

RULES UPDATE GUIDE - 2018

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1.3 Referee Duties

Rule revision:

1.3.7

- While standing, one of the athletes steps into the safety area (unless a takedown attempt has already been initiated), or when 2/3 of the athletes' bodies are outside the combat area during not-yet-stabilized ground fighting, the referee shall interrupt the match and stand both athletes up in the center of the combat area.
- Points or advantages will be assessed for counting up until the safety area and any movements performed outside the safety area will not be eligible for counting.

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1.4 Referee Gestures and Verbal Commands

New point:

MATCH CIRCUMSTANCES:

When an athlete grabs the opponent's sleeves or pant legs with one or more fingers placed inside the garment.

GESTURE:

One hand placed on top of the opposite arm, holding the wristband.

ORDEM VERBAL:

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New point:

MATCH CIRCUMSTANCES:

When a change in point, advantage or penalty-count has been communicated to the central referee by the referee(s) with access to video replay.

GESTURE:

Touch the ear with the fingertips twice, pausing between touches.

ORDEM VERBAL:

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ARTICLE 2 - RENDERING DECISIONS

Rule revision:

2.7 - Random Pick

In the event of both athletes suffering accidental injury in a final match where the score is tied at the moment of the accident and neither athlete is able to continue in the contest, the result shall be determined by random pick.

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ARTICLE 3 – POINTS SCORING

3.3 - Athletes who arrive at a point-scoring position while caught in a submission hold shall only be awarded points once they have freed themselves from the attack and stabilized the position for 3 (three) seconds.

Rule revision:

3.3.1 - Should an athlete achieve point-scoring positions while caught in a submission hold but only escapes the hold once no longer in the point-scoring position, will not be awarded points or advantages for those positions.

New point:

3.3.2 - The 3-second stabilization count for one or several point-scoring positions will be interrupted, when the opponent lock in a submission hold during the count.

When this happens, the athlete will be awarded an advantage for each of the point-scoring positions achieved, regardless of whether the opponent is no longer in the positions once the hold has been escaped from or regulation time has ended.

Rule revision:

3.3.3 - An athlete who reaches one or more positions (cumulative points) but is being attacked with a submission hold by his/her opponent, shall only be awarded one advantage point if he/she does not escape the attack prior to the end of the match.

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4.1 Takedown (2 points)

Rule revision:

4.1.1 - When one of the athletes, starting the movement with 2 feet on the ground, causes the opponent to land with his/her back on the ground, or sideways or seated on the ground, and maintains the combat on the ground with a stabilized position for 3 (three) seconds.

New point:

4.1.4 - In a sweep movement, when both athletes remain standing for less than 3 seconds and the athlete on defense throws the opponent so that their back is on the ground or sideways, shall not be awarded the two points or advantage for the takedown.

New point:

4.1.5 - While in any position starting from guard, where the athletes remain on their feet for 3 seconds, the combat shall then be considered standing combat.

Note: In order to start the 3-second countdown, one of the athletes must have two feet on the ground and the opponent at least one foot on the ground without the knee of the opposite leg touching the mat.

New point:

4.1.6 - When the opponent has one or two knees on the ground, the athlete performing the takedown will only be awarded points if he/she is standing at the moment the takedown is carried out, unless it is a sweep-defense situation, as described in this article, and meets the 3-second stabilization-count criterion.

Note: No points shall be awarded in situations where the opponent is taken down from their knees, whether initiated in the guard or any other ground-fighting situation.

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Rule revision:

4.1.8 - An athlete who takes the opponent down in order to defend a standing back-take, where the opponent has both hooks in place, or one hook in place and neither foot on the ground, will not be awarded the two points or advantage for the takedown. Even after the position has been stabilized for three seconds.

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4.2 Guard Pass (3 points)

New point:

- If while attacking from top position, such as an armbar, for example, the athlete ends up on bottom and does not use his/her legs to prevent the opponent from reaching side-control, no points or advantages shall be awarded for the guard pass, according to the definition of guard.

