

USJA BOD Open Meeting Notes

12/3/11

The Winter USJA BOD Meeting Called to order at 5:37 pm

BOD Members present for the meeting:

- Gary Goltz
- Joan Love
- Lowell Slaven
- Neil Ohlenkamp
- Paul Nogaki
- Bill Montgomery
- Jim Lally
- Roy Hash
- Katrina Davis also present

1. Gary Goltz opened the meeting with his President's Message.
2. Katrina Davis presented her Executive Director's report.
3. Neil Simon, President of the USJF gave a brief summary on the cooperation between the organizations.
4. Paul Nogaki presented the Treasurer's report.
5. Gary Monto presented the Promotion Committee report.
6. Motion to accept the Promotion Committee report was made by Bill Montgomery and seconded by Joan Love. The motion passed by majority vote.
7. The Club Services and Regional Coordinators report was presented by Joan Love, Vice President.
8. Motion to accept this report was made by Jim Lally and seconded by Bill Montgomery. The motion passed by majority vote.
9. The Coaching Committee report was presented by Bill Montgomery.

10. Coach Education Committee report.
11. Motion to accept this report was made by Jim Lally and seconded by Lowell Slaven. The motion passed by majority vote.
12. The Development Committee report was presented by Roy Hash.
13. Motion to accept these reports was made by Jim Lally and seconded by Neil Ohlenkamp. The motion passed by majority vote.
14. The Tournament Committee report was presented by Lowell Slaven. Lowell discussed the need to firm-up the 2015 Joint Junior Nationals bid which so far there have been no formal responses. In lieu of this Lowell asked to host this in Indianapolis where he had already secured a venue and hotel.
15. Motion to accept his report and bid was made by Neil Ohlenkamp and seconded by Jim Lally. The motion passed by majority vote.
16. The Ju Jitsu Committee report was presented by Lowell Slaven.
17. Motion to accept these reports was made by Jim Lally and seconded by Joan Love. The motion passed by majority vote.
18. Joan Love read the reports from the Refereeing, Technical Officials, Kata, Publications and Awards Committees due to the absence of the committee chairs.
19. Motion to accept these reports was made by Jim Lally and seconded by Bill Montgomery. The motion passed by majority vote.
20. Presentation of the 2011 Donor of the Year was made to Dr. James Lally which was immediately followed by a motion to adjourn the meeting by Jim Lally and seconded by Lowell Slaven. The motion passed by majority vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Addendum - Reports & Presentations

President's Report:



December 3, 2011

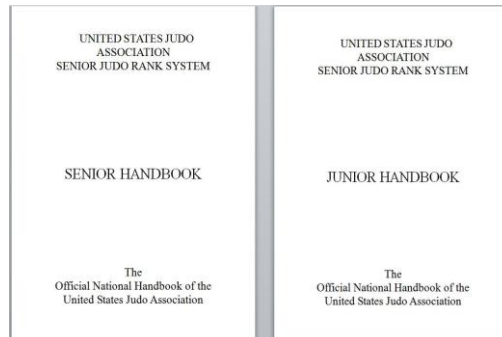
President's Open Board Meeting Message

What is the USJA?



- We are a database
- We provide sanctions and insurance
- We are an accreditation body
- We set and maintain standards
- We are information distributors

Drafts of New Manuals by Sid Kelly & Hal Sharp



New Website Plan & Demo by Chuck Wall



Present Situation

- The current website looks out of date
- It is not support friendly and requires a large amount of time to maintain.
- Requires additional offline software such as Dreamweaver & FrontPage
- Does not allow for ease of updating
- Lack of Social Media integration such as Facebook & Twitter
- Lack of multimedia such as images and video

New Website will be Way Ahead

WordPress is a free and open source blogging tool and publishing platform. It is often customized into a content management system (CMS). It has many features including a plug-in architecture and a template system that makes it easy to use and administer. www.wordpress.com

