

**United States Judo Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 17, 2006
Dadeland Marriott, Miami, Florida**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6 PM by President Webb.

In attendance were:

Jim Webb – President

Mike Szejter – Board Member

Virgil Bowels – Board Member

Bob Spraley – Board Member

Pete Contardo – Board Member

Michele Holtze – Board Member

Gene Fodor – USJA Member

Bill Andreas – USJA Member

Ed Szejter – USJA Member

Rusty Kanakogi – USJA Member

Connie Halporn – USJA Member, Publications Chairperson

Gary Monto – USJA Member, Camps & Clinics Chairperson

Insufficient members of the board were present for a quorum to be established. Not attending were Jim Bregman, AnnMaria DeMars, Lowell Slaven, Jim Pedro, and George Weers.

Gene Fodor was appointed as the secretary for this meeting.

2. The President reviewed the second draft of the USJA Strategic Plan. The updated version will be distributed to the Board in the near future.
3. The Vice President's report was not available.
4. The minutes of the last meeting were not available.
5. The Treasurer's report was not available.
6. Promotion Board
 - a. The following recommendations for promotion were made by the promotion board:
 - i. Andrew Aubin – Yodan
 - ii. Carla Martin – Yodan
 - iii. Allen Johnson – Godan
 - iv. John Moe – Godan
 - v. Sidney Kelly – Hachidan
 - b. The promotion board also recommended that the credit card numbers be scrubbed from the application for prior to being distributed to the promotion board.
7. Publications Committee

- a. Connie Halporn announced that the most recent edition of the American Judo e-magazine was released. She continues to request material for the magazine.
8. Collegiate Committee
 - a. The publications committee and collegiate committee are preparing a brochure for distribution to high school students highlighting college judo programs.
9. Prior to the USJA Board of Directors meeting, the USJA Board was invited to meet with the Board of Directors of the US Judo Federation. The following initiatives were discussed:
 - a. Joint marketing and public relations – Connie Halporn is the USJA lead.
 - b. Joint development – AnnMaria DeMars is the USJA lead
 - c. Pursuing grants for the establishment of judo programs in disadvantaged areas – Gary Goltz is the USJA lead
 - d. Exploring joint insurance – Dana Rucker is the USJA lead
10. It was reported by President Webb that the implementation of the Silk Systems automated system in the central office was progressing on schedule. The central office staff is currently entering information into both the old and new system until such time as the new system is fully operational.
11. Through a written report, Gary Goltz indicated that he continues to search for opportunities to expand USJA member benefits, primarily through leveraging our membership to request discounts on goods and services.
12. Rusty Kanakogi reported her initiative to create a Joint Development Commission between the USJA and the USJF.
13. It was noted that some board members and committee chairpersons have not yet completed the requirement for a background check. These individuals must complete this requirement by the end of November or face suspension from their duties and responsibilities.
14. President Webb reported to the board that he would be meeting with the President of the USJF and the President and CEO of USA Judo to discuss joint opportunities for the future of American judo. A joint communiqué will be read at the assembly meeting held on Thursday, October 20th by the USA Judo CEO.
15. Finance & Budget Committee
 - a. The current draft budget was reviewed for 2006 and 2007. Changes will be sent to the USJA Board for approval.
 - b. It was noted that when the new system is operational, that this would be a good opportunity for the central office staff to contact recently inactive members and request their support of the USJA through membership or donations. Katrina to provide plan.
 - c. Bill Andreas indicated that it was possible to drop the Melaluca distributorship and maintain the long distance discount. Katrina to contact Bill and cancel the distributorship if appropriate.
 - d. It was requested that the new data base be able to sort by country rather than just by state.
 - e. It was noted that many of our members do not know the benefits of a membership in the USJA – notably the ability to request a USJA MBNA

Mastercard. Jim Webb and Gary Goltz will craft a one page benefits of membership page that will be included with every member communication – especially membership cards.

- f. Connie Halporn was appointed to lead an initiative to determine how to best reinvigorate the sale of USJA merchandise, especially at major judo events.
- g. Katrina will contact Connie Halporn to determine if the printer agreement that Connie is proposing is in the best interest of the USJA.
- h. Bob Spraley, Gary Monto, Connie Halporn and Gene Fodor have agreed to spearhead the revamping of the USJA Junior Promotion Handbook.
- i. It was reported that Katrina will drop the current postage system being used in the central office. The exploration of the best solution for our postal needs (USPS online, UPS account, etc.) will replace the current approach.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Webb
President