USA Judo Promotion Recommendation Procedures

For all Dan Ranks:
All promotion recommendations and applications for USA Judo Dan rank certificates should be processed through the applicant’s State member organization’s (Group B in good standing) Promotion Committee.

All promotion recommendations must include the following:
- Recommendation for USA Judo Dan Promotion form with appropriate signatures
- Complete history/judo resume (can submit supplements)/full competition record if applying as active athlete
- Copies of previous rank certificates from USA Judo, USJA or USJF
- Copies of special awards, recognition, etc.
- Passport size photo with name on back (yodan and above)
- Appropriate fees should be remitted payable to USA Judo.
- Current USA Judo membership

For ranks sandan and lower, complete packets of information submitted above will be processed and recorded immediately by USA Judo.

For ranks yodan and higher, all paperwork will be submitted to the USA Judo Promotion Committee for approval. Consideration for rokudan and above will only be reviewed during the in-person meetings that take place in conjunction with the USA Judo Senior National Championships and the USA Judo National President’s Cup Championships.

For clubs without a State Organization, they may either make arrangements with a nearby state organization or apply directly to USA Judo for consideration by the USA Judo National Promotion Board.

The Judo Rank and Certification committee may consider skip promotions. However a skip promotion is extremely infrequent and requires complete documentation in all aspects of the candidate’s contributions to USA judo and records. All skip fees must be paid.

Current Fee’s:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shodan</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>Godan</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>Kudan</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nidan</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>Rokudan</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>Judan</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandan</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>Shichidan</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yodan</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>Hachidan</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Any candidate whose promotion is denied will receive a letter of denial. Promotion fees will be refunded.

To Obtain an IJF or PJC Rank Certificate:
- Complete IJF/PJC Dan rank request form
- Appropriate fees as outlined on the request form
- Copy of USA Judo rank certificate. No other organizations certificate is accepted.
- Member in good standing with USA Judo

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# Guideline for Promotion Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Min. Age</th>
<th>Grade Time</th>
<th>Non-Competitor</th>
<th>Competitor 5 points</th>
<th>10 points</th>
<th>15 points</th>
<th>20 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shodan</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3 yrs.</td>
<td>2 yrs.</td>
<td>1 yr.</td>
<td>9 mo.</td>
<td>6 mo.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nidan</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4 yrs.</td>
<td>3 yrs.</td>
<td>2 yrs.</td>
<td>1 yr.</td>
<td>6 mo.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandan</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6 yrs.</td>
<td>4 yrs.</td>
<td>3 yrs.</td>
<td>1.5 yrs.</td>
<td>1 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yodan</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8 yrs.</td>
<td>5 yrs.</td>
<td>3 yrs.</td>
<td>2 yrs.</td>
<td>1 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godan</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>6 yrs</td>
<td>4 yrs.</td>
<td>2 yrs.</td>
<td>1.5 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rokudan</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15 yrs.</td>
<td>12 yrs.</td>
<td>9 yrs.</td>
<td>7 yrs.</td>
<td>5 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shichidan</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>18 yrs.</td>
<td>15 yrs.</td>
<td>12 yrs.</td>
<td>9 yrs.</td>
<td>6 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hachidan</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>21 yrs</td>
<td>18 yrs.</td>
<td>15 yrs.</td>
<td>12 yrs.</td>
<td>9 yr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Contest winning points are credited as follows:

### Randori-Contest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Win against opponent more than two ranks higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Win against opponent more than one rank higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Win against opponent of same rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Win against opponent one rank lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Win against opponent two ranks lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Win against opponent three or more ranks lower</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Kata-Contest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>First place-national or regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>Second place-national or regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Third place-national or regional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Recommended Minimum Requirements:

### Shodan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and interest,
- minimum knowledge and skills in both randori and nagekomi practice,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements and in contest record,
- proficient in the first 9 techniques of nage-no-kata for both men and women or Jushiki (10 of 15 Ju-no-kata) for women.

