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#### **RECORD OF NATIONAL GRADING SYLLABUS AMENDMENTS**

Version	Summary of Modifications
2021 01 01	<ul> <li>Introduce the Competitive stream and the Technical stream.</li> <li>Update and align our national grading policies to reflect the changing world framework and standards with the introduction of the annual Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships and a fortified international judo competition circuit, including Kata and Veterans.</li> </ul>
2025 01 01	<ul> <li>Provide more clarity on some grading policy elements including differences between the Competitive stream and Technical stream, formal/informal/modified grading exams, roles of the National Grading Committee, Provincial/Territorial Grading Committees, and National Kata Committee, links to safe sport principles, modification to Technical stream point structure, the addition of NCCP-certified Technical Director to claim grading points under the instructing activity category.</li> <li>Remove the maximum amount of grading points achievable per year under the Technical stream.</li> <li>Introduce service-level standards (SLS) for timeframes to deliver grading services.</li> <li>Simplify and streamline the document to increase its understandability for members.</li> <li>Benchmark the Hachidan and Kudan criteria to those of other countries.</li> <li>Require all judoka who apply for Shodan to now complete a formal grading exam administered by the respective Provincial/Territorial Grading Committee (PGC/TGC), whether they use the Competitive stream or Technical stream.</li> <li>Add the NGC right to demote a Dan rank from a Yudansha that is found through a credible third-party process to have violated the Judo Canada code of conduct or safe sport principles.</li> <li>Due to recent IJF rule changes, add Yuko (5 points) to eligible grading points earned in Shiai victories.</li> </ul>



#### **FOREWORD**

This version of the National Grading Syllabus (NGS) replaces the January 1, 2021 version and all previous versions. (Please consult the Record of NGS amendments for a summary of changes on page iv.)

The January 2021 version of the NGS introduced a Competitive and a Technical stream. It changed its grading policies in response to the introduction of the annual Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships and a fortified international judo competition circuit, including Kata and Veterans.

The new version of the NGS provides more clarity on some grading policy elements arising from feedback from the membership across Canada, introduces <u>service-level standards (SLS)</u> to deliver grading services, aligns some high Dan criteria to those of other countries, and attempts to simplify and streamline the document to increase its understandability for members.

One significant content change is that all judoka who apply for Shodan must now complete a formal grading exam administered by the respective Provincial/Territorial Grading Committee (PGC/TGC), whether they use the Competitive stream or Technical stream. Attaining Shodan is a significant milestone requiring a solid technical judo knowledge base, including the relevant Kata, Nage-waza, Katame-waza techniques and randori. This new requirement for Shodan grading bridges the knowledge found in the NCCP and the candidate's judo education and development. The logical link of applying this knowledge to teaching, serving as role models, and learning more advanced judo skills are vital for future Senseis. Subsequently, Competitive stream candidates applying for Nidan to Godan may complete an informal grading clinic in their respective province/territory by attending a Kata, Tachi-waza and Ne-waza clinic, as per the previous version of the NGS.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Context

As a member of the International Judo Federation (IJF) and Canada's official national judo body, with its unparalleled expertise, Judo Canada has the sole authority to grade under its policy guidelines and criteria.

As part of its mandate, and according to its established principles, guidelines and procedures, the National Grading Committee (NGC) has the authority and oversight for black belt grading across Canada. The NGS contains information about grading principles, grading governance, grading eligibility and examination procedures for all Yudansha grades from Shodan to Judan. Yudansha examinations require demonstrated technical judo skills based on Kata for grading purposes and judo techniques. Please note that judo for Kata judging certification and competition is separate from the NGC and governed by the National Kata Committee.

The NGC, an operational committee that reports to Judo Canada's CEO, is steadfastly aligned with Judo Canada's mission and unwaveringly upholds its principles. This alignment ensures that the NGC's decisions are always in the best interest of the judo community. The NGC maintains the right to occasionally revise and update its NGS to reflect global and domestic changes and trends impacting judo in Canada.



#### 1.2 Principles of judo

Judo Canada acknowledges Professor Jigoro Kano's philosophy that judo offers practitioners opportunities for continuous life-long improvement as outlined in his principles of judo established in 1882:

- Seiryoku Zenyo (maximum efficiency with minimum effort)
- Jita Kyoei (mutual benefit and welfare)

#### 1.3 Grading principles

The concept of grades and "Dan" rank progression is significant in the education system of judo. The judo discipline was conceived by its founder, Jigoro Kano, as a physical and mental education system, and the progression of grades is a measure of the student's progress. This progress is in the field of judo, but the more one advances in the grades, the more this measure considers the individual's personal growth as a human being.

A student's growth in judo typically follows three distinct periods of learning:

- "Tai" (the body) period, during which one can assess the student by judging the competition results.
- The student's technical knowledge values "Ghi" (the technique).
- "Shin" (the mind), the most difficult to value, materializes by commitment towards others and judo, the influence as a role model.

From the beginning of a judoka's practice, usually until the achievement of 3rd Dan, the "Tai" aspect is the most important. The "Ghi" aspect is usually the most important between the 3rd and 5th Dan ranks, followed by emphasis on the "Shin" aspect to attain the 6th Dan and beyond. Although these three aspects are always present, their respective values vary according to the student's progression in the grade. The "Tai" aspect is compulsory for progression in the grades.

#### 1.4 Purpose of the National Grading Syllabus

Consistent with Judo Canada's ongoing practice of conducting its operations and duties that reflect Canadian values such as equity, fairness, respect and safety, the NGS intends to be relevant, fair, and consistent for all. As such, the NGS respects the diversity of judo club coaches in Canada and provides a clear and transparent framework to maintain a consistent grading standard throughout the country.

This NGS sets forth the required standards and criteria for all Dan examinations and promotions in keeping with Judo Canada's mission statement. The rules and guidelines in the NGS are the only ones recognized in Canada.

