

# July 5, 2013 - Gary Goltz

## President's Open Board Meeting Message

### Accomplishments Board of Directors 2010 – 2013

- Expanded Grassroots Judo™
- Resolved dispute with NGB
- Re-wrote USJA By Laws
- Upgraded USJA Website
- Moved office from CO to FL
- Kept USJA in the black \$
- Prepared smooth transition / election

### Goals Going Forward 2013 -

- Promote All American Membership
- Implement new senior handbook
- Finish new junior handbook
- Create planned gift donation program
- Get our certification programs back on track
- Grow membership & clubs

### WHY IS THE USJA NEEDED?

- For a pass to enter sanctioned events
- For organized record keeping, accreditation, and certification
- For liability insurance for clubs, clinics, camps, and tournaments
- For training courses on coaching, teaching, referring, and competition
- For rosters on club memberships and current information
- For value added perks such as the Black Belt Magazine discounts
- For up-to-date Senior and Junior Promotion Handbooks
- For good customer service to clubs and their members

#### So what's the difference?

- **USJA – grassroots, innovative entrepreneurial**
  - **USJF – grassroots, conservative traditionalist**
  - **USAJ – international, per government mandate**
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**USJA ELECTION 2013 – WE WANT YOU!**

*BoD 2010 – 2013 - Thank You for Your Service*

*See you in California this December*

## Awards Committee Report for Board of Directors

**From:** Ronald Allan Charles <ronaldallancharles@comcast.net>  
**To:** Connolly Andy <connelly@sohkjudo.com>  
**Cc:** Goltz Gary <gary@garygoltz.com>

**Priority:** Normal  
**Date** 06-08-2013 06:39 AM

To: Board of Directors  
From: Awards Committee  
Subject: Report  
Date: June 8, 2013

Early this year we recommended to the BoD and afterwards posted last year's Hall of Fame inductees:

Outstanding Kata Competitor....Scott Huitt  
Outstanding Life Member Contributor....Michael Lucadamo  
Outstanding Life Member Contributor of the Decade.....Dr. James M. Lally  
Coach of the Year.....Dr. Ronald Allan Charles

I was honored (without my input) and appreciate the recognition of my efforts towards keeping our organization the best in the country.

We made Gary Monto vice-chairman. We created, thanks to the idea by Gary Goltz, the Contributor of the Decade category as a way to show gratitude to the continuing generosity of Dr. Lally. That opened the contributor category to someone else, in this instance Michael Lucadamo.

We always try to present awards at well-attended functions, for the publicity value. I will formally receive my own at this month's Greatest Camp on Earth.

As always, we appreciate your support of our program.

Respectfully,

RONALD ALLAN CHARLES, CHAIRMAN

## Coaching Committee Report

July 5, 2013

Since my last report, the coaching program has held several courses around the country. Gerry Lafon, Ronald Charles, Mark Lonsdale and others have held weekend clinics for coaching. The summer has seen courses at the Greatest Camp on Earth (Thibedeau and Charles) and another will be held at the YMCA International Judo Camp (Montgomery, Weers, Myers, Love & others), in August. The YMCA camp program will utilize a video series by Isao Okano as a tool for observing sound body position in both tachi waza and ne waza.

I have had several lengthy conversations with Mark Lonsdale about expanding our program in a few different directions. Though many people will become certified not all of them wish to be course instructors. A different course program would be created to prepare course instructors. This is nowhere near being finished but it is a good start.

Mark will also be holding another National Coach course in the near future.

As I am nearing the end of my term as the Chair of this committee I have tried to put forward an appeal for more people to participate. Both as presenters and coaches, we have been relatively successful though I am far from happy with our progress. I hope that the next chair will continue in this manner with his/her own particular strengths. Like coaching itself, the committee should always be looking to better itself.

