

USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2023

- I. Roll Call
 - A. RC Members Present – Russ Scherer, Gary Berliner, Steve Cohen, Hector Estevez, Bill Gugino, Torie Oishi, Barb Shimizu and David Smith
 - B. Associates and RC Assistants Present – Bobby Donaldson, Keith Bryant, David Malek, Ralph Palmer and Dana Rucker
 - C. RC Members Excused – Katie Sell
- II. Welcome to the newest member of the RC (Torie Oishi – Athlete Rep)
- III. Review /acceptance of last RC Meeting (3/11/23) Minutes – approved by email
- IV. Congratulations – Advancements in Referee Certification Levels [*Reviewed during Town Hall*]
 - A. NCJA – Chuck Jefferson, Albert Chen, Steven Zhang
 - B. Garden State – Raelyn Adorano, Isaac Carmichael, Brandon Harmer, Hosam Salim
 - C. Indiana – Joon Jeong
 - D. Battle in the Square – Matthew McKibben
- V. Event Status Reports [*Reviewed during Town Hall today*]
 - A. Domestic Events
 1. N1 Events – *Results: NCJA Collegiates (San Jose, CA – 3/31-4/2); Garden State (Wayne, NJ - 4/15-16); Indiana Championships (Portland, IN – 4/29); Liberty Bell (Philadelphia, PA – 4/29-30); Golden State (Azusa, CA – 4/29-30); Battle in the Square (New Rochelle, NY – 5/27)*
 2. N2 and N3 Events - *Youth Nationals (Lubbock, TX – 3/17-19); Senior Nationals (Spokane, WA – 5/19-21);*
 3. Upcoming N1 Events – *Dallas Open (Irving, TX – 11/18)*
 4. Upcoming N2 and N3 Events *National J.O.'s (Shreveport, LA – 6/16-18); US Open (Ft. Lauderdale, FL – 7/27-30); President's Cup (Irving, TX – 11/17-19)*
 - B. International Events – *Gary Berliner*
 1. Recent trips – *Cadet Cup, Junior Cup & Senior African Open (3/9-12 – Tunisia Devin Cohen); Alger African Open (3/15-16 – Alger – Sharon Landstreet); Medellin Cadet Cup, Junior Cup and PanAm Open (3/15-3/19 – Colombia – Alex Murray, Nicole Ward); Cadet and Junior PanAm Cups (3/25-26 – Panama – Joan Miller, Patrick Lo); JUA Asian Judo Cup & IJF International Ref Exam (4/4-9 – Kazakhstan – Patrick Lo); Teplice European Cup (4/5-11 – Czech Republic – Boris Munoz, Marcos Batan);Coimbra Cadet European Open (5/27 – Portugal – Sam Suyehira, Alex Murray); PanAm Open Seniors and Cup Cadet Santiago (5/31 – Sharon Landstreet, Saro Balagezian); Prague Junior European Cup (6/3 – Czech Republic – Sam Suyehira, Alex Murray); Pan Am Open Seniors and Cup Juniors Cordoba (6/7 – Argentina – Jiwhan Han);*
 2. Upcoming events – *Madrid European Open (6/10 – Slovenia – Oren Knopfmacher, Saro Balagezian); Qazaqstan Barysy Grand Slam (6/16-18 – Kazakhstan – Brian Toth); EJU Cup Birmingham (6/25 & 26 – England – Diba Mani); Pan Am Open Seniors and Cup Cadets, Juniors (6/28 – Ecuador – Boris Munoz, Diba Mani); Pan Am*

Open Seniors and Cup Cadets, Juniors Bahia (7/5-9 – Brasil – Devin Cohen, Nicole Ward); Paks Junior European Cup (7/8 – Hungary – Lisa Capriotti, JT Davis); World Police & Fire Games (8/2-3 – Winnipeg, Canada – Bill Gugino, Bob Gugino); IJF International Referee Exam (9/15 – Canada – Diba Mani, Jake Freedman); Baku Grand Slam (9/22-24 – Azerbaijan – Brian Toth); Adler Cup (10/28 – Germany – Mike Hiatt, Leah Hiatt, Lisa Capriotti, Viviane Caixeta); IJF Continental & Internat Ref Exam (11/18 – Australia – Alan Lo, Tracy Crawford, Scott Morifuji)

VI. Other Old Business

- A. Status Report - Tracking Regional (and below) referee status (membership, compliance training, etc) for TD and/or Chief Referee use at tournaments – Survey was conducted – some initial response received – additional continuing effort is needed
- B. Status Report - Tracking IJF and other certificates – the process is in place and certificates for new national refs are being captured
- C. Reaffirmed current policy requiring an N3 event every other year (minimum) to maintain N3 or N4 and for N2 level referees evaluation every other year at an N2 event or higher is required. Moved by Bill Gugino (seconded by Gary Berliner) passed unanimously. [Note: the requirement of attending a minimum of one evaluation event each year is still required to maintain active status.]
- D. The National Junior Olympics will remain an “N2 event” however referee participation in the JO’s will suffice for the requirement of N3 and N4 referees being evaluated every other year at an N3 event.

VII. New Business

- A. Upcoming Changes in Requirements to test for Continental and International Referee Certification – age reduction (IJF Continental – 45; IJF International – 50) and IJF Academy will be effective January 1, 2024.

VIII. The date for the next RC Meeting will be August 12, 2023 – 7:00PM Eastern – on Zoom

IX. Executive Session

- A. Review of potential accelerated advancement level candidate(s) – none selected at this time
- B. Review of selection criteria and forms for National Referee Examination Sites and tie to sanctioning requirements for Athlete Point Events – current form will continue to be used and coordination with athlete point events will be required prior to issuing the sanction
- C. It was noted that increases in the number of deviations from standard requirements prior to testing (documentation and CR authorizations [use of lower level referees not normally qualified for the event]) have occurred and this trend is not desirable. Stricter enforcement is planned for 2024.
- D. Discussion of injury at Senior Nationals – a requested review and possible suggested rule change was reviewed and currently it was decided there was not sufficient data to require any action. We will pursue additional definitive documentation.
- E. 2023 John Osako Award – Bobby Donaldson was selected as recipient of this award

X. Adjournment