

UNITED STATES JUDO ASOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRETORS-MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2004 6:15PM
HYATT REGENCY O'HARE HOTEL
9300 W. BRYN MAWR AVENUE
ROSEMONT, ILL. 60018
MEETING PRESIDED BY
PRESIDENT JAMES BREGMAN

SUBMITTED BY,

GENE FODOR

SECRETARY USJA

The meeting of the United States Judo Associations board of Directors and membership meetings, was held in the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel on July 8,2004, 9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. Rosemont, Ill.

Chairing the meeting was President James Bregman, the meeting held for the purpose of conducting the business affairs of the United States Association in accordance within the By-laws of the USJA.

25 members of the United States Judo Association attended the meeting.

President Bregman opened the meeting up by calling on the Secretary to call the role of those officers attending the meeting.

Present were the following.

President James Bregman

Vice President Michael Szrejter

Secretary Gene Fodor

Corporate Council Thom Layon

Treasurer James Webb

Board Member George Weers

Board Member Ernie Smith

Board Member Virgil Bowles

Absent,

Terry Kelly

George Harris

Jessie Jones

Pat Szejter

There was a quorum present to conduct the business affairs of the association.

The President called for the reading of the last minutes from the meeting held at the Sr. Nationals in San Diego California. The minutes were sent to each individual board member, prior to the meeting. Corporate Council Thom Layon called for the acceptance of the minutes as written, motion Seconded by Ernie Smith. Motion accepted with the notice that the Promotion Boards report was excluded. James Webb posted the report on the Promotion Board Web Site.

Reports from Committees;

Ethics Committee, Tony Zimkowski, no report at this time.

Electronic Services Committee, Chris Lester, Not present. President Bregman called for persons interested in serving on the committee to submit their names to Chris in an E-mail listing their credentials.

Promotion Board, Virgil Bowles Chairman, Virgil defers to James Webb to report action of the board. Jim reports that the committee passed George Snow to Yodan, Bruce Fowler, Darren Barnes and Craig Fashner.

Godan Passed. Peter Charles Mantel, Steve Sanford. Not Advanced to Godan,

Woodrow Bostic Jr. Needs more time in grade, more efficient documentation of active support with the USJA. Clinton Scott Main, Needs Documentation of Judo activity, submitted Jujitsu documentation, Harry Doherty, insufficient time in grade.

Rokudan: None submitted.

Shichidan, John Denora, needs more documentation and a valid rank issuance of an IJF recognized organization.

Hachidan, Meladi Mohammadian, did not advance; request was a jump promotion, and needed at least 3 Master Examiners and verification of points.

A recommendation by the USJA Promotional Board to the Board of Directors that in the future the National Board of Examiners come under the jurisdiction of the Promotion Board, to better align efforts of the two committees. No further report.

Minutes and actions of the Promotion Board on the Promotions was accepted on the motion by James Webb, 2nd by Michael Szrejter and passed, no nays or abstentions, Bregman, Szrejter, Fodor, Layon, Webb, Smith, Weers, Bowles, yes.

A motion by George Weers, 2nd by Thom Layon, to place the National Board of Examiners under the Promotion Board's jurisdiction was made. The rationale is that the two need to work together to have responsibility for appointees. After much discussion, Council Thom Layon tabled the motion on a recommendation. The National Board of Examiners holds a place in the USJA By-law's and just cannot be removed in this manner.

USJA Women's Task Force, Connie Hal porn, was absent and no report was given.

Gary Monto, Camps and Clinics;

Gary says communications have improved with the central office, he, is getting sanctions and information better then before. Gary is not getting the information from those that have been doing clinics as requested. He at this time has no facts or figures on how many are involved, he hopes to have a better report at the next meeting.

Tournaments, the Jr. Nationals is hovering around the 600 mark, Kata competitors are down so far as in the past. July 1 & 2 of 05 the Jr Nationals will

be held in Toledo at the Convention Center, Hotel is connected to the venue, 2006 will be in Florida, and 2007 will be in Indianapolis Ind. Gary states that a proposal to have the organizers pay a \$1,000 or \$1,500 fee to the JA upon being awarded the sanctioning of the event starting in 2007. No further report. Mike Szejter moves to accept the report as given, 2nd by Thom Layon, Motion passed, Bregman, Szejter, Fodor, Layon, Weers, Bowles, Smith, Webb, vote Yes, No Nays or Abstentions.