I have tried to broaden the scope of this committee, but there have been internal obstacles to this. They can be overcome and I am hopeful that the next chair will be able to do so. One obstacle that still confounds me is that many people still equate their dan grade with their ability to coach/teach. The fact is that one does not necessarily relate to the other. Very few people are intuitive teachers, some are, but most of us must work at it, on a regular basis. Simply counting repetitions in Japanese does not make one a good teacher/coach.

I will continue as Chair through this term. Then I plan to assist the new Chair in any way possible to insure a smooth transition. I fully intend to stay involved in coaching.

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

## **Club Support Services Committee**

### **Accomplishments**

The Club Support Services Committee's purpose is to provide support and informational resources to USJA clubs and members. The primary focus of this committee is the production of the online magazine, *Growing Judo*. It is posted and distributed regularly, and includes news and events from USJA clubs around the country.

Over the past three years, a number of individuals (including distinguished Sensei, accomplished competitors, and individuals with special expertise in exercise and training) have contributed high-quality articles for publication in USJA's *Growing Judo*; they have provided valuable and enduring information about teaching/coaching judo and running a dojo. As the quantity of these pieces has grown, the need for creating an organized collection of articles that our members can access became clear. Thus, a ***Growing Judo Resources Page for Club Leaders and Coaches*** was created in the spring of 2013. For the convenience of our members, this resource webpage is linked through the **Club Support Services Committee** and **Coaching Education Committee** pages of the USJA website.

Since January 2013, we have been producing *Growing Judo* on a bimonthly, rather than a monthly basis. The USJA National office and USJA President seem to have moved away from providing official announcements for publication in the magazine; therefore, this schedule has proved sufficient for reporting club news, and has freed up time for other efforts, such as setting up and updating the Resource Page.

### **Concerns**

Although an email distribution system for USJA members to receive *Growing Judo* was put in place late in the summer of 2012, it has not been effective. The original plan was for the Editor of the magazine to be able to send notifications to the membership directly and immediately when a new issue was posted; however, that capability has not been put into place. As a result, the dissemination of the magazine has been unreliable. In particular, the email notice to the membership for the January/February 2013 issue was sent 6 days late, and the notice for the May/June 2013 issue was never sent at all, despite repeated requests. Several article authors and event hosts expressed their concerns to me about this inconsistency. While I have continued to announce the posting of new *Growing Judo* issues through email, facebook, etc., that publicity simply cannot be as comprehensive.

### **Recommendations**

Currently several modes of electronic communication are being used by the USJA, including the *Growing Judo* magazine, a USJA facebook page, and intermittent mass emails. I would urge the next administration to improve coordination and cooperation between these media to better serve the membership.

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JUJITSU PROGRAM  
LOWELL SLAVEN  
3 PAGE REPORT

JUJITSU  
89 PROMOTIONS

JUJITSU  
PROGRAM

## CONTACT COMBAT USJA PROGRAM

**Professional Goal:** to streamline the Israeli krav maga curriculum while expanding on the most effective combat jujitsu takedowns and throws.

**Business Goal:** to customize and build-out the "Contact Combat USJA" certification program. Revenues will derive from certification modules, merchandise, and annual fees along with advanced training seminars.

**Greatest Professional/Business Hurdle:** quality control and scalability through providing short-term (2 or 3 day) modules.

### *Proposed Steps:*

#### 1) **Marketing Strategy**

- a) Strategize how will USJA market to its members and outside parties to become members?
  - i) Perhaps, we can avail ourselves of USJA's former military roots?
- b) Interest in this new program and curriculum may draw interest from Jujitsu America other affiliated organizations and encourage members of other Judo organizations to hold the "All American membership" rather than just USJF and/or USA Judo.
- c) Language to be used examples: The USJA has added a customized street self defense program, **Contact Combat USJA** . . . "based on core Israeli krav maga concepts", "a streamlined derivative of Israeli krav maga designed with Judo/Jujitsu background in mind", "Israeli krav maga based", "core Israeli krav maga concepts", etc.
- d) Develop logo in combination with USJA circle border (use trademarked winged/sword logo as watermark?)
- e) Mandate "uniform" of whatever color gi bottom with black CC USJA t-shirts.