FatCow – This site is currently being hosted in a 100% Wind Energy Data Center. This shows that USJA is actively concerned about other important issues and supports and Eco-Friendly Environment. www.fatcow.com

Phased approach

Phase 1 – Re-design and launch of content based front end website built on open-source, low cost, easily administered site. –Target Launch Date – January 1, 2012

Phase 2 – Re-design and launch of commerce based shopping cart site that will provide product sales as well as membership subscription and renewals. May be hosted on member donated site www.mivamerchant.com –Target Launch – Spring 2012

WordPress Features

Posts (Blog Content) - Content that is presented as latest entry first, organized into archives automatically. This is the “blog” format, but businesses can use this to present latest news or product updates.

Pages (Static Content) - Pages allow you to manage non-blog content easily, so for example you could have a static “About” page that you manage through WordPress. On our website, “pages” are the links across the top gray bar.

Plugins - There are literally **hundreds of plugins** that extend what WordPress does, so the actual functionality is nearly limitless. These plugins include Twitter integration, eCommerce solutions, Membership management platforms and advanced photo galleries.

Widgets - Blocks of content and mini interactive features that can be placed on the sides or bottom of your template. See the right column of our site for examples.

Comments - Visitors to your site can leave comments on individual entries and through Trackback or Pingback can comment on their own site. You can enable or disable comments on a per-post basis

Spam protection - Out of the box WordPress comes with very robust tools such as an integrated blacklist help to eliminate comment spam on your blog.

Full user registration - WordPress has a built-in user registration system that can allow people to register and maintain profiles and leave authenticated comments on your blog.

Intelligent text formatting – Adding new content is simple, users can type it up in Microsoft Word complete with formatting like bold, underline and even colors then paste it into the browser saving time and learning.

Multiple authors - WordPress' highly advanced user system allows up to 10 levels of users, with different levels having different (and configurable) privileges with regard to publishing, editing, options, and other users.

We are a retail merchant



(Ring designed by Tom Crone)

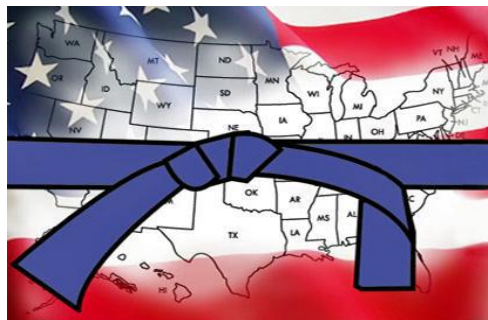
President's Message Summary



So what's the difference?

- > USJA – grassroots, innovative entrepreneurial
- > USJF – grassroots, conservative well endowed
- > USAJ – international, per government mandate

$$1 + 1 + 1 = 1$$



We must look towards the future!



USJA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Katrina R. Davis

Winter Nationals

La Verne, CA

December 3, 2011

Top 50 Clubs	Coach Name	State	Total	Rank
Samurai Judo Association	Ronald Allan Charles	SC	176	1
Goltz Judo	Gary Goltz	CA	136	2
School of Hard Knocks Judo Club	Andrew Connelly	TX	114	3
Staten Island Judo and Jujitsu Dojo	Nick Fulciniti	NY	110	4
Kodokan Judo of Cape Coral	John Paccione	FL	105	5
Carolinas American Judo Assoc	Patrick Szejter	NC	92	6
Unidos Judo and Karate Club	Jesse Jones	CA	80	7
VA Commonwealth Univ. Judo Club	Allan Mills	VA	76	8
AMERIKAN JUDO	Mark Hunter	OH	73	9
Clarksville Budo Club	Mackel Reagan	TN	68	10
Wall to Wall Martial Arts	James Wall	LA	66	11
Texoma Judo/Jujitsu Academy	Roy Hash	TX	62	12
Southside Dojo LTD	Robert Treat	MI	59	13
Cohoes Judo Club	Terence Sharp	NY	58	14
U and K Martial Arts Academy	Jong-Won Kang	NJ	58	15

