IJF REFEREE RANKING SYSTEM

The IJF have a ranking system for referees which starts every year on the 1st January and finishes on 31st December. Ranking points are given at the following ranking events: all IJF World Judo Tour (IJF WJT) events and World Championships Cadet and Junior.

The referees will receive points to generate the ranking of referees, the total of all points is divided by the number of attended competitions to give an average. The referee with the highest average points is ranked as No 1, the referee with the second highest average points as No 2, and so on. If several referees have the same score (equality), the referee with the higher number of events will have the higher ranking.

An updated ranking list is published on the IJF webpage (www.ijf.org) after each ranking event.

At the end each year the Refereeing Commission of each Continent will send to the Head Referee Directors and IJF Refereeing Secretary a copy of their Continental Ranking List using the appropriate file and indicate the names of those referees who they consider deserves a possible IJF convocation.

REFEREES OFFICIATING AT IJF WORLD JUDO TOUR EVENTS

The referees for all IJF WJT events will be nominated by the IJF Refereeing Commission, based on the IJF ranking list or from the list of referees proposed by the Continental Commissions.

After the nomination, the nominated referees and their NF should confirm their participation by email to IJF Ref. Secretary (chyurlia@ijf.org) and proceed to the inscription in Judobase following the deadline of the event.

A NFs’ president, coach, doctor or any official of a national team cannot referee at IJF WJT events.

Moreover, no one shall exercise the function of a referee during the events organised by the IJF or Continental Union if he/she holds the position of National Refereeing Director and/or is responsible for the selection of the referees and of their evaluation.
REFEREES OFFICIATING AT OTHER IJF EVENTS

For other events that are the responsibility of the IJF (i.e. Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, other multi-sport events etc.) the referees will be nominated by the IJF according to the rules of the organising committee.

Referees who are on the IJF circuit, are obliged to participate at least in minimum two (2) Union/Continental event during the year (Opens, Continental Cups and/or Continental Championships). Failure to participate in one of the above mentioned events will result in the exclusion of the referee from the ranking for the following year.

Referees for World Championship Veterans should be nominated by their National Federation (NF) in agreement with the IJF Referee Director Veterans.

ATTENDANCE AT IJF REFEREEING SEMINARS

The IJF may nominate referees only if the National Federations have been represented at the last IJF Refereeing Seminar or relevant Continental one. In case of not being represented at the IJF Refereeing Seminar, the referees of relevant country will not be able to be nominated for the IJF WJT for the upcoming year (from seminar to seminar).

The referees in the ranking list are obliged to attend the IJF Seminar; they should share in their NF Seminar the knowledge learned by participating at the IJF Seminar.

In order to maintain high the performance of the referees included in the IJF Ranking List and those of the “Top Level Athletes” quota, the National Federations will accept the decisions of the IJF and will support the preparation activity of the Referees.

IJF REFEREE EXAMINATIONS

CONTINENTAL: The Continental Union will hold one examination every year. Every National Federation can nominate a maximum of 2 candidates.

Criteria for the examination:

- Age: 25 to 50 years;
- Active referee on national levels;
- Nominated by the NF of which the candidate holds citizenship;
- Minimum Dan grade required: Ni-Dan (2nd Dan);
- Proficient in English;
- On time payment of the examination fee (according to the rules of each Continental Union).
INTERNATIONAL: Every second year an examination will be held in each Continent, with a maximum of ten (10) candidates from the relevant Continent.

Candidates will be proposed by their NF (only one candidate per NF) and selected by the Refereeing Commission of the relevant Continent.

Criteria for the examination:

- Age: 29 to 55 years;
- Active referee on continental levels;
- Nominated by the NF of which the candidate holds citizenship;
- Minimum Dan grade required: San-Dan (3rd Dan);
- Proficient in English;
- On time payment of the examination fee (250-US Dollar).

A candidate who fails the first examination will be authorized at the second possibility starting from the year following; if he fails a second time he will not be allowed to try both the continental and the international level.

Continental Unions may organize an International Examination every second year; however, they may send a maximum of three candidates to other Continental Union examinations. The candidates will be proposed by the NFs and selected by the relevant Continent Refereeing Commission.

Following the special IJF training sessions, former top judo competitors can be exempt from the above written requirements (international medal winners in WJT events, Continentals and World Championships and Olympics), who decide to become a referee after the end of their competitive career.

OBLIGATIONS FOR REFEREES AT IJF WORLD JUDO TOUR EVENTS

The referee meeting will always be held on the day before the start of the competition. The referees have to attend the draw at 14:00 (2pm), which is followed by the referee meeting. Attendance is compulsory (exceptions will be accepted by force majeure cases only). The referees should be formally dressed at this meeting. During the competition referees should wear a clean white shirt without any logos or designs on the collar. It is suggested that when travelling the referee uniform is carried as hand luggage to prevent it being lost by the airline.
REGISTRATION

Referees must hold a valid IJF ID Card and must be inscribed in Judobase by their NF for the concerned event.

VALIDITY

The above rules are immediately valid for Continental Unions and National Federations.