#### 1.5 Role of the National Grading Committee

The role of the NGC is to facilitate, coordinate and provide leadership in the Dan grading process in Canada and to promote and standardize Kata for grading purposes. The National Kata Committee (NKC) standardizes Kata for the purpose of Kata tournaments. Both the NGC and the NKC work together for the betterment of Judo in Canada and to ensure the highest standards for both Kata for grading and for tournaments. In addition, the NGC monitors all Dan grades to ensure consistency and accuracy across the country. The mandate given to the NGC by Judo Canada is to:



- Ensure adherence to all rules and guidelines outlined in the NGS.
- Establish, implement and enforce minimum standards for Dan ranks in Canada.
- Ensure Dan promotions made by PGCs/TGCs are by the powers delegated to the PGCs/TGCs.
- Prepare a summary report of all Dan grading across Canada on an annual basis for tracking and policy reference purposes.
- Be responsible for standardizing Kata for grading purposes across Canada.
- Organize high Dan gradings (Rokudan and up) and support PGCs/TGCs for grading exams from Shodan to Godan.

The NGC reserves the right to adjudicate any irregularities and unforeseen circumstances in the Dan grading process on a case-by-case basis.

In collaboration with PGCs/TGCs, the NGC reserves the right to review the status of any judoka (Head Sensei, athlete, coach, etc.) who is a member in good standing of Judo Canada for possible promotion on a case-by-case basis.

<u>The NGC reserves the right to demote a Dan rank</u> from an individual who is proven to have violated any of the safe sport principles or behaviours of conduct found in the Judo Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics (January 2023) or the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada's Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (May 2022).

#### 1.6 Role Of The Provincial/Territorial Grading Committees

The PGCs/TGCs shall conduct grading examinations (Shodan to Godan) in their respective province or territory and promote candidates within their authority level per this Syllabus. **Note**: Grading examiners need to be nationally certified in each Kata they evaluate. In addition, two of the examiners must rank at least one Dan higher than the candidate been evaluated. In addition, they shall:

- Recommend all standard promotions to the NGC for ratification and all promotions without examination to the NGC for consideration.
- Organize Kata, Nage-waza and Katame-waza clinics for their membership.
- Request approval from the NGC to run informal grading clinics for candidates in the Competitive stream, and modified grading exams for candidates with documentation that require accommodation.
- Ensure the truthfulness and accuracy of the information entered in the candidate's online form on Judo Canada's website, and inform Judo Canada's office of any inaccuracies, including any discrepancies identified by the candidate's Head Sensei.
- Prepare a summary report of all Dan gradings in their jurisdiction and forward to the NGC on an annual basis for tracking and policy reference purposes.

#### 2.0 GRADING AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

#### 2.1 General eligibility requirements for Dan grading



#### 2.1.1 A candidate must:

- Meet all criteria for the recommended Dan rank specified in the NGS unless otherwise exempt under a provision of the NGS.
- Be an active, registered, practicing member of Judo Canada through a Provincial/Territorial association and must have a Judo Canada passport.
- Be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident, a recognized IJF young immigrant, or by 2.1.7.
- **2.1.2** In the NGS, all references to age pertain to minimum age requirements for that Danrank.
- **2.1.3** A candidate may only complete the online grading application once they have fully obtained the minimum age and time in current rank requirements and not prior.
- **2.1.4** A candidate may only apply to the PGC/TGC in the province/territory where they are registered for the current judo season.
- **2.1.5** A candidate is authorized to do a Dan grading exam in a province or territory other than where they are registered only upon approval from the province or territory where they are registered and from the examining province.
- **2.1.6** A candidate, formerly affiliated with another province/territory or national association recognized by the IJF, must be a member of their new provincial/territorial judo association and Judo Canada for a minimum of six (6) months to apply for a Dan examination.
- **2.1.7** Candidates who are neither Canadian citizens nor permanent residents of Canada, including recognized IJF young immigrants, but have been members of a provincial/territorial association and Judo Canada for one (1) year must receive permission for admission to a grading examination in Canada from the federation to which they were previously registered.

The candidate must submit this permission, all relevant foreign grading records, and their grading application for NGC approval.

If the candidate is unable to produce any documentation, then upon the recommendation of the Head Sensei of the dojo, the NGC/PGC/TGC must evaluate each candidate on their rank and examine as per the NGS.

#### 2.2 Grading application timelines and approval guidelines

#### 2.2.1 Validation of grading application and confirmation of eligibility. (SLS: Within 30 days)

The candidate must complete the online form and pay the grading fees on Judo Canada's website at least 45 days before the PGC/TGC examination date. Judo Canada will return the application to the applicant if it still needs to be completed.



The NGC will review the completed form to determine if the candidate initially meets all the NGS requirements and is eligible for a grading examination.

Judo Canada will inform the candidate if they do not meet the NGS criteria or send the completed form to the PGC/TGC to validate the truthfulness of the information if they have.

Judo Canada will email the form to the candidate's Head Sensei or Head Coach with copy to the PGC/TGC to comment on matters affecting the recommendation required under section 2.4.1, including but not limited to the candidate's judo involvement, understanding and mastery of judo, practical application of judo in everyday life; and contribution to judo.

# 2.2.2 All Yudansha grading examinations from 1st to 5th Dan are processed within Provincial/Territorial jurisdictions.

Upon conclusion, the grading documents must be signed by the PGC/TGC Chair and submitted to Judo Canada's office for the NGC Chair's signature. Interested parties will find procedures for all promotions for Rokudan and higher under 4.1.

In cases where information provided in the application is inaccurate or incomplete, Judo Canada will return the application to the candidate to rectify the situation and inform the respective PGC/TGC.

All inaccuracies and administrative errors are subject to correction and must be approved by the NGC.

In such cases, the NGC will require proof of the candidate's information and may allow the candidate to attend a Dan grading examination if satisfied with that proof.

#### 2.3 Special recognitions

#### 2.3.1 Promotion by Batsugun (SLS: Within 30 days)

The term **Batsugun**, derived from Japanese and interpreted to mean exceptional performance in the **Tai** period, characterizes those in the Competitive stream who have attained at least 300 points in eligible competitions since their last promotion.

