

USAJudo Kata Committee Meeting  
January 4, 2025, 11:00am – 12:00; 10am CT; 9MT; 8 PT  
MEETING NOTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER, SEATING OF DELEGATES – Begin time: 11:00am
  - A. Welcome by Chair. verify committee quorum (>50%) - yes
  - B. Committee members present: Diane Jackson, Theo Schwalm, Karen Whilden, Frances Glaze, Eiko Shepherd sensei, Barb Shimizu, Claudia Smith, Carla Martin
  - C. Committee members absent: Lisa Capriotti, K. Takeuchi sensei
  - D. Observers: Al P, Rob Schab, Karen N, Tom Sheehan, Josh Kindelberger, Mary W, Alain W, Bruce Knight, Kristin E, Christine Levine, Nicolas Valcik, Renee, R Wayne Brown, Bob S Bridgetown
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda – Theo, Karen W - passed
- III. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL - n/a
- IV. BUSINESS
  - A. **2025 1<sup>st</sup> Western US Kata Championship, San Francisco, CA**
    - **February 8, Saturday; clinic 6pm-9pm Friday Feb 7**
    - Event director/POC: Mary Wakabayashi
    - Venue: City College of San Francisco
    - Registration – Smoothcomp
    - Judges meeting / clinic 6 – 9 pm, Friday – all judges required / expected
    - USJF Fukuda Scholarship funds, possible – USJF membership required (E. Shepherd)
    - Sanctioned by USJF
    - Suggestion: Judges bring a PC laptop as backup, if possible
      - a) USJF have 5, maybe borrow from Nanka
      - b) Smoothcomp minimum needs for tablet. (check on smoothcomp website)
    - Divisions – include youth 12 years
      - a) Novice – youth and adults
      - b) Open
    - Ages: 12 and under, 15 and under, 22 and under, adults
    - Development / encouragement for new judges and athletes
    - Can/will combine if too few teams
    - male, female, and mixed gender team in separate divisions (may be combined depending on #)
    - Open for international? No.
    - Athletes: USA Judo, USJF, or USJA
    - Suggestion – have on-mat judge coordinator(s) for judge candidates
    - Mary – can athletes practice judging / do the practical judge at this tournament? Yes
  - B. **1<sup>st</sup> Mid-US and 1<sup>st</sup> Eastern US Kata Championship**
    - Central-US – Chicago, IL, June, summer – Event director/POC: Eiko Shepherd
    - Eastern US – DC area, September 6 or 7 (tentative due to venue) – Event director/POC: D. Jackson
  - C. **Judge testing**
    - **Motion 1:** to have a merged test (1 test with possibility up to National), in addition to local, regional, national – Frances, Theo. **passed.**
      - a) Volunteer(s) to help with new exams: Karen Nagai.
    - USJF instructor: demo both sides, written test
    - USAJudo judge: demo both side, written test, practical judge, follow-up if needed
    - **Motion 2:** Concept – can have same / similar test questions as USJF – if both organizations approve actual exams; but adding IJF judge criteria. Frances, Theo. **passed**

D. **2025 IJF Kata Championship changes**

- 2025 – Sarajevo, Bosnia
- U21 for 2025 (PJC will stay U23 for 2025)
- Itsutsu and Koshiki divisions for Rokudan+
  - a) Encourage
- IJF Kata Tournament circuit – first venue – Belgium and expecting/planning PJC and Asian venues
- New 2025 SOR – potential (?) change to number of katas per athlete; deleted maximum number of teams per country

V. Next USAJudo Kata Committee Meeting – Saturday February 1, 11:00 ET, 10:00 CT, 9:00 MT, 8:00 PT, 7:00 AT, 6:00 HT

VI. Next monthly Kata Discussions – Saturday, January 11, 11:00 ET, 10:00 CT, 9:00 MT, 8:00 PT, 7:00 AT, 6:00 HT; and February 22, 11:00 ET, 10:00 CT, 9:00 MT, 8:00 PT, 7:00 AT, 6:00 HT;

VII. End of meeting – time: 12:01 – Frances, Karen W. passes.

----- **REMAINING TOPICS DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING** -----

A. Qualifying for USA Team

- Quality score: PJC: 6.5, Worlds: 7.0 (no change)
- Sr. Nationals qualifying event, unless waiver is requested before tournament or emergent hardship (no change)
- **Motion:** athletes to compete in Worlds, teams must have competed in PJC championship once in the last two years, unless approved for hardship/waiver, (every other year)
- Reminder - To judge at Worlds, judges must have judged (or attended in other official duty) at PJC Championship in the last two years (minimum of every other year)

B. **2025 PJC – (from committee meeting at 2024 PJC)**

- In ‘USA’ PJC schedule says July 25 but just a placeholder – expect summer
- Continue U23 for 2025

C. 2024 IJF scores distributed with all teams, all technique, all judges scores

- Any have the judge assignments sheets?
- Rewatch on JudoTV

D. **2025 Senior Nationals, Birmingham, AL**

- Kata on May 25, Sunday,
- Divisions: U23, intermediate, open
- **Judge meeting: Friday or Saturday?**

