

UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF)	
)	
)	ORDER
)	CLOSING MATTER
)	
USA TAEKWONDO'S PROBATION)	December 10, 2013

I. BACKGROUND

1. This matter originated from two separate complaints filed on August 5, 2011, and on August 10, 2011, against USA Taekwondo (“USAT”) pursuant to Section 220527 of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (the “Act”) and Section 10 of the USOC Bylaws. The two complaints were consolidated by the Hearing Panel by Order dated September 16, 2011.

2. On January 5 and 6, 2012, the Hearing Panel conducted a full evidentiary hearing. On February 27, 2012, the Hearing Panel issued its Report, Decision and Recommendation, which found that USAT was not meeting its National Governing Body (“NGB”) requirements and USOC membership obligations as set forth in the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (the “Act”) and the USOC Bylaws. The Hearing Panel recommended that the USOC Board of Directors find USAT non-compliant, place USAT on probation for six (6) months and take other corrective action to come into compliance.

3. On March 16, 2012, the USOC Board approved the Hearing Panel’s recommendation finding USAT out of compliance and placing USAT on probation for six (6) months, or until September 17, 2012.

4. Upon the recommendations of the Hearing Panel and approval by the USOC Board, USAT's probation was extended until March 21, 2013, and then again until September 17, 2013.

5. On each occasion, the USOC Board directed that the Hearing Panel continue its jurisdiction over USAT.

6. The Hearing Panel continued to monitor and evaluate USAT's compliance efforts throughout the probationary period. Also, a five person advisory committee was convened to assist USAT. This advisory committee was headed by Glenn Merry, one of the Hearing Panel members.

7. Both the advisory committee and the Hearing Panel attempted to provide guidance to USAT as USAT attempted to deal with the many issues confronting it. When the advisory committee completed its assignment, the Hearing Panel, and in particular Glenn Merry, continued to offer advice and provide assistance to USAT.

8. During the probationary period USAT attempted to address those issues identified by the Hearing Panel in need of improvement or change.

II. HEARING PANEL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

9. On October 3, 2013, the Hearing Panel conducted a hearing regarding USAT's efforts to address its compliance issues.

10. On October 10, 2013, the Hearing Panel issued a Final Report and Recommendation ("Report") to the USOC Board. In the Report the Hearing Panel addressed a number of key factors as a basis for the Hearing Panel's recommendation. The Hearing Panel recommended that the USOC Board lift USAT's probation, return USAT to full NGB status and continue USAT's membership in the USOC.

III. USOC BOARD ACTION

11. The USOC Board took up the Hearing Panel's Report at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 10, 2013.

12. Susanne Lyons, Chair of the Hearing Panel, provided the USOC Board with the Hearing Panel's perspective on USAT. Ms. Lyons noted that USAT had instituted many positive changes in its attempt to deal with its compliance issues, but she also pointed out that USAT still faces many challenges. Ms. Lyons indicated that USAT needs to continue to address these challenges, including issues related to governance, management, financial health and athlete performance. Ms. Lyons reported that the Hearing Panel's recommendation was based on the totality of USAT's efforts in addressing its compliance issues.

13. The USOC Board members discussed the Report. The Board also inquired about the fitness of USAT to fulfill its responsibilities as an NGB, and in particular about USAT's ability to provide support to its athletes absent the endless organizational, managerial and financial issues that had plagued USAT in the past. By motion, passed unanimously, the Board approved the Hearing Panel's Final Report and Recommendation.

14. The USOC Board also commended Ms. Lyons and the other two Hearing Panel members, Glenn Merry and Sarah Konrad, for their admirable and tireless work relating to hearing the Section 10 complaint and assisting and monitoring USAT during the probationary period.

IV. ORDER

15. As the USOC Board approved the Hearing Panel's Final Report and Recommendation to lift USAT's probation, return USAT to full NGB status and continue USAT's membership in the USOC, this matter is ended and is now closed.

Dated this 10th day of December, 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SL', is written above a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the initials 'FLR' are written in a smaller, less stylized font.

Susanne Lyons, Chair

Sarah Konrad, Panel Member

Glenn Merry, Panel Member