### Nidan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and interest,
- minimum knowledge and skills in both randori and nagekomi practice,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements and in contest record,
- proficient in all nage-no-kata for both men and women or all Ju-no-kata for women.
Sandan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- minimum knowledge and skills in both randori and nagekomi practice,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements and in contest record,
- proficient in Nage-o-kata or Ju-no-kata and Katame-no-kata.

Yodan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- minimum knowledge and skills in both randori and nagekomi practice,
- increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements and in contest record,
- non competitors must have a minimum USA Judo regional referee license, or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen
- proficient in Nage-no-kata or Ju-no-kata, Katame-no-kata, and Kime-no-kata or Kodokan Goshin-jitsu.

Godan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- minimum knowledge and skills in both randori and nagekomi practice,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements and in contest record
- good understanding of and skills in teaching Judo,
- must have minimum USA Judo regional referee license or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen.
- good proficiency in Nage-no-kata, Ju-no-kata, Katame-no-kata, and Kime-no-kata or Kodokan Goshin-jitsu.

Rokudan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- minimum knowledge and skills in teaching randori, nagekomi and kata,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements,
- good understanding of and skills in coaching randori and shiai techniques,
- substantial contributions to Judo,
- must have minimum USA Judo regional referee license or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen.

Shichidan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- superior knowledge and skills in teaching randori, nagekomi and kata,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements,
- superior understanding of and skills in coaching randori and shiai strategies,
- substantial contributions to Judo and to society,
- must have minimum USA Judo regional referee license or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen.
- excellent proficiency in Nage-no-kata, Ju-no-kata, Katame-no-kata, Kime-no-kata, Kodokan Goshin-jitsu, and either Itsutsu-no-kata, or Koshiki-no-kata.
Hachidan: Candidates must demonstrate:
- unquestioned moral character and maturity,
- continued practice and involvement in Judo,
- excellent knowledge and skills in teaching randori, nagekomi and kata,
- increased proficiency in all lower-rank requirements,
- must have minimum USA Judo regional referee license or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen.
- mastery of the principles and philosophy of Judo,
- major levels of contribution to Judo organizations,
- substantial contribution to Judo and to society,

Judan and Kudan:

As a minimum, the applicant must be qualified as an IJF A-level candidate by:
- having been a competitor placing in the top three of the Olympic Games or Senior World Championship
- having achieved certification as an IJF-A referee
- having served on the board or as a committee head of the PJC or IJF
- as a USA Judo certified national coach, was primarily responsible for training athletes who placed in the top three of the Olympic Games or Senior World Championship
- must have minimum USA Judo regional referee license or USA Judo coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification, concussion certification and clean background screen.

Criteria:
The 9th and 10th dan can be awarded only to those who:
- have been continuously involved in activity of judo such as competition, teaching, training, coaching, refereeing or administration.
- have actively practiced judo.
- have a perfect personality, recognized for his/her charisma, radiance, ethics.
- have a perfect career.
- have been promoted gradually from 1st to 8th dan, without passing several “dan” at the same time.
- have received their previous rank from USA Judo.
- have become a top three medalist in any national–level tournament
- are recommended by USA Judo Rank and Certification Committee
- respect time limit between the grades and the minimum age meeting the criteria of the tables previously exposed.
- be devoted to judo without interruption.
- must be voted and approved by USA Judo Board of Directors after receiving approval from USA Judo Rank & Certification Committee

For 9th Dan:
- Minimum age of 60 years
- 10 years since last promotion
- Practical and demonstrated theoretical knowledge of all kata: Nage No Kata – Katame No Kata – Kime No Kata – Ju No Kata – Koshiki No Kata- Kodokan Goshin Jitsu

For 10th Dan:
- Minimum age of 70 years
- 10 years since last promotion
- Practical and demonstrated theoretical knowledge of all kata: Nage No Kata – Katame No Kata – Kime No Kata – Ju No Kata – Koshiki No Kata- Kodokan Goshin Jitsu

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