

UNITED STATES JUDO FEDERATION INC.
BOARD OF EXAMINERS MEETING
9:00 a.m., Sunday, December 15, 2019
Hampton Inn Tropicana, Las Vegas, Nevada

MINUTES

A quorum being present, Chairman Matsuo Mac Takeda called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER, SEATING OF DELEGATES

Delegates:

Matsuo Takeda/Chairperson	Edward Hanashiro/50th State	Gene Nakashima/50th State
Mitchell Palacio/Central Coast	Bryan Matsuoka/Daiheigen	Scott Morifuji/Hawaii
Jensen Yoshimoto/Hawaii	Harvey Takeda/Hokka	Bret Gertje/Intermountain
Intrmntn/Joshua Kindelberger	Frances Glaze/Konan	Thomas Sheehan/Konan
Roland Fernando/Makoto	Low Dong/Nanka	Hayward Nishioka/Nanka
Janet Johnson/Niagara	Julie Koyama/Northwest	Michael Purcell/Northwest
Dr. Larry Tsutsui/San Joaquin	Roy Englert/Shufu	J. Miki Takemori/Shufu

Observers:

Peter Catlos, Keith Chu, John Floyd, Phyllis Imada, Diane Jackson, Dr. Charles Medani, Michael Mooney, Dr. Richard Nakatsu, Karen Nagai, Robert Oishi, Rob Schaab, D. Eric Spears, & Terri Waibel

A. Welcome by Chairperson

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Terminate report of data from USJF date base regarding how many USJF members have the potential to become Shodans.
- B. APPROVED - Senior promotion rank criteria as proposed; HOWEVER, compare to 2017 version for Spring 2020 meeting.
- C. APPROVED – Add promotion recommendations for 6 to 8-dan promotion criteria.

Rokudan:

Demonstrative moral character and skills such as:

- Sharing of an historical and philosophic perspective of Judo
- Increased expertise in one or more areas
- Leadership in the dojo, yudanshakai, USJF, and the community
- Recognition by one's peers
- Direct participation in on-the-mat activities in uniform

Shichidan:

Demonstrative moral character and skills such as:

- Invoking purpose and meaning to what we do

- Providing higher and personalized motivation and inspiration
- Regional, national, and international contribution and experiences
- Developing all students to help achieve higher levels
- Direct participation in on-the-mat activities in uniform

Hachidan:

Demonstrative moral character and skills such as:

- The ability to inspire and organize
- Recognition for a lifetime of Judo
- National and international recognition of expertise
- Being a life coach
- Being an extraordinary individual

- D. APPROVED – Competitor classification chart, BUT no change to Kata
- E. 5 star dojo – moved to BOD meeting.
- F. USJF Website – moved to BOD meeting. I
- G. Form 20 revisions ongoing. To present at 2020 Spring meeting.
- H. Table special needs judo program due to liability issues. Need to do more studies.
- I. Newaza Tournament approved BUT not mandated.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Promotion Committee

Rank /Candidate	Motion	2nd	Pass	Fail	Reason Tabled/Failed
<u>YODAN</u>					
De La Cruz, Emilio Florida State	7	1		X	No Ju no Kata & short on time in grade.
Freitas, Raphael F. Florida	2	4			Tabled for no Ju no Kata short on time in grade.
Shoats, Albert Jr. Ganbaru	7	2	X		
<u>GODAN</u>					
Hidalgo, Stephen Hawaii State	4	2	X		
<u>ROKUDAN</u>					
Augusto, Paulo F. Pacific SW	4	2		X	Time in grade
Diaz, Delcides Florida State	4	7	X		
Knudsen, Rosemarie T. Central Coast	7	4	X		
Landstreet, Michael W. Shufu	2	4	X		
Middlebrook, Richard Northwest	7	2	X		
Roosa, Mark E. Hudson	4	5	X		
Stevens, Travis O. Northwest	7	3			Tabled for Kata requirements
Tami, Kevin S. Shufu	8	12	X		
<u>SHICHIDAN</u>					
Flagg, Don J. Konan	13	2	X		
Sheehan, Tom Konan	8	2	X		

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. APPROVED - New Shodan promotion proposal – 90% passing grade for teacher certificate, demonstrate 20 techniques, no kata requirement).
- B. Discussion on National Office promotion procedures – ongoing
- C. Foreign Dan Rank Promotion verification proposal – need to reword to include NOT skipping rank and pay for each USJF dan rank.
- D. Teachers Certification - \$50 penalty fee for not submitting documents on time.
- E. Mini Dojo fee - \$50
- F. Postponed discussion for requirement of teachers certification for 2-5-dan promotions.
- G. New/update Shodan Promotion – NO first aid/CPR nor safesport required for minors.
- H. ALL DAN PROMOTIONS – REQUIRE SAFESPORT AND CONCUSSION.
- I. USA Judo recognition of USJF rank. Refer to USJF President. Currently USA Judo recognizes USJF rank to 5-dan.

