



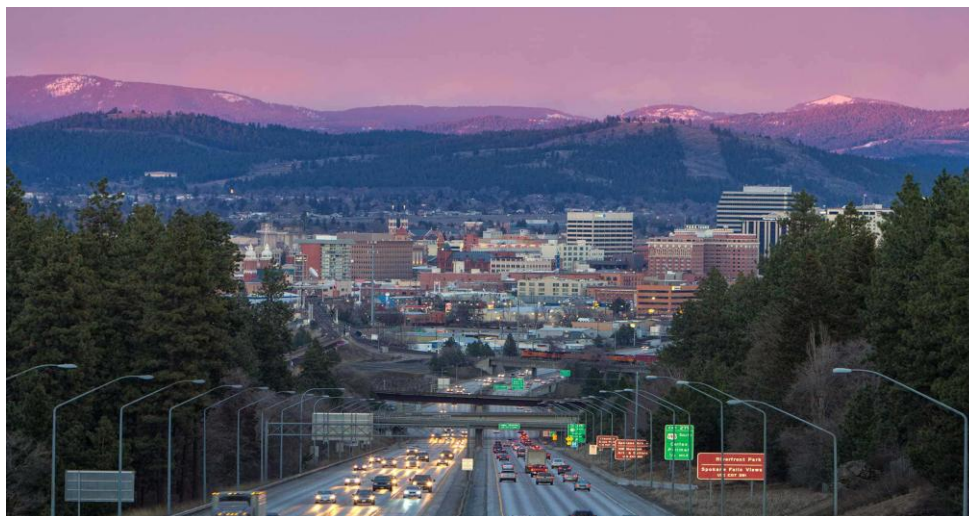
# JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

2026

JUNE 19-21 • SPOKANE, WA



# WELCOME TO THE 2026 USA JUDO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



We are pleased to welcome you to the USA Judo National and International Junior Olympic Championships in The Podium, in Spokane, Washington.

Competition will take place at The Podium and will serve as the trials for the **Cadet World Championships, Junior World Championships, 2026 U13 (Intermediate) and U15 (Juvenile) Pan American Championships.**

## Know Before You Go

<b>Tournament Host:</b>	USA Judo Spokane Sports
<b>Sanctioning Organization:</b>	USA Judo
<b>USA Judo Tournament Contact:</b>	Eric Tschudy: 719.339.0937, <a href="mailto:Eric.Tschudy@usajudo.us">Eric.Tschudy@usajudo.us</a>
<b>Online Registration:</b>	<a href="https://usajudo.sport80.com/public/wizard/e/801">https://usajudo.sport80.com/public/wizard/e/801</a>
<b>Live Results:</b>	<a href="https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com/">https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com/</a>
<b>Pointable Categories:</b>	All regular categories (IJF-Junior, Cadet, Juvenile, Intermediate, Bantam)
<b>Non-Pointable Categories:</b>	All novice categories
<b>Tournament Site:</b>	The Podium 511 Joe Albi Way Spokane, WA 99201
<b>Host Hotel:</b>	<a href="#">Centennial Hotel Spokane</a> 303 West North River Drive Spokane, WA 99201
<b>Chief Referee:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>First-Time Competitors:</b>	Click <a href="#">here</a> to view tips for athletes competing at their first national event.

**Key Dates:**

<b>Key Dates:</b>			
<b>Thursday, June 18</b> Weigh-In: National Championships (Regular Bantam, Intermediate (U13) and Cadet)  Referees, Coaches and Technical Officials Meetings	<b>Friday, June 19</b> Competition: Regular Bantam, Intermediate (U13) and Cadet  Weigh-In: National Championships (Regular IJF-Junior (U15), Juvenile and All Novice Categories)	<b>Saturday, June 20</b> Competition: Regular IJF-Junior (U15), Juvenile, All Novice Categories  Weigh-In: All International Categories	<b>Sunday, June 21</b> Competition: All International Categories

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## Deadlines and Entry Fees

Deadline	1 <sup>st</sup> Category (Each)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Category (Each)	3 <sup>rd</sup> and Each Subsequent Category
Early Online Registration: April 30 (11:59 p.m. MT)	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$60.00
Regular Online Registration: May 28 (4:00 p.m. MT)	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$70.00
Late Online Registration: June 4 (4:00 p.m. MT)	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$80.00
Walk-Up Additional Category/Division Entry: ( <b>PRE-REGISTERED ATHLETES ONLY</b> )  June 18 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Weigh-Ins	\$300.00 (per additional category/division)	\$300 (per additional category/division)	No more than two (2) additions allowed for walk-ups.

