



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Conference Call  
Friday April 1, 2016

Attendees:

USA Judo Board of Directors:

Lance Nading, President

Leo White

Noboru Saito

Christal Ransom

Joe Marchal

Devin Cohen-joined at 2:03pm mst

Gerry Navarro

USA Judo Staff:

Jose H. Rodriguez, CEO

Corinne Shigemoto, COO

Ed Liddie, Director of Athlete High Performance-joined at 2:00pm mst

Other:

Jeff LeForce, Chair Nominating Committee-left the call at 2:05pm

Calvin Terada, Member Nominating Committee-left the call at 2:05pm

Jimmy Pedro-joined at 2:00pm mst

1. Roll Call President Nading conducted roll call, declared a quorum established and called the meeting to order at 1:33pm MST.
2. Nominating Committee Report-Jeff LeForce and Calvin Terada  
The current committee members include:
  - Jeff LeForce, Chair, selected from previous Nominating Committee
  - Calvin Terada, Board of Directors nominee
  - Brian Wong, Independent
  - Group A, TBD
  - Athlete, TBD

Mr. LeForce discussed the Board positions up for election at the end of 2016. These include: Coach, Athlete, Group A, Independent and At Large representatives.

Mr. Terada reported on the previous election (2014) and the challenges faced with that election. Because the committee had to be reelected, it delayed the election timeline process. This has been resolved for 2016 and all is on track for this election. Email distribution was also a challenge for 2014, but again, has been resolved with the assistance of the national office.

Electronic voting was discussed and established that it is more inclusive than in person voting. Electronic voting will allow more participation in a more timely manner.

A full timeline needs to be determined and publicized to members for the election process.

The committee recommends the following Bylaw amendments:

- a) Article 11
  - 1. To include Para Athletes
  - 2. Update the events that outline participation specifying elite athletes
- b) Section 6
  - 1. To include the timing of voting for Board positions.

Mr. LeForce will submit formal motions for approval by the Board.

Both Mr. LeForce and Mr. Terada are encouraging proactive planning for the 2016 election and feel that with the new committee seated, past experience and improvements made will be a successful election.

3. Rio Update-Ed Liddie and Jimmy Pedro

Coming down the home stretch with the team selected the end of May. We will host a preparation camp in Boston prior to the Pan Am Championships in which we will bring in U23 athletes to train with the senior elite athletes. A coach's seminar will also be held during the week. Will work with the U23 group on training methods, philosophy as well as hands on experience in seeing Kayla Harrison, Marti Malloy and others training.

Pan Am Championships coming up and it's do or die for several athletes to qualify. After the Pan Am Championships we will determine which athletes are still in the race and they will need to participate in two additional events in early May. World Masters competition will be held at the end of May in which the top 16 in the world will participate.

After the Olympic team has been selected we will revisit the schedule but right now the plan is to travel to Hungary for an event and camp. Women will train in France. A second pre-Olympic camp will be held in Boston in July where we will invite young athletes to participate.

For the Olympic Games, we could qualify 5-8 athletes depending on the success of the Pan Am Championships.

Kayla Harrison has qualified at #1 in the world, Marti Malloy has qualified at #6, Travis Stevens is currently #15 and qualifies. Nick Delpopolo is at # 19, and for the men, the top 22 goes to games so he qualifies as of this date. We do have a guaranteed wild card. On the bubble are Angelica Delgado, Aaron Kunihiro and Colton Brown. With a good showing at the Pan Am Championships, they could all directly qualify. Hannah Martin and Leilani Akiyama are on the outside but may qualify if they have good results at Pan Am Championships.

Both Marti Malloy and Kayla Harrison could win gold in Rio. There is not a single athlete in the world they could not beat.

Both Travis Stevens and Nick Delpopolo were injured in 2015 and didn't perform at the level we hoped for but did turn in decent results. Travis has proven he can win the big matches to get to the medal rounds.

4. Motion to move into Executive Session by Lance Nading. Seconded by Devin Cohen, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.
5. Motion to move out of Executive Session by Lance Nading. Seconded by Noboru Saito, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.
6. Motion to Adjourn by Lance Nading. Seconded by Noboru Saito, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm mst.