2) **Develop Professional Committee:** Lowell Slaven, HC Bollinger, David Kahn, Rinaldo Rossi, Ron Jacobs, Abel Kahn and Rick Blitstein.

#### 3) **Establish parameters of who may take the certification modules** (2<sup>nd</sup>kyu/Nikyu and up?)

- a) For USJA members who may have prior krav maga training, we will emphasize that prior experience will likely provide them with an accelerated learning curve and, perhaps, a higher instructor ranking. Nevertheless, instructor candidates must understand that the Contact Combat techniques are specific to our training. The key differences are likely to be:
  - o Stance
  - o Footwork
  - o Combatives including all upperbody/lowerbody strikes
  - o Retzev ("continuous combat" motion)

- Choke defenses
- Takedown defenses
- The majority of weapon defenses

4) **Define curriculum modules:**

- a) Combatist I -- Street defenses against the most common unarmed street attacks (proposed 2-3 days, this initial program is intended for trainer/instructor candidates that already have a strong background in martial arts).
  - De-escalation/threat mitigation (to include legal ramifications)
  - Pushes/shoves /grabs and common mugging street choke defenses
  - Upper-body/lower-body strikes/counter-strikes
  - Takedowns/throws and counters
  - Ground survival (strictly non-sporting applications)
- b) Combatist II – Review and impact weapon (2 day module with review of first module, 2<sup>nd</sup> day is impact weapons.)
- c) Combatist III – core edged weapon defenses (3 day module)
- d) Combatist IV – core firearm defenses (3 day module)
- e) Combatist V – advanced edged weapon defenses (2 day module)
- f) Combatist VI – advanced firearm defenses (2 day module)

**Total: 6 Combatist modules/15 days**

- Each successfully completed module will be rewarded with a patch, perhaps, “UJSA Combatist I, USJA Combatist II, UJSA Combatist III . . . USJA Combatist VI” which can be sewn seriatim on the existing USJA awarded belt of the instructor or on gi pants. For previous non-USJA members, perhaps, we issue a gray belt that the patches can be attached?
  - Establish titles for certifications – “trainer”, instructor”, “lead instructor”, “senior instructor”, “coach”, “Law Enforcement and Military Instructor.”
  - Establish recertification requirements (initially two year certifications and advanced training opportunities.)
- **Continuing Education weekends** will be sponsored each year on a bi-annual basis to advance and hone the instructors’ skill sets.
  - **Recertification weekends** will be sponsored each year (but only required every two years of each instructor.) For each recertification year or several year(s), the instructor will be awarded a more senior title.
  - **Cost/Revenue Streams** (based on volume-driven appeal)
    - \$700-900 per Combatist module and continuing education/recertification modules per attendee based on 4-5 modules (therefore, a low range of \$2800 or a high range of \$4500 per instructor candidate)

- Annual instructor fees (for use of written teaching materials, new CC logo, and inclusion on website)? Annual fee to USJA --> non-USJA member \$50, USJA member \$35?
- Provide for each module completed: (1) Mastering DVD sets (Vol. I, Vol. II, Vol. III [and Vol. IV with Sparky]) and (2) corresponding book along with (3) two training shirts. As part of the cost, we can advertise that each attendee receives this core training material as part of the training package (a retail value of \$200-250.)
- Consider creating a training package of weaponry for sale (blue guns, plastic knives and batons) for sale with 30-40% markup.
- Develop sales pitch to potential USJA instructor candidates.

