

**RANK REQUIREMENTS****RANKING SYSTEM****Belt Colors Authorized By The U.S. Judo Federation**

<b><u>RANK</u></b>	<b><u>JUNIORS (16 &amp; Under)</u></b>	<b><u>SENIORS (17 &amp; Over)</u></b>
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	Black
Sandan		Black
Yodan		Black
Godan		Black
Rokudan		Red/White
Shichidan		Red/White
Hachidan		Red/White
Kudan		Red
Judan		Red

**RANK CONVERSION**

<b><u>RANK</u></b>	<b><u>JUNIORS (16 &amp; Under)</u></b>	<b><u>SENIOR (17 &amp; Over)</u></b>
Juichikyu	White	
Jukyu	White/Yellow	
Kyukyu	Yellow	
Hachikyu	Yellow/Orange	
Nanakyu	Orange	
Rokkyu	Orange/Green	Rokkyu
Gokyu	Green	Gokyu
Yonkyu	Green/Blue	Yonkyu
Sankyu	Blue	Sankyu
Nikyu	Blue/Purple	Nikyu
Ikkyu	Purple	Ikkyu

## PROMOTION PROCEDURES

### *Yudanshakai Promotions*

Each member Yudanshakai 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 (4<sup>th</sup> 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 Yudanshakai'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.

## 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 that time spent at the applicant's present rank and is not cumulative from 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 of equal or higher rank and must be obtained in either USJF "sanctioned" events or other event as specified by the Yudanshakai Board of Examiners or the USJF Board of Examiners. An Opponent may count only once in the tabulation of tournament points for any particular rank. Promotion evaluation contests may be held for the purpose of substantiating the candidates' competitive ability.

Shiai Promotion 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 Promotion 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 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 at a particular event.

*Kata Promotion Points Awarded According to Level of Competition and Placement*

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

***Batsugun Promotions***

Yudanshakai may develop their own requirements for Batsugun promotions in a single promotional tournament. 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 Ippon 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 as a normal promotion point.

***Candidate Classification***

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

- a) **Competitor:**  
A competitor shall be required to spend less time in grade and will be given greater weight for his or her competitive accomplishments towards promotion 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-competitors 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 or she passes all other requirements outlined for “competitor.”

A major promotion criterion for non-competitors 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.

**MINIMUM TIME IN GRADE AND AGE****I. FOR COMPETITORS**

## Classifications

## Class

- 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>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> at the US Sr. National and/or any other point receiving international tournament.
- 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 Ladder Tournament, National Collegiate, High School Nationals and any non-point qualifying international competition. Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in U.S. Sr. National Kata Championships, Pan American Judo Union Kata Championships, World Masters International Kata Competition, or any other event that reaches this level of international involvement.
- D Placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Masters category at the U.S. Sr. Nationals.
- E Competes in shiai and/or kata in any sanctioned tournament and earns points according to the number of wins (includes Masters' competition)

**MINIMUM TIME IN GRADE & AGE**

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

**MINIMUM TIME IN GRADE, POINTS & AGE for Class E**

For Promotion To The Rank Of	5 Points	10 Points	15 Points	20 Points Batsugun	Min. Age
GOKYU	--	--	--	--	--
YONKYU	--	--	--	--	--
SANKYU	6 mos.	3 mos.	--	--	--
NIKYU	9 mos.	6 mos.	3 mos.	--	--
IKKYU	1 yr	9 mos.	6 mos.	3 mos.	--
SHODAN	2 yrs	1 yr	9 mos.	6 mos.	14 yrs
NIDAN	3 yrs	2 yrs	1.5 yrs	1 yr	16 yrs
SANDAN	4 yrs	3 yrs	2.5 yrs	1.5 yrs	18 yrs
YODAN	5.5 yrs	4 yrs	3 yrs	2 yrs	21 yrs
GODAN	6.5 yrs	5 yrs	4 yrs	3 yrs	22 yrs
ROKUDAN	8 yrs	6 yrs	5 yrs	4 yrs	27 yrs
SHICHIDAN	10 yrs	8 yrs	6 yrs	5 yrs	

