

2020 IJF Referee, Sports, and Education Seminar

(includes notes from seminar held in the Doha, Qatar and Bay Island, Honduras)

The content of this document is a product of the IJF and the cooperative efforts of the Coach Committee, Referee Commission, and referees of USA Judo:

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On day 1 of the IJF Referee, Sports, and Education Seminar held in Doha, Qatar, the opening statement was made by Mr. Juan Carlos Barcos, IJF Head Referee Director. Mr. Barcos explained that there will no new rules changes going into the Olympic games scheduled this year in Tokyo, Japan. Mr. Barcos did explain that watching and assessing situations captured on video from last year was important to ensure the consistency of refereeing on the IJF world tour. 293 participants from around the world came to Qatar to participate in the 2020 IJF Referee, Sports, and Education Seminar.

Mr. Barcos explained that this year, the clips were grouped in 17 different situations with Mr. Neil Adams, IJF Referee Supervisor, and Mr. Udo Quellmalz, IJF Referee Supervisor will be taking turns to facilitate learning and



discussion of the video clips and associated situations. In addition to the distinguished Referee Supervisors that will be leading the group through the videos, the following IJF Referee Commission members were in attendance:

IJF Referee Commission Members:

Juan Carlos Barcos, IJF Head Referee Director
Pasquale Chyurlia, IJF Referee Commission Secretary
Ababacar Ngom, AJU Referee Commissioner
Alexander Jatskevitch, EJU Referee Commissioner
Takao Kawaguchi, JUA Referee Commissioner
Arek Zygmunt, OJU Referee Commissioner
Ovidio Garnero, PJC Referee Commissioner

IJF Referee Supervisors:

Neil Adams, Catherine Fleury, Ki Young Jeon, Daniel Lascau, Guiseppe Maddaloni, Akinobu Osako, Udo Quellmalz,

IJF Referee Assessors:

Stephan Bode, Jose Manuel Cortes, Carlo Knoester, Bukhbat Mashbat, Guoqiao Wang

PJC Referee and Coach Seminar, 2020, Roatan, Honduras February 14-17, 2020

Travel and Accommodations

The 2020 Pan American Judo Confederation (PJC) Referee and Coach Seminar Was held February 14-17 on Roatan Island in Honduras. Easy access for many North American participants included direct flights from Houston, Miami and Montreal. Transportation to and from the airport (RTB) was provided by the Honduran Judo Federation. We were housed at the Paradise Beach Hotel West Bay. Breakfast, lunch, snack and dinner were provided daily. Rooms were clean and comfortable and the food was excellent. There was bottled water provided not only in the rooms but on every floor and throughout the complex, as the water was not potable. The hotel was located directly on the beach with easy access from shore or boat to spectacular reefs. In addition to the great snorkeling and scuba diving, other local activities include island tours, canopy tours, and deep-sea fishing.

Participation

The Seminar included 57 referee and 10 coach participants from 20 countries including Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico, Suriname, and the United States. The seminar was held in the Bay Island Events Center, which was a part of the Paradise Beach Hotel in West Bay where we were housed. Originally planned for two days, participants were able to cover the material in one extended day. Participants were then free on the second day to enjoy the area.

Seminar Details

Leadership for the Seminar was provided by Juan Carlos Barcos, the IJF Refereeing Director. Welcoming comments and introductions were made by Mr. Barcos of the individuals at the head table:

Mr. Arnoldo Avilez. Count

Mr. Gilberto Garcia. Vice-President, PJC Caribbean

Mr. Porfirio Garcia. Director of Education, PJC

Mr. Manuel Larranaga. President, PJC

Mr. Ovidio Garnero. Director of Referees, PJC

Mr. Jose H. Rodriguez. Director of Development, IJF

Mr. Luis Moran. President, Federation of Judo Honduras

The plan was announced to work an extended day and to have the following day to enjoy the country.

Mr. Barcos made some global comments pertaining to the educational materials to be shared and also made comments specific to each subgroup of video clips.

