usa judo
PRESIDENT'S CUP
CHAMPIONSHIPS
2026
NOVEMBER 22 • IRVING, TEXAS

WELCOME TO THE 2026 USA JUDO PRESIDENT'S CUP

USA Judo is pleased to welcome you to the USA Judo President's Cup Judo which will be held for the 13th straight year in Irving, Texas. Competition will take place at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas for both the President's Cup which will take place on Sunday, Nov. 22, and the Dallas Open which will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21.

2028 Los Angeles Olympic/Paralympic Games Qualification

The 2026 USA Judo President's Cup National Championships will serve as the first domestic tournament in which athletes can start earning points towards qualifying for the LA 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Trials. For details on LA 2028 Olympic Qualification, click **HERE**. For details on LA 2028 Paralympic Qualification, click **HERE**.

See page 9 for Point Matrix.

Know Before You Go

USA Judo Tournament Contact:	Eric Tschudy, 719.339.0937, Eric.Tschudy@usajudo.us
Online Registration:	https://usajudo.sport80.com/pub/e_locator/tournaments/find
Live Results:	https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com
Pointable Categories:	Senior, Junior, Veterans, Visually Impaired
Non-Pointable Categories:	Senior Novice, Junior Novice, Brown Belt
Tournament Site:	Irving Convention Center 500 West Las Colinas Blvd. Irving, TX 75039
Host Hotel:	Marriott Dallas Las Colinas 223 W. Las Colinas Blvd. Irving, Texas 75039
Chief Referee:	Sheldon Konno
Competition Areas:	10 mats – 6 standard size (8x8) and 4 youth size (2 – 7x7 & 2 – 6x6)
First-Time Competitors	Click here to view tips for athletes competing at their first national event.

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Deadlines and Entry Fees

Deadline	1st and 2nd Category (Each)	3rd, 4th and 5th Category (Each)
Early Entry: ***Oct. 1, 2026***	$90.00	$60.00
Regular Entry: ***Oct. 22, 2026***	$110.00	$90.00
Late Entry: ***Nov. 5, 2026***	$150.00	$110.00
Walk-Up Additional Category/Division Entry: (**PRE-REGISTERED ATHLETES ONLY**) (FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20th WEIGH-INS ONLY)	$300	N/A – maximum two category additions

- All registration must be completed online. No paper registrations.
- On-line registrations will not be accepted after November 5, 2026.
- Athlete's date of birth, citizenship and rank, if applicable, must be verified in the database prior to using the online event registration system. Send a copy of athlete's birth certificate/passport and rank certificate to connor.jenkins@usajudo.us. Verifications will ONLY be processed during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. MT.
- Entry fee discounts must be for the same athlete.
- Category changes/corrections can be sent to eric.tschudy@usajudo.us until November 5, 2026 at 4:00 PM MT. Changes/corrections after this deadline MUST be made on-site at check-ins prior to weighing in.
- **Absolutely no changes will be accepted after the athlete has officially weighed in.**
- **Entry fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Multiple Category Entries

Who can enter multiple categories:

- All Junior categories
- Veteran athletes may compete in one Veteran category and one Senior category.
- Senior Novice athletes may compete in Senior Intermediate; Senior Intermediate athletes may compete in Senior Advanced

For athletes who elect to compete in multiple categories, efforts will be made to separate the competition times, but this cannot be guaranteed. If the athletes' categories are competing at the same time, the coach/athlete must inform the supervisor at both mats for EACH match that they will be competing in multiple categories at the same time. A mat will not be able to hold matches for more than three (3) matches to accommodate the athletes' multiple categories. The athlete must move from one category (on mat) to their waiting category with no rest time. If the athlete is not able to arrive to the 'waiting' match within three (3) matches, a decision must be made by the competitor/coach as to the match in which they compete, thereby forfeiting one of the two matches. If a competitor has matches immediately after one another, they must move to the waiting mat and begin competition immediately with no 10-minute rest. *Please note that, in this scenario, if an athlete withdraws from an event or is unable to compete, the athlete's registration fee for the event will not be refunded.*

Schedule of Events

(Subject to Change)

