

JUDO
Federation
of Australia



2011 Junior Grades Policy (Under 17 years)



INTRODUCTION

At the Judo Federation of Australia Inc. (JFA) Seminar in October 2009, a workshop was run focusing on the National Grades Policy. What came strongly out of that meeting was a direction to the JFA Inc. to update the existing junior grading syllabus, particularly the relegation of two (2) grades upon moving into the next age category.

This syllabus is a direct response to this request and also aims to bring the national junior syllabus in to line with international categories and developments.

The Oceania Judo Union (OJU) re-classified the older age categories for junior members by increasing the U/13 year divisions to 14 years and under, as well as introducing the Cadet divisions for 15 and 16 year old athletes. This has been adopted by the JFA Inc. necessitating an urgent rewriting of the National Junior Grades Syllabus.

This Junior Judo Grading Policy addresses the two significant changes.

Firstly, **NO** relegation of junior grade and secondly, alignment to Oceania Judo Union and the International Judo Federation age groups.

The introduction of this new policy will support the Judo Federation of Australia Inc. in aligning the tournament calendar and selection procedures for junior athletes participating in international events, especially as the International Judo Federation (IJF) has introduced the Cadet World Championships.

I encourage all state and territory executive officers, as well as member club coaches to support this policy as it provides our junior members clear, transparent and current guidelines to grade as well as be eligible for easier entry to international judo events in the future.

Alan Broadhead

Director
JFA Inc.



DEFINITIONS

IJF	International Judo Federation
OJU	Oceania Judo Union
JFA	Judo Federation of Australia Inc.
Member	A currently registered state/territory member, within Australia.
Junior Member	A currently registered state/territory member, within Australia, who turns 16 years or less in the current calendar year.
Senior Member	A currently registered state/territory member, within Australia, who turns 17 years or more in the current calendar year.

For the information of all JFA Inc. members, **JUNIOR MEMBERS** and **JUNIOR AGE DIVISIONS** will now be classified under the following name and age categories to unify Grades, Tournament Calendars and Selection Policies across Australia.

Junior divisions at the National level will now be recognised as **CADETS, SENIOR BOYS/GIRLS, JUNIOR BOYS/GIRLS**.

Junior divisions at the State and Territory level will include the above divisions and also include a **MONS** category.

Mon Boys/Girls	A junior member who turns 8 years or less in the current calendar year
Junior Boys/Girls	A junior member who turns 9, 10 or 11 years in the current calendar year
Senior Boys/Girls	A junior member who turns 12, 13 or 14 years in the current calendar year
Cadet Boys/Girls	A junior member who turns 15 or 16 years in the current calendar year
Junior Men/Junior Women	Members who turn 17, 18 or 19 years old in the current calendar year

Please refer to the current JFA Inc. Sporting Code to define a member's eligibility to participate in competitions, including age and grade criteria.

Please note: Members turning 17 years and older in the calendar year will be defined as Senior Members and subject to the requirements of the Senior Grades Policy. Senior Men/Senior Women are defined as members who turn 20 years old and above in the current calendar year.



JUNIOR GRADES ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to sit for a grade, all junior members need to be registered members of the JFA Inc. via their member state or territory.

The awarded grade is not recognised unless the member is JFA Inc. registered and a JFA Inc. Kyu Grade Certificate with identifying number issued and recorded for reference, especially for competition at club, state/territory and national level participation.

WHO CAN GRADE JUNIOR MEMBERS

The JFA Inc. recognises that the strength of the organisation rests with the quality and development of member clubs.

As such, registered clubs together with registered senior coaches/members at the minimum rank of Shodan (1st dan), have the appropriate qualification and experience to grade at the junior Kyu grade level on the proviso that they adhere to the policy and processes outlined in this document as well as maintaining their membership and coaching qualifications.



