NEJA Shield 2026/2027

VENUE: St Oliver's Community College, Rathmullan Rd, Drogheda, Co. Louth - A92 D766

DATES: **Four Mini Mon-level events:**

- Saturday October 3rd – Mini-Mon
- **November 21th - Ne-waza - changed**
- February 13th - Ne-waza - TBC
- April 17th – Finals - TBC

TIME: Competitions starts at 10.00am

CLOSING DATE: Last Date for Entries is Monday 22nd September 2025 - NO ENTRY ON THE DAY

REGISTRATION: Each club to submit their entry sheet by email to droghedajudo@gmail.com

ENTRY FEE: Single event entry: €15 / Full series entry: €50

CATEGORIES: Born 2013 to 2020 – Depending on entries we will split per age

COMPETITION MODE

- **Format:** Four Mini Mon-level events (2x Ne-Waza only events and 2x Mini-Mon events)
- **Point System:** Participants accumulate points at each event based on participation and performance.
- **Competition Format**: The competition will be organized in pools. A minimum of 4 participants per category is required; otherwise, categories will be amalgamated. When possible, groups will be formed with participants of similar grades.
- **Eligibility**: Competitors must be current members of the Irish Judo Association or the Northern Ireland Judo Federation.
- **Prohibited Techniques**: Armlocks and strangles are not allowed in this competition.
- **Additional Forbidden techniques**: Koshi Guruma / Drop Seoi Nage / all sacrifice techniques for minors.
- **Liability**: North East Judo Academy and its agents accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury, however caused, during the event.
- **Attire**: All female competitors must wear a white t-shirt underneath their judogi. Footwear must be worn in the venue at all times except when on the mat.
- **Awards**: All participants will receive a medal. 4-piece medal series, competitors collect one piece at each event

COMPETITION FOR BEGINNER KIDS

- **Participant Criteria**: This event is intended for development-level Minor and Pre-Cadet players. Players who have won Gold or Silver at All Irelands, Irish Club Challenge, All Ireland Schools, or any international competition are **not eligible**.
- **Weight Categories**: As this is a developmental competition, there will be no predetermined weight categories. Groups will be created on the day to ensure fairness, with 3 to 8 players of similar weight and grade.

YOUNG REFEREES LEAGUE

- Open to judoka aged ~14+
- Green belt minimum
- Young Referee Certificates or Badges awarded at the final event, celebrating their contribution to the circuit
- Reward the best referee of each event

NORTH EAST JUDO ACADEMY

Team Points System

The Shield is awarded to the club with the highest cumulative score after Event 4. Points are earned in three areas: participation (the main source), contest wins (a bonus) and officiating (a small bonus), plus an end of series attendance bonus.

1. Participation points (awarded at each event)

- **First 10 athletes entered by a club:** 5 points each
- **Athletes 11 to 15:** 2 points each
- **Athletes 16 to 20:** 1 point each
- **Maximum participation score:** 65 points per club per event
- Worked examples: 3 athletes = 15 points, 5 = 25, 8 = 40, 10 = 50, 12 = 54, 15 = 60, 20 or more = 65
- Bringing more athletes always helps, but the benefit reduces as numbers rise, so a very large club cannot make the Shield unwinnable for smaller clubs.

2. Contest win points

- **1 point for every contest won.**
- **Maximum 2 contest win points per athlete per event,** regardless of pool size, bracket size, repechage or the number of contests fought.
- Where the format gives an athlete only one possible contest, winning that contest earns 2 points, placing them on an equal footing with athletes who fight twice or more.
- A bye is not a contest and carries no points.
- This cap applies to the Shield team score only. Individual medals and event results are awarded normally and are not affected.

3. Officiating points

- **2 points per club official per event.**
- **Maximum 3 officials, 6 points,** per club per event.
- Eligible roles: referee, table official, timekeeper or scorer, and competition official.
- Allocated duties must be completed in full for the points to count.

4. Attendance bonus (added after Event 4)

- **Athlete competes in 3 of the 4 Shield events:** 2 team points
- **Athlete competes in all 4 Shield events:** 5 team points
- The bonuses are not cumulative. All four events earns 5 points, not 7.
- This is a participation bonus, not a fourth scoring category, and rewards regular attendance rather than one strong appearance.

5. Standings and tie breaks

- A running table of club totals is published after each event and circulated to all clubs.
- Where two clubs finish level after Event 4, the order is decided by: (1) highest total participation points across the series, (2) most athletes who attended all four events, (3) most contest wins. If still level, the Shield is shared.