Thursday, Nov. 19	**Marriott Dallas Las Colinas**
8 a.m.	Male Test Scales (Frisco) Female Test Scales (San Antonio) (Test scales open through Saturday)
Friday, Nov. 20	**Marriott Dallas Las Colinas**
8 a.m.	List of Athlete Registrations Posted: usajudo.smoothcomp.com
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	USA Judo Board Meeting (Beaumont)
12:00 p.m.	Rank & Certification Committee (Williams)
1:30 p.m.	Coaches Education Committee (Williams)
12:00 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Official Weigh-In for all Categories* Male Official Weigh-In (Merchants) Female Official Weigh-In (Planters) Please note that President's Cup weigh-in will end before the Dallas Open weigh-in
12:00 – 6 p.m.	Check-In / Modifications
3:00 – 4 p.m.	Technical Officials Meeting (Williams)
4:30 – 6 p.m.	Coach and Referee Meeting **(Irving Convention Center)** NOTE: Coaches must attend the coaches meeting to receive credentials.
Saturday, Nov. 21	**Irving Convention Center**
2:00 p.m.	Meeting for Vets, Brown Belt, Novice and Visually Impaired Categories (Meeting Room 11 (3rd Floor))
11 – 1:00 p.m.	Check-In **(Hallway outside of venue)**
11 – 1:00 p.m.	Official Weigh-Ins for all categories except for Senior Advanced categories **(Green Rooms at venue)**
4:00 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Senior Advanced Official Weigh-Ins **(Marriott Dallas Las Colinas Hotel)** See Senior Advanced Weigh-Ins
3:00 p.m. (Approx.)	Draws posted
5:30 p.m. (Approx)	Mat assignments posted
Sunday, Nov. 22	**Irving Convention Center**
6:00 a.m. – 7 a.m.	Senior Advanced Official Weigh-Ins **(Marriott Dallas Las Colinas Hotel)** See Senior Advanced Weigh-Ins
8 a.m.	Welcome Ceremony
8:20 a.m.	Competition Starts

*If an athlete is *ONLY* competing in the Presidents Cup, the athlete must weigh in during the first Saturday afternoon weigh-in block (11a – 1p) except for Senior Advanced categories (See Senior Advanced Weigh-Ins). Weight categories can be changed during the check-in process prior to stepping on the official scale.

Awards will be presented as categories are completed.

The tournament staff reserve the right to make all final decisions regarding the tournament.

Event Code of Conduct

(Applicable to all attendees, including, but not limited to Athletes, Coaches, Spectators, Officials, Volunteers, Parents)

1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct.
2. I will not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any attendee.
3. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
4. I will treat any coach, parent, athlete, volunteer, official or any other attendee with respect.
5. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any attendee.
6. I will not initiate a fight or unauthorized physical contact with any attendee.
7. I will obey all facility and organization rules, including USA Judo's Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics, and Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.
8. I will be responsible for the sportsmanship of myself and teammates while assisting in maintaining a respectful environment for all participants.
9. I understand that the concluding decision of the officials or event director is final and will accept it with respect and grace.

It is agreed that if I fail to conform to the above while attending a USA Judo event through coaching, officiating, or participating in any capacity the following will occur:

USA JUDO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO IMMEDIATELY REMOVE ANYONE FROM THE COMPETITION/ACTIVITY AND REVOKE MY CREDENTIALS.

Event Connect

Experience President's Cup Through EventConnect

EventConnect is USA Judo's digital hub for President's Cup weekend — create your own digital athlete card, follow the event action, leaderboards, and unlock prize opportunities throughout the event. Whether you're competing, coaching, cheering from the stands, or following from afar, EventConnect keeps you connected to the action and the community all weekend long!

Get started before you arrive — visit usajudo.playshotcaller.com or scan the QR code below to jump in.

Spectator Admission Fees

Age	One Day
13+	$20.00
9-12	$15.00
8 and Under	Free

Those with an active “Supporting” membership type with USA Judo can enter for free. Please give your name at the ticket desk for free entry.

Headquarters Hotel

Headquarters: Marriott Dallas Las Colinas
223 West Las Colinas Blvd.
Irving, TX 75039

Rate: $159 per night plus tax

Book by **October 30th, 2026 to receive discounted rates.**

Discounted Booking Link: Click here

Deadline Dates: Marriott Dallas Las Colinas (HQ) **-** *October 30, 2026*.

Rooms go fast, so it is best to book as early as possible.

Transportation

Air Transportation: The nearest airport – Dallas/Ft. Worth (DFW) – is located approximately 15 minutes from the host hotel. Transportation is not provided from airport to hotel.

Ground transportation: No ground transportation will be provided. The Irving Convention Center is approximately a 10-minute walk from the Marriott Dallas Los Colinas.

Coach Information

In order to coach mat-side, all coaches must have a coaching credential for the tournament.

Coaches must hold a current USA Judo coaching membership, including current background screen and concussion and SafeSport training to receive coaching credentials at this event. Credentials will be issued at the coaches meeting. Attendance at the meeting is **mandatory** for all coaches. All coaches must have a photo ID to receive a wristband for the event.

All USA Judo coaches must register for the event through the event online entry system at usajudo.sport80.com to receive wristbands. There is no charge for pre-registering. Log into your USA Judo profile and click on Events to register.

**** Walk-Up coach registrations will incur a $20.00 charge ****

Credentials will only be issued at the coaches meeting.

NOTE: Only one coach is allowed to coach mat-side inside the barricade during each match. Coaches who fail to comply this this rule may lose their coach wristband for the day and may be removed from the venue. **Coaching outside the barricade is not allowed.**

IJF Junior and Cadet categories will follow IJF coaching rules. No coaching during active competition, only during Mate.

Coaches may not approach referees during competition unless invited by referees. During a break, coaches may approach referees.