VI. NEXT MEETING (TBD)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and a second was established. The motion passed on a voice vote and Chairman Takeda adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

November 11, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

SUBJECT: FOREIGN **DAN RANK** PROMOTION VERIFICATION PROPOSAL

In regards to some of the challenges verifying Foreign Dan Rank Promotions from the country's National Judo Organization; I would like to propose that when the USJF National Office is unable to obtain a response from the country's National Judo Organization for rank verification that the Yudanshakai be given the authority to verify foreign Dan rank promotion certificates based on their rank authority.

The Yudanshakai validation will be based on the foreign Judoka meeting the USJF and Yudanshakai Dan criteria for promotion.

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity.
2. Continued practice and contributions
3. Judo terminology and translation for techniques required for the Dan rank (s).
4. Meets the Proficiency level of the Dan rank (s) possessed technically and knowledge wise.
5. Knowledge and proficiency of the Kata required for the Dan Rank (s).
6. Yudanshakai promotion requirement for Dan(s).

Sincerely,

Mac Takeda
President Hakka Yudanshakai
Head Instructor Sacramento Judo Club

MOTIO

To the Board of Examine rs

1 2/15 / 19

Motio n I

That any USJF club can promote to Shodan provided that they meet the follow ing requirement along with the ir Yudan shakai Board of Examine rs endorsement of this mo tion:

1. Any club USJF coach, USJF Assistant coach, or USJF Assistant instructor can petition the USJF Head Club Instructor for their approval to test their student for the rank of Shodan. Once the Head Instructor agrees to the proposal, he/she will contact the Chair of the Board of Examiners of the Yudanshakai and the Chair of the Promotion Committee along with an electronic submission of a correct Form 20, Heads Up, and Safesports certification. Certification for minors is not required. If the candidate is also a non-competitor, they must also send a USJF Coach or Teachers certification to the Yudanshakai Chair of the Board of Examiners and the Chair of the Promotion Committee for their approval to test.
2. Once the Chair gives approval to test the candidate, the examination must be conducted by at least three USJF examiners who have at least the rank of USJF Sandan and one must be USJF certified in Nage no Kata with at least a 'B' certification. The score sheets from each of the examiners will be sent to the Chair of the Board of Examiners when the candidate passes his or her exam.
3. The candidate will then submit a background check to the National office. If a minor, not needed for background check.
4. The Yudanshakai Chair of the Board of Examiners will electronically send a bill to the candidate for all their promotion fees. Once collected, the Chair of the Board of Examiner will then process their Form 20, Heads Up, and Safesports certification and a Coach or Teacher's certification, if needed, to the National office for processing their promotion certificate.

Motio n 2

That all USJF promotions for Shodan and above must have a current Heads up, Safesports, CPR, and first aid certification and will be submitted along with the candidate Form 20 to National Office.

Submi tte d by Tom Shee han

RANK REQUIREMENTS

RANKING SYSTEM

Belt color authorized by the United States Judo Federation

Rank	Juniors (age 16 & under)	Seniors (age 17 and over)
Juichikyu	White	
Jukyu	White/Yellow	
Kyukyu	Yellow	
Hachikyu	Yellow/Orange	
Nanakyu	Orange	
Rokkyu	Orange/Green	White
Gokyu	Green	Green
Yonkyu	Green/Blue	Blue
Sankyu	Blue	Brown
Nikyu	Blue/Purple	Brown
Ikkyu	Purple	Brown
Shodan	Black	Black
Nidan		Black
Sandan		Black
Yodan		Black
Godan		Black
Rokudan		Red/White
Shichidan		Red/White
Hachidan		Red/White
Kudan		Red
Judan		Red

PROMOTION PROCEDURES

Yudanshakai Promotions

Each member Yudanshakai member is given promotional authority to a particular rank, depending upon the length of time as a Yudanshakai, and the number and rank of Yudansha. Each Yudanshakai shall establish its own procedures for examination of candidates and awarding of promotions within its USJF authorized promotion authority. The USJF has established the following guidelines for Yudanshakais in the evaluation and review of promotion applications.

Each Yudanshakai shall hold at least two promotional evaluation examinations each year. To accomplish this, each member Yudanshakai shall create a Yudanshakai Board of Examiners, whose members shall be the higher-ranking members in the Yudanshakai. When a Yudanshakai's Board of Examiners consists entirely of examiners below the rank of Yodan (4th Degree Black Belt), each examiner shall vote on candidates by casting votes equal to his or her rank: e.g., a Shodan would cast 1 vote, a Sandan would cast 3 votes, etc. Otherwise, all examiners shall have an equal vote.

The Yudanshakai Board of Examiners shall review the promotion application of each member, according to specific criteria for rank being considered. Yudanshakais may adopt or modify the following USJF guidelines for promotion within each Yuda nshakai's promotion authority, but such standards must be followed for promotion to rank beyond such authority.

Promotion applications that are beyond the promotion authority of the Yudanshakai shall be submitted for review by the National Promotion Committee.

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

Rank Requirements

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

There are general requirements for promotion that must be satisfied as a precondition for promotion, regardless of rank in question. Promotion of individuals who are not members of the USJF is not allowed. Testing and evaluation may be conducted by a combination of oral, demonstrative, and/or written examinations.

