



2023 USA Judo Events

Standard Operating Procedures and

Sanctioning Rules & Regulations

For Judo and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Events

Updated 2/7/2023

Overview

In 2022, USA Judo Sanctioned 142 Events, including 12 being point events. We hope that 2023 will bring more events with the increased and improved available resources. This document will provide instructions, policies and procedures for both point and non-point USA Judo-sanctioned events.

USA Judo has experienced significant changes in recent months as it pertains to insurance coverage and the sanctioning of USA Judo events. We've expanded competition resources and must fulfill new requirements mandated by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. This revised document describes the sanctioning program and gives details of how to apply for, obtain, and fulfill the obligations of a sanction.

USA Judo sanctioning representatives are not able to attend all individual tournaments and clinics. Therefore, USA Judo cannot assume the function of directing, policing or overseeing the individual operations and procedures of these events. It is understood that each tournament and clinic site is different and presents unique challenges concerning administration, officials, mats, equipment, competitors, or divisions, etc. However, the event organizer/director, in return for being awarded the sanction, agrees to abide by these terms and conditions to the fullest extent possible. Failure to abide by the criteria and/or fulfill requirements of a sanction may nullify the sanction and/or cause penalties for organizers including, but not limited to, the opportunity to sanction future events.

All USA Judo sanctions will be awarded ONLY for judo and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) disciplines. Events that combine other martial arts competition in the same venue shall not receive sanction nor insurance coverage from USA Judo. This insurance coverage available to the individuals, clubs, and event organizers is limited to the sport of Judo and BJJ and USA Judo clubs in good standing only.

At the time of publication, USA Judo abides by the terms of the American Judo Alliance Agreement that includes reciprocal participation with the following contributing organizations: American Traditional Jiujitsu Association (ATJA), US Judo Association (USJA) and US Judo Federation (USJF). The American Judo Alliance Agreement is scheduled to expire on March 14, 2023, at which time USA Judo's Standard Operating Procedures may be updated. These Standard Operating Procedures may be amended by USA Judo if/when necessary, at any time.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a sanction and what does it cover?

A sanction is defined as *to give permission or approval for an action*. Related to USA Judo, a sanction provides insurance coverage for USA Judo clubs in good standing with a minimum standard for conduct at an event that is focused on the safety of participants, administrative efficiencies and mandates required by USA Judo, the U.S. Center for SafeSport and/or the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

USA Judo clubs are considered to be in good standing if:

- The club holds a current USA Judo membership
- The club's primary point of contact also is a current individual member
- The club must be current with their individual membership, USA Judo Coaching Certification, Background Screen, SafeSport Training and Concussion Awareness Training

Through USA Judo's insurance provider, a paid sanction will provide liability insurance coverage for tournament organizers and volunteers as well as limited property damage coverage (subject to coverage limits and conditions under the policy). The owner of the facility where the event is held may be included as an "Additional Insured" upon submission of the appropriate form and approval of the insurance carrier, at no additional cost. All contestants must hold valid USA Judo individual membership, or membership with the ATJA, USJA and USJF, at least until March 14, 2023, when the American Judo Alliance Agreement is set to expire (as of the date of this document). These memberships need to be current through the end of the sanctioned event. Event directors receive a Certificate of Insurance; discounted credits for the Smoothcomp competition management system; opportunity to purchase event signage, medals and merchandise from USA Judo partners; event organizing materials (pending advanced deadlines); access to National Office staff for consultation; one promotional post on social media; listings on the Calendar/Event sections of USA Judo's Membership Platform, Sport:80, and USA Judo's website.

Who is eligible to request a sanction from USA Judo?

USA Judo Clubs and registered USA Judo State Member Organizations in good standing, as defined above, may request a sanction from USA Judo. In addition, the sanctioned event must follow the USA Judo Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) both at the club and during the sanctioned event. Finally, an event organizer must be in good standing by fulfilling the obligations of prior awarded USA Judo sanctioned events.

When is a sanction request required?

A USA Judo Sanction Request should be made when there is an event hosted by a USA Judo club that is out of scope of the club's day-to-day activities and/or if they are hosting an event at a location outside of the club.

