

TECHNICAL OFFICIAL QUALIFICATION

This document describes the skills and standards expected at each level.

TIMEKEEPER / SCORER

A TK should have the skill set needed to operate the clocks and scoreboards at a competition under appropriate supervision.

CONTEST RECORDER

A CR should have the skill set needed to run the table at a competition, possibly occasionally needing to refer a complex or unusual situation to a more experienced official for advice. They should also be able to supervise TKs and advise on any situation that a TK might encounter.

A CR should have a basic understanding of competition structure, including Levels of events, weigh-in and safeguarding protocols, and handling of players, parents and coaches.

An experienced CR can run low level events, so by the time they do this for the first time, a CR should have a good understanding rather than a basic one of the areas in the previous paragraph. Much of this comes with experience, so it is not reasonable to expect this when first qualifying.

SENIOR RECORDER

A SR should have the skill set needed to run the table at a competition, including being able to handle almost any complex or unusual situation that may occur which table staff are expected to manage.

A SR should have a very good understanding of competition structure, including Levels of events, weigh-in and safeguarding protocols, and handling of players, parents and coaches.

A SR can run up to (non-point-scoring) Level 3 events, which could be sizeable, so by the time they do this for the first time, they should have the skills and experience needed for this. This also includes a degree of skill in handling people. Much of this again comes with experience, so it is not reasonable to expect this when first qualifying.

COMPETITION CONTROLLER

Two essential differences between SR and CC are:

1. A CC can run point-scoring events;
2. A CC can run high-level events including ranking events.

A CC would also be expected to be able to handle any complex or unusual situation that may arise at an event, including both being aware of standard solutions to such situations, but also being able to generate fair and reasonable solutions. A CC who shows the aptitude and enthusiasm may become a CR and later also SR tutor and assessor.

It is important to understand that the CC is not the “finished article”. A CC must accept that there is always more to learn and needs to be open to such learnings through experience.

NOTES

1. It is not a requirement that an official has ever been a judo player, coach or referee. However, a good official must be aware of the needs and mindset of each of these groups. Undoubtedly, an official who has been a player, coach or referee will have an appreciation of these needs which will significantly help them. Therefore, those who do not have those experiences will need to learn through experience and become sensitive to their profiles.
2. At all levels, a technical official must “buy in” to the concept that everyone is there for the benefit of the players. Acceptance of this concept manifests itself in two ways: firstly, showing patience and consideration to players, even in situations of pressure and difficulty, and secondly, when acting as a Tournament Director, being prepared to go the extra mile for the benefit of the players, when such actions do not impinge on safety, fairness, safeguarding, insurance, specific rule sets or the common good. At the lower qualification levels, it is important to develop that patience, whereas for the higher levels, although that patience must not be lost, it is being prepared to go that extra mile that marks out the excellent officials from the merely competent ones.
3. Organisational, communication and leadership skills become gradually more important as the official progress through the qualification levels to the increasing need to effectively and indeed respectfully liaise with others..
4. In this modern era, it is impossible to function as a high-level technical official without a basic level of computer literacy, which includes being able to use electronic scoreboards and recording devices, communication via email, and ability to access information from the BJA website and membership database.

PROVISIONAL COMPETITION CONTROLLER

The PCC is the description of an SR who has been formally accepted on the training programmes to take them to CC. Therefore, at the point of becoming PCC, a candidate needs to have the skills of an experienced and seasoned SR and to exhibit abilities which suggest they are capable of making the transition to the higher level of qualification. The PCC process should then be about learning the knowledge, skills and attitude required to be a good CC.