



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)
- 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 Presidents 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:

Rank	Fee	Rank	Fee	Rank	Fee
Shodan	\$150.00	Godan	\$350.00	Kudan	\$550.00
Nidan	\$200.00	Rokudan	\$400.00	Judan	\$600.00
Sandan	\$250.00	Shichidan	\$450.00		
Yodan	\$300.00	Hachidan	\$500.00		

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

Guideline for Promotion Requirements

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

Contest winning points are credited as follows:

Randori-Contest:

2.0 points	Win against opponent more than two ranks higher
1.5 points	Win against opponent more than one rank higher
1.0 points	Win against opponent of same rank
0.5 points	Win against opponent one rank lower
0.1 points	Win against opponent two ranks lower
0.0 points	Win against opponent three or more ranks lower

Kata-Contest:

0.5 points	First place-national or regional
0.3 points	Second place-national or regional
0.1 points	Third place-national or regional

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 regional referee license, or coach certification which includes current SafeSport 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 regional referee license or coach certification which includes current SafeSport 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 regional referee license or coach certification which includes current SafeSport certification and clean background screen.
- superior proficiency in Nage-no-kata, Ju-no-kata, Katame-no-kata, Kime-no-kata, and Kodokan Goshin jitsu.

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 regional referee license or coach certification which includes current SafeSport 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 regional referee license or coach certification which includes current SafeSport 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,
- excellent knowledge and skills in Nage-no-kata, Ju-no-kata, Katame-no-kata, Kimenokata, Kodokan Goshin-jitsu, Itsutsu-no-kata, and Koshiki-no-kata.