If a USA Judo Club wants to host a "friendly" competition between other local clubs and competitors, within the capacity of the club determined by the local fire marshal and what is deemed safe, no sanctioned fee is required, but a sanction will be required to be on record for potential injury and insurance purposes. However, the USA Judo standard operating policies and procedures will remain in effect for club events involving members from other clubs.

Requirements and Application Procedures for Obtaining a Sanction

Only USA Judo registered judo or BJJ clubs in good standing may apply for a sanction. All USA Judo Sanction Requests must be submitted through the registered club or state profile within Sport:80: usajudo.sport80.com. **Paper sanction submissions and e-mailed applications will no longer be accepted.** The online process will allow event organizers to pay for the sanction online through the same secure credit card processing system as memberships. The online process also will allow for the sanction to be approved, sanction number provided and event automatically posted on the Sport:80 Platform and subsequently on the USA Judo website. Payments for non-point events must be paid in full at the time of the sanction submission/approval. Point events may pay a 50% non-refundable deposit and must pay the other 50% 60 days prior to the sanctioned point event. If a point event is applied for an approved less than 60 days prior to the event, the entire payment will be due at the time of submission/approval.

To receive a sanction, a properly completed and signed Application for Sanction, draft copy of the entry form, draft copy of the general information sheet, draft copy of the waiver and release form, and appropriate administrative fee, should be submitted on-line via the Sport:80 Platform **at least 30 days prior to the event**. Any sanction requests submitted within the 30-day window will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may incur late fees. Failure to have a sanction form and payment in the National Office no later than 30 days prior to the event may void any insurance coverage of the event, and the State member will assume all liabilities associated with this action. The entry form, the general information sheet and the waiver and release form will be reviewed for accuracy, completeness, conflict with the other events, and compliance with all other sanction requirements. If there are problems, the club officials will be informed of any modifications that are required. When the entry form, general information sheet, and waiver and release form are in full compliance with the sanction requirements, the sanction application is properly completed and signed, and appropriate fees are paid a sanction will be issued and liability insurance coverage will be in effect.

The sanction number(s) and name(s) of the sanctioning authorities shall be printed on the entry form when it is distributed to the public. A final copy of the entry form as well as any corrected forms that are distributed to the public must be submitted to each of the sanctioning authorities for their permanent records. The applicant agrees to abide by all the terms and conditions for sanctioned events. These terms and conditions are listed below and are attached to the sanction application. They will be provided once again to the organizers when the sanction is issued. All sanctioned events by USA Judo will be posted on its website no later than five days prior to the event being held.

The first Certification of Insurance to third parties for sanctioned events can be secured free of charge from the National Office if requested prior to 10 working days of the event. Additional certificates may be obtained for an additional fee of \$10.00 per certificate. If certificates are requested with less than 10 working days, there will be a charge of \$50.00 for rush processing.

Terms and Conditions for All USA Judo Sanctioned Events

Limited Modifications

Sanctions may be issued for events which have the following modifications to the IJF rules:

Mat/Safety Area Dimension

Regulation size contest area should be used whenever possible. If sufficient mat space is not available, a smaller competition area may be used for junior competition with pre-approval from USA Judo. The mats should be firm under foot, have property of absorbing sufficient shock, and have a surface that is non-binding and free of folds and gaps. All mats should be inspected before competition or practice begins.

All USA Judo Sanctioned Events except National Championships, and Events with International Participants (see below for more information):

Allowed for all categories, minimum of 6 x 6-meter competition area.

- A 3-meter safety area for all categories between mats and outside perimeter is required.

All USA Judo Nationals Championships:

- Competition areas may range in size from 6 x 6 meters to 10 x 10 meters depending on ages, venue size and number of competitors.
- USA Judo National Championships must have a 3-4 meter safety area between mats.

Events with International Athlete Participation/International Federation Participation:

- Competition & safety areas for USA Judo Sanctioned Events with international participations will be determined through discussion with event organizers and USA Judo during the sanctioning process.
- Pan American Judo Confederation & International Judo Federation rules will apply for PJC & IJF Sanctioned Events.

