

DRAFT - USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Minutes – September 28, 2024

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Members Present – Gary Berliner, Steve Cohen (Coach Rep), Bill Gugino, Alexander Kchirian (Athlete Rep), Russ Scherer, David Smith
 - B. Members Excused – Hector Estevez, Torie Oishi (Athlete Rep)
 - C. Members Absent – Katie Sell (Athlete Rep), Barb Shimizu
 - D. RC Assistants Present – David Malek, Ralph Palmer, Dana Rucker
 - E. Special Guests – Bobby Donaldson (Ref Education Committee Chair), Keith Bryant (CEO), Brian Toth (Paralympics Experience Presenter)
- II. Review /acceptance of last RC Meeting – Approved by email 8/14/24
- III. Referee Advancements – Rustam Basriyev and Yan Krimer (passed National Ref exam 9/8/24)
- IV. Special Presentation by Brian Toth – The Journey to the 2024 Paralympics – a very enlightening review of Brian’s preparation leading to selection as a referee at the 2024 Paralympics in Paris and his experiences at this event
- V. Event Status Reports
 - A. Domestic Events
 1. Recently Completed N1 Events – *North American (9/8/24) and Liberty Bell (9/22/24)*
 2. Recently Completed N2 and N3 Events – *US Open (7/26-28/24)*
 3. Upcoming N1 Events – *San Jose Open (10/12-13 – CR = Gary Takemoto; Evaluators = David Williams, Dan Israel & Mark Hirota) – Morris Cup (10/13 – CR = Gary Berliner; Evaluators = Bobby Donaldson & Bill Gugino) – Dallas Invit (11/23 – CR = Bobby Donaldson; Evaluators = Gary Berliner, Barb Shimizu & David Smith) – Winter Nationals (12/7-8 – CR = Calvin Terada; Evaluators = Dan Israel, Mike Takata & Gary Berliner) – Northeast Championships [Approved during Executive Session] (12/8 – CR = Saro Balagezyan; Evaluators = Jake Freedman & Bill Gugino)*
 4. Upcoming N2 and N3 Events – *President’s Cup (11/24 – CR = Bobby Donaldson; Evaluators = Gary Berliner, Barb Shimizu & David Smith)*
 - B. International Events – *Gary Berliner*
 1. Recent trips - 36 travelling internationally – Oren Knopfmacher currently in Prague -
 2. Upcoming events – Africa: A-Test Candidate (Ward) and B-Test Candidate (Esmaeili) being forwarded from PJC to IJF for approval. World Veterans: two slots approved by PJC and are being forwarded to IJF for their approval. Reminder – Age limits and completion of IJF Academy requirements are being aggressively applied by IJF for assignments and testing.
 3. Additional referees who have completed or scheduled the IJF Academy – 6 passed the IJF Academy course recently held in Japan
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Actions taken by email since last meeting – approvals of international travels and candidates for A & B licenses
 - B. Status of international travel reports, costs and receipts – please continue sending in the reports

- C. Status of National Championships Referee Reimbursements (Youth, Senior, JO's) – All submitted requests should have been paid – Russ Scherer will follow up with an email to each recipient to verify receipt and amount
 - D. Reporting Forms (submitted by the Referee Education Committee) – each discussed in detail during the Executive Session
- VII. New Business
- A. Initial Input - Annual Policy Reviews – each RC member is to review each Policy (posted on the USA Judo website Referee Page) and submit any proposed changes or additions to R. Scherer within 3 weeks (ie 10/19/2024)
- VIII. Set date for the next RC Meeting – *Saturday, December 14, 2024 – 7:00PM (Eastern Time)*

X. Adjournment