

United States Judo Association

**Bi Annual Board of Directors Meeting
July 6, 2012**

**Double Tree Hotel
334 Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, Washington**

Open Session

Present:

**Gary Goltz
Joan Love
Marc Cohen
Paul Nogaki
Lowell Slaven
Roy Hash
Neil Ohlenkamp
Bill Montgomery**

Katrina Davis

Meeting Called to order at 6:00 PM by President Gary Goltz.

The first order of business was a special presentation of an honorary rank of Shodan for Katrina Davis, the Executive Director for her untiring and excellent works for the USJA for over the past twenty (plus) years.

A second presentation was presented to Roby Reed by Presidents Goltz and Jessie Jones for his life time achievements and service to the United States Judo Association.

President Gary Goltz began the rest of the meeting with his President's Report. He highlighted specific points and among them were the Grass Roots program and results. He mentioned that the 2013 Winter Nationals was being considered being held in San Francisco for the first time since its inception.

He pointed out that we have improved our public relations with among things, our relationship with Black Belt Magazine.

He spoke about the improved and improving relationship between the USJA the USJF and USA Judo.

He touched upon specific areas of improvement for the USJA among them a re-written and improved set of Bylaws, a new and improved and still improving Web Site, a new Senior Promotion Handbook that will be ready for January, 2013 and Harold Sharp is working on a new Junior Handbook for the future.

Gary announced the formation of an ad hoc committee to look into and possibly plan for an endowment fund.

He talked about a succession plan for the future and how it would impact the future of the USJA.

He also spoke about the trips that he has taken on behalf of the USJA to USJA clubs all over the United States and the how that has helped promote goodwill for the organization.

Katrina Davis followed with the Executive Director's Report; she began to pointing out the top 50 clubs in terms of membership. She also went in to the number of active annual and Sustaining Life members and active clubs. She went into how many new clubs we have and the fact that half of them are now chartered. She spoke about donations in excess of \$500.00 and mentioned those donations.

Katrina pointed out that many of the old USJA VHS tapes have been converted to DVR and they are available for sale.

The 2012 cost saving because of the relocation from Colorado Springs to Tarpon Springs, Florida has save the USJA \$6.143.28.

Paul Nogaki, Treasurer of the USJA went over the finances as of May, 2012 and declared the Corporation to be financially solvent and moving in a positive direction.

President Gary Goltz awarded a USJA signet ring to Andrew Connelly for his extraordinary service and accomplishments.

Joan Love, Vice President and Chairperson of the Club Support Services and Regional Coordinators gave both reports. (Copy attached).

One of the highest profile parts of the Club Support is the monthly Growing Judo, which highlights news and information about USJA clubs and programs.

Kevin Asano, the President of the USJF addressed the members and Board. He spoke about eh continuing cooperation between the USJF and the USJA and looks forward to continued cordial relations.

Bill Montgomery reported on the Coach Education Committee (Copy attached)

Lowell Slaven report, spoke extemporaneously about the plans for the 2012 Summer Junior USJA /USJF nationals. He said plans were coming along well and he expected it to be a quality tournament that will be well run and will be enjoyable for everyone.

Dr Martin Bregman gave his report as chairman of the USJA Referee Committee. He stated that thus far, in 2012 he attended events 4 events in Oklahoma, 4 in Texas and 1 in Kansas where he either gave a referee clinic or was involved in official discussions concerning the rules. He prepared an exam and answer sheet (which he gave to Katrina) so that any USJA National Referee could test for local and regional referee certification. He also developed a study guide for referee certification to be included in a future issue of Growing Judo. He also developed a kinsa chart that he had given out to all of the National and International referees at the event so that referees could decide on a winter at the end of the Golden Score if it was still tied. He said in the 8 or 9 clinics that he has given this year; he has only tested 1 candidate for local referee. He feels that it is important for more people to step up and become referees.