Shime- and Kansetsu-Waza Age Limits

It is standard procedure in the United States that contestants competing in Junior divisions up to and including 14 years of age are not allowed to use shime-waza (chokes) or kansetsu-waza (arm locks). Cadet (age categories 15 yrs. to 17 yrs.) competitors are allowed to use kansetsu-waza. All senior divisions (including brown belts) are normally permitted to use shime-waza and kansetsu-waza. Juniors who elect to enter senior divisions must understand that they do so at their own risk and should be allowed the use of shime-waza and kansetsu-waza. Shime-waza or kansetsu-waza in junior novice-only divisions is prohibited. Shime-waza is allowed for senior novice divisions. Please see the below graphic for chokes and arm lock rules for all categories:

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Chokes</u>	<u>Arm Locks</u>
Junior Novice Divisions	No	No
Senior Novice Divisions	Yes	No
Intermediate (11-12)	No	No
Regular Juvenile (13-14)	Yes	No
Regular Cadet (15-17)	Yes	Yes
Regular IJF Junior (15-20)	Yes	Yes
Senior Elite (18-59)	Yes	Yes
Veteran (30-59)	Yes	Yes
Veteran (60+)	No	Yes

Event Organizers must specify in the sanction application and on the event information sheet if any of the above or other rule changes will be in effect at the event.

Co-Ed Categories

Co-ed categories are allowed for ages up to and including 10 years of age, as of the event date.

Religious Headgear

USA Judo is responsible for creating and abiding by rules that protect the safety of competitors to the extent possible. USA Judo has determined that it will review requests to wear religious headgear during competitions on a case-by-case basis.

The main points of consideration for these requests are as follows:

1. Can the wearing of headgear, religious or any other kind, create a safety issue for the individual wearing the headgear and/or his/her opponent?
2. Does the wearing of the headgear give the person wearing it an unfair advantage or disadvantage?
3. Is the desire to wear headgear by an athlete due to their religious practice(s) or due to the advice of a medical doctor for safety purposes?

If the answer to questions No. 1 and No. 2 is “no” as determined by USA Judo, and the answer to question No. 3 is “yes,” USA Judo will allow the wearing of headgear.

USA Judo reserves the right not to allow headgear of any kind if the safety of any athlete may be put into jeopardy by the wearing of headgear or for any reason deemed as detrimental to the sport of judo in the United States.

Participant Criteria

All U.S. participants must be members of USA Judo or be a member of an organization with whom USA Judo has entered into a reciprocal participation agreement. Currently those organizations include: US Judo Association (USJA), US Judo Federation (USJF) or American Traditional Judo and Ju Jitsu Association (ATJA) until at least March 14, 2023, when the American Judo Alliance Agreement is scheduled to expire. This is extremely IMPORTANT as violation of this may nullify an event’s sanction. The reason is that, while general liability insurance is provided by the organization sanctioning the event, all sport participant accident insurance follows the individual member. If a participant does not have an individual membership and/or cannot produce proof of a current membership with any of the aforementioned organizations, a USA Judo membership may be purchased on site via the on-line Sport:80 membership registration platform. Event organizers must confirm and have proof that their membership has been purchased to ensure participant accident insurance coverage.

If an event is open to foreign participants, those foreign competitors must be members of their respective National Governing Body or Federation for Judo as recognized by the International Judo Federation (IJF) if they want to participate under their home country’s flag. An approval letter must be received from the respective National Federation by the USA Judo National Office. This approval letter will show as proof that the athlete is in good standing with their federation which includes amateur status and insurance coverage. If a competitor is not acknowledged by their home country’s national judo federation, they must purchase a USA Judo competitive membership. All U.S. participants must have membership insurance regardless of organizational membership type, in effect with USA Judo or their parent Judo organization (with whom has a reciprocal participation agreement with USA Judo) which includes a minimum limit of \$25,000.00 in excess accident medical benefits. **THIS IS AN INSURANCE COMPANY REQUIREMENT AND FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY AFFECT THE LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THIS EVENT AND YOU’RE RIGHT TO OBTAIN FUTURE SANCTIONS.**