## No Walk-Up Registrations

- All registrations must be completed online. No paper registrations. International teams, please contact [Eric.Tschudy@usajudo.us](mailto:Eric.Tschudy@usajudo.us) for registration information.
- **On-line registrations will not be accepted after June 4 at 4:00 p.m. MT.**
- 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 copies of athlete's birth certificate/passport and rank certificate to [Connor.Jenkins@usajudo.us](mailto:Connor.Jenkins@usajudo.us). Verifications will only be processed during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. MT.
- Entry into second or third category must be for same athlete.
- Entry fees are non-refundable and non-transferable
- **Absolutely no registrations will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. MT on Thursday, June 4.**
- **All changes must be done onsite after the June 4, 2026 registration deadline.**

# Schedule of Events

(Subject to Change)

## Wednesday, June 17 – Saturday June 21

7 a.m. – 10 p.m.

### Centennial Hotel Spokane

Male Unofficial Scales: *Willow A*

Female Unofficial Scales: *Willow B*

## Thursday, June 18

10 a.m.

Preliminary domestic categories posted for confirmation: [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](http://usajudo.smoothcomp.com)

**Note:** These will change during the Check-In / Change Period

12 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Tournament check-in / changes for all domestic competitors. International competitors also may make changes at this time.

(Check in only if there is a change in category or weight.)

### NO WALK-UP REGISTRATION

12:30 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.

Official Weigh-Ins for National Regular Bantam, Intermediate & Cadet Categories

### Centennial Hotel Spokane

Male Official Weigh-In: *Finch Room*

Female Official Weigh-In: *Corbin Room*

Approx. 5:30 p.m.

Brackets and mat assignments posted for National Regular Bantam, Intermediate and Cadet Categories at [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](http://usajudo.smoothcomp.com).

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Technical Officials Meeting – **Centennial Hotel Spokane** (*Grant Room*)

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Coach & Referee Meeting – **The Podium** (*venue on the mat*)

## Friday, June 19

7 a.m.

### The Podium

Venue doors open to the public

7:30 a.m.

Referees Meeting

Room (*Station Grill (Second Floor)*)

8 a.m.

Welcome Ceremony

8:15 a.m.

Competition Begins (National Regular Cadet, Intermediate and Bantam Categories)

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Official Weigh-Ins for National Regular IJF-Junior, Juvenile & All Novice Categories

### The Podium

Male Official Weigh-In: (*Room A*)

Female Official Weigh-In: (*Room B*)

Approx. 3:30 p.m.

Brackets and mat assignments posted for Saturday competition at [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](http://usajudo.smoothcomp.com)

## Saturday, June 20

### The Podium

- 7 a.m. Venue doors open to the public
- 7:30 a.m. Referee Meeting  
Room (*Station Grill (Second Floor)*)
- 8:30 a.m. Competition Begins (National Regular IJF-Junior, Juvenile and all Novice Categories)
- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tournament check-in / changes for all international competitors. (Check in only if there is a change in category or weight). Hall outside of weigh-in rooms.
- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Official Weigh-Ins for ALL INTERNATIONAL CATEGORIES  
**The Podium**  
Male Official Weigh-In: (*Room A*)  
Female Official Weigh-In: (*Room B*)
- Approx. 5 p.m. Categories posted for confirmation at [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](http://usajudo.smoothcomp.com) – ALL INTERNATIONAL CATEGORIES
- Approx. 7 p.m. Brackets and mat assignments posted for all International Categories at [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](http://usajudo.smoothcomp.com).