Roy Hash gave the final report of the Development Committee explaining that he felt that Club Support and Development was taking care of the field of his committee and stated that an earlier meeting of the Board in Executive Session, that it was agreed that we would disestablish his committee and its functions be transferred to Joan Love's Club Regional Development Committee. It was voted and approved by the Board in that earlier meeting.

Marc Cohen, Secretary read into the minutes the following reports, Awards Committee, Technical Official Committee report, Publications Committee and the Kata Committee Report; copies of each report are attached.

Dave Passoff was introduced as a new member of the USJA Tournament Committee and he asked for the floor in order to promulgate an idea of a modified junior national tournament hallmarked with regional qualifying tournaments that could offer their regional champions as seeded competitors in the final nationals.

Marc Cohen refined some of the reasons for the concept, essentially so the process of being involved in the Juniors National Championships could more geographically inclusive.

Gary Goltz felt that it might provide a USJA rival for the USJF Yudanshikai team competition but was concerned about a potential financial hardship on the junior national host committee.

Gary Monto felt that it was a good idea and might be worth a try, but was concerned about how Dave presented the regional breakdowns.

Martin Bregman felt that instead of just the first place winners being seeded, that the entire Junior Nationals be made up of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners and so it could make the event smaller and save money for the host committee.

Lowell stated that in every case, at every hosted event that the people running the event be well schooled on the needs of successfully running a tournament.

Joan Love's major concern was the potential abuse of having to cut or make weight for a finals that might be months in future.

Gary suggested to Dave that he put the proposal in writing and send it to the Board. The Board would then have something on which to comment upon and Gary could take it up with the President of the USJF.

Gary Goltz introduced three members of the Emerald City Judo Club who taken over the club from Bob Witnauer.

Gary Monto then read the list of members who had received their promotions from the USJA Promotion Board:

Rokudan: Ralph Bowman and Billy Martin

Hachidan: Andrew Connelly

(See Promotion Bard Minutes for details)

Martin Bregman asked for clarification of the coach recognition between the three organizations and Gary Goltz explained that at all events other than the five USA Judo national ones, the USJA coaching certifications were recognized and at the Nationals ones we would need to get one from USA Judo who would recognize ours and charge our coaches half of their normal fee.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:50 PM by Bill Montgomery and seconded by Roy Hash. The motion passed, the meeting was adjourned.

Referee Committee Report

To: USJA Board of Directors

USJA Referee Committee Report:

In 2012 so far this year I have attended the following events:

2/4/12 Sooner State Games; OKC, OK
2/18/12 Leavenworth Open; Leavenworth, KS
3/10-11/12 USA Judo Scholastic Nationals; Irving, TX
3/24/12 San Antonio Open; San Antonio, TX
4/21/12 U.S. Senior Nationals; Irving, TX
4/28/12 OK State H.S. & Collegiate Championship; Norman, OK
5/4-5/12 29th Oil Capital Judo Classic, Tulsa, OK
5/19/12 Mose Woodson Classic; Denton, TX
6/1-2/12 OK. State Judo Championship; Edmond, OK

In addition to involvement in rules discussions at each of the above events I have developed an examination for National Referees to use when testing candidates for Local & Regional Grade Referee (see attached).*

I have examined only one candidate for referee at one of the above events, who opted to certify under USA Judo.

No other candidates have applied at any of the events listed. Last year's Junior Nationals was disappointing as a test site, though successful as an evaluation site for already certified Officials.

The USJA BOD should reconsider whether or not bringing in examiners to give the examination for National Referee is worth the cost as no USJA member opted to take the exam and since that exam can only be given to USA Judo members.

Yours in Service to Judo,

Dr. Martin L. Bregman, Chairman
USJA Referee Committee

* Martin will have the exam sheet at the meeting, per his cover email.