West Hempstead Judo Club	Charles Schweizer	NY	56	16
Derry Judo Club	Roger Lenfest	NH	54	17
Vineland Judo Club	Raimundo Marquez	NJ	52	18
Emerald City Judo	Robert Wittauer	WA	50	19
Gentle Way Judo Club	Willie Williams	CT	49	20
Southern Maryland Judo and Jujitsu	W. Sean McBroom	MD	49	21
Stevens Point Judo Club	Thomas Gustin	WI	48	22
Empire Judo	Michael Sambrano	CA	48	23
Belleville Dojo	Quentin Thompson	IL	47	24
Marion Pal Club Judo	Bruce Bender	IN	46	25
White Dragon Judo	Derick Ulysses Wellman	MO	45	26
Combat Defense USA	Robert Peters	KY	45	27
CEM Judo	Paul Rush	CA	44	28
San Yama Bushi Judo Club	Hector Negron	NY	42	29
Rendokan Dojo	William Carson	AZ	40	30
Monterey Judo Club	David Seva'aetasi	CA	40	31
U Of TN Judo Club	Donald Tyrell	TN	40	32
West Point Judo Club	Hector Morales-Negron	NY	40	33
Ohio Judan Judo Club	Gary Monto	OH	39	34
Moreau's Training Center	Thomas Moreau	NH	39	35
Industry Sheriffs PAL	Sanders Ishisaka	CA	38	36
GULF COAST JUDO	James Hunt	MS	37	37
Bushido Kai	Heiko Rommelmann	NY	37	38
Bushido Sports Judo Club	Gerome Baldwin	FL	37	39
Santa Rosa Junior College	Destinee Tartuffe	CA	36	40

Solano College Judo Club	James Tanaka	CA	35	41
Jita Kyoei Judo Klub	Clinton Main	NJ	35	42
Encino Judo Club	Neil Ohlenkamp	CA	34	43
Champion Judo	Buck Snider	TX	34	44
TINAZA JUDO CLUB	Reynaldo Tinaza	CA	33	45
Tomodachi Judo Club	Michael Szejter	FL	33	46
Fox Valley Judo/Jujitsu Club WI	Mehdi Mohammadian	WI	31	47
Ark Judo	Michael Dobbs	AR	31	48
Philadelphia Judo Club	Raymond Huxen	PA	30	49
American Kodo-Kwan Institute	Robert Spraley	OH	30	50

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE THROUGH November 30, 2011

- Active Annual Members to date: 6,733
- Active Life Members to date: 1,286
- Total Active Members to date: 8,019
- Total Life Members: 22,098
- Total Active Clubs: 962
- Total New Clubs thru December 1, 2010: 50
- Total Sanctioned Events: 104
- Total Black Belt Subscriptions to date: 151

Individual Donations \$500.00 and above

• Dr. James Lally:	\$ 5,000.00
• Raimundo Marquez III:	\$ 4,000.00
• Tom Seabasty:	\$ 2,500.00
• Andrew Connelly:	\$ 1,100.00
• Stanley Seidner:	\$ 1,100.00
• Neil Ohlenkamp:	\$ 795.00
• L V Davis:	\$ 650.00
• Ernie Henson:	\$ 565.00
• Ed Shirey:	\$ 530.00

Treasurer's Report

United States Judo Association, Inc.
Balance Sheet
October 31, 2011

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking-Chase	\$	15,712.75	
Coaching Program		3,646.79	
USJA Endowment Fund		13,259.74	
USJA Grass Roots Dev. Fund		1,055.85	
Employee Advance		50.00	
Inventory		<u>3,860.70</u>	
Total Current Assets			\$ 37,585.83

Fixed Assets		
Equipment - Office	2,826.14	
Equipment - Computer	25,186.57	
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(27,435.80)</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		<u>576.91</u>
Total Assets		\$ <u>38,162.74</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Tax Liability	\$ (248.17)	
Pension Plan Payable	<u>1,025.00</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		\$ 776.83
Long Term Liabilities		
Accts. Payable - Aduci, LLC	<u>16,406.06</u>	
Total Long Term Liabilities		16,406.06
Equity		
Beginning Net Assets	34,878.74	
Current Income (Loss)	<u>(13,898.89)</u>	
Total Equity		<u>20,979.85</u>

Promotion Committee Report

USJA Promotion Board Minutes, December 2, 2011. USJF/USJA Winter Nationals, Ontario, CA

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Ernie Smith.

