

MEMORANDUM

To: Referees, Coaches, Competition Officials
From: National Refereeing Commission
Cc: Andrew Scoular, Colin McIver, Kerrith Brown
Date: 7th October 2013
Subject: Rules in use at British Tournaments

Dear Colleagues,

It has come to the attention of the refereeing commission and BOD that in some competitions being held around the country there are various versions of the competition rules being used, in particular the new IJF rules are known to have been used in different ways.

Please note that only those rule sets that have been approved by the BOD may be used, all other versions (no matter how small the change) are not authorised for usage.

The NRC and BOD feel it to be highly important for Great Britain to move forward with consistent and clear sets of rules for the applicable groups, therefore, the rules announced via the competition pathway document previously published on 26th June 2013 summarise the authorised amendments made. In addition, areas requiring additional clarity are defined below.

Technical Restriction Modifications

1. No throwing techniques are allowed with the arm around uke's neck similar to Kubi-nage.

It is forbidden to apply any form of hip throw with the arm of tori (inside of elbow joint) around the back of uke's neck and throwing uke without the separation of tori's arm and uke's neck before impact on the tatami.

2. No drop-knee techniques.

It is forbidden to apply any forward throwing technique by tori dropping with both knees simultaneously to the ground before uke has landed on the tatami.

3. No techniques similar Tomoe-nage or Sumi-gaeshi

It is forbidden to apply tomoe-nage or sumi-gaeshi techniques; this also means techniques which are similar where the body of tori impacts with the tatami before that of uke whilst uke is being thrown with variations of tomoe-nage or sumi-gaeshi.

Notes: Contestants who do not adhere to these rules will be penalised with shido every time
Competitions that these rules apply to are documented in the competition pathway

Special Needs

Any contestant who enters a ranking or national competition must do so on the understanding that they comply with the standard rules for that category of competition in full. For the purpose of clarity, in the case of anyone with any sort of special need entering these tournaments, they must comply in FULL with the rules of that level of event from the point of entering the competition area.

In cases where competition organisers are authorised and wish to offer concessions to special needs athletes in their competitions, this must be stated on the entry form in order to be valid.

Rule Book Changes

The BJA on-line rule book is due for update during Q1 2014 when the final version of the rules have been defined by the IJF for the next Olympic qualifying period.

Should anyone need further clarification in the meantime, please direct your enquiries to the NRC secretary, Elaine Down (elainedown@blueyonder.co.uk). Elaine will respond accordingly once any queries have been consolidated.

Care System

The care system will be used in all competitions of level 4 and above and is optional at level 3 and below. The BJA have invested in a basic system primarily for use at level 4 and above, any area wishing to use this equipment for level 4 and above may do so free of hire charge upon agreement to the loan contract. Loan use for level 3 and below will be discretionary.

Referee and Judges

In all levels of competition the contest will be refereed by one referee on the tatami, in cases where judges are used they must be positioned off the competition area, irrespective of whether the care system is in use or not.

It is not permissible to have judges on the tatami at any level of tournament, no exceptions.

Referee's Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the "Referee in Charge" of each event to ensure that the event is run as stipulated in reference to the rules of that particular category. There are no exceptions, e.g. if the tatami layout is not within the stipulated guidelines it must be changed before the tournament starts.

Referee Callings to Events

The referees called to all national events must be authorised by the NRC, there is no difference in terms of who is running the event, e.g. BJA, Area, Club - The referee's must be authorised by the NRC. If an area or club are running the national event, the area or club must either propose a list of referees or ask the NRC to provide a list more than 6 weeks in advance of the tournament to allow time for a proper analysis and authorisation.

National events include all special needs events

Unofficial Recordings

We are now in an age where many people have their own recording devices and use these at many events they attend. It must be noted and understood that no unofficial recordings maybe used to change any decision made at a competition. These recordings are not in an official capacity therefore their use to influence decisions is against the rules of the competition.

Only the official care system may be used for this purpose.

Kind Regards

Keith Merrick
NRC Chairman