



Minutes
USA Judo Board of Directors Meeting
May 1-3, 2014, Reno, Nevada

Attendees:

USA Judo Board of Directors:

Lance Nading, President

Gail Stolzenburg

Leo White

Mike Swain

Devin Cohen

Noboru Saito

Ken Bellmard

Brian Olson

Jason Rivera-via phone

John Serbin-via phone

USA Judo Staff:

Jose H. Rodriguez, CEO

Corinne Shigemoto, COO

Ed Liddie, Director of High Performance

Guests:

Serge Bouyssou

Lynn Thursby

1. Call to Order

President Nading declared a quorum established and called the meeting to order 4:32 PST on Thursday May 1, 2014.

2. Motion to Approve Minutes

Minutes from March 5, 2014 meetings tabled until all Board Members have hard copy and chance to review.

3. Motion by Gail Stolzenburg, Chairman of the Audit Committee

To approve the budget as revised. Discussion on proposed budget revisions. Military program was added as funding just approved by USOC. Junior World Championships will be a separate budget that will be submitted for review by the Audit Committee and forwarded to the Board for final approval. Seconded by Devin Cohen, All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

4. CEO Report-Jose H. Rodriguez

Despite several challenges, we have continued to moved forward, our senior athletes are making more money than they have ever made. Our coaches are also being compensated for their time and travel. Funding is being provided by both the USOC and USA Judo. They are traveling more for training and competition. The high performance committee plans out the entire year for the athletes, making decisions on where and when it's best for our athletes to be, always with the 2016 Games as a goal. Our junior athletes are also traveling and preparing for the Junior World Championships in October.

At the international level, USA Judo is at its highest right now. Our referees have attended every Grand Prix and major international event. Our referees are also preparing for the 2016 Olympic Games selection process. The para program is not directly controlled by the IJF, so any referees assigned to the Paralympic Games are selected by IBSA.

The IJF has asked USA Judo to help support the Grand Prix in Havana by means of man-power. All expenses related to staff attending this Grand Prix will be 100% covered by the IJF. Including underwriting the salaries of 2-3 staff members. This is a huge compliment to us, that the IJF thinks enough of us to ask for our assistance.

In January in Ft. Lauderdale, USA Judo hosted an international referee seminar. This allowed a great opportunity for our referees and coaches to mingle not only with other international participants but also Juan Carlos Barcos, IJF Head Referee Director, Vladimir Barta, IJF Head Sport Director and Mr. Marius Vizer, President, IJF. Hosting this seminar in the United States also allowed us to send more participants, 15 referees and 9 coaches.

USA Judo, through Robert Fukuda, has organized a referee examination for IJF Continental B and PJC Regional C Referee Licenses. This will be held in conjunction with the Junior Olympics in Irving, Texas on June 26.

High Performance Update—Ed Liddie

The Olympic qualifications for our senior athletes begin on June 1 and will run for two years. The top 22 men and 14 women in the world at the end of this period will automatically qualify for the Olympic Games. There is another way to qualify through the Pan American union but that only adds one more athlete.

Most of the athletes placing right now are coming out of our training sites, which shows that these programs are a success. I was invited to sit in a USA Boxing high performance meeting, where I shared all our programs and the success we have had. We are one of a very few NGB's that did not have funding cut by the USOC.

The para program continues to grow with more referees, coaches and clubs involved with visually impaired athletes. We will be hosting the IBSA World Championships in Colorado Springs in September.

The military program was just approved by the USOC and we are in the process of incorporating. We currently have 5 military programs across the U.S. and will be adding a 6th in Atlanta this year.

Dart'anyon Crockett continues to have success off the judo mat, Disney will be making a movie about his story and a book is also being written about him.

Membership and Event Update—Corinne Shigemoto

General membership and club numbers are up for April.

Jose Rodriguez stated that the partnership with UFC will also help drive both individual and club membership up.

Scholastic and Senior National reports were given. Explained that Senior Nationals were moved to Reno due to a calendar conflict with a major PJC event.

Jose Rodriguez stated that Irving/Dallas for our national events makes financial sense for the organization and athletes and we would continue to host our events there through 2016.