Before moving on, George Weers calls for a point of order, he speaks that he believes that the JA has already instituted and he has documentation to that effect, that we have a Bid Fee of \$2,000 to be paid on the awarding of the event. President Bregman indicates that because of the confusion on what fee is correct, that Mr. Weers investigate and report

Back to the board the action taken. Mr. Weers was requested to respond back electronically to the Board. The motion was tabled until the answer is found. (Note, to this date, the documentation has not been located). It was also noted that since we may have acted on it, No one has paid to the JA, the Tournament fee, including the present Jr. Nationals, Virgil Bowles asked Mr. Slaven, if the paying of the fee was a problem, and he responded, No.

Awards, Dr. Ronald Allen Charles;

Dr. Charles was not present and sent no report on his committees. President Bregman praised Dr. Charles for the job he is doing with the Awards Committee, nominating Local, and State and National Judo players for their achievements.

Competitive Development Committee, Chairman Terry Kelly;

President notes that Mr. Kelly was not present and no report has been submitted.

Symposium Committee, Chairperson Hope Kennedy;

Hope was given a round of applause for her Symposium and management of the same. She was happy with the attendance, but it fell short of her expectations, we need to get the word out more then we do. The speakers were well qualified and they put a lot of work into their presentations, on a number of topics relative to Judo. President Bregman praises the Symposium as being on a par with the best he has attended. Some members present attended the symposium and were impressed with the quality. Thom Layon moves to accept the report, 2nd by George Weers, Weers, Layon, Bregman, Fodor, M. Szejter, Smith, Webb, Bowles vote Yes, No Nays or abstentions.

Coach Education Committee, Chris Dewey;

Chris sent in a report on his committee actions, dated March 1, 2004 for the July Meeting. Chris says Levels I; II and III manuals are being edited for minor mistakes prior to publication.

The CEC program has 687 Coaches who have completed courses; there are 57 uncertified coaches who have completed courses via distance learning and more who are in various stages of completion.

Level IV is on hold with a planned release sometime in 2005. Renewal notices on expiring dates is being sent out, with some success. The listing of coaches on the web site is still inaccurate and is a sore spot with coaches. Certificates are being processed within 3 working days when received. And monies are sent to the home office.

Badge requests, are a source of concern, particularly days before a national event or major event. Chris would like to see requests come in a month before such events to guarantee getting them. The USJI counterpart to Coaches and Chris exchange databases every quarter. Chris reports that he will be signing a contract with Fifth Estate Publishing Co., this is for publishing and distribution of his manuals. End of report. Bregman congratulates Chris on his fine work for the JA. Thom Layon moves to accept report, 2nd by George Weers, Yes, Weers, Layon, Bregman, Fodor, Webb, M. Szejter, Bowles, Smith, No nays or abstentions Motion passed.

Referee Certification, Richard Celotto; - Mr. Celotto was not present and sent no report.

High School Committee, Lee Wheeler. - Not present and sent in no report.

Collegiate Judo Committee, Phil Rasmussen, - Not present and sent in no report.

Club Accreditation Committee, Raymond Conte; - Not present and sent in no report.

Jujitsu Committee, Ben Bergwerf,

Not present, he did send in a report, M. Szejter moved to accept the report without reading the same, Thom Layon 2nd the motion which was passed on a vote, yes, M. Szejter, Layon, Weers, Bowles, Fodor, Smith, Webb, Bregman,

no nays, no abstentions. Report,

The Jujitsu Web site is coordinated by Phil Rasmussen and can be accessed at <http://www.usja-judo.org/~jujitsu/> the site has many segments, board members and so on. The jujitsu meetings are held at the North Carolina Camps each year, selections are made at this camp for committees and chairs of the same. The Youth Manual prepared by Ken Nazemetz is in the final stages and should be ready at the camp. Hope Kennedy and Richard Porro are preparing self Defense for Women. Ed Byers is completing a Security Officers course and hopes to have it video taped at the camp. Barbara Gessner and Gene Fodor were appointed to the Rank Board in place of George Hamm, who lost a battle with cancer and Bill Sharp who resigned.

The Board is having problems with members asking for promotion without having the qualifications and time in grade, these requirements have to be met for promotion. The board is taking under advisement such items as those, which TIG may be waived, but it has not been developed as yet.