1. The seminar will emphasize the standardization of the interpretations of the rules. In the past there were huge discrepancies between the manner in which coaches and referees viewed action. This year in Doha, all were respectful and on the same page.
2. The referee and the two judges only see one view each of the action. Referee Supervisors have multiple views instantly available, and that is why they have the right and responsibility to overrule the judges and the referee. The supervisors have the most accurate tools to use.
3. Teamwork is absolutely fundamental, but best, most accurate views must take precedence.
4. A Judo contest cannot take place without a referee who is honest, fair, and accurate. The referee needs to accept that others may have the optimum view.
5. When one looks back in history, the tools were not as good, so the decisions were not as clear. In the epic Shinohara VS. Douillet match, for example, if all the views had been clear one way, an award would have been OK. If all the views had been clear the other way, an award would have been OK. If the action and control was not absolutely clear, *hajime* would have been the better call.
6. Mr. Barcos made a clarification of his preference for the signal for a head dive versus the signal for head defense/head post. His head dive signal is a slightly cupped hand arcing slightly downward at about head level. He touches his forehead for the signal for a head post/head defense. He says the two different signals make it clear to everyone what the offending action was.
7. Complaints made by referees of interference during a match have been a common occurrence. This perceived interference is a necessary part of the teamwork required to award the most accurate judgment possible for the sake of the competitors. We cannot let the wrong winner leave the mat. We have to be willing to acknowledge we are human and therefore can and will make mistakes.

8. Reminders were given pertaining to the direct *hansokumake* penalties which allow a contestant to continue in the brackets if eligible (head dive and head defense) and the rest which are against the spirit of Judo which eliminate the competitor immediately.

Video Clip Global Comments

The clips were presented in conceptual groups. Frequently, global comments pertaining to that section were made. The global comments are listed here. The clip-specific comments are in each portion of the Excel answer key. In cases where the B view is more clear, it is indicated in the Excel spreadsheet notes.

WAZA-ARI VS IPPON CLIPS 1-10

- The viewing of two impact points is often the most important difference determining *waza-ari* and *ippon*.
- It is important to determine the difference between a continuous roll and two points of impact.
- Normally a change of score is not requested unless the need is absolutely clear.
- Although in Doha, and originally at this seminar, clip 9 was determined to be *waza-ari*, the consensus on final review was that it should be direct *hansokumake* for the head dive.

NO SCORE VS WAZA-ARI CLIPS 11-19

- Mistakes are part of the sport, and part of the game, but the referees should be clear of heart and always act with honesty and integrity.
- Use the tools available and remember that not scoring an unclear action is the appropriate thing to do.

SCORE VS NO SCORE CONTINUITY CLIPS 20-29

- There must be an immediate follow-through after an initial attempt to throw or the action cannot score.
- It is important to be able to determine the difference between immediate follow through (continuity) and secondary action.
- Ensure that *newaza* is allowed to continue when appropriate regardless of a score preceding the action.

SCORE VS NO SCORE CONTROL CLIPS 30-39

- Clear guidelines have been established to determine control after intense discussions with coaches, athletes and referees.
- When a throwing action has finished but the *tori* has a loss of direct control (think of the action of *uranage* in *Nage No Kata*) it can score *waza-ari*. The *kuzushi*, *tsukuri*, and *kake* MUST be present in the throwing attempt.
- Counterattacking actions need to be clear.
- Referees must be able to respect the information, comments, and situations presented by others in order to grow in their development.
- As a referee, try to gain experience and to be happy and celebrate the journey.
- We must ALL be more open to and able to develop from self-criticism.

KAESHI WAZA CLIPS 40-48

- The use of your back on the mat after landing in order to project your opponent is not valid for scoring purposes. The person who put you on your back in this case would be the one for whom action is valid.
- In the case of a direct attack versus a *kaeshiwaza*, *tori* obviously has the right and ability to use their back on the mat for the projection of their opponent.

NEWAZA VS TACHIWAZA CLIPS 49-58

- When there is dynamic action, continuation into *newaza* must be allowed.
- Ensure that you determine the difference between an *uke* rising on their own as opposed to being lifted off the ground to determine if the action can be scored.

