

Steps to become a NSW referee

Prerequisites

1. The referee applicant must be a member of the JFA(NSW) Inc. or in the process of becoming a member.
2. Minimum judo grade is a green belt to start as a referee. Higher grades are required to rise through the referee ranks.
3. In NSW, there is no minimum or maximum age (other than those provided by grade requirements) to either start or continue refereeing. Juniors (under 16) are able to referee, but are limited to refereeing their age group or below.

Procedures for new referees

1. Take a written exam (20 questions), and obtain a mark of 75% or greater (15 or more questions correct). This can be taken at any tournament or seminar – see one of the Commission members to arrange.
2. Successfully complete a practical examination. This consists of refereeing at one NSW tournament, and doing reasonably well – as judged by the Referee Commission members. You will then be awarded a NSW ‘C’ class license. Further promotion to ‘A class’ or ‘B class’ is determined when the appropriate standard is reached – as judged by the majority of the Referee Commission.

Procedures for referees coming to Australia from another country (or from interstate).

1. Take the same written exam as new referees. (This may be waived for known high quality candidates.)
2. After two tournaments the referee will be assessed, and all attempts will be made to recognise the person’s previous grade as far as possible. This will generally mean they will be given a NSW A class license, and recommended to seek further recognition of their National license at an Australian National Title.

General Matters

1. It would be expected that any person planning on becoming a referee will have read every page of the rule book. (Electronic copies of the rules can be obtained from the Chairman or rosterer of the referee commission, or from the IJF website). Advice on interpreting the rules can be obtained from any commission member.
2. Coaching and mentoring of all referees and new applicants is provided on an ongoing basis by the NSW referee commission. This is normally done on an informal basis at tournaments.
3. A formal referee seminar with the aim of improving referees’ and coaches’ knowledge and application of the rules in a contest situation are held at least on a yearly basis. It is expected that all referees would attend these seminars.
4. Regular attendance at tournaments is required to maintain your referee license.

If you have any questions on any of the above matters – please contact any one of the referee commission members.