



Meeting Minutes from June 24, 2024 Referee Committee Open Meeting
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Central Time

Attendees: Fariba Madani, Cedric Barksdale, Jay Farrell, Will Gatch, Chris Hodgkin, Diane Martin, Chuck Sweigart, Shelby Velazquez. Guests: Darrin Free.

Call to Order: Jay Farrell called the Referee Committee (RC) meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Central Time. Darrin Free joined the RC meeting to discuss logistics and tournament operations needs for Nationals.

Darrin Free stated that there will be ten tatamis. Darrin Free requested help for male weigh-ins and said there was enough coverage for female weigh-ins. The Technical Committee will also be available to help with weigh ins.

Darrin asked what the protest fee would be for nationals and if all categories will allow the red and blue colors on uniform shoulders.

Fariba Madani stated that the protest fee will be \$350. She stated that changes of uniforms would be allowed at the side of tatamis, and that blue/red colors on uniform shoulders would be allowed for all.

Fariba Madani stated that there needs to be time allowed for competitors between katas as discussed in the June 10, 2024 RC meeting.

Chris Hodgkin asked Darrin Free if a medical staff person would be available for the referee practical.

Darrin Free said they will not have the exact number of competitors until the night before the tournament. He stated that they can produce a fairly accurate schedule three days before registration ends. Darrin Free mentioned he pushes to get a staging schedule out closer to the tournament and that the order of events won't change.

Will Gatch discussed the need for better scoreboards and issues with the current system where time is not shown accurately on scoreboards. WKF scoreboards clearly display match time remaining.

Approval of Minutes

- Jay Farrell asked for approval of the May 6th and June 10 open RC meeting minutes.
- Chuck Sweigart stated there was a vote out of order.
- Jay Farrell stated that the RC agreed to use modified and simplified Roberts Rules which allows further discussion.
- There was a motion to approve the minutes sent out via email.
 - May 6th minutes – 5 votes - approved
 - June 10th minutes – 4 votes - approved

New Business

- Fariba Madani discussed the RC was not consulted about an August 3rd date for Junior Team selection for the Pan American Games.
- Will Gatch stated that USA Karate just learned about the need for an extra selection process for Pan Am Games and Brody Burns would be adding it to the Jr. Team Camp in Kansas City on

August 2nd. Those conversations did not go to the RC, and concern was raised about getting officials to attend under such short notice.

Nationals Preparation

- Cedric Barksdale reported there were 51 officials registered as of 10:30 a.m. He will work with Kathy Bailey and Diane Martin on deployments.
- The RC requested that Diane Martin send out a reminder to officials about registering for Nationals.
- Fariba Madani said WFK/PKF does not have video review for Junior Championships and there will not be video review at Nationals.
- Chris Hodgkin provided an update on examination logistics. Chris Hodgkin has the template for scoring, and Diane Martin will add candidate names and send the populated form out to examiners. Fariba Madani will provide the kata videos for the exam.
- Chris Hodgkin asked about fighters for the practical exam.
- Fariba Madani requested all RC members to provide at least 2 athletes for the practical exam. IMA provided 90% of the fighters for the US Open. Fariba Madani reached out to two local dojos for fighters, however they will not be able to provide any fighters.
- Jay Farrell said he would also reach out to ask for volunteer fighters.
- Will Gatch said he will work with Brody Burns on requesting US team members to help as fighters for the practical.
- Fariba said for future events, USA Karate should include a request for fighters for the practical in the newsletter/bulletin.
- Jay Farrell stated he will make updates to the seminar slides and do an overall review of all the questions. Jay Farrell requested the clear page template for scoring exams.
- Fariba Madani will bring a printer and paper for printing certificates.
- Cedric Barksdale asked about the Tatami Deployment procedures that the Selection Committee had documented. Chris Hodgkin will update the document title to "Nationals" and send the procedure to Cedric Barksdale.
- Fariba Madani said patches will be available at Nationals and provided by Sara Plackett.

Next Meeting

- Fariba Madani requested the RC meet at 6 p.m. for final logistics review on Tuesday the week of Nationals.
- Chuck Sweigart said he may miss that meeting as he may be driving from the airport at that time.

There was a motion to adjourn, seconded, and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Central Time.