

REVISED TECHNICAL OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Following a Board meeting on the 16th February 2016, several changes have been made to the Technical Officials Qualification System. This includes changes to the examination criteria and the syllabus for Timekeepers/ Scorers, Contest recorders, Senior Recorders, Competition Controllers and Tutors & Examiners. We are confident that these changes will lead to the improved efficiency and effectiveness of all Technical Officials within British Judo.

Criteria for Examination

- Timekeeper/Scorer (TK):** Qualified “on the job”, requiring 3 signatures, one of which from a minimum Senior Recorder (SR), at 3 events. (A maximum of one of these could be a competitive Dan grading.)
- Contest Recorder (CR):** Three events since qualification as TK (Tutors could at their discretion take a candidate straight to CR on a course if they feel the candidate is suitable.)
- Senior Recorder (SR):** Ten events and 18 months since qualification as CR. Candidates must have had some experience working in control at an event.
- Competition Controller (CC):** See below for CC programme.

Minimum ages:

- Timekeeper/Scorer: 10 years
- Competition Recorder: 13 years
- Senior Recorder: 16 years
- Competition Controller: 21 years

However, there will be a minimum age, generally 18, for CR and SR to have a tournament licence in their name. National Competition and Technical Officials Commission (NCTOC) can make exceptions if a young TK is working under very experienced supervision.

Timekeepers/Scorers

There will be a form available for download. It will simply need to be filled in and signed at three events and then returned to head office. If the candidate does not currently have a BJA licence, the BJA will issue an associate membership (valid for table officiating only). This will last for three years and can be renewed free of charge at the end of that time if the person is still active.

It will still be possible, should there be a demand, to run a short TK course and use the previous assessment papers. However, there will be no need to submit the papers to head office, merely the names and details of the successful candidates.

Contest Recorder

Qualification to CR will still be by an examination paper, usually following a course. Tutors will have discretion to take people directly to CR level where appropriate. The key will be ensuring that the candidate, by the end of the course, has the required skills. Where a candidate has already been actively working at this level at events to a good standard, the tutor may decide to dispense with a formal course and simply ensure before taking the exam that the candidate has the required knowledge. As with TK, if the candidate does not currently hold a BJA membership, the BJA will issue an associate membership which will be valid for three years.

Senior Recorders

Qualification to this level will again be by examination paper, again usually following a course. As this is a higher level, tutors need to be surer of the capabilities and knowledge of the candidate. Candidates need to hold a minimum of associate membership of the BJA to become SRs.

Competition Recorder and Senior Recorder Courses

We are aiming to develop and provide, if not a standardised course, certainly a clear syllabus content and a course outline with suitable learning aids.

Competition Controller

As at present, qualification to CC status will be via the PCC (Provisional Competition Controller) programme. We are developing a clear and published programme including syllabus and assessment methods with ongoing mentoring of candidates. A maximum of two candidates per year are taken on and there are four possible routes for nominating candidates to NCTOC for consideration:

- Nomination from NCTOC
- Nomination from tutors
- Nomination from Areas and HCs
- Self-nomination.
- NCTOC will then consider selection for the programme.

Syllabus

NOTE: Each level presupposes good knowledge of previous levels. At all levels, it is important that officials have “people skills” and have the benefit of the players in mind at all times. The syllabus is broadly the same as previously, with a clearer and more transparent CC syllabus being developed to add to the picture.

Timekeeper/Scorer

- Awareness of referee words and signals which require action from the TK
- Ability to time keep and score effectively including when to re-set at end of contest.
- Awareness of procedure when osaekomi is on at end of contest time.
- Very basic understanding of scoring and penalty systems.

Contest Recorder

- Awareness of legends and scores.
- Awareness of usual contest times, osaekomi times and rest times.
- Ability to run a table in general.
- Ability to run pools or compound knockout.
- Understanding of procedure when a player fails to appear or withdraws (including calling for a player).
- Awareness of basic safeguarding.

Senior Recorder

- Ability to run team sheets and pools throughout.
- Ability to place players into pools or compound repechage or second round knockout after first round pools.
- Understanding of point scoring rules.
- Awareness of rules regarding weigh-in and safeguarding.
- Ability to run a simple knockout with repechage.
- Understanding of procedure in the case of tied positions in a pool (including three way tie).

REVISED TECHNICAL OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

- Ability to sort players into pools using index system at Level 1.

Competition Controller

To be announced.

Tutors and Examiners

Their role would be to assist with the development of local officials and structures. Broadly speaking, these would be the same people who were previously examiners (with now an increased emphasis on tutoring and mentoring), with some additions and updates to ensure all areas are covered and the addition of some new. There is also a need to get Areas and Home Countries to be more proactive in generating officials and supporting them. Some Areas and HCs already do this but others do not or need to be more active. In some cases they also need to provide funding and budgets where these are not already in place, as part of their development plans. It is also obviously a key role for the Areas and HCs to generate interest in qualifying.

The aim is that, working with Areas and HCs where possible, a table official's course should be held in each region during 2016 and generally annually or bi-annually depending on demand thereafter. Depending on local demand, the course may be for certain levels only. Venues are at the discretion of tutors, but we would seek to keep costs to a minimum and so club venues would often be best – and may also provide more candidates. Successful courses are also often put on at the same time as other activities, such as refereeing courses.

We are also changing the invitation system to national events to ensure that ALL Contest Recorders and above get the opportunity to attend a national event and to benefit from the experience. This means a rota system, which in turn means that officials may not get invitations as frequently as in years past. We also have a tight budget which means that we have to be mindful of using local officials and those travelling together. However, we will do our best to ensure that all officials get invited at least once per rota cycle. Some officials, of course, may choose not to do national events.