

Jerry L. Cypert, candidate for At-Large Director



My name is Jerry Cypert, I have been nominated to represent you as an At-Large Director for the USA Judo Board of Directors, I respectfully request your support. It is an honor and privilege to be nominated for a Board position with USA Judo. The experiences my life has provided me have helped to lay a foundation for the diverse exposure and multiple hats of being seated in the position for which I've been nominated. As a trained social worker (MSW; ACSW), I aim to seek a consensus. As a Judge in a municipal court, I strive to achieve both equity and equality for those whom I serve. I have two daughters and two sons and each, respectively, could attest to the manners in which I respond to conflict resolution.

I began Judo in 1962 at Fox Valley Lutheran (FVL) High School, Appleton, WI. At FVL, Judo was a lettered sport. After graduation in 1965, I practiced Judo (off and on) while in the military. I am a Vietnam veteran. I served as a Medivac Corpsmen with the First Marine Air Wing. It was not until 1982 that I put my Gi on again and have since enjoyed the ups and downs that are part of the sport. I am the Founder and Supervising Instructor of Hogosha Judo and hold the rank of 5th Dan. In addition to Beaver Dam, WI we currently have three additional satellite schools. Since 2008, I have travelled with my wife and sons throughout the United States in support of the art and sport. I take great pride in giving back to Judo for all it has provided me; from competing myself, to acting in the capacity of a National Referee, International Gold Coach (both ISBA certified), weigh-in supervisor, technical official, mentor, clinician, instructor, and arguably most important – a friend. The network that I have thankfully built and the relationships that have spanned many years are invaluable. To be afforded the opportunity of giving back as your At-Large Director, I would ensure fairness, equality, and the mutual welfare and benefit of the members in USA Judo are our priority. As an At-Large Director, I would represent all of Judo – not a subsection. It is vitally important that your representative, in this position, be independently minded and will work for the betterment of all of Judo.

Increasing the membership is imperative to further developing USA Judo. We must collaborate with one another to invite the most effective methods for doing so. Simultaneously, retention of current members needs to remain a priority as well. USA Judo on the whole needs to be an organization that our members are proud to be a part of. I pledge to work as an independent board member to unify the board and put skilled athletes on the mat during this upcoming Olympic cycle. With the Games coming to Los Angeles, we need to support and prepare Tour-level athletes in every weight category. Those that know me understand that I believe the future of Judo is represented by our youth athletes. It is my hope that we will also be able to develop funds in support of our younger athletes as they represent our country.

In the event that the USA Judo Board of Directors determines that obtaining a stipend (or the like) for supervising the weigh-ins at national events would disqualify me from serving on the USA Judo Board of Directors - please be assured that going forward I will not seek, nor will I receive, any income for this task. I strongly believe in "giving back" to Judo and will continue to volunteer to perform this function at my expense. I will also continue to make myself available for any other task that assists in a tournament's success.

Additionally, if it is determined that receiving payment for providing clinics, seminars, or programs disqualifies an individual from serving on the Board, going forward I will not charge for any of these events that I may provide. Or, if I do charge, all donations (after expenses) I will donate to USA Judo.

It is my belief that a member serving on the USA Judo Board of Directors be above an approach for the purpose of profiting from their service to Judo. That said, Judo is a small community; there has to be common sense in this regard. I fully support the revision of the by-laws to clearly address what will, and will not, be allowed concerning receiving dollars directly, or indirectly, from USA Judo.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I would appreciate your support in my candidacy for the At-Large Director member of the USA Judo Board of Directors. Please know any person who is registered to vote during the upcoming election is eligible to vote for the At-Large Director.

Your consideration is most appreciated.