5) **Communicate business benefits for USJA instructors/school owners:**

- **Increase your school revenues** by adding the USJA's new Contact Combat program based on the core elements of Israeli krav maga. Selling points to schools:
  - i. **Attract new members** by promoting an instinctive street-based self-defense program designed to handle any type of unarmed or armed street attack.
  - ii. **Current students can augment their skill sets** and will be drawn to the most effective street-proven self-defense program available.
  - iii. **Mitigate attrition rates** by adding cutting-edge training both to enhance and retain member interest.
  - iv. **Add a new fitness element** while emphasizing core street combatives.
  - v. **Parents' training program** in a system developed for anyone regardless of age, size, gender or physical ability while they wait for their kids.
  - vi. Possible marketing message "*We (the USJA school) are trained in the self-defense methods now used by many federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies along with the United States military*" including specific applications taught to the:
    - FBI
    - Secret Service
    - Marshals Service
    - Department of Defense Police
    - Coast Guard Police
    - New Jersey State Police
    - Army
    - Air Force
    - Marines

6) **Develop marketing plan for USJA schools** to promote the new program.

7) **Israeli-based tactical firearms** training/home defense opportunities.

8) **Business Structure** including affiliation with IKMA (Gidon System).



## Kata Committee Report July 2013

At this time I would like to open the report with a moment of silence for the passing of Miss Keiko Fukuda, Kodokan 9<sup>th</sup> dan and USA 10<sup>th</sup> dan who passed away on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Thank you.

The World Kata Championship will be held in Kyoto, Japan in late October. The teams that will represent the US will be selected from a point system based on the results of Nationals. This is similar to how they select the shiai competitors. As of yet, the only team that has accepted the selection to represent the US at the 2013 World Kata Championship is Jeff Giunta and myself. Claudia Smith, the only US judge that has qualified to judge at Worlds will be attending as a judge and also serve as the US Team Organizer.

Nationals were held in Virginia Beach this year. There were quite a few new faces and teams which is great and shows growth, but the number of competitors was about the same as years past.

Miss Eiko Shepherd has been teaching clinics all over the US and along with Doug Tono and Nicole Leung will be teaching at the USJF Kata Conference in early August.

Mr. Charles Schweizer has been keeping kata growing at Nakabayashi, a tournament that he hosts each year that opens with a kata competition. As of when we last spoke, he will also be teaching kata at the summer camp that he runs for kids through his club as he has in years past.

Jeff Giunta and myself has been continuing our joint clinics with the USJA/USJF through the Niagara and Hudson Yudanshakai. Niagara hosted a clinic on Nage-no-kata with approximately 25 attending while Hudson hosted a very well received split clinic featuring both nage-no-kata and katame-no-kata at which past US Team Members Kerry Forster and Kirsten Weisbeck also attended to help teach.

We also taught a Nage-no-kata clinic at Osagame in Philadelphia which had past US team member Karen Whilden who helped teach. We hosted a Kodokan goshin-jutsu clinic at our own club, too.

At the Greatest Camp on Earth Jeff and I along with past team members Mindy Buehman and Michelle Holtze taught itsutsu-no-kata, nage-no-kata, katame-no-kata and Kodokan goshin-jutsu. There were twice as many attending as last year and the class was moved to a larger room. There were many new faces and many were certified.

Dr. Ronald Charles has been working on kata at his club, devoting a class to kata each week. He not only has been working on teaching the kata and certifying, but also to judging kata.

In late August, the George Harris YMCA/YWCA International Judo Camp will have David Kiang and myself teaching nage-no-kata.

I would like to close, with the reminder that I always state, each and everyone of us should push the study of kata on our students. It is an important tool in the study of judo and is one of the three pillars of judo study: randori, shiai and kata. If students grow up always practicing kata as part of class, it will become just another way to practice judo.

HEZKO ROMMELLMAN JR  
KATA CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

**Promotions**

**From:** Sidney Kelly <skelly111@comcast.net>  
**To:** Andrew Connelly <info@sohkjudo.com>  
**Priority:** Normal  
**Date:** 07-15-2013 04:31 PM

Dear B.O.D. and Mr Secretary,

Below are the promotions evaluated and approved by the USJA Promotion Board since Jan 1, 2013. The first group shows those promoted before the Pittsburgh July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The second group shows those promoted at the face to face July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. A total of 15 promotions in all.