USJA Masters Committee, Allen Johnson; - He was not present and sent in no report,

Mr. Bregman responded that we have chairs to all these committees, who do not come and do not send in reports, and said that the Board of Directors cannot do all these tasks themselves, and that anyone that is willing to take one of these committees, step up to take one over. Most committees are non functional, and we need positive people to run them, send in your request to chair one.

Member Mark Hunter spoke up and said, that in the past he has sent in a request for the Electronic Services Committee, but has never heard from anyone, President Bregman advised that of this date he is placing Hunter on that committee, and for him to contact Chris Lester.

Technical Officials Committee, Jeff Miller;

Jeff mentions other members on his committee and speaks about details of service. No costs to the JA for the committee services. This is for parings, scoring and other functions at mat side, if you are interested, you may contact Jeff at Jefmlrjudo@yahoo.com. There is a certification process available from the committee; they are contemplating three levels of proficiency. Motion to accept report made by M. Szrejter, 2nd by V. Bowles and passed, Yes, Bregman, Fodor, Weers, Bowles, M. Szrejter, Webb, Smith, Layon, no nays or abstentions.

New Business;

Thom Layon Requested that a number of items placed before the Board in Executive Meeting is addressed in the membership meeting.

Item #1, Article VI (D), to delete the phrase “in care of its Executive Director”, Article VI refers to Payment of Dues and Fees, All dues and fees shall be paid directly to the National Office of the Corporation in care of the Executive Director. Motion to accept Thom Layon, 2nd M. Szrejter, passed, voting yes, Bregman, Weers, Webb, Fodor, Szrejter, Layon, Smith, Bowles, no nays or abstentions.

Item #2, Amend Article VII (A) to provide that: The number of Directors of the Corporation shall consist of 9 members (rather than 15), (see also # 7 below). The amendment failed to pass; it was amended by the Board to have as Directors 11 members.

Voting to amend to 11, motion by Layon, 2nd by Fodor and passed, voting yes, were Bregman, Szrejter, Layon, Fodor, Weers, Webb. Bowles, Smith. No nays or abstentions.

Item #3. Amend to Article VII (B), add to the end of the existing text, the following language, “No Director may be an employee of the Corporation”, motion passed on motion by Layon, 2nd by M. Szrejter, voting yes to accept, Layon, Szrejter, Bowles, Weers, Webb, Smith, Bregman, Fodor, no nays or abstentions.

Item #4. Amendment of Article VII (E) (ii). This item was deleted from the agenda. It deals with Voting and years necessary to vote for Directors. Deleted.

Item #5. Amendment of Article VII (E), an individual who is employed by, or is receiving royalties, gratuities or other monetary compensation from the Corporation, is not eligible to submit a petition to the Board of Directors to seek election as a Director of the Corporation.

To amend to read, No employee of the Corporation is eligible to submit a petition to the Board of Directors to seek election as a Director of the Corporation Amendment passé on a motion by Layon, 2nd by M. Szrejter and passed, Yes, Layon, Szrejter, Bowles, Smith, Webb, Fodor, Weers, Bowles, no nays or abstentions.

Item #6. This article VII (E) deals with house keeping activity, and deals with

notification to its members for voting, substitute language, “ The Board of Directors shall cause notice of each election to be given to all Senior Members of the United States Judo Association Incorporated”. The former sentence mentioned all members of the United States Judo Association, giving the impression that Jr. members were eligible to vote.

On the motion by Layon, 2nd by Fodor, voting yes to change, Layon, Fodor, Weers, Bowles, M. Szejter, Smith, Webb, Bregman, no nays or abstentions.

Item #7. Amend Article VII (F) to provide, The USJA Board of Directors shall consist of 11 members, each serving a term of four (4) years. Elections shall be held in 2005 and every four (4) years thereafter”. Current language for term of office is serving every 6 years. Motion to accept change, Layon, 2nd by M. Szejter and passed, voting yes, Layon, Szejter, Weers, Webb, Bowles, Bregman, Smith, Fodor, no nays or abstentions.

Item #8. To amend VII (F) to read “Board of Directors”, and to delete the phrase “Executive Director”. Also delete the last sentence of Article VII (F) where it says “to the Executive Director or his Designee”. Ballots not received by September 30th or post marked by September 30th will not be counted for the election. Passed on a motion by Layon, 2nd by M. Szejter, voting yes, Layon, Szejter, Bowles, Fodor, Bregman, Weers, Webb, Smith, no nays or abstentions.

