



**Detailed Explanation  
of the  
IJF Judo Refereeing Rules**

**Effective from January 2018  
(Version 9 March 2018)**



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

- Slides with new text (November 2017) have the new blue icon in the top right corner.
- New text is shown in red (January 2018) and the slide has the new 2018 green icon.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

Distinguished members of the international judo community,

I am pleased to introduce to you our new detailed explanation of the rules effective from 01<sup>st</sup> of January 2018.

In the process of development of our sport, it is of utmost importance to do the best, first of all for the content and the image of our sport, for a better comprehensibility and consistence of the rules for judokas, judo lovers and the World.

We are continuously reforming the strategy in all the sectors of the IJF to make our sport a modern one, outstanding and understandable for everyone.

I'm convinced the new elements of the rules and judo methodic will be a great benefit for the judo family, spectators, partners and media.

Marius L. Vizer  
President  
International Judo Federation



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Main points from IJF Executive Committee Working Meeting **(13/01/18)**

NEW  
2018

- Kansetsu-waza and Shime-waza are not valid if both athletes are in a Tachi-waza standing position.
- Transition from Ne-waza to Tachi-waza is valid.
- In the case of Kaeshi-waza tori, the thrower who is applying the counter attack, CANNOT use the impact of landing on the tatami.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Main points from IJF Executive Committee Working Meeting (18/10/2017)

- Definition of Waza-ari and of Ippon, amplification of the evaluation of Ippon, more value will now be given.
- Definition of bridge and head defence and all the consequences.
- Double Hansoku-make for negative judo.
- Give the power to the central referee on the tatami to do their job and for the supervisors and referee commission to intervene only when there is a major mistake.
- Continue to promote positive judo.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## *Judogi*

- For a better efficiency and to have a good grip it is necessary for the jacket to be well fitted in the belt, with the belt tied tightly.
- To reinforce that, the competitor shall arrange their judogi and belt quickly between Mate! and Hajime! announced by the referee.
- If an athlete intentionally loses time arranging his jacket and belt, he will receive Shido.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Duration of contests

- Men and women four (4) minutes.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Technical score

- In regular time (4 minutes), a contest can only be won by a technical score or scores (one Waza-ari or Ippon).
- A penalty or penalties will not decide the winner, except for Hansoku-make (direct or accumulative).
- A penalty is never a score.
- There are now two Shido and the third Shido becomes Hansoku-make.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Golden score

When both players have no technical score or the technical scores are equal at the end of the regular contest time, the contest shall continue in Golden Score regardless of the number of Shido given.

- Any existing score(s) and/or Shido(s) from regular time are carried into the Golden Score period and will remain on the score board.
- Golden Score can only be won by a technical score (Waza-ari or Ippon) or Hansoku-make (direct or by accumulative Shido).
- A penalty is never a score.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Evaluation of the points in Nage-waza

- *There will now only be Ippon and Waza-ari.*
- *Ippon will be given when the contestant throws his opponent on the back, applying a technique or countering his opponent's attacking technique, with considerable ability with maximum efficiency (\*).*

(\*)        “*Ikioi*” = momentum with both force and speed.

“*Hazumi*” = skillfulness with impetus, sharpness or rhythm.

- *Criteria for Ippon:*
  1. Speed;
  2. Force;
  3. On the back;
  4. Skilfully control until the end of the landing.
- *Rolling can be considered Ippon only if there is no break during landing.*



## IJF RULES 2018-2020

Difference of the rolling makes the evaluation of the points it is Ippon when Uke rolls on his back.

NEW  
2018





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Evaluation of the points

NEW  
2018

- Waza-ari will be given when the four ippon criteria are not fully achieved.
- The value of Waza-ari includes those given for yuko in the past.
- Two Waza-ari are the equivalent of one ippon (waza-ari-awasete-ippon) and the contest will be finished.
- Rolling can be considered Waza-ari if there is a break during landing.



## IJF RULES 2018-2020

Difference of the rolling makes the evaluation of the points it is Waza-ari when Uke rolls on his side or hips.

NEW  
2018





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Waza-ari

- The value of Waza-ari includes those given for Yuko and Waza-ari in the past.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Waza-ari

- Landing on both elbows or two arms is considered valid and should be evaluated with Waza-ari.
- Landing on one elbow, on the bottom or the knee with immediate continuation on the back will be Waza-ari.
- Landing on one elbow and one hand is considered valid and should be evaluated with Waza-ari.