## Sunday, June 21

### The Podium

- 7 a.m. Venue doors open to the public
- 7:30 a.m. Referee Meeting
- 8:30 a.m. Competition Begins (All International Categories)

**NOTE: NATIONAL COMPETITION ATHLETES DO NOT NEED TO WEIGH IN FOR SECOND CATEGORY IF SAME WEIGHT. IF IN A DIFFERENT WEIGHT CATEGORY, ATHLETE DOES NEED TO REWEIGH.**

**ALL INTERNATIONAL CATEGORY ATHLETES NEED TO REWEIGH. One (1) kg allowance for athletes that competed for the domestic tournament (Friday/Saturday competition). The 0.1kg allowance rule will still apply. [See Weigh-in rules.](#)**

The tournament staff reserves 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.**

## Spectator Admission Fees

Age	One Day	3 Day Pass
Adult (13+)	\$20.00	\$45.00
Child (9-12)	\$15.00	\$35.00
8 and Under	Free	Free

## Headquarters Hotel

**Headquarters:** The Centennial Hotel Spokane

**Rate:** Double Queen: \$180 per night plus tax  
Reservations: [Click here](#) to book online.

**Deadline Date:** Book by May 29, 2026 to receive discounted rates.

The Centennial Hotel Spokane is 0.3 miles from The Podium (tournament venue) and an 8-mile (12 minutes) drive from the Spokane International Airport (code GEG).

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

## Transportation

**Air Transportation:** Spokane International Airport (GEG) is located approximately 8.0 miles (12 minute drive) from The Podium and is serviced with 23 direct flights on American, United, Delta, Southwest, Frontier, Allegiant and Alaska Airlines. No transportation will be provided by USA Judo.

## 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 coach/referee meeting. Attendance at the meeting is **mandatory** for all coaches. All coaches must have a photo ID to receive a wristband for the event. Coaches must be physically present to receive wristband.

All USA Judo coaches must register for the event through the event online entry system at [usajudo.sport80.com](http://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. New: \*\* Walk-Up registrations will incur a \$20.00 charge \*\*

*New: Credentials will only be issued at the coach/referee 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](http://USA Judo Referee Information) website, [judoreferee.com](http://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](http://usajudo.sport80.com) and click on Events. Select the 2025 USA Judo Junior Olympic Championships and follow prompts to register.

If you do not register or are not confirmed through the [judoreferee.com](http://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.

# Eligibility

All athletes must be members in good standing of USA Judo, including individuals without citizenship who are competing in events that are not a trials. Athletes may compete in the USA Judo Junior Olympic Championships if they meet the following eligibility requirements, and there is no conflict regarding weigh-in and competition schedules.

Per the USA Judo Athlete / Event Payment Policy, any individual who has an outstanding debt with USA Judo 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.

## National Competition: Friday and Saturday

- U.S. citizens
- Athletes who meet the criteria of the International Judo Federation's (IJF) refugee program and are currently approved with proof of documentation/acceptance from the IJF to participate in the refugee program, may compete in the Cadet and/or IJF-Junior categories in the national competition.
- Athletes who meet the criteria of the USA Judo refugee program and are currently approved with proof of documentation/acceptance from USA Judo to participate in the refugee program, may compete in the U13 or U15 categories in the national competition.
- Please provide a copy of the necessary documents to [Connor.Jenkins@usajudo.us](mailto:Connor.Jenkins@usajudo.us). All documentation must be submitted by May 21, 2026. No exceptions.

All athletes must be current members in good standing of USA Judo in order to compete in the national competition regardless of citizenship.

## International Competition: Sunday Only

- U.S. Citizens OR
- Athletes with a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) or any U.S. non-tourist visa OR
- Athletes with an approval letter from an IJF-recognized international federation OR
- Athletes who meet the criteria of the International Judo Federation's (IJF) refugee program and are currently approved with proof of documentation/acceptance from the IJF to participate in the refugee program are eligible to compete in the following categories OR
- Non-U.S. citizens who have submitted international passport and date of birth documentation AND are USA Judo Members in good standing with the organization
- International non-USA Judo members must submit an invitation letter from their home federation to [eric.tschudy@usajudo.us](mailto:eric.tschudy@usajudo.us) or [connor.jenkins@usajudo.us](mailto:connor.jenkins@usajudo.us).
- Athletes who meet the criteria of the International Judo Federation refugee program and are currently approved with proof of documentation/acceptance from the IJF to participate in the refugee program, may also compete in the categories listed above. Please provide a copy of the necessary documents to [connor.jenkins@usajudo.us](mailto:connor.jenkins@usajudo.us).