To be exempted from a technical evaluation (formal or informal exam) and to be eligible for **Batsugun**, a judoka must:

- Apply for this promotion no later than 24 months after their last participation in an eligible tournament,
- Meet the age, time in grade and points criteria for the relevant promotion,
- For U18 and U21 judoka, a minimum of 300 points must come from senior national championships, Canada Cup juniors, and/or IJF-recognized U18, U21 and senior tournaments identified in the National Team Handbook (Consult <a href="https://www.ijf.org/calendar?age=all">https://www.ijf.org/calendar?age=all</a>),
- Senior judoka must have at least 300 points from senior IJF-recognized events identified in the National Team Handbook (Consult https://www.ijf.org/calendar?age=all).



**Note:** Senior World or Olympic medalists, regardless of time in grade, age and Shiai point total, may be considered by the NGC for Batsugun promotion while they are active. In this case, a minimum of 24 months must elapse since their last promotion. Judoka must complete the online application process and pay the required fees directly with Judo Canada for consideration by the NGC. Subsequent promotions for Olympic and World medalists once they stop competing in the Competitive stream at the senior level will require them to meet the minimum age standards, ongoing Judo Canada membership, and active contribution to judo in Canada as per the Syllabus criteria.

#### 2.3.2 Honorary black belt (SLS: Within 30 days)

At their discretion, the PGC/TGC may award an honourary black belt to individuals outside of judo who have contributed to and supported judo significantly. The PGC/TGC must keep track of such promotions for **non-judokas** and inform Judo Canada's office and the NGC. The NGC also reserves the right to award the status of honourary black belt directly, on a case-by-case basis.

#### 2.3.3 Koseki promotion (SLS: Within 30 days)

A **Koseki promotion is considered the last grading** granted by the NGC in exceptional cases to those who meet the eligibility requirements of the Dan rank but who are medically unable to demonstrate the required katas and techniques.

The PGC/TGC can send the NGC a request for a Dan promotion for a candidate with a permanent situation limiting their capacity to attend a formal exam (e.g., judoka with permanent physical or medically documented condition).

It is important to note that the request for a Koseki grading shall include an overview of the situation and a supporting medical certificate. Additionally, the applicant must still apply online and pay the necessary grading fees for the Dan sought.

The NGC will review all supporting documents and notify the Judo Canada office and the PGC of its decision. If the decision is favourable, the Judo Canada office will prepare a diploma indicating the name of the candidate, the Dan obtained by Koseki, and the decision date.

Note that there will be no further promotions for the candidate once the Koseki Dan grade is issued.

# 2.3.4 Foreign Dan recognition and Dan grades obtained outside Canada (SLS: Within 30 days)

Judo Canada members who previously attained a Dan rank outside of Canada while a member in good standing of a Foreign National Federation or Association member of the International Judo Federation may apply to the NGC for a Foreign Dan Recognition of that Dan rank in Canada.



The applicant will submit an online request and applicable fees to the Judo Canada office. The submission must include official documentation of proof of the Dan grade attained (signed certificate or diploma from the Judo Federation indicating name, date and rank awarded). The NGC will investigate the validity of the documents and may seek additional details if required.

The NGC will communicate its decision within 30 days of receipt (unless additional information is required) to the Judo Canada office, which will inform the applicant and the respective PGC/TGC of the decision. **Note**: Time requirements toward the next Dan grade begin the date when the National Grading Committee approves the applicant's Foreign Dan Recognition request.

Please note that prior written permission from the NGC is required should a Judo Canada member residing in Canada desire to travel to another country for a Dan grade examination.

#### 2.4 Examination guidelines

#### 2.4.1 Application review (SLS: Within 30 days)

In reviewing the application of a candidate, the relevant Grading Committee shall consider the following criteria:

- Age of the candidate compared to the minimum age requirements,
- Length of time in grade required as an active member,
- Validation of stream (Competitive/Technical),
- Tournament (Shiai) history if Competitive stream,
- Summary of points claimed if Technical stream, including relevant Shiais, refereeing, Kata activities, technical clinics, record as an instructor/judo teacher, technical official (as defined in the Tournament Sanction Policy), and volunteering.

#### 2.4.2 Examination procedures

Examination, to and within the Yudansha ranks, may be specified by the relevant Grading Committee in three ways:

- 1 Formal examination before a grading Committee, e.g., Technical stream grading exam involving demonstration of Kata, judo techniques and randori,
- 2 Participation in informal grading clinics conducted by the PGC/TGC, in each case, upon prior NGC approval, e.g., Competitive stream grading.
- 3 Modified examinations before a grading Committee on a case-by-case basis upon prior NGC approval, e.g., to accommodate a candidate's medically documented needs.

Grading Committees will use traditional Japanese Judo terminology during grading examinations.

The candidate's Uke must be a current member in good standing of Judo Canada.

Tori and Uke must attend the grading examination in a white judogi. Candidates must wear a clean judogi and maintain a high standard of personal hygiene for the examination. Tori and Uke must



secure any long hair to allow evaluators a clear view of all aspects of the demonstrated techniques.

#### 2.4.3 Confirmation of promotion and diploma (SLS: Within 30 days)

The PGC/TGC must, within thirty (30) days of the examination, forward a report with its recommendations for promotion and the candidate's passport to the NGC.

The NGC shall only disapprove the PGC/TGC promotions if there is reason to believe that the PGC/TGC ignored the NGS guidelines. In such cases, Judo Canada will return all forms to the Chairperson of the PGC/TGC with a cover letter of explanation.

For grading in Canada, the only officially recognized documents regarding Dan rank and date of promotion are the Judo Canada Dan diploma and passport.

Judo Canada will issue a Dan diploma only for promotions obtained in Canada and recognized by the NGC.

After the NGC recognizes a promotion from Shodan to Godan, the signature on the diploma will be dated back to the PGC/TGC evaluation.

Kodokan diplomas for Dan grades are available upon request as an added service. Kodokan diplomas are subject to additional requirements and costs, and the candidate must fulfill any additional Kodokan requirements. IJF diplomas are also available upon request, and a candidate must submit all applications to Judo Canada's office. Kodokan applications will only be processed after the Judo Canada promotion process ends successfully. In addition, candidates may apply directly for PJC diplomas after completing the Judo Canada promotion process via the PJC website: https://register.panamjudo.org/register/certificate.

