UNITED STATES JUDO FEDERATION, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Saturday, November 14, 2026, 1:00 pm (Pacific)
Las Vegas, Nevada

AGENDA 2v.

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.

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 to the Agenda

IV. Minutes for Review and Approval:

A. February 2026, Teleconference Meeting

B. November 2025, Board of Directors Meeting

V. REPORTS

A. President

i. Perspective
- "Honoring Our Traditions, Developing Our People, and Building Our Future."

ii. Acknowledgements
- Medani
- Kawaji

iii. USJA Insurance Policy – James Vroom (Insurance Broker)
- All participants MUST be a member of USJA in their sanction events (tournament, clinics, clubs).
  - All coaches **MUST** be a member of USJA.
  - USJA has a **short term** membership available.
- All referees and volunteers **ARE** covered under the USJA Liability and Accident Policy

iv. Pro Judo Production
- November 10, 2026
- The Industrial Event Space – Las Vegas
- PGF (Professional Grappling Federation) – Zoltan Barthoy/Brandon Mccaghren
- Tachiwaza competition - $10,000 prize money

v. Uemura Cup
- Hawaii (Hilo)
- Mainland Participation
- USA Judo express an interest

vi. USA Judo
- Shigemoto and Moss

- Regarding National Coach reciprocity
- Promotion and Coach Committee

vii. Committee Appointment/Vacancy
- Teacher/Coach Certificates
  - Krista Steele – Grateful appreciation
- Coach
  - Hannah Tsutsui – Grateful appreciation
- Endowment Trust Committee
  - Ed Hanashiro

viii. Endowment trust account
- Issue with name of the account. To protect our assets

ix. Life Membership Report
- Tom Sheehan
- Sept Nov, 39 new life members

x. National Office
- Transition
  - Dana Shaffer
  - Julianna Berry
  - Bobbie Ketchum
- Priority: Establishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

xi. Task Force
- Promotion process - Lauren Yoshida
  - Document the current process, from receipt of the packet at the NO to certificates/cards sent out to YDK and draft a SOP

xii. 75th Anniversary: USJF
- 2027 USJF Summer Nationals Celebration
- Marketing Committee
  - Request Budget Allocation

xiii. USJF Membership
- Current Membership Status
  - 8042 Total Members
  - Seattle Dojo (Hokusei): 217 Members
  - Honolulu Judo Club (50th): 38 Black Belts
  - Seattle Dojo (Hokusei): 165 Males
  - Leeward Judo (50th): 65 Females
  - Seattle Dojo (Hokusei): 166 Seniors
  - South Bay Judo (Nanka): 129 Juniors

xiv. USJF Executive Committee Action
- Voted to Approve:
  - USJF insurance renewal proposal
  - Authorize the Treasurer and Finance Committee (TFC) to create a budget for Bridge Term 2026.

- Authorize the TFC to create a draft budget for 2027.
- Approval to adopt the USJF Summer National Championships weight divisions for the upcoming USJF Winter National Championships and State Championships.
  - The purpose of this proposal is to establish consistency in weight classifications across our major championship events and to better align our competition divisions with those used by USA Judo.
- Discussion: Accept Rome Acopan Jr. as the new USJF Executive Director position. Robert Fukuda moves to Executive Director Emeritus.

B. Strategic Planning – Dr. Medani

i. Overview

C. 1st Vice President – Joshua Kindelberger

i. Maintain course with Development Subcommittees since the USA Judo agreement went to effect in June 2026

ii. Coach – Two developing coaches were sent to Europe with USJF support.
- Tanner Morinaka
- Wayne Tsunoda

iii. Kata:
- Continued to develop judges at the local, regional and national prep levels
- We have concluded the second year of kata tournaments and the participation in each event is growing. Standards have been set for the events to follow, and the number of certified kata judges is slowly growing to support kata in the regions

iv. Referee
- Working in cooperation with USA Judo to develop referees to include national prep. USJF is responsible for local and regional certifications and to provide educational resources.

v. Junior Development
- Continued efforts to have a positive impact on the youth in Judo. The committee is directly involved with all Development Subcommittees to ensure steps and measures are being taken to include juniors in their programs.

vi. Teacher
- A task force of teachers from throughout the country was created to evaluate the CRAWL program created by Casey Pedro. The process is to provide professional perspective with the intent to endorse the CRAWL program if changes can or will be made. Casey Pedro has been very receptive to the information provided by the task force and is eager to have an endorsement from USJF.

