



Regulations for Referees 2026

1. EJU REFEREE RANKING SYSTEM

The EJU Referee Ranking list starts on the 1st of January 2026 and will finish on 31st of December 2026. The ranking list is published on the EJU homepage, individually as well as per National Federation.

The ranking will be made along the IJF events, European Judo Championships, European Judo Open and European Judo Cups.

The referees will receive points from 1 to 10 in decimal expressions (6.0, 6.1, 7.2, 7.6, etc...). To generate the ranking of referees, the points are summed up and divided by the number of attended tournaments. The referee with the highest average points is ranked as No 1, the referee with the second highest average points as No 2, and so forth. If several referees have the same score (equality), the referee with the higher number of events will have the higher ranking.

On the European Championships Senior, Cadet, Junior, U-23, Mixed Teams and Clubs the referees will receive points from 1 to 10 in 0,5 expression.

2. OFFICIATING REFEREES AT IJF EVENTS

For all IJF-events, World Championships, IJF Masters, Grand Slam and Grand Prix the referees will be nominated by the INTERNATIONAL JUDO FEDERATION (IJF).

3. OFFICIATING REFEREES AT EJU EVENTS

Following to the article 1.8 of the IJF Sport and Organization Rules (SOR, <https://sor.ijf.org>):

"The referee must be of the same nationality as the one in the IJF database (judobase)". The evidence of citizenship shall be the production of a valid passport (or ID card) issued by the represented country.

Starting from the National License the Referees must be inscribed in Judobase by their NF.

Referees must hold a valid IJF ID Card.

Referees must be inscribed in Judobase by their NF within the deadlines indicated in the outlines for the concerned event.

4. OFFICIATING REFEREES AT EUROPEAN JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The referees for all European Judo Championships (Individual, Team, Clubs, Veterans) will be nominated by the EJU Refereeing Commission. Based on the ranking list, the EJU Refereeing Commission will choose the referees by name, who can take part at the different European Judo Championships.

Only referees who participated in at least 3 events in 2025 with allocation of ranking points (EJU and IJF) can be candidate for nominations.

The ranking list from 2025 will be used for nominations of individual/team championships.



The ranking list from 2026 can also be used for nominations later in the year after participation in at least 3 events.

The EJU Refereeing Commission will nominate 4 referees per mat. Only one Referee per country can be nominated for all European Championships.

COMMISSION MEMBERS WILL HAVE THE FUNCTION OF SUPERVISORS.

The National Federations are in charge of all costs for nominated referees, except when it is mentioned differently in the invitations/outlines.

After the nomination of referees, the NF have to confirm the participation of the nominated referee to EJU Head Office (headoffice@eju.net). Further, NF must inscribe the referee in Judobase and make a hotel reservation with the organizer according to the outlines.

5. OFFICIATING REFEREES AT EUROPEAN JUDO OPEN

Each National Federation may enter **2 referees** with at least continental license.

Only referees who have a FINAL ranking of at least **6,8** in the **2025** ranking list are allowed to referee in European Open. The referees with a lower ranking can only referee at European Cups. The control if a referee fulfils the requirement of ranking, will be checked at the moment of inscription in Judobase by EJU Head Office.

However, when a referee got classified with at least **6,8** in a **European Cup in 2026**, he/she can go to the next European Opens.

The organizing federation may enter a maximum of **2 referees** with required classification.

The inscription of a referee must be done **at least 2 weeks** before the event.

6. OFFICIATING REFEREES AT EUROPEAN JUDO CUPS

Each federation may enter **3 referees**. In case National Federation wants to inscribe more Referees, the reasonable application has to be applied to the EJU Referee Commission. The organizing federation may enter as many referees as required for the realization of the tournament but giving priority to their own Continental/International referees first and then their national referees with the highest national license with at least 2 years of experience.

If enough Continental/International referees are inscribed in Judobase, the organizing federation has to limit its number of national referees to 1 per mat.

The inscription of a referee must be done **at least 2 weeks** before the event.

7. REFEREES AT EJU EVENTS

A NFs' president, coach, doctor or any official of a national team may not referee at International or European level events.

National Refereeing Directors and/or persons in charge for the selection of the referees in their country, can referee only at Cadets and Juniors EJU events, and cannot be selected for any European Championship.



It is the responsibility of the NF that this rule is applied.

The age limit for referees in official EJU events is 65 years regarding the year, not the date of birth, similar to IJF events.

8. REGISTRATION

Referees must hold a valid IJF ID Card and must be inscribed in Judobase by their NF for the concerned event. Further, NFs must make a hotel reservation with the organizer according to the outlines.

9. ATTENDANCE AT REFEREEING SEMINAR

The National Federations may nominate referees only if they have been represented at the last IJF Refereeing Seminar. In case of not being represented at the IJF Refereeing Seminar, they will not be able to nominate referees for the following EJU events: European Open and European Cups during the next year (from seminar to seminar), unless there is reasonable explanation, confirmed with the letter of the President of the National Federation.

