



Hui-O-Judo Beltsville

February 2013 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

2	Shufu Yudanshakai Referee Clinic	Hyattsville, MD
9	USA Judo Coaches Clinic	Springfield, VA
16	Virginia State Open Judo Championships	Arlington, VA
23	Mayfield Challenge/Coach Cert/Referee Cert	Jacksonville, NC
23	Pedro's Challenge	Wakefield, Mass

March

Sun 3	Japan Team Workout	Washington DC
5	Beginners class starts	Beltsville, MD
9	Nage No Kata Clinic and Promotional Testing	Hyattsville, MD
16	Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships	Hyattsville, MD
22-25	USA Judo Youth Scholastic National Championships	Miami, FL
Apr 5-7	Liberty Bell Judo Classic	Bryn Athyn, PA

Class fee/Club membership - It is up to each one of you to PLEASE pay your bi-monthly class fee/membership fees at the front desk. We have kept the rates for the judo club very low since we started the club. You must pay for classes every other month (pay the odd months of the year) So Jan/ Feb, Mar/Apr, May/June, July /Aug, Sept Oct, Nov/Dec. It is a flat fee for classes. Not a block of classes you attend. Many judoka on the mat are NOT paying the center for the class. They come sparatically and do not take advantage of the number of classes offered. MNCPPC has remarked about this on numerous occasions. If you are not paying your membership with MNCPPC, you will be asked to leave the facility. Please stop at the front desk to pay for the January/February class. The barcode for Children's beginners class is **668114**, the barcode for adult beginners is **668066**, the barcode for Judo : Mixed ages, Intermediate is **668116**; the barcode for Judo Adults advanced is **668064**

Winter Weather policy Please use common sense in the winter months. If government and schools are closed, there is a good chance that the Community Center may also be closing. If you are uncertain, call the Center at 301-937-6613. If you are uncomfortable driving in winter conditions, especially if the roads are icy, we do not want anyone to take an unnecessary risk coming to practice.

PG government is closed - Community Center is closed

PG Schools are closed - Community Center is OPEN

Delayed PG schools opening - Community Center is OPEN

Early dismissal at PG Schools - Community Center is OPEN

Please listen to radio and television stations concerning the status of schools and government. You can ALWAYS call the community center at 301-937-6613

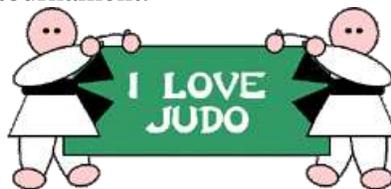
Judo Clinics - Throughout the year, Hui-O hosts clinics for Shufu Yudanshakai. I encourage all of you to try to attend them. The clinics cover a variety of topics. Topics vary from coaching, refereeing, standing techniques, mat techniques, advanced competition skills, different katas, tournament operations, and a variety of other topics. The clinics are held in Beltsville at the Academic Center. They are open to all judoka, regardless of skill level or rank. The clinics are an excellent way to get instruction from different instructors, see new techniques, work with judoka from other clubs, and gain valuable experience and knowledge. Shufu has some of the oldest and best referees, who are all former great competitors, now they are our sensei's and coaches. They live judo in every sense of the word.

Hui-O-Judo Beltsville will host a Shufu Referee Clinic and on Saturday, February 2, 2013 at DeMatha Catholic High School, located at 4313 Madison Street, in Hyattsville, Maryland. This clinic is open to all Judoka with a current USJF, USJI, or USJA membership. Membership in USJF or USJI can be obtained during registration. Sensei Robert Fukuda and Roy Englert will be the clinicians. If you are a referee, teacher, coach, competitor, or technical official, you should attend to find out the latest interpretation of the rules and how they are applied. It will cover all of the topics Refereeing. There have been many new changes and interpretations of the rules. Roy Englert has given numerous clinics on this topic. It is good general knowledge for any judoka to stay current on the rules and regulations, as well as all of the current changes. I strongly encourage all judoka who currently compete or are planning to referee in judo to attend. It is also a good way to learn rules and regulations of the sport. We also need some judoka to have some practice contest, randori, for the people attending the clinic to practice their skills. Please try to attend. It is open to all skill levels.

