

UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION, INC.)	
)	
Applicant,)	
)	ORDER TO MEDIATE
v.)	
)	
UNITED STATES JUDO, INC.)	
)	
Respondent.)	November 24, 2009

I. BACKGROUND

1. United States Judo, Inc. (“USA Judo”) is the National Governing Body (“NGB”) for the sport of Judo in the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (“USOC”) pursuant to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (36 USC §§ 220501-220529) (the “Act”).

2. On August 13, 2009, the United States Judo Association, Inc. (“USJA”) filed an Application pursuant to Section 220528 of the Act and Section 11 of the USOC Bylaws seeking to replace USA Judo as the NGB for the sport of Judo.¹

3. In its Initial Order, the Hearing Panel requested that USJA and USA Judo provide additional background information regarding the relationship among USJA, USA Judo, and a third judo organization, the United States Judo Federation, Inc. (“USJF”).

4. Additionally, the Hearing Panel asked USJA and USA Judo if they wished to attempt to mediate the Section 11 Application.

¹ An Application seeking to replace an NGB is commonly referred to as a Section 11 proceeding.

5. USA Judo responded to the request for additional background information on October 22, 2009.

6. USJA responded to the request for additional background information on October 23, 2009.

7. In their responses both USJA and USA Judo indicated that although their relationship has had its challenges, both have worked together for a number of years to further the sport of Judo in the United States.

8. Also, USJA indicated in its response that it would like to mediate its Section 11 Application. Although USA Judo did not respond directly to the question regarding mediation, it did indicate that in the past, differences between USJA and USA Judo had been resolved through discussions between the parties.

II. MEDIATION

9. Section 11.10 of the USOC Bylaws provides that upon the request of a party, the Hearing Panel may adjourn a Section 11 proceeding and allow for mediation.

10. In those instances where mediation is sought, Section 11.10 also provides that the USOC Chief Executive Officer shall appoint the mediator, after consultation with the parties.

11. Additionally, Section 11.10 provides that the parties shall pay for the costs associated with the mediation.

III. ORDER

12. Based on the responses of USJA and USA Judo to the Hearing Panel's Initial Order, the Hearing Panel orders that USJA and USA Judo enter into mediation concerning the Section 11 proceeding filed by USJA.

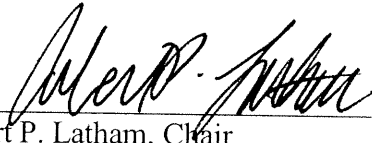
13. Accordingly, this Section 11 proceeding is adjourned to allow for USJA and USA Judo to attempt to mediate their differences.

14. USJA and USA Judo shall confer with the USOC Acting Chief Executive Officer concerning the appointment of a mediator.²

15. USJA and USA Judo shall report back to the Hearing Panel concerning whether or not their mediation efforts have been successful by January 15, 2010.

16. If the parties wish to continue with mediation efforts after January 15, they shall also report this to the Hearing Panel. Additionally, they shall provide the Panel with a recommended date for further adjournment.

17. If mediation is not successful, and the parties do not wish to continue with mediation efforts after January 15, the Hearing Panel will issue a subsequent scheduling order, which, among other things, will notify USA Judo of the date by which an answer to the Application must be filed.



Robert P. Latham, Chair

Atif Siddiqi, Panel Member,
Trischa Zorn-Hudson, Panel Member

Dated this 24th day of November, 2009

² USJA and USA Judo may also wish to notify the USOC Athlete Ombudsman regarding mediation of the Section 11 Application and determine if he may be of assistance in suggesting a mediator.