

Dear USA Judo Members,

I have been nominated for the At-Large Director on the USA Judo Board by my peers within judo. Below are key highlights of why I believe the opportunity to serve our community on the Board would be beneficial, to not only my vision for USA Judo, but the members of USA Judo.

As many of you know, judo is not just an athletic endeavor, but it is a lifelong journey. I was five years old I first stepped on the mat, and over the past 27 years of practicing judo I have experienced quite a bit. As a National Team Member for USA Judo, I fought on the international circuit, have raised funds for myself and my teammates by acquiring sponsorships, and trained with many of you over the years.

While I no longer fight on the international circuit, I have transitioned to fighting for those who are our elite athletes. I currently serve as the Chair of the Athlete Advisory Council for USA Judo. Our mission is to be a voice for athletes by providing recommendations to the USA Judo Board of Directors to enhance overall experience and resources for athletes and clubs.

Outside of judo, I run a financial planning practice where I have gained an appreciation for running a finely tuned business. I understand the complexities of growing yourself and those around you while juggling conflicting priorities and the hurdles of life.

I ask that you vote for me in the upcoming election for the At-Large Director. I believe my experiences in life have guided me to be nominated, and hopefully confirmed, as a new Board Member.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions at [matthew.cray.parker@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.cray.parker@gmail.com)

Yours in judo,  
Matthew