



**USA Judo Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2025, via Teleconference**

Attendees: Ari Berliner  
Jeffrey Brentley  
Joon Chi  
Jerry Cypert  
Ari Miller  
Gerry Navarro  
Joe Ragan  
Nicole Stout

USA Judo Staff: Corinne Shigemoto, CEO  
Bill Kellick, Board Secretary/Communications and Marketing Manager  
Ed Liddie, Director of High Performance

Counsel: Ian Kalmanowitz, Colorado Employment Law

- I. At 5:01 pm MDT, a quorum was established, and Mr. Ragan introduced Mr. Kalmanowitz with Colorado Employment Law and then asked for any conflicts of interest. None were stated.
- II. Mr. Ragan noted the recent board resignations of Ben Goodrich and Jeff LeForce. Manny Montalvo also submitted his resignation via email during the meeting.
- III. At 5:04 pm MDT, the meeting went into Executive Session.
- IV. The meeting came out of executive session at 5:22 pm MDT.
- V. Corinne Shigemoto and Ed Liddie joined the call at 5:25 pm MDT.
- VI. Mr. Navarro gave an update on his communication with the IJF and the possibility of the U.S. hosting some IJF events, such as a Grand Slam or a Grand Prix, in the coming years. Mr. Navarro stated he needs board approval to continue negotiations. The board approved Mr. Navarro to continue negotiations with the IJF.
- VII. Mr. Ragan welcomed Ms. Shigemoto who gave a CEO update on her first week, including making key contacts and setting up meetings with USOPC executives. Payments are being processed and an offer was made to a candidate for the office finance manager. Former office finance manager Melissa Jones will work on a part-time basis to help with the challenges. A meeting was held with the U.S. Performance Center in Charlotte, N.C., and a contract is being reviewed. There are a few partner contracts that have lapsed or are up for renewal which Ms. Shigemoto is having meetings to address.
- VIII. Mr. Ragan asked if there was any opposition to having Ms. Shigemoto take full control of executing contracts without needing board approval under the role of CEO. No objections were made.

- IX. Mr. Ragan voiced concern about being out of compliance with committees, particularly with athlete representation. Mr. Ragan suggested extending those remaining on the committee until we receive athlete names for replacements. Ms. Stout addressed the status of some athletes on the AAC. Mr. Berliner agreed to serve as the board representative on the AAC, due to the departures of Marti Malloy and Ben Goodrich.
- X. Jeffrey Brentley joined the meeting at 6:04 pm MDT.
- XI. Mr. Ragan mentioned the reason for the recent formation of the Executive Committee was to help divide up the work. Discussion was held. Mr. Cypert made a motion to disband the Executive Committee. Ms. Stout mentioned that the Executive Committee may be included in the USA Judo Articles of Corporation. Mr. Ragan will distribute that document to the board following the meeting for review.
- XII. Next Meeting to be determined via a poll for either Sunday, Feb. 2, Monday, Feb. 3, or Tuesday, Feb. 4.
- XIII. Ms. Stout made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Navarro. Meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm MDT.