Those members present were:

Ernie Smith

Jesse Jones

Hal Sharp

Hayward Nishioka

Gary Monto

Observers:

Katrina Davis & Gary Goltz

The promotion board reviewed 25 requests for promotion, 23 members were promoted to the rank requested and one member was promoted to an honorary rank. One member's request was tabled indefinitely until TIG requirements met.

The promotion board then moved onto other issues brought before it. There was much discussion that the promotion board meeting should be a closed meeting. It was agreed upon by the promotion board members present because of the nature of the discussions that are held concerning the personal information that is brought up for each promotion request. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendation, with the exception that members of the Board of Directors could still attend promotion board meetings.

The promotion board also addressed the issue of promoting non US citizens through the USJA. The members felt that we should promote those candidates that have one of the following qualifying points:

1. The candidate belongs to a USJA club that resides in a Foreign country or;
2. The candidate has written permission from his home NGB

The promotion board also voted that the Secretary of the promotion board oversee the Master Examiners. He is to keep records for those members who are active and remove for cause those members that are no longer active as examiners. The Board of Directors accepted this recommendation only to the extent that the Secretary of the promotion board may keep records of approved promotion examiners. The entire promotion board is responsible for setting policies and standards, developing a process for examiner certification, and accepting new examiners.

The Board of Directors also informed the promotion board that we are responsible for promotions up to Godan and these promotions can be approved or denied electronically. An exception is that all promotions to yondan or above where the candidate does not meet time-in-grade requirements must be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. Rokudan and above will be done in person at the scheduled meetings held twice a year of the promotion board. Rokudan and above will need to be presented to the Board of Directors for their approval.

All promotions recommended to the Board of Directors for approval must include a summary of accomplishments or a rationale for the recommendation. This should generally be done in advance of the Board of Directors meeting where these recommendations are to be considered. The Board of Directors also directed the Promotion Committee to maintain confidentiality and refrain from publicly announcing any promotions that require Board of Directors approval until the Board of Directors actually approves the recommendation.

There was discussion concerning "editable" PDF promotion forms to be placed on the USJA web site.

The board also voted to recommend use of the proposed "new" promotion system for both Junior and Senior ranks. This has been referred to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Katrina Davis stated that Walter Dean has been designated to review all applications for correct information before it goes to the promotion board for review. If there is a problem with any application, Walter Dean will write the letter to the candidate and let him/her know what is missing.

Those members promoted at this meeting were:

Yondan

Paul Bova, John Dietz, Carlos Figarola, Nathan Goltz, Willard Jule, Joan Love, William Myers, Mariano Napoles, Brian O'Day, Ocie Poole, James Taylor, & James Wall

Godan

Dina Badami, Celita Schutz, & Ronald Smith

Rokudan

William Montgomery, David Kiang, Jerome Vessichio (Honorary)

Shichidan

William Ryan, Mehdi Mohammadian, Edward Shirey

Hachidan

John Roseberry

Kudan

Hal Sharp (Board of Directors vote)

Meeting was adjourned 4:50 pm.

Gary L Monto
USJA Promotion Board Secretary

Club Support Services Committee

The Club Support Services Committee's purpose is to provide support and informational resources to USJA clubs and members.

Accomplishments

A major focus of this committee is the production of the monthly online magazine, *Growing Judo*.

The magazine has a consistent, professional appearance and quality content, thanks to many article contributors. The assistance of the staff at the USJA National Office in compiling information for the magazine is very much appreciated.

