



2024 Rule Change Summary

Judo

Change From	Change To
Old Formatting	See date change at footer to reflect September 2024
<p>Section 3 Divisioning</p> <p>3. DIVISIONING</p> <p>3.1 Entry Form</p> <p>3.1.1 All athletes entering a Special Olympics judo event will initially be divisioned by the details required on the event entry form:</p> <p>3.1.1.1 Gender</p> <p>3.1.1.2 Ability Level</p> <p>3.1.1.3 Exact Weight</p> <p>3.1.1.4 Age</p> <p>3.1.1.5 Starting Position: Tachi waza or Ne waza</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>3. DIVISIONING AND CLASSIFICATION</p> <p>3.1 Entry Form</p> <p>3.1.1 All judokas entering a Special Olympics judo event will initially be divisioned by the details required on the event entry form:</p> <p>3.1.1.1 Gender</p> <p>3.1.1.2 Ability Level</p> <p>3.1.1.3 Exact Weight</p> <p>3.1.1.4 Age</p> <p>3.1.1.5 Starting Position: Tachi waza or Ne waza</p>
<p>3.2 Placement</p> <p>3.2.1 Each athlete shall then be placed in the appropriate division, together with other athletes of similar abilities and characteristics, following both the criteria of the IJF and the one of safety. That will be the initial act of divisioning. See details below.</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>3.2.1 Each judoka shall then be placed in the appropriate division, together with other judokas of similar abilities and characteristics</p>
<p>3.3 Skills</p> <p>3.3.1 A divisioning process will take place before every competition venue on the tatmi.</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>3.3 Ability Assessment</p> <p>3.3.1 A divisioning process will take place before every competition venue on the tatami. Each judoka will</p>



<p>Each athlete will undergo skill test together with their respective fellow athletes.</p> <p>3.3.2 This test shall be carried on during a training session, where a 'Divisioning official' together with tatami-supervisor checks that the pre-divisioning is ok. The divisioning training session shall be conducted in a game based, playful manner which is designed to portray the athletes true skills and ability whilst sharing a feeling of recreation, friendship and enjoyment.</p> <p>3.3.3 The training session should include the following techniques (Waza):</p> <p>3.3.3.1 Games to test action-reaction, judo, feeling and fighting spirit.</p> <p>3.3.3.2 Turnovers from the opponent (uke) in ground position to holding (Osae-komi-waza)</p> <p>3.3.3.3 Throwing techniques (Nage-waza)</p> <p>3.3.3.4 Breakfalls (Ukemi-waza) being thrown by an opponent (Tori)</p> <p>3.3.4 The evaluation on the skills will be based on the following criteria:</p> <p>3.3.4.1 Judo feeling</p> <p>3.3.4.2 Concept of Contest</p> <p>3.3.4.3 Prediction of the opponent's movement</p> <p>3.3.4.4 Speed of Performance</p> <p>3.3.4.5 Performance of the athlete</p> <p>3.3.4.6 Speed of the technique</p> <p>3.3.4.7 Reaction of the athlete</p> <p>3.3.4.8 Concept of strategy</p>	<p>undergo ability assessments together with their respective fellow judokas.</p> <p>3.3.1.1 This assessment shall be carried out during a training session, where a 'Divisioning official' together with tatami-supervisor checks that the pre-divisioning from the entry form is correct. The divisioning training session shall be conducted in a game based, playful manner which is designed to portray the athletes true skills and ability whilst sharing a feeling of recreation, friendship and enjoyment.</p> <p>3.3.2 The training session should include the following techniques (Waza):</p> <p>3.3.2.1 Games to test action-reaction, judo feeling, fighting spirit and speed of performance.</p> <p>3.3.2.2 Turnovers from the opponent (uke) in ground position to holding (Osae-komi-waza)</p> <p>3.3.2.3 Throwing techniques (Nage-waza)</p> <p>3.3.2.4 Breakfalls (Ukemi-waza) being thrown by an opponent (Tori)</p> <p>3.4 Ability Level</p> <p>The ability level is based upon the comparison of each judoka to a mainstream recreational athlete.</p> <p>3.4.1 Level 1</p> <p>3.4.1.1 Level 1 is a judoka who can perform in shiai with a mainstream recreational judoka. This judoka is fast and powerful and has excellent reactivity. They have a strong feeling for Judo and an excellent strategic view. This judoka has a good understanding of the meaning and goal of the competition.</p> <p>3.4.2 Level 2</p>
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3.4 Skill Levels

The skills levels are based upon the comparison of each athlete to a mainstream recreational athlete.

