

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.