Procedures must be established to check that each participant is a member of a judo organization having insurance coverage that has been approved by USA Judo. Participants will be allowed to register as a member of USA Judo prior to the start of any sanctioned event. These membership registrations will be covered by excess accident medical insurance for Judo/BJJ. It is preferred that these members register as USA Judo members utilizing the online Sport:80 Membership Platform. If electronic membership access is not available, USA Judo must be notified and the official conducting the event must send all new USA Judo memberships to the National Office, electronically, within **FIVE** business days of the completion of the event. This is important to confirm insurance coverage. No membership registration may be taken once registrations have closed. A tournament official must verify that all membership registration procedures are followed for any new membership issued at the event. Failure to monitor and confirm appropriate individual memberships may result in a voided sanction, especially if the non-insured person is injured as the injury liability expenses will be the responsibility of the event organizer for not confirming membership of all participants as there will then be no coverage through USA Judo.

SafeSport Requirements:

- No individual listed on the USA Judo Banned/Suspended list (athlete, coach, volunteer, media/vendor) OR is not in good standing with USA Judo is allowed to participate in the event in ANY capacity. The Banned/Suspended list can be found here: <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Judo/About-Us/Governance/Disciplinary-Actions>. At the time of the publication of this SOP, USA Judo is working with Sport:80 to create a public list of USA Judo members that would show if “Action Required” or a member is “Suspended” which would make them ineligible to participate at a USA Judo sanctioned event in any capacity. Members could be in either of these statuses due to disciplinary actions, failure to take the mandated SafeSport training, or have not met their international event payment policy. This is a live list and will update as soon as someone becomes a member, lapses in membership, or their status changes. Event organizers must compare their list of volunteers, coaches, athletes, etc. against BOTH lists. This SOP will be updated with the link to the public list when it is created.
- Record individuals who aren't USA Judo members who are assisting with the event with USA Judo's Participant Tracking Spreadsheet found in Appendix B of this document and online at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Judo/Events/Event-Sanctioning>. This includes referees, table officials, volunteers, media/vendors etc. This tracking spreadsheet must be sent to USA Judo's Membership & SafeSport Manager, Austin Leath, within five business days following the close of the event at austin.leath@usajudo.us. Failure to provide this list in a timely manner may result in fines and/or penalties for future sanction requests, including not sanctioning future events.
- Information about the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) and SafeSport Reporting information must be shared with participants. First by e-mail for any pre-registered participants WITHIN 10 days prior to the start of the tournament and then posted during walk-up registration, if applicable, and within the venue during the event. A short version of the MAAPP and flyer with a SafeSport QR Code is available in Appendices B and C and online at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Judo/Events/Event-Sanctioning>. These flyers should be visible throughout the event, pointing people to the USA Judo website for more information and the reporting mechanism.

Properly Designed Entry Form

A properly designed entry form must be used. When possible, USA Judo encourages the use of the Sport:80 or Smoothcomp platforms for registration. The entry form must contain at a minimum:

- Adequate space for participant's personal information.
- Ability to record verification of current membership and insurance.
- Categories of competition (Junior, Senior, Veterans, Team, Shiai, Kata, etc.) including eligibility requirements for each category.
- Membership type accepted (USA Judo, USJA, USJF, and ATJA – until March 14, 2023).

- Divisions within each category: age, age-weight, weight only, skill level (white, brown, black belts etc.). If divisions are to be combined or split up based on the age and or weight range of the entrants, state this in a prominent place.
- Waiver form that, at a minimum, includes a clause to release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue USA Judo, and organizations with which there are reciprocal participation agreements.
- The competition/elimination system that will be used (Single, Double, Modified Double, Repechage, Double-Repechage, Pool etc.).
- The schedule of events, including registration, weigh-in, roll call, and competition times.
- Any IJF or USA Judo rules that are modified for local or regional competition.
- Any BJJ rules that are modified for local or regional competition.
- Sanction number(s) and name(s) of the organization (s) issuing the sanction.
- Appropriate undergarments must be worn by all athletes. Female athletes shall wear under the jacket either a plain white or off-white T-shirt, with short sleeves, long enough to be worn inside the trousers, or a plain white or off-white leotard with short sleeves. The white T-shirt should be round necked. No marking can be visible when the judogi is done up.
- Statement stating that any athlete needing to change clothes/judogi should do so in a restroom, locker room or other area specifically designated for changing. Signage should be placed in the venue outlining this policy. A template is attached for your use on the last page.
- Warning, Waiver and Release of Liability Clause - The standard release approved by USA Judo, and its insurance company must be signed by all participants. This release may be made part of the tournament entry form or it can be signed separately. In the case of minors, it must additionally be signed by their parents or legal guardians.