Webstreaming at our nationals events was discussed and the challenges of getting this done as to not conflict with our USOC media agreement. Talks continue to determine how to accomplish.

Motion to accept CEO Report by Lance Nading, seconded by Gail Stolzenburg. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

5. Presidents Report-Lance Nading

Have been working with a number of different groups for potential sponsorship. One entity is a developer out of New York. Have had several phone conversations with him and he will be joining us at the Grand Prix in Havana to continue those talks.

Also working with high level management at UFC. This has been an ongoing process and will continue to move forward.

Motion to Accept Report by Lance Nading, seconded by Devin Cohen. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

Motion for 5 minute recess by Lance Nading. Seconded by Devin Cohen. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes. Recess at 6:20pm PST

Back into order at 6:28pm PST on 5/1.

6. Review of Financial Controls and Procedures-Noboru Saito

Current procedures were discussed and several changes for clarification purposes were suggested. Document to be revised and submitted to Board for review and approval.

Discussion on mechanism now in place for budget line item changes. Noted that USOC funded programs cannot be changed without written approval from USOC. If a trip is cancelled, it must be replaced with another trip.

CEO Jose H. Rodriguez stated for the record that whenever people say that we canceled a trip due to lack of funds, that it is simply not true. If it is determined that an athlete or a team needs to attend an event, then funds are provided for that.

Move by Lance Nading to recess for the day. Seconded by Ken Bellmard, all approved, none opposed, motion passes. Recess at approximately 7:45pm PST.

Back into order at 10:15am on Friday 5/2 Quorum established—John Serbin via phone conference

Whistle Blower Policy discussed. Will be reviewed, revised and submitted to board for approval.

Motion by Lance Nading to go out of order and address added Agenda Item #10: Financial Reports. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

10. Financial Reports—Gail Stolzenburg

The USA Judo Audit Committee currently has five members of the USA Judo Board on the committee. Reports were reviewed in detail with the Board.

Discussion regarding how overhead costs could be included in budget expense numbers. The USOC previously denied funding for overhead costs within the high performance program.

Motion for a 5 minute recess by Lance Nading. Seconded by Gail Stolzenburg, all in favor, none opposed, motion passes. Recess taken at 11:40am.

Back into order at 11:45am

Motion to accept Financial Report by Lance Nading. Seconded by Devin Cohen, all in favor, none opposed. Report accepted.

Motion to Recess by Lance Nading. Seconded by Ken Bellmard, all in favor, none opposed. Motion to recess at approximately 12:30pm.

Out of Recess on Saturday 5/3 at 2:27pm

#11. Old Business

Strategic Planning was explained and questions answered by Mr. Neil Simon. Board was asked to review and supply feedback to Mr. Simon.

Motion by Lance Nading to move to Executive Session at 2:40pm. Seconded by Ken Bellmard, all approved, none opposed, motion passes.

Out of Executive Session at 4:17pm

Motion by Lance Nading to re-fight the IJF 48kg category with invitations to be extended to the athletes who registered for the 2014 Scholastic National Championships, IJF category 48kg. Re-fight to be held at the Junior Olympic Championships, date and time to be determined. This would be a self-funded event, but entry fee for fight off and Junior Olympic IJF 48kg would be waived.

Discussion: Proposed motion above based on report received from Judicial Panel hearing and their recommendations. Clear to judicial panel and concession of the board that it was a good faith action and based on consistent past practices. Board also recommends that the tournament committee recommend and revise weigh in procedures

Seconded by Devin Cohen, all approved, none opposed. Motion passes.

USA Judo Board is reviewing and will address the informal complaint presented to Board by a USA Judo member.

Motion by Devin Cohen that Werner Walter, USA Judo Accountant, attend all future board meetings in person.

Seconded by Ken Bellmard, all in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

12. New Business

Several suggestions by Brian Olson to help grow USA Judo events, sponsorships and membership within USA Judo

Motion to adjourn by Devin Cohen. Seconded by Gail Stolzenburg, all approved, none opposed. Meeting adjourned on Saturday 5/3 at 5:08pm PST.