Hui-O will also host a Shufu Yudanshakai Nage No kata clinic and promotional testing on Sunday, March 9th at De Matha Catholic High School in Hyattsville Maryland. This is an excellent opportunity for Senior students to learn the kata and work with a very experienced sensei. Nage No Kata is required for judoka testing for brown belt and above.

Hui-O will host a Goshin Jutsu clinic with Sensei Eiko Shepard on July 20, 2013. Goshin Jitsu is a self defense kata defending unarmed attacks and armed attacks with knife, stick and gun. This is an excellent opportunity for Senior students to learn the kata and work with a very experienced sensei.

Sensei Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships– Hui-O will once again host the Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships on Saturday, March 16th at DeMatha High School in Hyattsville.. We renamed the tournament in honor of our Sensei. It is called the Ken Tamai Memorial Judo Championships. All judoka are encouraged to participate. We need EVERYONE's assistance with the tournament. The tournament setup is on Friday. We have to move all of mats up from the dojo to the school and return them on Saturday night. Saturday we need help with registration beginning at 800am!! We also need help with the referee food area, concession stand, mat tables, raffle ticket sales, t-shirt sales and general tournament operations. Please enlist the assistance of your family. We look forward to seeing you at the tournament.



Maryland State Judo Championships - On a crisp, snow-covered day, the Maryland State Championships were held at Ritchie Coliseum on the College Park Campus of the University of Maryland. This venue provided an outstanding site for a judo tournament, with plenty of parking and upper balcony seating which allowed great views of all four competition areas. The event was not restricted to Maryland residents, and saw 160 competitors from Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and even Mississippi fighting for the honor of being Maryland state champion. Roy Englert, International A Level, was the head referee, with a total of 21 referees from across the region including Sensei John Anderson. Also present were Senseis James Takemori and Dick Hugh, working as Jury on the mats. The competition started off with Novice and Advanced Nage-No-Kata, and was followed by shiai. The day's competition was notable for the intensity and the many ippon (winning full point) throws throughout the range of Masters, Junior, and Senior divisions, indicating a high level of skill and technique. Grace Oswald of Budokan had 6 ippons on her way to winning 3 divisions. Sarah Thacker of Southern Maryland Judo/Jujitsu had 4 ippons on her way to 2 division championships. Nathan Thacker of Southern Maryland Judo/Jujitsu went undefeated in 2 divisions with 4 ippons. Gabriel Evans came all the way from Mississippi to represent Gulf Coast Judo. He went undefeated and racked up 7 ippons on route to 2 championships. The outstanding junior competitor was Alex Tamai, from College Park, who went undefeated on the day with 9 ippons and 2 division championships. Junior Judo Teams from Aldan Judo, Arlington Judo, Budokan, BJJ Judo, Charlottesville Judo, College Park Judo, Dale City Judo, Gulf Coast Judo, Hui-O-Judo, Maryland Judo Team, NIH, Pure Performance, Rankin Dragons, and Seigenury completed for the chance to be Maryland State Champions. The junior team trophy was won by the College Park Judo Club, with Southern Maryland Judo/Jujitsu placing second. The top team finishes included Charlottesville Judo (5th), Sport Judo (4th), and Maryland Judo Team (3rd). The senior competition was also exciting with teams from Aldan Judo, Arlington Judo, Budokan, BJJ Judo, Charlottesville Judo, College Park Judo, Dale City Judo, DC Judo, Hui-O-Judo, JD Judo, NIH, Pure Performance, VA Medical Judo, and the Washington Judo Club completing for the chance to be Maryland State Champions. Impressive improvements to the Navy Judo team put out strong showings against the consistently strong Washington Judo and Sport Judo teams. Programs from DC Judo, Pure Performance, and Hui-O-Judo teams also had strong showings. The senior team championship was won by College Park by a single point over the second place team, the US Naval Academy. College Park won four divisions with Navy winning 3 divisions. Additional place winners brought the points race to a 27 to 26 win for College Park. Senior top teams also included Budokan (5th), Washington Judo (4th), and Sport Judo (3rd). Several competitors swept their divisions with all ippon wins. Mike Brown of College Park Judo, Albert McFadden of DC Judo, Jeff Dickman of JD Judo, Walter Saunders of Washington Judo, Clarise Palmer of Pure Performance, Leah Fisher of DC Judo, Chris Grunberg of College Park, Eris Mejia of Dale City Judo, Wayne Worthington of Navy, and Misha Grunberg of College Park Judo all swept their divisions with ippons. Mike Brown and Jeff Dickman both won 2 divisions each but the outstanding senior award was won by Chima Uwazi of the Naval Academy. Bobby Donaldson, president of Maryland Judo, presented each medal and trophy to the winners. He was also enthusiastic about the day's results: "It is always fun to watch the first tournament of the season. You can really set the tone for the year and gauging by the level of competition, especially in the Junior Divisions, 2013 will be a great year for Maryland Judo". Kurt and Karl Tamai, the tournament directors, led the team of volunteers who staffed the tournament, working for the entire day to ensure a smoothly running event. The Tamais emphasized that without those volunteers, the tournament would simply not have happened. Registration, pairings, announcers, medical support, table officials, food support for