NEW  
2018



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Not Waza-ari





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Bridge

- All situations of voluntarily landing in the bridge position, will be considered Ippon.



## Head defence

- Voluntary use of the head for defence to avoid landing in / escaping from a score will be given Hansoku-make. In this case Uke would land on their stomach or front side or knees.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Involuntary head defence - no penalty for Tori & Uke

NEW  
2018

- Special attention will be given to the following situations where Tori attempts to throw his opponent during Tachi-waza:
  - Seoi-otoshi (drop Seoi-nage)
  - Sode-tsurikomi-goshi with the grip on both sleeves.
  - Koshi-guruma with both grips on the collar.

These are examples and this situation can occur with other throwing techniques.



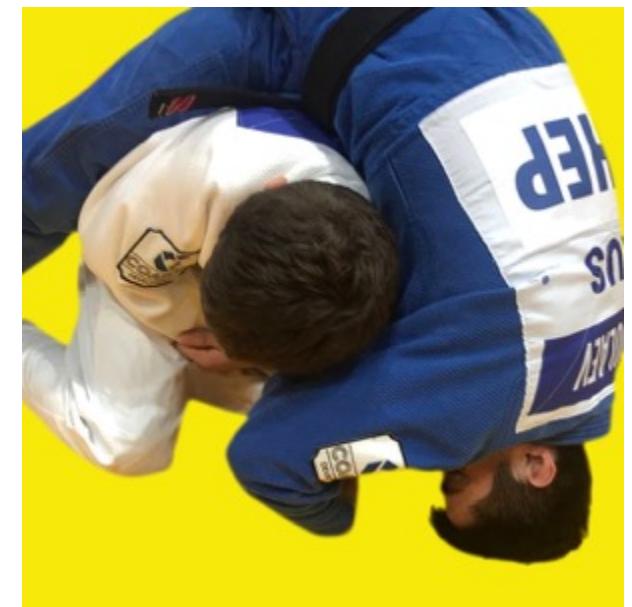
# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Involuntary head defence - no penalty for Tori & Uke

Example 1:

Seoi-otoshi (drop Seoi-nage)



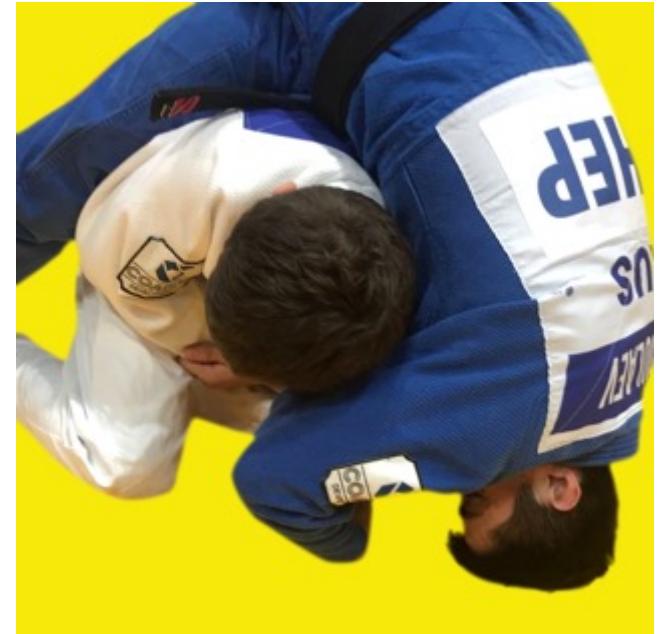


# IJF RULES 2018-2020

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## Involuntary head defence - no penalty for Tori & Uke

Example 2:  
Sode-tsurikomi-goshi  
with the grip on both  
sleeves





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Involuntary head defence - no penalty for *Tori* & *Uke*

Example 3:  
Koshi-guruma  
with both grips on  
the collar





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW  
2018

## Counter-attack

- In the case of Kaeshi-waza Tori, the thrower who is applying the counter attack, CANNOT use the impact of landing on the tatami.
- If a score can be given, it will be assigned.
- If the two athletes land together without clear control for either one, no score will be given.
- Any action after landing will be considered as a Ne-waza action.



## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Immobilisations (Osaekomi-waza)

- Waza-ari: 10 seconds
- Ippon: 20 seconds



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Immobilisations (Osae-komi)

- The "Ura" position is now valid.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Immobilisations (Osae-komi-waza)

- This kind of Osae-komi is not valid.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

**SHIDO**

NEW

NEW  
2018

## Shime-waza – forbidden

- Shime-waza or Kansetsu-waza while over-stretching a straight leg is forbidden.
- Special attention will be given to situations: where tori, whilst applying a Shime-waza, also over-stretches and straightens Uke's leg.
- Mate! must be immediate and Shido will be given.

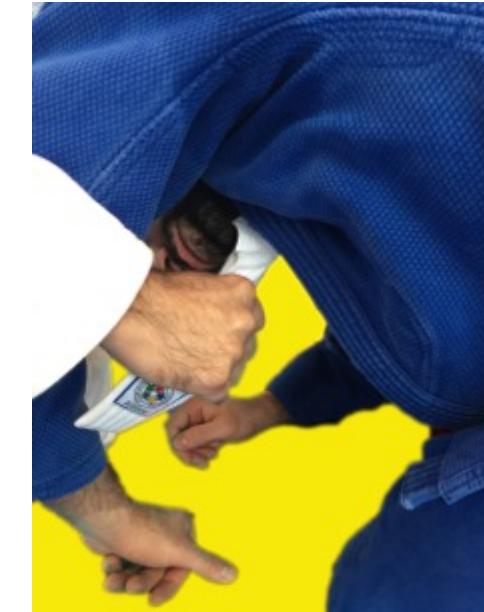




# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Shime-waza - forbidden

- Shime-waza is not allowed with either your own or your opponents belt or bottom of the jacket, or using only the fingers.
- This action should be penalized by Shido.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Valid actions, no Shido

- It is possible to grip the leg only when the two contestants are clearly in Ne-waza and the Tachi-waza action has stopped. **Tori** in this Tachi-waza position can apply Kansetsu-waza or Shime-waza because **Uke** is in a Ne-waza position.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Continuous Ne-waza

If Ne-waza starts inside the contest area and goes outside with continuous action from either athlete it can be valid.

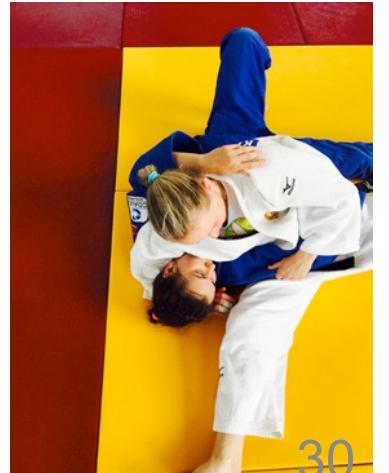
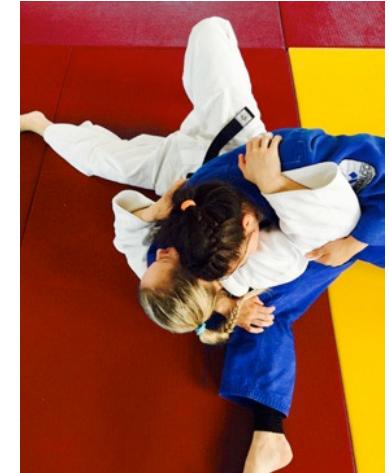
NEW  
2018



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Immobilisations (Osae-komi-waza)

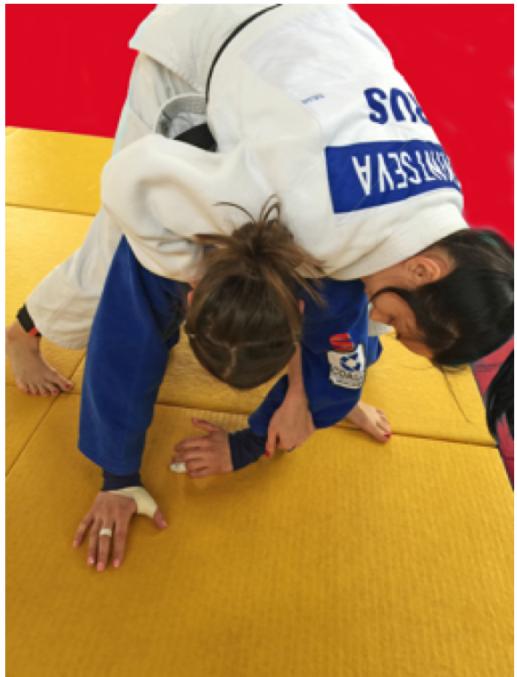
- Osae-komi will also continue outside of the contest area as long as Osae-komi was called inside.
- If during the Ne-waza outside uke takes over the control with one of these nominated techniques in a continuous succession, it shall be also valid.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Valid actions, no mate - Shime-waza