Regular features that support clubs and USJA programming continue to appear each month. These include *Judo News Around the Country*, *Upcoming Events*, and listings of newly established USJA clubs, newly certified coaches, and dan-grade promotions.

New Life Members and individuals who donate \$500 or more are also recognized. With the help of the Regional Coordinators, we are still working to make the magazine more inclusive by soliciting material from a wider variety of USJA individuals and clubs.

Recent feature articles have covered events like the 2011 USJF/USJA Junior Nationals, major summer judo camps, and topics of interest such as "Foam Rolling." Several articles related to Coach Education, important information from the USJA leadership (including announcements from the USJA Executive Director and Officers, and special offers for donors and new Life Members), news from various committees and human interest stories are also published regularly. *Growing Judo* also recognizes the accomplishments of USJA clubs and individuals, and has memorialized individuals in our judo community who have passed away.

The increased popularity of *Growing Judo* has resulted in numerous requests to publicize events that are not sanctioned by the USJA. The magazine involves both labor by USJA volunteers and paid staff, and some expenses for its production and distribution. No other organization has an equivalent publication. Therefore, our policy will be to continue to offer free listings in the Upcoming Events section for USJA-sanctioned events, but we will be asking for a nominal advertising fee for domestic events (tournaments, clinics, etc.) that are open to USJA members but sanctioned by other organizations.

Finally, we have continued to generate some income for the USJA through paid advertising in the magazine.

Goals

The Club Support Services Committee has several goals related to the *Growing Judo*. These include:

- To continue to increase the quality & diversity of contributions to *Growing Judo*.
- To fully utilize the magazine as a communication tool and to support USJA programs and initiatives.
- To utilize "Constant Contact" to improve the distribution of *Growing Judo* to our members and get a better assessment of its readership; some technical issues have prevented this to date.
- To gain more paid advertisements to generate income for the USJA. Determining the distribution of the magazine is vital to this effort.

Additional Accomplishments and Goals

Michael Dobbs is chairing a Marketing Subcommittee and has drafted a ***USJA Dojo Marketing Handbook*** to assist club leaders and potential club leaders. Topics include creating a "Judo Brand Identity," starting a dojo, attracting students, advertising and publicity, closing the sale, student retention and club growth. Since July, 2011, the handbook has been reviewed by a number of people. Revisions are underway and we hope to have it available as an online resource in January, 2012.

Michael Dobbs also plans to develop a USJA club webpage template. He is looking for volunteer(s) with expertise in marketing and Information Technology to assist him.

In addition, with a team of volunteers, the Club Services Committees still hopes to develop and post more electronic resources on the USJA website, such as articles on timely, helpful topics, and useful databases (such as a clinicians list, a network of judo programs in schools, etc.). Our hope is that the USJA website will be updated soon, which will make this project more feasible.

Regional Coordinators Committee

Established five years ago, this committee was formerly a subcommittee of the Development Committee. However, it was recognized that this network of volunteers could be employed by many other committees and their projects. Furthermore, a number of people had difficulty locating the Regional Coordinators list on the USJA website when they needed it. As of spring, 2010, the "Regional Coordinators" was established as a separate committee in order to provide greater visibility & accessibility on USJA website.

Purpose & Objectives

The goal of this committee and its members is to facilitate grassroots development at the local and regional level. A key task is to improve communication between USJA national committees & local clubs. Additionally, Regional Coordinators should contact and encourage many clubs & individuals to participate in & host judo events.

Accomplishments

With the recent addition of Alex Rounds in Illinois, there are currently 33 volunteers who are providing representation for almost all of the "lower 48" United States. Regional Coordinators provide consistent support for USJA communication: distributing *Growing Judo*, publicizing initiatives like *Kelly's Capers*, *Visit-Another-Dojo-Month*, etc.

Several Regional Coordinators are ensuring that their area is represented in the magazine, both in *Upcoming Events* and *Judo News*.

