

UNITED STATES JUDO FEDERATION, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Friday, May 8, 2026, 1:30 pm
Honolulu, Hawaii

AGENDA

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.

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

- A. Senator Ben Campbell
B. Neil Simon

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- A. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

IV. MINUTES FOR REVIEW & APPROVAL

- A. Minutes:
i. February 2026
ii. November 2025

V. REPORTS

- A. President
- i. Big Island Visit
 - Clinics in Kona and Hilo
 - Entourage: Nishioka, Palacio, Kindelberger, Morinaka, Reid, Acopan Jr. Tamai, Isono, Washburn
 - ii. 2026 High Performance Workshop
 - Identify and develop USJF Coaches
 - Next generation of leaders
 - High Performance Coach Workshop
 - Self Defense Instructor Certification
 - Smoothcomp Event Management Certification – pending
 - iii. USA Judo Collaboration
 - Update
 - Partnership progressing well. Verbal agreements
 - **Concern:** Leadership instability at USA Judo due to bylaw rewrites and USOPC oversight
 - USA Judo Coach Certification: Being created by Neil Adams. Explore the reciprocity upon USA Judo Coach Certification release 2027.
 - IJF Rank Standardization Impact

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- USJA rank issues
 - Standardize rank requirements throughout the world.
 - USA Judo impact loss of \$75,000 - \$50,000 a year.
- iv. Fall Meeting: 2026
- Strategic Planning
 - Thursday, Strategic Planning
 - Friday, Committee Meetings
 - Saturday, BoE and BoD meetings.
 - General Discussion: Fall meeting location
- v. Committee Appointment
- Kata Committee Chair – Karen Nagai
 - Coach Committee
 - Joey Nawa: Nanka
 - Wayne Tsunoda: Shufu
 - HoF Committee
 - Karen Nagai: Northwest
 - Pedro Kolychikine: Florida
 - Larry Tsutsui: San Joaquin
 - Dekin Hom – Admin Assistant: HoF/LAA
- vi. Congratulations: Hector Estevez
- USA Judo Referee Commission Chair
- vii. USJF Summer National Bids
- Fall meeting: Bid package approval
 - Revisiting our USJF Summer National Bid package
- B. 1st Vice President: Josh Kindelberger
- i. Development
 - ii. Internship Program
 - Hannah and Julia Tsutsui
 - iii. Coach Development – International Coaching Opportunity
 - Hannah Tsutsui - Chair
- C. 2nd Vice President: Chase Morinaka
- i. Update
 - ii. Communications and Marketing
- D. Secretary: Chris Reid
- i. Technology & Operations
 - ii. Scholarships and Grants

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- iii. Online Sanctioning Process
- E. Financial Report
 - i. Rome Acopan Jr. Treasurer
 - ii. Update: Fiscal Year 2026
 - iii. Moving toward Calendar year
 - 2026 Fiscal Year: September 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026
- F. Executive Director
 - i. USA Judo Update & Summer Nationals
 - ii. Photos & recording at events
 - iii. Transgender Policy
 - iv. Fiscal to Calendar Year Change
 - v. NO update
- G. Broad of Examiners
 - i. Promotion Committee – Kevin Tamai, Chair
 - ii. Takeda – Chair
- H. Hall of Fame and Lifetime Achievement
 - i. Robert Brink, acting chairperson

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

- A. Accept all reports, actions and appointments.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **2nd Reading 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.
 - i. 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.
 - ii. A student is defined as a person who is actively enrolled in classes at the participating school.
 - (Josh Kindelberger, 1st Vice President)

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **General Discussion:** Review the potential benefits and concerns associated with allowing Bantam Division 1–2–3 athletes (ages 5–7) to compete in USJF Summer Nationals, for the purpose of evaluating future policy direction.
- B. **General Discussion:** Align our Bi-annual corporate meetings with USA Judo meeting schedule

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- i. Fall Meeting: Presidents Cup Tournament
 - ii. Spring Meeting: USA Sr. Nationals
- C. **Motion:** In USJF By-Laws Article VI. Committees. Section 1. E. 4 Composition.: Add the immediate past President as a voting member on the Executive Committee.
- i. **Rationale:** Adding the immediate past president to the executive committee will provide continuity and experience from one administration to the next with on-going issues with Judo in the United States. (Miki Takemori, Shufu - President)
- D. **Motion: Allocation of Certification Program Funds**
- i. Funds generated from United States Judo Federation (USJF) certification programs be allocated for use within the respective certification program during the current fiscal year.
 - ii. **Rationale:**
This motion ensures that revenue generated by each certification program is reinvested directly into its development, sustainability, and program quality, thereby supporting continued growth and effectiveness. (Palacio, President)
- E. **Motion:** To suspend the bylaw provisions governing the election process for this cycle and proceed with the election of the current slate of officers, specifically the positions of President Palacio, 1st Vice President Kindelberger, 2nd Vice President Morinaka, Secretary Reid, and Treasurer Acopan Jr. (Palacio, President)
- i. **Rationale:** *Organizational Stability and Continuity*
 - Retaining the current slate of officers will preserve momentum on several important ongoing initiatives, including collaboration with USA Judo, the transition of our National Office, the continued development of our Strategic Plan, and the successful integration of our emerging leadership group.
- F. Election of Board of Director Officers
- President
 - 1st Vice President
 - 2nd Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- G. Election of Board of Examiners – Chairperson, Vice Chair and Secretary
- Election of Chair
 - Election of Vice Chair
 - Election of Secretary
- H. Election of Endowment Trustees
- i. 2026 Endowment Fund Trustee Elections – 2 year term
 - 2024-2026 up for election, 2-year term, Spring 2026-2028
 - Vacant (was Salvador Cruz)
 - Edward Hanashiro

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- Bryan Matsuoka

- ii. FYI: 2024-2028 4-year term, continuing thru Spring 2028
 - Thomas Sheehan
 - D. Eric Spears

- I. Future Spring & Fall Meeting Location
 - i. Yudanshakais interested in having the Spring or Fall meetings
 - Fall 2026 - Las Vegas, Nevada
 - Spring 2027 – Boise

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. USJF Summer Nationals
 - i. City College of San Francisco, Ca. – July 11-12, 2026
 - ii. USA Judo Point Event
 - iii. Smoothcomp

- B. Saturday, Oahu Interscholastic State Championship

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.