E. **USAJudo Kata Committee and new Advisory Council**

- Committee should be small, ~ 9
- Athlete representation = 30% for all committees
- Need for Succession planning

VIII. OPEN FLOOR

A. Updates for Smoothcomp:

- Must: 1) team / names with uke/tori, 2) 1<sup>st</sup> forgotten: ½ score, 3) correct mis-spellings
- ACTION: if you have other changes – contact Karen N and Karen W
- Must have vs. Nice to have

B. Reminder - Hannah Martin – new USAJudo social media / communications

C. Calendar

End of Agenda Items

## Kata Calendar:

### ► 2025 USA Kata events:

- 1/ 19 – Chamblor, kata (Nage and Katame) and shiai, Texas
- 1/ 11 – Nage no kata clinic, with Brynne & Haley Buskerud, Swisshome, OR (near Portland, OR)
- 1/ 18 – North Sound Kata and Shiai Tournament, Everett, WA
- 2/ 7- 8, 2025 - Lone Star Classic - kata and shiai - [Lone Star Smoothcomp](#)
- 2/ 7 - 8 – [1<sup>st</sup>] **Western US Kata Championship**, San Francisco, CA – POC: Mary Wakabayashi
- 2/ 9 – Katame no kata clinic – Ken Durand, UofNew Hamp, POC: K Durand
- 2/ 9 – Kata clinic, Sport Judo, POC: D Jackson
- [3/ 8 - 9 – Belgian Kata tournament]
- Feb xx – Tohkon kata clinic – Doug Tono, Chicago, IL
- 2/ 15&16 – Nage no kata and Katame no Kata clinic, with Andre Parent – France's Kata coach, Queens/Flushing, NYC [A Parent Smoothcomp](#)
- 3/ 9 (Sun) – Northern New Jersey Kata Competition – **kata only** - [NNJ Smoothcomp](#)
- 3/ 14 (F) – Pacific NW Open – kata on Friday, shiai on Sat, Lakewood, WA
- [3/ 14 - 16 – Eastern Canadian Kata Tournament, St Jean sur Richelieu (Montreal)]
- 3 / 21, Fri – Obukan, kata and shiai, Portland, OR
  
- 4/ 6 – NCJA College and High School Championships, Durham, NH, University of New Hampshire HR [NCJA Smoothcomp/20229](#)
- 4/ 13 – Garden State (New Jersey) Championship (kata and shiai), Wayne, NJ
- [4/ 26 - 27 – French Kata tournament]
- 5/ 3 – Seattle Dojo Tournament, kata and shiai, Bellevue, WA
- 5/ 3 – Annual NE Kata Festival – U of New Hamp, POC: Ken Durand
- **5/ 24-25 – Senior Nationals, Birmingham, AL**
  
- 6/ 19 - 20 – USJF/USJA Summer Nationals kata and shiai, Honolulu, HI
- 6/ 27 - 29 – USJF Kata Conference, Boise, ID
- July – [1<sup>st</sup>] Middle US Kata Championship, Chicago, IL, POC: Eiko Shepherd
- 7/ 12 - 19 – Kodokan Kata summer course (Saturday to Saturday).
- Summer – 2025 PJC Kata Championship and Veterans, **in the USA** (currently, July 25, same w/e as US Open – likely to change)
- August 2025 – Koshiki no kata clinic with David McFall, Sport Judo, DC area, POC: Diane Jackson
  
- 9/ 6 or 7 (target) – [1<sup>st</sup>] Eastern US Kata Championship, DC area, POC: Diane Jackson
- Late September – Liberty Bell, Whole Lotta Kata and shiai, Philadelphia, PA
- October 12 – Jason Morris Cup – kata and shiai, Scotia (Upstate), NY
- October/November – IJF World Kata Championship, date & location tbd
- December - Winter Nationals (youth and seniors kata and shiai), CA, hosted by Nanka

### ► International kata tournaments/ events:

- Athletes: on-line: go through Austin Leath to register through JudoBase
- Judges: online form; letter/, email from USAJudo / USAJudo Kata Committee
- February (3 or 4<sup>th</sup> w/e) – Belgian Kata tournament
- February – Western Canada
- March 15-16, Eastern Canadian Kata Tournament, Montreal (St Jean sur Richelieu), Canada
- April 25 – 26 – France
- August – Nordic Open Kata
- September – Madrid, Spain

- 
- I. Quality criteria: 2025 Worlds and PJC team members  
A. 2023 / 2024 year – 6.5 PJC and 7.0 Worlds

- II. 2025 Senior National Divisions - May  
• If same as 2024 Sr Nationals divisions :

	Nage	Kat	Ju	Kim	GoS	
U23	2	1	1	0	1	5
Intermediate - Open	4	5	3	0	1	13
Open/Sr	3	5	5	4	5	22
	9	11	9	4	7	

40