All coaches must adhere to the following dress code during this event. Failure to adhere will be grounds for removal of coaching credentials.

Coaches may wear their club or USA Judo warm-up suit with pants reaching down to their shoes which need to be closed toe (sandals and flip flops are NOT permitted). Coaches may wear a short or long-sleeved t-shirt as long as it has a judo club logo or USA Judo logo on it. Please note that hoodies are NOT permitted. Otherwise, a collared shirt is required. Khaki pants are preferred, but dress jeans (no holes or markings) also are allowed. Please consider that your appearance represents you, your family, your dojo, your athletes, your athletes' families, our sport and USA Judo. All USA Judo national events will be streamed and people from around the world will be tuning in, so please look as professional as possible.

Forbidden apparel: flip flops, sandals, shorts, hats.

Referee Event Registration

All referees must first register on the USA Judo Referee Information website, judoreferee.com. Once confirmed by the Referee Committee, you must then register on the event website.

Log into your USA Judo membership profile at usajudo.sport80.com and click on Events. Select the 2026 President's Cup and follow prompts to register.

If you do not register or are not confirmed through the judoreferee.com site, but do register on the event platform, you may not be allowed to participate in the event and USA Judo will not be responsible for any expenses associated with your travel/stay to the event.

2028 LA Olympic/Paralympic Trials Point Matrix

2028 Los Angeles Olympic/Paralympic Games Qualification

The 2026 USA Judo President's Cup National Championships will serve as the first domestic tournament in which athletes can start earning points towards qualifying for the LA 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Trials. For details on LA 2028 Olympic Qualification, click **HERE**. For details on LA 2028 Paralympic Qualification, click **HERE**.

2028 LA Olympic/Paralympic Trials Domestic Point Matrix:

		Point Allocation			
Event Name	**Date**	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**	**5th**
USA Judo President's Cup	November 22, 2026	3	2	1	X
USA Judo Senior Nationals	May 15-16, 2027	5	3	2	1
USA Judo President's Cup	November 21, 2027	5	3	2	1
USA Judo Olympic/Paralympic Trials Point Tournament	January TBD, 2028	10	6	4	2
USA Judo Senior Nationals	Spring TBD, 2028	10	6	4	2

Eligibility

Athletes may compete in the President's Cup if they meet the following eligibility requirements and there is no conflict regarding weigh-in and competition schedules.

All competitors, regardless of category entered must be a member in good standing with USA Judo or have met the criteria for non-citizens outlined below. Per the USA Judo Athlete / Event Payment Policy, any individual who has an outstanding debt from an international trip and has not made the required payment(s) within the payment window outlined in the policy will not be eligible to compete until the payment has been made.

Non-Citizen Criteria:

All categories with the exception of Senior Advanced will be open to both U.S. citizens as well as non-citizens (The Senior Advanced OPEN WEIGHT division is also open to non-citizens). Athletes who are residents of the United States must provide proof of residency such as a Green Card, VISA, etc. Athletes representing other countries must provide an approval letter from their home Federation. Non-U.S. citizens will not be eligible for points on the USA Judo National Roster. Athletes that meet IJF Refugee Status will be eligible for points on the USA Judo National Roster.

Senior Advanced Category:

- Born 2011 or earlier
- U.S. Citizens and those with IJF Refugee status ONLY
- Minimum rank of senior sankyu
- Senior Categories are eligible for points on USA Judo national rosters

Senior Intermediate Category:

- Born 2011 or earlier
- No dan ranks allowed. Waiver must be signed by USA Judo Certified Coach for any white, yellow, or orange belt to compete in this category. (see appendix for waiver)
- Must have verified/proof of rank in Sport:80 through USA Judo
- Senior Intermediate categories are NOT pointable on USA Judo national rosters

Senior Novice Category:

- Born 2011 or earlier
- Below the rank of senior sankyu (brown belt)
- Senior Novice categories are NOT pointable on USA Judo national rosters

Junior Categories:

- Born 2006-2021 (inclusively)
- No minimum rank requirement
- Junior categories are eligible for points on USA Judo national rosters

Junior Novice Categories:

- Born 2006-2021 (inclusively)
- White, yellow, and orange belts only. Ranks must be verified in the USA Judo database.
- Junior Novice categories are NOT pointable on USA Judo national rosters

Visually Impaired Category:

- Born 2011 or earlier
- No minimum rank required
- Visually Impaired Categories are eligible for points on USA Judo national rosters
- Must have been classified as visually impaired at an IBSA or IPC event in the past 10 years or provide a letter from an optometrist or ophthalmologist verifying visual acuity.
- Competitors will be divided by classification and weight category. A meeting will be held on Saturday,

Nov. 21 as noted in the schedule to create exhibition categories as needed. All exhibition events are not eligible for points.