- 1) Mark Oermann Rokudan
- 2) Sheridan Simmond Jr Godan
- 3) Edie Connelly Godan
- 4) Mark Lonsdale Godan
- 5) Stephen Nisewander Yodan
- 6) Sheridan Simmond III Yodan
- 7) Raymond Williams Yodan
- 8) David Overbury Yodan
- 9) Shong Chiu Yodan

Pittsburgh July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- 1) Scott Clinton Main Rokudan
- 2) Joseph Bufagna Rokudan
- 3) Thomas Gustin Shichidan
- 4) Neil Ohlenkamp Shichidan
- 5) George Weers Shichidan
- 6) James webb Hachidan

Yours sincerely

Sid Kelly  
USJA Promotion Board Chairman.

**To: USJA Executive Committee**

**From: Dr. Martin L. Bregman  
Chairman, USJA Referee Commission**

**Date: July 5, 2013.**

## USJA Referee Commission Report

~~As of~~ <sup>THW</sup> July 1, 2013 I have given 6 Rules Clinics in Oklahoma (3), Missouri (2) and Texas (1). Rick Celotto has given several Rules Clinics in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut area. Hayward Nishioka has given several in California.

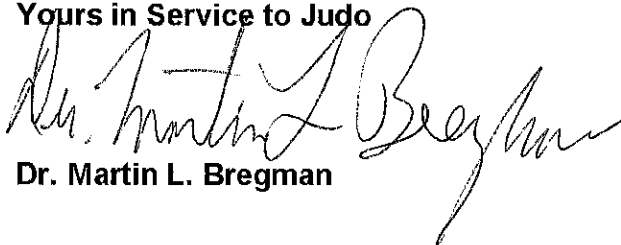
Additionally, I have attended and officiated in 11 events in Oklahoma (6), Texas (3) and Missouri (2), including the National Junior Olympics, in Irving, Texas last weekend, which was also attended by Mr. Joon Chi, Chairman of the USJF Referee Commission and Robert Fukuda, Chairman of the USA Judo Referee Commission.

A major concern of the USJA Referee Commission is the lack of application for Local and Regional Level Referees. Most potential officials feel that since they must be members of USA Judo to qualify for National Referee they should test through USA Judo for the lower level exams.

It is recommended that the Presidents of both USJA and USJF explore the possibility of having their respective organizations test and certify National Referees. Examiners would be IJF International Referees who are members of the respective organizations as well as USA Judo. USA Judo then could also test and certify National Referees or confine itself to recommending Referees to the international grades only.

It would eliminate the need for a USA Judo presence at every exam, and would involve more of the United States IJF International Referees in the examination/certification process.

**Yours in Service to Judo**

  
**Dr. Martin L. Bregman**

## **Regional Coordinators Committee**

### **Accomplishments**

The activity of current Regional Coordinators has been mixed. While a few volunteers have been actively helping to distribute *Growing Judo* to their email lists, providing news to ensure that their area is represented in the magazine, and facilitating judo events in their areas, other individuals are far less involved. Since all of these people are volunteers, and may have many other obligations, periodic contact has encouraged some to participate more fully.

This spring, we have gained one new volunteer as the Regional Coordinator for Minnesota/Wisconsin. The current list of Regional Coordinator volunteers, with their contact information, is posted on the USJA website and has been updated as needed.

### **Concerns & Recommendations**

While electronic communication is very efficient, it may lack a personal touch that is helpful for enlisting new volunteers. Since the fall of 2012, my access to member contact information has been limited; this has made recruiting efforts both more challenging and less successful.

The Regional Coordinators committee was organized several years ago, well before the current USJA "email blast" capability was put in place. In the future, I hope that this "email blast" will be implemented more effectively for official USJA business and that committee chairs will be able to use it as well.

I would also urge the next administration to evaluate the role of the Regional Coordinators Committee and make any needed modifications to streamline their jobs and better serve the USJA membership.

