



Yodan to Hachidan Promotion (09/2025)

Name of Candidate	<input type="text"/>		
Home address	<input type="text"/>		
Contact phone number	<input type="text"/>	Email address	<input type="text"/>
USJA #	<input type="text"/>	Current Rank	<input type="text"/>
		Date of Rank	<input type="text"/>
Age	<input type="text"/>		
Expiration Dates for Candidate	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<i>Background</i>	<i>Safe Sport/NFHS</i>	<i>Heads Up</i>
			<i>Membership</i>

New rank	<input type="text"/>	TIG Requirement for this rank	<input type="text"/>	Candidate TIG	<input type="text"/>
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Candidate Signature	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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It is not acceptable for a coach to sign on a candidate without evaluating the applicant nor is it acceptable for the applicant to have someone sign off on the promotion form if they did nothing to verify his/her promotion requirements. This is an ethical violation and could result in losing your authority to sign off on all promotions for the USJA. (Electronic Signatures acceptable.)

I, identified below with my signature, do hereby affirm that the above candidate has satisfied all the USJA requirements for the rank promotion request, including TIG since the last promotion, age, valid background check, valid Safe Sport/NFHS and Heads Up Certifications. I affirm that I have personally examined, witnessed, and/or verified all required documents to support this request for promotion.

Coach Name	<input type="text"/>	Rank	<input type="text"/>	USJA #	<input type="text"/>
Expiration Dates for Coach	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
	<i>Background</i>	<i>Safe Sport/NFHS</i>	<i>Heads Up</i>	<i>Membership</i>	
Coach Signature	<input type="text"/>			Date	<input type="text"/>

Examiner's Name	<input type="text"/>	Rank	<input type="text"/>	USJA #	<input type="text"/>
Expiration Dates	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
	<i>Background</i>	<i>Safe Sport/NFHS</i>	<i>Heads Up</i>	<i>Membership</i>	
Signature	<input type="text"/>			Date	<input type="text"/>

Examiner's Name	<input type="text"/>	Rank	<input type="text"/>	USJA #	<input type="text"/>
Expiration Dates	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
	<i>Background</i>	<i>Safe Sport/NFHS</i>	<i>Heads Up</i>	<i>Membership</i>	
Signature	<input type="text"/>			Date	<input type="text"/>

Payment fee check #	<input type="text"/>	Charge my credit card type	<input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN EXPRESS <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER	Date	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<i>Name on card (print)</i>	<i>Card Number</i>	<i>Expiration Date</i>	<i>Security code</i>	

The Promotion Fees included *Processing Fee.

4th Dan: \$260 5th Dan: \$285 6th Dan: \$310 7th Dan: \$360 8th Dan: \$410



Required TIG and Signatures for Promotion Recommendations

4 th Dan to 8 th Dan Rank/Belt	TIG	Sign off # Rank or above
4 th Dan/Red/Black Yodan	5 years	(1) 5 th Dan
5 th Dan/Red/Black Godan	6 years	(1) 6 th Dan
6 th Dan/Red/White Rokudan	7 years	(2) 7 th Dan
7 th Dan/Red/White Shichidan	8 years	(2) 8 th Dan
8 th Dan/Red/White Hachidan	9 years	(2) 8 th Dan

CHECK LIST

If emailing, please use: support@usja.net

- 4th to 8th Dan Promotion form complete, make sure you have the correct form, and it must be typed
- Candidate must have current & maintained USJA membership. (Annual or SLM with Chartered USJA Club)
- Candidate must have current and clear Background check.
- Candidate must have completed NFHS/Safe Sport Certification.
- Candidate must have completed CDC Heads Up Certification.
- Candidate meets or exceeds TIG.
- All claimed USJA Certifications are up to date and current.
- After approval, the Promotion fee is due as listed.
- Include an updated Photo (Passport type).
- Include an extensive Judo Biography.
- Include comprehensive written recommendation from all high dan blackbells that signed your RFP



By 4th Dan, applicants have demonstrated technical proficiency in the USJA curriculum. While kyu ranks through 3rd Dan focus on individual growth, promotion to 4th Dan and above is evaluated based on an applicant's service to the development of Judo through the USJA.

4th and 5th Dan ranks in the USJA are **instructor grade ranks**. For many local senseis, these will be terminal ranks.

6th, 7th, and 8th Dan ranks represent **extraordinary ranks** awarded for a mastery of the USJA curriculum and extraordinary service to the development of Judo through the USJA. Few will be honored with these ranks.

9th and 10th Dan ranks are the **highest honors awarded by the USJA**. These ranks are reserved for the best of the best - individuals who have devoted a lifetime to the development of Judo through the USJA and have demonstrated unparalleled success on a national level.

The USJA recognizes that advanced ranks are not achieved through a mathematical formula, but through consideration of a multitude of efforts towards the growth of Judo within the USJA, including but not limited to an applicant's sustained service, leadership, and contributions. As such, the USJA Promotion Board is comprised of 6th Dan holders and above who are uniquely qualified to evaluate each submission holistically, with primary focus on service conducted since the applicant's most recent promotion. While it is understood that with age comes limitations, there are numerous ways to grow Judo - many of which are not physical - and promotions will not be awarded without active service.

Mandatory requirements for promotion include current USJA membership, completion of child abuse training, concussion training, and a satisfactory background check.

Applications for promotion should include a biographical listing of accomplishments in Judo throughout an applicant's career, with specific emphasis on service undertaken since the applicant's most recent promotion. Accomplishments achieved through the USJA will be given the most consideration.

Sample Categories that the Promotion Board will consider include, but are not limited to:

USJA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Considered: Life Membership.

Strongly considered: Bronze, Silver, and Gold Life Membership

Most strongly considered: Patron Life Membership and above.

COMPETITION

Considered: Participating and/or placing in a local competition.

Strongly considered: Participating in a regional competition.

Most strongly considered: Participating and/or placing in a national competition.

COACHING

Considered:

- Head Coach/Assistant Head Coach of a chartered club.
- Coaching champions of local competitions.
- Teaching 100 hours of classes per year.
- Producing instructional content (books/magazines/videos/social media).
- Clinics at other clubs.

Strongly considered:

- Head Coach/Assistant Head Coach of a Class A/B club.
- Coaching champions of regional competitions.
- Teaching 200 hours of classes per year.



Most strongly considered:

- Head Coach/Assistant Head Coach of a Bronze/Silver/Gold club.
- Coaching champions of national competitions.
- Teaching 300 hours of classes per year.

OFFICIATING (REFEREE/TABLE WORKER/KATA JUDGE/MEDICAL STAFF)

Considered: Officiating a local event.

Strongly considered: Officiating a regional event.

Most strongly considered: Officiating a national event.

HOSTING TOURNAMENTS/CLINICS

Considered: Hosting a local event.

Strongly considered: Hosting a regional event.

Most strongly considered: Hosting a national event.

CERTIFICATIONS

Considered: Local certifications

Strongly considered: Regional Certifications

Most strongly considered: National Certifications

SERVICE TO THE USJA

Considered: Member of USJA committee.

Strongly considered: Chair of USJA committee or member of Promotion Board.

Most strongly considered: Chair of USJA Promotion Board or member of Board of Directors.