

Judo Victoria Inc.

Referee Commission

Referee Qualification and Career Structure

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Introduction

The objective of the JVI Referee Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission) is to create a refereeing environment within Judo Victoria Incorporated, which provides for the following:

- Consistently high, uniform and professional standards of refereeing.
- Fair and safe contest conditions for contestants.
- Referee attitudes, which will help judo to grow and prosper.
- To raise the status of referees within the judo community and improve the attitude of players and coaches to referees.
- A career path in refereeing for Judo Victoria Incorporated members, similar to the grading system, leading towards higher personal achievement and satisfaction.
- A system of assessment which leads towards, and is integrated with, the JFA Inc. National Referee License system.

The structure is divided into four levels. The intention is that each level is an identifiable personal level of accomplishment, which the Commission is then able to assign responsibility to.

It is assumed that referees in each level will continue to strive for improvement and hence promotion to the next level, as their own personal objective. All levels are training levels for the next level.

Promotion to each level is by assessment and hence is not automatic. It is therefore recognised that not all referees may have the ability to attain the higher levels (as is also the case with the grading system).

Description of Levels

1. Level C In-training

This is an entry level to gain confidence, knowledge and experience while under supervision. It is expected that members would already have refereed in club competition before applying for this level. Must be supervised by a Level A referee taking part as one of the contest officials. The supervising referee may override decisions if errors in the application of rules are made or a major incorrect assessment of scoring of a technique occurs.

The requirements of this level involve minimal expenditure on dress.

2. Level C

A referee who attains level C has the confidence of the Commission to officiate as a full member of the "team of three", ie referee and side judges. However, at least one State A, or higher level referee must be in the team of three and in matters of misinterpretation of the contest rules or protocol procedures, may be 'over ruled' by the senior referee. For State Championships and/or team selections, Level C referees would not normally officiate as a center referee in finals.

3. Level B

A referee who attains level B has the confidence of the Commission to officiate as a full member of the "team of three", ie referee and side judges.

4. Level A

A referee who attains level A has reached a level of ability where application to the JFA-Inc to referee at a national level should be considered. Refereeing at a National Level does involve higher levels of competency and so all applications to referee at a national level require approval by the Commission and should be discussed before hand.

Level Pre-requisites and Qualifications

Note: Levels B and C require the candidate to attend an interview with two members of the Commission. The interview is a semi-formal, but structured, discussion of incidents that a referee is likely to encounter while officiating. The Commission understands that in most of the cases to be discussed there is no simple straightforward answer. Instead the Commission would expect the candidate to be able to explore the issues that would assist in arriving at the best solution. The Commission members will adopt a prompting attitude if necessary.

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Level C In-Training

1. Minimum dress standard is grey slacks, white shirt, dark blue tie, dark blue jacket (pullover is optional), black socks.
2. A minimum judo grade of San Kyu is required.
3. A satisfactory general knowledge of contest etiquette, basic responsibilities of a referee, gestures, vocabulary and the contest rules is required. This would be assessed by two members of the Commission through an informal discussion held before refereeing.

Level C

To apply for Level C

1. Minimum judo grade is San Kyu.
2. Apply to the Commission to be assessed.
3. Officiate as a referee and side judge at, at least, three Judo Victoria Incorporated competitions over a period of six to nine months with assessment exceeding 50% in all aspects (See appendix).
4. Attendance at an Introduction to Refereeing seminar and one Referees Seminar required. (It is not always possible to schedule a seminar and so the Commission may use its discretion.)
5. Successful interview with two members of the Commission after conditions 2 to 4 have been met. The subjects to be discussed at the interview will be made available to the applicant at least one week before the interview if requested. The interview would normally be conducted at a competition. It is expected that the applicant would apply to the Commission for the interview with at least one month's notice. Because of the nature of the topics covered in the interview, it is not expected that an applicant will provide all the expected responses, and so at the completion of the interview, the expected responses will be discussed with the applicant, including the level of assessment. However an assessment of knowledge above 50% would normally be considered satisfactory.
6. Dress standard is grey slacks, white shirt, dark blue tie, dark blue reefer jacket (blazer), and black socks.

Level B

To apply for Level B.

1. Minimum judo grade is Ni Kyu. The Commission may take into consideration length of judo experience for applicants who hold a lower grade.
2. Apply to the Commission to be assessed.
3. Officiate as a referee and side judge at, at least, three Judo Victoria Incorporated competitions within six to nine months since attaining level C, with assessment exceeding 70% in all aspects (See appendix).
4. Successful interview with two members of the Commission after conditions 2 to 4 have been met. The subjects to be discussed at the interview will be made available to the applicant at least one week before the interview if requested. The interview would normally be conducted at a competition. It is expected that the applicant would apply to the Commission for the interview with at least one month's notice. Because of the nature of the topics covered in the interview, it is not expected that an applicant will provide all the expected responses, and so at the completion of the interview, the expected responses will be discussed with the applicant, including the level of assessment. However an assessment of knowledge above 70% would normally be considered satisfactory.

