

USA Judo State Organization Charter Policy

This policy establishes the standards, requirements, rights, and responsibilities for organizations seeking recognition as official State Organizations under USA Judo. It also outlines the structure and role of the State Organization Task Force, which facilitates collaboration and representation between USA Judo and its state-level affiliates.

State Organization Task Force

A. Formation

USA Judo shall recognize a State Organization Task Force composed of each state's designated representative. Each State Organization President, or their officially designated representative, shall serve as a member of the Task Force. The members will then vote on a President to be their representative to USA Judo.

B. Chair Election

The Task Force shall elect a Chairperson from among its members. The Chair shall:

- Serve as the principal liaison and voice for State Organizations to USA Judo leadership.
- Facilitate communications, feedback, and initiatives among states.
- Serve a term of two (2) years, with eligibility for re-election.
- Coordinate regular meetings (virtual or in-person) of the Task Force.

C. Purpose

The Task Force shall:

- Provide a unified voice for State Organizations to USA Judo.
- Share best practices, challenges, and regional developments.
- Collaborate on national and state-level initiatives.
- Act as a communication bridge between grassroots and national levels.

State Organization Charter Requirements

To maintain USA Judo recognition and membership benefits, each State Organization must submit documentation confirming compliance with the following by November 1, 2025, and annually thereafter:

A. Organizational Structure

1. Independent 501(c)(3) status in good standing with the IRS.
2. Current bylaws that align with USA Judo's bylaws and governance standards.
3. Clearly defined governance structure (e.g., board, officers, committees).
4. Most recent election results demonstrate democratic processes.

B. Personnel Requirements

1. All named officers must be current USA Judo members in good standing.
2. List of current promotion committee members with USA Judo membership numbers.

C. Strategic and Operational Planning

1. Prior year's strategic plan and outcome report (USA Judo can assist if needed).
2. Strategic plan for the upcoming year, including:
 - Key goals and initiatives
 - Development and outreach efforts
 - Membership growth strategies

D. Financial Requirements

1. Membership fee paid to USA Judo by the stated deadline.

Membership Benefits

Recognized State Organizations in compliance will receive the following:

A. Representation and Governance

- Voting membership on the State Organization Task Force
- Regular communication with USA Judo leadership
- Opportunity to provide input on national policies and programming

B. Promotion Authority

- Authority to promote up to and including Sandan, with a functioning and approved promotion committee

C. Financial Incentives

- Eligibility for state rebates based on membership and performance

D. Event & Communication Support

- Ability to sanction local events and activities under USA Judo
- Access to insurance coverage for sanctioned events
- Dedicated state webpage on the USA Judo website
- Ability to:
 - Send mass communications to state members
 - Display signage at national events
 - Host vendor tables at USA Judo national events
 - Request support for State Games, if applicable

E. Visibility & Recognition

- Featured content in USA Judo newsletters
- Annual Awards including:
 - Fastest Growing State Organization (by individual & club membership)
 - Recognition of outstanding programs and initiatives
- Use of USA Judo logos, templates, and branding for promotional materials

F. Athlete Development Support

- Access to USA Judo support in:
 - Identifying and developing high-potential athletes
 - Facilitating national team pathways

G. Referee Development

- Support in identifying and developing referees for national and higher-level certification

Non-Compliance and Probation

State Organizations that do not meet the above requirements by the deadline may be placed on probationary status or risk losing their recognition and associated benefits. USA Judo may offer remediation support to assist organizations in regaining compliance.

Amendments

This Charter Policy may be reviewed and amended by USA Judo as needed to reflect evolving organizational, strategic, or regulatory needs. State Organizations will be given advance notice of any substantial changes.

Contact and Support

State Organizations needing assistance with compliance or seeking clarification should contact:

USA Judo State Organization Liaison

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