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Valid actions, no Mate

- When it is allowed to continue action that started in the valid area.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Valid actions - no Mate

- When it is allowed to continue action that started in the valid area.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Valid actions, no Mate - Kansetsu-waza





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Applying of Kumi-kata

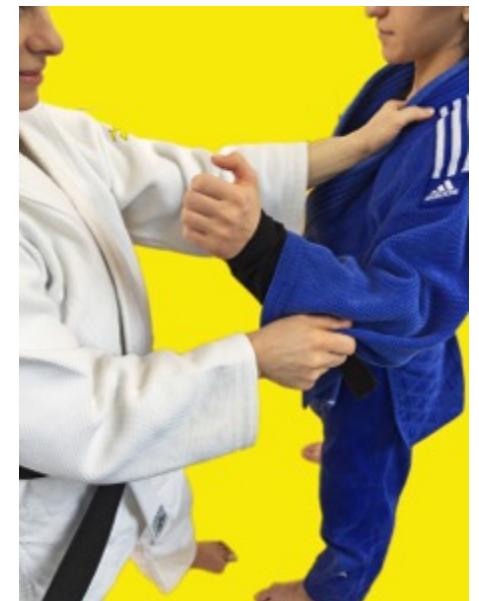
- The time between classic Kumi-kata and making an attack is extended up to 45 seconds as long as there is a positive progression.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Shido

- Breaking the grip of the opponent with two hands.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Shido

Avoid Uke's grip with a blow on his arm or hand.



Pulling out the bottom of Uke's jacket or his own jacket



Covering the edge / lapel of the his own jacket preventing the grip of his opponent.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Shido

Blocking the opponent's hands.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Shido

- Breaking the grip of the opponent with the knee or leg.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Unconventional Kumi-kata

- To simplify the refereeing and its understanding some of the actions on how to grab the jacket or belt, all unconventional Kumi-kata (pistol grip, pocket grip, belt grip, one side grip, cross grip ...) is allowed by immediate attack.
- In the case of no immediate attack those grips will be penalized by Shido.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Unconventional Kumi-kata

- Not taking a classic grip will be penalized by Shido if there is not an immediate attack.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

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# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Unconventional Kumi-kata

- Not taking a classic grip will be penalized by Shido if there is not an immediate attack.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Bending position

- To force the opponent with both arms to take a bending position without immediate attack will be penalized by Shido for a blocking attitude.





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### **One or two feet outside the contest area**

One foot outside of the contest area without immediate attack or not returning immediately inside the contest area will be given Shido.

Shido



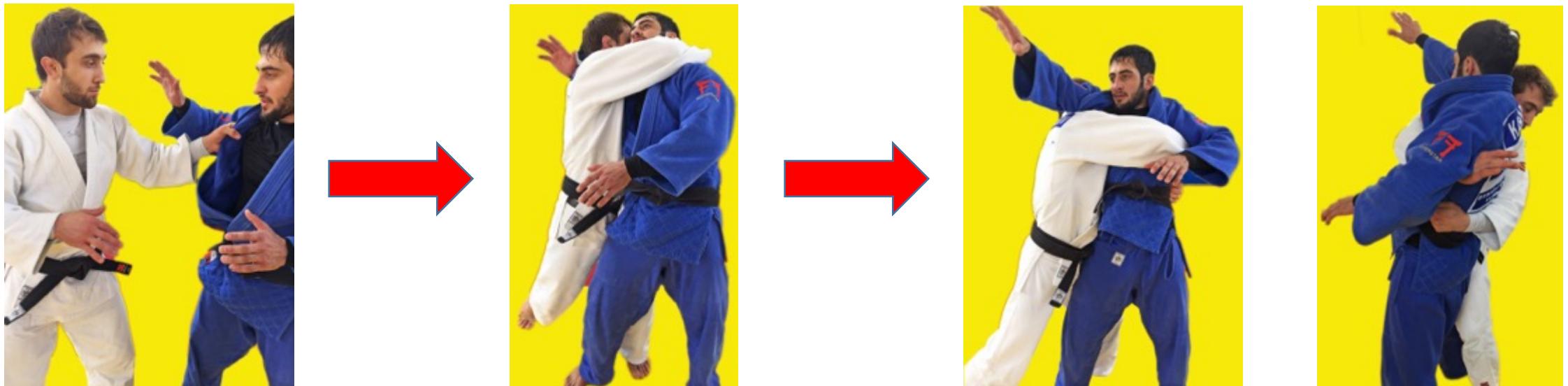
It is Shido: if the athlete in blue, is not going back in the yellow area or is not attacking immediately.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Bear hug

