



Eligibility Criteria

for Athletes with Disabilities in EJU Adapted Judo Tournaments

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This document establishes the eligibility criteria for athletes with disabilities to compete in European Judo Union (EJU) Adapted Judo Tournaments. It outlines the standards and guidelines that ensure fair and equitable competition, while promoting inclusivity within the sport of judo.

Eligibility criteria are designed to confirm that each athlete has a minimum eligible impairment, ensuring they meet the requirements for participation in EJU Adapted Judo Tournaments. By adhering to these standards, we aim to provide a safe, competitive environment that respects the abilities and limitations of each individual athlete, while fostering a spirit of fairness and integrity.

1. Age requirements

EJU Adapted Judo tournaments are divided into two age groups: Under 15 and Over 15.

- The Under-15 group comprises athletes who will be between 9 and 14 years old during the current calendar year, including those who are currently 8 but will turn 9 within the year.
- The Over-15 group includes athletes who will turn 15 or older within the same calendar year.

2. Eligibility criteria

Eligibility Criteria are divided into five main groups:

1. Physical impairments
2. Intellectual impairments
3. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
4. Visual impairments
5. Hearing impairments

2.1. Physical impairments

IMPAIRMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION
Impaired Muscle Power	<p>Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a Health Condition that either reduces or eliminates their ability to voluntarily contract their muscles in order to move or to generate force.</p> <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Impaired Muscle Power include spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete, tetra- or paraplegia or paraparesis), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.</p>
Impaired Passive Range of Movement	<p>Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a restriction or a lack of passive movement in one or more joints.</p> <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Impaired Passive Range of Movement include arthrogryposis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilisation or trauma affecting a joint.</p>



Limb Deficiency	Athletes with Limb Deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma (for example traumatic amputation), illness (for example amputation due to bone cancer) or congenital limb deficiency (for example dysmelia).
Leg Length Difference	Athletes with Leg Length Difference have a difference in the length of their legs as a result of a disturbance of limb growth, or as a result of trauma.
Short Stature	Athletes with Short Stature have a reduced length in the bones of the upper limbs, lower limbs and/or trunk. Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Short Stature include achondroplasia, growth hormone dysfunction, and osteogenesis imperfecta.
Hypertonia	Athletes with Hypertonia have an increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system. Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Hypertonia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.
Ataxia	Athletes with Ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system. Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Ataxia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis.
Athetosis	Athletes with Athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements. Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Athetosis include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.

2.2. Intellectual impairments

Eligibility Criteria for Athletes with Intellectual impairments:

1. **Significant impairment in intellectual functioning:** A significant limitation in intellectual functioning, defined by a Full-Scale IQ score of 75 or below.
2. **Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills:** This is defined as performance that is at least 2 standard deviations below the mean of, either one of the 3 types of adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social, or practical skills) or an overall score on a standardized measure of conceptual, social and practical skills.
3. **Intellectual disability and significant additional impairment:** A significant additional impairment refers to a lifelong condition that affects an individual's functional capacity and significantly impacts their sports performance. This includes athletes with intellectual disabilities, associated lifelong conditions, and/or genetic conditions such as Down syndrome.



A full and detailed athlete assessment should be conducted by a qualified psychologist to support the diagnosis of intellectual disability. This assessment should include:

1. Significant Impairment in Intellectual Functioning

This must be assessed using an internationally recognized and professionally administered IQ test. EJU recognizes the most recently standardized versions of the following:

- **Wechsler Intelligence Scales:**
 - o WISC (ages 6-16)
 - o WAIS (ages 16-90)
 - o Regional variations such as HAWIE, S-SAIS, and MAWIE (Note: WASI is not accepted)
- **Stanford-Binet** (for ages 2+)
- **Raven Progressive Matrices** (Note: CPM is not accepted)

2. Significant Limitations in Adaptive Behavior

This must be assessed using an internationally recognized, professionally administered standardized measure that is norm-referenced on the general population, including people with disabilities. Examples include:

- **Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales**
- **ABAS (Adaptive Behavior Assessment System)**
- **AAMR Adaptive Behavior Scales**

The assessment and reporting should cover key areas such as communication, self-care, self-direction, social/interpersonal skills, and the ability to respond to life changes and environmental demands.

Whenever possible, the results of a formal psychological assessment that leads to a diagnosis of intellectual disability should be submitted. However, if such documentation is unavailable, the following alternatives will be accepted:

- A signed statement from a psychologist or medical doctor with adequate specialization confirming the diagnosis of intellectual disability.
- Proof of enrolment in a special school or college for students with intellectual disabilities.
- A government or state-issued diagnosis for the receipt of support, explicitly stating that the required support is due to intellectual disability (e.g., ICD-10 diagnosis).

2.3. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Eligibility Criteria for Athletes with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD):

Athletes with autism who also have intellectual disabilities are eligible to compete. Individuals with higher-functioning forms of autism, such as those with Asperger's Syndrome, who may have average or above-average intelligence, are not eligible.

