

United States Judo Association  
Semi-Annual Board of Directors Meeting  
La Verne, California  
December 1, 2012

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by President Gary Goltz.
- II. Roll call of Board Members present was called. There were five members present and four members absent. A quorum was declared. Present were: Gary Goltz, Joan Love, Andrew Connelly, Bill Montgomery and Neil Ohlenkamp. Absent were: Marc Cohen, Roy Hash, Dr. James Lally and Lowell Slaven.
- III. The reading of the minutes for the July 2012 meeting was postponed until the July 2013 Board Meeting.
- IV. Reports of Officers were read and accepted. Reporting Officers were; President Gary Goltz, Vice-President Joan Love, Treasurer Marc Cohen's report was given by Executive Director Katrina Davis along with her report. Secretary Andrew Connelly had no report. Officer reports and Committee reports will appear at the bottom of these minutes.
- V. Committee reports were read and accepted. Those reporting were the Coach Education Committee by Bill Montgomery and the Promotion Committee report by Sid Kelly. The Development Committee and Referee Committee had no report. Reports of the Aikido Committee, Awards Committee, Kata Certification Committee and the Standards and Ethics Committee were emailed. A motion was made by Neil Ohlenkamp to dispense with the reading of the submitted reports and to attach the reports to the minutes. The motion was seconded by Andrew Connelly. The motion was unanimously approved.
- VI. There was no Old Business.

- VII. New Business was as follows: Gary Goltz made a motion for Jesse Jones that the cost of the Life Membership Special be reduced from \$200 to \$150. The motion was seconded by Neil Ohlenkamp. Gary Goltz voted in favor of the motion. Opposed were Neil Ohlenkamp, Bill Montgomery, Joan Love and Andrew Connelly. The motion was not approved. The Life Membership Special will be \$200.00 and will be effective from January 1, 2013 until March 31, 2013.

Bill Montgomery discussed the United States Olympic Committee Safe Sport Program.

The selection of Michael Lucadamo, USJA Office Manager as the Donor of the Year was announced and the award was presented.

Dr. James Lally was selected as the Donor of the Decade.

Nominations for the Board of Directors election must be made by August of 2013 and the election will be held in October of 2013.

A motion to adjourn was made by Neil Ohlenkamp. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

## **December 1, 2012**

### **President's Open Board Meeting Message**

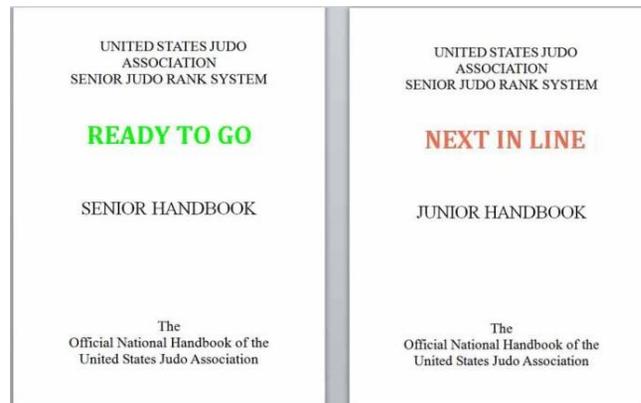
#### **Goals as COO 2005-9**

- Get out of the red and into the black
- Upgrade database to today's standards
- Helped create USJA/USJF **GRASSROOTS JUDO™**
- Improve PR for the USJA & Judo partnered with **BLACK BELT®**  
World's Leading Magazine of Martial Arts
- Implement succession plan (Katrina to Executive Director)

#### **Goals as President 2010-**

- Promote unity with \$100 3-Way Membership
- Upgrade
  - By-Laws
  - Website/Store
  - Sr. & Jr. Handbooks
- Create a Planned Gift Donation program
- Continue to improve PR for the USJA & Judo (EFC trial relationship)