- Who wants to attack with bear hug must have a minimum one grip.



- It is not valid to make a second grip simultaneously. Only touching the Judogi is not considered as Kumi-kata, gripping is necessary.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Bear hug

Valid grips





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Bear hug - double points

- If after a blue bear hug or blue touching the leg for the first time, white throws blue for a Waza-ari; the score (white Waza-ari) and the penalty (blue Shido) will be given.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Leg entanglement position

- The act of entangling the leg without making an immediate attack must be penalized with Shido.





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Kawazu-gake – Hansoku-make





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Leg grabbing – forbidden

- Leg grabbing or grabbing the trousers, will be given Shido, each time.
- There will be up to 3 Shido for Hansoku-make.

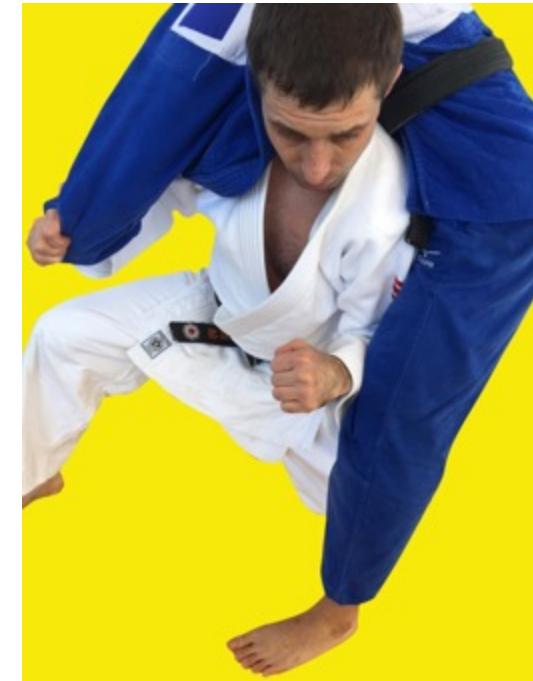




# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Leg grabbing - forbidden



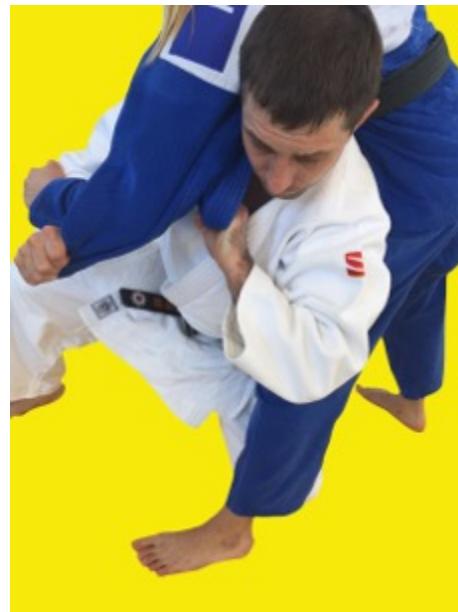


# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

## Leg grabbing - allowed

- Valid actions, no Shido





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Kata-sankaku grip

It is allowed to use Kata-sankaku grip in Ne-waza action.



Kata-sankaku in Ne-waza is prohibited to block the opponents body with the legs and must be mate.



Kata-sankaku grip in Tachi-waza must be mate.





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## When is it Ne-waza ?

Both athletes must have two knees on the floor, for it to be considered Ne-waza.