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

For Promotion To The Rank Of	Time in Grade	Min. Age
GOKYU	--	
YONKYU	--	
SANKYU	9 mos.	--
NIKYU	1 yr	--
IKKYU	2 yrs.	--
SHODAN	3 yrs	14 yrs
NIDAN	4 yrs	16 yrs
SANDAN	6 yrs	18 yrs
YODAN	8 yrs	21 yrs
GODAN	10 yrs	22 yrs
ROKUDAN	12 yrs	27 yrs
SHICHIDAN	15 yrs	33 yrs
HACHIDAN	19 yrs	42 yrs

### III. REDUCTIONS OF 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 to 49 members	7%	1-9 members	1%
20 to 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 to 49 members	4%	10 to 19 members	1%

#### 3. Referee & Technical Staff

Work an Average of 6 or More Events Per Year During 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 Events	4%
Work an Average of 3 or More Events Per Year During 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 Events	2%

#### 4. Kata Judge & Kata Technical Staff

Work an Average of 2 or More Events Per Year During 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, Itsutsu, Koshiki

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

#### 6. Teacher Certification and Coaching Certification

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

#### 7. USJF Life Member

5%

#### 8. Service as Yudanshakai Officer

10%

#### 9. Service as USJF Officer

10%

#### IV. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH RANK

The specific rank requirements specified below serve as guidelines for the requirements for promotion. Rank conversions from junior to senior may occur as outlined above in Ranking System. Yudanshakais may modify specific rank requirements for each rank, depending on circumstances, for ranks within each Yudanshakai's promotion authority, but these requirements are mandatory for all other promotions.

##### ***ROKKYU***

###### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

This rank is assigned to individuals of good moral character who have been accepted as students of Judo in a Judo club or class.

##### ***GOKYU***

###### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Good moral character and maturity
2. Regular practice and attendance

###### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. Basic Judo etiquette
2. Basic Judo hygiene
3. Purpose of breakfalls (ukemi)
4. Correct forms of sitting, standing and kneeling.
5. Correct fundamentals of:
  - a) gripping (kumi kata)
  - b) posture (shisei)
  - c) Natural posture (shizenhontai)
  - d) Defensive posture (jigohontai)
  - e) right defensive posture (migi jigotai)
  - f) left defensive posture (hidari jigotai)
6. Basic fundamentals of throwing (kuzushi, tsukuri and kake)
7. Eight forms of unbalance

###### ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:

1. Throwing Techniques
 

O-soto-gari .....	major outer reaping throw
O-goshi .....	major hip throw
De-ashi-harai .....	advanced foot sweep
Hiza-guruma .....	knee wheel throw
2. Holding Techniques
 

Kesa-gatame .....	cross-chest hold
Kata-gatame .....	shoulder hold

###### TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE:

Limited contest experience. Familiarity with training exercises with emphasis on etiquette, rules and prohibited matters. No contest points required.



**YONKYU****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Good moral character and maturity
2. Regular practice and attendance

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:**

1. Difference between judo and ju-jitsu
2. Knowledge of the fundamental principles of judo (maximum efficiency)
3. Improved degree of skill with lower rank requirements.

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Seoi-nage .....	shoulder throw
Tai-otoshi .....	body drop
Kouchi-gari .....	minor inner reaping throw
Uki-goshi .....	floating hip throw
2. Holding Techniques
 

Kami-shiho-gatame .....	upper four-corner hold
Yoko-shiho-gatame .....	side four-corner hold

**TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE:**

Continued contest experience with expanded interpretation of the sport phase. No contest wins required for promotion to this rank.