officials, referees, set-up and tear-down, and the myriad other tasks in planning and conducting the state championships were all dependent upon the work of those volunteers. The Riverdale Fire Department supplied the medical support. Kevin Tamai, head Sensei of Hui-o Judo Club, who assisted in the tournament operations, also commented, "We would like to thank all of competitors, their parents, support staff and all of those who travel to support our tournaments. We appreciate all of the generous contributions of time made by all of our volunteers, especially the referees and technical officials. We are able to host great events because of the sense of family and community that we have in judo in the DC area. We all support each other and do our best to make certain each event is successful. We hope that the judoka who attended will tell their other club members to plan to attend next January."

The day started with Kata competition. **James Campbell and Moses Aaron Barnes** placed first in the Novice Nage No kata. **Ben Soto Reiner and Sensei Mark Smith** placed first in the advanced Nage No Kata.

In the junior divisions, **Muai Aakhu Mekhentien** competed in two divisions. He placed third on one and fourth in the other division. In the first one, he placed third. He won against Enilano Lonboni from College Park. He lost to Kosei Coyler, a Yonkyu(Orange) from Sport Judo. He lost to Gabrielle Evans from the Gulf Coast Judo. In the second division he placed 4th, he started with a bye, then lost to Issac Barber from College Park. He lost to Gabriel Evans from Gulf Coast Judo in Mississippi. He lost to Michael Tspelev from College Park. He won against Moses Aaron Barnes, his team mate from Hui-O. **Moses Aaron Barnes** placed 5th in his division. He lost to Michael Tspelev from College park, to Issac Barber from College Park, to Gabriel Evans from Gulf Coast and to his teammate, Maui Aakhu Mekhenstin. **Crista Campbell** placed second in her divisions. She lost just one match to Grace Oswald from Budokan. **Christian Adams** competed in two divisions and placed 4th in both of them. In each division he had won a match, defeating his competitor by an Ippon. He did well considering that the other competitors were 5 ranks ahead of him in time and experience. In the 7 to 8 year old, 50-55 lbs division, he won against Josh Coker an Advanced Yonkyu from Arlington. He lost matches to Zachary Lowes from Maryland Judo team, Alex Tamai a Yonkyu from College Park and Alex Tspelev an Advanced Yonkyu from College Park. In his second division, the boys 6-8 52-62 lbs, he won against Alex Tsepelev from College Park, he lost to Alex Tamai from College park, Ryan McBroom from Southern Maryland Jujitsu and to Nicholas Beil from Southern Maryland Jujitsu. Winning one more match in each division would have put him on the medal stand. **Matthew Campbell** placed fourth after having lost three of his matches. He competed against Kosei Cuyler from Sport Judo, Deride Mejia from Dale City and Martin Veloso from College Park.

In the senior divisions, **Phil Whitlock** competed in the Novice under 160 lbs division and won a Silver Medal!! He beat Kyle Travers, a Gokyu from Sport Judo with an Ippon. He won against Julien Thomas, a Rokkyu from Sport Judo with an Ippon. He won against Fernando Mejia, a Jr Ikkyu from Dale City Judo with an Ippon. He lost a close match to Jacob McElhaney, a Sankyu (Brown belt) from Budokan. He placed second over all in his division. **Ben Soto Reiner** competed in two divisions, the men's advanced 178 lbs division and the men's advanced under 198 lbs division.