Challenges & Concerns

There are still some areas of the U.S. where we are still seeking volunteers. In addition, some Regional Coordinators need encouragement to provide more news & information on a regular basis for *Growing Judo*, and to facilitate more USJA events in their area. We are looking to replace some RC's who are not able to assist at this time.

Goals

In the months ahead, we will be working to:

- Personally contact inactive Regional Coordinators to determine if they are still willing to assist. *Volunteers will be needed to help with this.*
- Get a commitment from Regional Coordinators to provide news for *Growing Judo*, and to facilitate at least two inter-club events in 2012.
- Actively recruit new Regional Coordinators from some our "Top 50" USJA clubs and by running another "Help Wanted" feature in *Growing Judo*.
- Encourage collaboration among neighboring Regional Coordinators.
- Promote greater utilization of the RC network by other USJA committees and initiatives, such as the Coach Education Committee's *Kelly's Capers* Program.

Respectfully Submitted by
Joan Love, Vice President

Coach Education Committee

I am happy to inform you that the new "Coaches Guide" is available on the Association web site. As the title indicates this is a guide that will give coaches an idea of what we are trying to accomplish. As with any such text it is full of my own views, however, I hope it will simply serve as a template which will be added to as time goes on. In the past various approaches have been tried, it is hoped that this one will be an ongoing work. As a template it will facilitate adding additional information as it becomes available. A suggested list of judo and athletic text will soon be added.

Beginning in 2012 we will be offering courses for "National Coach." These courses will be more comprehensive than the first two levels. They will require a good deal of commitment from candidates; each course will be spread over several weekends or a full week. The subject material will not only cover judo related topics, but a wide array of subjects that a coach at this level should be familiar. Each course will be broken up into 5-7 sections. Each of these sessions must be passed in order to be certified at this level.

Simply attending will not automatically result in certification. Should a candidate fail some particular portion, they may retest at a later date. They do not have to retake the entire course. In addition to the actual course work, each person will be expected to write 1,500 to 3,000 word essay on some aspect of judo or related athletic training. They will also be expected to present examples of their own past, present and future lesson plans.

Kelly's Capers" is still a work in progress. Beginning January, 2012 Bill Myers will be spear heading this program. My current situation is such that I cannot dedicate the time needed to adequately administer this program. Bill will be setting up clinics with interested hosts and he will also contact club in the host's area to get commitments for each event. Beginning with the New Year, Bill is going to institute a much more vigorous approach to getting this program out to more people. He is putting together major push for the next issue of "Growing Judo."

I am going to suggest some changes to the actual makeup of the coaching committee. A number of people have done little since I became Chair. I take their lack of comment or activity as a sign they are no longer able to participate.

Things happen, but I would prefer to have people who are actively involved. To that end I will be suggesting 3 new people to the committee. I am going to present them to President Goltz at the Winter Nationals.

I look forward to 2012 being a more productive year for this program.

Respectfully Submitted by

Bill Montgomery, Chair of Coaching

Development Committee report was presented by Roy Hash.

I don't have anything to report from the Development Committee. The Development committee has had no significant activities occur since my last report. There have been no requests for assistance or support received during this reporting period.

Ju Jitsu Committee report was presented by Lowell Slaven.

These are the Black Belt promotions this year.

January 2011

Darron F. Blankenship, Nidan
Ron Jones, Shodan
Bruce Spears, Yodan

February 2011

Nicholas Dreiling, Shodan
Michael Ocampo, Shodan
Chris Ritchey, Shodan

April 2011

Ralph Villa, Sandan

May 2011

James Conway, Shodan
Marvin German, Yodan

June 2011

Marcus Miller, Shodan

July 2011

Andrew Mangano, Shodan
Gerard Trawinski, Sandan

September 2011

Ed Thibedeau, Yodan

(Joan Love read the reports from the Refereeing, Technical Officials, Kata, Publications and Awards committees due to the absence of the committee chairs.)