**SANKYU****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Good moral character and maturity
2. Regular practice and attendance
3. Time-in-grade as Yonkyu:
 

Non-competitor .....	9 months
Competitor, 5 points .....	6 months
Competitor, 10 points .....	3 months
Competitor, 15 points .....	0 time
4. Achieve a minimum score of 50 on "Kyu Evaluation Report"

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:**

1. Names, colors and order of "kyu" belt ranking system
2. Purpose and methods of "kata" and "randori"

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

O-uchi-gari .....	major inner reaping throw
Harai-goshi .....	sweeping hip throw
Okuri-ashi-barai.....	sweeping ankle throw
Ko-soto-gari .....	minor outer reaping throw
2. Holding Techniques
 

Kuzure-kami-shiho-gatame .....	modified upper four-corner hold
Tate-shiho-gatame .....	vertical four-corner hold
3. Choking Techniques
 

Kata-juji-jime .....	half cross choke
Gyaku-juji-jime .....	reverse cross choke

**NIKYU****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Good moral character and maturity
2. Regular practice and attendance
3. Time-in-grade as Sankyu:
 

Non-competitor .....	1 year
Competitor, 5 points .....	9 months
Competitor, 10 points .....	6 months
Competitor, 15 points .....	0 time
4. Achieve a minimum score of 60 on “Kyu Evaluation Report”
5. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Tomoe-nage .....	stomach throw
Hane-goshi .....	spring hip throw
Tsuri-komi-goshi.....	lifting-pulling hip throw
Uchimata .....	inner thigh throw
2. Choking Techniques
 

Nami-juji-jime .....	normal cross choke
Okuri-eri-jime .....	sliding lapel choke
3. Joint locks
 

Ude-garami .....	coil armlock
Ude-gatame .....	arm lock
4. General Techniques
  - Demonstrate one throw both left and right
  - Demonstrate one combination technique
  - Demonstrate one counter technique

**IKKYU****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Sound moral character and maturity
2. Regular practice and good judo spirit
3. Achieve a minimum score of 70 on “Kyu Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Time-in-grade as Nikyu:
 

Non-competitor .....	2 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	1 year
Competitor, 10 points .....	9 months
Competitor, 15 points .....	6 months
Batsugun or 20 points .....	3 months

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Sode-tsurikomi-goshi .....	sleeve lift pull hip throw
Sasae-tsurikomi-ashi .....	propping drawing ankle throw
Kata-guruma .....	shoulder wheel
2. Choking Techniques
 

Hadaka-jime .....	naked choke
Kata-ha-jime .....	single wing choke
3. Joint locks
 

Hiza-gatame .....	arm-knee lock
Juji-gatame .....	cross arm lock
Ashi-garami .....	entangle leg lock
4. General Techniques
  - Demonstrate two throws to the left and right side
  - Demonstrate two combination techniques
  - Demonstrate two counter techniques

**SHODAN****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and interest
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Shodan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Names, colors and order of junior and senior belt ranking system
7. Minimum age of 14 years
8. Time-in-grade as Ikkyu:
 

Non-competitor .....	3 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	2 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	1 year
Competitor, 15 points .....	9 months
Batsugun or 20 points .....	6 months

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Uki-otoshi .....	floating drop
Uki-waza .....	floating throw
Koshi-guruma.....	waist wheel throw
Harai-tsuru-komi-ashi .....	lifting-pulling foot sweep
Yoko-guruma.....	side wheel throw
2. General Techniques
  - Demonstrate three throws to the left and right side
  - Demonstrate three combination techniques
  - Demonstrate three counter techniques
2. Nage-no-Kata
  - Competitor: First three sets of Kata
  - Non-competitor: Complete Kata

***NIDAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and interest
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Nidan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 16 years
7. Time-in-grade as Shodan:
 

Non-competitor .....	4 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	3 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	2 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	1 1/2 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	1 year

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Yoko-gake .....	side body drop
Sumi-gaeshi .....	corner throw
Ura-nage.....	rear throw
Yoko-otoshi .....	side drop
Ko-soto-gake.....	minor outer hooking ankle throw
2. Kata
 

Competitor: Complete Nage no Kata ( <b>tori</b> )
Non-competitor: Complete Nage no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) and Katame no Kata ( <b>tori</b> )

**SANDAN****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on "Sandán Evaluation Report"
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 18 years.
7. Time-in-grade as Nidan:
 

Non-competitor .....	6 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	4 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	3 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	2 1/2 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	1 1/2 years