We would like to thank Robert Kirk and Sensei Brad work working as technical officials all day. Mrs Campbell helped all over of the place. Sensei Mark refereed for the juniors then coached one of his new judoka from the VA Medical Hospital. Sensei Kevin ran administration at the head table.

Hui-O travel team – We are looking at taking small teams of judoka to local tournament a few hours drive from here. Hui-O supports many of the local tournaments to help build fellowship in judo and to challenge us with different types of competition. There are tournaments in Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York, and the Carolinas. However, Sensei Mark and Sensei Kevin both work all day at the events as well as drive and help to manage the team. We would like to have a few parents or senior students volunteer to go along on the trip to help drive and to assist with team management. You can help keep stats on the tournament and take photos at the events for us. Robert Kirk was a huge help to us for our trip up to Connecticut. Having additional people along allows us to take the newer judoka to help them gain experience at small events or allow us to take more seasoned players to high level competitions. Two larger tournaments we attend are the Liberty Bell in Pennsylvania in April and the AM CAN in Niagra Falls, NY in May.

Reigisaho (Etiquette) - We all need to practice and pay closer attention to good judo etiquette. It is the foundation of the sport. It covers everything from proper posture, bowing, salutations and general movements. When you come to class you and your judo gi should be clean. You must take proper care of your judo uniform. It should be properly folded after each practice, and then hung up at home. Your judo gi should always be in order before your bow. Please remember to bow upon entering/exiting the dojo, ALWAYS use your zoris and keep them at the edge of the mat, bow on/off of the mat and to your partners, be mindful of the way that you enter your bow and exit it. When we line up, no one should be talking or playing. After we bow, no one stands up until the senseis have all stood up. Reigisaho starts with respect for oneself and the others around you. Always present yourself in the proper manner. We have traditions that must be followed. Use proper etiquette. Your actions are a reflection of the person you are.

Colder weather: With the colder weather now here, please bring a jacket to class to wear home. Getting hot and sweaty in class then going outside in the cooler weather will bring on a cold. We want everyone in the club to be healthy and happy. If you are sick, please do not come to class, since we do not want to get the rest of the class sick too.

For more information contact :

Sensei Kevin Tamai 703-622-6861 Email –tamaik@juno.com
Sensei Mark Smith 301-674-5438 email – marquitos@comcast.net

Visit the club website at <http://www.huiojudo.com/>



The International Judo Federation has made public the amendments to the competition regulation as well as to the refereeing rules for the upcoming Olympic period 2013-2016.

All proposals, made and approved by the IJF Executive Committee, based on the opinion of many international experts, will enter into an experimental phase, from the Judo Grand Slam Paris 2013 (February 9 and 10, 2013) on, to the World Championships in Rio (included – August 26 to September 1st).

On the occasion of the recent Judo Grand Slam in Tokyo, the IJF President, Mr. Marius L. Vizer, had the opportunity to re-explain the long process that led to these changes: "Since the London Olympics, we conducted a great brainstorming that involved more than the Executive Committee members. We first analyzed the impact of the changes that were initiated after 2007. We also analyzed, with a critical state of mind, the London Games. Then we gathered together a group of experts, including referees, but also, and this was a first time ever, coaches and former recognized champions. All these personalities have worked under the leadership of the IJF sports and refereeing directors and I must say that the commitment of everybody was total."

Since last summer and the end of the London Games, numerous meetings took place to determine the future of the judo. In recent years, Judo has been profoundly changing. A World Judo Tour was set up, the World Championship is now an annual event, the World Ranking List, that determines Olympic qualification, was invented ...

