USA Judo Kata Committee Summary

May 8, 2026, Albuquerque, NM and zoom

3:00pm ET / 2:00pm CT / 1:00pm MT / 12:00 PT

Attendees: list at end

USA Judo Kata Committee members present: Diane Jackson, Barb Shimizu, Theo Schwalm, Karen Whilden, Doug Newcomer

1. Welcome, established quorum. Time: 1:02pm
2. Motion to approve Agenda: Schwalm, Shimizu. Passed
3. 2026 Kata committee members
    a. Diane Jackson, Barb Shimizu, Theo Schwalm, Karen Whilden, Doug Newcomer, Jim Sternick
    b. Thank you for long time committee members, Dr Kuniko Takeuchi, Eiko Shepherd, Carla Martin, Claudia Smith, and Frances Glaze
    c. Moment of silence for Neil Simon and others we have lost
    d. More than ever, need community to be active to progress kata
4. USAJudo
    a. USAJudo and USJF Agreement
    b. Kata Continental Open (2027) – goal
    c. Jr Olympics (2027) – goal
    d. Kata World Series – longer term goal
5. Proposal for update of USAJudo kata webpage – Christine Levine
    a. Motion to Pass: Shimizu, Jackson. Passed
6. USJF-sponsored regional tournaments – second year
    a. Developmental for athletes and judges
    b. Can move to other venues
    c. Westerns – January 30 in San Francisco, CA
    d. Midwest – October 17 (tentative) in Chicago, IL
    e. Eastern – August 2 or 9 (tentative) in College Park, Maryland
7. IJF Kata athlete / couple 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

8. 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
        ii. Senior nationals remain qualifier
            1. If slots available can consider point roster, esp. PJC
    c. Kata teams of the Year
9. 2026 Senior nationals: US Judo Kata
    a. What's App: USA Kata Community
    b. Senior – Open and Intermediate
    c. Junior: U21: 15 - 20 years - NNK, KNK JNK, Goshin - brown belt
    d. Junior: Cadet U18: 15 - 16 years – green belt – none this year

54 – 55 performances

	Nage	Katame	Ju	Goshin	Kime	Itsutsu	Koshiki
Sr – Open	10	7	5	9	4	4	2
Sr - INT	1	3	5-6	-	-	-	-
Jr – U21	2	1	0	1	-	-	-
Jr – U17	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
totals	13	11	10-11	10	4	4	2

Saturday, May 9

- Elite shiai over about 1:30pm
- Shared practice mat available – shiai and kata

Sunday, May 10

- 7:00 am – doors open
- 8:00 am - bow in
- 8:15 start
- 2 mats - About 5 hours
- awards at lunch break and after

10. Adjourn – Motion to end by: Whilden, Newcomer: Passed. Time:2:12pm