#### 2.4.4 Grading decision appeals

Grading decision appeals must follow Judo Canada's appeal policy. To consult the appeal policy, please consult:

https://www.judocanada.org/wp-

content/uploads/2018/01/Appeals Policy EN Jan 12 2018.pdf.



# 3.0 UNDERSTANDING THE TWO STREAMS (SHODAN TO GODAN)-COMPETITIVE STREAM AND TECHNICAL STREAM

According to the NGS, the Dan grading point system aims to determine when a judoka is eligible for examination. The grading point system is relevant for all candidates seeking promotion from Shodan to Godan.

Candidates who are members of a provincial/territorial association and Judo Canada may accumulate points in the present rank, which can only be used for promotion to the next rank.

Judoka must be at least 14 years old and at least Ikkyu in rank to earn grading points.

#### 3.1 Competitive stream

The Competitive stream is a method of gaining promotion based on tournament/Shiai skills during the Tai period of a judoka's development. A candidate meeting the Competitive stream grading requirements for a Dan will not have to do a formal grading exam but will be required to attend an informal grading clinic (Kata, Tachi-waza and Ne-waza clinic) organized by their PGC/TGC, as specified in Appendix B.

<u>The only exception is for the rank of Shodan</u>; Competitive stream candidates going for Shodan must undergo a formal grading for this milestone rank to ensure they possess the broad technical skills to pursue their judo development. <u>Only Competitive stream candidates applying for Nidan to Godan can benefit from using the informal grading clinic approach</u>.

#### 3.1.1 Eligible tournaments in the Competitive stream

Competitive stream candidates may accumulate points in both domestic and international tournaments (Shiais), as follows:

#### **Domestic tournaments:**

- Open Nationals Senior, U21, U18
- Quebec Open Senior, U21
- Ontario Open Senior, U21
- Canada Cup Senior, U21, U18
- Pacific International Senior
- Edmonton International Senior
- Saskatchewan Open Senior
- Manitoba Open Senior
- Eastern Canadian Championships-Senior

**Notes:** All domestic wins claimed for grading points must be against Ikkyu or higher and by Ippon (10 points), Waza-ari (7 points) or Yuko (5 points). <u>A victory over Nikyu only counts for the Shodan candidates' grading points</u>. Competitive stream candidates cannot claim domestic



<u>participation grading points for participating in tournaments</u>, as is the case for the Technical stream. A win by Fusen-gachi is not eligible for grading points.

#### **International tournaments:**

• All published IJF-sanctioned tournaments. Competitors will find an updated reference list of these tournaments by age group at <a href="https://www.ijf.org/calendar?age=all">https://www.ijf.org/calendar?age=all</a>.

**Notes:** Competitive stream candidates may claim 10 grading points for each victory earned at published international IJF-sanctioned tournaments. <u>Competitive stream candidates cannot claim international participation grading points for participating in tournaments, as is the case for the Technical stream. A win by Fusen-gachi is not eligible for grading points. Please direct any questions about grading point eligibility to the NGC.</u>

#### Competitive stream grading points summary:

COMPETITIVE STREAM GRADING POINT DETAILS				
SHIAI POINTS (DOMESTIC)	<ul> <li>Win by Ippon = 10 points</li> <li>Win by Waza-ari = 7 points</li> <li>Win by Yuko = 5 points</li> <li>Wins by Fusen-gachi = 0 points</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No maximum limit on points.</li> <li>No</li> </ul>		
SHIAI POINTS (INTERNATIONAL)	<ul><li>Win = 10 points</li><li>Wins by Fusengachi = 0 points</li></ul>	participation points.		

#### 3.2 Technical stream

The Technical stream is a method of gaining promotion based on various activities, including some forms of competition. Candidates meeting the requirements of the Technical stream will be required to attend a formal grading examination before the relevant PGC/TGC.

- Candidates in the Technical stream may accrue grading points in several ways as competitors different than those in the Competitive stream (see 3.2.2), instructors, coaches, Kata judges, referees, Kata competitors and years active as paid-up Judo Canada members in good standing.
- A candidate can only claim points in one Technical stream category per day (e.g., at a tournament where a candidate is a Kata judge in the morning and a referee after, the candidate can only claim one category). Multiple entries as a competitor in Kata, Ne-waza, and Shiai events can all collect points in one day.

The Technical stream grading point system contains several categories:

#### 3.2.1 Active in judo (25 points per year)

Candidates may earn grading points annually from their last promotion by maintaining paid-up Judo Canada and provincial/territorial memberships, demonstrating regular attendance, and



practicing at least 120 hours of Judo per year, e.g., practicing, teaching, coaching, instructing, and learning. Candidates can only claim grading points for the year once the full 12 months have elapsed; there are no partial grading points for parts of a year. Note that points accumulated for years active in judo are not sufficient alone for grading. (See section 5.0 for the number of activity points required for each grade).

#### 3.2.2 Technical stream competitions

#### Shiai and Ne-waza tournaments

Victories earned at tournaments sanctioned by the province/territory and/or Judo Canada are eligible for Technical stream grading points with the following conditions:

- Tournaments must be at the level of U18 or older;
- Domestic tournaments include all provincial or national sanctioned U18, U21, Senior, and Veterans championships;
- To claim Ne-waza tournament grading points, individuals must be a minimum of **30 years old** (on the day of the tournament);
- The PGC/TGC must validate all international tournament points. Refer to the updated IJF calendar of events at <a href="https://www.ijf.org/calendar?year=2024&month=&age=all&type=all">https://www.ijf.org/calendar?year=2024&month=&age=all&type=all</a>.
- All wins against Ikkyu or higher in domestic Shiais and Ne-waza tournaments may be claimed
  for grading points as follows: Ippon (10 Points), Waza-ari (7 points), Yuko 5 points). Victories in
  international tournaments are worth 10 grading points apiece. Wins by Fusen-gachi are not
  eligible for grading points for all tournaments.
- In addition, individuals 30 years of age and older may claim 5 participation points per tournament for grading points.

