

**REFEREE COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**November 12, 2017**  
**Submitted by Roy Englert**

Major congratulations to Sharon Landstreet, who was selected by the International Judo Federation as the only U.S. referee participating in the 2017 World Championships, which were held in Budapest, Hungary, in August.

Major congratulations to Bobby Donaldson, who was promoted by the International Judo Federation from IJF-B to IJF-A referee at the Quebec Open in November.

Congratulations to the several new Local and Regional referees who were certified at the Maryland Open in September.

Thank you to Edwin Takemori for holding a successful clinic, geared mainly toward new referees, in June. Thanks also to IJF-A referee Karl Tamai, who assisted Edwin with that clinic.

The IJF has released a document containing the rule changes to take effect in 2018. The document can be downloaded from <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/detailed-explanation-of-the-ijf-judo-refereeing-rules>. To download the file (which is large), click on that link and then again click on “Download” near the bottom of the web page. **Please be cautious in interpreting the rule changes until the IJF has clarified them at its annual January seminar.** Some of the changes in the document are self-explanatory – for example, starting in 2018 two waza-ari will again equal ippon, and leg grabbing will be aligned with all other minor infractions so that the first and second penalties are shido and only a third penalty is hansoku make – but others are not. As an additional highlight of the coming changes, note that starting in 2018 only a hansoku make or a positive score can end a match, even in Golden Score. A shido will not end the match in Golden Score unless it is the third shido and therefore is a cumulative hansoku make.

The 2018 Shufu Rules Clinic will be led by Sharon Landstreet and Bobby Donaldson. Sharon and Bobby are two of Shufu’s own IJF-A referees. Because of Sharon’s experience at the World Championships and on the IJF World Tour, and because of Bobby’s recent A test, they have had strong exposure to the IJF referee leadership. The precise date and location have not yet been determined, but the likely date is either Saturday, February 10, or Sunday February 11.