- New promo manuals

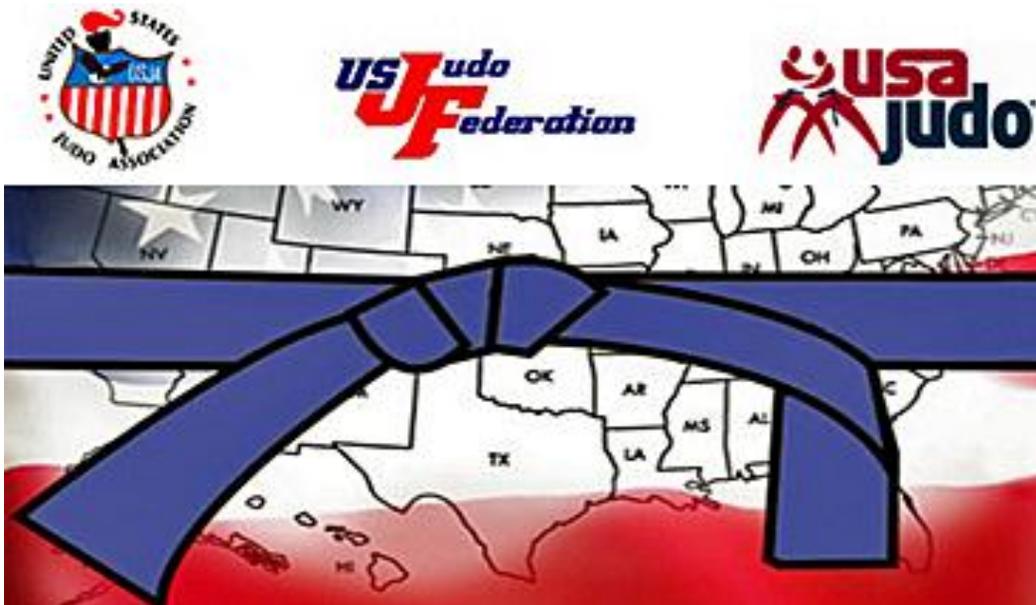


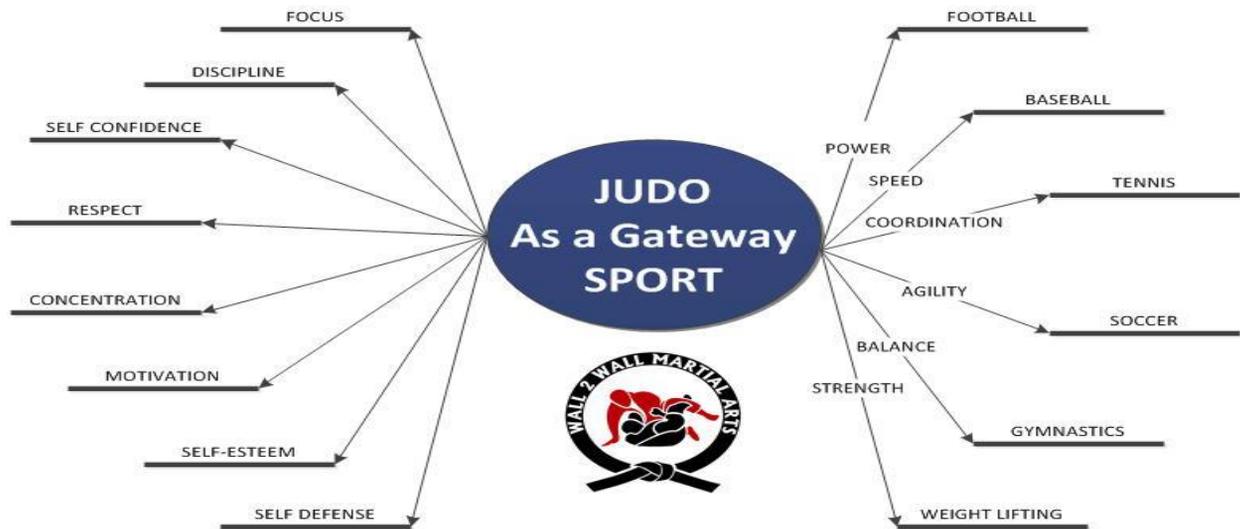
### So what's the difference?