USA Judo insurance coverage requires the tournament or clinic director to retain the signed release for five years after the completion of the event and if necessary, provide the insurance company with this document in the event of a participant injury claim resulting in a suit against the insured(s). USA Judo must be included on all waiver forms.

Contest Rules of the International Judo federation (IJF), BJJ or any rules modifications by USA Judo to be followed for all sanctioned events. If there are any rules, planned deviations or exceptions to the standard rules other than for unique safety considerations at local events, they must be approved prior to the date of the event.

Emergency medical facilities and personnel

A medical doctor and/or other athletic trainer must be in attendance at all tournaments. A medical area with emergency supplies and ice must also be provided. The telephone number of the local ambulance service and the location of the nearest hospital should be known. It is also recommended that an AED be in the competition venue or close by within the facility hosting the event.

Qualified mat officials should be used

USA Judo certified referees must be used on every mat. If a sufficient number of certified referees are not available, then one certified referee should be assigned to supervise each mat area.

Additional equipment and facilities

The following additional equipment and facilities are recommended for all tournaments:

- Each contest should be equipped with scoreboards that are visible to the spectators facing the scoring tables, stopwatches for both contact time and Osae-Komi, gongs or bean bags for indicating ending time,
- Blue and white belts (sashes) for the competitors, if blue and white gi is not required. It is recommended that for senior level categories, a blue and white gi is mandatory.

- A suitable head table and public address systems should be available. Every attempt should be made to create a restricted area for the competition.
- A restricted area(s) is that area limited to players, officials and other authorized personnel. The general public should be restricted from this area.

These guidelines are established as minimum standards. Any action taken by the tournament director to improve or enhance the quality of the tournament and provide a greater level of safety for the participants and spectators is highly encouraged.

Tournament report

Within **FIVE** business days after the competition of the event, a report should be filed electronically with USA Judo’s coordinator of membership and events. This report shall include the “Report of Sanction Event” form as well as copies of the “Injury Report” form, a copy of the entry form, copy of the competition brackets and waiver and release form for each injured person. The event director is required to keep all copies of participant’s entry forms and signed waivers for no less than five (5) years. Failure to follow this procedure could jeopardize future sanctions and may result in increased future sanction fees.

Membership Registration & Payments

Within FIVE business days after the completion of the event, all membership registration forms, and money collected should be forwarded to USA Judo’s National Office. This can be alleviated by directing individuals needing memberships to register on the Sport:80 website: usajudo.sport80.com .

Coaches

All coaches receiving coaching credentials must be in good standing meaning they have USA Judo Membership, USA Judo Coach Certification, Background Screen, SafeSport Certificate and concussion training certification. They must also be listed on USA Judo’s public coach list found here: <https://usajudo.sport80.com/public/widget/3>. Any coach who does NOT have ANY of these credentials is NOT in good standing and should NOT be coaching matside. It is helpful to police this if coaches are required to wear their current USA Judo coaching badge.

Non-Point Sanctioned Events Benefits, Costs and Competition Management System

Event Categories

In Club Event

Local Event

Regional Event

Benefits & Costs

- **In Club Events**

- May be a competition, clinic or camp
- A “no cost sanction” will be provided if event happens within the club during normal operating hours
- Benefits include:
 - Liability insurance provided as part of USA Judo Club Membership
 - Local, friendly matches easier to implement
 - No certified referees necessary (coaches may serve as referees)
- Costs include:

- Minimal costs are incurred when hosting an in-club event, including medals/awards (preferred pricing available with USA Judo Vendor) and discounted Smoothcomp competition management credits should the Smoothcomp competition management platform be utilized.
- **Local Event** (typically within one state and 150 miles or 2.5 hours driving time)
 - May be a competition, clinic or camp
 - Benefits include:
 - Sanction provides general liability coverage for event organizer and co-insured (venue)
 - Event published on USA Judo Website Competition Calendar Page and Calendar/Events section of USA Judo Membership Platform (Sport:80)
 - Mandatory costs include:
 - If outside of a dojo and/or members from more than 2 other clubs attend in club event, sanction fee of \$100
 - Elective costs include
 - Competition management Smoothcomp Credits offered at a discount per credit/competitor of \$0.75/competitor
 - Preferred pricing on medals/awards, signage and apparel with USA Judo Vendors
 - Referee expenses – stipend/per diem, hotel, meals, transportation
- **Regional Event** (typically involves participants from more than one state)
 - May be a competition, clinic or camp
 - Benefits include:
 - Sanction provides general liability coverage for event organizer
 - 100 Smoothcomp Competitor Credits included in sanction fee (if desired)
 - Event published on USA Judo Website Competition Calendar Page and Calendar/Events section of USA Judo Membership Platform (Sport:80)
 - Mandatory costs include:
 - Sanction Fee of \$150
 - Referee expenses – stipend/per diem, hotel, meals, transportation
 - Elective costs include
 - Preferred pricing on signage, medals/awards, event apparel with USA Judo Vendor
 - Additional Smoothcomp Credits sold at a discount of \$0.65/competitor

Competition Management - Independent evaluator as mutually agreed upon between USA Judo and Event Organizer to monitor event and ensure all necessary policies and requirements are implemented.

Point Sanctioned Events Benefits, Costs & Competition Management System

Types of Events

Point Events

National Events

- **Point Competition Events**

- These events will award USA Judo member participants with points that will be shown on the USA Judo National Roster which may be used to determine qualified athletes for international teams. To apply earned points on the USA Judo Roster, point-winners must be USA Judo members and prove their U.S. citizenship BEFORE the completion of the point event at which they won their points. While it is preferred that an event host be responsible for confirming participants' membership and citizenship, if an event organizer is NOT able to cross reference the Sport:80 membership database themselves to do this, they must NOT have walk up registration and close registration five business days before the event so that USA Judo staff may cross reference the participation list to make sure everyone is in good standing. All point events must also serve as USA Judo referee testing/evaluation events so as to have the best referees officiating matches with the best athletes in the United States. Point events must use the Smoothcomp competition management system and have the point event linked to USA Judo's Smoothcomp Federation Account as outlined on the events section of the USA Judo website.
- All junior point events require PJC divisions and weight categories.
- All senior point events require IJF divisions and weight categories.
- Benefits
 - 250 Smoothcomp Credits included in one category fee, 50 additional credits per added category after first one
 - Event posted on USA Judo Website Competition Calendar
 - Event shared on USA Judo Social Media Platforms six weeks before event
 - Two USA Judo Banners
- Mandatory Costs
 - Sanction Fee of \$550 for first point category, \$50 additional for each additional category. Categories include juniors, seniors, veterans and visually impaired
 - Referee costs associated with hosting a mandatory testing/evaluation event which may include, but not be limited to: daily stipends, meals, hotels and travel expenses
- Elective Costs
 - Additional Smoothcomp Credits sold at a discount of \$0.50/competitor
 - Smoothcomp Operator (if/when available)
 - Preferred pricing on medals/awards with USA Judo Vendor
 - Event apparel option with USA Judo vendor to include on-line store

- **National Events**

USA Judo organizes and sanctions National Championships and other National and International Judo events, many of which are used as partial criteria for selection of teams which represent the United States in events like the Senior World Championships, Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Pan American Games, the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. Only members of USA Judo are eligible to participate in such events. Currently these events are the Youth National Championships, Senior National Championships, National Junior Olympic Championships and President's Cup, and which may select teams to represent the United States in international competition. In general, events open to USA Judo members only are:

- Events funded wholly or in part through the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee or special funding.
- USA Judo national events as mentioned above
- Point events (must be a current USA Judo member to earn points/be placed on the national roster)
- Participants must be a member of USA Judo or another international federation (when applicable) to participate in the Youth National Championships, Senior National Championships, NCJA Collegiate Nationals, National Junior Olympic Championships and President's Cup, and all other events conducted under an international sanction. Also, proof of U.S. Citizenship is required for any events/categories that will be a trials for representation on a U.S. national team competing abroad.

