

OKLAHOMA JUDO ASSOCIATION PROMOTION BOARD POLICIES (1/1/05)

The Oklahoma Judo Association began issuing OJA-USJI promotion certificates on 1/1/85. The promotion system adopted by the OJA & **accepted for our state by the USJI** is the same system as that of the pre-9/1/84 USJA system modified 2/28/88 & 1/7/95) & was last updated on 1/1/05 to incorporate the 2004 USJI Junior National Rank System.

The primary policy of the OJA Promotion Board is to assist coaches & students who are members of the OJA in getting certification for the ranks they have earned in the most economical & most expeditious manner possible. It is our desire to assist our members, rather than dictate policy (within the guidelines accepted by the USJI). It is not the policy of the OJA Promotion Board to force its members to use this system. Any member of the OJA may acquire nationally certified rank through either the USJA or the USJF as well as, or instead of through the OJA.

Any OJA member who is a candidate for promotion & who now holds a nationally certified rank (USJA, USJF, or USJI), being promoted by his/her coach (who also must be a current member of the OJA in order to promote through the OJA) through the OJA-USJI will have to send to the OJA Promotion Board Chairman a copy of the previous official rank certificate, or rank card (showing the promotion date) with the first OJA-USJI recommendation for promotion.

The following paperwork must be submitted to the Chairman of the OJA Promotion Board for the promotions to the following rank:

- A. All Junior grade promotions:
 - 1. OJA-USJI recommendation for promotion form.
 - 2. Required OJA promotion fee.
- B. All Senior Kyu grade promotions:
 - 1. OJA-USJI recommendation for promotion form.
 - 2. Required OJA promotion fee.
 - 3. A verified list of points accumulated (with dates of events, names & ranks of opponents, service performed, etc.) since the last promotion.
- C. All Senior Dan grade promotions:
 - 1. OJA-USJI recommendation for promotion form.
 - 2. Required OJA-USJI promotion fee.
 - 3. A completed (and successfully passed) OJA examination for the appropriate rank.
 - 4. A verified list of points accumulated (with dates of events, names & ranks of opponents, service performed, etc.) since the last promotion.

The OJA-USJI promotion fees as of 1/1/05 are as follows:

Junior 1st - 20th Degrees.....	\$10.00 each
Senior Rokyū, Gokyū, & Yonkyū.....	\$ 3.00 each
Senior Sankyū, Nikyū, & Ikkyū.....	\$ 5.00 each
Black Belt Grades: Shodan.....	\$55.00 (\$5 to OJA + \$50 to USJI)
Nidan.....	\$80.00 (\$5 to OJA + \$75 to USJI)
Sandan.....	\$105.00 (\$5 to OJA + \$100 to USJI)

[all additional ranks add \$25 per grade; these fees will cover the cost of the USJI Promotion Fee, USJI certificate, mailing costs (envelope & postage), computer programmer cost to record & verify rank, & OJA general fund charge.] OJA coaches may promote their own students to a rank up to two ranks lower than the coach's rank, up to & including promotions for NIDAN (coach must be at least a YONDAN) or in consort with other coaches based on the following Chart.

All promotions for ranks of SANDAN or higher are to be tested by the OJA promotion board as stated in the promotion board proposals accepted by the USJI.

In general the policy of the OJA is NOT to promote any member of the OJA to any Dan grade, who has been a member of the OJA for less than one year. This policy is similar to that of the USJA (2/84) & prevents judoka from entering our organization solely for the purpose of acquiring rank.

**Number of recommending officials
and minimum rank required to recommend:**

Promotion to:	Yonkyu	Sankyū	Nikyu	Ikkyū	SHODAN	NIDAN	SANDAN	YONDAN
Jr. 1st-4th & Rokyu	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jr. 5th-8th & Gokyu	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jr. 9th-12th & Yonkyu	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jr. 13th-16th & Sankyū	-	3	2	1	1	1	1	1
Jr. 17th-20th & Nikyu	-	-	3	2	1	1	1	1
Ikkyū	-	-	-	3	2	1	1	1
SHODAN	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	1
NIDAN	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1
SANDAN	At least three members of the OJA Promotion Board, including at least one "High Rank" (Rokudan & higher) member of the OJA Promotion Board.							
YONDAN	At least three members of the OJA Promotion Board holding Yondan or higher rank including at least one "High Rank" member of the OJA Promotion Board.							
GODAN	At least three members of the OJA Promotion Board holding Godan or higher rank including at least two "High Rank" members of the OJA Promotion Board.							
ROKUDAN	At least three "High Rank" members of the OJA Promotion Board.							