JUNIOR GRADES POLICY FRAMEWORK

An overview in point form is listed below:

1. All new beginning registered junior JFA Inc. members start with a white belt.
2. Current junior member grades are to be assessed and awarded the relevant grade by club coaches as set out in the criteria of this policy. A recommended conversion table is included for reference.
3. It is expected that basic Judo etiquette, simple terminology, tai – sabaki, and ukemi is demonstrated at each grade level.
4. Grades are assessed and attained by demonstrating the set criteria for each grade over the recommended time frames, namely 2 grades per year.
5. The framework introduces 20 belts to achieve, over the time as a junior, without any relegation of grade.
6. It is expected that 2 new throws be introduced for each grade level, covering the traditional 40 throw Go Kyo by Cadet Level.
7. The framework maintains the traditional Kyu grade belt colours but introduces half colour belts and a black tip grade between each of the traditional Kyu grades. For example, the progression from White belt is first, the White-Yellow grade, followed by the White-Yellow/Black Tip grade before progressing to Orange belt.
8. New beginner junior members start at the beginning and progress as able but within these guidelines. However, some beginning members, who are older, may be assessed by coaches to start at varying points of the grading syllabus. It is expected that coaches will use their experience and common sense as we transition in to this new grading system. A recommended Junior Kyu grade conversion table is included to support coaches.
9. The introduction of Kata complements the development of Kata Competition at the National level and the skill set required for possible Shodan grading at an earlier age.
10. The policy recognises that strangles be introduced prior to junior members entering into Cadet Shiai where strangles are permitted.



JUNIOR GRADES POLICY FRAMEWORK *continued*

11. The policy recognises that arm locks be introduced prior to juniors progressing into senior training & competition where arm locks are permitted.
12. Under this policy Cadets maintain their grade when they transfer in to senior divisions. The only exceptions to this are Cadet half coloured belts and black tip grades, who will transfer to the lower Kyu grade. For example, a Cadet blue/brown will progress to the senior ranks as a blue belt.
13. The National Grades Commission will determine eligibility and awarding of Shodan grades. There will be an expectation that members have knowledge and experience of shime and kansetsu waza.
14. The awarding of junior grades will include the belt colour and junior category on the authorised JFA Inc. certificate, for example, Mon Yellow or Senior Girls Blue/Brown.
15. Certificates are available for purchase from the JFA Inc. by registered states, and territories. A register will be maintained for JFA Inc. and member records.
16. Cadets can only be considered for a Sho Dan grade where contest points have been gained through Junior Mens, Womens, Senior competitions.
17. Clubs/coaches will be able to purchase belts direct from JFA Inc.

The progression of junior grades are outlined on the following page.

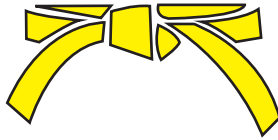
MONS BOYS & GIRLS

Turning
6 years



White-Yellow

Turning
7 years



Yellow

Turning
8 years



Yellow-Orange



**White-Yellow
Black tip**



**Yellow
Black tip**



**Yellow-Orange
Black tip**

JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS

Turning
9 years



Orange

Turning
10 years



Orange-Green

Turning
11 years



Green



**Orange
Black tip**



**Orange-Green
Black tip**



**Green
Black tip**

SENIOR BOYS & GIRLS

Turning
12 years



Green-Blue

Turning
13 years



Blue

Turning
14 years



Blue-Brown

Turning
15 years



Brown

Turning
16 years



**Brown
Black tip**



**Green-Blue
Black tip**



**Blue
Black tip**



**Blue-Brown
Black tip**

CADET BOYS & GIRLS

Junior Grades



NATIONAL JUNIOR GRADES PROGRESSION

MONS BOYS & GIRLS			JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS			SENIOR BOYS & GIRLS			CADET BOYS & GIRLS	
Turning 6 years	Turning 7 years	Turning 8 years	Turning 9 years	Turning 10 years	Turning 11 years	Turning 12 years	Turning 13 years	Turning 14 years	Turning 15 years	Turning 16 years
White-Yellow 1 throw 1 hold down	Yellow 1 throw 1 hold down	Yellow-Orange 2 throws 1 hold down	Orange 2 throws 1 hold down	Orange-Green 2 throws 1 hold down	Green 2 throws	Green-Blue 2 throws	Blue 2 throws	Blue-Brown 2 throws	Brown 4 throws	Brown Black tip 4 throws
White-Yellow Black tip 1 throw 1 hold down	Yellow Black tip 1 throw 1 hold down	Yellow-Orange Black tip 2 throws 1 hold down	Orange Black tip 2 throws 1 hold down	Orange-Green Black tip 2 throws 1 hold down	Green Black tip 2 throws	Green-Blue Black tip 2 throws	Blue Black tip 2 throws	Blue-Brown Black tip 2 throws	Gokyo demonstration 1st – 4th sets	Gokyo demonstration 1st – 5th sets
Throws to be included from the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Kyo's in a sequenced skill format						Throws from the 3rd and 4th Kyo's			Throws from the 5th Kyo	
<p>#Please note that this chart states the recommended grade and minimum age requirement for members to be eligible to be assessed for grade promotion.</p>							1st set Nage No kata	1st& 2nd set Nage No Kata	1st, 2nd & 3rd set Nage No Kata	Tori demonstration of the Nage-no-kata
						Introduce Strangles 2 per grade	Strangles 2 per grade	Strangles 2 per grade	Demonstrated understanding of the application of basic Strangles	Knowledge & competency in applying Shime & Kansestu waza
								Introduce Arm locks Ude garami Juji Gatame	see NOTE A*	
										see NOTE B*
										see NOTE C*

