

UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 2004 MEETING
HELD AT THE RED LION HANAIEI HOTEL, SAN DIEGO,
CALIFORNIA
MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY
PRESIDENT MICHAEL SZREJTER
SUBMITTED BY,
GENE FODOR
SECRETARY USJA

The meeting of the Board of Directors for the United States Judo Association was held at 6:00PM in the Red Lion Hotel, San Diego California for the purpose of conducting business matters of the USJA.

The meeting was presided over by James Bregman, who assumed the office of President and CEO after the Board of Directors held an Executive Board Meeting earlier to discuss the position of COO which was held by Mr. Bregman. Then President Michael Szrejter stepped down and accepted the former position of Vice President.

The President, Mr. James Bregman opened the meeting by having the Secretary call the roll of those officers who attended the meeting;

Present were;

President and CEO James Bregman,

Vice President Michael Szrejter

Secretary Gene Fodor

Corporate Council Thom Layon

Board Member George Weers

Board Member George Harris

Board Member Patrick Szejter

Board Member Virgil Bowles

Board Member Jessie Jones

Board Member Ernest Smith

Katrina Davis, Executive Office Manager

Absent:

Board Member Terry Kelly

Board Member James Webb

Resigned, Steve Cunningham

There was a quorum present to conduct the business affairs of the United States Judo Association.

The meeting was attended by a number of USJA Members outside of the Board.

President James Bregman;

President Bregman reports that earlier in the meeting of the Board of Directors, he did not ask to retain the position of COO, through a motion by George Weers a vote was taken and Mr. Bregman was then named as President, Mr. Michael Szejter then assumed the position of Vice President, which he held prior to becoming President. Mr. Bregman gave no other report to the membership.

Vice President Michael Szejter;

Mike stated he had been contacting State Development Directors in an effort to start the Directors in the mode of pushing for grass roots

development. He wants to get it fired up again and get more of the market share of Judo membership through grass roots teaching. Club Coaches need to push more aggressively. No further report.

Secretary Gene Fodor; No official report at the time of the officers reports, reserved comments for later on.

Treasurer James Webb; Jim was absent and did not furnish a report.

Corporate Council Thom Layon;

Corporate Council asked if he could address the body out of the order of business and President Bregman granted his request. Thom had no official report, but had comments regarding scandals in the media and the wrong doings of corporate executives, happening in part because of the lack of Board oversight. He feels we have a good working Board of Directors, commends everyone for their commitments. Need oversight, but do not micro manage the organization. He is proud to be a member of this board.

Jim Bregman injects we need to get out a 1099 report , within the 501-C-3, post things such as financial data on the web for all to see what is going on and where we are financially. Need more disclosure the membership.

Executive Office Manager, Katrina Davis;

Katrina reports that the office is staffed with new employees, as Kathy has left our employment and moved out of state, leaving us with people that are now being trained, and to be patient with them as they learn their jobs. Katrina has been working with Dr. Ronald Charles on the Awards and is getting them processed, the office also has taken on the Coaches Badges, as Debbie Rucker was not able to continue doing them, as she has taken employment and cannot devote the time to do them.

Katrina reported that the USJA has a new credit card program that now gives a card holder Reward Points for Air Lines and many other perks, this was accomplished by Board Member Gene Fodor and MBNA Bank, the old program was not going anywhere and Gene Revised the program.

Many members are not aware of the fact that the USJA had a Credit Card Program, we need to get members to join. The USJA will be rewarded through increased membership incentives with cash for each member

who uses the card. She will try to get a flyer that will be mailed out with each letter sent by the USJA, she also will be working with Melaluca hoping to also get a flyer out. These programs can make money for the USJA.

Katrina has been working with Chris Lester on the Web Sight, revising the forms with George Weers and hopes to get them on line for the membership, Jim asks about turn around time for membership, Katrina indicates a 5 day period from start to finish.

Member Connie Halporn offered to assist with the credit card, by doing something on the flyer and maybe photo which is on the card of Judo Players in a throw.

Thom Layon Board Member has some questions for the Office Manager, regarding the March 31st financial report. He questions asset balance of 4 items, reserves, are they in separate accounts? Katrina replied they were. He question a note, cash advances and what was that, Katrina said it was a cash advance to an employee, and it was paid back through payroll deductions. He questioned Sales tax in the amount of \$6,000 that was on the ale of the property USJA sold, the amount was, or will be paid back to the USJA because the state made an error. All questions asked were resolved. Jim Bregman injects that the JA has made great strides in paying off accumulated debts, and in the very near future should be debt free.

Committee Reports;

Dr Anthony Zimkowski Standards and Ethics;

Dr. Zimkowski reports to the membership that we do not have any new complaints pending before he Board. He does want to address the USJI's Background requirement, which he deems repugnant. The USJA has an excellent policy before it and it suits our membership quite well, leaves compliance to each member and there is a process to investigate and remedy each complaint, and has taken action when complaints come before it, many have resulted in expulsion of members for infractions. Tony went on to explain what the JA does and expounded on the Ethics requirements. He passed out a handout. He requested permission of the Board to have a Sub Committee formed to study and deal with the Ethics of the JA and the USJI.

