



UNITED STATES JUDO FEDERATION

Executive Director
Robert S. Fukuda

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 338
Ontario, OR 97914-0338

Telephone:
(541) 889-8753

Faxes:
(541) 889-5836

Internet:
www.usjf.com
no@usjf.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: All USJF Yudanshakais, Dojos, & Individual Members
FROM: Robert Fukuda, Executive Director
RE: USA Judo “Your Choice” Participation/Membership Plan
with No Insurance Participation Waiver
DATE: July 6, 2023

As previously announced, the longstanding American Judo Alliance Agreement (AJAA) which had been in place for decades among USA Judo, USJA and USJF has expired.

USJA & USJF have entered into new cooperative partnership agreement very similar to the expired AJAA. With the continuation of the cooperative agreement between USJA and USJF, all USJA & USJF sanctioned events (including are tournaments, dojo workouts, practices and related activities) are open to current USJA & USJF members in good standing and the USJA and/or USJF insurance benefits will continue to apply in the same manner as historically.

In response to USA Judo’s withdrawal from the AJAA and USA Judo’s recent announcement about a “Your Choice” Participation/Membership Plan with a No Insurance Participation Waiver (NIPW), USJF has prepared the following information for the knowledge and benefit of USJF members.

USJF recommends against USJF members participating in the USA Judo Your Choice plan with a No Insurance Participation Waiver (NIPW) for the following reasons:

1. USJF’s Participant Accident insurance benefits will NOT apply while USJF members are participating in USA Judo events (due to USA Judo’s withdrawal from the American Judo Alliance Agreement). USJF’s members who participate in USA Judo’s “No Insurance Participation Waiver” program do so **“at their own risk”** with only your personal medical/health insurance coverage available, if any.
2. USJF’s General Liability insurance will NOT apply for USJF certified coaches, teachers, and referees while participating in any such capacity at USA Judo events. USJF certified coaches, teachers, and referees who choose to participate will be doing so **“at their own risk”** without the benefit of USJF liability protection.

3. Based upon the “No Insurance Participation Waiver” that USA Judo is requiring USJF members to sign as a requirement for participating in USA Judo events, it appears that USJF members won’t have the benefit of USA Judo insurance while participating in USA Judo events. For USA Judo insurance to be in place at USA Judo dojos and events, you must purchase USA Judo membership.

In summary, USJF insurance coverage (General Liability and Participant Accident) will NOT apply while USJF members are participating in any USA Judo events (including any tournaments, dojo practice, workout, etc.). If you choose to do so, it is **“at your own risk”**.

The renewed cooperative agreement between USJA and USJF keeps USJA sanctioned events open to participation by USJF members and USJF sanctioned events open to participation by USJA members. Please support grassroots judo and development by participating and supporting these programs.

We hope this information is helpful to USJF’s members regarding the USA Judo “Your Choice” program. Thank you very much for your continued support, membership and participation in USJF programs!