- Classification: USA Judo has adopted the updated visual classifications as presented by the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) for all events which include Para-sport divisions. These classifications are as follows:
    - J1-and athlete's vision impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 2.6 in binocular vision.
    - J2-The athlete's vision acuity must be within a range between LogMAR 1.3 and 2.5 with binocular vision, or with a binocular visual field of 60 degrees or less in diameter.

  For more information, please visit https://ibsasport.org/sports/judo/about/classification/. Acuity must be confirmed by an ophthalmologist prior to competition. Click here to download the verification of visual impairment form. If this is the first time you are participating in a Para category at a USA Judo national event and need to be classified, or if you have any questions on classifications. Please contact Heidi Moore at judoheidi@comcast.net or 303-591-9563.

Veterans Category:

- Born 1996 or earlier
- Minimum rank of senior sankyu (see appendix for belt waiver if rank is lower than senior sankyu)
- Veteran categories are eligible for points on USA Judo national rosters

NOTE: Points will only be awarded in those categories for athletes that meet the criteria as outlined in the respective point classification systems found at www.usajudo.com/athletes/national-ranking-rosters.

Miscellaneous:

1. Point Roster criteria can be found at www.usajudo.com/athletes/national-ranking-rosters.
2. Rank requirements for junior categories:
    - Regular categories: All ranks eligible.
    - Novice Categories: White, yellow or orange belts only.

NOVICE ELIGIBILITY POLICY:

If a novice athlete has entered and medaled** in a regular category at a USA Judo national event, the athlete is not eligible to compete in any USA Judo national event novice categories during future tournaments. (**must have won at least one (1) match in category where medal was awarded**)

Athletes are only eligible to compete in novice categories for one calendar year, which would include the first event in which they competed as a novice.

Examples:

If an athlete competed in any novice division at the November 2025 President's Cup, they are eligible for novice status at the 2026 President's Cup, but this will be the last event that they are eligible for novice status.

If an athlete competed as a novice at any other USA Judo National event in 2026, they are eligible to compete in novice divisions until after the corresponding event occurs the next year.

Any club whose athlete violates the above novice eligibility policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, the withholding of coaching credentials for future national events.

Age Categories and Weight Divisions

Junior Age Categories and Weight Divisions

Please note that each category is based on the year in which the contestant was born. All weights are in kilograms. For each weight division, the weight range will be over the next lower weight and up to and including the weight listed. Example: Bantam 1, 28 kg – over 23 kg and up to and including 28 kg.

For all **regular junior categories only**:
Athletes must select their true age/weight category as their first entry. They may also select as a "bonus" category one weight up in their true age category and/or move up one age category in their true weight. For example:

- First category is Bantam 2 female 19kg (true age/weight)
- Second category is Bantam 2 female 23kg
- Third category is Bantam 3 female 21kg

The above would be considered entry into three categories and three entry fees must be paid as outlined in the fee matrix above.

For all **novice categories only**, athlete ages and weights will be reviewed and possibly combined after official weigh-in closes to increase the number of competitors in a bracket while maintaining safe competition considering ages and weights.

CATEGORIES ARE BASED SOLELY ON YEAR OF BIRTH

Regular Categories	
Bantam 1 (Born 2021): Female and Male: 18, 22, +22 kg	**Bantam 6 (Born 2016)**: Female and Male: 27, 31, 35, 39, 44, +44 kg
Bantam 2 (Born 2020): Female and Male: 19, 23, +23 kg	**Intermediate (Born 2014-2015) (U13)**: Female: 28*, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, +63 kg Male: 30*, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, +73 kg
Bantam 3 (Born 2019): Female and Male: 21, 25, 29, +29 kg	**Juvenile (Born 2012-2013) (U15)**: Female: 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 35*, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, +81 kg
Bantam 4 (Born 2018): Female and Male: 22, 26, 30, 34, 38, +38 kg	**Cadet (Born 2009-2011)**: Female: 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, +90 kg
Bantam 5 (Born 2017): Female and Male: 25, 29, 33, 37, 41, +41 kg	**IJF-Junior (Born 2006-2011)**: Female: 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, 78, +78 kg, Open Male: 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, 100, +100 kg, Open

*Athletes in these weight divisions will not be eligible to compete in international competition. These weights are not aligned with PJC weight classes.

For each weight division, the weight range will be over the next lower weight and up to and including the weight listed. Example: Bantam 1, 28 kg – over 23 kg and up to and including 28 kg.

Novice Categories
(For pre-planning purposes only, categories may be determined light, middle and heavy)

Bantam 1 (Born 2020-2021): Female and Male: 23, +23 kg	**Juvenile (Born 2012-2013)**: Female: 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 35*, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, +81 kg
Bantam 2 (Born 2018-2019): Female and Male: 23, 27, 31, 35, +35 kg	**Cadet (Born 2009-2011)**: Female: 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, +90 kg
Bantam 3 (Born 2016-2017): Female: 27, 32, 37, +37 kg Male: 25, 30, 36, 42, +42 kg	**IJF-Junior (Born 2006-2011)**: Female: 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, 78, +78 kg Male: 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, 100, +100 kg
Intermediate (U13) (Born 2014-2015): Female: 28*, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, +63kg Male: 30*, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, +73 kg	

* Athletes in these weight divisions will not be eligible to compete in international competition. These weights are not aligned with PJC weight classes.

