USA Judo Kata Committee Summary
September 14, 2026, zoom
6:00pm ET / 5:00pm CT / 4:00pm MT / 3:00pm PT

USA Judo Kata Committee members attendance: Diane Jackson, Theo Schwalm, Barbara Shimizu, Karen Whilden, Doug Newcomer, Jim Sternick. Others: Christine Levine (member and kata representative, Athlete Committee)

1. Welcome, established quorum. Time: 6:10pm
2. Motion to approve Agenda: Doug, Karen. Passes
3. USAJudo
    a. USAJudo and USJF Agreement - completed
    b. Kata Continental Open or KWS (2027) – goal
    c. Kata at Jr Olympics or Youth Nationals (2027) – goal
    d. Smoothcomp
4. Actions:
    a. International Open events and registration – Theo Schwalm
    b. Smoothcomp – Barb Shimizu and Karen Whilden
    c. Athlete Points – Doug and Jim
    d. Judge participation tracking –
    e. Judge analysis – Alain Wilkinson
    f. Update of USAJudo kata webpage – Christine Levine
        i. Athlete roster
        ii. Past teams
        iii. Help for kata
        iv. Links to information on IJF
        v. List of kata point tournaments,
        vi. Table of possible points per tournament
        vii. Application to be point tournament
        viii. MOTION to approve website changes: Jackson, second: Shimizu. PASSED
5. USJF-sponsored regional tournaments – second year
    a. Developmental for athletes and judges
    b. USJF sanction
    c. USJF Funds if developmental activities
    d. Can/should move to other venues
    e. Western – January 30 in San Francisco, CA
    f. Midwest – October 17 (tentative) in Chicago, IL

g. Eastern – August 9 in College Park, MD

6. IJF Kata athlete / pairs points and point tournaments
    a. July 4 - KWS - Laval, CAN (near Montreal)
    b. September 26 – 27, IJF World Kata Championship, Sarajevo, B&H
    c. IJF document Documents / IJF.org
        i. Points/tournament table plus Seniors 8/2025
            1. RANKING ATHLETES IJF SENIOR - Google Sheets
        ii. Junior 8/2025 RANKING ATHLETES IJF U21 - Google Sheets
7. USA point system for athletes
    a. US Tournament points (spreadsheet)
    b. Athlete couple/ teams - US Point system (spreadsheet)
        i. 6.2 and 5.2 minimum average for tracking of IJF divisions
        ii. Senior nationals remains the qualifier
            1. If slots available can consider point roster for PJC
    c. Kata Teams/Pairs of the Year
        i. 5.2 for developing teams (full kata divisions) U13, U18
    d. Qualification average score and criteria
        i. Average of 7.0 for Worlds
        ii. Average of 6.5 for PJC Championship
        iii. Attend PJC at least once every 2 years to go to IJF Worlds
        iv. Other criteria (e.g., rank and age) per tournament outline
8. 2027 divisions for youth
    a. U11 – Nage (1 set: either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd set); Katame no Kata (1st set); Ju no kata (1st set)
    b. U15
    c. Senior nationals: US Judo Kata
    d. What's App: USA Kata Community
    e. Senior – Open and Intermediate
    f. Junior: U21: 15 - 20 years - NNK, KNK JNK, Goshin - brown belt
    g. Junior: Cadet U18: 15 - 16 years – green belt – none this year (aligns with IJF division, but does not require draw for uke and tori roles)
9. Ideas for Growing judges/instructors – coordinate with USJF Kata Committee (lead)
    a. Passing IJF academy = sufficient to be local instructor, without further requirements. Must apply through USJF
    b. Passing IJF academy = will count as demonstration for regional or national
    c. MOTION by Jim, second by Theo – PASSED
    d. USAJudo Kata Committee to recommend to USJF Kata Committee
10. Adjourn – Doug, Karen W. passed. 7:05pm

Senior Nationals Kata Statistics:

2026 Alb, NM	NNK	KaNK	JNK	KIME	KDK GJ	INK	KoNK	Subtotal
Senior/Open	10	7	5	4	9	4	2	**41**
Junior/U21	2	1	0	0	1	n/a	n/a	**4**
Intermed	1	3	5	0	0	n/a	n/a	**9**
Subtotal	**13**	**11**	**10**	**4**	**10**	4	2	**54**

2025 Birm, AL	NNK	KaNK	JNK	KIME	KDK GJ	ITSUTSU	Subtotal
Senior/Open	4	6	6	2	3	4	**25**
Junior/U23	2	0	1	0	0	n/a	**3**
Intermed	1	1	3	1	3	n/a	**9**
Subtotal	**7**	**7**	**10**	**3**	**6**	**4**	**37**
2024 Ont, CALI	NNK	KaNK	JNK	KIME	KDK GJ	ITSUTSU	Subtotal
Senior/Open	3	5	5	4	5	n/a	**22**
Junior/U23	2	1	1	0	1	n/a	**5**
Intermed	4	5	3	0	1	n/a	**13**
Subtotal	**9**	**11**	**9**	**4**	**7**	**n/a**	**40**
2023 Spo, WA	NNK	KaNK	JNK	KIME	KDK GJ	ITSUTSU	Subtotal
Senior/Open	3	4	5	2	3	n/a	**17**
Junior/U23	2	0	1	0	0	n/a	**3**
Intermed	3	3	2	1	2	n/a	**11**
Subtotal	**8**	**7**	**8**	**3**	**5**	n/a	**31**
2022 Day, FL	NNK	KaNK	JNK	KIME	KDK GJ	ITSUTSU	Subtotal
Men	6	5	0	2	3	n/a	**16**
Women	1	2	2	0	0	n/a	**5**
Mixed	0	0	2	0	0	n/a	**2**
Subtotal	**7**	**7**	**4**	**2**	**3**	n/a	**23**