#### Kata tournaments

A recognized Kata tournament must be accredited by the PGC/TGC, and its judges approved by the NKC, in order for grading points to be recognized. At least one national-certified Kata judge or PGC/TGC member must be present at domestic Kata tournaments as an evaluator for these events to count for grading points. The candidate may accumulate 2 grading points per team below the candidate's team ranking in Kata tournaments at the provincial/territorial, national, PJC and International levels, and 3 grading points per team below at the World Kata championships. In addition, candidates may claim 5 grading points per tournament for participation (if more than 1 team participates in the relevant Kata).

#### 3.2.3 Instructing activity

Candidates may claim grading points for teaching/instructing a minimum of 120 hours per year based on their NCCP certification level as follows:

NCCP Level I (DA), Community fully certified	10 points per year
NCCP Level II (DI) fully certified and Level III (DC) fully certified	20 points per year
Head Sensei or Technical Director or NCCP Level IV/V (HPC) fully certified	30 points per year



Note: A Head Sensei and/or a Technical Director who is, at a minimum, fully certified NCCP Dojo Instructor (Level 2) and instructs in a club with a minimum of 25 currently registered and paid-up members will be able to claim 30 grading points per year.

#### 3.2.4 Coaching activity

Fully certified NCCP judo coaches may earn grading points for each sanctioned event they qualify for as follows:

Provincial-sanctioned events ....... 5 points per event International (events listed on the IJF calendar https://www.ijf.org/calendar?year=

2024&month=&age=all&type=all)................................20 points per event

#### 3.2.5 Refereeing activity

Candidates may earn grading points for each refereeing event as follows:

International (events listed on the IJF calendar https://www.ijf.org/calendar?year= 

Referees must be approved by the relevant authority to participate at each level of competition.

#### 3.2.6 Kata judging activity

Certified Kata judges may earn grading points for each sanctioned event as follows:

Only Judges certified by IJF, JC or by the Provincial/Territorial Association qualify for points at National and International levels.

#### 3.2.7 Clinic conductor

Points will be awarded, on a per event basis, to course conductors (and their Uke if the same Uke is used for the entire duration of the course/clinic)for conducting provincial/territorial or nationally organized professional development, Kata, referee and technical clinics, NCCP courses and nationally approved team training camps. These events must be provincially, nationally or internationally sanctioned.

Provincial	10 points per event
National	20 points per event
International	30 points per event

Events must be a minimum of 4 hours (in-person or virtual) in duration in order to count for grading points.



#### 3.2.8 Clinic participation

Points will be awarded, on a per event basis, to clinic participants for attending provincial/territorial or nationally organized professional development, Kata, referee and technical clinics, NCCP courses and nationally approved team training camps. These events must be provincially, nationally or internationally sanctioned.

Provincial	5 points per event
National	5 points per event
International	5 points per event

Events must be a minimum of 4 hours (in-person or virtual) in duration in order to count for grading points.

#### 3.2.9 Tournament/Executive or Committee volunteer

Candidates may earn grading points on a per event basis for the following tournament roles:

**Tournament volunteering:** Tournament director, Assistant tournament director, Scoreboard assistant, Timekeepers:

- Provincial: 3 points per event
- National and International: 5 points per event

**Executive or Committee volunteering:** To collect points, a candidate must be a member of a formal committee for a period of 12 months:

- Provincial: 5 points per committee
- National and International: 10 points per committee

#### 3.2.10 Uke at Dan grading

A total of 5 grading points per day may be awarded for Uke at a Dan grading examination regardless of the number of performances. **Note:** An Uke cannot claim points for a Dan grading examination if they are also evaluated as Tori at the same examination.

#### TECHNICAL STREAM GRADING POINTS SUMMARY:

Active in judo (120 hrs on mat)	25 grading points per year			
	Shiai/Ne-waza	Ippon = 10 pts /	/ Waza-ari = 7 pts	
Competitions (Technical stream)	Kata	3 pts per team below at Kata World Kata championships, and 2 pts per team below everywhere else		
	Participation	5 pts per event		
Instructing activity	DA (Level 1) = 10 pts	DI (Level 2) = 20 pts	Development (Level 3) = 20 pts	High Performance / Head Sensei (Level 4/5) = 30 pts



LEVEL (Per Event)	PROV	NAT'L	INT'L/CONT
Coaching activity	5	10	20
Referee activity	5	10	20
Kata judging activity	5	10	20
Clinic conductor	10	20	30
Clinic participant	5	5	5
Tournament volunteer	3	5	5
Volunteer: Executive or other committee	5	10	10
Uke at grading	5		

### 4.0 HIGH DAN GRADING (6<sup>TH</sup> DAN AND HIGHER)

For Rokudan and higher Dan grades, candidates must be actively involved in Judo and demonstrate significant contribution to the Provincial/Territorial, National, and/or International level throughout their career, particularly since their last promotion. The NGC will assess applicants based on their career contributions to Judo in Canada. For Rokudan and Shichidan, there are two (2) possible High Dan streams: **Competitive** and **Technical**.

#### Competitive stream: Rokudan and Shichidan

Besides meeting minimum age requirements and time in the current rank, candidates who satisfy the Competition criteria require **two more criteria in chart 4.2 below** to qualify for a High Dan grading.

Competition experience emphasizes the tournament/Shiai skills accumulated predominantly during the Tai period of a judoka's development, including Senior Shiais at Open nationals sanctioned by Judo Canada, IJF senior continental events sanctioned by PJC/PJU, senior World events sanctioned by IJF (including World championships and Olympics), University, and Visually impaired events sanctioned by IJF or Judo Canada. Competitive stream experience for High Dan does not apply to U-18, U-21, Kata, Ne-waza and Veterans.

#### Technical stream: Rokudan and Shichidan

Technical stream candidates must satisfy the time requirements for the current grade and minimum age requirements, <u>plus meet the minimum standards of four criteria outlined in table 4.2 below</u>.

