

Candidate Statement for Hector L. Lans

At-Large Member, USA Judo Board

My fellow judokas,

From the moment I first stepped onto the tatami as an 8-year-old in 1959, Judo has been more than a sport to me—it has been a way of life. Under the guidance of Master André Kolychikine, I learned not just the techniques of Judo but the profound values it instills: discipline, respect, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. These are the same values that carried me through to become a two-time university champion in Judo and Squash, and that have guided me in every aspect of my life since.

When I migrated to the United States, I brought with me the spirit of Judo and a vision for its future. I founded a family business in the medical device industry, which has thrived for over 40 years, and I co-founded a judo club in Miami, where I had the privilege of passing on this beautiful art to a new generation. Today, as a Go Dan and the founder of *Judo Today*, I am on a mission to make Judo the next American pastime. Through our efforts, we have successfully introduced Judo as a high school elective PE credit in Florida schools, with plans to expand even further.

My vision is clear: to grow the fan base of Judo, to create more opportunities for our athletes to showcase their talents, and to inspire our youth to embrace the values that Judo has instilled in me—values that have led to my success in business, in life, and most importantly, in family. I believe that Judo has the power to unite us, to bring people together across all backgrounds, and to build a stronger, more resilient community. As your at-large member, I will work tirelessly to expand our reach and to communicate to the rest of America the invaluable lessons Judo offers.

I present myself to you not just as a candidate, but as someone who deeply loves this sport, someone who believes that every American should experience Judo at least once in their life. I am committed to fostering unity within USA Judo, focusing on what we all share—a passion for Judo. Together, we can make Judo an integral part of American life, a sport that our children and their children will cherish.

I ask for your vote, not just for me, but for the future of Judo in America. Let us grow together, let us inspire together, and let us make Judo the next great American pastime.

Thank you.

Hector L. Lans
Miami, Florida

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Miami, Florida | hl@crosswell.com | 786-376-7775

Summary

Over 60 years of dedicated Judo practice, combining athletic excellence with a deep commitment to teaching and expanding the sport. A close disciple of Sensei André Kolychkin, the founder of Judo in Cuba and Pan-American Judo, Hector Lans has contributed significantly to the growth of Judo in the United States. An accomplished businessman with over four decades of experience in the medical supply industry, Hector Lans is also an expert in international relations with extensive academic and publishing credentials.

Education

Masters in Linguistics and Literature

University of Havana

Doctor in Economics

G.C.C.T.

Judo Qualifications & Achievements

- **Black Belt Go Dan (5th Dan)**
 - **Gold Medalist in Judo and Squash**
University of Havana
 - **Outstanding Athlete**
University of Havana
 - **Close and Direct Disciple of Sensei André Kolychkin**
 - Collaborated in the development of the "New Didactics of Judo," a scientific approach to Judo teaching.
 - **Co-Founder, A. Kolychkin Judo Foundation**
State of Florida
 - **Founder, Judo Today**
 - Successfully introduced Judo as a high school sport, approved by the Superintendence of Catholic Schools in Florida, and expanding nationwide.
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Professional Experience

Founder & CEO, Crosswell International

Miami, Florida | 1983 – Present

- Over 40 years of leadership in distributing medical supplies and high technology medical advances worldwide.
 - Spearheaded international business operations, ensuring global reach and impact.
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Publications & Contributions

- Contributor to International Business Finance, the official textbook for international business studies across universities in the United States.
 - Published various articles on international relations, finance, and Judo methodology.
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Skills

- Judo Instruction & Pedagogy
 - Self Defense Advanced Courses
 - International Relations
 - Business Strategy & Leadership
 - Linguistics & Literature
 - Publication & Research
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Languages

- English
 - Spanish
 - French
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Personal Interests

- Roman Catholic
- Judo & Martial Arts
- Equestrian Sports
- International Travel
- Literature & Linguistics