

CURRENT HANDBOOK
(5/1/21)
FOR COMPETITION
CLASSIFICATIONS

- A.** Team member of the Olympic, World Championship and/or Pan-American Games. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at Class A international tournament.
- B.** Placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd at a Grand Slam, or Grand Prix. A Kata competitor who places 1st, 2nd, 3rd at the World Kata Championships.
- C.** Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at regional black belt divisions. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the Fall Classic Tournament, President's Cup, National Collegiate, Youth and Scholastic Nationals, US Senior Nationals, USJF/USJA Summer and Winter Nationals or any non-point qualifying international competition. Kata competitors that have been invited to officially represent the United States in an IJF or PJC sanctioned international events.
- D.** Competes in shiai and/or kata in any sanctioned tournament and earns points based on performance, according to the number of wins and rank of opponents, which includes Veteran's competition at local, regional, state, national and international competition.

Minimum Time in Grade and Age

Class	A (See information above for details)	B (See information above for details)	C (See information above for details)	D (See information above for details)	Age
Shodan	None	None	None	Points earned	14-16
Nidan	½ year	1 year	1 ½ year	Points earned	17-18
Sandan	1 year	2 years	2 ½ years	Points earned	19-20
Yodan	1 ½ years	3 ½ years	4 years	Points earned	21-22
Godan	3 years	5 years	6 years	Points earned	23-24
Rokudan	5 years	7 year	9 years	Points earned	27
Shichidan	Not in current table	?	?	?	33

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

Score	2 Ranks Lower	1 Rank Lower	Same Rank	1 Rank Higher	2 Ranks Higher	3 Ranks Higher
Ippon	1/3	½	1	1-1/2	2	3
Waza-ari	1/6	¼	½	¾	1	1-1/2

Competitors may gain additional reduction of 5% time in grade with Regular Life Membership and up from 6% to 10% for President's Club Life Membership. For points earned – See Grid on next page.

MINIMUM TIME IN Class D GRADE AND AGE

For Promotion to the Rank of	Time in Grade	Non-Competitor	Competitor 5 pts	10 pts	15 pts	Batsu-gun 20 pts	Min Age
Gokyu	12 classes/ 1 month						
Yonkyu	24 classes/2 month						
Sankyu	TIG as Yonkyu	5 months	3 months	0 months			
Nikyu	TIG as Sankyu	9 months	6 months	3 months	0 months		
Ikkyu	TIG as Nikyu	1 year	9 months	6 months	3 months	0 months	
Shodan	TIG as Ikkyu	2 years	1 year	9 months	6 months	0 months	14-16 years
Nidan	TIG as Shodan	4 years	3 years	2 years	1.5 years	1 year	17-18 years
Sandan	TIG as Nidan	6 years	4 years	3 years	2.5 years	1.5 years	19-20 years
Yodan	TIG as Sandan	8 years	5.5 years	4 years	3 years	2 years	21-22 years
Godan	TIG as Yodan	10 years	6.5 years	5 years	4 years	3 years	23-24 years
Rokudan	TIG as Godan	12 years	8 years	6 years	5 years	4 years	27 years
Shichidan	TIG as Rokudan	15 years	10 years	8 years	6 years	5 years	33 years

Kata Promotion 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 the matrix below to determine the points earned.

Kata Promotional 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 there are fewer than five (5) teams competing in an International, National, Regional or Local Kata competition, the points awarded using the matrix above will be decreased by ½.

Kata Competitors that have been selected by USA Judo to represent the USA in International Kata competition will be in the “C” level competitor classification. Placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the World Kata Championships will increase them to a “B” level competitor.

Suggested Change
(4/6/21)
FOR COMPETITORS
Classifications

- A. Team member of the Olympics, (Need to add Para Olympics), World Championship and/or Pan-American Games. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at Class A international tournament.
- B. Placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd at a Grand Slam or Grand Prix. A Kata competitor who places 1st, 2nd, 3rd at the World Kata Championships.
- C. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at regional black belt divisions. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the Fall Classic Tournament, President's Cup, National Collegiate, Youth and Scholastic Nationals, US Senior Nationals, USJF/USJA Summer and Winter Nationals or any non-point qualifying international competition. Kata competitors that have been invited to officially represent the United States in an IJF or PJC sanctioned international events.