3.4.1 Skill level 1

3.4.1.1 A judoka of level 1 can "compete" in shiai form almost as an equal to a "recreational" judoka (above), has a perfect judo feeling, he/she is fast and powerful in his/her movements, quickly reacting and able to develop a strategy during the game. He fulfills the above criteria to the maximum extent.

3.4.1.2 An athlete of level 1 would need only a slight assistance and guidance by his/her coach or the referee in order to "compete".

3.4.2 Skill level 2

3.4.2.1 A judoka of level 2 can "compete" in randori form almost as an equal to a "recreational" judoka, has a good judo feeling, is somehow slow and not so powerful in his/her movements, reacting fairly quickly and fairly understanding the concept of strategy. He/she fulfills the above criteria also in a fair extent.

3.4.2.2 An athlete of level 2 would need a moderate assistance and guidance by his/her coach or the referee to carry out the game.

3.4.3 Skill level 3

3.4.3.1 A judoka of level 3 can only share a playful randori with a "recreational" judoka", has a fairly good feeling of judo, he/she is somehow fast and powerful in his/her movements, reacting reasonably quickly, but

3.4.2.1 Level 2 is a judoka who can perform in randori with a mainstream recreational judoka. This judoka understand the competition's meaning and goal. This judoka is fast and power and has moderate reactivity but is usually late responding to judo situations. They have a good judo feeling but may struggle with processing complex instructions and situations. They may need some assistance and guidance.

3.4.3 Level 3

3.4.3.1 Level 3 is a judoka who can perform a playful randori in training with a mainstream recreational judoka. This judoka is reasonably fast and powerful and has a reasonably developed reactivity. The strategy for level 3 judoka often consists of repeating the same technique over and over. This judoka is not able to combine throwing directions like in renraku waza in shiai. This judoka needs assistance and guidance from the coach on the judo mat as well as next to the mat during competition but understands most of the rules and goals.

3.4.4 Level 4

3.4.4.1 Level 4 is a judoka who can perform a playful randori in training with a recreational judoka but the mainstream judoka needs to adapt their speed and strength to match this player, as well as take almost all the initiative for movements during randori. This judoka needs adapted training and very high assistance and guidance from the coach or referee on the judo mat as well as next to the mat during competitions, but understands most of the rules and goals.

3.4.5 Level 5

3.4.5.1 Level 5 is a judoka who can perform a playful randori with a mainstream recreational judoka but the mainstream judoka needs to adapt their speed and



<p>with no sense of strategy. He/she fulfills the above criteria all to a moderate extent.</p> <p>3.4.3.2 An athlete of level 3 would need a serious assistance and guidance by his coach or the referee to carry out the game.</p> <p>3.4.4 Skill level 4</p> <p>3.4.4.1 A judoka of level 4 can only share a playful randori with a "recreational" judoka but needs to somehow be helped from the latter. He/she has a little feeling of judo and he/she is not fast in his/her movements and reactions. No sense of strategy. He/she fulfills the above criteria to a low extent.</p> <p>3.4.4.2 An athlete of level 4 would need a high assistance and guidance by his/her coach or the referee to carry out the game.</p> <p>3.4.5 Skill level 5</p> <p>3.4.5.1 A judoka of level 5 can only share a playful randori with a "recreational" judoka but he/she needs to be seriously helped from him/her. He/she has no judo feeling, he/she is very passive and he/she would need the assistance of his/her coach and the referee to a maximum extent to carry out the game</p>	<p>strength to match this player, as well as take almost all the initiative for movements during randori. This judoka needs adapted training and very high assistance and guidance from the coach or referee on the judo mat as well as next to the mat during competitions and activities. This Judoka can be very strong and passive, and sometimes slow to respond. They can understand most of the rules and goals by can be very easily distracted. Active coaching is needed to perform in shiai.</p>
<p>3.5 Further criteria for the divisioning:</p> <p>3.5.1 Gender</p> <p>3.5.2 Age</p> <p>3.5.2.1 The Organizers, depending on the situation, are entitled to subdivide the range of age so as, in combination with the rest</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>3.5 Further criteria for the divisioning:</p> <p>3.5.1 Gender</p> <p>3.5.2 Age</p> <p>3.5.2.1 The Organizers are permitted to combine age groups, if necessary, as long as all the other criteria is adhered to such as ability levels, weight, and gender. The</p>