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

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$$1 + 1 + 1 = 1$$





**AMERICAN JUDO**

*We must look towards the future!*



**USJA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**KATRINA R. DAVIS**  
**Winter Nationals**  
**Claremont, CA**  
**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

**TOP 10 USJA CHARTERED CLUBS**

• Samurai Judo Association	Ronald Allan Charles	SC	175	1
• Goltz Judo	Gary Goltz	CA	157	2
• School of Hard Knocks Judo Club	Andrew Connelly	TX	103	3
• Carolinas American Judo Association	Patrick Szejter	NC	96	4
• Tomodachi Judo Club	Michael Szejter	FL	81	5
• Bushido Dojo Of Staten Island	David Goodwin	NY	79	6
• Kodokan Judo Of Cape Coral	John Paccione	FL	78	7

- Clarksville Budo Club Mackel Reagan TN 77 8
- Unidos Judo and Karate Club Jesse Jones CA 69 9
- VA Commonwealth Univ. Judo Club Allan Mills VA 63 10

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.USJA-JUDO.ORG](http://WWW.USJA-JUDO.ORG) FOR COMPLETE LIST OF TOP 50 CLUBS;

**MEMBERSHIP TOTALS November 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

- Active Annual Members: 6,339
- Active Life Members: 1,199
- **TOTAL ACTIVE USJA MEMBERS:** 7,538
- Total Life Members (Inactive): 20,917
- Registered USJA Clubs: 1,943
- **ACTIVE USJA CHARTERED CLUBS:** 435
- New Club Registrations: 42
- New Club Registration (Chartered): 25
- Sanctioned Events: 116
- Black Belt Subscriptions: 220

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS:**

	Active Annual:	Active LM's:	Total:
July 2012:	6,390	1,207	7,597
August 2012:	6,444	1,225	7,669
September 2012:	6,620	1,232	7,852
October 2012:	6,747	1,246	7,993

**Individual Donations \$500.00 and above:**

- Michael Lucadamo: \$7,000.00
- Dr. James M. Lally: \$6,500.00
- Karl Geis: \$2,345.00
- Andrew Connelly: \$1,100.00
- Edward Shirey: \$1,100.00
- James Linn: \$ 700.00
- Rafael Jovet-Ramos: \$ 500.00

**USJA Financial Health**

- The overall financial health of the organization continues to remain good and stable. Current assets are \$39,399. Current liabilities are \$1,896. The current ratio is approximately a healthy 21%.
- Current revenue is \$40,774 and as expected with the largest portion being generated from membership fees. Expenses were \$48,493 including cost of goods. The current profit is <\$9,190>. The year to date net income is \$13,977.

## USJA COACHING COMMITTEE REPORT

December, 2012

The first courses for *National Coach* were conducted over the summer. Spreading the course over several months seems to have worked the best. Mark Lonsdale was the instructor for this course, and the comments from participants indicate that it was a huge success. Holding the course over a week at that YMCA International judo Camp did not go as well as expected. Candidates did not have time to draw up a 3-4 month training regime and some have still not done so. It is a glitch, but we will work it out.

On a current note, a new course outline for the first two levels was presented yesterday. This approach will become the basic template for our future courses at these levels. As has been the case in the past, these two levels concentrate on *teaching judo*. This emphasis will develop a base for more sport specific coaching.

I have presented a suggestion to the Board of Directors: that we make the "Safe Sport" program a mandatory portion of our coaching program. It is an excellent course and will provide participants with valuable information. In this day and age we need to avail ourselves additional information that may protect children. Two members of the committee have already taken the course and have conveyed their endorsements to me.

We had hoped that a two day coaching conference would be held in conjunction with the Winter Nationals course yesterday. However, unforeseen obstacles prevented us from carrying this out. A coaching conference will be scheduled in the future. The purpose of this kind of conference is to assist coaches in keeping abreast of changes that will affect their athletes. Though becoming certified is important, continuing to update ones knowledge should be an ongoing process.