The Board passed the motion to establish a sub committee to work towards solutions for the proper implementations of the Ethics Committee. 2nd by Mike Szrejter.

Jim Bregman injects that our Insurance Company has not requested any such investigation on backgrounds. Jim has complete confidence in our Insurance Advisor, Dana Rucker, who says that the carrier also has not requested such action. It is the JI who has not furnished us their Insurance Policy that they made such an issue of last year, to this date.

Walt Dean gave his view of our Ethics policy, both as a member and Attorney. Tony then explained the process of what the Ethics does when it receives complaints.

Tony addressed many issues, one dealing with Conflicts of Interests of Board Members, and he explained what he views as examples of conflict. Each individual should decide if it is a conflict, and if someone else believes it is, they should file a complaint to be investigated.

Mr. Zimkowski makes motion to have the National Office monitor the Annual Conflict of Interest Form, instead of the Ethics Committee, 2nd by Michael Szrejter. The Board voted to accept the motion as stated, voting were, Harris, Bregman, Layon, Fodor, M. Szrejter, P. Szrejter, J. Jones, E. Smith, V. Bolwes G. Weers. No abstentions nor nays.

Connie Halporn, Womens Task Force;

Connie says her committee is looking for persons to help with the credentials aspect of the task force, she is considering placing an ad in the George Weers postings asking for interested parties to contact her. They have found someone to write the Children's Handbook. She is pursuing a publisher to help with the book, She will present it at the proper time when everything is a go. The Mentoring program is being developed, it is designed to give persons a place to ask questions about a variety of subjects. Is very willing to having a Grant Writer on their committee, so if someone knows a person, lease tell them to contact her. Very little money comes into an organization through grant's. Almost all money comes from members or private funders.

End of report. Board accepts Connie's report. No abstentions nor Nays.

Pete Contardo speaks up on promotions, that we are still using Old

Promotion forms and they are not up to date, Virgil Bowles asks that his comments be delayed till later, when the Promotion Board report comes up.

Gary Monto Camps and Clinics;

Gary reports that he has not been getting notices either from them or from the office. We do not have enough people going to keep active, also when people do go to a camp, they have to let him know, so he knows they are active, else he will drop them from the Clinicians List. He has sent out inquiries to them, but has little return. Gary reports that Gene Fodor, Tony Zimkowski and himself have attended the Blind Athletes Clinic put on by Walter Dean and the Blind Athletes Organization and have been certified to instruct.

Gary spoke on the JI and JF changing dates for tournaments to their advantage, and it appears that when we want to change for some reason, they remind us why they have the agreement.

Motion to accept Gary's report as spoken, Mike Szrejter makes motion, Thom Layon second, motion passed, no abstentions or Nays.

Jim Bregman speaks on the symposium, as Hope Kennedy did not attend the meeting. A lot of information on it and headliners sent out. It is being held in conjunction with the Jr. Nationals.

Katrina spoke on the awards, they are being processed through the office, and will be posted on the WEB. Motion to accept report by Thom Layon, 2nd by Katrina, motion passed, no abstentions or Nays.

Jim Bregman announces that Steve Cunningham has resigned from the Board of Directors. Since Steve has resigned, we are looking for a Publications Director, Connie Halporn is considering the position, but needs details, what it entails. American Judo Magazine, also needs someone to edit it.

Terry Kelly, Competitive Development Committee;

Terry was absent, George Weers stepped for Terry, no written report given, George says they are developing a National Point Roster of competitors. No other report.

Chris Dewey, Coach Education Committee;

Chris submitted a written report,

Coach Levels 1, 11 and 111 have all been written, they are available as PDF's in color. We have 637 coaches who have completed the courses, Instructors are being sought for 2004 camp programs, the level IV manual has been put back one year, monthly renewal notices are being sent out, the web sight still has inaccurate listings and is a sore spot amongst coaches. Certificates are sent out within 3 working days. The CEC is available to members of all three organizations. Lastly, the Shinsei Hapkido Organization has adopted our coaching program as a requirement for all Black Belts to advance beyond 1st degree, the Marine Corps is considering having martial art instructors also take the course. Chris says he has been approached by 5th Estate Publishing Co. with regards to publishing each of our manuals as a stand alone book. Everything is in the talking stage. End of report.

Thom Layon also recognized Gerald Lafon for his writing ability with regards to manuals and so on. He was given a well round of applause.

MOTION TO ACCEPT Chris Dewey report, made by George Weers, 2nd by Thom Layon and passed, no abstentions nor Nays.

Gary Monto, Kata Committee;

Gary says nothing new happening, Virgil Bowles is getting things out on the web sight, we have put on several clinics by USJA people who have won 7 medals, however they have to belong to the JI, Ginta and Rommelman are the winners. Thom Layon injects that he and his partner have been selected to attend the PAN AM Games. Kata is growing in our sport. Motion by Mike Szrejter to accept report, 2nd by Gtene Fodor and passed, no abstentions nor nays.

