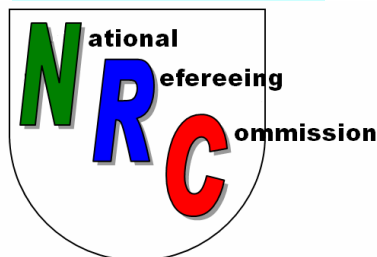




Refereeing News

www.BritishJudo.org.uk/technical/refereeing_home.php



Welcome!

Welcome to the June 2007 edition of the 'Refereeing News'.

Comments on this edition and items for the next edition gratefully received.

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Dave Martin to referee at the Worlds

Dave Martin has been selected to referee at the September Rio de Janeiro World Championships. The British Judo Association announced that Dave has been selected to referee at the 2007 World Championships, which will take place from the 13-16th September in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This is a fantastic achievement for Dave, particularly as he will be the first British referee at a World Championships since 1999. Commenting Dave said "I am delighted to be selected. I would like to thank the members of the BJA who have supported my progress over the last few years. I would especially like to thank Design White and Reuben Davison."



National Refereeing Seminar

"There is no end to learning or improvement. Perfection can never be fully attained, but must always be pursued with great enthusiasm."

IJF Referee Manual

http://www.ijf.org/rule/rule_manual.php



International Refereeing Examination

Congratulations to David Martin, Eastern Area, on his success of achieving his International Refereeing qualification (IJF 'A'), at the Hungarian Open.



Continental Refereeing Examination

Congratulations to David McSkimming, Scotland, on his success of achieving his Continental Refereeing qualification (IJF 'B'), at the Scottish Open.



National A Refereeing Examination

Congratulations to the following referees on their recent successes of achieving their National 'A' qualifications, at the British Closed:

Peter Seymour, Southern Area
 Roger Brown, Eastern Area
 Caroline Leverton, Midlands
 John Devlin, North
 Michael Guatieri, Western
 Miguel Nunes, Y & H



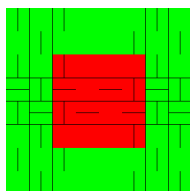
2007 Special Olympics

Congratulations to Ron Cleere, who has been selected to referee at the 2007 Special Olympics, Shanghai.

Borderline Rule

At the recent Junior World Championships, Mr. Juan Barcos (IJF Director of Refereeing) talked about the new Borderline Rule.

He said that there would still be some difficult situations 'on the limit'. But during a throwing action even if one of the fighters is touching the contest area, if Action/Reaction is immediate then the action is now valid. Uke cannot go outside without any reason UNLESS the action is dynamic / immediate.



Summarised as; **a throwing action must be initiated when both competitors are completely inside the contest area. After a throwing action has been started the action (including kaeshiwaza) is valid and may be considered valid for scoring purposes. As long as either contestant has some part of their body touching the contest area.**

The IJF feel these new rules make the judo contests more dynamic and positive.

But there will still be some situations that give some difficulty. If a situation is not clear the benefit of the doubt should go to the score. Respect positive judo.



David Martin at the Junior World Championships

Monday 9th October - Travelled out with British Team from Gatwick. Outward flight to Punta Cana went to schedule. Met by Dominican Republic Judo Federation. The coach trip to the hotel was an exhausting 4 hours.

Photo: Bob Willingham <http://www.twoj.org/judogallery>

Wednesday 11th October - Attended the Referees meeting at Hotel Don Juan at 10am. Location and time was changed for this meeting at the last minute. Full IJF commission attended. We were informed of a large number of referees - nearly 80 for this event. Juan Barcos said it was not a good situation - that the day before the tournament, the IJF still didn't know exactly how many referees they had! The role-call was taken. Some referees were not in attendance, and five referees that were there were not on the IJF list. This time these referees would be allowed to take part - but it was compulsory for federations to inform the IJF before the September deadline. In future junior world championships there will be a fixed quota from each international judo federation (based on last 6 years attendance at world events) in total there would be 55 referees. With a quota as follows: AJU - 7; JUA - 13; PJU - 13; EJU - 19; OJU - 3.

IJF A referees that have already attended Olympics and Senior Worlds will not be required to attend this event. In future, this tournament would be used for referees starting their international career. Each judo union will decide / select referees. The latest IJF refereeing commission DVD 'Edge Situations' (as used in the briefing at the World Cup by Team of Nations in Paris) was used to clarify the latest interpretation on the border line rules.