4.3 Knee on Belly (2 points)

Rule revision:

- When the athlete on top and free of the opponent's guard, places the knee or shin(closest to the opponent's hip) on the opponent's belly, chest or ribs, without the opposite knee touching the ground, maintaining the position stable for 3 seconds, while the opponent is lying on his/her back or side.

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5.6.1 Advantage from takedown

New point:

- When an athlete applies a takedown or series of takedowns and the opponent returns to their feet before stabilization is achieved on the ground. The advantage shall only be awarded when there is no longer a possibility of completing the takedown attempt, in accordance with items 3.4 and 5.5.

5.6.2 Advantage from Guard Pass

New point:

- When the athlete passing guard stacks the opponent, or allows the opponent to roll back his/herself, controlling the opponent's back in four-point-kneeling position and maintaining at least one knee on the ground, without needing to place hooks.

New point:

- When starting from guard (or from pulling guard) the athlete achieves half-guard control over the opponent, but does not solidify the pass in the ensuing sequence, in accordance with article 5.5.

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5.6.6 Advantage from Sweep.

New point:

- When the athlete unbalances the opponent through a sweep attempt and reaches top position, but is unable to stabilize the position for 3 seconds.

5.7 Specific cases whereby advantages are no longer awarded.

New point:

5.7.1 - The half-guard position shall not count for an advantage for the athlete on top if it did not originate from a guard- pass attempt.

Rule revision:

5.7.3 - The athlete who initiates a sweep movement, but deliberately gives up the top position in order to preserve a defensive position, shall not be awarded an advantage for the sweep.

New point:

5.7.5 - No advantage shall be awarded when an athlete attempting a single-leg takedown traps the opponent's leg and drags the opponent to outside the combat area, obliging the referee to interrupt the combat.

New point:

5.7.6 - No advantage shall be awarded when an athlete attempting to complete a sweep movement leads the opponent to fall outside the match area without ever landing on top at any moment during the movement.

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6.1 Disciplinary Penalties:

New point:

6.1.6 - When the athlete exhibits attitudes considered incompatible with the competition environment, or commits any other misconduct or delict, even if it is carried out prior to or following the match.

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6.2.2 Serious Fouls

Rule revision:

a) When the athlete kneels or sits (remaining in the position) or pulls guard, without the establishment of a grip.

j) When an athlete communicates with someone, orally or through gestures, in a manner that contradicts a decision made by the referee.

l) When an athlete exits the mat area after a match but before the referee has announced the result.

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Rule revision:

t) When an athlete takes more than 20 seconds to re-adjust their(his/her) uniform, they shall be penalized in a consecutive manner (20 seconds for Gi top and belt, 20 seconds for identification belt, and 20 seconds for tying the drawstring of the pants, when necessary).

New point:

w) When, in the under-15-year-old-division (for all belts) and in all white belt age groups, an athlete jumps for closed guard on a standing opponent, including any and all attacks initiated by jumping guard, such as but not limited to Flying Triangles and Flying Armbars. When such moves occur, the referee will stand both athletes up again.

Note: Should one athlete be defending an attempted takedown or sweep and jump guard, the punishment shall include 2 points being awarded to the opponent.

New point:

x) When an athlete during a match or celebrating victory before being announced as the winner exhibits attitudes not appropriate for the competition environment, but does not qualify as a disciplinary penalty as described in item 6.1.

Ex: Gestures or exercises meant to suggest physical superiority, dances or attitudes meant to ridicule within a sporting context.

New point:

6.2.3 Severe Foul

c) When being attacked by a submission hold an athlete commits a penalty that obliges the referee to interrupt the match.

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ARTICLE 7 – PENALTIES

New point:

Note: In situations whereby both athletes are penalized for lack of combativeness resulting in a third penalty for each, the match shall be restarted standing.

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ARTICLE 8.1 – Gis and Uniforms

Rule revision:

• Shirts and Rash Guards:

Both genders must wear a shirt of elastic material (skin tight) long enough to cover the torso all the way to the waistband of the shorts, colored black, white, or black and white, and with at least 10% of the rank color(belt) to which the athlete belongs. Shirts 100% the color of the athlete's rank (belt) are also permitted.