We are in the process of putting together a video presentation that would open up the coaching program to people who live in remote areas. They would be sent a series of DVDs, after reviewing this material they would be asked to submit a paper on this material and a corresponding DVD so that a designated instructor could certify them, or advise them on any deficiencies they need to work on.

In general the coaching committee is moving forward. We have added several new members to the committee. Mark Lonsdale and Bill Myers are already proving invaluable. Hector Morales, West Point, and Pete Mantel, Coast Guard Academy will be providing additional help to our members.

Respectfully,

Bill Montgomery, Chair

USJA Coach Education and Certification Committee

## Promotion Board Meeting

30 Nov 2012 - The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sid Kelly at 2:25 PM, Alexander Hughes Center, Claremont, CA (Winter Nationals)

### Present

Sid Kelly, Chairman

Hal Sharp

Walter Dean

Ernie Smith

Gary Monto, Secretary

Jesse Jones

Katrina Davis, USJA Executive Director

### Excused

Lynn Roethke

Hayward Nishioka

James Bregman

Walter Dean requested discussion on “date of promotions”.

### #2 Promotions/Email Voting;

Chairman Kelly offered a proposal that all Promotion Board members vote on promotion requests within a two week period. The secretary shall notify the Chairman of those members who have not voted within this time frame. The chairman will then make contact with those members and allow an additional 48 to 72 hours to vote. Voting for the rank of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> degree black belt will only be done in person at the promotion board meetings. Motion passed 6-0

### #3 Batsugun Promotions;

After discussion it was decided that there would not be any Batsugun promotions under normal circumstances for service. There is the possibility of a service Batsugun promotion but this type of promotion should be done only in person at board meetings under special circumstances.

### #4 Skip/Jump Promotions;

The Promotion Board members agreed that there should be no skip/jump promotions under normal circumstances. However, the Promotion Board should leave options open. Under special circumstances it may be warranted to allow skip/jump promotions. These discussions will be held only at the Promotion Board meetings in person. Use of rank examiners should be looked at in these circumstances to better make these types of decisions.

#### #5 Promotion Dates;

Members who have their paperwork sent back for more information upon completion of their paperwork the date of rank will be the date of voting by the Promotion Board members, not the date on the request for promotion form. After discussion the Promotion Board decided that the date of rank for ALL promotions shall be the date that the promotion board completed voting for the promotion.

#### #6 Rank Validation;

Validation forms will continue to be used as in the past. There will be an increase in the fees associated with this type of promotion. The fees have already been put in place and voted on by the USJA Board of Directors. Please see the Validation form on the USJA website for the fees.

Promotion request for Godan. (Skipping rank promotions)

This candidate must wait until July 2013 and the PB will revisit this promotion to YODAN only. The candidate will need to have a club with the correct number of students, or belong to a USJA Chartered Club. Letter to be sent by Secretary, Gary Monto.

Promotion to Hachidan was tabled until the July 2013 board meeting in Pittsburgh. This candidate will need to have additional signatures of 8<sup>th</sup> degree or higher. Letter to be sent by USJA Secretary, Gary Monto.

A request for Rokudan was denied for the following reasons; The candidate did not have enough time in grade. Letter to be sent by USJA Secretary, Gary Monto.

Darren Barnes Passed to the rank of Godan. The USJA National Office to complete the administration of processing the promotion paperwork.

Promotion Board meeting adjourned at 1600 hrs.

### **Aikido, Karate and Jujitsu Report**

I am forwarding this letter to you from Dr. Andrade. He has been trying to bring other people into the Aikido department that will be more active. Mr. Aloia looks as if he has a good organization behind him, hopefully he will help to increase the membership in our Aikido department. Dr. Andrade has a jujitsu and Aikido seminar in early December at his school in Orlando.

I have been trying to find the right person to head up the Karate department. I have offered the position to Mr. Dale Coker (<http://www.japankarate.net/instructor.php>). He is interested but wanted time to consider the offer and what it involves. He is presently in Thailand, and will let me know. We have a small club in South Carolina, taught by two nidans in Karate who have about 8 students that are signed up with the U.S.J.A. Hope to have the Karate program thriving in the near future.