For each weight division, the weight range will be over the next lower weight and up to and including the weight listed. Example: Bantam 1, 28 kg – over 23 kg and up to and including 28 kg.

The IJF-Junior Category is the same as the International Judo Federation Junior World Championships Category. Athletes may enter if they are born in 2006 through 2011 only.

The tournament staff reserves the right to make changes in the highest and lowest weight classes in all age divisions as necessary for safety purposes. When such adjustments are made, only the highest weight sub-category will be pointable.

Veteran Age Categories

Category is determined by year of birth. Minimum year of birth is 1996.

Age from	Age to	YOB from	YOB to	Female	Male
30	34	1996	1992	F1	M1
35	39	1991	1987	F2	M2
40	44	1986	1982	F3	M3
45	49	1981	1977	F4	M4
50	54	1976	1972	F5	M5
55	59	1971	1967	F6	M6
60	64	1966	1962	F7	M7
65	69	1961	1957	F8	M8
70	74	1956	1952	F9	M9
75	79	1951	1947	F10	M10
80	+	1946		F11	M11

Senior Advanced Categories

Minimum rank of senior sankyu ranks allowed. For any other ranks competing in this category, a waiver must be signed by USA Judo Certified Coach. (See appendix for waiver)

Senior Intermediate Categories

No dan ranks allowed (all other belts allowed). For any white, yellow, or orange belts competing in this category, a waiver must be signed by USA Judo Certified Coach. (See appendix for waiver)

Senior Novice Categories

Only ranks other than black or brown belts.

Weight Divisions for Senior Advanced, Senior Intermediate, Senior Novice, Veteran and Visually Impaired Categories

Senior, Brown Belt, Novice and Veterans:

Male: 60kg, 66kg, 73kg, 81kg, 90kg, 100kg, +100kg, Open
Female: 48kg, 52kg, 57kg, 63kg, 70kg, 78kg, +78kg, Open

Visually Impaired: J1 and J2 will compete separately except for Open weight

Female: -46 kg (non-paralympic),52kg, -60 kg, -70 kg, +70kg, Open
Male: -64 kg (non-paralympic), -70 kg, -81 kg, -95kg, +95 kg, Open

For each weight division, the weight range will be over the next lower weight and up to and including the weight listed. Example: 66 kg – 60.1kg and up to and including 66.1kg (this includes the 0.1kg allowance at weigh-ins).

Only one weight per category is allowed with the exception of categories offering Open weight. Open weight can be selected as second weight within the category.

USA Judo Event Staff may make changes as necessary in the interest of the safety of the athletes and overall administration of the tournament.

Weigh In

A calibrated practice scale will be available prior to, and during, the weigh-in periods. However, in no case will contestants be allowed on the Official Scale during Official Weigh-in for the purpose of checking weight.

Athletes may check weight as many times as desired prior to the official weigh-in on the unofficial scale. An athlete is given only one chance on the official scale during official weigh-in. Open division contestants do not need to weigh in. **At weigh in, Senior Elite, IJF and Cadet categories must present a government issued photo ID that shows date of birth.** Photo ID not required for all other categories.

Naked weigh in is not allowed for any age/weight category. To compensate, 0.1kg will be allowed. For example, in the 44kg category the limit will be 44.1kg. This is a clothing allowance only and the 0.1kg will only be added to the true weight.

Athletes who neglected to change their weight during the check-in process and missed weight during official weigh in, may enter an additional category by registering (and paying) for the new category as a walk-up registration ($300).

IMPORTANT: All athletes must make their declared weight as registered unless a change is made during the check-in/pre-weigh in process prior to getting on the official scale. Athletes may change their weight category during check-in/pre-weigh in. Failure to make declared weight will result in the athlete not competing in that category. **Athlete will not be automatically moved to next weight category.** Once official weight is recorded, no changes to the weight category will be accepted.

SENIOR ADVANCED WEIGH-INS:

Athletes competing in the **2026 Dallas Open in the Senior Elite division** as well as athletes competing in the **2026 Junior World Championships** that are also competing in the **2026 USA Judo President's Cup in the Senior Advanced division**, MUST re-weigh in during one of the following times.

Weigh In Option 1: Saturday, November 21 – 4:00pm-5:00pm

Weigh In Option 2: Sunday, November 22 – 6:00am – 7:30am

Athletes who meet the above criteria will be given a 5% weight allowance during the weigh in.

