



Influence of current refereeing rules on the content of competitive activity of judokas

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Abstract

Objective of the study was to assess the negative impact of the current competition rules on the content of the competitive activity of judokas.

Methods and structure of the study. The object of study is the individual judo tournament among men as part of the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. Based on the analysis of the competitive activity of judoists, an attempt was made to assess the nature of the existing shortcomings and identify trends in the development of modern judo. The analysis of the protocols of weighing and competitions made it possible to establish the extreme values of the duration of fights and the percentage of judges' marks and punishments in each weight category.

Results and conclusions. The vast majority of refereeing decisions account for the punishment of athletes for prohibited actions. 339 shido penalties and 26 hansoku-make disqualifications. Changes are needed in the rules of the competition for the period 2022-2024, aimed at increasing the effectiveness, the growth of entertainment and, due to this, the popularity of judo.

Keywords: judoka, Olympic Games, category, meeting.

Introduction. Judo has been part of the Olympic Games since 1964. It was then, at the Olympics in Tokyo, that a judo tournament was held for the first time. After 57 years, judo returned to its homeland, having undergone significant changes over this long period, causing lively disputes and ongoing discussions among specialists and amateurs around the world.

Objective of the study was to assess the negative impact of the current competition rules on the content of the competitive activity of judokas.

Methods and structure of the study. The analysis of the protocols of the competitions of the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo was carried out, which made it possible to establish the extreme duration of fights and the percentage of judges' marks and punishments in each weight category (Tables 1-7) [1, 3]:

- Weight category up to 60 kg. The number of participants is 23 athletes (Table 1).

In 14 meetings the winner was determined in extra time (Golden score). The fastest fight took place between an athlete from the Netherlands Tornike Tsjakadzea and Ukrainian Artem Lesiuk - 58 sec. Naohisa Takato from Japan and Yeldos Smetov from Ka-

zakhstan competed the longest for the right to pass through the tournament bracket - 11 min 02 s.

- Weight category up to 66 kg. Athletes from 27 countries met in the fight for medals. 14 matches moved to the Golden score (Table 2).

The shortest fight took place between the Israeli Baruch Shmailov and the athlete from Mozambique Kevin Loforte - 1 min 45 s. The duel between the Moldavian Denis Vieru and the Uzbek master Sardor Nurillaev lasted the longest - 12 min 15 sec.

- Weight category up to 73 kg. The number of participants is 36 judokas. 15 meetings moved to the Golden Score (Table 3).

Kosovar Akil Gjakova won the fastest victory (in 16 s) against Ahmed Ayash, a judoka from Yemen.

The longest fight for the right to bear the title of two-time champion of the Olympic Games was fought by two Olympic champions - the host of the tournament, the Japanese Ono Shohei and the representative of Georgia, Shavdatuashvili Lasha.

- Weight category up to 81 kg. Athletes from 35 countries took part in this weight category. There were 38 fights, 17 of them went to the Golden Score (Table 4).

**Table 1.** Estimates and punishments in the weight category up to 60 kg, the number of participants is 23 athletes

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	18	25,00
Waza-ari	8	11,11
Shido	42	58,33
Hansoku-make	4	5,56

Table 2. Estimates and penalties in the weight category up to 66 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	18	21,18
Waza-ari	14	16,47
Shido	45	52,94
Hansoku-make	8	9,41

Table 3. Estimates and punishments in the weight category up to 73 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	23	23
Waza-ari	19	19
Shido	56	56
Hansoku-make	2	2

Table 4. Estimates and punishments in the weight category up to 81 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	27	25,71
Waza-ari	18	17,14
Shido	55	52,38
Hansoku-make	5	4,76

The fastest (in 28 seconds) was able to achieve the Ippon score in the confrontation with the Argentinean Emmanuel Lucenti - the Bulgarian Ivaylo Ivanov. He, in the confrontation with the Uzbek master Sharofiddin Boltaboev, had the longest fight of 9 minutes 50 seconds.

- Weight category up to 90 kg. Judoists from 33 countries took part in the fight for medals. There were 36 meetings, 14 of them moved to the Golden Score (Table 5).

