

USA Judo Nomination Statement

Nominee for At-Large Board of Directors Position

I am running for the At-Large position on the USA Judo Board of Directors because I believe my diverse experience, both within judo and in business leadership, uniquely qualifies me to contribute meaningfully to the future of our sport.

As the Founder and CEO of ERB North America, a business I've built from the ground up, I understand the importance of structure, strategy, and team-building in driving sustainable growth. These are critical skills that can help USA Judo thrive. For our sport to grow, we must focus on expanding membership and creating pathways for long-term involvement whether as athletes, referees, coaches, or dojo operators.

I have a clear vision for growth, and I'm committed to achieving it. Judo can become more than just a passion, it can be a career. We need to offer opportunities that enable young athletes to build their lives around the sport they love. I believe doubling our membership is an ambitious but achievable goal, and with teamwork and strong leadership, we can make this happen. By increasing membership, we will naturally elevate the level of competition, improve athlete performance, and drive better results nationally and internationally.

Judo has been a lifelong passion for me, and I believe in the power of our community. Together, we can create a culture where participation is fun, fulfilling, and career-oriented. The more we unite as a community—coaches, athletes, referees, volunteers—the stronger we become. Imagine the ripple effect of each of us inviting one more person to join or introducing Judo to a larger network. Small actions will lead to big, long-lasting changes, and I am excited to be a part of that.

The growth of USA Judo will not happen overnight, but with a collaborative effort, we can build a strong foundation. I am a firm believer in transparent leadership and fostering teamwork at all levels. Our mission should be clear: to nurture lifelong practitioners and leaders within the sport. By doing so, we create stability, continuity, and a sense of belonging in our community. I will work diligently to ensure that USA Judo's growth benefits everyone—athletes, coaches, referees, and fans.

Achieving these goals requires a well-thought-out strategy. I believe in setting measurable goals at the 1-year, 3-year, and 10-year levels. This includes increasing tournament participation, growing revenue streams for USA Judo, and ensuring that our athletes, referees, and coaches are well-supported. Detailed planning and continuous improvement will be key to our success, and I will bring my business acumen to ensure USA Judo is run with the efficiency and care it deserves.

Why Membership Growth Matters:

- **Increased Tournament Participation:** Larger divisions will create stronger, more competitive athletes, better prepared for international competition.
- **Career Development for Referees:** By fostering growth, referees can earn higher pay and develop a sustainable second income, similar to opportunities in wrestling and BJJ.
- **Elevating Coaching Standards:** Growth will push coaches to continuously improve, enhancing the overall level of competition.
- **Increased Revenue for USA Judo:** This will allow for more staff to meet membership demand and increase the budget for athlete development.

My Commitment to USA Judo's Future:

I am dedicated to ensuring that USA Judo's culture is one of inclusivity, transparency, and excellence. I understand the importance of having a long-term strategy, and I am prepared to lead with vision, collaboration, and a deep understanding of what it takes to grow an organization. I believe the key to success lies not in technology or quick fixes, but in empowering the people who are passionate about judo to play their part in the sport's future.

I invite each of you to think about how you can contribute—whether it's inviting a new athlete to join, volunteering at an event, or simply spreading the word. Every small effort adds up. If elected, I will work tirelessly to ensure that USA Judo is on a path to sustainable success, and I would be honored to serve the membership as we grow together.

Key Highlights:

- Continental USA Judo Coach – Team USA Qualifiers (4 Infantil, 1 Cadet, 2 IJF Juniors)
- President of Guerreros Judo Club – National Champions 2023
- National Referee
- Tournament Director – Golden State Open
- Junior National Champion
- Cadet Pan American Team
- USA Judo Coaches Committee 2023-2024