



USA Judo Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2025, via Teleconference – 3:00 p.m. MDT

Attendees: Ari Berliner
Jeffrey Brentley
Joon Chi
Jerry Cypert
Ari Miller
Gerry Navarro
Joe Ragan
Nicole Stout

USA Judo Staff: Corinne Shigemoto, CEO
Ed Liddie, Director of High Performance
Bill Kellick, Communications & Marketing Manager/Board Secretary
Laura Peeters, USA Judo Counsel

- I. At 3:02 pm MDT, a quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order.
- II. Mr. Ragan called for any conflict-of-interest disclosures based on the meeting agenda. Ms. Stout and Mr. Berliner announced they are elite athletes and may have a conflict on discussion pertaining to athletes. Ms. Stout also noted that she knows one of the individuals mentioned in the recommendation from the Ethics & Grievance Committee.
- III. Motion to approve the April 6, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Ms. Stout, seconded by Mr. Navarro. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Ms. Shigemoto provided a CEO Report
 - The USOPC is providing a grant for outside consulting fees to help NGBs become compliant with medical standards.
 - In researching whether member polls are conducted by other NGBs, there is a mix. Some NGBs conduct them, but sporadically.
 - Pedro Kolychkin of the U.S. was appointed Director of Recognition by the Pan American Judo Confederation.
 - Gary Takemoto of the U.S. was elected as Director of Arbitration to the Pan American Judo Confederation.

- Marti Malloy has requested USA Judo supply a recommendation letter for her nomination to the IJF athlete commission election.
 - Ms. Shigemoto and Mr. Navarro attended the PJC Congress in Lima, Peru, held in conjunction with the Cadet and Junior Pan Am-Oceania Championships. Their attendance at the event was well-received. U.S. athletes won a total of 20 medals (10 cadet & 10 junior) and three U.S. referees (J.T. Davis, Viviane De Souza Caixeta and Alexander Murray) achieved their IJF referee certification.
 - Mr. Liddie provided a report from the Senior Pan Am-Oceania Championships in Santiago, Chile, where the U.S. won five medals and finished third in the team standings.
 - Ms. Shigemoto discussed Board-specific email account logistics. Ms. Peeters noted if adopted that parameters should be formulated around usage.
 - Ms. Shigemoto requested board members to notify her of their attendance at Senior Nationals by May 2 so hotel rooms can be booked.
- V. Ms. Shigemoto gave an update on USOPC demands and funding. She also provided an update on a compliance investigation.
- VI. Mr. Cypert gave a bylaw update relating to AAC/AC. An updated presentation will be completed by Senior Nationals. Mr. Berliner and Matthew Parker are on the working group.
- VII. Ms. Stout made a motion to move into executive session, seconded by Mr. Berliner. The meeting entered executive session at 3:18 p.m. MDT.
- VIII. Mr. Brentley made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Mr. Miller. Meeting came out of executive session at 4:33 p.m. MDT with the following decisions:
- Mr. Cypert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brentley, to accept the following committee assignment recommendations from the Nominating & Governance Committee and Athletes' Advisory Council. Discussion was held and motion carried 5-2 with one abstention.
 - i. Rank & Certification – Gina Sullivan
 - ii. Referee – Aleksandar Kchirian
 - iii. Bylaws – Chris Round
 - iv. Athlete Performance (HP) – Christopher Velazco
 - v. Nominating Committee – Chris Round
 - Ms. Shigemoto will resend package of “independent” candidate resumes for the Ethics and Grievance Committee and the board will vote via email by close of business on Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

- Ms. Shigemoto will send the Board the Ethics and Grievance Committee recommendation on coach suspensions stemming from a recent incident at a local tournament.
- IX. A poll will be sent out to determine next meeting for either Monday, May 12 at 2:30 p.m. MDT or Friday, May 16 at 2:30 p.m. MDT.
- X. Mr. Miller motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Cypert. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. MDT.