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

Ashi-guruma .....	side wheel
Hane-maki-komi.....	outer winding spring hip throw
Tani-otoshi .....	valleydrop
Sukui-nage.....	scooping throw
2. Kata
 

Competitor: Complete Nage no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) and Katame no Kata ( <b>tori</b> )
Non-competitor: Complete Nage no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ), Katame no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ), Kime no Kata or Ju no Kata

**YODAN****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Yodan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 21 years.
7. Time-in-grade as Sandan:
 

Non-competitor .....	8 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	5 1/2 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	4 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	3 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	2 years

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Throwing Techniques
 

O-guruma .....	major wheel throw
Soto-maki-komi .....	outer winding throw
Yoko-wakare.....	side separation
Ushiro-goshi .....	rear hip throw
Sumi-otoshi.....	corner drop
2. Kata
 

Competitor: Complete Kime no Kata ( <b>tori</b> ) or Goshinjutsu ( <b>tori</b> )
Non-competitor: Complete Kime no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) or Goshinjutsu ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ), and Ju no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> )

***GODAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Godan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 22 years.
7. Complete understanding of the structure of U.S. Judo
8. Good understanding of and skill in teaching judo, must have coach certification or teachers certification or
9. Major levels of refereeing and judging
10. Time-in-grade as Yodan:
 

Non-competitor .....	10 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	6 1/2 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	5 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	4 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	3 years

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Kata
 

Competitor: Complete Kime no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) and Goshinjutsu ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> )
Non-competitor: Complete Kime no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ), Goshinjutsu ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ), and Ju no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> )

***ROKUDAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Rokudan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 27 years.
7. Good understanding of and skill in teaching judo, must have national coach certification or national teachers certification or
8. Major levels of refereeing and judging
9. Time-in-grade as Godan:
 

Non-competitor .....	12 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	8 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	6 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	5 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	4 years

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Kata
 

Competitor: Complete: Ju no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) and Itsutsu no Kata ( <b>tori</b> )
Non-competitor: Complete: Ju no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> ) and Itsutsu no Kata ( <b>tori &amp; uke</b> )



***SHICHIDAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Shichidan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 33 years.
7. Good understanding of and skill in teaching judo, must have national coach certification or national teachers certification or
8. Major levels of refereeing and judging
9. Time-in-grade as Rokudan:
 

Non-competitor .....	15 years
Competitor, 5 points .....	10 years
Competitor, 10 points .....	8 years
Competitor, 15 points .....	6 years
Batsugun or 20 points .....	5 years

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Kata
  - Competitor: Complete: Itsutsu no Kata (**tori & uke**) and Koshiki no Kata (**tori**)
  - Non-competitor: Complete: Itsutsu no Kata (**tori & uke**) and Koshiki no Kata (**tori & uke**)

***HACHIDAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Achieve a minimum score of 75 on “Hachidan Evaluation Report”
4. Increased proficiency in all lower rank requirements
5. Terminology required for lower ranks
6. Minimum age of 42 years.
7. Mastery of the principles and philosophy of judo
8. Substantial contribution to judo and to society
9. Time-in-grade as Shichidan – 19 years.

**ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE:**

1. Kata
  - Complete: Koshiki no Kata (**tori & uke**)

***KUDAN*****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Unquestioned moral character and maturity
2. Continued practice and involvement in judo
3. Mastery of the principles and philosophy of judo
4. Substantial contribution to judo and to society
5. Major levels of contributions to judo organizations
6. The USJF Promotion Committee makes the recommendation to the Board of Examiners

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. For Dan promotions: 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 a 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 Promotion Committee meeting together with the correct USJF Dan fee and a 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 rank that are rejected cannot be resubmitted for at least one year. CLARIFICATION: An application which has been "tabled" upon due consideration or that has been "withdrawn" by the 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 the case of promotion to Shodan) immediately preceding application and 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 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. The fee structure may be modified by the USJF Board of Directors 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 10/31/89: The USJF Dan fee assessment is waived for all USJF Life Members.
6. Individuals currently holding USJF Teachers' Certification in a 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 promotion by the 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.