Official Weigh-In Procedures

USA Judo National Events and Approved USA Judo Point Events

The guidelines below are to be followed for all USA Judo national events and all awarded point event categories:

Scales

- USA Judo will provide the official digital scales for USA Judo National Championship events. The appropriate point event director will provide scales for their event. The scales should register in kilograms of weight.

Weigh-in

- During Unofficial Weigh-Ins, scales will be designated as Practice Scales.
- During Official Weigh-Ins, scales will be designated as Official Scale and Unofficial Scale in each room.
- Determination of Official Scales: The scale that registers the lowest weight will be chosen as the Official Scale.
- The scales will be available at the tournament headquarters 24 hours prior to official weigh-ins.
- During Official Weigh-In, no one is allowed on the official scale unless they are officially weighing in for their category. Once an individual weighs in on an official scale, that is their recorded official weight.

Protocols

General Protocols for all Weigh-Ins:

- Athletes presenting themselves for weigh-in may undress down to:
 - For males, briefs or boxer shorts, t-shirts, bathing suits
 - For females, bathing suits, underwear and bra and/or T-shirt/leotards
 - Naked weigh in is NOT ALLOWED*
- *to compensate, an additional 0.1kg will be allowed, i.e., for the 44kg weight, the limit will be 44.1. This is a clothing allowance only and the 0.1kg will only be added to the true weight.
- The scale must register a static standing weight.
 - Once an athlete steps onto the scale, a weight must be registered.
 - An athlete may not step off the scale until a weight is registered.
 - An athlete may stay on the scale for a reasonable amount of time.
 - All athletes, with the exception of open weight category, must register a weight.
 - Staff/volunteer must ensure that the scale registers zero weight before the athlete gets on the scale.
 - No one may touch an athlete while an athlete is weighing in, i.e., lift hair, etc. The athlete must stand alone with no contact with any person or object such as a table, furniture, etc.
 - For events that are sanctioned by IJF or PJC or trial categories, athletes must weigh in within the official category and are not allowed to be over the category or under the category. For example, for the -52kg weight division, a range of 48 kg up to 52.1 kg is acceptable.
 - After weighing in, if athlete is under 12 years of age, if/when possible, an adult/parent/guardian should also initial next to the weight to confirm accuracy.

- If an athlete shows up late to weigh-in, the Tournament Director is to be called.
- There may only be the same gender within each weigh-in room. Opposite gender parents may wait outside while a SafeSport trained adult accompanies the athlete.

Personnel

- Male staff and female staff only will be allowed in the gender-appropriate weigh-in rooms or areas.
- A minimum of two observers must be always present in the weigh in rooms, at least one who had completed SafeSport training.
- A minimum of one volunteer/referee must serve in a supervisory position in each room that has current SafeSport Certification and clean background screen on file with USA Judo.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make all final decisions regarding weigh-ins.

Official Weigh-in Procedures For USA Judo Sanctioned Events

The guidelines below are to be followed for all USA Judo sanctioned events except for USA Judo National events and all awarded point event categories:

Scales

- Scales to be provided by the respective event director. The scales should be digital.

Weigh-In

- During Unofficial Weigh-Ins, scales will be designated as Practice Scales
- During Official Weigh-Ins, if multiple scales are available, they should be designated as Official Scale and Unofficial Scale in each room.
- Determination of Official Scales: The scale that registers the lowest weight will be chosen as the Official Scale
- If only one scale available during official weigh-in, athlete should state prior to stepping on if they are testing their weight or if they are officially weighing in. If officially weighing in, that weight will be recorded for event purposes.

Protocols

General Protocols for all Weigh-Ins:

- Athletes presenting themselves for weigh-in may undress down to:
 - For males, briefs or boxer shorts, T-shirts, bathing suits
 - For females, bathing suits, underwear and bra and/or tee-shirt/leotards
 - Naked weigh in is NOT ALLOWED*

*to compensate, an additional .1kg will be allowed, i.e., for the 44kg weight, the limit will be 44.1 for any categories using true weight divisions. This is a clothing allowance only and the 0.1kg will only be added to the true weight.