#### Hachidan, Kudan and Judan

For Hachidan and Kudan, the criteria for grading have been benchmarked to criteria in other countries and shifts to a combination of high level Competitive Shiai experience or selected Technical experience related to Shiai (Coaching or Refereeing).



Hachidan candidates still apply directly through the online application system. However, before Kudan candidates complete an online application, they will need to be endorsed by their respective PGC. In addition, the NGC will consult with existing Kudans in Canada to seek views of the individual's candidacy.

For Judan, the NGC will create a comprehensive dossier of lifetime contributions to judo and the candidate's achievements and submit it to the Judo Canada CEO and executive for review and subsequent submission to the IJF for consideration.

#### 4.1 Procedures for all promotions to 6th Dan and higher:

- Judo Canada's office must receive the completed online application form from the candidate describing their career achievements, contribution to Judo in Canada, and involvement since their last promotion.
- The NGC will review the application and may ask for additional information to assess or verify the candidate's information. Candidates not showing the required active involvement described in Section 4.2 will not be recommended for a promotion examination.
- Upon approval by the NGC, the candidate becomes eligible for an examination that the NGC will conduct within one year according to the schedule, format, and location set by Judo Canada's CEO.

#### **4.2 Career achievements categories**

Career achievement evaluation for Rokudan, Shichidan, Hachidan and Kudan:

	6 <sup>th</sup> Dan	7 <sup>th</sup> Dan	8 <sup>th</sup> Dan	9 <sup>th</sup> Dan
REQUIRED ELEMEN	ITS			
Time in Grade: • Competitive stream	8 years	10 years	10 years	10 years
Time in Grade: • Technical stream	10 years	12 years	,	,
Minimum Age	37 years old	47 years old	57 years old	67 years old
CRITERIA				
Qualifying experience:	Not applicable		IJF Senior World Shiai events, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games 3X as Competitor, Coach or Referee	IJF Senior World Shiai events, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games 3X as Competitor, Coach or Referee or significant award of lifetime recognition for national/international contribution to judo (e.g., Order of Canada, Emperor of Japan's award, etc.)
Competition experience: (Competitive stream)	Senior National Shiai medallist 3X	IJF Senior Shiai Continental 3X	See above	
Technical experience: Coaching	NCCP 2 3X	NCCP 3 3X	See above	
Technical experience: Refereeing	National 3X	IJF Continental 3X	See above	
Technical experience: Kata judging	National 3X	IJF Continental 3X	Not applicable	
Technical experience: Head Sensei / Assistant / Technical Director	10 years	20 years	Not	applicable
Technical experience:	Senior National	IJF Senior Continental		



Original Sensei of a Shiai competitor	medallist		Not applicable	
Technical experience: Committees since last promotion	Provincial 6 years	National 5 years	Not	applicable
Technical experience: Clinic / Seminar conductor since last promotion	Provincial 4X	National 4X	Not	applicable
Competitive stream criteria:	Competition experience criteria + 2 more criteria, plus time in grade and minimum age requirements.  Note: Competition experience for 6D and 7D does not apply to U18, U21, Ne-waza, Kata, and Veterans.		Not	applicable
Technical stream criteria:	4 criteria, plus time in grade and minimum age requirements.		Not	applicable





## **5.0 DAN GRADING EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

#### 5.1 Shodan (1D) eligibility and examination requirements:

STREAM	COMPETITIVE	TECHNICAL	
Minimum age	15	15	
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 6 months as 1K	Minimum 1 year as 1K	
Minimum points since last promotion	100	100 (with min. 50 points from technical activities)	
Kata requirements	First 3 sets of the Nage-no-kata as Tori at PGC/TGC formal grading	First 3 sets of the Nage-no-kata as Tori at PGC/TGC formal grading	
Demonstration of techniques (from Appendix A)	8 Nage-waza 3 Osae-waza 3 Shime-waza 3 Kansetsu-waza at PGC/TGC formal grading	8 Nage-waza 3 Osae-waza 3 Shime-waza 3 Kansetsu-waza at PGC/TGC formal grading	
Demonstration of randori (from Appendix C)	No requirement	Randori at PGC/TGC formal grading	

#### 5.2 Nidan (2D) eligibility and examination requirements:

STREAM	COMPETITIVE	TECHNICAL
Minimum age	17	17
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 1 year as 1D	Minimum 2 years as 1D
Minimum points since last promotion	120	170 (with min. 85 points from technical activities)
Kata requirements	5 sets of the Nage-no-kata asTori at a PGC/TGC clinic	5 sets of the Nage-no-kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of techniques (from Appendix A)	8 Nage-waza 4 Osae-waza 4 Shime-waza 3 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC clinic	8 Nage-waza 4 Osae-waza 4 Shime-waza 3 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of randori	No requirement	Randori



(from Appendix C)	at a PGC/TGC formal grading
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#### 5.3 Sandan (3D) eligibility and examination requirements:

STREAM	COMPETITIVE	TECHNICAL	
Minimum age	20	20	
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 2 years as 2D	Minimum 3 years as 2D	
Minimum points since last promotion	150	215 (with min. 108 points from technical activities)	
Kata requirements	5 sets of the Nage-no-kata as Tori and Katame-no-kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC clinic	5 sets of the Nage-no-kata as Uke and Katame-no-kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC formal grading	
Demonstration of techniques (from Appendix A)	8 Nage-waza 4 Osae-waza 4 Shime-waza 4 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC clinic	8 Nage-waza 4 Osae-waza 4 Shime-waza 4 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC formal grading	
Demonstration of randori (from Appendix C)	No requirement	Randori at a PGC/TGC formal grading	

#### 5.4 Yondan (4D) eligibility and examination requirements:

STREAM	COMPETITIVE	TECHNICAL
Minimum age	24	24
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 3 years as 3D	Minimum 4 years as 3D
Minimum points since last promotion	180	300 (with min. 150 points from technical activities)
Kata requirements	Katame-no-kata as Uke and either Ju-no-kata or Kime- no-kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC clinic	Katame-no-kata as Uke and either Ju-no-kata or Kime-no- kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of techniques (from Appendix A)	12 Nage-waza 6 Osae-waza 6 Shime-waza 6 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC clinic	10 Nage-waza 5 Osae-waza 5 Shime-waza 5 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of randori (from Appendix C)	No requirement	Randori at a PGC/TGC formal grading