D. 2nd Vice President – Chase Morinaka

i. MailChimp – Need assistance

- It's a lot. This task will need to be assigned to more subcommittee members or NO staff.
- Ongoing compliance issue. What should we say or not say?

ii. Bylaws:
- Updated back to 2021
  - First reading ready for April Meeting. Second next fall. Then working on further updates.
  - Identify and send language issues out.

iii. Endowment
- Assisted Treasurer with Endowment Details & Procedures

iv. Insurance
- Began Reviewing:
  - Insurance policies for coverage gaps

v. ED Contract
- Enter Negotiations for Employment Contract

vi. National Tournament Marketing
- On-site booth

vii. 75th Anniversary
- Marketing

E. Secretary – Chris Reid

i. Sanctions
- Applications process
- Sanction@usjf.com email address
- USJF SmoothComp templates
- USJF Paper templates

ii. Automated Sanction System
- Ben Yagi/Dan Isreal
- Easy and integrated

iii. Scholarships and Grants
- This was put on pause for the moment to focus on sanctions
- Progress to resume shortly

F. Financial Report

i. Rome Acopan Jr. Treasurer

G. Broad of Examiners

i. Promotion Committee - Tamai

ii. Board of Examiners - Takeda

~~H. Executive Director~~

~~i. Update~~

- ~~National Office~~

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Motion:** inclusion of the Bantam 1, Bantam 2, and Bantam 3 age divisions (5-6-7 yrs. old) at future USJF Summer National Championships.
   i. Medical Committee Report: Dr. Isono

B. **Motion**: Adopt the USJF Medical Committee current COVID-related recommendations.
   i. **Rationale**: To ensure that all COVID-related mandate(s) are based on current medical guidance, athlete safety considerations, public health recommendations, and the best interests of the organization.

C. **2nd Reading:** Motion to change the BoD voting structure to benefit smaller Yudanshakais.

The USJF Board of Directors voting structure shall be amended to provide greater representation and voting equity for smaller Yudanshakais, with the purpose of ensuring broader participation and a more balanced voice in the governance and decision-making processes of the United States Judo Federation.

Currently the BOD structure states that a yudanshakai with 50-99 members have 0 votes. This proposal would give them 1 vote and increase all other yudanshakai votes by 1 to compensate. So yudanshakais with 100-199 members would go up to 2 votes (currently at 1 vote), 200-349 members get 3 votes (currently at 2), etc. (see pages 12-13 in the bylaws). The number of delegates and alternates would not change.

Essentially these long standing Yudanshakai who have had votes in the past but do not anymore would regain some influence and be encouraged to participate at the national level. There are 3 Yudanshakai with 50-99 members that would benefit from this motion:
Chicago (97)
Chuka (57)
Niagara (63)

If approved, this would take effect at the Spring 2027 USJF meetings; provided however this amendment will expire 4 years from the starting date in order to review if there has been increased representation by the smaller Yudanshakai at the national meetings.

D. **Motion:** Motion that the United States Judo Federation authorize the inclusion of Novice Divisions at USJF-sanctioned national tournaments at the discretion of the Tournament Director, subject to standard USJF novice rank eligibility and safety rules.
   i. **Rationale:** Our local and regional tournaments do allow for a Novice Division. However, our national tournaments like the Summer Nationals have not allowed a Novice Division. This novice division per our current standard would be for Seniors

below brown belt and Juniors below green belt and would follow our regional and local tournaments.

E. **General Discussion**: Align our National meetings with USA Judo Sr. Nationals and President Cup Dates (Palacio, President)

F. **General Discussion**: Pro Judo PGF (Professional Grappling Federation) – Zoltan Barthoy/Brandon Mccaghren, Tachiwaza competition - $10,000 prize money (Palacio, President)

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Spring Meeting
   i. 2027, April 30 - May 2 Spring BoD and BoE: Boise, Idaho

B. USJF Summer Nationals and USJF 75th Anniversary
   i. CENCO – City College of San Francisco: July 10-11, 2027
      - December 1, 2026, Smoothcomp posting

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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.