I have recently brought into the U.S.J.A. Jujitsu program a Krav Maga club at the Joint Base Mcguire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ. The Jujitsu program is headed up by Major Sparky Bolinger USMC. Their Krav Maga is taught by David Kahn, who is one of the top Krav Maga instructors in the U.S. They plan to expand to four clubs in the U.S. North Carolina, Florida, and Tenn. I plan to do a Seminar for them in early Jan. They should increase the membership in our Jujitsu program.

JJ Black Belt Promotions:

Julie Hackman, 2D, 6/7/12  
Gregory Makuch, 2D, 6/11/12  
Leo Domino, 3D, 6/21/12  
William Thorndike, 6D, 6/8/12  
James Wall, 4D, 5/5/12  
Jason Garrett, 2D, 6/16/12  
Lance Adams, 3D, 6/15/12  
John Merwin, 3D, 8/17/12

Frank Dibenedetto, 1D, 8/1/12  
Benjamin Rothrock, 1D, 12/28/11  
Lauren Loftley, 2D, 9/19/12  
Steve Kenna, 2D, 10/1/12  
Nicole Sasso, 1D, 9/16/12  
Aldrin Arthur, 1D 9/28/12  
Rafael Jovet-Ramos, 2D, 5/14/12  
Pavel Shaposhnikov, 2D, 11/11/12

JJ Kyu Promotions:

1K, 7 Promotions  
3K, 10 Promotions  
5K, 28 Promotions

2K, 5 Promotions  
4K, 15 Promotions  
6K, 27 Promotions

Sincerely,  
Lowell F. Slaven

To: Board of Directors  
From: Awards Committee  
Date: November 8, 2012

As I had mentioned in my last report of our activities, the Board of Directors has decided to recognize only those USJA members who truly shine in their Award categories and who have demonstrated loyalty to the USJA by maintaining current annual membership or, if a Life Member, the annual sustaining membership. Though two Americans brought home Olympic medals from London, neither notable athlete qualifies for our awards under these new Board guidelines.

Near the end of the year we will be tabulating tournament record data in search of worthy Hall of Fame inductees for 2012. Our committee will discuss possible selections before recommending anyone to our Board of Directors.

Last year, for 2011, we presented, with good publicity at public ceremonies, awards for Outstanding Kata Competitor, Outstanding Life Member Contributor, and Coach of the Year. We have several other categories and will consider judoka for those.

The Hall of Fame link is featured on our Committee page of the USJA website. Here is the direct link: <http://www.usja-judo.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/USJA-National-Hall-of-Fame1.pdf>

As always, we appreciate your support of our program.

Respectfully,

Ronald Allan Charles, Chairman

Annual Kata Committee Report 11/13/12

I hope this report finds you all well at this time!

I would like to begin by thanking Mindy Buehman and Carla Martin for sending me information about the World Kata Championship held in Pordenone, Italy on Saturday September 22 and 23, 2012.

I have included a detailed report from Mindy Buehman, but to keep up with my past reports here is a synopsis: 133 teams attended from 28 countries, 2 of the selected teams from the US attended, Mindy Buehman and Scott Huitt performed Ju-no-kata and Geraldo Tello and Roberto Alvarez performed Kime-no-kata. Again, Japan reigned supreme with Italy in second, Spain in third, with Korea, Germany and Belgium also medaling. The US has never had a Judge at any of the IJF World Level Tournaments. This was not the case this year as Claudia Smith, 6th dan and long-time USJA member, judged Kodokan Goshin-jutsu and also received International level of certification in 5 katas! She is the first American to do so. I will be sending a copy of Miss Buehman's report to USJA's Growing Judo as I hope Miss Martin does with the information about Miss Smith's accomplishments!

Back to the US.

The summer began with The Greatest Camp on Earth. Mr. Giunta and I taught Nage-no-kata, Katame-no-kata and Kodokan Goshin-jutsu while Miss Holtze and Miss Buehman taught Ju-no-kata. Classes were well received and we look forward to returning next year.