OSAEKOMI VS NON-OSAEKOMI CLIPS 59-64

- One must strive to give *osaekomi* and *toketa* commands at the most accurate moment. Timing of both of these calls is critical.
- *Tori* must have control within the definitions in the rules. *Tori* must have one or two arms of *uke* under control and not just have his/her own arms or legs wrapped around *uke's* unprotected neck. Those dangerous situations warrant immediate *mate* for safety reasons.
- After the 2020 Olympic games, this is one area the IJF will be working on to tighten and clarify the rules.

INSIDE VS OUTSIDE CLIPS 65-73

- One must use common sense to avoid unnecessary injuries, particularly near scoreboards, table, hard flooring, barricades and the like.
- Rules must be interpreted with common sense and logical procedure.
- Improperly timed *mate* destroys the concentration of the players. It is **not** recommended to score an action after an improper *mate* because of the potential effect it has on the *uke* at the time.

MATE SITUATIONS CLIPS 74-79

- The call of *mate* is very powerful and also can create the most difficult situations if improperly applied. A poorly timed *mate* can really complicate situations and there is no good solution to the problems it creates.
- Try to call *mate* when there is no *kumikata* yet, or at least when there is no attempt to create *kuzushi* or *tsukuri*.

- Should a referee call a *mate* during a throwing attempt, the referee cannot call a score for the throw on their own. The decision to score it must be made by the team with the best tools available to see if any call is fair.
- In *newaza*, if there is continuity and continuation from inside to out of bounds, you must give it some time to complete the development.
- Position yourself to be able to see all potential action.

PUSH VS STEP OUT CLIPS 80-89

- When a player goes near the edge, they take a risk of penalty for stepping out of bounds. It is their responsibility to either stay inbounds or actually be attacking. They have the choice to stay legitimate in their efforts to abide by the rules.
- In situations like the last clip in the section (89) it is best to call *mate* and wait for your team to support you.

CRUSHING/PULL DOWN VS DEFENSIVE POSTURE CLIPS 90-95

- Crushing or pulling the opponent down without any attempt or intention to attack warrants a penalty.
- In the last clip example of the group (95), should the action become repetitive, then a penalty should be considered.

GRIP BELOW THE BELT CLIPS 96-101

- When a competitor establishes a non-standard grip, they must attack *immediately*. Immediately means within common sense Judo time.
- In clip 99, the diving action is very dangerous for young players. These actions must not be modeled as acceptable for our developing Judoka.

BEAR HUG CLIPS 102-106

- Bear hug actions are often quick and dynamic, so referees often score them by mistake. Take your time. You can even request a review before scoring if you were not able to see all parts of the action clearly.
- At the IJF level, during the finals block, the timing of the video large screen review for the crowd and the decision awarded on the mat is driven by the TV crew.
- Maintain the criteria set for a grip preceding a wrapping action.
- The referee's voice in calling *mate* during an illegal bear hug action should be quick and sharp to immediately stop a clear bear hug.

FALSE ATTACK CLIPS 107-116

- Pay close attention. When there is no technique and no intention to throw and they fall straight on their back, you give false attack.
- In clip 115, it is at the limit. If the action were to become repetitive, the false attack should be called.
- Look for actions when the attacker rises back up immediately from a dropped position... the rising action is usually an attempt at a legitimate throw.

KANSETSUWAZA FROM TACHIWAZA CLIPS 117-124

- When the intention of *tori* is only to enter for the application of *kansetsuwaza*, then there must be an immediate *mate* and *shido* awarded.
- If it is unclear whether *tori* is actually attempting to throw *uke* or is simply attempting to apply a *kansetsuwaza*, then *tori* may be given the benefit of the doubt and the action may be allowed to continue.

ILLEGAL JOINT LOCKS CLIPS 125-133

- The timing of the *mate* call is critical for safety purposes.
- Even in clear *hansokumake* situations, the central referee must wait for concurrence by the team before assessing the penalty and ending the match.