All athletes must be current members in good standing of USA Judo in order to compete in the international competition, except athletes with international federation approval letters.

## Rank Requirements

- Regular Categories: All ranks eligible
- Novice Categories: White, yellow or orange belts only

Point Roster criteria can be found at <https://www.usajudo.com/2026-junior-national-ranking-rosters>.

Updated April 17, 2026

## Novice Eligibility

**New rule: 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. If an athlete has previously medaled in a Regular category, they are not eligible to compete in the novice category.**

Example:

If an athlete competed in any novice division at the June 2025 Junior Olympics, they are eligible for novice status at the 2026 Junior Olympics, 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 2025, 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.**

## Junior and Cadet World Championships Trials

Eligibility and selection criteria for the 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championship Teams can be found at <https://www.usajudo.com/athletes/juniors/selection-procedures>

**Cadet World Championships (August 20-23, 2026 – Guayaquil, Ecuador)**

**Junior World Championships (October 22-25, 2026 – Amman, Jordan)**

### Updated as of March 20, 2026

- A total of 10 male and 10 female athletes will represent USA Judo at the 2026 Cadet World Championships.
- A total of 9 male and 9 female athletes will represent USA Judo at the 2026 Junior World Championships.
- The Cadet and IJF Junior Gold Medalists in each division from the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships will be offered the direct qualifier spot in their division.
- The silver medalists in each division will become the first alternates.
- The third-place athletes in each division will become the second alternates.
- The fourth-place athletes in each division will become the third alternates.
- The teams (Cadet World and Junior World) will each also include two male and two female “wild cards” for both the Cadet and IJF-Junior ages (4 total wild cards for the Cadet World team and 4 total wild cards for the Junior World team), if applicable. Wild card selections are included within the total team size limits listed above and do not increase the maximum number of athletes per gender. These wild cards will be the two male and two female athletes not directly named to the team via direct qualification with the most points on the **USA Judo National Cadet and IJF Junior rosters as of end of day June 20, 2026 (the rosters will only include points through the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships)**. It is not possible to combine points from multiple divisions and athletes may only qualify as a wild card in the weight division in which they earn points. Wild card selections are subject to the IJF/PJC limit of no more than two athletes per weight division within the team quota.
- To qualify as a wild card athlete, it is not mandatory to compete at the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships. The wild card members cannot be in the same division.
- **To qualify as a wild card athlete, one must have at least 12 points on the USA Judo National Cadet and IJF Junior rosters as of end of day June 20, 2026 (the rosters will only include points through the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships). If no athlete meets this minimum, the wild card spot will remain unfilled.**
- In compliance with the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) deadlines, under no circumstances may USA Judo modify the official team roster within three (3) weeks of the first day of competition.
- If the PJC or IJF changes the number of athletes that can participate in these tournaments, then USA Judo reserves the right to adjust the criteria.

# U13 and U15 Pan American Championships Trials

## 2026 U13 and U15 Pan American Championship Team Selection Criteria

### U13/U15 Pan American (November 27-29 – TBD, Mexico)

#### Updated as of April 13, 2026

- A maximum of four (4) athletes per age and weight category will represent USA Judo at the 2026 U13 and U15 Pan American Championships.
- Direct qualification will be awarded to the gold, silver, and bronze medalists in each U13 (Intermediate) and U15 (Juvenile) division at the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships. These athletes will be offered positions on the team in the division in which they earned their result.
- A fourth position in each weight category may be allocated as a wild card. This position is included within the maximum team size and does not increase the total number of athletes permitted per gender. The wild card position will be offered to the highest-ranked athlete not already qualified through direct qualification, based on the USA Judo National U13 (Intermediate) and U15 (Juvenile) Ranking Lists as of the end of day on June 20, 2026. Ranking lists will only include points earned through the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships.
- To be eligible for wild card selection, an athlete must have accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points on the applicable USA Judo National ranking list. Points may not be combined across multiple divisions, and athletes may only be considered in the weight category in which those points were earned. Participation in the 2026 USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championships is not required for wild card eligibility. If no eligible athlete meets the minimum point requirement, the fourth position will not be allocated.
- Please note that the U13 female -28kg, U13 male -30kg and U15 male -35kg divisions are not official divisions recognized by the Pan American Judo Confederation (PJC) and those athletes are not eligible for direct qualification or wild card selection.
- In compliance with the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) deadlines, under no circumstances may USA Judo modify the official team roster within three (3) weeks of the first day of competition.
- All selections are subject to PJC regulations. USA Judo reserves the right to amend these selection criteria should the PJC qualification procedures be modified.