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The USJA Board of Directors often talks about the needs of the membership and about growing American Judo. Providing information and technical resources have been recognized as priorities for our club leaders. The Regional Coordinators and Club Support Services committees, in general, and the *Growing Judo* magazine specifically, address these needs.

However, because of the increasing lack of support and assistance for these efforts, I can only conclude the work of these two committees is not a priority of at least a segment of the current USJA administration and staff at this time.

Therefore, I am resigning as the Chair of both the Club Support Services Committee & the Regional Coordinators Committee effective July 9, 2013. I would like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who has assisted me on these two committees, and I wish them the very best.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Love  
USJA Board of Directors  
Chair, Club Support Services Committee & Regional Coordinators Committee

USJA Standards and Ethics and General Counsel Report – Summer 2013  
Michael Goldsmith, Esq  
USJA Standards & Ethics Committee Chair  
USJA General Counsel  
Standards and Ethics Chair

**A - Standards and Ethics**

I am extremely proud and delighted to announce that there are no pending disciplinary investigations since last reported at the Winter 2012 meeting.

**1 – Background Investigations**

Thanks to the hard work of the Hon. Walter Dean, since the winter 2012 meeting, there have been a total of 277 BGS processed.

Three were required to rescreen in shorter than the normal 4 years.  
Four could not be completed because of invalid SS#  
We have one person on hold because they have open warrants, and advised to reapply when the warrant is vacated. The outstanding warrant did not mandate a disciplinary investigation.

**2 – In the Matter of**

History

Issue

Investigation

Recommendation

Rationale

3 – List of Expelled and Suspended Members on the USJA Website

TABLED TO  
DEVELOPMENT.

Of late, we have had a lot of criticism of our website where suspended and expelled members are listed. People who have been expelled for non-felonious behavior (such as Mr. Martinez) are often confused with the pedophiles and serious felons who have been posted as expelled.

It is the proposal of S&E that we undertake to clearly delineate those expelled for dangerous felonies and those who have been expelled for violating USJA rules and procedures. I am requesting that the Board authorize S&E to review the listings on the website and make the appropriate changes to so as to separate the categories of expelled members.

**B – General Counsel Report**

1 – American Grass Roots Judo

As general counsel, I have participated in monthly meetings with USJA and USJA leadership. Primarily my participation involves discussion involving coordinating with USJA with respect to procedures and policies in background screenings, disciplinary procedures and policies.

Recent discussions have involved developing a joint policy involving concussions, serious injury and/or contagious skin disease.

Previously, I drafted documentation with respect to parental representation, tournament waivers, etc. I will resubmit my drafts to USJF legal counterparts for next meeting later this month.

2 – Judo Cross Organizational Presidents Council Commission

It has been my privilege to participate in the Commission involving the grass roots reaction to the new IJF rules.

The commission has been tasked with developing a legal framework to advise member clubs on the grass roots level about the degree of compliance with IJF rules is warranted at local events.

Of overriding concerns are insurance coverage issues, exposure to liability, and the safety of all participants.

Issues that have arisen with respect to the new IJF rules are size of the safety area (are they feasible for small tournaments, golden score rules (unlimited overtime for children?), banned techniques, (no contact with legs) etc.



The legal advisors have agreed that any modifications must be based upon stated safety protocols which should be determined by the grassroots organizations, or by the National Governing Body, and set forth in the tournament announcements so all participants, coaches and referees are so advised.

I will work closely with the president, and will report back to the Board as matters progress.

Tournaments Committee Report

To: USJA BOD

From: Lowell Slaven, Tournaments Committee Chairman

Date: July 5, 2013

Grassroots USJA/USJF Junior Nationals:

- 2013 - USJA - Pittsburg, Pennsylvania
- 2014 - USJF - Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2015 - USJA - Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2016 - USJF - Los Angeles, California
- 2017 - TBD
- 2018 - TBD

Respectfully, Lowell Slaven