- The scale must register a static standing weight.
- Once an athlete steps onto the scale, a weight should be registered.
- An athlete may not step off the scale until a weight is registered.
- An athlete may stay on the scale for a reasonable amount of time.

- All athletes must register a weight.
- Staff/volunteer must ensure that the scale registers zero weight before the athlete gets on the scale.
- No one may touch an athlete while an athlete is weighing in, i.e., lift hair, etc. The athlete must stand alone with no contact with any person or object such as a table, furniture, etc.
- For events that are sanctioned by IJF or PJC or trial categories, athletes must weigh in within the official category and are not allowed to be over the category or under the category. For example, for the -52kg weight division, a range of 48 kg up to 52.1 kg is acceptable.
- There may only be the same gender within each weigh-in room. Opposite gender parents may wait outside while a SafeSport trained adult accompanies the athlete.

Personnel

- Male staff and female staff only will be allowed in the gender-appropriate weigh-in rooms or areas.
- A minimum of two observers (with at least one of the two being SafeSport trained), must always present in the weigh in rooms.
- A minimum of one volunteer/referee must serve in a supervisory position in each room that has current SafeSport Certification and clean background screen on file with USA Judo.
- All athletes should use appropriate restrooms, locker rooms or specifically designated changing areas when needing to change clothes or judo gis. These changes should NOT take place in the open public nor matside.

The procedures outlined in this document may be amended by USA Judo if/when necessary, at any time.

Questions may be directed to Matt Schneider, USA Judo's Coordinator of Membership & Events, at 719-866-3618 or Matt.Schneider@usajudo.us

Appendices Including
Forms & Signage
Templates

APPENDIX A – USA Judo Event Tracking Tool

INSTRUCTIONS: This document is to be completed electronically by Event Directors or staff of any USA Judo sanctioned event and/or tournament to properly record any participant that is not tracked within Smoothcomp, Sport80, or your online registration platform. If your event does not use an online registration tool, then you may send your athlete list to USA Judo with this form and/or competition brackets. To stay in compliance with USA Judo and the U.S. Center for SafeSport we ask that this is completed and returned along with your “Sanctioned Event Report” to matt.schneider@usajudo.us in accordance with USA Judo’s Standard Operating Procedures.

Participants include but are not limited to: athletes, coaches, referees, event staff, volunteers, media, and vendors.

Appendix B – Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP)

The MAAPP is to be included in registration paperwork and available on-site for all USA Judo sanctioned events.

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP)

The U.S. Center for SafeSport has developed the Minor Athlete Prevention Policies (MAAPP) which USA Judo has adapted to our own sport. The MAAPP is a collection of proactive and training policies comprised of two parts; Education & Training Policy that requires training for certain Adult Participants and the Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes to prevent abuse. The full MAAPP policy and the reporting mechanism for SafeSport infractions can be found at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Judo/MAAPP>.

USA Judo defines “regular contact with minors” as: “Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s). In the spirit of the moral code of judo, USA Judo requires adult members to self-certify whether or not they considered having “regular contact” with minors based on the aforementioned description. If an adult member is unsure whether or not they have “regular contact” with minors, USA Judo encourages those individuals (and their clubs) to err on the side of caution and complete the SafeSport Training and Certification. USA Judo, in cooperation with USA Judo Clubs and all LAOs, has the right to randomly review and assess members who may have regular contact with minors and require compliance if/when considered necessary by USA Judo Leadership.

The USA Judo SafeSport Handbook can be found at:

<https://docs.usajudo.net/SafeSport/2023/USA%20Judo%20Safe%20Sport%20Handbook.pdf>.

Appendix C – SafeSport Information Flyer & QR Code



U.S. CENTER FOR
SAFESPORT

SAFESPORT INFORMATION

USA Judo requires all participants, vendors, and spectators to abide by the Safesport Code and USA Judo Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. To view the full range of policies or to anonymously report a concern please use the QR code or contact USA Judo's Austin Leath at 719-866-3621. Paper copies are also available on request.



SCAN ME