Eligibility for promotion shall be based upon the following general requirements, not necessarily in this order:

- a. Moral character, attitude, and maturity
- b. Competitive ability
- c. Technical proficiency
- d. General experience, contributions, and time in grade
- e. Recommendation by candidate's instructor

Time in grade

Time in grade is the time spent at the applicant's present rank and is not cumulative from the date of any previous promotion. Time in grade is computed from the time the candidate's present rank was registered with the National Office and is determined solely from the number of years of USJF annual registration since last promotion.

Promotion Points

Promotion Points may be counted for only one specific promotion and may not be carried over for consideration in other rank advancements. Points may be credited only for wins against opponents for equal or higher rank and must be obtained in either USJF "sanctioned" events or other event as specified by Yudanshakai Board of Examiners or USJF Board of Examiners. An Opponent may count only once in tabulation of tournament points for any particular rank. Promotion evaluation contest may be held for the purpose of substantiating the candidates' competitive ability.

Shiai Promotional Points are typically earned by wins over opponents of equal rank, in qualified tournaments, Ippon wins over an opponent of equal ranks is one (1) point, while a Wazaari win over an opponent of equal rank is one-half (1/2) point. Yudanshakai may also elect to award promotion points to candidates defeating opponents of higher or lower rank. A recommended guideline is as follows:

Shiai Promotional Points Awarded According to Opponent Rank and Type of Win

			Opponent			
	2 Ranks Lower	1 Rank Lower	Same Rank	1 Rank Higher	2 Ranks Higher	3 Ranks Higher
IPPON	1/3	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	3
WAZAARI	1/6	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	1-1/2

Kata Promotional Points are typically earned through placement in kata competitions. The amount of points earned is a function of the level of competition and placing earned. Please use matrix below to determine the points earned.

Kata Promotion Points Awarded according to Level of Competition and Placement

Place/Points	International	National	Regional	Local
1 st	3.0	2.0	1.5	1.0
2 nd	2.0	1.5	1.0	0.5
3 rd	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.3
4 th	1.0	0.5	0.3	0
5 th	0.5	0.3	0	0

If fewer than five (5) teams competing in an event, the points awarded will be decreased by 2/3.
See proposed changes on next page.

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

Proposed changes:

Place/Points	International	Regional/Local
1 st	1 point	1/2 point
2 nd	1/2 point	1/3 point
3 rd	1/3 point	1/6 point
4 th	1/3 point	1/6 point

If there are fewer than four (4) teams competing then the number will be cut in 1/2.

Kata Competitors that are selected by USA Judo to represent the USA in international Kata competition will become a "C" level classification. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in International competition will become a "B" level competitor.

Batsugun Promotions

A Yudanshakai may develop its own requirements for Batsugun promotions in a single promotional tournament. A recommended Batsugun promotion within single promotional tournament results from four (4) consecutive Ippon wins over opponents of same rank for promotions up to Ikkyu, and five (5) consecutive wins over opponents of same rank for Dan promotions. If a contestant beats an opponent of higher rank, the win must be by Ippon to qualify for Batsugun promotion; else, it is simply counted a normal promotion point.

Candidate Classification

In order to properly evaluate candidates for promotion, two classifications of judoka are established.

a) Competitors :

A competitor may have less time in grade and will be given greater weight for his or her competitive accomplishments towards his/her promotional consideration.

b) Non-competitors:

A non-competitor is an active member, who participates and contributes at all levels of the sport except for competition. Non-competitor may be examined and promoted in the same basic manner as competitors except that requirements shall be stricter, including longer time in grade. A non-competitor may change his classification to that of a "competitor" provided he/she passes all other requirements outlined for "competitor".

A major promotion criterion for non-competitor is service to the USJF. Contributions by non-competitors can be made at several different levels, including dojo, Yudanshakai, national or international levels. Major contributions in these areas for the USJF can be to offset required points or Time in Grade.

I. MINIMUM TIME IN GRADE AND AGE

For Competitors Classifications

Class

- A. Team member of Olympic, World Championship and/ or Pan American Games. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd at Class A international tournament.
- B. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd at the US Senior Nationals and/ or any other point receiving international tournament.
- C. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd at regional black belt divisions. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd at Ladder Tournament, National Collegiate, High School Nationals and any non-point qualifying international competition. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in US Senior National Kata Championships, Pan American Judo Union **Kata** Championships, World Masters International Kata Competition, or any event that reaches the level of international involvement.
- D. Competes in shiai and / or kata in any sanctioned tournament and earns points according to number of wins (includes Masters' competition) (this eliminates the D & E)

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

- D. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in Masters category at the U.S. Senior Nationals
- E. Competes in shiai and/or kata in any sanctioned tournament and earns points according to number of wins (includes Masters' competition)

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

MINIMAL TIME IN GRADE AND AGE

Grade	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D	Class E	Min. Age
Shodan	None	None	None	None	Pts. Earned*	14
Nidan	0.5 yr	1 yr	1.5 yrs	2.5 yrs	Pts. Earned*	16
Sandan	1 yr	2 yr	2.5 yrs	3.5 yrs	Pts. Earned*	18
Yodan	1.5 yrs	3.5 years	4 yrs	5.5 yrs	Pts. Earned*	21
Godan	3 yrs	5 yrs	6 yrs	8 yrs	Pts. Earned*	22
Rokudan	5 yrs	7 yrs	9 yrs	12 yrs	Pts. Earned*	27