Athletes that are ONLY COMPETING in the **2026 President's Cup in the Senior Advanced division** MUST weigh in during the 4:00-5:00pm window and will NOT be given the 5% allowance. Naked weigh-in is not allowed for any age/weight category. To compensate, 0.1kg clothing allowance will be added to their true weight. (Example: 48kg -> 48.1kg)

Weight Categories for Weigh-Ins with Tolerances

Senior Women		+5% Tolerance
-48 kg	Up to and including 48.0 kg	Up to and including 50.4 kg
-52 kg	Over 48.0 kg up to and including 52.0 kg	Over 48.0 kg up to and including 54.6 kg
-57 kg	Over 52.0 kg up to and including 57.0 kg	Over 52.0 kg up to and including 59.9 kg
-63 kg	Over 57.0 kg up to and including 63.0 kg	Over 57.0 kg up to and including 66.2 kg
-70 kg	Over 63.0 kg up to and including 70.0 kg	Over 63.0 kg up to and including 73.5 kg
-78 kg	Over 70.0 kg up to and including 78.0 kg	Over 70.0 kg up to and including 81.9 kg
Senior Men		+5% Tolerance
-60 kg	Up to and including 60.0 kg	Up to and including 63.0 kg
-66 kg	Over 60.0 kg up to and including 66.0 kg	Over 60.0 kg up to and including 69.3 kg
-73 kg	Over 66.0 kg up to and including 73.0 kg	Over 66.0 kg up to and including 76.7 kg
-81 kg	Over 73.0 kg up to and including 81.0 kg	Over 73.0 kg up to and including 85.1 kg
-90 kg	Over 81.0 kg up to and including 90.0 kg	Over 81.0 kg up to and including 94.5 kg
-100 kg	Over 90.0 kg up to and including 100.0 kg	Over 90.0 kg up to and including 105.0 kg

Naked weigh in is not allowed for any age/weight category. To compensate, 0.1kg clothing allowance will be added to the 5% allowance. (Example: 48kg -> 50.5kg)

NO CHANGES WILL BE ACCEPTED IN WEIGH-IN ROOM.

Check In/Pre-weighin

Check in only if you have a change to your weight or category. If there are no changes to be made, please proceed directly to weigh-in. **No changes will be accepted or made in weigh-in room.**

Exhibition Matches

Depending on the amount of registrants and time, exhibition matches may be offered for those athletes who are uncontested in their true age/weight category. Only those athletes who are uncontested may request an exhibition match. All efforts will be made to find one or two athletes within appropriate age/weight willing to participate. No points or medals will be awarded for exhibition matches. Request for exhibition matches must be made to the event director **no later than 10 a.m. on the day** that their uncontested category was scheduled. Blue and white gis still will be required.

Club Affiliation

Only current USA Judo clubs in good standing, at the time of registration, will be associated with the athlete's entry. Non-USA Judo clubs will not be affiliated with a registered athlete. Club affiliation is not required to compete in this tournament.

Credentials

Athletes will pick up their credentials during the official weigh-in process. Those weighing-in on Saturday 11/21 at the Irving Convention Center may request a credential at the check-in on Friday 11/20 OR at venue on Saturday entry by showing proof of registration.

Confirmation of Categories / Draw

A list of registered athletes by category/weight will be available at https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com. Athletes/coaches/representatives for the athlete are required to check the list to ensure the athlete is in the correct category/weight.

- Any corrections should be reported immediately to staff no later than noon on Saturday, Nov. 21. All corrections must be emailed to Vaughn.Anderson@usajudo.us or submitted in person onsite. **PHONE CALLS OR TEXTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**.
- Corrections will be processed, then the draw will be run. Draw brackets and fight sheets will be posted at https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com.

A representative for each athlete must review the posted list to ensure the athlete is in the correct category. Failure to confirm or make corrections during the Confirmation of Categories period may result in the athlete NOT COMPETING IN THIS TOURNAMENT. All draws will be conducted using USA Judo approved software. See Rules and Method of Competition for all seeding information. With the exception of seeding, the draw will be random.

Manager Credentials

Club team manager credentials/wristbands will be considered for USA Judo certified clubs with eight or more athletes competing on the same day. These credentials are for purposes of assisting athletes to their mats with the correct gi color on only. Coaching, taking photos, etc., will not be allowed. If there are no athletes on deck or in the hole, the club manager should not be inside the competition barricade. These club managers must hold current SafeSport certification and have an up-to-date background screen through USA Judo. The number of club manager credentials/wristbands will be based on the number of athletes a club has competing and issued at the discretion of USA Judo. These may be picked up at the Coach Credentialing table.

Manager Credentials Application

USA Judo holds the right to deny a credential if the listed requirements are not met.

Competition Areas

There will be a total of 10 competition areas in use. 6 standard mats will be used for older/advanced athletes with an 8-meter competition surface. 4 smaller mats will be used for younger/beginner athletes with a minimum 6-meter competition surface. 4-meter safety areas and 3-meter outside perimeters will be in place.

Rules and Method of Competition

The President's Cup will be conducted in accordance with the 2020 Contest Rules, Organization Code and Sporting Code of the International Judo Federation, as revised for the USA Judo President's Cup.

For all categories, regardless of age, blue and white gi requirement is mandatory. IJF approved labeled gis are not required but fit must meet IJF standards. Back patches are not required.

