



**USA Judo Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2025, via Teleconference**

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

Counsel: Dawes Cooke
Howard Jacobs

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

- I. At 1:00 pm MST, a quorum was established.
- II. Mr. Ragan called for any conflict of interest disclosures. None were divulged.
- III. Mr. Ragan asked for approval of the board minutes from December 23, 2024; January 2, 2025; January 6, 2025; January 23, 2025; and January 28, 2025. Ms. Stout asked that the sentence reading “Good progress is being made as USA Judo continues to work hard toward meeting governance and compliance requirements from the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and the International Judo Federation” be stricken from the December 23, 2024 minutes. Ms. Stout made a motion to approve with the aforementioned edit, seconded by Mr. Miller. Minutes were approved unanimously.
- IV. Discussion was held regarding clarification of bylaw section 8.6 addressing term limits which states “*A member of the USA Judo Committee or Task Force shall be permitted to serve up to four (4) two (2) year terms, after which he or she is ineligible for service on such Committee or Task Force for a period of two (2) years. After the two (2) year gap, the individual shall be eligible for reappointment to the Committee or Task Force.*” Discussion was held about whether it is retroactive or effective at a certain date. Ms. Stout made a motion to interpret the bylaws that the effective date for the committees is April 28, 2022, seconded by Mr. Miller. Discussion was held. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Berliner and Mr. Brentley abstaining.
- V. Discussion was held regarding the election process and whether the runner-ups from the election last October can be assigned or nominated to fill USA Judo AAC athlete rep positions without having to go through another election. The bylaws require that vacant positions be filled within 60 days.
 - I. Ms. Shigemoto talked about committee formation. Three committees are a priority (Nominating & Governance, Ethics & Grievance, and the Background Screen Task Force). Discussion was held regarding various candidate

names for committees to provide to Richie Endow, chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee. Mr. Miller made a motion to submit the names of Bob Harvey, Leo White, Lydia Coleman and Nicholas Rodriguez to Richie Endow in order to move forward with constituting the Nominating and Governance Committee. Seconded by Mr. Navarro. Motion passed unanimously.

- II. Ms. Stout made a motion to reconstitute the Medical Committee as a task force & disband the Referee Education Committee, seconded by Mr. Berliner. Discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Mr. Cypert asked that the new IJF rules recommendations from the Referee Committee be included on the next meeting agenda.
- IV. Mr. Ragan noted that Ramon Hernandez has stepped up to serve as chair of the Coaching Committee. Discussion was held. Ms. Stout made a motion to accept Ramon Hernandez as chair of the Coaching Committee, seconded by Mr. Miller. Discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. Ms. Shigemoto gave her CEO update including her meetings with the USOPC and board training sessions that need to be completed. The strategic report is being reviewed. The job description has been posted for the finance director. 1099 forms were sent out Friday. The At-Large and Independent elections are moving forward. Governance documents need to be completed by the board. Youth Nationals is being held in Salt Lake from March 29-30, and board members are encouraged to attend. Mr. Liddie gave an update on the coaching search for the U.S. Performance Center Resident Program.
- VI. Next Meeting via teleconference on Feb. 16 at noon EST.
- VII. Mr. Cypert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Stout. Meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm MST.