<p>parameters of ability (levels, weight) to make appropriate pools, fair and safe for the athletes.</p> <p>3.5.3 Weight</p> <p>3.5.3.1 If there are enough athletes, it is possible to use the official weight categories as guidelines in all level</p> <p>3.5.3.2 The organizer has the responsibility and therefore the liberty to build up the weight-categories in each event in such a way, that in combination with the rest parameters of ability (levels, age) he creates "good" pools, which means fair and safe for the contestants.</p>	<p>resulting action must result in fair and safe pools for the athletes.</p> <p>3.5.3 Weight</p> <p>3.5.3.1 If there are enough judokas, it is possible to use the official IJF weight categories as guidelines in level 1 and 2.</p> <p>3.5.3.2 The organizer are permitted to combine weights, if necessary, as long as all the other criteria is adhered to such as ability level, age and gender. The resulting action must result in fair and safe pools for the athletes.</p>
	<p>DELETE:</p> <p>4.4.7 If the athletes are competing in "ne-waza", they are not allowed to push the opponent straight backwards.</p> <p>4.4.8 In both "tachi-waza" and "ne-waza" the referee ensures that the athlete's neck is not locked in such a way that poses a risk of injury. In the event that either opponents arm goes around the neck further than the center point, "Mate" will be called immediately.</p>
<p>4.5 Prohibited Techniques</p> <p>4.5.1 Techniques classified as sacrificial throws (sutemi-waza)</p> <p>4.5.2 Arm-lock techniques (ude-kansetsu-waza)</p> <p>4.5.3 Strangulations (shime-waza)</p> <p>4.5.4 Sankaku-waza (triangle techniques)</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>4.5 Prohibited Techniques</p> <p>In addition to the prohibited actions as described in the official Judo rules, the following techniques are also prohibited for all levels:</p> <p>4.5.1 All forms and variations of:</p> <p>4.5.1.1 Sutemi-waza;</p>



<p>4.5.5 To carry out forward and backward throws on one or two knees</p> <p>4.5.6 Any technique that puts the neck of the opponent at risk of injury is forbidden</p> <p>4.5.7 In tachi waza, techniques like koshi guruma or kubi nage are forbidden</p> <p>4.5.8 In ne waza, techniques like hon kesa katame, or classic forms from Makura kesa gatame, Kata gatame or Tate shiho gatame with the arm with pressure around the neck are forbidden</p>	<p>4.5.1.2 Kansetsu-waza;</p> <p>4.5.1.3 Shime-waza;</p> <p>4.5.1.4 Sankaku techniques;</p> <p>4.5.2 All throws that are executed on one or two knees forward and backward</p> <p>4.5.3 To put pressure on the opponent's head, neck or throat. In the event that either opponent's arm goes around the neck further than the center point, "Mate" will be called immediately.</p> <p>4.5.4 In Tachi-waza:</p> <p>4.5.4.1 To perform Kumi-kata around the head or neck of the opponent. While taking hold at should level, the hand may not pass the center line of the back.</p> <p>4.5.5 In Ne-waza:</p> <p>4.5.5.1 To push the opponent backwards while in a kneeling positions.</p> <p>4.5.5.2 Raising the knee to gain leverage when it is agreed beforehand that this is not allowed.</p> <p>4.5.6 If the judokas are competing in "ne-waza", they are not allowed to push the opponent straight backwards.</p> <p>4.5.7 In both "tachi-waza" and "ne-waza" the referee ensures that the athlete's neck is not locked in such a way that poses a risk of injury. In the event that either opponents arm goes around the neck further than the center point, "Mate" will be called immediately.</p>
<p>4.6.4 In case of a tie between two athletes in a pool (equal number of wins, equal number of points), where and if they are both qualified to occupy one of the three distinguished places</p>	<p>CHANGE/DELETE:</p> <p>4.6.4 In case of a tie between two or more judokas in a pool, the places will be determined by the number of wins, points and then time. In some instances, the</p>