I noted that a couple of interpretations/results on the DVD have changed since Paris. Each International referee was issued with a new DVD and the result sheet was to be updated following the meeting.

Juan Barcos stated that there would still be some difficult situations 'on the limit'. But during a throwing action even if one of the fighters is touching the contest area, if Action/Reaction is immediate then the action is now valid. Uke cannot go outside without any reason UNLESS the action is dynamic / immediate.

Summarised as: A throwing action must be initiated when both competitors are completely inside the contest area. After a throwing action has been started, the action (including kaeshiwaza) is valid and may be considered valid for scoring purposes. As long as either contestant has some part of their body touching the contest area.

IJF feel these new rules make the judo contests more dynamic and positive. But there will still be some situations that give some difficulty. If a situation is not clear, the benefit of the doubt should go to the score. Respect positive judo. However, blocking, false attack must be penalised. Use common sense like timing of mate.

It was decided that the referees would be split into two groups for this tournament, due to the number of referees in attendance. Group A would referee Thursday and Saturday. Group B Friday and Sunday. Which seemed to work well, and ensured all referees got plenty of matches.

Thursday 12th October - 10.30am bus to stadium approx 40 minutes from the hotel. I was in Group A and was allocated to Mat 3. Transport was unpredictable, late in some cases, and the briefing/start of competition was delayed due to power failure in the stadium. There were 3 x 8M x 8M red contest areas; green was used on the safety zone, with 3M safety zones around all contest areas. Competition started around 12.30pm Mat 3 ran with +100kg, -52Kg and there were frequent interruptions with power during the day. So on several occasions we changed between electronic/manual scoring and time signals mid contest. The opening ceremony started at 6.30pm (the longest speeches I have ever witnessed) the finals didn't finish to around 9.30pm. One of the finals resulted in a power fail/blackout mid contest and there was a 5-10 min delay before the match could be continued.

Friday 13th October - Day off from refereeing. Took a later bus to the stadium and arrived just before the competition started. Mat 1: -90kg, -57kg; Mat 2: -100kg; Mat 3: -90kg, -63kg. Competition finished around 8pm.

Saturday 14th October - Earlier start - more competitors and four weight categories. The competition started around 11am. Referees and mat allocations were the same as those used on Thursday. Mat 3 ran -81Kg. Finals commenced at 5.30pm. I made the final block of referee, in which I was allocated the following matches: Referee - Semi final -81kg; Judge - Semi final -78kg; Judge - Semi final -73kg; Judge - Bronze final -73kg; Judge - Bronze final -57kg. The competition finished around 9pm.

Sunday 15th October - Took a later bus to the stadium to watch the final three weight categories. Final briefing at the end of the day. Referees thanked for their performance over the four days. Answer papers for the new DVD were issued to all referees. Confirmed new borderline rules were successfully applied at this tournament, IJF commission in agreement.

There was no official function on any of the evenings.

Monday 16th October - Taken to the airport via coach. Arrived back on schedule. Was delayed 20 minutes getting off the aircraft by lack of steps and a passenger who needed medical attention. Further 1-hour delay collecting baggage.

The judo was top class but not the best tournament from an organisation point of view.

David Martin IJF A, 23rd October 2006

New Technical policy for U12 Competitions and Promotion Examinations 7 - 9th Mon in 2007

The principal motif for implementation of the new technical policy and application of certain technical restrictions is to make most of the very sensitive period of children's physiological development and allow for the acquisition of sound fundamental judo technique.

If U12 participants are combined with O12 participants - no technical restrictions are applied to such an event. If U10 participants are combined with U12 – technical restrictions U12 are applied.

Regardless of the player's age, the technical restrictions described above for U10 will apply to competitive promotion examinations below 10th Mon to ensure that techniques beyond the knowledge of players conforming to the new competitive structure are not applied.

Competitions for under 10's ("1997 and below" in 2007) - Players below the age of 10 will be restricted from performing the following actions during contests:

No Kubi Nage (forms of hip throws with the hand grab around the neck),

No Knee drop techniques (particularly, drop Seoi Nage and variations of drop Kata Guruma)

No form of leg grab (including 'hand assisted' Ko Uchi Gari and O Uchi Gari).

