

1.0 INTRODUCTION

British Judo is known to have athletes who compete with external diabetic implants which if removed may give the competitor medical difficulties. These devices are generally in bodily private areas or top of their arm which is not micro checked at any level. The issues arising are that if they are discovered by the referee that the only option available to the referee is immediate disqualification. Therefore, athletes hide the fact they have these to enable them to compete as they feel safe doing so. Some athletes maybe unclear on the consequences of discovery and may incur a surprise disqualification resulting in a large expense being wasted.

Furthermore, the refereeing commission would like to be more inclusive to these athletes where it is safe to do so, this is thought to be extending British Judo's broader desire to be more inclusive.

2.0 Expert Medical Advice

The refereeing commission previously sought input from the British Judo official doctor (Jo Banks) on this situation and were advised that there are broadly speaking two types of the devices, in some cases removing it could be a health hazard in other cases removal would be fine.

Although these devices differ slightly in size, they are generally plastic and stuck onto the body with a strong medical dressing designed to last two weeks, but unlikely to withstand heavy gripping of the upper arm in competition. So, Jo Banks advice is to take it off if it's not absolutely needed continuously. If it is essential to maintain control of their diabetes, then it should be taped very securely, or protected with something like a neoprene sleeve so it can't be pulled off or cause harm to the other player. It is something that the athletes should alert competition organisers to in advance so appropriate checks can be made before they compete.

3.0 Competition Trial

To establish whether or not these devices are acceptable in judo competition, the board of directors have approved a trial period of usage under the following conditions. It is totally the athletes (or carer if under 18 years) responsibility to ensure that:

- ✓ A declaration is submitted to British Judo stating that they will be wearing the device
- ✓ Approval from an appropriately qualified medical person has been gained to compete
- ✓ The athlete takes full responsibility for any consequences
- ✓ If in nonprivate areas (not within under clothes) a designated official may inspect if required
- ✓ British Judo including all officials and staff are not responsible for issues arising at any time as a result of competing with these devices
- ✓ It is the athletes responsibility to provide the additional suitable covering which satisfies current judo contest rules
- ✓ The athlete understands that any checks conducted by officials is to ensure that the area around the device is thought to be competitively safe to all, not medically safe

*Athlete includes carer for those under 18 years.

The trial will last no longer than until 31st December 2022, thereafter a decision will be made.

4.0 Diabetics Declaration for wearing diabetes implants in judo competition:

The following declaration is to be submitted to British Judo at least two weeks in advance of entering a British Judo competition.

I the athlete / carer of the athlete in question, agree to the British Judo conditions in full to compete with a diabetic implant as stated in section 3.0 of this document.

Athlete Details:

Athlete Name			
Athlete Address			
Athlete Email			
Athlete Age		Date of Birth	
Athlete Phone Number		BJA Member Number	
Athlete Signature		Date	

Carer Details (if athlete is under 18 years):

Carer Name			
Carer Address			
Carer Email			
Carer Age		Date of Birth	
Carer Phone Number		BJA Member Number, if applicable	
Carer Signature		Date	

Notes:

The athlete's section must be completed in all cases.

Declarations must be emailed to arrive at the BJA Head Office email address at least TWO weeks prior to any applicable events, email address: bjabritishjudo.org.uk

A hard copy should also be handed to the Tournament Director on the day.