On the technical side also, several changes have been made. These changes have allowed us to propose a much more dramatic and attractive judo. "The results should not prevent us from analyzing what has worked or not," said Mr. Vizer, before adding: "London has been a real success in terms of organization and judo showed all its universality with 137 participating countries. We had beautiful and great champions, who are the judo ambassadors throughout the world. We also had great guest, who enjoyed our sport and our organization. But the stress of this outsized competition tended to block the judoka who, for some of them, failed to show themselves in the best light, while we had very positive signals after the Tokyo World Championships and the Paris edition, last year. '

The President Vizer also explained several important points that were recalled during the debates: "It is important to remember that all the decisions were unanimously taken by the executive committee members and that, from now on, they will all be tested. Thus, if we discover that a particular decision does not go in the right direction, we will review our position. There is nothing definitive, as we are not in an Olympic qualification period. It is now or never to make the changes that we consider necessary. Our aim is to preserve the spirit of judo, the neutrality of the refereeing, the transparency of the decisions and to do everything possible to promote beautiful and spectacular judo, where ippon becomes the ultimate goal again. Judo is by definition the way of adaptation. We could do nothing, but that is not our philosophy. Judo must continue to adapt while maintaining its roots and values alive. '

In January 2013, before the first implementation of this new regulation, the IJF will organize refereeing and coaching seminars, on every continent, in order to explain and clarify the new rules. You will find in the following pages, the changes of the competition regulation and of the refereeing rules. You will also find food for thought that inspired these changes.

The Competitions Rules Explained Proposals 2013 – 2016

Weigh in

The athlete's weigh in will be scheduled the day before the competition at 19:00h.

A weigh in will be operated the morning of the competition, during the Judogi control, prior to the first fight in order to assess the impact of this new decision on the weight of the athletes during the competition. If the collected data require further experimentation, then it will be maintained. A procedure will be implemented when a fighter has a weight over a certain weight tolerance percentage. Within his category (weight to be determined with sport doctors) a medical check may be done.

Why?

For many years, it has been an important topic related to the athletes' health. As they are organized today, weigh-ins force competitors to get up early, or very early, and sometimes to follow drastic diets until the last minute. The organization of the weigh-in the day before the competition will be set on an experimental basis. It will determine if it is beneficial and if it helps to protect athletes from injuries related to too restrictive weight loss. The test will be closely followed by the IJF medical staff. At any time it will be stopped if the observations are not positive. From the beginning of the experiment, "weigh-in tests" will be conducted, during the judogi control, to determine if the weight gain during the night is consistent with the weight categories. Athletes and coaches will also be asked to explain the changes it brings to their preparation for the competition. This new procedure should help to reduce to competition day for athletes, coaches, but for the organizers as well. It must also protect the health of the athletes.

Composition of the delegations for individual World Championships and Continental Championships

9 entries in total for men and 9 entries for women.

The maximum of 2 athletes per category for men and the same for women.

Maximum of total delegation men and women, 18 athletes.

For cadets and juniors: same principle for the delegation composition

Why?

National Federations have the opportunity to enter two athletes per weight category for the World Championships, as well as for the continental championships. This procedure has been positive both in number of participants and quality of judo. It has enabled federations, who could not register athletes in all categories, still to engage their best athletes. In order to give the opportunity to all national federations to register their best players in the respect of the fairness of these major events, it will now be possible to register a maximum of two athletes per category, but delegations may not exceed a total of nine competitors (9 men / 9 women). Slightly reducing the number of participants, this measure will tighten up the level of the World Championships and Continental Championships.

Denomination World Cups

Name: "Continental" Open of "City". E.g.: European Open of Roma, Asian Open Ulaanbaatar....

Why?

The World Judo Tour consists of Judo World Championships, individual seniors, World Masters, Grand Slams, Grand Prix and World Cups. All these events are eligible for points for the world ranking list and for the Olympic qualifications. The World Cups are events organized by the Continental Unions. Thus, in order to make the system coherent and comprehensible and to highlight the work of the Continental Unions, the names of the World Cups (to become Continental Open) will change in 2013.

Cadets – U 18

3 years for Cadets (this proposal could be reviewed).

Kansetsu-Waza authorized for Cadets.

Why?

To harmonize the age categories, with, amongst other, events such as the Youth Olympic Games, three years have been planned for the cadets. Based on the analyzes that will be made (especially on the medical impact), the proposal may be modified.

Cadets are, for many of them, on the eve of an international career. Therefor, it seems obvious that they can practice the arm-locks, in order to prepare for the juniors. In fact, as soon as they enter in the juniors, athletes can participate in senior competitions. They need to be ready.