Note: For black belts a small red area will be tolerated, but must not decharacterize the athlete's rank color.

• Shorts for men:

Board shorts colored black, white, black and white, and/or the color of the rank (belt) to which the athlete belongs, without pockets or with the pockets stitched completely shut, without buttons, exposed drawstrings, zippers or any form of plastic or metal that could present a risk to the opponent, long enough to cover at least halfway down the thigh, and no longer than the knee.

Also permitted are compression shorts made of elastic material (skin tight) worn beneath the shorts, in the colors black, white, black and white, and/or the color of the rank (belt) to which the athlete belongs.

• Shorts, compression shorts and pants for women:

Shorts, compression pants (skin-tight spats) and/or compression shorts colored black, white, black and white, and/or the color of the rank (belt) to which the athlete belongs. The shorts must not have pockets or have the pockets stitched completely shut, must not have buttons, zippers or any kind of plastic or metal that could present a risk to the opponent, and must be long enough to cover halfway down the thigh and no longer than the knee.

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Rule revision:

8.3.8 - In the female divisions, the athlete will be permitted to cover their heads. The Head Cover must follow these requirements:

- Must be fixed and made with elastic fabric (or have elastics at the borders).
- Be made without any kind of plastic or hard materials.
- Be made with no strings of any kind.
- Be clear of any inscription or logo.
- Must be totally black, white, black and white, and/or the color of the rank (belt) to which the athlete belongs.
- Also permitted as part of the female uniform is a single-piece head cover, which should be made of elastic and cover the neck, ears and completely cover the hair, similar to the head cover of a wet suit, and be entirely black, white, black and white, and/or the color of the rank (belt) to which the athlete belongs

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2.4 Disqualification in semifinals and final

Rule revision:

2.4.1 - Semifinals

- Should both athletes accidentally be injured in a tournament semifinal, with the score tied at the moment of the accident and neither athlete fit to continue in the match, the other semifinal will be promoted to the status of final. In this case, the injured athletes will be awarded third place.

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ARTICLE 5 – REGISTRATION

Rule revision:

5.5 - An athlete proven to be a black belt in judo, have experience in freestyle or Greco-Roman wrestling or to have fought MMA as a professional or amateur, shall not be allowed to enter any tournament as a white belt.

** In the USA, to have competed at a college level or higher. In other countries, to have competed in events of national scope.*

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ARTICLE 6 – RULES OF CONDUCT ATHLETE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PUNISHMENTS

Rule revision:

6.1 - When an athlete removes any part of the uniform or kimono when inside the competition area.

New point:

6.4 - When the athlete or professor displays attitudes considered incompatible with the competition environment, regardless of whether the match has not yet begun or has already ended.

***** Relocated itens *****

3.5 When both athletes pull guard at the same time, the athlete who achieves top position first is awarded an advantage point.

Obs: In cases that the athlete achieves the top position by going straight to the side-mount, he will not receive points nor an advantage for the guard pass.

4.1.9 An athlete who initiates a takedown before the opponent initiates the guard pull shall be awarded the two points or advantage for the takedown, as described in item 4.1 (Takedown).

4.1.10 An athlete who initiates a takedown after the opponent initiates a guard-pull attempt shall not be awarded the two points or advantage for the takedown.

4.1.11 When an athlete has a grip on the opponent's pants and the opponent pulls guard, the athlete with the grip on the pants shall be awarded two points for the takedown if he/she stabilizes the top position on the ground for 3 (three) seconds.

Note: If the opponent pulls closed guard and remains suspended in the air, the athlete will have to put the opponent's back on the ground within 3 (three) seconds and stabilize the top position for 3 (three) seconds to be awarded with Takedown points.

4.4.1 - In the case of the mount, when there is a transition straight from back mount to mount or vice-versa —for being distinct positions— athletes shall be awarded four points for the first mount and another four points for the subsequent mount, so long as the three-second stabilization period was achieved in each position.