Charles Schweitzer reports that West Hempstead PAL Summer Judo Camp was held June 25- July 20 and was successful in producing 4 Level C and 1 level B certifications. Mr. Schweitzer has also been teaching kata on Saturdays at the West Hempstead Judo Club.

Also, in a preliminary report from Mr. Schweitzer, the director of Nakabayashi Judo Tournament, he states that this year the tournament, which is held in late November every year, will be contesting 7 kata: Nage, Katame, Itsutu, Kime, Kodokan Goshin-jutsu, Ju and Joshigoshinho.

At the George Harris YMCA International Judo Camp held in August featured Ju-no-kata this year taught by Kodokan certified instructor David Kiang and myself. It was well received with approximately 20 people, many of which were youths who got their first taste of kata. There was also 6 certifications of other kata at camp.

The Niagara Yudanshakai held a clinic on Kodokan Goshin-jutsu this past September. The clinic was taught by Miss Ashida-Johnson, daughter of the late Dr. Sachio Ashida, Mr. Tony Grisanti and myself. This was a great opportunity to share knowledge and work with others. About 20 people attended with a beautiful demonstration of the kata at the end.

Also, Miss Fukuda held her annual Kata Tournament this past October which went very well! Many contestants from all over the World attended.

Closing out this half of the year was a kata clinic on Nage-no-kata taught by Mr. Giunta and myself in Philadelphia, PA at Osagame Martial Arts and Fitness. There were only 12 spots open and they filled up quickly. Besides having a full house, Miss Karen Whilden and Miss Diane Jackson, past National Champions and World Level Kata Competitors, were also in attendance. Alma Qualli, our host, treated us to all the best that Phili had to offer! The clinic was successful.

Dr. Charles of S.C. has stated that he is working on implementing a regularly scheduled kata class. This is important. If students are exposed to kata and use kata as it was meant to be used, as one of the three pillars of Judo, they learn to appreciate it and grow up as it being just another part of judo --- not just some obstacle that they must get past and forget. Mr. Giunta and I have been including kata as part of our regular class and the results are tremendous. We can see students using the knowledge that they are practicing through kata in randori and shiai. As I asked of everyone in my last report, please help to spread the virtues of kata, as your students will be the future of judo.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heiko Rommelmann, Jr.

## USJA Standards and Ethics Committee Report- Winter 2012

Honorable members of the USJA Board of Directors:

The following is the report of the Chairman of the Standards and Ethics Committee:

### BACKGROUND SCREENINGS:

The Hon. Walter Dean has graciously agreed to undertake the task of reviewing the Background Screenings as of October 2011. A total of 278 BG screenings were performed.

### CONCUSSION PROTOCOLS

A - USJA General Counsel and USJA insurance agent recommends that we consider the following information to create USJA concussion protocols.

In sum, I recommend that we immediately adopt the following, to the extent we do not already are in compliance with the protocols:

- 1 - Coach education programs and certification shall include recognition of signs and symptoms of concussions.
- 2 - All club registration forms (and annual renewal) shall require parents and participants (above the age of 14) to sign informed consent forms relating to the nature and risks of concussions.
- 3 - Coaches and referees should be directed to immediately remove from competition anyone competitor showing signs a concussion. "When in doubt, sit it **out.**"
- 4 - Athletes would not be allowed to return to practice until coach receives written clearance from a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussion.
- 5- Require that all our clubs include in all tournament waivers an acknowledgement that participants may suffer traumatic brain injuries and a representation that the participant is medically fit to compete and has not had a concussion within 60 days.
- 6- An ad hoc committee be created by the Board of Directors, with representatives appropriate committees (coaching, tournament directors, referees, legal, etc.) and be charged with coming up with a plan to implement the above recommendations:

B - Further information received directly from our insurance company:

The state of Washington's Zackery Lystedt Law, [which is the law in about 35-40 states] requires programs to have a plan for managing concussions or head injuries

Should one occur; it includes three essential elements:

- Inform and educate student athletes, their parents and guardians and require them to sign a concussion information form;
- Removal of a student-athlete who appears to have suffered a concussion from play or practice at the time of the suspected concussion
- Requiring an athlete to be cleared by a licensed medical professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions before returning to play or practice.