Clinical definition of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the ICD-11 as:

"Persistent deficits in the ability to initiate and sustain reciprocal social interaction and social communication, and by a range of restricted, repetitive, and inflexible patterns of behaviour, interests or activities that are clearly atypical or excessive for the individual's age and sociocultural context. The onset of the disorder occurs during the developmental period, typically in early childhood, but symptoms may not become fully apparent until later when social demands exceed limited capacities. Deficits are sufficiently severe to cause impairment in personal, family,



social, educational, occupational, or other important areas of functioning and are usually a pervasive feature of the individual's functioning observable in all settings, although they may vary according to social, educational, or other context. Individuals along the spectrum exhibit a full range of intellectual functioning and language abilities."

Both the **ICD-11** and the **DSM-5** definitions of Autism are accepted by **EJU**.

Indicators for an Intellectual Disability:

For EJU eligibility, the individual must fulfil the criteria for an intellectual impairment as depicted in paragraph 2.2, or provide evidence of meeting at least one the following indicators:

- • Attending a specialist school for intellectual disabilities
- • Attending a mainstream school but requiring classroom assistance
- • Experiencing significant delays in academic achievement relative to their age

Formal Diagnosis Requirements

For EJU eligibility, athletes with autism or ASD must provide a formal diagnosis carried out by qualified practitioners using accepted diagnostic techniques, based on either the **ICD-11** or **DSM-5** criteria.

Diagnostic tools accepted for autism assessment in EJU eligibility include:

- ADOS/ADOS2 (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule)
- ADR-I (Autistic Diagnostic Interview - Revised)
- CARS (Childhood Autism Rating Scale)
- DISCO (Diagnostic Interview for Social and Communication Disorders Framework)
- GARS (Gilliam Autism Rating Scale)
- Adult Asperger Assessment (AAA)
- RIMLAND (Autism Diagnostic Instrument)
- Autism Spectrum Rating Scales (ASRS)
- Indian Scale for the Assessment of Autism (ISAA) - note: for ages 2-9 only

2.4. Visual impairments

To be eligible to compete, an athlete must fulfil both of the following criteria:

1. Eligible Impairments

The Athlete must have at least one of the following eligible impairments in each eye:

- a. Impairment of the eye structure
- b. Impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways
- c. Impairment of the visual cortex of the central brain

2. Visual Acuity Criteria

The Athlete's eligible impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to 6/18.

The definitions of visual impairment are based on the standard definitions from the World Health Organization (WHO), as listed in the table below. These definitions are internationally accepted and are incorporated into the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision (ICD-10).



CATEGORY	Worse than:	Equal to or better than:
Visual impairment - Moderate (Score: 1)	6/18 20/60	6/60 20/200
Visual impairment - Severe (Score: 2)	6/60 20/200	3/60 20/400
Blindness (Score: 3)	3/60 20/400	1/60 20/1200 Counting fingers at 1 meter
Blindness (Score: 4)	1/60 20/1200 Counting fingers at 1 meter	Light perception
Blindness (Score: 5)	No light perception	No light perception

NOTE: Athletes will be classified according to the LESS-IMPAIRED eye. Athletes with monocular blindness or impairment will not be eligible for participation.

2.5. Hearing Impairment

Hearing impairment will be acknowledged as a criterion for disability eligibility exclusively in the **U15 age category**, in accordance with the criteria outlined below.

Hearing Impairment - Deafness: An individual is classified as deaf if they have a hearing loss of at least 55 dB pure tone average (PTA) in the better ear, determined by the three-tone average at 500, 1000, and 2000 Hertz (air conduction) in accordance with the ISO 1969 Standard.

Competitors are strictly prohibited from using any hearing aids, amplification devices, or external cochlear implant components during both the warm-up and competition.

3. Conditions/Impairments not meeting EJU Eligibility Criteria

Certain health conditions do not result in an eligible impairment and are not considered underlying health conditions. However, if an athlete has both a health condition that does not lead to an eligible impairment and an underlying health condition, they may still be eligible to compete.

Athletes with health conditions (including, but not limited to, those listed below) who do not have an underlying health condition will not be eligible to compete. Health conditions that do not lead to an eligible impairment include:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- ADHD
- Challenging behaviour
- Cardiovascular or respiratory conditions
- Conditions related to metabolism and/or the endocrine system, including nutritional deficiencies
- Blood/haematological system disorders
- Any physical, intellectual or visual condition that is non-permanent
- Reduced muscle endurance
- Transient or other movement responses, such as tics or stereotypy



- Conditions that primarily cause pain (e.g., myofascial pain dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia, or complex regional pain syndrome)
- Conditions that primarily cause fatigue (e.g., chronic fatigue syndrome)
- Conditions that primarily cause joint hypermobility or hypotonia (eg. Ehlers-Danlos syndrome)
- Conditions that are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature (e.g., conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder)
- Any impairment with an underlying health condition that is considered unsafe for sport or that may be a risk to the Athlete's health during competition