No Sutemi waza (sacrifice body drop technique: Tomoe Nage, Sumi Gaeshi, Hikikomi Gaeshi, Tawara Gaeshi, Tani Otoshi, Yoko Gake, Yoko Guruma, Yoko Otoshi, Yoko Wakare, Daki Wakare and Ura Nage)

Important notice: there will be allowed and scored all "makikomi throws" which is thought to be associated with the loss of balance while applying the basic throw and hence resulting in a sacrifice body drop of children of this age group.

Allowed: O Soto Makikomi, Soto Makikomi, Harai Makikomi, Hane Makikomi, Uchi Makikomi, Uchi Mata Makikomi as continuation of O Soto Gari, Harai Goshi, Hane Goshi, Ippon Seoi Nage, Uchi Mata.

Competitions for under 12's (A Band "1995-1996" in 2007) - Players below the age of 12 will be restricted from performing the following actions during contests:

No Kubi Nage (forms of hip throws with the hand grab around the neck),

No Knee drop techniques (particularly, drop Seoi Nage and variations of drop Kata Guruma)

No form of leg grabs (including 'hand assisted' Ko Uchi Gari and O Uchi Gari).

No penalties will be given for incidental application of the prohibited techniques, but verbal explanation.

Reminder to all "Referees-In-Charge"

Please ensure that the referee attendance sheet is completed in full.

This includes the date, event name, all referees in attendance, referees' grades and number of contest areas.

This allows for quick processing once the sheet is returned to Head Office.

Coach Quote: "Yuko, ref, yuko... Oh. Waza-ari... Okay, then..."

2007 National Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Sat 16 June	Junior and Senior National Teams	K2, Crawley
Sat 23 & Sun 24 Jun	Kent International	CPNSC
Sat 14 Jul	British Closed SN Championships	WIS, Cardiff
Sun 2 Sep	Heart of England	NIA, Birmingham
Sat 22 & Sun 23 Sep	Fighting Films GB World Cup (Men's)	NIA, Birmingham
Sat 29 Sep	British Masters Championships	Thetford
Sat 13 & Sun 14 Oct	National Age Band Championships	iceSheffield, Sheffield
TBA	National Age Band 'A' Championships	TBA
Sat 1 Dec	Junior British Closed	TBA
Sun 2 Dec	Senior British Closed	TBA

Coach Quote: "You don't want to go attacking again, and get another one of those penalties..."

Provisional Referee Scheme

A Provisional Refereeing scheme has been introduced which allows refereeing at low key events under close supervision without any entry examination. Obviously, some knowledge of contest judo is required, and meeting the following criteria is essential:

- Valid BJA licence
- Minimum of 17 years of age.
- Minimum grade of 3rd Kyu.

Authorised to referee at a maximum level of 2* events, mon and kyu gradings.
 Minimum of 2 Nat 'C' Referees on the mat when officiating.
 Must complete a Provisional Referees Card at events as a record of attendance.
 Appointment must be approved by the Area Refereeing Representative.
 Limited for a 6 month period from date of card issue.

Providing the above criteria are met, the referee will be covered by BJA insurance whilst officiating.

All Area Representatives have further details and cards.

*Coach Quote - to Player who's being held down:
 "Stand up... stand up...."*

The Rei

A part of the etiquette of Judo is the rei.

It is a tradition which reflects the respect and discipline that permeates the unique activities of our sport, and sets Judo uniquely apart from other international sports.

The gestures are of respect, appreciation and courtesy.

The guide for bowing, therefore, should be followed in a respectful fashion.

The referee and judges have a fundamental role in upholding this uniqueness by ensuring that bowing is done according to these guidelines.

Contestants who do not bow in accordance with these guidelines will be requested to do so.



All standing rei should be at an angle of 30 degrees as measured at the waist.

Upon entering and leaving the competition area, the contestants should bow.

At the signal from the Referee, the contestants should move forward to the centralised position on the edge of the contest area and (optionally) bow, then move forward onto the contest area to behind their respective marks.

Standing behind their corresponding marks (and without requiring any orders), the contestants must bow simultaneously towards each other, take a step forward, from the left foot, and stand in natural standing position while waiting for the referee to order hajime.

Once the contest is over and the referee has ordered soremade, the contestants should stand in front of their corresponding marks to await the result.

The contestants should at this point have their judogi in order.