MISCELLANEOUS CLIPS 134-140

- Judogi control is much more strict and this has been an improvement.
- The requirement for players to keep their *judogi* arranged properly has also been an improvement.
- Removing a coach from the chair if a player requires a *gi* change has reduced issues significantly.
- Head diving actions do *not* require the head to touch the ground to be against the rules.
- When judging the time allowed to attack from a nonstandard grip or leg hook, “immediately” is what would be considered the normal way of attacking.

SEMINAR QUESTION AND ANSWER SECTION

- There will be 16 referees selected to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. They are being selected by:
 1. quality of work
 2. representation of the continents
 3. participation in the IJF academy
- **THE IJF ACADEMY**
 1. The Academy is meant to help participants feel real Judo on the mat. Participants will not just know the rules, but will learn and understand the techniques, the history, and the development of technical Judo.
 2. The USA pathway to the Academy is a request to the Referee Commission/and or Corinne Shigemoto to get enrolled to take the on-line portion of the course. Once the on-line portion of the course has

been completed, the PJC may offer either a one-day exposure class or a four-day level 1 or level 2 course.

Jose Rodriguez also spoke about some PJC/CPJ upcoming activities.

1. AFFILIATION IS IMPORTANT. You need to be an affiliate of the new “Afilacion CPJ”. Register at:

<https://registro.panamjudo.org>.

\$100 USD Coaches, Technical Officials, Officials, Referees, Athletes in Senior, Cadets, Juniors, Veterans, and Kata.

\$50 USD for Athletes Sub 13 and Sub 15.

With this affiliation you will have access to the affiliation website, Facebook, and to receive notifications.

- The PJC Education Commission is hosting a Gender Equity Seminar in conjunction with the Pan Am Championships in Canada on Monday, April 20, 2020.
- The PJC Education Commission also hosting an Event Administration Seminar in Panama in the next three months.
- The PJC will also be supporting 2 female referees, paying for their expenses to work all the major Pan American Championships.
- There is a plan developing to support coaches in the Americas
- The PJC Education Committee currently has 30 athletes training in Spain leading up to the Olympic Games with funds from PAN AM Sport.
- The financial support liaison between Mr. Vizer and the PJC is Jose Rodriguez.

The seminar closed with presentation of participation certificates, a gift from the host country, and photos.

We are very appreciative of the efforts of Mr. Barcos, Mr. Garner, the Pan American Judo Confederation, and the Honduras Judo Federation for their warm hospitality their hard work in putting on such an excellent seminar.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Johnson, Joon Chi, Barbara Shimizu, William Gugino, Brian Toth, Joan Miller, Diane Manganaro, Diane Samia, Sam Suyehira, Boris Munoz, Jake Freedman, and Oren Knopfmacher.

As a wonderful addition to Mr. Barcos' opening remarks included words of congratulations for Mr. Yasuhiro Yamashita for his election to the International Olympic Committee. Further, Mr. Barcos thanked the Qatar Taekwondo, Judo, and Karate Federation for their wonderful hospitality in hosting this important seminar. He also mentioned that Qatar will be hosting the 2020 World Masters and the 2023 World Championships.

The IJF has made available some video clips that illustrate some practical examples of the refereeing rule changes at the following URL:

<https://refereeusb.judobase.org>

An answer key was developed by the team that attended the seminar and is available on a separate Excel spreadsheet.

On day 2, General Secretary of the IJF Mr. Jean-Luc Rouge opened day two of the Refereeing Sport and Education Seminar in Doha, "Thank you to all attendees for all the work you do for your federations and for the sport of judo." IJF Director of Education and Coaching, Mr. Mohamed Meridja provide information about the IJF Disciplinary Code and Code of Ethics and made sure that everyone was aware of this important document. Further, IJF Education and Coaching Commission Assistant Directors Mr. Mohamed Azzoug and Mr. Michel Huet gave a detailed demonstration of IJF judo gi control procedures that have been in place since 2009. Gi Control in IJF competitions are done each and every round that an athlete fights and it is not just once in the first round of the tournament.

