

UNITED STATES JUDO FEDERATION, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Saturday, April 26, 2025, 8:00 am
Miami, Florida

AGENDA Rev2

NOTE: Each Yudanshakai president is to certify to the USJF Secretary (c/o the National Office) the identity and address of each Yudanshakai Delegate and Alternate to the Board of Directors.

Building Our Communities through Judo Values
- friendship, honor, courage, self-control, humility, respect, perseverance -

Registration of Delegates

I. CALL TO ORDER, SEATING OF DELEGATES (Executive Committee acts as a committee on credentials)

- A. Welcome by the Chairperson

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- A. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

- November 11, 2024, Revised to read:

- B. **New Business:** Motion: Create a USJF Education Membership at a discounted rate of 50% off the cost of an annual membership that shall apply only to youth participating in an accredited school program, such as school class, school sport or school club. The range of educational programs may range from elementary, middle school, high school, college and university. The person applying for the USJF Educational Membership must attend the school as a student and be a member of a recognized USJF charter club connected to the school for the membership discount to be available. A student is defined as a person who is actively enrolled in classes at the participating school.

- C. **Unfinished Business**

- D. **Motion:** 2nd reading -AMENDED - To raise annual registration fee from \$70 to \$80 per year, commencing on September 1, 2025. Booster membership to \$25 (add to agenda correction and presentation)

- E. **Motion 2nd reading – motion to amend to read:** To have the monthly registration fee of \$9.99 have \$2.50 of that fee as a grant to the Yudanshakai, retro active to the beginning of this fiscal year.

- F. **By-Law change: 1st reading, Motion:** Approve the Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement Committee as a USJF Standing Committee. (Mitchell Palacio, President)

- G. **Withdraw Motion:** 1st Reading, Increase individual membership fee from \$80 to \$90 after September 1, 2026

- H. **Motion: 2nd Reading:** USJF Development Certification Standardized Fee Structure, initial certification \$100, re-certification \$75

IV. MINUTES FOR REVIEW & APPROVAL

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A. Minutes:

- February 4, 2025
- November 12, 2024
 - Revised to read: 1st reading USJF Development Certification Standardized Fee Structure, initial certification \$100, re-certification \$75

V. REPORTS

A. President

- Parliamentarian – Joshua Kindelberger
- “USJF - A New Era of Change”
 - “Paradigm Shift”
 - Our history
 - The Role of Yudanshakai
 - Insights and Understanding our Customer Base
 - The Importance of USFJ Branding
- Referee Development
 - Appointment of new USJF Referee Chairperson, Dr. Diba Mani
- Website - Update
 - Tournament Directors Resources Page
- Accept the Standards Recommendation on Mr. Hurd Promotion to Shodan
 - Exco Approved
- Strategic Planning
 - Motion before: asking is it important to know where USA Judo status
 - Seeking a pro bono strategic planner facilitator
 - Survey: what do the new younger generation want from the organization
 - Ad hoc committee – 10 members
- Leadership Transition
 - Secretary, Chris Reid will conduct the corporation’s business.

B. 1st Vice President – Joshua Kindelberger

- Update

C. 2nd Vice President – Chase Morinaka

- Update

D. Secretary – Chris Reid

- Sanctions

E. Financial Report

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- Rome Acopan Jr. Treasurer
- Update: Fiscal Year 2024-2025
- Endowment Trust

F. Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement - Neil Simon

- Lifetime Achievement Award – Class of 2025

G. Broad of Examiners

- Promotion Committee – Kevin Tamai, Chair
- Takeda – Chair

H. Executive Director

- Update

VI. BOARD RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF THE CORPORATION SINCE PREVIOUS MEETING

A. Accept all reports, actions and appointments.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **Motion:** 2nd reading -AMENDED - To raise annual registration fee from \$70 to \$80 per year, commencing on September 1, 2025. Booster membership to \$25

- Rationale: The USJF would raise the annual registration fee for individual members to \$80 to a minimum equivalent of similar organizations. In doing so, the \$80 would reflect the lower end of annual membership fee of similar sports organizations. Current revenue levels are no longer sufficient to cover rising operational costs, program needs, and inflation. This adjustment is necessary to ensure the organization's financial stability and prevent deficit spending in fiscal year 2026 and subsequent years. (Rome Acopan Jr., Treasurer)

B. **Motion:** 2nd reading - To raise dan promotion fees for Nidan and higher.

- Rationale: The USJF last increased its dan promotion fees in 2013. This nominal increase in promotion fees will be on par with the fees of similar sports organizations. (Rome Acopan Jr., Treasurer)
 - Nidan - \$180
 - Sandan - \$230
 - Yodan - \$250
 - Godan - \$280
 - Rokudan - \$300
 - Shichidan - \$350
 - Hachidan - \$400
 - Kudan - \$525
 - Judan - \$550

C. **Motion:** 2nd reading - Revoke the standing rule of returning the surplus funds back to the Endowment corpus. And instead go through the Finance Committee.