## 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.

**Only one weight category is allowed with the exception of IJF-Junior where open weight can be a second entry OR as outlined below for regular bantam categories OR when competing in the International categories.**

**Regular bantam categories:** Athletes must select their true age/weight category as their first entry. They may also select as a “bonus” category(s) one weight up in their true age category and/or move up one age category in their true weight. Bantam 6 categories may not move up one age category, as the Intermediate (U13) category is a Trials category.

For example:

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

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

**International regular categories:** Athletes must select their true age/weight category as their first entry. They may also select as a “bonus” category(s) one weight up in their true age category and/or move up one age category in their true weight. Juvenile athletes in the final year (born 2012) may move up to the Cadet category but not to the IJF-Junior category.

The following age/weight categories will be in use for this year’s event (2026):

### CATEGORIES ARE BASED SOLELY ON YEAR OF BIRTH

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

<b>Novice Categories (Domestic and International)</b> <i>(For pre-planning purposes only, categories may be determined light, middle and heavy)</i>	
<b>Bantam 1 (Born 2020-2021):</b> Female and Male: 23, +23 kg	<b>Juvenile (Born 2012-2013):</b> Female: 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 35*, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, +81 kg
<b>Bantam 2 (Born 2018-2019):</b> Female and Male: 23, 27, 31, 35, +35 kg	<b>Cadet (Born 2009-2011):</b> Female: 40, 44, 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, +70 kg Male: 50, 55, 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, +90 kg
<b>Bantam 3 (Born 2016-2017):</b> Female: 27, 32, 37, +37 kg Male: 25, 30, 36, 42, +42 kg	<b>IJF-Junior (Born 2006-2011):</b> Female: 48, 52, 57, 63, 70, 78, +78 kg Male: 60, 66, 73, 81, 90, 100, +100 kg
<b>Intermediate (U13) (Born 2014-2015):</b> 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.

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.

## 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 official 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, IJF-Junior and Cadet categories must present a government issued photo ID.** 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.***

**IMPORTANT:** All athletes must make their declared weight as registered unless a change is made during the check in/registration process prior to getting on the official scale. Athletes may change their weight category during check in/registration. 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 weight category will be accepted.

### **NO CHANGES WILL BE ACCEPTED IN WEIGH-IN ROOM.**

All athletes competing in the JO International competition on June 21 must weigh in on June 20. **If an athlete competed during the Junior Olympic National Championships on either June 19 or 20, they will be allowed a 1kg allowance for their JO International competition weigh-in. The 0.1kg allowance rule will still apply.**

## Check In

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 at weigh-in.**

## Exhibition Matches

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. Requests 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 be issued their credentials during the weigh-in process.

A preliminary list of athletes by category/weight will be available at <https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com> on June 18, 2026 at approximately 10 a.m.

## Confirmation of Categories / Draw

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 but no later than end of weigh-ins on the day prior to the athlete competing. ONLY an email to [Vaughn.Anderson@usajudo.us](mailto:Vaughn.Anderson@usajudo.us) or face to face interaction with a staff member will be accepted. **NO TEXTS OR PHONE CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** A correction form will be provided to record the correction. Corrections WILL NOT be accepted after the end of weigh-ins on the day prior to the athlete competing.
- Corrections will be processed then the brackets will be created. Brackets will be posted online at [usajudo.smoothcomp.com](https://usajudo.smoothcomp.com).
- **IMPORTANT:** This period is for corrections /confirmations only, of changes made during the check in/registration time period. **NO OTHER CHANGES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

A representative for each athlete must review the posted preliminary 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 8 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 check-in/changes table.

