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USA JUDO REFEREE - LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY

This policy defines the “leave of absence” options available to active USA Judo referees when life changes are anticipated to limit their participation as a judo referee. Referees may request a temporary leave of absence from active status as a USA Judo referee, without the anticipated non-participation leading to them being classified as inactive in the USA Judo Referee Information System. For purposes of this policy, the term “temporary” generally means up to four (4) years. The time period allowed for Military Leave may exceed four (4) years.

Leaves of absence are possible and offered, based on circumstances or for reasons of the following nature: Personal, Family, Medical, or Military. The particular reason for, or the specific nature of, an individual’s Leave of Absence status shall not be publicized. Throughout any leave of absence period, the referee must continuously maintain a current and active USA Judo membership.

- Personal – directly involves the individual making the request (non-medical reason);
- Family – relates to or involves the needs of any member of the individual’s family or household;
- Medical – may relate to the individual or any member of their family or household;
- Military – available to military service members, while on active duty.

Due to the sensitivity of a referee’s situation, all written requests for a leave of absence must go to the Co-Chair (Domestic Activities). The personal or medical reasons for the leave request will be kept confidential. The Co-Chair (Domestic Activities) will review and determine all leave requests and may seek advice from individual members of the USA Judo Referee Committee in exceptional cases. Confidential personal or medical information will not be generally shared with the Referee Committee, unless approval is given by the individual submitting the request.

Referees on leave may not referee any event which requires National level referee certification. To resume active status, they must (1) notify the Co-Chair (Domestic Activities) of the USA Judo Referee Committee of their intent; (2) participate in and be evaluated at a National Referee Examination event; and (3) have current, active membership with USA Judo. Upon receiving an

evaluation at the National Referee Examination event, the referee is considered as having active status. If the Leave of Absence was in effect for one (1) year or less, the referee will be returned to active status at the same level they were at when entering Leave of Absence status. If the Leave of Absence was longer than a year, the referee will return to active status at the rating level received at the reinstatement evaluation, but no higher than the level they held when starting the Leave of Absence.