For Points Earned - see grid below* (Class E was eliminated in 2012 - per Tom Sheehan)

MINIMUM TIME IN GRADE, POINTS & AGE FOR Class E

For Promotion To the Rank of	5 Points	10 Points	15 Points	20 Points	Min. Age
Gokyu					
Yonkyu					
Sankyū	6 months	3 months			
Nikyū	9 months	6 months	3 months		
Ikkyū	1 year	9 months	6 months	3 months	
Shodan	2 years	1 year	9 months	6 months	14 years
Nidan	3 years	2 years	1.5 years	1 year	16 years
Sandan	4 years	3 years	2.5 years	1.5 years	18 years
Yodan	5.5 years	4 years	3 years	2 years	21 years
Godan	6.5 years	5 years	4 years	3 years	22 years
Rokudan	8 years	6 years	5 years	4 years	
Shichidan	10 years	8 years	6 years	5 years	

**II. FOR NON-COMPETITORS
MINIMAL TIME IN GRADE AND AGE**

For Promotion To the Rank of	Time in Grade	Min. Age
Gokyu		
Yonkyu		
Sankyū	9 months	
Nikyū	1 year	
Ikkyū	2 years	
Shodan	3 years	14 years
Nidan	4 years	16 years
Sandan	6 years	18 years
Yodan	8 years	21 years
Godan	10 years	22 years
Rokudan	12 years	27 years
Shichidan	15 years	33 years
Hachidan	19 years	42 years

Proposed changes

Class

- A. Olympic, World Championships and Masters* (please note that what used to be called Masters Competition is now called Veterans). Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd at these events.
- B. Grand Slam and Grand Prix. Placing 1st, 2nd. Or 3rd at these events.

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

- A Kata competitor who places 1st, 2nd or 3rd in International competition may be considered a "B" level
- C. Continental Open, Continental Championships, US Senior National Championships (Senior Competition only, Brown Belt division may be for points) and US Open (Cadet, IJF Junior and Senior competition). Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd. A Kata competitor, who is selected by USA Judo to represent the USA in an International Kata competition, will become a "C" level.
- D. Regional Point Events - any event that is a referee evaluation site and Fukuda International Kata Championship. At present the following tournament are on the list as events that have requested referee evaluation/ testing sites: Wahadachi and WJI State Judo Championships (Milwaukee, WI), USJA/USJF Winter Nationals (Azusa, CA), Hawaii Judo Inc. State Championships (Honolulu, HI), Dallas Invitational (Irving, TX), Continental Crown (Moines, WA), Palo Alto Invitational (Palo Alto, CA), Irwin Cohen Memorial (Franklin Park, IL), Morris Cup (Burnt Hills, IL), Uemura Cup (Hilo, HI), USJF/USJA Grassroots Summer Nationals (site variable), Tohkon Classic (Deerfield, IL), Golden State Open (Covina, CA), Am-Can Challenge (Buffalo, NY), Liberty Bell Classic (Bryn Athyn, PA), NCJA National Championships (site variable), Sergeant Major's Judo Championships (Site variable), Sensei Memorial Championships (San Jose, CA), Jimmy Pedro's Judo Challenge (Danvers, MA)
- Other events may be added as year advances. Events may apply to be on the Regional Point Event list .

For Promotion To the Rank of	Time in Grade	Non-Comp	MINIMAL TIME IN GRADE				Batsugun	Min Age
			Competitor	5 pts	10 pts	15pts		
Rokkyu								
Gokyu	12 classes/1 month*							
Yonkyu	24 classes/2 months*	--						
Sankyu	*TIG as Yonkyu	5 mon.	3 mon.	0				
Nikyu	*TIG as Sankyu	9 mon.	6 mon.	0				
Ikkyu	* TIG as Nikyu	1 year	9 mon.	6mon.	3 mon.			
Shodan	* TIG as Ikkyu	2years	1 year	9 mon.	6 mon.	0	15-16 years	
Nidan	* TIG as Shodan	4 years	3 years	2 years	1.5 yrs.	1 yrs.	17-18 years	
Sandan	* TIG as Sandan	6 years	4 years	3 years	2.5 yrs.	1/5 yrs.	19-20 years	
Yodan	*TIG as Sandan	8 years	5.5 yrs.	4 years	3 yrs.	2 yrs.	21-22 years	
Godan	* TIG as Yodan	10 yrs.	6.5 yrs	5 years	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	23-24 years	
Rokudan	• TIG as Godan	12 yrs.	8 yrs	6 years	5 yrs.	4 yrs.	27 years	

Rank requirements for Rokudan and higher are being discussed/handled on another Ad Hoc Committee.

