

**MINUTES
SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

APRIL 29, 2004

**TO: Executive Committee
Group A members
Group B members
Group C members
Committee Chairpersons
Other interested person**

FROM: VERNA LARKINS, SECRETARY

Call the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL OF THE FOLLOWING VOTING DELEGATES

Dr. Ron Tripp, President
Mr. Lance Nading, Vice-President
Mr. Joseph Ahern, Treasurer
Ms. Verna Larkins, Secretary

Mr. M. Tad Nalls, Director of Law and Legislation
Mr. Fletcher Thornton, Director of Standards and Certification
Mr. John Miller, Director of Operations
Mr. Tommy Dyer, Director of Development

Mr. David Williams, Athletes Representative to the Executive Committee
Mr. Reno Reser, Athletes Representative to the Executive Committee

DELEGATES AT LARGE

Mr. Jerry Navarro
Mr. Bert Mackey
Mr. Leo White
Mr. Mel Augustine

GROUP A MEMBERS

UNITED STATES JUJUDO FEDERATION

Mr. Noboru Saito, President
Mr. Robert Fukuda, Executive Director
Ms. Julie Koyama, Vice President
Mr. Richard Muller, Legal Counsel
Mr. Neil Simon, Treasurer

UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION

Mr. Michael Szejter, Vice President
Mr. Gary Monto, Delegate
Mr. Gene Fodor, Delegate
Mr. Virgil Bowles, Delegate
Mr. Tony Zimkowski, Delegate

GROUP C MEMBERS

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE JUDO ASSOCIATION

Mr. Sami Tadehara, President

ATHLETES DELEGATES

Mr. Brian Olson
Mr. Chuck Jefferson
Mr. Lee Heitzman
Mr. John Serbin
Mr. Jose Bencosome
Mr. Jon Leonhardt
Mr. Ryan Reser

GROUP B MEMBERS

ARKANSAS JUDO

Mr. Gary Norton, President

ARIZONA STATE JUDO, INC.

Mr. Steve Owens, President

CALIFORNIA JUDO INC.

Mr. Frank Morales, President
Mr. Mac Takeda, Delegate
Mr. Keith Watanabe, Delegate
Mr. James Pennington, Delegate
Ms Mary Lou Fuertsch, Delegate

COLORADO JUDO LEAGUE

Sam Hashimoto, President
Bruce Larkins, Delegate
Pat Nading-Amman, Delegate

FLORIDA JUDO, INC.
Nestor Bustillo, President
Jack Williams, Delegate
Humberto Lopez, Delegate

GEORGIA JUDO INC.
Mr. Robert Byrd, President
Mr. Bruce Toups, Delegate

HAWAII JUDO INC.
Mr. Mark Muranaka, Delegate

IOWA JUDO INC
Mr. Scott Cunningham, Delegate

IDAHO JUDO INC.
Mr. Aref Hashem, Delegate

ILLINOIS JUDO INC.
Mr. James Colgan, President

INDIANA JUDO, INC.
Mr. James Branson, President

KENTUCKY JUDO COUNCIL
Mr. Fred Barnett, President

LOUISIANA JUDO COUNCIL, INC.
Mr. Michael Johnson, Vice-President

MARYLAND JUDO INC
Mr. Kurt Tamai

JUDO AFFILIATES OF MICHIGAN
Mr. Gerald Wee, President

JUDO OF NEW JERSEY
Mr. Yoshisada Yonezuka, President

MINNESOTA JUDO INC
Mr Greg Olson, President

MISSOURI JUDO INC.
Ms Frederica Nix, President

MISSISSIPPI JUDO INC.
Mr. Robert Harvey, President

NORTH CAROLINA JUDO, INC.
SGT. MAJOR MAYFIELD, Delegate

NEBRASKA JUDO INC.
MS. JUDY WILLIAMS, President

NEW MEXICO JUDO INC.
Mr. Howard Higgins, President

NEVADA JUDO ASSOCIATION, INC.
Mr. Jack Turrentine, President

NEW YORK STATE JUDO, INC.
Ms Rusty Kanokogi, President
Mr. Anthony Grisanti, Delegate
Ms. Maureen Braziel, Delegate Hay

OHIO STATE JUDO, INC.
Russell Scherer, President

OKLAHOMA JUDO ASSOCIATION
Richard Redner, President

PENNSYLVANIA JUDO INC.
Mr. Andor P. Jobbs – Delegate
Mr. Dean Markovics – Delegate

RHODE ISLAND JUDO, INC.
Mr. Peter Contardo, President

TEXAS JUDO INC.
Mr. Gail Stolzenburg, Delegate
Mr. Jim Hayes “Delegate
Mr. K. C. Windham, Delegate

VIRGINIA JUDO, INC.
Mr. Michael Landstreet, President

WASHINGTON STATE JUDO INC.
James Viloría, Delegate

Douglas Graham, Delegate

Approved the quorum present.