The IJF Referee & Coaches Seminar in 2026 will be on the 28 - 29 of May in Sarajevo.

10. IJF REFEREE EXAMINATIONS

IJF CONTINENTAL EXAMINATIONS:

The Continental Judo Unions in cooperation with IJF Refereeing Commission organise IJF Continental Referees Examinations.

Before starting the exam organisation process, everything should be validated by the IJF Refereeing Commission Head Director.

The recommended number for an IJF Continental Referees examination is 20 candidates for the organising continent based on first come, first served. In addition, a number of five (5) candidates from other continents are accepted. Each National Federation can nominate two (2) candidates and in addition one (1) more candidate who is medallist of the seniors Continental Championships, World Championships or Olympic Games.

All Candidates must hold an IJF Academy License and a valid IJF card.

The candidates will be nominated by the National Federations and confirmed by the Continental Judo Union Refereeing Director. Each candidate can take part in the IJF Continental Examination maximum two times.

Requirements

1. Age: 25 to 45 years in the examination year, i.e., in 2026 the candidates should be born in 2001 to 1981. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved the IJF Head Refereeing Directors.
2. Highest National Referee Licence.



3. List of active refereeing in international events, included in the official IJF/Union calendar in the last 24 months: the minimum refereeing activity is six events with registration in the IJF database.
4. Minimum Ni-Dan (2nd Dan) certificate issued by the National Federation.
5. English knowledge at the level of communication.
6. Nomination signed by the candidate, the National Federation of which he/she holds citizenship, and the Continental Judo Union Refereeing Director.
In case the candidate is presented by a different National Federation of which he/she holds citizenship, a permanent residence card in that country for at least three years must be attached.
7. On time payment of the examination fee (€ 400,-) to the EJU Treasury Office.

Final note

For more information and sending the candidate's documents, please contact

-Mr Pasquale Tonino Chyurlia, IJF Refereeing Commission Secretary, email chyurlia@ijf.org WhatsApp +393342236478

-Mr Frank Doetsch, IJF Refereeing Commission Assistant, email doetsch@ijf.org - WhatsApp +49 170 9378944

IJF INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS:

The IJF Refereeing Commission in cooperation with the Continental Judo Unions organise IJF International Referees Examinations.

Before starting the exam organisation process, everything should be validated by the IJF Refereeing Commission Head Director.

The recommended number for an IJF International Referees examination is 15 candidates for the organising continent based on first come, first served. In addition, a number of five (5) candidates from other continents are accepted. Each National Federation can nominate two (2) candidates and in addition one (1) more candidate who is medallist of the seniors Continental Championships, World Championships or Olympic Games. All Candidates must hold an IJF Academy License, a valid IJF card and be included in the Referee Ranking list of their Union for the last four years.

The candidates will be nominated by the National Federations and confirmed by the Continental Judo Union Refereeing Director. Each candidate can take part in the IJF International Examination maximum two times.

Requirements

1. Age: 30 to 50 years in the examination year, i.e., in 2026 the candidates should be born in 1996 to 1976.
2. IJF Continental Referee Licence.
3. The recommendation time between IJF Continental and IJF International examinations is four years.



4. List of active refereeing at continental and international level included in the official IJF calendar in the last 24 months: the minimum refereeing activity is six events in two years.
5. Minimum San-Dan (3rd Dan) certificate issued by the National Federation.
6. English knowledge at the level of communication.
7. Nomination signed by the candidate, the National Federation of which he/she holds citizenship, and the Continental Judo Union Refereeing Director.
In case the candidate is presented by a different National Federation of which he/she holds citizenship, a permanent residence card in that country for at least three years must be attached.
8. Payment confirmation of 250 US Dollar fee, before examination.

Bank Name: OTP BANK Plc
Bank address: Deak Ferenc U. 7-9, 1052 Budapest. HUNGARY
Swift/Bic Code: OTPVHUHB
IBAN: HU05 1176 4056 4279 2019 0000 0000

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--Mr Frank Doetsch, IJF Refereeing Commission Assistant, email doetsch@ijf.org
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+491709378944

IJF International and Continental Exams including the Seminar in Europe will take place at the European Judo Cup Senior in Sarajevo 28 - 31 May.

Exams on the other Continents: TBC

11. NATIONAL FEDERATIONS REQUESTS

If National Federations want to invite a EJU Referee Commission Member to attend a local seminar or a local competition, an official request has to be sent to the EJU Head Referee Director.

12. REQUESTS FOR VIDEO EXAMPLES DECISIONS

When certain video examples are requested to receive a decision about a certain action, the request has to come officially from the Referee Director from the NF. The action has to be accompanied by 2 video ankles of good quality. The procedure will be, that the EJU Referee Director will take this up with IJF Referee Commission and later, the final answer will be given to the requestor.

2026.14.01

EJU REFEREEING COMMISSION