**III. REDUCTIONS IN TIME IN GRADE BY CONTRIBUTION
(FOR COMPETITORS AND NON-COMPETITORS)**

Maximum Reduction of Time in Grade - 30%

1. USJF Charter Club Head Instructors - Must be teaching entire **Time In Grade** period

50 and more members	10 %	10 to 19 members	3%
30-49 members	7 %	1-9 members	1%
20-29 members	5 %		

2. Assistant Instructors - Must be Teaching Entire **Time In Grade** period

50 and more members	5 %	20 to 29 members	2%
30-49 members	4 %	10 to 19 members	1%

3. Referee & Technical Staff

Work an Average of 6 or more events per year during the entire **Time In Grade** Period

Referee Class - A/B/C/N	6 %	Technical Staff - National Events	6 %
Referee Class - Regional/ Local	4 %	Technical Staff - Regional/Local	4 %

Work an Average of 3 or more events per year during the entire **Time In Grade** Period

Referee Class - A/B/C/N	3 %	Technical Staff - National Events	3 %
Referee Class - Regional/ Local	2 %	Technical Staff - Regional/Local	2 %

4. Kata Judge & Kata Technical Staff

Work an average of 2 or more Events per year for entire **Time In Grade** Period

Kata Judge Class A	6%	Kata Technical Staff - National Events	6 %
Kata Judge Regional/Local	4%	Kata Technical Staff - Regional/ Local Events	4 %

5. Kata Instructor Certification

7 Categories : Nage, Katame, Ju, Kime, Goshinjutsu, Koshiki, and Itsutsu.

Class A	1 %	per kata
Class B	0.5 %	per kata
Class C	0.25 %	per kata

6. Teacher Certification and Coaching Certification (Add Self Defense Certification) (question - how many of these can someone obtain)

Class A	5 %	Class D	2%
Class B	4 %	Class E	1%
Class C	3 %		

7. USJF Life Member 5 % (Is there a differentiation between the levels of Life membership?)

8. Service as Yudanshakai Officer 10 %

9. Service as USJF Officer 10 %

USJF Handbook Rank Requirements

10. Suggested additions - Service as Committee Chair of USJF and active member of USJF National Committee.
National Committee Chair - 5%
Active Member of National Committee - attending more than 50% of national committee meeting during
Time in Grade - 3%

I have not added the Specific Requirements for each rank. See suggested Senior and Junior Promotional Guidelines.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. For Dan promotion s: Form #20 must be typed. Complete items 1 through 9 in full; be specific and informative. Unanswered categories on Form #20 may result in rejection or tabling of the application. The applicant and other responsible persons involved in completing Form #20 should not assume that the Board of Examiners or Promotion Committee will supply missing information . Again, fill out Form #20 completely or risk delay in processing the application.
2. All Dan promotion applications above the rank authority of the Yudanshakai must be mailed to the National office at least 45 days prior to the announced USJF Promotional Committee meeting together with correct USJF Dan fee and copy of the candidate's current Dan certificate, to be considered at the meeting.
3. Applications for Godan and higher rank that are rejected cannot be resubmitted for at least two years. Applications for Yodan and lower that are rejected cannot be resubmitted for at least one year. CLARIFICATION: An application which has been "tabled" upon due consideration or that been "withdrawn" by Yudanshakai shall not be treated as a "rejected application".
4. Dan rank awarded by other Judo organizations will be acknowledged by USJF; however , USJF ratification or certification of any rank will require at least three years of continuous USJF membership (two years in case of promotion to Shodan) immediately preceding application and the following proof that all USJF requirements for such rank have been satisfied. The required period of continuous USJF membership shall be counted from the current year membership as well as membership paid (as explained below) for the immediate preceding year in the case of Shodan rank and three preceding years in the case of rank above Shodan. Whenever a gap exists in the required period of continuous USJF membership, a makeup fee will be charged for each required year of continuous registration in an amount equal to that portion of the current annual membership fee payable to USJF exclusive of any portion of the membership fee attributable to insurance or annual registration fee payable to the Yudanshakai.
5. USJF Dan fee assessments are \$30 for Shodan , and an additional \$10 for each rank above Shodan. (This fee schedule is incorrect - correct fee is \$125 for Shodan and an additional \$25 for each rank above that amount as of 5/15/ 2013) The fee structure may be modified by the USJF from time to time. Only change is in the current fees for promotion , as well as the following additional provision approved by Board of Directors 10/ 31/1989: The USJF Dan Fee assessment is waived for all Life Members.
6. Individuals currently holding USJF Teachers' Certification in specific kata shall be exempt from any future kata examination of the specific kata required for promotion while maintaining such certification currently.
7. A Yudanshakai shall be entitled to be represented before the USJF Promotion Committee, when its member is being considered for USJF Promotion Committee. The representative shall act only for the purpose of introducing the candidate and providing background information relevant to the applicable rank standards.
8. Any member of a Yudanshakai, who is not a U.S. citizen or is a naturalized citizen with no rank documentation from his former national federation, shall be eligible for USJF promotion in rank up to the level of Nidan. In the event of a skip promotion to Nidan, both the Shodan and Nidan promotion fees shall be assessed.