Class	A (See information above for details)	B (See information above for details)	C (See information above for details)	D	Min Age
Shodan	None	None	None	None	14-16
Nidan	1/2 yrs.	1 yrs.	1 1/2 yrs.	Points earned	17-18
Sandan	1 yr.	2 yrs.	2 1/2 yrs.	Points earned	19-20
Yodan	1 1/2 yrs.	3 1/2 yrs.	4 yrs.	Points earned	21-22
Godan	3 yrs.	5 yrs.	6 yr.	Points earned	23-24
Rokudan	5 yrs.	7 yrs.	9 yrs.	Points earned	27
Shichidan	7 yrs.	9 yrs.	11 yrs.	Points earned	33

Additional reduction of 5% time in grade with Regular Life Membership and 6% to 10% for level dependent President's Club Life Membership.

Calculation of points for class D, Sr. & Veteran Competition

Score		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
Waza-ari		1/6	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/2

Class D Shiai Competitors in local Competition in Sr. Division

For Promotion to the rank of	Time in Grade	Non competitor	5 pts	10 pts	15 pts	20 pts	Min Age
Gokyu	12 classes/ 1 month						
Yonkyu	24 classes /2 month						
Sankyu	TIG as Yonkyu	5 months	3 months				
Nikyu	TIG as Sankyu	9 months	6 months	3 months			
Ikkyu	TIG as Nikyu	1 year	9 months	6 months	3 months		
Shodan		None	None	None	None	None	14-16

Nidan		4 years	3 yrs. 8m	3 yrs. 3m	3 yrs.	2 yrs. 8m	17-18
Sandan		6 years	4 yrs. 8m	4 yrs. 3m	4 yrs. 8m	4 yrs. 3m	19-20
Yodan		8 years	5 yrs. 3m	5 yrs.	6 yrs.	5 yrs. 8m	21-22
Godan		10 years	7 yrs. 3m	7 yrs.	6 yr. 8m	6 yrs. 3m	23-24
Rokudan		12 years	10 yrs. 3m	10 yrs.	9 yrs. 8m	9 yrs. 3m	27
Shichidan		15 years	12 yrs. 3m	12 yrs.	11 yrs. 8m	11 yrs. 3m	33

Additional reduction of 5% time in grade with Regular Life Membership and 6% to 10% for level dependent President's Club Life Membership.

Class D Veterans Shuai Competitors & Kata Competitors. For Kyu ranks use class D TIG in local competition

Rank	Non-competitor	5 pts.	10 pts.	15 pt.	20 pts.	Min Age
Shodan	None	None	None	None	None	14-16
Nidan	4 yrs.	3 yrs. 10m	3 yrs. 5m	3 yrs. 2m	2 yrs. 10m	17-18
Sandan	6 yrs.	4 yrs. 10m	4 yrs. 5m	4 yrs. 2m	3 yrs. 10m	19-20
Yodan	8 yrs.	5 yrs. 5m	5 yrs. 2m	4 yrs. 10m	4 yrs. 5m	21-22
Godan	10 yrs.	7 yrs. 5m	7 yrs. 2m	6 yrs. 10m	6 yrs. 5m	23-24
Rokudan	12 yrs.	10 yrs. 5m	10 yrs. 2m	9 yrs. 10m	9 yrs. 5m	27
Shichidan	15 yrs.	12 yrs. 5m	12 yrs. 2m	11 yrs. 10m	11 yrs. 5m	33

Additional reduction of 5% time in grade with Regular Life Membership and 6% to 10% for level dependent President's Club Life Membership.

Kata Competition

Kata competitor placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at Pan American Kata Championship.

Nidan	Sandan	Yodan	Godan	Rokudan	Shichidan
1 yrs.3m	2 yrs.3m	3 yrs.8m	5 yrs.8m	8 yrs.8m	10 yrs.8m

Additional reduction of 5% time in grade with Regular Life Membership and 6% to 10% for level dependent President's Club Life Membership.

	National	Regional	Local
1 st place	1.0	.05	.05
2 nd place	0.5	.03	0.3
3 rd place	0.3	.06	0.6

Kata Promotion 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. Use the matrix above to determine the points earned. *Kata Promotional Points Awarded According to level of Competition and Placement.* If there are fewer than four (4) teams competing in a National, Regional or Local Kata competition, the points awarded using the matrix above will be decreased by ½.