



## USJA NEW CERTIFIED RANK EXAMINER (CRE) PROGRAM

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### Upgrade to Advance CRE

Revised March 1, 2015

#### All current CREs must upgrade to Advance to continue as a CRE

The *USJA Judo and Technical Manual and Study Guide with Senior Rank Promotion System* (the new Guide) contains many changes regarding promotions and advances to the CRE program. It is important that all current and future CREs understand and follow the Guide. Current CREs are extremely important to the new promotion system and are considered experts with that system. They are the ones to whom candidates often look for advice and assistance.

All CREs wishing to examine and sign off others under the new system need to become familiar with new requirements in the Guide. This is considered an upgrade to advanced, not simply an update, because of the changes and need to closely adhere to new procedures. Some changes to becoming a CRE are outlined below. One example: One no longer can receive the highest rating -- Master Certified Rank Examiner (MCRE) just because one has a certain rank. New MCREs will now require the rank of 7<sup>th</sup> dan. Also there are progressive steps to raise one's CRE level; it is not automatic. **Current CREs can upgrade at their level or equivalent level.**

If you are already a CRE at any level, you are grandfathered in at that or the equivalent level, providing you complete the new application and follow the upgrade procedure.

Each person wishing to upgrade either completes an actual promotion for someone to the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> dan or higher using the Guide and new system, OR if you are unable to perform an actual test using the Guide by April 1, 2015\*, you may complete a sample RFP as though you actually tested someone.

So to upgrade, using the Guide, you test the candidate; ensure that the Recommendation for Promotion is complete; review the documentation; make sure that the candidate meets all Guide conditions; and verify that those signing off hold proper credentials. Only then may a CRE sign off someone's RFP. This will be enforced for all promotions.

You must mail the completed CRE application, the individual's completed test, your passport photo, and the renewal fee to upgrade to advanced CRE. You will receive a new certificate and date, unless you hold a MCRE rating, which does not expire.

**What is the need for updating/upgrading?** Since the promotion system has changed considerably, all CREs need to be familiar with the new system and ensure that candidates meet the requirements outlined in the Guide. CREs are vital to the implementation of the new promotion system described in the Guide.

Upgraded CREs will be listed on the website along with their judo rank, CRE level, and contact information for those needing assistance. This list will also be published periodically *in Growing Judo*.

## **All CREs must have a copy of the *USJA Judo and Technical Manual and Study Guide with Senior Rank Promotion System***

**What are consequences for not upgrading?** After April 1, 2015\*, you will not be able to sign off recommendations for promotion since the old promotion system will be obsolete. Further, those not upgrading will not receive CRE promotion points.

### **To Upgrade to Advanced CRE**

*Follow the procedure in the USJA Technical Manual and Study Guide with Senior Rank Promotion System (Guide) and see above.*

*There's a special discount if you order the USJA Technical Manual and Study Guide with Senior Rank Promotion System (Guide) and pay for your upgrade at the same time. If you place your order by April 1, 2015 you receive the upgrade with your new certificate plus the Manual for \$65 plus shipping and handling.*

*Once you receive your new Guide you have 30 days to upgrade to Advance CRE and be "grandfathered" in at your equivalent level. If you fail to do this you will no longer be able to operate as a CRE nor received promotion points*

### **New CRE Procedure becomes effective March 1, 2015**

Once someone reaches the rank of Yodan or higher, they become eligible for a CRE rating after they can demonstrate understanding and ability to follow all of the requirements of the promotion procedure. This program allows those individuals meeting requirements to examine others for rank promotions with less restriction. Normally you must have a rank two levels above the candidate's; CREs do not have this restriction.

There are three levels: Certified Rank Examiner (CRE), having rank of 4<sup>th</sup> dan or higher, who can examine those one rank below theirs. National Certified Rank Examiner (NCRE), 5<sup>th</sup> dan or higher who has been a CRE for two years or more, authorized to examine and sign off up to their own rank; and Master Certified Rank Examiner (MCRE), 7<sup>th</sup> dan or higher who has been a NCRE for three years or more, who can examine and sign off up to one rank above their own rank. Regardless of your rank, you cannot skip levels and must spend the required time at each level to advance. The CRE subcommittee and chair of the Promotion Board may approve special consideration to those with significant experience.

CREs are permitted to examine and sign off promotions equivalent to their rank status. For example a MCRE with a rank of 7<sup>th</sup> dan could sign off as one of the recommenders up to and including the rank of 8<sup>th</sup> dan (one rank above their own), and a 5<sup>th</sup> dan NCRE could sign off up to 5<sup>th</sup> dan (equal to their rank).

Any CRE who does not examine, review or sign off for promotion at least one person per year at any level or host or teach a clinic is subject to either losing their certification, being downgraded to the next level, or being put on probation until they meet this requirement. A CRE on probation for one year or more must reapply and meet all requirements.

At certain times, such as but not limited to changes in the promotion system, a CRE of any level must document for the Promotion Board their ability to conduct promotion tests and/or review and evaluate using the newest promotion form and system. When requested, at renewal or advancement, a CRE will either forward two most recent promotions they have examined or produce two sample promotions using the latest form and documentation. Another option is to attend a CRE clinic.

To remain valid, all CREs must maintain their background screening and USJA active membership. All CREs (except MCREs) must renew every four years

**NOTE:** It is strictly prohibited for a CRE or anyone, including a coach/sensei, to sign off anyone they do not examine, witness testing, or for whom they do not verify promotion documentation. This is an ethical violation. Do not ask anyone to bend rules, because such a judoka being signed off is equally in violation.

**\*If you order by April 1, 2015 you receive your new Guide you have 30 days to upgrade to Advance CRE and be “grandfathered” in at your equivalent level.**

**What are new requirements going forward to become a CRE?**

- 1- You complete either a promotion test or sample RFP to show you are familiar with all requirements in the new Guide. You also agree to follow all requirements in the Guide.
- 2- You must have the latest Guide and use this performing the duties of a CRE.
- 3- If your USJA annual or Life Membership with Sustaining LM expires by more than 90 days or your Background Screening by more than 30 days, you are considered inactive, dropped from the program, must re-apply under current conditions.
- 4- During a period of inactivity you cannot sign off or receive promotion points as a CRE.
- 5- New applicants or those renewing after April 1, 2015, must start at the lowest level and progress based on time in that level. You are no longer automatically granted a level based on rank. Although exceptions are possible, they are not automatic and require justification in writing and approval by the CRE subcommittee and the Promotion Board chair. Those that order the new Guide and pay for the upgrade to advanced CRE with still have 30 days after receiving the new Guide to complete the requirements and be “grandfathered” in.
- 6- You must examine, review or sign off for promotion at least one judoka per year at any level or host or teach a clinic. Otherwise you could lose CRE certification and be placed of probation or downgraded.
- 7- There are three levels of certification: Certified Rank Examiner (CRE); National Certified Rank Examiner (NCRE); and Master Certified Rank Examiner (MCRE) [which now requires a minimum rank of 7<sup>th</sup> dan].
- 8- You must hold a USJA annual or Life Membership with active Sustaining LM and valid Background Screening.
- 9- All CREs must re-new every four years, with the exception of MCREs.