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- To formalize the historic practice of retaining surplus funds in the operating funds. Rationale: To reduce redundancy at the BOD meetings each year, when a surplus is available. Starting immediately, any surplus funds would be retained in the operating funds of the organization. (Rome Acopan Jr., Treasurer)

D. **Motion 2nd reading – motion to amend to read: To have the monthly registration fee of \$9.99 have \$2.50 of that fee as a grant to the Yudanshakai, retro active to the beginning of this fiscal year.**

E. **Motion: 2nd Reading:** USJF Development Certification Standardized Fee Structure, initial certification \$100, re-certification \$75

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. **By-Law change: 1st reading, Motion: Approve the Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement Committee as a USJF Standing Committee. (Mitchell Palacio, President)**

B. **Motion:** Discussion on whether it's essential to understand the current status of USA Judo prior to initiating the USJF Strategic Planning Process. (Mitchell Palacio, President)

C. **Withdrawn Motion:** The establishment of the USJF Charter Club Scholarship Program, designed to support and benefit the club membership, will provide financial assistance to athletes within the USJF network. This program aims to help ease the financial burden on members while promoting participation and development in the sport. A dedicated USJF webpage will be created to acknowledge the amount received by each club from the USJF Charter Club Scholarship Program, ensuring transparency and recognition. The program is overseen by the Scholarship Committee. (see USJF Charter Club Scholarship Program Addendum) (Mitchell Palacio, President)

D. **Withdrawn Motion to amend: 1st Reading, Increase individual membership fee from \$80 to \$90 after September 1, 2026**

- Rationale: The USJF would raise the annual registration fee for individual members to \$90, aligning it with the minimum fee charged by comparable organizations. This \$10 increase adjustment will fund the USJF Charter Club Scholarship Program which will ease the financial burden on members while promoting participation and development in the sport. (see USJF Charter Club Scholarship Program Addendum) (Mitchell Palacio, President)

E. **Motion:** Should a Yudanshakai for a Hall of Fame and/or Lifetime achievement Award decide to have a celebratory dinner and/or action, the proceeds from the dinner and/or action will be used to off-set expenses and costs for the awards. Additional monies beyond the expenses should go into the Hall of Fame Account for future awardee expenses. (Neil Simon, Chair – HoF/LAA)

F. **Motion:** The Hall of Fame Committee is requesting that the BoD alter last meeting's vote for moving the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Presidential Recognition Awards from an every-other year schedule to an Annual schedule. The Hall of Fame Award will remain a semi-annual award. (Neil Simon, Chair – HoF/LAA)

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- G. **Motion:** Allocate \$30,000 from the reserves to facilitate the marketing and branding of the USJF Summer Nationals. (Mitchell Palacio, President)
- H. **Motion:** Create a USJF Education Membership at a discounted rate of 50% off the cost of an annual membership that shall apply only to youth participating in an accredited school program, such as school class, school sport or school club. The range of educational programs may range from elementary, middle school, high school, college and university. The person applying for the USJF Educational Membership must attend the school as a student and be a member of a recognized USJF charter club connected to the school for the membership discount to be available. A student is defined as a person who is actively enrolled in classes at the participating school

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. 2025 USJF Nationals - Honolulu, Hawaii – Update
 - Nathan Lee, 50th State President
- B. **Future Fall & Spring Meeting Location**
 - Yudanshakai interested in having the Spring or Fall meetings
 - Fall 2025
Las Vegas
October/November 2025
 - Spring 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii - JBBH
Late April/May 2026
 - Fall 2026
Las Vegas
October/November 2026
 - Spring 2027 - Intermountain
Location: Boise, Id.
April/May 2027

X. ADJOURNMENT

XI. REMINDERS

- A. All committee members and other interested USJF members are welcome to attend USJF committee and board meetings. USJF meetings are open. Committee Chairpersons and Yudanshakai Presidents should, as a matter of course, routinely communicate all USJF meeting schedules and related National Office information/notices to all dojos.
- B. In accordance with the USJF by-laws, the deadline for member agenda item requests is 45 days prior to the meeting.