Level A

To apply for Level A.

1. Minimum judo grade is Ik Kyu. The Commission may take into consideration length of judo experience for applicants who hold a lower grade.
2. Apply to the Commission to be assessed.
3. Officiate as a referee and side judge for at least three competitions within a period of nine months since attaining level B, with an assessment exceeding 80% in all aspects (See appendix).
4. Apply to the Commission to be formally assessed as a level A referee. Assessment will take place while officiating as a referee and side judge at a State Title competition, or a competition as approved by the Commission. Both junior and senior contests shall be refereed. A minimum assessment of 80% in all aspects is required.
7. Assistance to the Commission during seminars and competitions is expected as well as demonstrated positive attitude becoming a senior referee.

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Officiating as a referee at national competitions

It is significant step between refereeing as a State A referee and as an applicant for a National Licence. Competition is far more intense and the expected refereeing standards are higher leading to greater stress on the individual. As a consequence not all State A referees may wish to referee at National level, nor may they have the ability to do so. There is no minimum time since becoming a State A referee for a referee to be given approval to apply to officiate at a national competition. However it should not be expected that all State A referees would have the same degree of experience before being given approval to referee nationally. Thus the time gaining experience may vary for each State A referee. A State A referee should not assume that approval to referee at the national level shall be given automatically. As well, it should not be assumed that once having refereed nationally that approval will continue to be given.

If approval to referee nationally is denied, the Commission will advise the applicant of the reason(s). To apply to officiate at a national competition State A referees shall apply in writing, through the Secretary, Judo Victoria at least one month before the event.

State A referees who aspire to referee at National Level should keep in mind that valuable experience could be obtained by refereeing at VIOC and the Victorian State Championships and the other State Open Championships. Approval by the Commission to referee outside Victoria is required.

Performance review

The Commission shall continually review the performance and attitude of referees. The following situations would require the Commission to consider action which may be in the form of demotion, suspension from refereeing or both.

- ❖ Consistently displaying a performance below their current licence level
- ❖ A major mishandling of a contest
- ❖ Continual non-attendance as a referee at Judo Victoria competitions, typically in excess of six months
- ❖ Displaying or adopting an attitude unbecoming to a referee

In these cases, or in any situation that the Commission considers action beyond counselling is required, the Commission shall document the reason(s) and make recommendation to the Committee that the action be approved. The referee shall be given a copy of the recommendation and shall have the right to appear before the Committee.

Recognition for Long Standing Service as a Referee

Eventually all referees come to an age, or through illness, where their performance is no longer at their standard of the past. The Commission shall be able to award, as a token of thanks for long service, a referee "Emeritus" qualification at their attained level.

(Emeritus - retired from active service, but retaining their qualification)

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Appendix

Referee Assessment Factors

As a referee

Control of bout
Confidence
Procedures Mat etiquette, contest observance, eg mat conditions, judogi and belt tidiness
Knowledge Rules
Gestures Correctness, execution
Voice Pronunciation, volume
Scoring Judgment, speed
Positioning Scoring, groundwork, edge of mat
Posture
Penalties Correct classification, awarding
Hantei assessment

As a side judge

Team member Assistance to referee
Posture
Gestures
Edge decisions Correctness, procedure
Scoring Judgment, procedure
Hantei assessment

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Interview for Level C Referees Licence

Questions

1. Discuss the basic responsibilities of a referee.

2. Situation:

A junior is stumbled and taken into a hold down. After a couple of seconds you notice that the junior in the hold down is crying. What do you do?

3. Situation:

A parent dislikes your decision and becomes annoyingly vocal. What should you do?

4. Situation:

An under 10 or under 13 junior competitor has broken a rule. What do you do?

5. Situation:

You have started a junior contest and you notice that one junior appears to be outside the weight division. What do you do?

6. Situation:

At the end of a contest there has been no score. Discuss what you would use to help you to decide who should be awarded superiority.

6. Explain the contest scoring system for throws and hold downs.

What rules(guide-lines) are there to help you decide what score to give for a throw and when to call osaekomi or toketa?

7. Demonstrate the correct way for two contestants to start and finish a contest and the referees actions.

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Interview for Level B Referees Licence.

Questions

- 1. Demonstrate referee and side judge hand signals and discuss how a referee should position himself to ensure correct supervision of a contest.**
- 2. Discuss the duties of a side judge including relationship with the referee.**
- 3. Discuss how a side judge makes his opinions known to the referee during a contest.**
- 4. Discuss the contest penalty system including examples.**
- 5. Before a contest begins a referee should carry out a check list of actions. Discuss what the check list should contain.**
- 6. Discuss and describe illegal throwing and grappling actions and your action if a competitor executes one of them.**