Item #9. Amend Article VII (G) to provide that the BOD “may” select and employ an Executive Director, rather than “Shall” do so. Motion by Layon, 2nd by James Webb, passed, voting yes, Layon, Webb, Bowles, Bregman, Fodor, Smith, Weers, Szejter, no nays or abstentions.

Item #10. Change the term of the Officers of the Corporation from a proposed 3 years to 4 years. Motion to accept by Layon, 2nd by M. Szejter and passed, voting yes, Layon, Szejter, Fodor, Weers, Webb, Bregman, Smith, Bowles, no nays or abstentions.

Item #11. Article V, “D” Ethics Committee. To change the notification from” Executive Director where stated”, and to change it to the “Executive Office Manager”. The Executive Officer Manager will process any complain sent to the committee, then forward it to the Chairman of the Ethics Committee for action. Motion to change made by Layon, 2nd Bowles, motion passed, voting yes, Layon, Bowles, Fodor, Bregman, Weers, Smith, Webb, Szejter, no nays or abstentions.

Item #12. Creation of an Election Committee, Motion by Thom Layon, 2nd by George Weers. To have at least 3 persons or more to serve on a committee, that will oversee the process of the election. Voting to accept, Layon, Weers, Bregman, Szrejter, Bowles, Webb, Smith, Fodor, no nays or abstentions. Bregman proposed this committee because of past problems associated with the elections, and he is seeking to serve, at least 4 people attending the meeting have volunteered to serve. Many that attended this meeting had injected many comments regarding the election process and who and how to manage the process, all concerns and points well taken.

Item#13. Consider Creation of an American Judo Athlete Support Program and an interim committee to study ways to implement such programs for the benefit of USJA members. The purpose is to be able to assist those elite athletes trying to reach a higher level of Judo training and who hope to become future Olympians. To assist those who do not have the resources to be able to attend competitions, camps and clinics for their training. The formation should be separate from the United States Judo Associations programs, i.e. a separated 501-c-3 designation so it can raise funds, solicit donations and so on, which would go directly for support to deserving athletes. Bregman crafts motion to include the above. Motion by Layon, 2nd by M. Szrejter and passed, voting yes, Bregman, Layon, Szrejter, Fodor, Weers, Bowles, Smith, Webb, no nays or abstentions.

President Bregman calls upon Jim Webb to give a financial report on the USJA; Jim reports that the USJA has a healthy financial position today as versus several years ago, the USJA has an endowment fund total of about \$16,000. He thanks Virgil Bowles for his donations, the sale of the buildings to stabilize finances and get us out of debt. Jim gave a report on the sales, promotional advancements and money from them, employee costs, an Insurance costs, and why we have lower Insurance costs for members. Report accepted on a motion by M. Szrejter, 2nd by G. Weers and passed, voting yes, Szrejter, Weers, Bregman, Fodor, Bowles, Webb, Smith, Layon, no nays and no abstentions.

Bregman gives membership report as being about 9,000 members, and points to the summer special as a benefit to the organization; retention of members is the purpose of these specials.

Secretary reads a proposal crafted by Virgil Bowles, Chairman of the Promotion Board, to the effect that the USJA Board of Directors bestow the honor upon Ben Bergwerf, Chairman of the Jujitsu Division and 9th Dan, with a professorship for his years of service, contributions to the sport of Jujitsu and

dedication to the USJA. The motion was 2nd by M. Szrejter, motion passed, voting yes, Bowles, Szrejter, Bregman, Fodor, Smith, Layon, Webb, Weers, no abstentions nor nays.

Gary Monto makes a motion to include two new Kata in the USJA program, Go No Kata and Ren Rakyu Kata, 2nd by M. Szrejter and passed, voting yes, Weers, Bowles, Bregman, Szrejter, Layon, Webb, Smith, Fodor, no nays and no abstentions.

Motion to accept bid from Lowell Slaven for the tournament in Ind. Ind for 2007, Motion to accept by Thom Layon, 2nd by Virgil Bowles and passed, voting yes, Bregman, Bowles, Szrejter, Weers, Fodor, Smith, Webb, Weers, no abstentions nor nays.

Motion to adjourn meeting, Michael Szrejter, 2nd by many, closed at 9:00PM.

Minutes Submitted by,

Gene Fodor,
Secretary USJA

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