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Rokkyu		
	Student of good moral	
	character who have been	
	accepted as student of Judo in	
	a Judo class or club	

	Present	Proposed
Gokyu		
Minimal age	None	None
Time in grade	None	12 classes/hours or one month
General requirement	Good moral character and maturity. Regular practice and attendance	Good moral character and maturity . Regular practice and attendance
General knowledge	Judo etiquette, basic judo hygiene, ukemi, the correct forms of sitting, kneeling and standing. Correct fundamentals of: (a. kumi kata, b. shisei c. Shizenhontai d. jigohontai e. migi jigotai f. hidari jigotai). Fundamentals of throwing (kuzushi, tsukuri and kake), Happo no kuzushi	Judo etiquett e, basic judo hygiene, ukemi, the correct forms of sitting, kneeling and standing. Correct fun dame ntals of: a. kumi kata, b. shisei c. Shizenhontai d. jigohontai e. rnigi jigotai f. hidari jigotai). Fundamentals of throwing (kuzushi, tsukuri and kake), Happo no kuzushi
Tachi waza	Osoto gari, 0 goshi, De ashi harai, Hiza guruma	Demonstrate knowledge of previous rank. Osoto gari, 0 goshi, Deashi harai, Ippon Seionage, Uki goshi
Osaekomi waza	Kesa gatame, Kata gatame	Kesa gatame (hon, Makura and Kuzare), Kata gatame
Tournament experience	Limited contest experience. Familiarity w/ training exercises with emphasis on etiquette, rules and prohibited matters, No Contest required.	Limited contest experience. Familiarity w/ training exercises with emphasis on etiquette, rules and prohibited matters, No Contest required

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

	Present	Proposed
Yonkyu		
Minimal age	None	None
Minimal time in grade	none	24 classes/hours or 2 months
General	Good moral character and maturity , Regular practice and attendance	Good moral character and maturity. Regular practice and attendance
General Knowledge	Difference between Judo and ju-jitsu. Knowledge of fundamentals principles of judo	Expect knowledge and ability from previous rank . Difference between Judo and ju-jitsu. Seiryoku Zenyo (Maximum Efficiency with minimal effort)
Nage Waza	Seoi-nage, Tai-ot oshi, Kou chigari, Uki goshi	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Sasae tsuri komi ashi, Hiza guruma, Ouchigari, Kouchigari, Morote Seionage
Osaekomi waza	Kami-shiho- gatame, yoko-shiho gatame	Ability to demonstrate all osaekomi waza from previous ranks requirements. Kamishihogatame, Yokoshihogatame (Hon & Kuzare) Demonstrate one escape from Kesa gatame.
Shime waza		Hadaka juji jime , Okuri eri juji jime
Kansetsu waza		Juji- gatame
Tournament experience	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase. No contest wins required for promotion to this rank	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase. No contest wins required for promotion to this rank
Referee/ coach/ teacher/tournament official		

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectations will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Sankyu		
Minimal age	None	None
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Yonkyu Non-competitor - 5 months Competitor, 5 points - 3 months Competitor, 10 points - 0 time	Time in grade as Yonkyu Non-competitor - 5 months Competitor, 5 pts. - 3 months Competitor, 10 pts - 0 time
General	Good moral character and maturity, Regular practice and attendance	Good moral character and maturity. Regular practice and attendance
General Knowledge	Names, colors, order of "kyu" belt ranking system. Purpose of "kata" and "randori"	Expect knowledge and ability from previous ranks. Names, colors, order of "kyu" belt ranking system. Purpose of "kata" and "randori" Jita kyoei (Mutual Welfare and Benefit)
Kyu Evaluation Report	SO	
Nage Waza	0-uchi-gari, Harai-goshi, Okuri-ashi-barai, Ko-soto-gari	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Kosoto gari, Tsuru komi goshi, Sode tsurikomi goshi, Harai goshi, Okuri ashi barai
Osaekomi waza	Kuzure-kami-shiho gatame, Tate-shiho-gatame	Ability to demonstrate all osaekomi waza. Kuzare kami shiho gatame, Tate shiho gatame, demonstrate one escape from Yoko shiho gatame
Shime waza	Kata-juji-jime, gyaku-juji-jime	Nami juji jime, kata juji jime, gyaku juji jime
Kansetsu waza		Ude gatame, Ude garami
Kata		Non-competitor - Nage no kata (uke) first 3 sets
Tournament experience	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase
Referee/coach/teacher/tournament official		Referee in club, assist w/ teaching beginners, assist shiai as score keeper/ timekeeper/match recorder

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you be good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

	Present	Proposed
Nikyu		
Minimal age	None	None
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Sankyu Non competitor - 9 months Competitor , 5 points - 6 months Competitor, 10 points - 0 time	Time in grade as Sankyu Non-competitor - 9 months Competitor, 5 pts - 6 months Competitor, 10 pts - 0 time
General	Good moral character and maturity, Regular practice and attendance	Goodmoral character and maturity. Regular practice and attendance
General Knowledge		Expect knowledge and ability from previous ranks.
Kyu Evaluation Report	60	
Nage Waza	Tomoe-nage, Hane-goshi, Tsuru-komi-goshi, Uchimata. Demonstrate one throw right and left , demonstrate one combination technique, demonstrate one counter technique.	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Koshi guruma, Tai otoshi, Uchimata, Tomoe nage Demonstrate one throw right and left . Demonstrate one combination. Demonstrate one counter technique.
Osaekomi waza		Ability to demonstrate all osaekomi waza from previous ranks. Sankaku gatame Escape from Kami shiho gatame and tate shiho gatame Tori demonstrate how to get leg out uke's leg coil
Shime waza	Nami-juji-jime, Okuri-eri-jime	Kata ha jime, Kata te jime
Kansetsu waza		Hiza gatame, Waki gatame
Kata		Non-competitor - Nage no kata (Tori) first 3 sets Competitor - Nage no kata (uke) first 3 sets
Tournament experience	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase	Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase
Refer ee/coach/teacher/tournament official		Refer ee - club or local Coach - club level Teacher- assist w/ beginners Tournament official - timekeeper/ scorekeeper local/ regional certification

