

Judo Return-to-Sport Strategy

Developed with Judo Canada

Stage	Aim	Activity	Goal of each step
1	Symptom-limiting activity	Daily activities that do not provoke symptoms or make symptoms worse	Gradual re- introduction of work/school activities
2	Light aerobic activity	Light jog or stationary cycling at slow to medium pace. No resistance training. - Light intensity jogging or stationary cycling for 15-20 minutes at sub-symptom threshold intensity	Increase heart rate
3	Sport-specific exercise	 Low intensity sport-specific exercises. No head impact activities. Moderate intensity jogging for 30-60 minutes at sub-symptom threshold intensity Low to moderate Uchi-Komi, technical Ne-waza, and agility drills NO lifting, throwing or Sankaku/other chokes as Uke 	Add movement
4	Non-contact training drills	Higher intensity sport-specific exercises with no contact Harder training drills with moderate resistance May start progressive resistance training - Participation in high intensity running and drills - Increase difficulty of technical training, adding lifting, throwing (as Tori ONLY), and Kumikata sequences - Participation in resistance training workouts without maximum efforts, jumping or Valsalva maneuver	Exercise, coordination and increased thinking
5	Full contact practice	Following medical clearance Part A) - Training with controlled contact - Eliminating situations of hard impact - Progressive intensity Ne-waza and Tachi-waza randori Part B) - Participation in full practice without activity restriction	Restore confidence and assess functional skills by coaching staff
6	Return to sport	Normal training & return to competition	

Adapted from: McCrory et al. (2017). Consensus statement on concussion in sport – the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, *51*(11), 838-847.