<p>(first, second, or third), the winner of the fight between them will prevail in the classification.</p> <p>4.6.5 In case of a tie between three athletes in a pool (equal number of wins, equal number of points – cyclic triangle), where and if they are all qualified to occupy one of the three distinguished places, they shall be given a second chance to compete between themselves. After a second chance, and still equal points, 2 medals of the same kind will be awarded.</p>	<p>awarding of the same medal/place to multiple judokas is possible.</p>
<p>5.1 Judogi</p> <p>5.1.1 The athletes, during the divisioning and the games, shall wear exclusively white judogi.</p> <p>5.1.2 The distinction between two athletes playing in a game shall be made by a blue and a white belt worn at the waist, provided by the organizer from a variety of sizes. During their games the athletes shall wear no other belt.</p> <p>5.1.3 The judogi must be clean and free of any unauthorized advertisements or logos</p> <p>5.1.4 The organizer, if so requested, should provide each athlete with a bib to be sewed on by the organizer, in the proper place at the back of the judogi, which the athlete will then be obliged to wear. The bib is meant to facilitate distinction both in the divisioning and the games.</p> <p>5.1.5 Females must wear a plain white t-shirt with short sleeves under their judo suit.</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>5.1 Judogi</p> <p>5.1.1 The judokas, during the divisioning and the games, shall wear exclusively white judogi.</p> <p>5.1.2 The distinction between two judokas playing in a game shall be made by a blue and a white belt, provided by the organizer in a variety of sizes.</p> <p>5.1.3 The judogi must be clean and free of any unauthorized advertisements or logos.</p> <p>5.1.4 The organizer, if so requested, should provide each judoka with a bib to be sewed on by the organizer, in the proper place at the back of the judogi, which the athlete will then be obliged to wear. The bib is meant to facilitate distinction both in the divisioning and the games.</p> <p>5.1.5 Females must wear a plain white t-shirt with sleeves under their judo suit.</p> <p>5.1.6 Judokas must wear white Judogi during the awards ceremony.</p>



<p>7.4 Required Personnel</p> <p>7.4.1 This applies only for competition of National level and above:</p> <p>7.4.1.1 Three referees</p> <p>7.4.1.2 One competition recorder</p> <p>7.4.1.3 One timekeeper</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>7.4 Required Personnel</p> <p>7.4.1 This applies only for competition of National level and above:</p> <p>7.4.1.1 Three referees per tatami</p> <p>7.4.1.2 Two Competition Management Software Operators</p>
<p>9. Unified Kata</p> <p>9.1 Team Definition: A Team shall consist of one athlete in the role of Tori with an intellectual disability and one Unified Partner without an intellectual disability in the role of Uke. As Unified Kata is open to all levels (1-5) it is necessary to operate 5 Levels: Level 1 and 2 grouped together, and levels 3-5 grouped together.</p> <p>9.2 Levels 1 and 2: These levels are designed for more experienced athletes and Unified partners that have comparable ability levels and knowledge of Judo.</p> <p>9.2.1 In level 1 and 2 the following Kata forms are possible:</p> <p>Nage no Kata Up to the first 3 Groups</p> <p>Katame no Kata First Group</p> <p>Gonosen no Kata First Group</p> <p>9.3 Levels 3, 4 and 5: For athletes in levels 3,4, and 5 Unified Kata is used to promote individual skill development and confidence under the guidance of a Unified partner whose</p>	<p>CHANGE:</p> <p>9. UNIFIED KATA</p> <p>9.1 The athlete to Unified partner ratio must be 1 athlete in the role of Tori to 1 Unified partner in the role of Uke in Unified Kata.</p> <p>9.2 It is required that athletes and Unified partners are of similar age, and it is preferred that athletes and Unified Partners are of similar ability. For more information on similar age and ability please see Sport Rules Article 1 Section 14.1.2</p> <p>9.3 For judokas from Levels 1 and 2: These are the more experienced athletes and Unified partners that have comparable ability levels and knowledge of Judo.</p> <p>9.3.1 In level 1 and 2 the following Kata forms are possible:</p> <p>Nage no Kata Up to the first 3 Groups</p> <p>Katame no Kata First Group</p> <p>Gonosen no Kata First Group</p> <p>9.4 For judokas in levels 3, 4 and 5: Unified Kata is used to promote individual skill development and confidence under the guidance of a Unified partner, whose ability and knowledge of Judo is more advanced</p>