The shortest meeting took place between a judoka from Germany Eduard Trippel and a judoka from Korea Donghan Gwak - 17 sec. The longest between the Uzbek Davlat Bobonov and the Spaniard of Georgian origin Nikoloz Sherazadishvili is 8 min 36 s.

- Weight category up to 100 kg. 25 judokas competed for medals. Eight matches went into extra time.

The shortest fight took place between Jorge Fonseca and Toma Nikiforov - 17 s. The finalists of this weight category, the Japanese Wolf Aaron and the Korean Cho Guham, contested the leadership the longest - 9 min 35 s.

- Weight category over 100 kg. 22 judokas took part in the medals (Table 7).

Of the 25 fights held, 6 went to the Golden score. The shortest meeting took place between the Uzbek Bekmurod Oltiboev and the Dutchman Henk Grol - 25 s. The meeting between the future champion from the Czech Republic Krpalek Lukas and the representative of Japan Harasawa Hisayoshi dragged on for 7 minutes 59 seconds.

Punishments (shido, hansoku-make) and scores (ippon, waza-ari) are considered by us in aggregate as judicial decisions and are listed in tables in order to assess the ratio of prohibited and effective technical actions carried out in modern judo.

For clarity, this ratio is graphically presented in the figure (in all weight categories).

Distribution of Judicial Decisions by Weight Categories

Results of the study and their discussion. It does not inspire optimism that the lion's share of judicial decisions was determined by the need to punish athletes for their prohibited actions. 339 shido penalties and 26 hansoku-make disqualifications. The minimum value is 57% of penalties from general decisions (in the WC over 100 kg), the maximum number is 65% of penalties from the general decisions (in the WC up to 100 kg).



Table 5. Estimates and penalties in the weight category up to 90 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	20	21,28
Waza-ari	18	19,15
Shido	53	56,38
Hansoku-make	3	3,19

Table 6. Estimates and punishments in the weight category up to 100 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	14	17,28
Waza-ari	14	17,28
Shido	51	62,96
Hansoku-make	2	2,47

Table 7. Estimates and penalties in the weight category over 100 kg

Grades, penalties and disqualifications	Quantity	Quantity in percent %
Ippon	16	23,53
Waza-ari	13	19,12
Shido	37	54,41
Hansoku-make	2	2,94

Moreover, in many cases, it was not the effective attacking actions, but the punishments that ultimately determined the winner of the match.

The duration of some of the meetings that moved to the Golden-score, more than 2-2.5-3 (!) times exceeded the time regulated by the rules (9, 10, 12 minutes!).

It is difficult to draw final conclusions about the state of a sport based on the analysis of the Olympic Games [2]. Judoists experience great mental stress, so we can not always see spectacular fights full of beautiful throws and combinations. At present, the nature of the confrontation is different, tension and static prevail. The price of victory and any mistake at the main competitions of the four-year cycle of preparation and selection is extremely high. The mobilization and striving for victory of each athlete can bring to the podium not obvious leaders.

Conclusions. According to the presented data, it can be concluded that the following phenomena are the result of the current judo rules.

The prohibition of technical actions with grabs below the belt significantly limited the competitive arsenal.

Unlawful increase in the duration of competitive fights. Unfortunately, at the Tokyo Olympics, out of 222 fights, 88 went to the Golden Score.

Determining the winner of the meeting is not due to effective attacking actions, but fixing violations of the rules. Many coaches have inspired the athletes that it is possible to win tactically, only at the expense of punishments announced to the opponent.

It is rare to see an original technique, such as, for example, the one demonstrated at this tournament by

a judoka from Georgia - Lasha Bekauri. Shortly before the Olympics, Russian judoka Yago Abuladze won the 2020 World Championship in a similar style. In the same Olympic cycle, the Iranian Saeid Mollaei won the world championship, outplaying the Japanese in the final with a rare technique for modern judo. Their style is a symbiosis of non-standard wrestling with real sports anger, coupled with the highest level of endurance. These athletes are aimed precisely at the winning throw. This is the kind of fight that judo fans want to see.

It remains to be hoped that the changes in the rules of the competition for the period 2022-2024. will change the situation for the better, will contribute to an increase in performance, an increase in entertainment and, due to this, the popularity of judo.

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