#### 5.5 Godan (5D) eligibility and examination requirements:

STREAM	COMPETITIVE	TECHNICAL
Minimum age	29	29
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 4 years as 4D	Minimum 5 years as 4D



Minimum points since last promotion	210	360 (with min. 180 points from technical activities)
Kata requirements	Goshin-jutsu as Tori and either Ju-no-kata or Kime- no-kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC clinic	Goshin-jutsu as Tori and either Ju-no-kata or Kime-no- kata as Tori at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of techniques (from Appendix A)	14 Nage-waza 8 Osae-waza 8 Shime-waza 6 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC clinic	12 Nage-waza 5 Osae-waza 5 Shime-waza 5 Kansetsu-waza at a PGC/TGC formal grading
Demonstration of personal technique	No requirement	A presentation of a personal technique no longer than 15 minutes in length at an PGC/TGC formal grading exam. Topic needs to be pre-approved by the PGC/TGC.



#### 5.6 Rokudan (6D) eligibility and examination requirements:

Minimum age	37
Years active since last promotion	Competitive stream: Minimum 8 years as 5D Technical stream: Minimum 10 years as 5D
Minimum points since last promotion	As per evaluation of career contribution in Section 4.2
Kata requirements	Must perform two Katas as Tori from the following: Goshin-jutsu, Ju-no-kata, or Itsutsu-no-kata at an NGC formal grading exam  Must perform/demonstrate, or explain/teach the principles of, one Kata as Uke from the following: Goshin-jutsu, Ju-no-kata, or Itsutsu-no-kata
Demonstration of personal technique	at an NGC formal grading exam  A presentation of a personal technique no longer than 15 minutes in length at an NGC formal grading exam.  Topic needs to be pre-approved by the NGC.

#### **5.7 Shichidan (7D) eligibility and examination requirements:**

Minimum age	47	
Years active since last promotion	Competitive stream: Minimum Technical 10 years stream: Minimum 12 years as 6D	as 6D
Minimum points since last promotion	As per evaluation of career contribution in Section 4.2	
	Must perform two Katas as Tori from the following:	
	Goshin-jutsu,	
	Kime-no-kata, or	Itsutsu-no-kata
Kata requirements	at an NGC formal grading exam	
	Must perform/demonstrate, or explain/teach the principles of, one Ka	ta as Uke from
	the following:	
	Goshin-jutsu,	



Kime-no-kata,	or	Itsutsu-no-kata
at an NGC formal grading exam.		

#### 5.8 Hachidan (8D) eligibility and examination requirements:

Minimum age	57
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 10 years as 7D
Minimum points since last promotion	As per evaluation of career contribution in Section 4.2
Kata requirements	Must perform/demonstrate, or explain/teach the principles of Koshiki-no-kata as Tori at an NGC formal grading exam.



#### 5.9 Kudan (9D) eligibility and examination requirements:

Minimum age	67
Years active since last promotion	Minimum 10 years as 8D
Minimum points since last promotion	As per evaluation of career contribution in Section 4.2
Kata requirements	No requirement

#### 5.10 Judan (10D) eligibility and examination requirements:

Minimum age	77
Years active since las promotion	Minimum 10 years as 9D
Requirements fo promotion	The NGC will prepare a dossier and documentation to present to the Judo Canada Board of Directors for review for a candidate's potential Judan promotion. Once approved, Judo Canada will send the file to the IJF Grading Board Commission for consideration and approval.

Note: As per Section 2.4.2, the National Grading Committee may approve modified examinations to accommodate candidates with medical documentation on a case-by-case basis.



## **APPENDIX A: TECHNIQUES FOR EXAMINATIONS (SUBJECT TO REVISION)**

#### **TECHNIQUES FOR SHODAN EXAMINATIONS**

Techniques may be selected from the following lists:

TE-WAZA	KOSHI-WAZA	ASHI-WAZA	MASUTEMI-WAZA
Seoi-nage	Uki-goshi	De-ashi-harai	Tomoe-nage
Ippon-seoi-nage	O-goshi	Hiza-guruma	Sumi-gaeshi
Tai-otoshi	Koshi-guruma	Sasae-tsurikomi-ashi	Ura-nage
Kata-guruma	Tsurikomi-goshi	O-soto-gari	
Sukui-nage	Harai-goshi	O-uchi-gari	
Uki-otoshi	Tsuri-goshi	Ko-soto-gari	
Sumi-otoshi	Hane-goshi	Ko-uchi-gari	
	Utsuri-goshi	Okuri-ashi-harai	
	Ushiro-goshi	Uchi-mata	
		Ko-soto-gake	
		Ashi-guruma	
		Harai-tsurikomi-ashi	
		O-guruma	
		O-soto-guruma	

YOKO-SUTEMI-WAZA	OSAEKOMI-WAZA	SHIME-WAZA	KANSETSU-WAZA
Yoko-otoshi	Kesa-gatame	Nami-juji-jime	Ude-garami
Tani-otoshi	Kata-gatame	Gyaku-juji-jime	Ude-hishigi-juji-gatame
Hane-makikomi	Kuzure-kami-shiho-gatame	Kata-juji-jime	Ude-hishigi-ude-gatame
Soto-makikomi	Yoko-shiho-gatame	Hadaka-jime	Ude-hishigi-hiza-gatame
Uki-waza	Tate-shiho-gatame	Okuri-eri-jime	Ude-hishigi-waki-gatame
Yoko-wakare	Kuzure-kesa-gatame	Kata-ha-jime	Ude-hishigi-hara-gatame
Yoko-guruma	Kami-shiho-gatame		
Yoko-gake			

#### **TECHNIQUES FOR NIDAN EXAMINATIONS**

Selected from Shodan techniques and the following additions:

TE-WAZA	ASHI-WAZA	OSAEKOMI-WAZA	SHIME-WAZA
Ko-uchi-gaeshi	O-soto-gaeshi	Ushiro-kesa-gatame	Sankaku-jime
	O-uchi-gaeshi		
	Hane-goshi-gaeshi		
	Harai-goshi-gaeshi		
	Uchi-mata-gaeshi		



#### **TECHNIQUES FOR SANDAN AND HIGHER EXAMINATIONS**

Selected from Shodan and Nidan lists and the following additions:

TE-WAZA	KOSHI-WAZA	ASHI-WAZA	MASUTEMI-WAZA
Obi-otoshi	Sode-tsurikomi-goshi	O-soto-otoshi	Hikikomi-gaeshi
Seoi-otoshi		Tsubame-gaeshi	Tawara-gaeshi
Yama-arashi			
Morote-gari			
Kuchiki-taoshi			
Kibisu-gaeshi			
Uchi-mata-sukashi			
Obi-tori-gaeshi			

YOKOSUTEMI-WAZA	OSAEKOMI-WAZA	SHIME-WAZA	KANSETSU-WAZA
Daki-wakare	Ura-gatame	Do-jime (can be described)	Ashi-garami (can be described)
Uchi-mata-makikomi	Uki-gatame	Sode-guruma-jime	Ude-hishigi-ashi-gatame
Kani-basami (can be described)		Kata-te-jime	Ude-hishigi-te-gatame
O-soto-makikomi		Ryote-jime	Ude-hishigi-sankaku-gatame
Harai-makikomi		Tsukkomi-jime	
Uchi-makikomi			
Ko-uchi-makikomi			
Kawazu-gake (can be described)			



## **APPENDIX B: COMPETITIVE STREAM CLINICS REQUIREMENTS**

COMPETITIV	E STREAM CLINICS	
Shodan	Not applicable	Not applicable
	<u> </u>	
Nidan	Nage-no-kata 5 sets (Tori)	8 Nage-waza
		4 Osae-waza
		4 Shime-waza
		3 Kansetsu-waza
Sandan	Nage-no-kata 5 sets (Tori) and	8 Nage-waza
	Katame-no-kata (Tori)	4 Osae-waza
		4 Shime-waza
		4 Kansetsu-waza
Yondan	Kime-no-kata (Tori) or Ju-no-kata (Tori)	12 Nage-waza
	and Katame-no-kata (Uke)	6 Osae-waza
		6 Shime-waza
		6 Kansetsu-waza
	·	·
Godan	Kodokan Goshin-jutsu (Tori) and	14 Nage-waza
	Kime-no-kata (Tori) or Ju-no-kata (Tori)	8 Osae-waza
		8 Shime-waza
		6 Kansetsu-waza



#### **APPENDIX C: LEXICON OF JUDO TERMINOLOGY**

**Batsugun:** Derived from Japanese and interpreted to mean exceptional performance in the **Tai** period, Batsugun characterizes those in the Competitive stream who have attained at least 300 points in eligible competitions since the last promotion.

**Formal examination:** A formal examination involving demonstration of Kata, judo techniques and randori, occurs before a grading Committee, e.g., Shodan candidates, Nidan to Godan candidates in the Technical stream, and High Dan candidates.

**Informal grading clinics:** Informal grading clinics conducted by the PGC/TGC are designed to help evaluate the candidates in the Competitive stream.

**International Judo Federation (IJF):** The IJF is the world's governing body for Judo, with a membership of more than 200 countries and 20 million judokas.

**Judo Canada:** Operating under the auspices of the federal Department of Heritage Canada, Judo Canada is Canada's National Judo Sporting Organization.

**Koseki promotion:** A Koseki promotion is considered the last grading granted by the NGC in exceptional cases to those who are medically unable to demonstrate the required katas and techniques.

**Modified examinations**: A Grading Committee with prior NGC approval may use a modified grading examination on a case-by-case basis to accommodate a candidate's medically documented needs.

**National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP):** The NCCP is a national program under the auspices of the Coaching Association of Canada designed to empower coaches with knowledge and skills, promote ethics, foster positive attitudes, build competence, and increase the credibility and recognition of coaches.

**Pan-American Judo Confederation (PJC):** The Pan-American Judo Confederation is an international organization comprising most of the national Judo federations and associations of the Americas and is one of five such continental organizations recognized by the International Judo Federation.

Professor Jigoro Kano: Professor Kano, a Japanese educator, founded the sport of Judo in Japan in 1882.

**Randori:** Randori is a one-on-one freestyle or sparring practice between two judokas to test the application of judo techniques within a fixed time length (from 2-5 minutes) but without referees (as in Shiai) or formal structure (as in the practice of kata). "The main goal of randori is to develop the skills to adapt quickly to changing situations, to develop a flexible and strong body and to prepare your mind and body for competition" (Kano Jigoro).

Here is what one should observe in a randori:

- Randori develops the applied art of attack and defence in real-time. If a sparring partner's attack is imperfect, one could counterattack or perform a sequence to gain a competitive advantage.
- Emphasis should be placed on throwing techniques. Randori participants must constantly look for openings and opportunities to leverage their advantage by correctly timing throws, combinations, or counterattacks.
- Participants must adopt a natural posture (Shizentai). This position permits the most agility, speed and flexibility and is the least exhausting. A defensive position (Jigotai) is not ideal for randori.



• Participants who link with Ne-waza do so flexibly without interruption or loss of technical control. The respect and safety of Randori participants are critical at all times.



#### **APPENDIX D: KATA REQUIREMENTS FOR KODOKAN CERTIFICATION**



Shodan: Nage-no-kata (first 3 sets)

Nidan: Nage-no-kata (all 5 sets)

Sandan: Katame-no-kata

Yondan: Ju-no-kata

Godan: Kime-no-kata

Rokudan: Kodokan Goshin-jutsu

Shichidan: Itsutsu-no-kata

Hachidan: Koshiki-no-kata

The Kodokan requires the candidate to do Tori.

ref: http://kodokanjudoinstitute.org/activity/grade/