No contact between the opponents must be Mate!



Lying on the stomach on the ground, the blue athlete is in Ne-waza.



Grip control from standing athlete (white): we still consider athlete on the knees (blue) in Tachi-waza and consequently Tachi-waza regulation would be applied.

However, if white does not attack immediately, then the referee must call Mate! Athlete on the knees (blue) cannot grab the legs to defend the throw with his arms, if this happens, Shido will be given.





## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### Kansetsu-waza and Shime-waza NOT valid situation

- Kansetsu –waza and Shime- waza are not valid if both athletes are in a Tachi-waza (standing position). Mate and Shido should be announced. Naturally if the action is dangerous or can injure the opponent, as usual, it will be Hansoku-make.

NEW  
2018



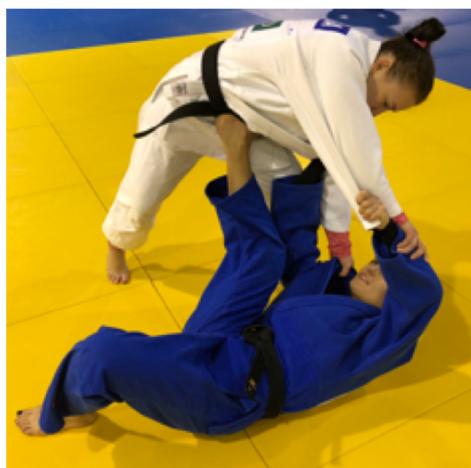


# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Nage-waza valid situation

- In this position Tori can apply Sutemi-waza that can continue into Ne-waza.

NEW  
2018





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Nage-waza valid situation

- In this position Tori can apply a throwing technique and can continue with Kansetsu-waza or Shime-waza or Osae-komi-waza (not shown).

NEW  
2018





# IJF RULES 2018-2020

NEW

NEW  
2018

## Negative judo

- In the case of a double Hansoku-make (in regular time or golden score) as a consequence of a third shido, both athletes will be considered losers, the contest result will be recorded as 0-0. For the consequences of each situation refer to the SOR.
- For a direct Hansoku-make given to both contestants, the IJF Jury will decide.



## IJF RULES 2018-2020

### VERY IMPORTANT

If it is not extremely clear who should receive the score or penalty, in the spirit of fair play it is better not to take any decision and to allow the contest to continue.



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## IJF RANKING EVENTS

	Continental Open open entry	Cont. Ch./ W. Ch.J cont.entry / open entry	GRAND PRIX open entry	GRAND SLAM open entry	MASTERS TOP 16	WORLD CHAMP. open entry
Seeding:	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: Nation distribution	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: National distribution	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: Nation distribution	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: Nation distribution	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: Nation distribution	WRL TOP 8 placing Rest: Nation distribution
System: Repechage: Bronze:	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze	Quarter Final Repechage last 8 repechage 2 Bronze
number of athletes (per category per country)	no limit	max. 2 per country ( not exceeding the total number of 9 men & 9 women/ 10 m & 10 w in case of WCJ )	max. 2 per country max. 4 domestics (best 2 for ranking list)	max. 2 per country max. 4 domestics (best 2 for ranking list)	no limit	max. 2 per country (not exceeding the total number of 9 men and 9 women per country)
1st place	100	700	700	1000	1800	2000
2nd place	70	490	490	700	1250	1400
3rd place	50	350	350	500	900	1000
5th place	36	252	252	360	648	720
7th place	26	182	182	260	468	520
1/16th	16	112	112	160		320
1/32nd	12	84	84	120		240
1 fight won	10	70	70	100		200
participation		6	6	10	200	20
Total			100,000 USD	150,000 USD	200,000 USD	1,000,000 USD
1st			3,000 USD	5,000 USD	6,000 USD	USD
2nd			2,000 USD	3,000 USD	4,000 USD	USD
3rd			1,000 USD	1,500 USD	2,000 USD	USD
3rd			1,000 USD	1,500 USD	2,000 USD	USD



# IJF RULES 2018-2020

## Teams world ranking list

- The Teams World Ranking List will consist of points from Continental Championships and World Championships.

Placing	Continental Championship points	World Championship points
1st place	700	2000
2nd place	490	1400
3rd place	350	1000
5th place	252	720
7th place	182	520
1/16th	112	320
1/32nd	84	240