Club Support Services Committee

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

Accomplishments

The primary focus of this committee is the production of the monthly magazine, *Growing Judo*. It is posted and distributed punctually and on a monthly basis, with a professional appearance and varied, quality content, thanks to many contributors. Special thanks go to Alex Rounds, Bill Myers and Andrea Love for their assistance with proofreading the final drafts of each issue. The assistance of the staff at the USJA National Office in compiling information recognizing clubs and individuals is very much appreciated.

Regular features that support USJA clubs and programming are included 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 continue to solicit material from USJA clubs and individuals nationwide.

Recent feature articles have covered events like the 2011 USJA/USJF Winter Nationals, major summer judo camps, and "March Is Visit-Another-Dojo Month," as well as topics of general interest such as leglocks. A recent feature (*July 2012*) by Jim Bregman outlined a strategy for using the success of other martial arts programs to increase participation in judo. In-depth articles related to coaching and teaching are also included in each issue; in particular, Mark Lonsdale, USJA Coach Education Committee member and published author, has become a regular contributor to *Growing Judo*.

Important USJA announcements and special offers for donors/new Life Members, news from various committees, and club profiles 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 Upcoming Events section offers free listings for USJA-sanctioned events; domestic events open to USJA members but sanctioned by other organizations may be included for a nominal advertising fee.

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

Goals

- To continue to increase the quality & diversity of contributions to *Growing Judo*.
- To continue to utilize the magazine as a communication tool to support USJA programs and initiatives.
- To implement an email distribution program to ensure that all USJA members receive *Growing Judo*. A recent "test run" of the system was successful, but because the distribution will be on a confirmed address basis, members need to accept an "opt in" email. Currently the USJA National Office is in the process of receiving those

acceptances, so we are hopeful that the system will be ready soon. Currently, avenues such as the Regional Coordinators network, *facebook*, and the *Judo Forum* are utilized to distribute the magazine widely, but we do not have an accurate assessment of readership numbers.

- To gain more paid advertisements to generate income for the USJA. Assuring the widespread distribution of the magazine is essential to this effort.

Additional Accomplishments and Goals

The ***USJA Dojo Marketing Handbook*** (drafted by Michael Dobbs), was put on hold for a few months. Some areas that need elaboration have been identified. The document has been sent to key individuals for their input. Yet to be determined is how this resource will be distributed to USJA club leaders.

Michael Dobbs also proposed the development of a USJA club webpage template that could be made available to individuals starting a club. He is still looking for volunteer(s) with expertise in marketing and Information Technology to assist him.

The recently updated USJA website is much easier to edit, which will make posting updates and electronic resources more feasible in the future.

Regional Coordinators Committee

Purpose & Objectives

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

Accomplishments

Over the past six months, we have been able to make several individual contacts with some of the less-active Regional Coordinators, to determine if they wished to continue their role, and to offer assistance and encouragement. John Paccione agreed to take the Vice-Chair role and has been of substantial assistance in this effort. The recent launch of new USJA website has allowed speedier updating of the Regional Coordinators roster, and will be most helpful as we recruit new volunteers.

Currently, there are 27 RC volunteers, who provide representation to most of the "lower 48" United States. The Regional Coordinators network has been employed to promote USJA programs such as "March Is Visit-Another-Dojo Month" and *Kelly's Capers*. Several Regional Coordinators provide consistent support for USJA communication by distributing *Growing Judo*, publicizing USJA programs and ensuring that their area is represented in the magazine, both in *Upcoming Events* and *Judo News*. Furthermore, Regional Coordinators have recently organized events this spring, including:

- John Paccione (FL): a tournament, with referee & competitors' clinics
- James Wall (LA) & Loren Bentley (NM): coaching certification & *Kelly's Capers* clinics

Goals

- To continue personal contacts to less-active Regional Coordinators to determine if they are still willing to assist.
- To encourage more Regional Coordinators to provide news for *Growing Judo* and to facilitate at least inter-club events.
- To recruit new Regional Coordinators, possibly from the "Top 50" USJA clubs; there are still some areas without volunteers.
- To continue to promote utilization of the RC network by other USJA committees and initiatives.
- To update the Regional Coordinator roster on the USJA website as needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Love
Vice-President,
Chair, Club Support Services Committee & Regional Coordinators Committee

USJA

Kata Committee Report 6/5/12

I hope this report finds you all well!