### Manager Credential Application

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

## Rules and Method of Competition

The Championships will be conducted in accordance with the Contest Rules, Organization Code and Sporting Code of the International Judo Federation, as revised for the USA Judo Junior Olympic Championships.

**Competition Method:** 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 (2) losses will be placed second; the other will be placed first. The loser of the loser’s bracket will be placed 3rd. For categories of two and under contestants, round robin will be the method of competition.

### **Round Robin Clarification:**

- If Athlete A pulls out before finishing competition against other athletes in the category and does not go out onto the mat, all points won or lost associated with Athlete A are removed. No medal is awarded to Athlete A
- If Athlete A cannot finish competing but goes out onto the mat (field of play), then Athlete B wins and is awarded ippon points. Athlete A receives 0 points.
- If Athlete A, who did not finish competing but went out onto the mat, they are eligible to medal.

**Seeding:** There will be no seeding except for the IJF-Junior and Cadet categories. The top four athletes will be seeded in each division. If a seeded athlete is not present, the other athletes WILL move up in seeding.

**Points:** Juniors winning medals in the regular IJF-Junior, Juvenile, Cadet, Intermediate, and all Bantam divisions will be awarded points as outlined in the USA Judo Junior Event Point Matrix found at [www.usajudo.com](http://www.usajudo.com).

All athletes must compete in their true age/weight category.

**Shime-waza rule:** Allowed in regular Juvenile, Cadet, and IJF-Junior categories only.

**Kansetsu-waza rule:** Allowed in regular Cadet, and regular IJF-Junior only.

It is standard procedure in the United States that contestants competing in Junior divisions up to and including 12 years of age are not allowed to use Shime-waza (chokes) or Kansetsu-waza (arm locks). Juvenile (U15) age categories (13-14) contestants competing are allowed to use Shime-waza (chokes) but not Kansetsu-waza (arm locks). Cadet and IJF-Junior age categories (15 yrs. to 20 yrs.) contestants competing are allowed to use Shime-waza (chokes) and Kansetsu-waza (arm locks). Novice divisions are not allowed to use chokes and/or arm locks.

**Injury Rule:** Decisions regarding on-mat injuries, 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 appropriate medical staff. If there is not a unanimous opinion among these three individuals, the athlete may not continue (Board-approved October 22, 1998). USA Judo medical staff has the final authority on decision determining if an athlete continues competition.

**Match lengths:**

- Bantam (3 minutes / 2-minute golden score)
- Intermediate and Juvenile (3 minutes / no golden score limit)
- Cadet and IJF-Junior (4 minutes / no golden score limit)

**Multiple category entries**

For those athletes who elect to compete in multiple categories, efforts will be made to separate the competition times, but this cannot be guaranteed. A decision may need to be made by the competitor as to the match in which they compete, thereby forfeiting the applicable match(es). 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. If categories are competing at the same time, the athlete must move from one category (on mat) to their waiting category with no rest time. 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.

## 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 (one 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 additional items may be taken/worn on the podium (flags, hats, pictures, flowers, stuffed animals, etc.). At no time is an individual allowed to wear footwear on the podium.

### Team Awards

Athletes will be awarded points for all categories at the Junior Olympics based on the event as follows:

1. Regular Categories
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> place 500 points
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> place 300 points
  - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> place 100 points
2. Novice Categories
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> place 300 points
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> place 200 points
  - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> place 100 points

The team with the most points at the conclusion of the event will be named Team Champion for the 2026 Junior Olympic Championships.

All teams must hold a current USA Judo club membership. Athletes must declare their USA Judo club no later than 3:30 p.m. PT on June 18.

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.

**Note: If a member of your club (athlete, coach, official, spectator, parent or attendee) is removed from the venue for violation of the event code of conduct, your club may become ineligible for the team award for this event and/or the annual team award.**

### USA Judo Team Annual 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.

## Banners / Signs / Advertisements in Venue

USA Judo restricts the display of banners, flags, advertisements and other related signage in the competition venue without prior approval. Should such items be displayed, owners will be asked by event organizers to take down or remove the signage.

## Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (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 spirit 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

I understand and agree that I may be drug tested at any time, that I am subject to and will 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](http://GlobalDRO.com). Also, be sure to download the Supplement 411 app or visit [Supplement411.org](http://Supplement411.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.