Tatami

- 10x10 m and 4 meters minimum for safety area for Olympics, Worlds and Masters. Recommended for Continental Championships.

Why?

To ensure the maximum performance and security for the major world competitions which are organized in venues that allow it. For all other competitions, a combat area of 8x8m will both ensure the performance and the safety, while allowing organizers to host major international competitions of the world circuit.

A 4 meters security area is necessary in regards to the rule that an action initiated inside the fighting area can be concluded outside.

Juniors - U 21

3 years for juniors (upgrade 1 more year)

Why?

To harmonize the age categories.

Ranking List Events

Only one annual event with IJF ranking list points can be organized in the same country except of World Championships, Masters or Continental Championships. The World Ranking List has been modified, see annex.

Why?

For instance, if you are organizing a Grand Prix, you can not have a Grand Slam, in the same country, during the same year. This does not concern the World Championships, the World Masters and the Continental Championships.

The scale of points distributed at the world circuit events has been modified (see Appendix) to mark a clear difference between the events.

Delegation Participating Fees

Organizing countries should not request fee penalties for countries which cannot make bank transfers but can pay in cash money upon arrival. On the other hand, they should inform well in advance the organizing country and specify the number of participants before the deadline.

Why?

Not to penalize countries that have no bank transfer facilities.

Uniform IJF Competition System

Quarter Final / last 8 / repechage for all IJF events (including Master, GS and GP)

Why?

All IJF events will adopt the quarter-final repechage system. As a consequence, three winners of their last fight will be present on the podium (instead of one, in the knockout system. The only 'loser' will be the silver medalist). It will also raise the interest to the final blocks of the competitions, whose results will take more value. Finally, it will give a second chance for the quarter-final losers, while maintaining a compact system of competition.

The Refereeing Rules Explained Proposals 2013 – 2016

Referee and judges

Only one referee on the mat and one referee at a video check table with a radio communication assisted by a referee commission member or another referee will judge the fights. A rotation system will be implemented for the Referees. The IJF Jury will interfere only when they consider it to be necessary.

Why?

To the question: will there be only one referee to judge the fight? The answer is clearly no. There will always be three people. Only the distribution of the roles will change. Instead of having three referees on the mat, there will be one referee on the mat and one referee sitting at the table with the video. He will be assisted by a member of the refereeing commission or an other referee, whose expertise in the use of video is recognized. So, there will always be three people to judge a fight. The IJF jury will intervene only in exceptional situations. The sole purpose of this approach is to ensure that the fighter who really won the fight, would leave the tatami as the winner. For this purpose, a direct and clear refereeing procedure on the mat, with a single referee, assisted by an other referee and a member of the refereeing commission, must make things more fluid. A Rotation will be organized among the referees to maintain the fairness between the fighters and to ensure an optimal recovery of the referees. The referees will be directly involved in the video assistance.

Technical assessment

-IPPON: to give more value «to take into account only the techniques with real impact on the ground on the back».

Why?

By definition, a clear ippon is a movement executed with strength, speed, and control, on the back. A return to this definition will be observed, in order to give real value to the objective of any competitor: to score ippon. Judo is a spectator sport as long as the goal is clearly defined.

Landing on the bridge position

All situations of landing on the bridge position will be considered Ippon.

Why?

Considered as a dangerous technic avoiding to be thrown, any attempt to land (for UKE - the one, who is thrown) on the bridge position will be considered as ippon for TORI (the one who has executed the throwing technic).

Penalties

During the fight there will be three Shidos, and the fourth Hansoku-make (3 warnings and then disqualification). Shidos do not give points to the other fighter, only technical scores can give points on the scoreboard.

At the end of the fight, if scoring is equal, the one with less Shido wins.

If the fight continues to golden score (due to a draw), the first receiving a Shido loses, or the first scoring a technique will win.

Why?

In order to avoid that an increasing number of competitors try to win by penalties instead of trying to win with a score, and in order to restore the balance in favor of the scores obtained by judo techniques, the penalty philosophy completely changes. Penalties still exist and after four of them, the athlete is disqualified, as it has been the case until now. However, there are no more parallel between the scores (yuko, waza-ari) and penalties. The advantage is given to the fighter who attacks and scores. But if nothing is scored (no technical advantage), the one with the least penalties wins. Once again, this gives the advantage to the competitor who attempts the most to execute techniques and who is practicing the least anti-judo.

