



Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2024 Referee Committee Open Meeting  
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Central Time

Attendees: Fariba Madani, Cedric Barksdale, Jay Farrell, Will Gatch, Chris Hodgins, Diane Martin, Chuck Sweigart. Guests: Jo Pledge, Mike Mustoe, Noriko Yasohama, Michael Cain, Brody Burns

**Call to Order:** Jay Farrell called the Referee Committee (RC) meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Central Time.

Jay introduced the RC members and announced the guests at the meeting.

Fariba Madani stated that RC member Shelby Velazquez was unable to join due to a work issue. Jay Farrell made a motion to approve an excused absence for Shelby Velazquez. Will Gatch seconded, and the RC unanimously approved.

Fariba Madani explained that this was an open RC meeting, and members were invited to attend and submit questions to be discussed and answered by the RC.

Fariba Madani read the first question from guest Noriko Yasohama related to kata competitors being allowed time to rest between matches in the same way that is provided for kumite competitors. Fariba Madani explained that there needs to be time to change colors between rounds and that the way the charts are run, there is time in between kata matches.

Noriko Yasohama asked for further clarification for non-elites when the competitors go side by side. Fariba Madani stated this was valid and Jay Farrell agreed. This point will be reiterated during the briefing and with tatami managers to make sure kata competitors are allowed a break before immediately competing again.

Fariba Madani read the question from guest Jo Pledge regarding international officials' hotel reimbursement.

Michael Cain explained that only the highest international WKF officials from outside the US were provided rooms in the same way as in previous years. He introduced Brody Burns for confirmation as part of his new role as Director of Sport.

Brody Burns stated that there was no policy change; this applied to the highest WKF level foreign officials and that this policy had not changed from previous years and administrations.

Fariba Madani asked if there were any other questions for the meeting. No additional questions were asked.

Fariba Madani stated that the next meeting will be with RC members to review logistics for the National Championships.

Jay Farrell made a motion to adjourn, and Will Gatch seconded. All RC members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 Central Time.