

DRAFT - USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Agenda – December 14, 2024

- I. Roll Call
  - A. Members Present – R. Scherer, G. Berliner, H. Estevez, W. Gugino, T. Oishi, B. Shimizu, D. Smith
  - B. Members Excused – S. Cohen, A. Kchirian
  - C. Members Absent – K. Sell
  - D. RC Assistants Present – D. Malek, R. Palmer, D. Rucker
  - E. Special Guests – B. Donaldson, K. Bryant, M. Takata, J. Chi, Christopher Round (leader of USA Judo strategic plan task force)
- II. Review /acceptance of last RC Meeting – Approved by email 10/7/2024
- III. Referee Advancements –
  - A. To National – Catherine Arias, Mikala Yamatake, Veronica Gonzalez, Sun Ho Kim, K.Y. Kim
  - B. To Continental – Babak Esmeli
  - C. To International – Nicole Ward
- IV. Event Status Reports
  - A. Domestic Events
    1. Recently Completed N1 Events – San Jose Open, Morris Cup, Dallas Open, Winter Nationals, Northeastern Championships
    2. Recently Completed N2 and N3 Events – President’s Cup
    3. Upcoming N1 Events – *Lone Star (CR=Bobby Donaldson; Evaluators=Gary Berliner, Mike Takata) – Wahadachi (CR=Brian Toth; Evaluators=Mike Takata, David Smith); America’s Cup Hawaii 7/5-8/2025 (CR=Nicole Ward; Evaluators=Gary Berliner, Ryan Shimokawa) – Approval moved by G. Berliner, 2<sup>nd</sup> W. Gugino – passed unanimously*
    4. Upcoming N2 and N3 Events – *Room Request Form will be used*
      - a. *Youth Nationals – Salt Lake City – 3/29-30/2025*
      - b. *Senior Nationals – 5/25-26/2025*
      - c. *Junior Olympics – Bedford Park, IL – 6/19-22/2025*
      - d. *U.S. Open –*
      - e. *President’s Cup –*
  - B. International Events –
    1. Recent trips - Senegal – Sharon ref; Babak B exam; Nicole A exam
    2. Upcoming young referees being encouraged to travel internationally
    3. Several referees in pipeline to be prepared for upcoming test opportunities
    4. Additional referees who have completed or scheduled the IJF Academy – none since last meeting
- V. Old Business
  - A. Actions taken by email since last meeting – minutes approved and an international trip approved

- B. Status of international travel reports, costs and receipts – Referees who have officiated internationally during 2024 will be sent an email with current data and need to respond by 12/27/2024 to be eligible for partial reimbursement of their international transportation expenditures (receipts are required). The funding support depends on their international travel expenses and the number of National Championships (Youth, Senior, Junior Olympics and President’s Cup) they attended in 2024.
  - C. Status of National Championships Referee Reimbursements (Pres Cup) – all requests (with receipts) must be received by 12/27/2024
  - D. A survey will be sent to all active referees to determine which 2025 events they plan to attend and what their desired position is for each event
- VI. New Business
- A. Initial Input - Annual Policy Reviews – working on Strategic Plan – final update to all policy documents will be accomplished following the official designation of the 2025/2026 RC by the USA BoD.
  - B. Discussed various current methods of bringing more referees into the evaluation process and providing relevant training
- VII. Set date for the next RC Meeting – Saturday, January 4, 2025 (7:00PM Eastern)

- IX. Selection of CR and Evaluators for upcoming N2 Events –
- A. *Youth Nationals – Salt Lake City – 3/29-30/2025 (Approved CR=G. Berliner; Evaluators=M. Takata, W. Gugino,B. Donaldson)*
  - B. *Senior Nationals – 5/25-26/2025 (Approved CR=G.Berliner; Evaluators=H.Estevez, M. Takata, W. Gugino)*
- X. Adjournment

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