

## USA Judo Coach Education Committee Zoom Meeting

Friday, June 26, 2026, Noon, EST

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The Zoom meeting started promptly at noon, EST and was attended by the following: Marc Vink, Alaa Elidrissi, Rich Moss, and Lincoln Han. Lincoln had to leave the meeting early due to work commitments. Jenna Schurr was unable to attend due to a work conflict. The meeting lasted approximately one-hour. Although we have met several times to discuss various topics, this was the second official committee meeting for the committee.

The first order of business was to endorse the change in the USA Judo Dress Code Policy. The second order of business was to review and modify the third draft of the Coach Certification document. Rich Moss suggested that we add on-line testing as opposed to submitting hard copy documents for evaluation. Given the large number of coaches that will be recertifying in January, the volume of work related to grading documents far exceeds our ability to handle the work load. Both Alaa, Han and I agree that on-line testing is the only practical way to manage testing.

The group revisited the topic of eliminating the international certification level. This level presently serves no purpose. The IJF mandates that coaches wishing to “sit in the chair”, must be certified via their course requirements. I check with High Performance, and they indicated that eliminating the certification would no disrupt our ability to serve athletes competing at international events. The national level certification curriculum would serve to prepare our coaches to take the IJF course.

The also discussed the club assistant coach certification. I believe that we should rename this certification level to “Club Assistant”. Alaa suggested that we open up this level to include interested parents. The task of this designation would be to assist in keeping the club safe, clean, and develop a cohort that could provide transportation to local events as well as support **ALL** club members. The USA Wrestling model could be used as a starting point.

At this point of development, we would have three levels: State, Regional, and National. USA Judo members would be grandfathered into their present level and have one year to attend mandatory certification training.

I informed the group that Jenna Schurr was working on an member assessment tool that would aid this project for quality assurance.

Prepared by: Marc P. Vink, Ed. D.