Charlei Robinson Examiner Certification;

Charlie did not attend the meeting and did not submit a report.

Richard Celotto, Referee Certification;

Secretary Gene Fodor read Richards report. The committee is providing clinics throughout the United States through USJA members who are

National and above. The National Referee Newsletter (Shimbandoo) with the latest interpretations and rule changes.

The USJA Referee Local and Regional program is well laid out for the purpose of taking examinations, it has been this way since 1980, some parts have no examinations because there are no National Referees willing to conduct clinics, seminars and exams. End of report. Connie Halporn recommends the clinic at the AM Cams, one of the finest by Richard.

Motion by Gene Fodor to accept report, 2nd by 2nd by Mike Szrejter and passed, no abstentions nor nays.

Lee Wheeler, National High School Committee; Lee was not present and submitted no report.

Collegiate Development Committee; This committee was stricken from the Boards list because of no activity.

Club Accreditation Committee also dropped for same reasons.

Ben Bergwerf Jujitsu Committee;

The Jujitsu Web page is administered by Phil Rasmussen and can be accessed by going to the WEB Site at www.usja-judo.org. The USJA Jujitsu meeting has been designated as being held at the North Carolina Camp each year, and their Boards will meet there, as they are also actively involved in the clinic, There is a new youth manual developed by Ken Nazemetz and it should be available at the camp. Ed Byers is completing a Security Officers Course, which will be tested at the camp also. Barbara Gessner and Gene Fodor were added to the Rank Board. The Board is having problems with people asking for rank, advancement without having all the necessary requirements, TIG is one big issue, but we are working to iron these issues as we speak, and the membership will be advised of changes.

End of report. Mike Szrejter moves to accept report, 2nd by George Weers and passed, no abstentions nor nays.

USJA Masters Committee, No one present and no report sent in.

Bob Spraley Jiu-do Committee;

Bob submitted a written report, Bob named his committee members, the mission of the committee is to introduce Judo to as many people as is possible through non competitive based physical training program. It is designed to gain strength, flexibility, aerobic fitness and mental awareness.

Bob started his program at the University, but has enlarged it through seminars at different dojo's and his program has been widely accepted and endorsed in such places as the YMCA, both in Ohio and Michigan. Bob has been able to sign up many new members in the JA through his program. Some members of the committee and members present have reservations on the name of Bob's system, confusing it with Judo. The Board wants to study the program, possibly suggesting a new name for the program.

End of report. Motion to accept report by Mike Szejter, 2nd Virgil Bowles and passed, no abstentions and no nays.

Gary Monto, Tournament Committee;

Gary states he has been in contact with the organizers of the Jr. Nationals and everything is going well. July 2005, the Jr. Nationals will be in Toledo Ohio, 2006 Boga Raton Florida, motion by Gary, 2nd by Pat Szejter to award the tournament to Mike Szejter. Motion passed, no abstentions nor nays. Bid by Lowell Slaven to host 2007 Jrs in Louisville Ky. Jerry Lafon wants to have such events on the West Coast because of the expense of travel, maybe Gary Goltz will host one. Jim Bregman wants to thank George Weers for his Headlines distribution list, it is the only way we have to get things out Nationally or Internationally.

New Business;

Jim Bregman would like to address the summer promotional program once again, holding it to the summer of 2004. The special suggested at \$20 regular membership, May 1st, 2004. Submitted by Virgil Bowles, 2nd by Gene Fodor in prior E-mail. Gerald Lafon, USJA member and coach speaks in favor of a rebate to coaches from part of the membership fee, he says he has a number of students he does not sign up as USJA members because of the fact that he gets nothing in return for doing so, many of the board members also speaks in favor of some sort of rebate for club coaches. The financial procedures at this time are the main sticking point,

how to account and return monies to the coaches. After much discussion the Board decided to structure a summer special at \$20 FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY. Starting May 1, 2004. until changed by the Board at a later date. The Board was directed to study how to implement a fee structure for coaches, within the confines of the IRS rulings, which may affect the organization or coaches. Motion to have the summer special at \$20 for new members only passes. No abstentions, nor nays.

Connie Halporn says that there are 47 copies of the 64 Olympics for sale. Also 8X10 original team photos. Photo \$40, tapes at \$50. They will be available at the tournament site. Connie has order forms available, pick one up today. Each one has been signed by each individual Olympian.

Promotion issues, Virgil Bowles, Virgil Bowles moves that any application received by the Central Office with less than 40 days left prior to the called meeting of the promotion board, shall be acted upon at that meeting. They will have 10 to 20 days to act on Pass or No Pass promotions. Motion 2nd by Mike Szrejter Motion passes, Thom Layon abstains, no nay votes.

Meeting adjourned after no more business was presented,

Minutes submitted by

Secretary Gene Fodor from recordings.

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