Injury Rule: Decisions as to whether an athlete may continue if injured while on the mat, are to be resolved in accordance with IJF rules; such decisions occurring off the mat or not covered by the IJF rules, are to be made by the coach, the athlete, and the Team Doctor. If there is not a unanimous opinion among these three individuals, the athlete may not continue.

Competition Method for all Junior Categories – Three (3) or more athletes

The standard ("true") Double Elimination System with winner's and loser's brackets will be used. The winner of the loser's bracket will compete against the winner of the winner's bracket for 1st and 2nd place. The first one of these two contestants to have two losses will be placed second; the other will be placed first. The loser of the loser's bracket will be placed 3rd. Only one bronze medal will be awarded.

Competition Method for Brown Belt, Senior Novice, and Veterans Categories – Three (3) or more athletes

The standard ("true") Double Elimination System with winner's and loser's brackets will be used. The winner of the loser's bracket will compete against the winner of the winner's bracket for 1st and 2nd place. The first one of these two contestants to have two losses will be placed second; the other will be placed first. The loser of the loser's bracket will be placed 3rd. Only one bronze medal will be awarded.

Competition Method for all Seniors and VI Categories – Three (3) or more athletes:

The standard ("true") Double Elimination System with winner's and loser's brackets will be used. The winner of the loser's bracket will compete against the winner of the winner's bracket for 1st and 2nd place. The first one of these two contestants to have two losses will be placed second; the other will be placed first. The loser of the loser's bracket will be placed 3rd. Only one bronze medal will be awarded.

Competition Method for all Categories – Two (2) athletes:

The standard best two-out-of-three Round Robin System will be used. No bronze medal will be awarded.

Multiple Category Entries

For athletes who elect to compete in multiple categories, efforts will be made to separate the competition times, but this **cannot be guaranteed**. If the athletes' categories are competing at the same time, the coach/athlete must inform the supervisor at both mats for EACH match that they will be competing in multiple categories at the same time. A mat will not be able to hold matches for more than three (3) matches to accommodate the athletes' multiple categories. The athlete must move from one category (on mat) to their waiting category **with no rest time**. If the athlete is not able to arrive to the 'waiting' match within three (3) matches, a decision must be made by the competitor/coach as to the match in which they compete, thereby forfeiting one of the two matches. If a competitor has matches immediately after one another, they must move to the waiting mat and begin competition immediately with no 10-minute rest. *Please note that, in this scenario, if an athlete withdraws from an event or is unable to compete, the athlete's registration fee for the event will not be refunded.*

Seeding: Senior Advanced only: The top four athletes on the USA Judo Senior National Roster, who are in attendance, will be seeded, provided that they are ranked at A through D levels as follows: A (or B) side: #1 and #4 in one half, #2 and #3 in the other half. A higher seeded athlete will always receive a bye before a lower seeded athlete.

Athletes having the same state affiliation will be placed as far apart in the bracket as possible. Seeded athletes lose their State/Club affiliation for purposes of the draw, i.e., two athletes from the same state or club may meet in the first round if one is a seeded athlete.

Senior, Brown Belt and Senior Novice:

Match Length: Four minutes/no golden score limit

Visually Impaired:

The Visually Impaired competition will be conducted in accordance with the Contest Rules, Organization Code and Sporting Code of the International Blind Sports Association.

Match Length: Four minutes/no golden score limit

Veterans:

The Veterans category will be conducted in accordance with the Contest Rules, Organization Code and Sporting Code of the International Judo Federation with the exception of match length:

Match Lengths:

- M/F1-M6/F6: Three minute with two-minute golden score
- M7/F7 & above: Two minute with one-minute golden score

Veterans may compete in only one weight division. Actual weight will be used to determine category.

A meeting will be held Saturday at the venue for all veteran competitors in Room 11 (3rd Floor). At this time, uncontested divisions may be combined with others. Points/medals will only be awarded for actual/true categories. All competitors must be present for a division to be combined.

Junior Categories (Regular and Novice):

Match Lengths:

- All Bantam 3 minutes/2 minutes golden score
- Intermediate & Juvenile 3 minutes/no golden score limit
- Cadet & IJF 4 minutes/no golden score limit

Shime-waza and Kansetsu-waza

- Shime-waza allowed only in:
  - Regular juvenile, cadet, IJF, senior elite, brown belt, veterans (ages 30 – 60) and VI categories
- Kansetsu-waza allowed only in:
  - Regular cadet, IJF, senior elite, brown belt, veterans (all ages) and VI categories

For all categories, regardless of age, blue and white gi requirement is mandatory. IJF approved labeled gis are not required but fit must meet IJF standards. Back patches are not required.

Judo Gi /Judo Gi / Undergarments / Changing

For all categories, regardless of age, blue and white gi requirement is mandatory. IJF approved labeled gis are not required but fit must meet IJF standards. Back patches are not required.

