

USA Judo High Performance Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details: October 29, 2024, at 10:30am MT (Microsoft Team Meeting)

Attendees: Ed Liddie, Gerry Navarro, Angelica Delgado, Jim Hrbek, Marti Malloy, Danny Rodriguez, Marc Vink, Alex Bates

Topic 1: Eligibility Rules on Attending Senior Continental Open Tournaments starting July 2025

- Discussion was had regarding what level USA Judo National Point Tournaments would qualify athletes for international events.
- Upon review of current events on the Point Matrix, a suggestion was made to make the current process more challenging by requiring athletes be at least “D Level” or higher on the national ranking rosters to attend IJF Continental Opens.
- Consideration for only including “C Level” and higher events was brought up however, the group ultimately decided there would not be enough opportunities throughout the year for athletes to medal at these events due to the low number of “C Level” events. By allowing “D Level” events, the consensus was that there would be enough qualifying opportunities throughout the year.
- The High Performance Committee unanimously approves that all athletes must be at least a “D Level” or higher on the current USA Judo National Ranking Roster in order to be eligible for the IJF Senior Continental Opens starting July 2025.

Topic 2: Eligibility Rules on Attending Senior IJF World Tour events (Grand Prix/Slam) starting July 2025

- Discussion was had regarding the qualification criteria for athletes to attend IJF Senior World Tour events (Grand Prix/Slam).
- It was mentioned that the current criteria should be revised as it does not ensure a high enough standard that athletes must meet in order to be competitive and successful at IJF World Tour events, thus also hindering their development by attending events above their current skill level.
- Two versions of revisions to the current criteria were suggested. The first being a result-based approach where placing in certain international events would make athletes eligible. The second being where athletes would have to achieve a certain total point accumulation on the Senior IJF World Ranking List (WRL).
- The High Performance Committee unanimously agrees to update the current criteria using the IJF WRL point accumulation standard.

- Discussion was held on the cut off of WRL point accumulation set for either 350 or 300 points.
- High Performance Committee unanimously agreed to update the current criteria to require all athletes have 300 points on the IJF WRL before being eligible to compete in Grand Prix and Grand Slam events. A review will take place in July of 2025 to determine if additional changes need to be made for event selections for the first half of 2026.