Please excuse my absence at this time.

I always begin my reports with Kata on the World scene. The next IJF World kata Championship is scheduled to be in Italy in late September. USA Judo is discussing at this time a "Point Roster" to decide on which teams will go to represent the US. The point system will give points to participants for participation and placement in approved championships. As of yet, no teams have been selected or asked to go.

There has been much work on kata around the US, but it seems as though it is the same people always promoting kata.

Towards the end of November, Mr. Schweitzer was the tournament director of Nakabayashi Championship in NYC. Mr. Schweitzer always runs kata at this tournament. This year had many participants from junior to senior with six kata being contested.

In December, Mr. Giunta and I taught the weapons portion of Kodokan Goshin-jutsu at Renshinkan in conjunction with a competitor's clinic and a tournament. This was very well received and pulled in many people to try kata.

In March, Mr. Giunta taught Kodokan Goshin-jutsu at Mr. Bill Andreas' club, Central Florida Judo and Jujitsu, in Florida with Mindy Buehman and Scott Huitt. This was well received with many compliments and many new faces.

In April this year at the USA Judo National Championship, Katame-no-kata was taught and certified during the clinic by Miss Eiko Shepherd. Numbers seemed to be up in certain categories of the competition, especially in the mixed gender division. The women's division had very low participation.

In May, Shufu Yudanshakai hosted a Kime-no-kata clinic and they are planning a Ju-no-kata clinic in June. No details to submit.

I have received word that Mr. Fernandez and Mr. Bradley are teaching a weekend clinic in New Mexico as in years past, but no details to report at this time.

The Greatest Camp on Earth will as in the past have Kata taught and certified there. Along with the past kata instructors, Mr. Giunta and myself

have been asked to attend and instruct. We plan on teaching Nage-no-kata, Katame-no-kata and Kodokan Goshin-jutsu. Miss Holtze and Miss Buehman will also be in attendance and will be teaching Ju-no-kata. As in the past, other instructors, including Dr. Charles, Dr. Zimkowski, Mr. Monto and more will also offer kata instruction.

In August, the George Harris YMCA/YWCA International Judo Camp will focus on Ju-no-kata during the kata portion of camp. Other kata will be entertained during free time.

Also in August, Nanka Yudanshakai will be hosting the USJF National Clinic in the LA area. No other details at this time.

In closing, it seems as if the same people are pushing the virtues of kata as being a useful and interesting tool to study judo, yet it is notable that there is new blood practicing and learning. I would like to ask everyone to please use kata as a teaching tool at your own dojo and to pass on your knowledge of kata to your students. Your students will be the future of judo and without you passing on your knowledge of kata, students will never learn kata. It is my belief that if kata is taught to students from the beginning of their training, they will view kata just like all other tools of judo: randori, shiai and kata. These are the main tools of judo as set forth by Jigoro Kano. There are others, but it seems that kata is left to the side until the time of shodan. I ask all to please help to spread the benefits of kata.

Respectfully submitted,
Heiko Rommelmann, Jr.

Awards Committee

To: Board of Directors
From: Awards Committee
Subject: Report
Date: April 20, 2012

As I had mentioned in earlier reports of our activities, we have been revamping our Awards program. After considerable deliberation, we decided to eliminate our State Awards program due to lack of participation.

We examined our National Awards selection procedures and criteria, and we decided to recognize only those who truly shine in their Award categories. For 2011 we presented, with good publicity, awards for Outstanding Kata Competitor, Outstanding Life Member Contributor, and Coach of the Year.