On 1/1/94 **Special Abbreviated Testing Procedures** have been approved for OJA members who are recommended by one of the High Rank members of the OJA Promotion Board to ranks of Yondan, Godan or Rokudan & who have completed the following other requirements:

- A. Unanimous agreement of the nomination from the other "High-rank" OJA Promotion Board Members (Rokudan & Higher.)
- B. The nominee was tested for the rank of Sandan by a current "High-rank" member of the OJA Promotion Board.
- C. The candidate will successfully demonstrate the additional requirements for the rank nominated for, beyond those tested for on the Sandan Exam:
 1. Yondan-Teaching method for 1 technique from each of the Kyu exams.
 2. Godan-Teaching method for 1 technique from the Shodan & Nidan exams & demonstration of an additional Kata (of choice).
 3. Rokudan-Teaching method for 1 technique from the Sandan & Yondan exams.
- D. The candidate has met at least the minimum time in grade requirement for the rank being nominated for:
 - a) Yondan 3 years;
 - b) Godan 5 years;
 - c) Rokudan 7 years.
- E. The candidate has accumulated at least twice the normal point total required for the rank:
 - a) Yondan 120 points;
 - b) Godan 200 points;
 - c) Rokudan 240 points.

- F. The candidate has made a substantial commitment to Judo at the National or International Level during his/her time in grade as either a coach, competitor, official or administrator.

It is also important to note what the OJA official conversion policy of Junior to Senior Rank is & what the maximum rank for age is, as accepted by the USJI. Conversion is mandatory at age 17, but may be accomplished as early as age 13 providing the Junior competes regularly in Senior competition.

Providing the rest of the requirements for promotion are met (points, test, etc.), a particularly outstanding Junior may be promoted to Shodan as early as the age of 16 providing that Junior has placed at on of the following events: JA or JF Junior Nationals; National High School Championships; National Junior Olympics; US Junior Open; or any Senior National Event (Senior Nationals, US National Ladder Tournament, US Open, etc.) See the OJA Junior Rank System below for Senior Rank conversions.

Please see the attached "Senior Promotion Point Information-Revised 2/84, 4/87, 7/03" in order to determine how points are acquired. Please see the attached Junior Promotion System to determine when juniors are eligible for promotion.

As of 10/01/04 the following members of the OJA are the members of the OJA Promotion Board:

Dr. Martin L. Bregman, Chairman	SHICHIDAN	Tulsa JC
Mr. Patrick Burris	SHICHIDAN	USA Stars JC
Dr. Joel Holloway	SHICHIDAN	Sooner JC
Dr. Luis Gorospe	GODAN	Yoon's JC
Dr. William Graves	GODAN	Sooner JC
Mr. Jack Hicks	GODAN	Tulsa JC
Mr. Thomas Layon	GODAN	Koketsu JC
Dr. Robert Okada	GODAN	Yoshitaka JC
Dr. Ronald Tripp	GODAN	USA Stars JC
Mr. Ronald Benner	YONDAN	Tulsa JC
Ms. Julia Calcote	YONDAN	Koketsu JC
Dr. Richard A. Redner	YONDAN	Tulsa JC
Ms. Kristi Springer	YONDAN	USA Stars JC
Ms. Meredith Bregman	SANDAN	Tulsa JC
Dr. Mark Fogle	SANDAN	Lawton YMCA/Ft. Sill JC
Mr. Gary Frame	SANDAN	Tulsa JC
Ms. Dona Schafer	SANDAN	Tulsa JC

Normally the board shall meet as needed for the purposes of testing candidates for promotion who need the assistance of the board. Candidates for rank requiring the board must make their intention known 30 days before testing to the Chairman of the promotion board & shall be expected to be ready to test on a date convenient to the members of the board. Dates & locations normally will be announced in the OJA Newsletter. Additional exams may occur on those indicated dates, at the request of other candidates.

OJA JUNIOR PROMOTION SYSTEM-REVISED (Effective 2/28/88; Revised 10/1/04)

A. Examinations and age in the OJA Junior Promotion System:

The OJA system allows older students to be initially promoted to a higher rank by allowing them to take a more advanced exam (i.e., in the past, in some organizations, a 10 year old could take the 2nd Degree exam for the first promotion & then be promoted to 4th Degree, while a 9 year old could take the same exam & would only be promoted to 2nd Degree.)

The following USAJudo system has been accepted by the OJA Board of Directors & the OJA Promotion Board. The Junior Division will henceforth be subdivided into the following categories: Bantams (4-8 years old); Intermediates (9-12 years old); Teens (13-16 years old).

1. After playing the sport of Judo for a minimum of 2 months & having competed in a tournament including at least 1 other club; or having been in judo for a minimum of 3 months without entering competition, the following exams may be given by the instructor:

For Juniors: Ages

4- 6	- the first promotion exam is to Jr.-1 st Degree
7- 9	- the first promotion exam is to Jr.-2 nd Degree
10-12	- the first promotion exam is to Jr.-3 rd Degree
13-15	- the first promotion exam is to Jr.-4 th Degree
7- 9	- the second promotion exam is to Jr.-5 th Degree
10-12	- the second promotion exam is to Jr.-6 th Degree
13-15	- the second promotion exam is to Jr.-7 th Degree
10-12	- the third promotion exam is to Jr.-8 th Degree
13-15	- the third promotion exam is to Jr.-9 th Degree

All subsequent promotions & exams used are to the next higher numerical grade, with time-in-grade & point requirements as stated in the chart at the end of these policies. For more information contact the Chairman of the OJA Promotion Board.