Following the Referee awarding the result, the contestants simultaneously take a step back, from the right foot, and must bow to each other.

Everyone's Talking About It...

British Judo Association's Forum:

<http://www.britishjudo.org.uk/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=cfm>

"Join the debate..."

BJA Rulebook Update

The latest amended BJA rulebook can be found here:

http://www.britishjudo.org.uk/technical/documents/Contest_Rules_Version_March2007.pdf

This includes:

- Remove of references to Danger Zone.
- Modified competition area specifications.
- Removal of reference to half-body rule in Sutemi-waza.
- Addition of reference to immediate Kaeshi-waza being allowed on Safety Area
- Replacement of 'kinsa's with 'attack's.
- Removal of Shido penalty for 5 seconds in red area.



Referee Cards and Certificates

The BJA are in the process of collecting and collating data from all British referees. This will be used to compile a central database; from which revalidation, calling to national events, attendance of events, retirement, coaching and assessments and promotions (to name but a few) will be facilitated.

If you've not already done so, please send your Name, BJA Membership Number, Date of Birth, Email Address, Date and Type of all Levels Passed and (if applicable) Junior and Senior Examiner Level to your Area Rep (a list of whom can be found at the back of this newsletter).

In due course, the BJA will be issuing credit card-style cards (similar to the coaching ones) and 'end of year' attendance certificates.

At each event, you should be asked to complete your name and licence number on a referee attendance sheet. If you aren't please speak to either the tournament director or the referee in charge.

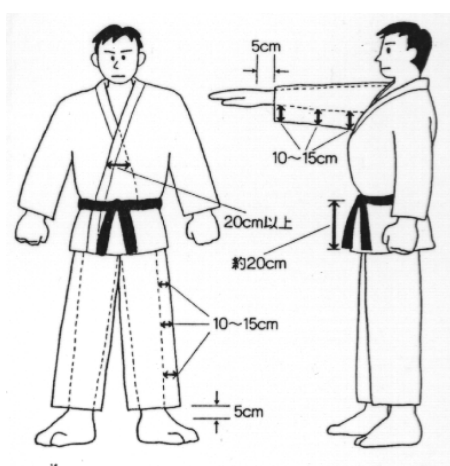
For the time being - while the electronic system gets up and running, please continue to hand in your refereeing card for completion.

The Judogi

Strongly made of cotton or similar material, in good condition.

The material must not be so thick, hard, or slippery as to prevent the opponent from taking a grip.

The jacket shall be long enough to cover the thighs and shall at a minimum reach to the fists when the arms are fully extended downwards at the sides of the body.



The body of the jacket shall be worn with the left side crossed over the right and shall be wide enough to have a minimum overlap of 20cm at the level of the bottom of the rib-cage.

The sleeves of the jacket must reach to the wrist joint at the maximum and 5cm above the wrist joint at the minimum.

A space of 10 to 15cm shall exist between the sleeve and the arm (bandages included), along the entire length of the sleeve.

The lapel and collar must be a maximum of 1cm in thickness and 5cm in width.

The trousers, free of any markings, (except Manufacturer's trade mark on bottom front of left leg and contestant's name on upper front of the trousers), shall be long enough to cover the legs and shall at the maximum reach the ankle joint and at the minimum 5cm above the ankle joint.

A space of 10 to 15cm shall exist between the trouser leg and the leg (bandages included) along the entire length of the trouser leg.

A strong belt, 4 to 5cm wide shall be worn over the jacket going twice around it at waist, and tied with a square knot with the first loop inside the knot, tight enough to prevent the jacket from being too loose and long enough to leave 20 to 30cm protruding from each side of the knot when tied.

Female contestants shall wear under the jacket either:

- Ø a plain white or off-white T-shirt, with short sleeves, rather strong, long enough to be worn inside the trousers, or
- Ø a plain white or off-white leotard with short sleeves.

If the Judogi of a contestant does not comply with these criteria, the Referee must order the contestant to change in the shortest possible time, into a Judogi, which does.

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Next Time

Anything for publication gratefully received!

And Finally...

One Day the Devil challenged the Lord to a Judo tournament. Smiling the Lord proclaimed, "You don't have a chance; I have Kano, Mifune, Kotani, Kimura and all the greatest players up here". "Yes", snickered the Devil, "but I have all the referees."

www.judoinfo.com