The Hall of Fame link has been updated and is featured on our Committee page of the USJA website:

http://www.usja-judo.org/Awards/Hall_of_Fame.htm

As always, we appreciate your support of our program.

Respectfully,

Ronald Allan Charles, Chairman

Publications Committee

Report from the Publications Committee June 2012

We are awaiting the edited manuscript to begin laying out the revised Senior Promotion handbook.

I am hoping that our members are purchasing the new Junior Handbook and getting good use from it.

We are creating editable PDF forms for all our current forms. This way our members can fill them out electronically, instead of having to print them out and fill them out by hand.

I want to remind all Committees that the Publications committee stands ready, willing, and able to produce quality publications for the United States Judo Association.

Yours in Judo.

Constance H. Halporn, Chair, Publications Committee

Technical Officials Report

USJA Technical Officials Committee

Submitted by

Mr. Charles Schweizer: Committee Chairman

June 11, 2012

Since December various members of the committee have been busy certifying new Technical Officials of all levels. The committee would like to thank Mr. Charles Schweizer for the certification work he has done in New York and Massachusetts: At three events in New York he has certified seven Level-E technical officials at the Nakabayashi Cup, West Hempstead PAL Winter and Spring Shiai (held in Feb. and June). A new Level-C technical official was certified at the Walter Ing Memorial Championship; Mr. Fred Fries from Connecticut.

In addition, this summer at the West Hempstead PAL Summer Judo Camp (June 25 - July 20), Mr. Schweizer will give daily clinics on Technical Officiating to a group of 40-50 campers. At the end of the camp, they will have the opportunity to certify at Level E during the Camp Shiai.

Thanks to Mr. Earl DeValle of Florida who ran a clinic in March, 15 people attended and were trained for work for the Matsumura Championships in Cape Coral.

One person was certified to Level-E technical official at the USA Judo National Championships in Irving, TX this past April.

Research is beginning on developing a Level-B and Level-A certification, the committee hopes to have more information on this in time for the December meeting.

USJA Coach Education and Certification Committee, July, 2012

Since our December meeting the committee has been busy with a number of different projects. We have added two new members; Mark Lonsdale (CA) and Bill Myers (NY). Both bring a wealth of knowledge in different areas. They are the first of an expanded committee. We will be adding others over the summer.

Coaching courses have been held in Illinois, New York, New Mexico, South Carolina, Louisiana, North Carolina and Connecticut over the last six months. Attendance at these seminars seems to run in the 10-15 participant range. For most of our purposes these are very manageable numbers and insure individual attention. In the past we have run the first two levels of coaching in the same basic core structure. Within two months a separate module will be finalized for the "Club Coach" and "Coach" levels. The courses may still be run concurrently, but the participants will be divided by the differing requirements.

The concept of a "junior coach" has been discussed for some time. The first offering was in Louisiana in April. These new certifications will give our younger participants an idea of what it takes to be a coach. Juniors who are senior sankyu, nikyu or ikkyu are eligible to take these courses. The courses will be run simultaneously with the regular courses. Successful candidates will receive a certificate acknowledging their accomplishment.

Certification for "National Coach" will be run this summer in CA—Goltz Judo Club and at the YMCA International Judo Camp—Huguenot, NY. These will be the first seminars for these levels. There will also be a two day coaching conference at the Winter Nationals in December. As these details are worked out there will be announcements in *Growing Judo*.

We added additional approved course instructors on the list and this will continue to grow. Because of the geographical expanse of our country we realize that it is not always possible for people to attend a course to become an approved course instructor. We are now trying a program which will allow someone to become an authorized coach instructor by utilizing video or cam presentations and written lesson plans and other procedures which can be done electronically. This is still in the beginning stages, but has been tried with a few individuals.

We will have more details on all of these programs in December.

Respectfully,
Bill Montgomery, Chair
USJA Coach Education and Certification Committee