4. Athlete Eligibility Evaluation and Status Communication Process

The process for evaluating an athlete's eligibility involves the submission of specific documentation, followed by a review and determination of eligibility status. Once the required documentation is received, each athlete will be informed of their status, which will be categorized as follows:

- **Review (R):** Subject to re-evaluation
- **Confirmed (C):** No further evaluations required unless conditions change
- **Confirmed with Re-evaluation (CR):** No further evaluations required unless conditions change, but re-evaluation is necessary after two years
- **Not Eligible (NE):** Does not meet criteria

4.1. Required Documentation for Registration

To initiate the eligibility evaluation, the athlete must submit the following documents:

1. Proof of Identity

- A copy of the athlete's passport. If a passport is unavailable, a national identity card may be provided. The document must clearly display the athlete's photo, name, citizenship, and date of birth.

2. Medical Diagnostic Forms (MDF)

- Completed by qualified medical professionals, providing a detailed assessment of the athlete's condition and eligibility.

3. Relevant Diagnostic Reports and Supporting Documentation

- Any additional documents that support the athlete's diagnosis and eligibility, as required by the specific criteria for their condition.

4.2. Evaluation Process

Once the complete registration package is submitted, the documentation will be reviewed by the appropriate medical and eligibility authorities. After the review, the athlete will receive feedback on their status:

- **Review (R):** The athlete may need further evaluation or additional information before a final decision is made.
- **Confirmed (C):** The athlete meets the eligibility criteria, and no further action is required unless their condition changes.
- **Confirmed with Re-evaluation (CR):** The athlete meets the eligibility criteria, but re-evaluation will be required after two years to ensure continued eligibility.



- **Not Eligible (NE):** The athlete does not meet the necessary criteria to participate in the competition.

4.3. Virtus Classified Athletes

Athletes who hold a valid Virtus International Level Eligibility and are listed on the Virtus Master List are recognized by the EJU. These athletes are not required to undergo the standard EJU eligibility evaluation process. Instead, they should submit a request for recognition of their eligibility status, including their Virtus International Registration Number. The EJU eligibility will remain valid for the duration of the athlete's Virtus International Level Eligibility.

5. Submission Process for Eligibility Documentation

To ensure a smooth and efficient evaluation process, all required documentation must be submitted in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Documentation must be submitted electronically via email to **adaptedjudo@eju.net**.
- All electronic documents should be submitted in PDF format to ensure compatibility and prevent unauthorized modifications.
- Upon submission, the EJU will provide confirmation of receipt to the submitting party. It is the responsibility of the submitter to follow up if confirmation is not received within the expected timeframe (two weeks).
- National Federations / Clubs are responsible for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the submitted documentation. Incomplete or incorrect submissions may result in delays or the rejection of the application.
- For any questions or issues related to the submission process, National Federations / Clubs may contact the EJU by email via **adaptedjudo@eju.net** for assistance.

6. Protests and Appeals

6.1. Protests

National Federations / Clubs may submit a protest if they believe that an athlete has been unfairly deemed ineligible under the EJU eligibility criteria. Protests must be submitted in writing by an official representative of the National Federation / Club, clearly outlining the grounds for the objection and providing any relevant supporting documentation. A non-refundable protest fee of **100 EUR** applies upon submission. All protests will be reviewed by the EJU Eligibility Committee, whose decision will be final.

6.2. Appeals

Appeals can address procedural mistakes in classification decisions, but they cannot directly change the outcome of an athlete's sport class.

7. Data Protection and Confidentiality

The European Judo Union (EJU) is committed to ensuring the confidentiality and protection of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other applicable laws.



7.1. Data Collection and Use

- Personal data collected during the athlete registration and evaluation process will be used solely for the purpose of determining eligibility for participation in EJU Adapted Judo Tournaments.
- Information provided by athletes, including medical and diagnostic records, will be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently.

7.2. Data Storage and Access

- All personal and medical data will be stored securely and will only be accessible to authorized personnel involved in the eligibility evaluation process.
- Data will be retained for the duration necessary to meet regulatory and competition requirements and will be deleted or anonymized after this period.

7.3. Rights of Data Subjects

Athletes have the right to:

- Access their personal data and receive a copy upon request.
- Request corrections to any inaccuracies in their data.
- Request the deletion of their data if it is no longer required for the purposes stated.
- Object to the processing of their data under specific circumstances as defined by GDPR.

7.4. Consent and Responsibility

- By submitting the required documentation, athletes or their legal guardians consent to the processing of their personal data for the purposes outlined above.
- It is the responsibility of National Federations / Clubs to ensure that all data submitted complies with privacy regulations and that appropriate consent has been obtained.

7.5. Data Sharing

- Personal data will not be shared with third parties unless legally required or essential for the evaluation process. In such cases, data sharing will occur under strict confidentiality agreements.

7.6. Reporting Concerns

Any concerns regarding data privacy or processing should be directed to the EJU via email: adaptedjudo@eju.net.

This section ensures that the rights and privacy of all athletes are respected while maintaining the integrity of the eligibility evaluation process.