2. Time in grade required (and number of classes attended) for:

a. Competitors:

Ranks 1-12 Two months in grade (16 classes) between promotions.
Ranks 13-16 Three months in grade (24 classes) between promotions.
Ranks 17-20 Four months in grade (32 classes) between promotions.

b. Non-competitors:

Ranks 1-12 Three months in grade (24 classes) between promotions.
Ranks 13-16 Four months in grade (32 classes) between promotions.
Ranks 17-20 Six months in grade (48 classes) between promotions.

3. Number of tournaments entered since last promotion for Competitor Status:

Ranks 1 st -12 th	1 Tournament
Ranks 13 th -16 th	2 Tournaments
Ranks 17 th -20 th	3 Tournaments (See below for tournament definition).

4. Guidelines for maximum rank for age in the Jr. promotion system:

Age	Maximum rank for age:	Age	Maximum rank for age:
4	Jr. 1st degree.	10	Jr. 13th degree.
5	Jr. 3rd degree.	11	Jr. 15th degree.
6	Jr. 5th degree.	12	Jr. 17th degree.
7	Jr. 7th degree.	13	Jr. 19th degree.
8	Jr. 9th degree.	14	Jr. 20th degree.
9	Jr. 11th degree.	15	Sr. Ikkyu.

Juniors over 15 years old should be promoted under the Senior System.

B. Tournaments in the OJA Junior Promotion System:

The term "tournaments" is understood to mean "tournament-equivalents", & is similar to the OJA Senior Rank System where Junior Division competitors will receive credit for:

1. Entering 1 tournament if it is Local including 2 or more clubs.
2. Entering 2 tournaments if it is Regional including representation by at least 3 states or 10 clubs, or is a state championship.

3. Entering 3 tournaments if it is a limited International event including representation by at least two countries (i.e., Am-Can Challenge, etc.)
4. Entering 4 tournaments if it is a National Point Championship.
5. Entering 5 tournaments if it is an International Championship where the competitor has been selected to represent the US (i.e., Pan American Junior & Juvenile Championships).
6. Entering 1 tournament for providing Table work, officiating, mat set up, tear-down, etc. for each day of tournament service.
7. Entering 1 tournament for each day attending a clinic or camp.

C. Transition from Junior to Senior Rank in the OJA:

The instructor may change the junior to the Senior Rank System if that Junior regularly competes in Senior Division competition as long as that junior falls within the age guidelines of the following chart, or upon the 16th birthday of that junior (upon which the transition to Senior Rank is mandatory):

<u>Junior Grade = Equivalent Senior Grade</u>	
1 st - 3 rd	(White Belt)
4 th - 7 th	Rokyu (Yellow Belt)
8 th -11 th	Gokyu (Orange Belt)
12 th -15 th	Yonkyu (Green Belt)
16 th -19 th	Sankyu (Brown Belt-3 rd Grade)
20 th	Nikyu (Brown Belt-2 nd Grade)

Juniors who are 16 years old may be tested for Shodan by their coaches if they have placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in national or international competition, if their last promotion was to Ikkyu.

OJA JUNIOR PROMOTION SYSTEM (Revised 10/1/04)

Bantams (Ages 4-8)

Minimum age of candidate for this rank	4	5	6	7	8
Promotion number: 1 st :	J1	J1	J1	J2	J2
2 nd :		J2	J2	J5	J5
3 rd :		J3	J3	J6	J6
4 th :			J4	J7	J7
5 th :			J5		J8
6 th :					J9

Intermediates (Ages 9-12)

Minimum age of candidate for this rank	9	10	11	12
Promotion number: 1 st :	J2	J3	J3	J3
2 nd :	J5	J6	J6	J6
3 rd :	J6	J8	J8	J8
4 th :	J7	J9	J9	J9
5 th :	J8	J10	J10	J10
6 th :	J9	J11	J11	J11
7 th :	J10	J12	J12	J12
8 th :	J11	J13	J13	J13
9 th :			J14	J14
10 th :			J15	J15
11 th :				J16
12 th :				J17

Teens (Ages 13-16)

Minimum age of candidate for this rank	13	14	15	16 (senior system)
Promotion number: 1 st :	J4	J4	J4	Rokyu
2 nd :	J7	J7	J7	Gokyu
3 rd :	J9	J9	J9	Yonkyu
4 th :	J10	J10	J10	Sankyu
5 th :	J11	J11	J11	Nikyu
6 th :	J12	J12	J12	Ikkyu
7 th -20 th :	The next numerically higher grade per promotion			