

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

- A.** Team member of the Olympic, World Championship and/or Pan-American Games. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> at Class A international tournament.
- B.** Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> at a Grand Slam, or Grand Prix. A Kata competitor who places 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> at the World Kata Championships.
- C.** Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> at regional black belt divisions. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### 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 <sup>st</sup>	3.0	2.0	1.5	1.0
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.0	1.5	1.0	0.5
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.3
4 <sup>th</sup>	1.0	0.5	0.3	0
5 <sup>th</sup>	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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the World Kata Championships will increase them to a “B” level competitor.

**Suggested Change**

PG. 3

First proposed at fall meeting 4/16/24

Second proposed at spring meeting 11/12/24 with changes

Third proposal 4/25/25 with changes

**FOR COMPETITORS****Classifications**

- A. Team member of the Olympics, World Championship, and/or Pan-American Games. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> at Class A international tournament.
- B. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> at a Grand Slam or Grand Prix. A Kata competitor who places 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> at the World Kata Championships.
- C. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> at regional black belt divisions. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. &amp; 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 Sr. Division Shuai Competitors in local Competition

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 /2month						
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		

Class D Sr. Shuai Division Shuai use D TIG classification. Veterans & Kata Competitors use V-K TIG classification.

Rank	Non-Competitor	5 pts	10 pts	15 pts	20pts	Age
Shodan	2 years.	A, B, C None D, 1 ½ year V-K 1 yr. 9m	A, B, C None D. 1 year V-K 1 yr. 3m	A, B, C None D. 6m V-K 9m	A, B, C, D, V-K None	14-16 years
Nidan	4 years	A. ½ year B. 1 year C. 1 ½ year D. 3 ½ yrs. V-K 3 yrs. 9m	A. ½ year B. 1 year C. 1 ½ years D. 3 yrs. V-K 3 yrs. 3m	A. ½ year B. 1 year C. 1 ½ years D. 2 ½ yrs. V-K 2 yrs. 9m	A. ½ year B. 1 year C. 1 ½ year D. 2 yrs. V-K 2 yrs. 3m	17-19 years
Sandan	6 years	A. 1 year B. 2 years C. 2 ½ years D. 4 ½ yrs. V-K 4 yrs. 9m	A. 1 year B. 2 years C. 2 ½ years D. 4 years V-K 4 yrs. 3m	A. 1 year B. 2 years C. 2 ½ years D. 3 yrs. 6m V-K 3 yrs. 9m	A. 1 year B. 2 years C. 2 ½ years D. 3 years V-K 3 yrs. 3m	19-20 years
Yodan	8 years	A. 1 ½ years B. 3 ½ years C. 4 years D. 6 yrs. V-K 6 yrs. 3m	A. 1 ½ years B. 3 ½ yrs. C 4 years D. 5 ½ yrs. V-K 5 yrs. 9m	A. 1 ½ years B. 3 ½ yrs. C. 4 years. D. 5 yrs. V-K 5 yrs. 3m	A. 1 ½ years B. 3 ½ yrs. C. 4 years D. 4 ½ yrs. V-K 4 yrs. 9m	21-22 years
Godan	10 years	A. 3 years B. 5 years C. 6 years D. 8 years V-K 8 yrs. 3m	A. 3 years B. 5 years C. 6 years D. 7 ½ yrs. V-K 7 yrs. 9m	A. 3 years B. 5 years C. 6 years D. 7 year V-K 7 yrs. 3m	A. 3 years B. 5 years C. 6 years D. 6 ½ yrs. V-K 6 yrs 9m	23-24 years
Rokudan	12 years	A. 5 years B. 7 years C. 9 years D. 11 yrs. V-K 11 yrs. 3m	A. 5 years B. 7 years C. 9 years D. 10 ½ yrs. V-K 10 yrs. 9m	A. 5 years B. 7 years C. 9 years D. 10 years V-K 10 yrs. 3m	A. 5 years B. 7 years C. 9 years D. 9 ½ yrs. V-K 9 yrs. 9m	27 years
Shichidan	15 years	A. 7 years B. 9 years C. 11 years D. 13 years V-K 13 yrs. 3m	A. 7 years B. 9 years C. 11 years D. 12.6 yrs. V-K 12 yrs. 9m	A. 7 years B. 9 years C. 11 years D. 12 years V-K 12 yrs. 3m	A. 7 years B. 9 years C. 11 years D. 11.6 yrs. V-K 11 yrs. 9m	33 years

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

Kata competitor placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

Kata point system for class D

National	Regional	Local
1 <sup>st</sup> place 1.0 pt.	1/2 pt.	1/2 pt.
2 <sup>nd</sup> place 1/2 pt.	1/3 pt.	1/3 pt.
3 <sup>rd</sup> place 1/3 pt.	1/6 pt.	1/6 pt.

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.