<p>ability and knowledge of Judo is more advanced than that of the Special Olympics athlete.</p> <p>9.3.1 In these levels the following Kata forms are possible:</p> <p>Nage no Kata Up to the first 3 Groups</p> <p>Katame no Kata First Group</p> <p>Gonosen no Kata First Group</p> <p>9.3.2 Level 3,4 and 5 Special Olympic Athletes: All prohibited techniques carried out by Tori in Special Olympics Shiai Rules like sutemi waza, throwing on 1 or 2 knees, gripping the leg or pressure on the neck must be adapted or replaced by an alternative technique.</p> <p>9.3.3 All attacks or reactions from uke in all kata should be adapted in strength and speed to the disability of the Special Olympics athlete. All adaptations and alternative techniques should be filled out in advanced on the kata scoring form before each contest.</p> <p>9.4 Joseiki</p> <p>9.4.1 In Unified kata contests, the Joseiki will take the following into account when assessing the competitors' performance:</p> <p>Attention to connections, for example between throw families and technique families, if techniques are replaced for other techniques.</p> <p>Any form of adaptations should be filled out on the Kata Inscription form</p> <p>Aid or tools can be used without scoring deductions for level 3,4 and 5.</p>	<p>than that of the Special Olympics athlete in the role of tori.</p> <p>9.4.1 In these levels the following Kata forms are possible:</p> <p>Nage no Kata Up to the first 3 Groups</p> <p>Katame no Kata First Group</p> <p>Gonosen no Kata First Group</p> <p>9.4.2 For all Special Olympics judokas from Level 3,4 and 5: All prohibited techniques carried out by Tori in Special Olympics Shiai Rules like sutemi waza, throwing on 1 or 2 knees, gripping the leg or pressure on the neck must be adapted or replaced by an alternative technique.</p> <p>9.4.3 All attacks or reactions from uke in all kata should be adapted in strength and speed to the ability of the Special Olympics athlete. All adaptations and alternative techniques should be filled out in advanced on the kata scoring form before each contest.</p> <p>9.5 Safety Rules</p> <p>9.5.1 In general, all prohibited techniques carried out by Tori in Special Olympics Shiai Rules like sutemi waza, kansetsu waza, shime waza, throwing on 1 or 2 knees, gripping the leg or applying pressure on the neck are not permitted in level 3, 4 & 5. Sutemi waza, kansetsu waza and shime waza are also not permitted in levels 1 and 2. This is to ensure the safety of all judokas.</p> <p>9.6 Entry Form</p> <p>9.6.1 All judokas entering a Special Olympics Judo Unified Kata Event will be initially be divisioned by the details required on the entry form</p>
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<p>9.5 Safety Rules</p> <p>9.5.1 In general, all prohibited techniques carried out by Tori in Special Olympics Shiai Rules like sutemi waza, kansetsu waza, shime waza, throwing on 1 or 2 knees, grappling the leg or applying pressure on the neck are not permitted in level 3, 4 & 5. Sutemi waza, kansetsu waza and shime waza are also not permitted in levels 1 and 2. This is to ensure the safety of all athletes.</p> <p>9.6 Entry Form</p> <p>9.6.1 All athletes and Unified partners entering a Special Olympics Judo Kata Event will be initially be divisioned by the details required on the entry form</p> <p>9.6.1.1 Category (A-K)</p> <p>9.6.1.2 Ability Level (1-5)</p> <p>9.6.1.3 Judo Level / Belt color Special Olympics Athlete (Tori)</p> <p>9.6.1.4 Judo Level / Belt color Unified Partner (Uke)</p> <p>9.7 Scoring Form</p> <p>9.7.1 Example of Kata Scoring form and example alternatives:</p>	<p>9.7 Scoring Form</p> <p>9.7.1 More information, as well as an example of the kata scoring form are available in the kata guidelines document.</p>
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