

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FOR PROMOTION TO 6TH DAN

The following notes have been compiled in order to assist BJA 5th Dan judoka in their application for promotion to 6th Dan and should be read in conjunction with the published application form. These promotions are awarded by the British Judo Association Board of Directors (BJA BOD) in accordance with the information detailed on the IJF Information on Dan Grade Applications, BJA Dan Grade Promotion Syllabus, and on the recommendation of the BJA National Promotions & Gradings Commission (NPGC) and Judo Commission (JC).

1. The applicant should complete and sign the application form, which can be done digitally.
2. The applicant may also wish to supply an additional curriculum vitae (CV) with extra information.
3. The category claimed (A, B, C or D) is the highest level that the judoka has obtained during their career; this activity must have been consistent over a period of time.
4. The NPGC recommendation will primarily be based on activity since the last promotion. However, a judoka's complete judo career is taken into account.
5. The applicant must ensure they are of the correct age and time in grade. They must hold a minimum competitive grade of 3rd Dan, but in exceptional circumstances, as detailed in the Dan Grade Promotion Syllabus, a non-competitive or technical 3rd Dan may be accepted. Proof of minimum BJA Level 1 kata certification in all six Kodokan kata must be supplied.
6. The BJA acknowledges the contribution that some members may make over many years of actively supporting the BJA. Qualification by experience may also be a consideration for promotion to 6th Dan for members over the age of 72 years, over the age of 80 years & over the age of 90 years.
7. Compassionate promotions from 5th Dan to 6th Dan may be considered, as detailed in the BJA Dan Grade Promotion Syllabus.

Note: Under the BJA 'grandfather rights' provision, judoka who have completed Level 1 certificates in Nage-no-kata and Katame-no-kata on or before 31st December 2025 and who are waiting to complete time-in-grade requirements will be considered as having completed the kata requirements for 6th Dan.

The completed application form should be sent by email to Dave Horton-Jones, National Dan Grading Manager (NDGM) at dave.hortonjones@britishjudo.org.uk.

Receipt of the application will be confirmed and after verification of the information supplied and that the criteria have been met, the application form will be considered by the NPGC for recommendation to the BJA Judo Commission (JC). On JC approval, the applicant will be informed of the promotion in writing and, if appropriate and timely, a suitable presentation will be made.

Should the application be rejected, the NDGM will inform the applicant and provide feedback on the reason(s) for rejection.