Referee Committee Report:

I have held several rules clinics throughout the Midwest this year including the following locations:

Tulsa, OK
Edmond, OK
Olathe, KS
Wichita, KS
Overland, MO
Irving, TX
Dallas, TX
Helena, MT

I certified several referees to Local Level (most through USA Judo) and 1 to Regional 3 Level, Local through USJA as per request of the candidates.

USJA/USJF under the auspices of USA Judo held a national examination at the Junior Nationals held in Toledo, OH. There were no candidates in spite of the advertising that it would be an exam.

There is a general lack of interest in upgrading to National Referee as it involves a temporal and monetary commitment to maintain a National certification (must officiate at least one national event per year). Additionally in order to become a national referee the candidate must join USA Judo. There seems to be reluctance by the hard line USJA & USJF members to do so, since they all seem to have misgivings about doing so as their loyalties are to either USJA or USJF.

USJA & USJF might want to relook at their agreement with USA Judo which mandates that National Referees should only be certified by USA Judo. Since there is a three-tiered system for National Level referees, it might behoove the USJA & USJF to confer with USA Judo to be allowed to certify to National 3 (the lowest level), and license USA Judo to certify to National 2, and National 1.

National 3 certification allows a referee to work events like National tests, & the Bantam divisions of the National Junior Olympics, as well as other events used for reevaluating national referees except those covered by:

National 2 certification including the older divisions of the Junior Olympics, Masters at the Senior Nationals, Scholastic Nationals, Presidents cup as well as other events used for reevaluating national referees except those covered by:

National 1 certification including Senior Nationals and any event testing for international grades.

I will have an update to the USJA Referee manual by January 1, 2012.

Yours in service to Judo,

Dr. Martin L. Bregman, IJF International Referee

Chairman, USJA Referee Commission

Technical Officials Committee Report:

Since the last report there have been two clinics held on Long Island, NY. The first was held over the course of a week of camp from June 27 - July 1, 2012. The camp was held at the West Hempstead PAL Judo Club. 26 Students participated in the clinics which covered the Level E certification requirements over the course of the five days. The second clinic was given at West Hempstead PAL Judo Club on November 20, 2012, 11 people attended the seminar which focused on the use of the electronic scoreboard program offered by Score Judo and is a free download and the use of Modified Double Elimination pools and Round Robin pools. This will be the system in place for the Nakabayashi Tournament held on November 27, 2012 which is also a USJA Technical Officials Certification testing site. Additional information on this event will be provided in the next report, including the number of new technical officials that are certified.

I have begun work on updating the web-page to accurately reflect the members of the committee: Charles Schweizer (NY): Chairman, Earl Delvalle (FL): Vice Chairman, John King (LA): Member, and Deborah Fergus (MI): Member. At this time I am looking for 1-2 more members of the committee from the western part of the United States, as the committee needs someone to aid in the growth of the program in that part of the United States.

As part of my PJC-C referee exam I had the opportunity to travel to Guadalajara, Mexico for the Senior Pan-Am Championships back in April and observe how a top level international event is run. As part of my responsibilities I had the chance to serve as a technical official for the event, including staging the athletes, scoreboard, and Gi control. This has inspired me to write an additional manual and level to the certification. The purpose of the manual is to provide a guide to the preparations needed to stage and run various level events. This is touched upon in the current Level C manual, but is needed to provide information to potential tournament directors around the country.

The details supplied in this manual will aid in setting up and running every level of event from club shiai to International event. The fourth Level will be referred to as a Level B: Technical Director.

From this will lead to a Level A certification for those who have consistently run National and International events and who have assisted in the growth of the technical officials program.

This fifth level will be named: Level A: Master Technical Official.. Upon completion of this manual and the BOD approval the USJA Technical Officials program will offer 5 levels of certification.

Submitted by Mr. Charles Schweizer: Chairman

Kata Committee Report:

I hope this report finds you all well!

My last report was rushed as it was due at the same time that I was to be in Frankfurt, Germany for the IJF World Kata Championship. I will begin the report with the results from that. Again, as in almost all of the past World Championships Japan dominated the podium for the gold.