### **Recommended Program Guidelines:**

Programs should require pre-participation physicals prior to a participant's participation.

All "contact" related sport activities must have participants complete a baseline assessment as part of the physical

Each organization must require all coaches complete a course that addresses concussion awareness and how to manage potential concussions.

Available courses should be completed prior to a coach being allowed to serve in a capacity that manages participant activity.

- <http://sportssafety.nata.org/>
  - There needs to be a person certified in first-aid and CPR present at all activities.
  - There must be a policy in place for the immediate removal of a youth athlete/ participant who appears to have suffered a head injury or concussion from play or practice at the time of the suspected concussion; and
  - There must be a policy in place requiring a youth participant to be cleared by a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions before returning to play or practice.
  - Programs are encouraged to order the free *Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports*" tool kit and make these materials a mandatory review for all coaches and staff involved.
  - Programs should provide both the youth participant and youth participant's parents/guardians with the following information from the *Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports*" tool kit:
    - Fact sheet for athletes on concussion
    - Fact sheet for parents on concussion
  - Additional information can be obtained at the following website:  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) - go to Concussions  
At minimum, review the following documents:
    - Fact sheet for coaches on concussion
    - Fact sheet for athletes on concussion
    - Fact sheet for parents on concussion
    - Clipboard with concussion facts for coaches
- Require a concussion and head injury information/awareness sheet be signed and returned by the youth participant and the participant's parents/custodial Parent/or guardian prior to the youth participant's participation, return to practice or competition.
- Programs must have protocol for handling potential concussion events outlined as part of their emergency action plan. (EAP)

Michael Goldsmith, Chairman S&E Committee  
USJA Legal Counsel

## **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 regularly, with a professional appearance and varied, quality content, thanks to many contributors, the USJA National Office and several proofreaders.

The magazine includes a variety of regular features that support USJA clubs and programming. With the help of the Regional Coordinators and committees such as the Coaching Education and Certification Committee, club news and feature articles from USJA clubs and individuals nationwide are included. Current and past issues of the magazine are available on the USJA website.

An email distribution system for USJA members to receive *Growing Judo* is now in place. We have also been to generate a small amount of 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 gain more paid advertisements to generate income for the USJA.

### **Additional Accomplishments and Goals**

The *USJA Dojo Marketing Handbook* (drafted by Michael Dobbs), is still "on hold." There are areas that need more information. Unfortunately, a prospective contributor with financial expertise was not able assist, so another volunteer is needed. Yet to be determined is how this resource can be controlled and distributed, so that it can be offered and valued as a benefit for having a USJA club charter.

Michael Dobbs had proposed the development of a USJA club webpage template that could be made available to individuals starting a club, but he is still in need of someone with expertise in marketing and Information Technology to assist him.

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## **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, including facilitating the distribution of *Growing Judo*, publicizing USJA programs and ensuring that their area is represented in the magazine. Additionally, Regional Coordinators should contact and encourage many clubs & individuals to participate in & host judo events.

### **Accomplishments**

Over the past few months, individuals in targeted areas, including many on the “Top 50” USJA clubs list were contacted by email in an effort to recruit new Regional Coordinators. Results so far have been modest, and include two new RC volunteers and some additional contributions to *Growing Judo*. The current list of RC volunteers, with their contact information, is posted on the USJA website and updated regularly.

### **Goals--to continue to:**

- Contact less-active Regional Coordinators.
- Encourage Regional Coordinators to provide news for *Growing Judo* and to facilitate inter-club events.
- Recruit new Regional Coordinators in targeted areas.
- Promote utilization of the RC network by other USJA committees and initiatives.
- Update the Regional Coordinator roster on the USJA website as needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Love

Vice-President, USJA

Chair, Club Support Services Committee & Regional Coordinators Committee