

## **Statement of Interest for Athlete Director, USA Judo**

I am honored to express my interest in the position of Athlete Director for USA Judo. My journey with judo began at the age of 8, and from the moment I stepped onto the tatami, I knew that this sport would be a lifelong passion. Over the years, judo has shaped me not only as an athlete but also as an individual, instilling in me the values of discipline, resilience, and respect.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of representing our country at the highest levels of competition. I have secured multiple Senior National Titles and earned over 20 international medals, including 4 Grand Prix Medals, 4 Pan American Championship medals, and a Pan American Games Medal. My experience at the Senior World Championships spans 9 appearances, with my best result being 9th place. Additionally, I was 2008 Olympic Alternate under the previous Olympic Qualification system.

Beyond my competitive accomplishments, I have had the unique experience of living and training in Europe, as well as other places around the world. This exposure to different training methodologies and cultural perspectives has broadened my understanding of judo and deepened my appreciation for the sport. The insights I have gained from these experiences are something I am eager to share with the USA Judo community, offering new perspectives that can enhance our approach to athlete development and competition.

Judo is about more than just medals and titles. It is a journey—a way of life that teaches perseverance, humility, and the importance of continuous improvement. My connection to this sport and my extensive competition experience have equipped me with unique insights into the challenges and opportunities faced by our athletes.

As Athlete Director, I am committed to advocating for the wellbeing of our athletes and contributing to the future of USA Judo. My motivation, determination, and passion drive me to ensure that every athlete has the support and resources they need to succeed. I believe that my combined experience as a competitor and communicator, along with the diverse perspectives I've gained through international training, positions me to make a meaningful impact on our organization.

In all that I do, I strive to give my best effort, guided by the principle that "if there is effort, there is always accomplishment." I am eager to bring this philosophy to my role as Athlete Director, working alongside my peers to build a stronger, more vibrant future for USA Judo.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the sport that has given me so much.

Yours in Judo,

Hannah Martin