The difference was that this year Iran was a huge force for Japan to contend with, having at least one team place in the finals for every division except Nage-no-kata in which Iran took both the silver and the bronze. The US did not have a full roster competing in each kata. The US was represented by Holtze and Buehman, taking 13th in the Ju-no-kata preliminaries, Tono and Lueng taking 8th in the Kodokan Goshin-jutsu preliminaries, and myself and Giunta taking 6th also in the Kodokan Goshin-jutsu preliminaries. Mrs. Eiko Shepherd was a judge representing the US. There were 242 participants from 26 countries. The next World Kata Championship was announced to be in Brazil in 2012, but as of yet they have only solidified the veterans shiai competition.

Back to the US. Over the summer Dr. R.A. Charles, besides promoting kata with his students, certifying them and judge certifying them, taught Renraku-no-kata at the Greatest Camp on Earth.

At the USJA/JF Junior Nationals in July, there were 24 participants in the Kata contest. The National Clinic was taught by Mrs. Eiko Shepherd, who is doing much work in kata.

Also over the summer, Mr. Schweitzer ran a summer camp and certified 7 students. He will also be the tournament director of Nakabayashi, which will contest 6 kata on November 27th.

The George Harris YMCA Camp studied Kime-no-kata with Mr. Kiang and myself this year with a few other students studying Ju-no-kata and Nage-no-kata.

Mr. Giunta and myself have also been teaching kata clinics for the Niagara Yudanshakai and the Hudson Yudanshakai. We taught the unarmed portion of Kodokan Goshin-jutsu for Niagara and will be going back to teach the weapons sometime in early December. For Hudson we taught a split clinic with one of us teaching Nage-no-kata the other teaching katame-no-kata. Both were well received.

Mr. Fernandez has written an excellent article called Kata Advice. Hopefully, it will be in the January issue of Growing Judo.

Lastly, I must comment on the huge success of Miss Fukuda's Kata Championship which was made even more exciting and successful due to her promotion. There were more than 54 participants, participating in more than 73 kata.

In closing, there has been much activity in kata since my last report. It is my hope that more instructors will view kata as a useful and interesting tool to study kata and will teach the kata to help keep it alive.

Thank you.

Heiko Rommelmann, Jr.

Awards Committee Report:

Like all non-standing committees, serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. We may suggest or recommend to the Board individuals or programs worthy of recognition.

In addition, while the Board reserves the right to recognize anyone at any time for any reason for any award and to present and publicize such achievements, the Board is welcome to consult with the Committee concerning such actions.

We appreciate your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Allan Charles, Chairman

Publications Committee Report:

Sid Kelly has sent the new Senior Handbook to me for layout and production.

Due to the untimely death of my father, I am just getting back to this project.

Hal Sharp and I are also communicating about the new version of the Junior handbook.

The USJF approved the joint Archives committee with Jerry Hays and me as co-chairs. Anyone who has material about judo, published, unpublished, photographs, videos, etc. are invited to send that material to either myself or Jerry Hays for scanning and archiving. It will be returned to you after digitization if you would like in the same exact condition it was sent to us.

Our long-term goal is to have a searchable on-line 'library' of all this material.

We are still getting requests for the "Throw like a Girl" poster.

I will continue to print, and mail the posters as the orders come into the Central Office at no charge to USJA, allowing it to be a 100% donation to the USJA Women's committee.

The "bridge" edition of the Junior Promotion handbook is in the Central Office, and they are filling orders with it.

Despite the USJA Board deciding that all publications should come through this committee, many committees are producing their own publications without review or input from your Director of Publications. This is only about the look and the need for a professional layout, NOT about content.

We cannot have a consistent brand or quality control this way. Indeed, there is no reason to have a Publications committee at all with each Board member and committee chair creating their own material.

I am looking forward to continuing great projects for Judo from the USJA.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance H. Halporn