

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 He is to keep records for those members who are active and remove for cause those members that are no longer active as examiners.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