The step-by-step process includes:

1. Check back patch and corresponding name
2. Check length of the jacket (must cover the buttocks completely)
3. Check length of the sleeves by asking to pull arms straight and hands up.
4. Check sleeve width with sokuteki (must be smoothly inserted)
5. Check Judo gi crossing (10 cm from collar bone to crossing point of jacket)
6. Check Judo gi front total crossing of jacket for 20 cm
7. Check obi on the hips and tied tightly.
8. Check the length of Judo gi trousers from the ankle bone (5cm)
9. If the check fails, the IJF allows the use of spare IJF Judo gi, but cannot use their own.

Mr. Meridja explained that the goal for Tokyo Olympic Games is to have no failed judo gis. Given that violation of the judo gi rules results in a coach not being able to coach in the chair, the responsibility to ensure proper fitting judo gis will be put in the hands of the athletes. With regard to the judo gi control, IJF objectives include easier kumikata because that allows for more attacks and more positive scores, which makes judo more attractive for spectators and media coverage. New measures not only include the judo

gi control but also the requirement that players fix their gi's during mate in order to have fewer interruptions and smoother matches. (Note: discussion of this practice brings into question when this will be implemented in the US as our international players-- especially younger cadet and youth--could easily accumulate penalties that they are not prepared for.)

Mr. Meridja spoke about a situation with a German player who had rounds with both failed and passing gi checks and how his coach was allowed to coach on some of his rounds. The German player had failed his gi check in 1 round but then had a passing gi in his 2nd round fight. The coach was allowed to coach his player in round 2, but not in round 1. Mr. Meridja did say that any round(s) that a player has an acceptable/passing gi, the coach may coach his player even if they did fail a gi check during any of their other rounds.

An IJF Gi will be given to a player and coach is allowed to coach in the following situations:

1. Athlete loses his or her luggage and notifies the staff of this situation
2. Blood on the Gi during the competition
3. Wet Gi during the competition

If a Coach is suspended during the tournament - they may not coach at all. See attached slides.

Mr. Vladimir Barta, IJF Head Sports Director spoke about making sure that all coaches and/or athletes maintain respectable behavior and be responsible for ensuring that the warm up area at the IJF World Judo Tour events are clean of trash and orderly. Further, Mr. Barta explained that he would like to continue to see the coaches bowing to each at the beginning and end of each match, as a simple gesture of respect. Mr. Barta explained that the IJF is not entertaining this idea as a rule since coaches are already following the ritual to show respect to each other. He encouraged ALL COACHES to continue to practice this ritual and asked that everyone take his message back to their countries for implementation.

Ms. Andrea Ember, IJF Anti-Doping Co-Coordinator reminded the attendees of the ultimate goal to have clean competition. Ms. Ember showcased the IJF Clean Judo webpage and asked all federations to become aware of the changes in the testing procedures during and leading up to the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Ms. Ember explained in a series of slides procedures related to in-competition vs outside competition testing, therapeutic exemptions, the need to maintain up-to-date information on whereabouts, and consequences of whereabouts failures. The Clean Judo Program include behavior expectations see the videos on the IJF Clean Judo website:

“What is manipulation of competition”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0T66pB1V4Q8&index=2&list=PLX9eJ_kgiRLYr_k5Krp4nLh8qC9nmtozK

“Why people do it”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAFJlcrsKdw&index=3&list=PLX9eJ_kgiRLYr_k5Krp4nLh8qC9nmtozK

“Some info about the betting market”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WavVlfioMiQ&index=4&list=PLX9eJ_kgiRLYr_k5Krp4nLh8qC9nmtozK

See attachments about the Tokyo 2020 Anti-Doping Rules

Mr. Barcos continued to seminar by announcing that 16 referees will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan. While the selections have not been made yet, he mentioned that the plan is to not make an official selection until possibly the last event for the IJF World Tour referees so that the best referees in the world will work the Tokyo Olympic Games. Mr. Barcos then continued with next sets of videos in which Mr. Adams and Mr. Quellmalz proceeded to facilitate the last three sets.

The seminar was concluded by comments by Mr. Khalid Hamad Alatiya, Qatar President, Taekwondo, Judo, and Karate Federation, and Mr. Ohaid Al Anzi, Vice President IJF & President, Asian Judo Union, who both thanked everyone for attending this seminar.