***NOTE A:** Junior members with a significant national shiai record will be eligible to maintain their grade and apply for promotion to senior Shodan in exceptional cases. This will be managed by the National Grades Commission with applicants expected to have shime and kansetsu waza experience.

***NOTE B:** Junior World Championship representatives may be graded to Shodan prior to competing at the Worlds. The National Grades Commission will manage this process.

***NOTE C:** Juniors turning Senior that have attained a 1/2 coloured belt or a 1/2 coloured belt with black tips, the senior Kyu Grade shall be realised as the lower coloured grade. (ie) junior blue /brown = senior blue.



NATIONAL SPORTING CODE RECOMMENDATIONS

The JFA Inc. Sporting Code policies will reflect the following minimum grades to participate in competitions in the following junior categories:

Cadet Boys & Girls	=	Green belt
Senior Boys & Girls	=	Orange belt
Junior Boys & Girls	=	Orange belt
Mon Boys & Girls	=	Yellow belt

Note: At this time, Cadets seeking to participate in Junior Men/Junior Women should check the National Sporting Code grade eligibility for participation at National Championship level.




OFFICIAL NATIONAL KYU GRADE CERTIFICATE



The official national Kyu grade certificate is to be used to validate and recognise all Kyu grade promotions by members.

Member states and territories can purchase them from the national office.

JUDO FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.



A member of the International Judo Federation

Certificate

This is to certify that

*has passed the Tests and Examinations prescribed by the
Judo Federation of Australia, on this day _____
and is hereby Awarded the Rank of _____ Kyu.
We expect further progress in the future by diligent study.*

Examiner and Rank
For and on behalf of the
Judo Federation of Australia

AA 14627



JUNIOR KYU GRADE CONVERSION TABLE



Mons – U/10 years		Yonen – U/13 years		Shonen – U/16 years	
PREVIOUS	NEW	PREVIOUS	NEW	PREVIOUS	NEW
5th – Yellow	Yellow Black Tip	5th – Yellow	Orange Black Tip	5th – Yellow	Orange
4th – Orange	Yellow-Orange Black Tip	4th – Orange	Orange-Green	4th – Orange	Orange-Green
3rd – Green	Orange Black Tip	3rd – Green	Green-Blue	3rd – Green	Green-Blue Black tip
2nd – Blue	Orange-Green	2nd – Blue	Green-Blue Black Tip	2nd – Blue	Blue-Brown
1st – Brown	Orange-Green Black Tip	1st – Brown	Blue Black Tip	1st – Brown	Blue Brown Black tip
<p>This table lists the recommended junior Kyu grade conversion of the previous system to the new junior Kyu grade system. New kyu grade belts are available for sale from the JFA Inc.</p>					



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Judo Federation of Australia Inc. acknowledges and thanks the following members for their contribution to this new Junior Grades Policy.

Mr Akira Yamada	National Grades & Kodokan Commission Chairperson	Kodokan 7th dan
Mr Peter Herrmann	National High Performance Coach & National Kodokan Commission Member	8th dan
Mr Alan Broadhead	National Director & National Kodokan Commission Member	Kodokan 6th dan
Mr Stewart Brain	National Secretary & National Head Coach	6th dan
Mr Michael Picken	Judo Victoria President & National Kodokan Commission Member	Kodokan 5th dan
Mr Warren Rosser	Head Coach UNSW	4th dan
Mr Garth Morley	gmdesign.net.au	1st dan