Penalized with Shido

-Breaking the grip with 2 hands.

-Cross gripping should be followed by an immediate attack. Same rule as for the belt gripping and one side gripping.

The referees should strictly penalize the contestants who do not engage in a quick Kumikata grip or who try not to be gripped by the opponent.

-To hug the opponent for a throw. (Bear hug).

Why?

The take the grip (kumikata) is part of a judo contest. Searching the best kumikata to perform beautiful techniques is logical and necessary. But to prevent the opponent to grip, if there is no immediate attack, is not constructive. Recently, it was found that the process of blocking the opponent became predominant in many fights, leading to long and boring combats. Thus, the decisions that have been taken aim to correct this. The goal is not to prevent the kumikata work, but rather to make it active and constructive.

Penalized with Hansoku-make:

All attacks or blocking with one or two hands or with one or two arms below the belt in Tachi-waza.

Why?

The aim of judo, as it has already been pointed out is simple: to score ippon. For this, there are many possibilities, which make judo a spectacular sport, but nevertheless a technical activity. A greater clarity is needed to make it more understandable by judoka themselves, to make it easier to

judge, but also to make it more affordable to the public. The direct leg grabs were banned from judo competition in recent years. The effects are obvious: some techniques disappeared for the benefit of the reappearance of spectacular movements that couldn't be executed due to the position of the fighters. The exception made for direct leg grab in case of cross grip made the refereeing yet sometimes complicated, despite the intervention of the video. As such, any attack of blocking below the belt, during standing work, will now be sanctioned by Hansoku-make, without exception.

Osaekomi, Kansetsu-waza and Shime-waza

- Will continue also outside of the contest area as long as Osaekomi was called inside.
 - Osaekomi scores 10 seconds for Yuko, 15 seconds for Waza-ari, and 20 seconds for Ippon.
- The Kansetsu-waza and Shime-waza initiated inside the contest area and recognized as being effective to the opponent can be maintained even if the contestants are outside the contest area.

Why?

A lack of consistency was observed due to the fact that an action, in standing work, could begin within the fighting area and end outside (giving a score), but it was not valid for the ground work. From Paris Grand Slam on, an immobilization, which starts inside, can be completed outside the fighting area. The only possibility to stop the immobilization will be to get out of it. Just going out of the fighting area is not sufficient anymore. It is the same for arm locks and chokes. As long as they are clearly engaged inside the fighting area (outstretched arm, engaged arm lock or choke engaged), the conclusion may be held outside. If the arm is not stretched or if there is not throttling, the combat will stop and start again from the standing position.

Downtime is reduced to make combat more dynamic. Indeed, it is the first 10 seconds of immobilization that are the most important. In most cases, after 10 or 15 seconds, there is little chances to escape and abandonment often occur.

The bow

When entering the tatami area, fighters should walk to the entrance of the contest area at the same time and bow to each other into the contest area. The contestants must not shake hands BEFORE the start of the contest.

Why?

Judo is a sport whose values are worldwide known and recognized. In Judo, there is a 'ceremony', which is accepted by everybody and which is part of the DNA of our sport. It must be respected. It is the symbol of our moral code and it warns against any drift. That the fighters will be asked to really respect the bow procedure as it has been defined since the invention of judo. At the beginning of the bout, they will not be allowed to use other signs than the bow. At the end of the fight, after the bow, the fighters are allowed to shake hands and to congratulate themselves with respect.

Duration of Contests

- No time limit for Golden Score (Hantei is cancelled).

Why?

Recently, everybody agreed that too many fights ended in golden score with a referee flag decision. With the fight common to an end (towards the referee decision), some fighters relied on that flag decision to decide between themselves, while the goal of judo is and will remain to score ippon, or at least to score an advantage. To avoid that, the removal of the flags decision (Hantei) was recorded. The golden score will now be 'open' until a fighter scores an advantage or is penalized, the decision will be made only on the technical merits of judoka.