

Introduction

Technical officiating within the British Judo Association is governed through the National Competitions and Technical Officials Commission within the remit given to them by the British Judo Association.

Technical officiating is a role of great importance to British Judo, as without a suitable team of appropriately qualified technical officials the events cannot run.

The needs of competitions vary from level to level so, to meet the needs of all levels, British Judo has a four-tier system in place for technical officiating operations on a national basis as follows:

Technical Official Pathway

The British technical official structure is made up of a single pathway for all technical officials, starting from the minimum age of ten years with no maximum age for British technical officials. The four-level British structure is designed to enable any British Judo member to become a technical official and progress through the system upon satisfying the criteria for each level. The British Judo technical official structure is:

- 1. Timekeeper**
- 2. Contest Recorder**
- 3. Senior Recorder**
- 4. Competition Controller**

Any British Judo member wishing to become a technical official can gain information on how to do this from their area technical officiating representative, for further information the candidates may search the BJA website for technical officiating information or training. This document deals with the criteria for each level.

Trainee technical officials may officiate under the appropriate supervision of a qualified technical official of at least 18 years old and one technical officiating level above their own. This process gives valuable practical experience which helps candidates qualify more easily when the formal education is done. Technical officials wishing to further their technical officiating career are also recommended to continually develop through having a regular overall mentor preparing them for the next level by using the "Plan-do-Review" methodology.

In some cases, due to the judo experience level of the candidate, it may be possible for candidates to fast track directly to the contest recorder level without the need to go via the Timekeeper level first and also move more quickly through the levels, this will be at the discretion of the Tutors concerned.

Timekeeper award Qualification

To attempt the Timekeeper award, the candidate must on the first day of education be a minimum of:

- 10 years of age

To qualify at the Timekeeper level, candidates must:

- Successfully complete the Timekeeper training programme
- Complete the Timekeeper activity record sheet and return it to BJA head office
- Must hold a current BJA / Judo Scotland / NIJF / WJA membership

Contest Recorder award Qualification

To attempt the Contest Recorder award the candidate must on the day of education have / be a minimum of:

- 14 years of age
- Have officiated at a minimum of 4 events since qualifying as a Timekeeper, unless entering directly at the Contest Recorder level (tutor must authorise)

To fully qualify at the Contest Recorder level, candidates must:

- Successfully complete the Contest Recorder education module
- Successfully complete the Contest Recorder theory assessment paper
- Must hold a current BJA / Judo Scotland / NIJF / WJA membership

Senior Recorder award Qualification

To attempt the Senior Recorder award the candidate must on the day of education have / be a minimum of:

- 18 years of age
- Have been a Contest Recorder for 2 years or 1 year if meeting the 2-year revalidation requirements

To fully qualify at the Senior Recorder level, candidates must:

- Successfully complete a Senior Recorder education module
- Successfully complete the Senior Recorder award theory assessment paper
- Must hold a current BJA / Judo Scotland / NIJF / WJA membership

Competition Controller award Qualification

To attempt the Competition Controller award the candidate must have / be a minimum of:

- 21 years of age
- Have been a Senior Recorder for 3 years or 2 years if meeting the 3-year revalidation requirements
- Successfully completed the Provisional Competition Controller entry assessment process
- Satisfactorily complete the practical training programme and final practical assessment process
- Must hold a current BJA / Judo Scotland / NIJF / WJA membership

International Technical Officials

In the main, international events are table staffed and organised by the home country officials who are supported by the international official responsible who is the EJU / IJF / CJA Sport Director for that event. To become a Sport Director will necessitate the candidate successfully applying for a vacancy within the IJF / EJU / CJA structure.

There are other bespoke international roles available at events and these are also applied for on a case by case basis when they become available, for example, the information technology support team.

Standard Entry and Fast Track Options

NCTOC and British Judo recognise that knowledge and expertise developed in other judo disciplines are valuable and highly transferable to technical officiating. To attract advanced candidates and give credit to previous experience, the technical officiating structure allows 'Fast Track' entry to the higher technical official awards without all of the preliminaries. Athletes or Coaches for example with at least 3 years judo experience are encouraged to take up this opportunity by immediately attempting the Contest Recorder module. For an exceptional candidate, NCTOC may also reduce the minimum age qualification for any of the awards.

Membership

All Technical Officials must hold at least one of a current BJA / Judo Scotland / NIJF / WJA membership before an award can be made, if membership is not valid for any reason their officiating role is also invalid. However, if an official does not have a membership and their sole activity is volunteering as a BJA Technical Official, the BJA will issue a volunteer membership, free of charge and valid up to the end of the current validation period. If the Technical Official is still active at the end of that period, they can renew their volunteer membership, again free of charge, by contacting the membership team at the BJA head office if continuing as a technical official.

Technical Official Progression Summary



Note: In exceptional circumstances defined at the time by NCTOC, NCTOC alone may authorise the promotion of candidates to any level with bespoke criteria at that point in time, this is unlikely to be done regularly, but is a safety net in the system to ensure technical officials are appropriately positioned within the structure and not unduly restrained when their consistent high performance clearly justifies it.

| Level | Education Module | Theory Assessment | Practical Assessment | Practice Events | Managed By |
|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Timekeeper | No | No | Yes* | Yes | Tutor |
| Contest Recorder | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Tutor |
| Senior Recorder | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Tutor |
| Competition Controller | Yes | Yes | Yes* | Yes | NCTOC |
| International Official | No | No | Yes | Yes | CJA/EJU/IJF |

Examination and Assessment Summary

**For Timekeeper and Competition Controller, a multi event training and assessment programme is normal; candidates must perform to the pre-arranged focus agreed with the tutor and perform at the expected level. In the case of the Timekeeper this will be 3 satisfactory performances under tutor education and guidance. In the case of the Competition Controller they will act as a provisional competition controller in as many cases as NCTOC consider necessary before attempting a final assessment.*