**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Men's Intermediate**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Men's Advance**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

4. GURO SINGLE PADDED STICK

- **GS MEN'S**
 - No weight class, Certified instructors only; Masters/GMs not allowed

5. MEN'S LIVE SINGLE STICK (3/4" x 28" rattan stick)

- **ML Ages 18 +**
 - **Advance Only** (over 3 years experience)
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

6. MEN'S DOUBLE PADDED STICK

- **MD MEN'S Ages 18 +**
 - **Intermediate NEW**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)
 - **Advance**
 - Lightweight (164 lbs and less)
 - Middle Weight (165 lbs – 195 lbs)
 - Heavy Weight (196 lbs and above)

7. MULTI-WEAPON PADDED STICK NEW

- **MW Ages 18 +**
 - **Intermediate/Advance**
 - Men / Women
 - Open weight class
 - You can use 1 or 2 sticks
 - Choose your weapon(s)
 - Corto – 24” padded stick
 - Medio – 28” padded stick
 - Largo – 32” padded stick

8. TEAMS SINGLE PADDED STICK

- **TS Ages 18 +**
 - **Intermediate/Advance**
 - 3 Members in a team
 - Men / Women
 - Open weight class
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Tournament Officials

Certified Ring Judges & Referees

Tournament Ring Judges, Referees and Staff will be trained and certified by Punong Guro Myrlino P. Hufana (*Tournament Director*). It is very important that the Ring Judge and Referee are well-versed with the rules and divisions before they participate.

Tournament Staff (Ring Timers and Scorekeepers)

The tournament staff will make up of an all-volunteer team. The staff will also have training in the ring procedures and tournament rules.

Ring Etiquette

Please do not direct your complaints to the tournament staff (*timers and scorekeepers*) before, during or after the matches. They will not be able to influence or make any changes before, during and after the match has completed. Competitors and coaches must direct their questions or issues to the center referee immediately, before the match is completed. Complaints or issues received AFTER the completed match will not change any decisions made by the judges and referees. Please send your suggestions or concerns to the Tournament Director.

Maraming Salamat Po!

WFMAA Laban Laro Staff would like to extend our gratitude for your support and participation. Everyone involved in the making of the WFMAA Laban Laro contributes to the quality and overall success. Thank you very much for your continued support!

WFMAA Laban Laro Tournament Directors

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