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Ikkyu		
Minimal age	None	None
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Nikyu Non-competitor - 1 year Competitor, 5 points - 9 months Competitor, 10 points - 6 months Batsugun, 15 points - 3 months	Time in grade as Nikyu Non-competitor - 1 year Competitor, 5 points - 9 months Competitor, 10 points - 6 months Batsugun, 15 points - 3 months
General	Sound Moral character and maturity, Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements	Sound Moral character and maturity
General Knowledge		Expect knowledge and increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
Kyu Evaluation Report	70	
Nage Waza	Sode-Tsuirkomi-goshi, Sasae-tsurikomi-ashi, Kata- guruma, 2 throws to left and right, 2 combination techniques, 2 counter techniques	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Kosoto gake, Kata guruma, Hane goshi Demonstrate 2 techniques left, right 2 combinations and 2 counters
Osaekomi waza		Expect knowledge and increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements.
Shime waza	Hadaka-jime,Kata-ha-jime	Expect knowledge and increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements . Sode guruma jime, Sankaku jime
Kansetsu waza	Hiza-gatame, Juji -gatame, Ashi-garami	Ashi gatame, Hara gatame
Kata		Non-competitor - Nage no kata - (Uke) all 5 sets Competitor - Nage no kata (Tori) first 3 sets
Tournament experience		Cont. contest experience w/ expanded interpretation of the sport phase
Referee/coach/teacher/tournament official		Referee - club or local Coach - club level Teacher - assist w/ beginners Tournament official - timekeeper/scorekeeper local/regional certification

	Present	Proposed
Shodan		
Suggested Minimal age	14	15-16
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Ikkyu Non-competitor - 2 years Competitor, 5 points - 1 year Competitor, 9 months - 9 months Batsugun or 15 points - 6 months	Time in grade as Ikkyu Non-competitor - 2 years Competitor, 5 points - 1 year Competitor, 9 months - 9 months Batsugun or 15 points - 6 months
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and interest, Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements	Background check Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and interest, Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
General Knowledge	Assistant teacher, teacher or Coaches Certification, Terminology required for lower ranks	Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements, Terminology for all lower ranks. Assistant teacher, teacher or Coaches Certification.
Evaluation Report	75	
Nage Waza	Uki-otoshi, Uki-waza, Koshi-guruma, Harai-tsuru-komi-ashi, Yoko-guruma, 3 throw left and right, 3 combination techniques, 3 counter techniques	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Yoko otoshi, Ashi guruma, Tsuru goshi (O and Ko), Harai tsuru komi ashi, Demonstrate: 3 throws left and right , 3 combination techniques 3 counter techniques
Osaekomi waza		Knowledge of all Osaekomi waza and escapes from all techniques
Shime waza		Expect knowledge and increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements. Tsukkomi jime, Ryote jime
Kansetsu waza		Expect knowledge and increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements. Te gatame, Sankaku gatame
Kata	Competitor - 3 sets of Nage no kata Non-competitor - Complete Nage no kata	Non- competitor - Nage no kata (tori) all 5 sets Competitor-(uke) all 5 sets
Tournament experience		
Referee/coach/teacher/tournament official	Assistant teacher, Teacher or Coaches certification	Assistant Teacher, Teacher, Coaches certification, local/regional Referee certification

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Nidan		
Suggested Minimal age	16	17-18
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Shodan Non-competitor - 4 years Competitor, 5 points - 3 years Competitor, 10 pts - 2 years Competitor, 15 pts - 1.5 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 1 year	Time in grade as Shodan Non-competitor - 4 years Competitor, 5 points - 3 years Competitor, 10 pts - 2 years Competitor, 15 pts - 1.5 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 1 year
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and interest	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and interest
General Knowledge	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
Evaluation Report	75	
Nage Waza	Yoko-gake, Sumi-gaeshi, Ura-nage, Yoko-otoshi, Ko-soto-gake	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Sumi gaeshi, Soto maki komi, Tani otoshi, O guruma, Sukui nage
Osaekomi waza		Knowledge of all Osaekomi waza and escapes from all techniques
Shime waza		Knowledge of all Shime waza
Kansetsu waza		Knowledge of all Kansetsu waza
Kata	Competitor - Nage no kata (Tori) Non-competitor - Nage no kata (tori and uke), Katame no kata (tori)	Competitor - Nage no kata (Tori) all 5 sets Non-competitor - Katame no kata (tori)
Tournament experience		