Appropriate undergarments must be worn by all athletes. A short-sleeved white t-shirt that is round-necked (no mock turtleneck or v-neck) may be worn under a gi for all genders and categories except in trials events or categories that qualify points which may result in competing internationally. IJF rules will be applied in these categories only allowing white, round-necked t-shirts to be worn by female competitors under their judogi as referenced in the IJF Sport Organizational Rules.

Athletes needing to change clothes/judo gi should do so in a restroom, locker room or other area specifically designated for changing.

Awards

Individual Awards:

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded for first, second and third places for all divisions.

Athletes must wear either a clean full white judo gi or full team sweats on the awards podium. NO SHOES ALLOWED ON PODIUM. No additional items may be taken/worn on the podium (flags, hats, pictures, flowers, stuffed animals, etc.).

National Competition Team Awards:

Athletes will be awarded points for **all categories** based on the event as follows:

Youth Nationals, Junior Olympics, and junior regular categories at the President's Cup:

1st place	500 points
2nd place	300 points
3rd place	100 points

Novice Categories

1st place	300 points
2nd place	200 points
3rd place	100 points

Senior Nationals and senior/veterans/VI regular categories at President's Cup:

1st place	750 points
2nd place	450 points
3rd place	150 points

Novice Categories

1st place	300 points
2nd place	200 points
3rd place	100 points

The team with the most points at the conclusion of the event will be named Team Champion for the 2026 President's Cup.

Criteria:

- Club affiliation will be club listed with athlete's entry in event (as confirmed in their USA Judo profile).
- Athletes who change club affiliation at event then change back after the event has finished will not be counted. All teams must hold a current USA Judo club membership. Athletes must declare their USA Judo club no later than 7 p.m. Pacific Time on November 20, 2026.

- Champion Banners suitable for hanging in the host club will be mailed to the top three teams after the competition, or if preferred, presented in person at the following USA Judo national event.

USA Judo Team Award:

Totals will be comprised from the 2026 Youth National, Senior Nationals, Junior Olympics, and President's Cup.

The award will be presented to the winning team at the 2027 Youth Nationals.

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP)

The U.S. Center for SafeSport has developed the Minor Athlete Prevention Policies (MAAPP) which USA Judo has adapted to our own sport. The MAAPP is a collection of proactive and training policies comprised of two parts; Education & Training Policy that requires training for certain Adult Participants and the Required Prevention Policies, focused on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes to prevent abuse. The full MAAPP policy and the reporting mechanism for SafeSport infractions can be found at https://www.usajudo.com/safe-sport.

USA Judo defines "regular contact with minors" as: "Ongoing interactions during a 12-month period wherein an Adult Participant is in a role of direct and active engagement with any Minor Athlete(s). In the spirt of the moral code of judo, USA Judo requires adult members to self-certify whether or not they considered having "regular contact" with minors based on the aforementioned description. If an adult member is unsure whether or not they have "regular contact" with minors, USA Judo encourages those individuals (and their clubs) to err on the side of caution and complete the SafeSport Training and Certification. USA Judo, in cooperation with USA Judo Clubs and all LAOs, has the right to randomly review and assess members who may have regular contact with minors and require compliance if/when considered necessary by USA Judo Leadership.

The USA Judo SafeSport Handbook can be found at https://www.usajudo.com/safe-sport.

Notice of Possible Testing for Banned Substances

Senior and Visually Impaired Shiai Only:

Athletes may be drug tested at any time and are subject to and agree to abide by the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing, its Annexes, and the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policies, and that any dispute related to the foregoing will be resolved exclusively in arbitration pursuant to the USADA Protocol. Before taking any medications, check the prohibited status at GlobalDRO.com. Also, be sure to visit usada.org to learn how to recognize and reduce the risks related to supplement use. If you have any anti-doping questions, please don't hesitate to call Athlete Express at (866) 601-2632.

You can send correspondence and inquiries to: United States Anti-Doping Agency; 555 Tech Center Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919 or visit USADA's website at https://www.usada.org/

Appendix A – Senior Belt Waiver

RANK VERIFICATION
BROWN BELT – SENIOR ELITE
CATEGORIES

I, _____, a certified USA Judo Instructor/Coach, hereby certify that,

_____, is of sufficient aptitude and skill in judo to compete in the Senior Advanced category at the 2026 USA Judo President's Cup Championships. This will include competing against multiple levels of Black Belt ranked athletes.

Printed Name of Judo Instructor/Coach

_____

_____

Signature of Judo Instructor/Coach Date

Appendix B – Novice Belt Waiver

RANK VERIFICATION SENIOR INTERMEDIATE CATEGORIES

I, _____, a certified USA Judo Instructor/Coach, hereby certify that,

_____, is of sufficient aptitude and skill in judo to compete in the Senior Intermediate category at the 2026 USA Judo President's Cup Championships. This will include competing against Brown Belt ranked athletes.

Printed Name of Judo Instructor/Coach

_____

_____

Signature of Judo Instructor/Coach Date