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Sandan		
Suggested Minimal age	18	19-20
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Nidan Non-Competitor - 6 years Competitor, 5 pts - 4 years Competitor, 10 pts - 3 years Competitor, 15 pts - 2.5 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 1.5 years	Time in grade as Nidan Non-Competitor - 6 years Competitor, 5 pts - 4 years Competitor, 10 pts - 3 years Competitor, 15 pts - 2.5 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 1.5 years
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo
General Knowledge	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
Evaluation Report	75	
Nage Waza	Ashi-guruma, hane-maki-komi, Tan-otoshi, Sukui-nage	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks . Hane maki kom i, Utsu ri goshi, Uki otoshi, Osoto guruma, Uki waza
Osaekomi waza		
Shime waza		
Kansetsu waza		
Kata	Competitor - Complete Nage no kata (tori & uki), Katame no kata (tori) Non-Competitor - Complete Nage no kata (tori & uke), Katame no kata (tori & uke), Kime no kata or Ju no kata	
Tournament experience		

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

USJF Senior Promotional guidelines project

	Present	Proposed
Yodan		
Suggested Minimal age	21	21
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Sandan Non-competitor - 8 years Competitor, 5 pts - 5.5 years Competitor, 10 pts - 4 years Competitor, 15 pts - 3 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 2 years	Time in grade as Sandan Non-competitor - 8 years Competitor, 5 pts - 5.5 years Competitor, 10 pts - 4 years Competitor, 15 pts - 3 years Batsugun or 20 pts - 2 years
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo
General Knowledge	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
Kyu Evaluation Report	75	
Nage Waza	0 -Guruma , Soto-maki-komi, Yoko-wakari, Ushiro-goshi, Sumi-otoshi	Demonstrate knowledge of previous ranks. Yoko guruma, Ushiro goshi, Ura nage, Sumi otoshi, Yoko gake
Osaekomi waza		
Shime waza		
Kansetsu waza		
Kata	Competitor - Kime no kata (tori) or Goshinjutsu (tori) Non-competitor - Kime no kata (tori & uke), Goshinjutsu (tori & uke), and Ju no kata (tori & uke)	Competitor - Kime no kata (tori) or Goshinjutsu (tori) Non-competitor - Kime no kata (tori & uke), Goshinjutsu (tori & uke), and Ju no kata (tori & uke)
Tournament experience		

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?

	Present	Proposed
Godan		
Suggested Minimal age	22	23
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Yodan Non-Competitor -10 years Competitor, 5 pts. - 6.5 years Competitor, 10 pts. - 5 years Competitor, 15 pts. - 4 years Batsugun or 20 pts. - 3 years	Time in grade as Yodan Non-Competitor - 10 years Competitor, 5 pts. - 6.5 years Competitor, 10 pts. - 5 years Competitor, 15 pts. - 4 years Batsugun or 20 pts. - 3 years
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo	Unquestioned moral character and maturity, continued practice and involvement in judo
General Knowledge	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements, Good understanding of and skill teaching certification, Major levels of refereeing and judging (shiai and/ or kata)	Terminology required for lower ranks, increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements, Good understanding of and skill teaching certification, Major levels of refereeing and judging (shiai and/ or kata), ti
Evaluation Report	75	
Nage Waza		
Osaekomi waza		
Shime waza		
Kansetsu waza		
Kata	Competitor - Kime no kata - tori & uke, Goshinjutsu - tori & uke Non-competitor - Kime no kata - tori and uke, Goshinjutsu - tori & uke, Ju no kata - tori & uke	Competitor - Kime no kata - tori & uke, Goshinjutsu - tori & uke Non-competitor - Kime no kata - tori and uke, Goshinjutsu - tori & uke, Ju no kata - tori & uke
Tournament experience		

	Present	Proposed
Rokudan		
Suggested Minimal age	27	27
Minimal time in grade	Time in grade as Godan Non-Competitor - 12 years Competitor, 5 pts. - 8 years Competitor, 10 pts. - 6 years Competitor, 15 pts. - 5 years Batsugun or 20 pts. - 4 years	Time in grade as Godan Non-Competitor -12 years Competitor, 5 pts. - 8 years Competitor, 10 pts. - 6 years Competitor, 15 pts. - 5 years Batsugun or 20 pts. - 4 years
General	Unquestioned moral character and maturity. Continued practice and involvement in judo	Unquestioned moral character and maturity . Continued practice and involvement in judo
General Knowledge		
Evaluation Report		
Nage Waza		
Osaekomi waza		
Shime waza		
Kansetsu waza		
Kata	Competitor -Ju no kata (tori & uke}, Itsutsu no kata (Tori)	Non-competitor - Ju no kata (tori & uke}, Itsutsu no kata (tori & uke)
Tournament experience		

Moral Character and Maturity: A student's moral character and maturity levels must be considered at each promotion level. While your expectation will, and should, change at each rank some things to consider are:

1. Is the student respectful to all the instructors, assistant instructors and fellow judoka?
2. Does the student present a character that fits with the local expectations of a well behaved and respectful martial artist?
3. Does the student have a good reputation at school or work, known for not fighting or causing friction with schoolmates or work mates?
4. Does the student complete school or work projects on time and without complaining about them or making excuses?
5. Would you feel good about introducing this student as YOUR student at formal judo events and especially to higher ranked instructors?