- I. MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.

SECONDED AND PASSED.

- II. MOTION: To adopt the minutes of the Semi-Annual meeting held in Las Vega, Nevada on October 10, 2003

Mr. Mackey wanted to be sure that we included coaches as well as the athletes at the Training Center for promotions.

SECONDED AND PASSED

- III. REPORT OF ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL – Mr. Brian Olson

No report.

- IV. OFFICERS REPORTS

- A. President Dr. Ron Tripp

President Tripp announced that Hayward Nishioka was the recipient of the John Osako award.

He spoke regarding how we need to grow. This problem of growth did not occur over night and it won't be resolved overnight either.

He stated he had looked over the last year at our organization and at those who have thrown stones at us. We had a disease of old men being on our National Roster. We can look ahead now as we have youngsters on those rosters. We can build our organization.

He gives the credit to the Development staff in turning our organization around. But it can't happen over night. It takes time. The talent at the High Schools and Collegiate was outstanding.

We need to step forward and play catch up in this Game. The Standards Committee, Promotion Committee, the Medical Committee and the Coaches Committee have all advanced under the direction of Fletcher Thornton.

- B. Vice President Mr. Lance Nading

Lance stated that he continues to be proud of our professionalism of our organization. Because of the upturn of our economy we are getting better return on our investments.

He says because of this better economy we will move forward and further our mission

He says he will be some motions at the next meeting. Such things as a magazine for organization.

He stated that we need to grow in order to have more members. We need to have a restructuring of our member groups.

He is encouraging those wishing to travel to Judo plan on going to the Titan Games and to the Trials.

C. Treasurer Mr. Joseph Ahern

Mr. Ahern explained the 2000 final Financial Report which has been distributed to all delegates. If you did not get one please see Ms. Larkins for one.

Mr. Stolzenburg asked regarding the large bad debt. Mr. Ahern stated that we had pursued all our efforts as we did not have signed agreements on most of these debts.

Mr. Nalls explained that managers do not sign agreements. The managers' manual explains what is to be done. If they do not follow those procedures it is hard to get they money from without going to court and having the case thrown out because we did not have an agreement.

He stated on the \$27,000.00 International event. This happened due to a misunderstanding with the the International teams that they would have rooms and food given to them. No agreement was signed and there was nothing in writing regarding this matter. The Hotel had signed an agreement with USJI and therefore we had to pay the bills.

Bert Mackey wished to ask regarding the two Foundation Funds.

He ask regarding the matter that if USJI was faced with a big law suit and lost is any of our Foundation money protected. Mr. Nalls stated that we do have our liability insurance and also Directors and Officers coverage that would protect us from claims. Some of the money is USOC and some is grants and would not be subjected to creditors claims.

We have \$3,000,000.00 of insurance coverage before our assets would be touched. We have other loss control measures in place also.

Mr. Nalls stated that if we are sued and the insurance company desires to try the case rather than pay off on it, it would their responsibility and not ours even is they lost the case.

Bert Mackey asked if we moved the funds to an escrow account to protect us wouldn't that be better than losing all of the funds. Tad stated that would look suspicious.

Mr. Fletcher asked regarding our liability insurance, if we had no money in the bank would our insurance premium go up. Tad said that in order to do business it was necessary that we have money to secure contracts of any kind. Bill stated that we need to present a viable financial statement when we obtain insurance. Tad stated we have been complimented by the USOC on the fact that we have dodged several law suits in the \$20,000,000. bracket. This is one of the reason we have loss controls in place, such as coaches and teachers certificate, liability waivers and professionalism in the sport.

Question was asked regarding the charging of interest on debts. The motion at the last meeting was tabled. There is another motion on this agenda to do this. Hopefully it will pass at this meeting.

It was brought to the attention of this body that the \$27,000.00 has been written off. The \$2900.00 will be dealt with later in this meeting.

MOTION; TO ACCEPT THE TREASURERS REPORT.

Seconded and passed.

D. Secretary Ms. Verna Larkins No report.

V. PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS

A. Operations – Mr. John Miller

Mr. Miller gave his report. He stated that the Tournament Subcommittee continues to monitor all Level E events and continue to a valuate our National events.

They completed the evaluation of the High School, Middle School and Collegiate events. This was a successful event. An addition was the Middle School age group. This doubled participation at the event.

This is an Olympic year and therefore we are getting more PR than before.

TheUSOC is helping a lot. There will be media summit in New York City on May 15. Ed Liddie, Ellen Wilson, Brian Olson and Jimmie Pedro will be there.

Awards are as follows:

Most improved state membership is Arizona Judo, 1st place, New Mexico is 2nd place and New Jersey Judo is 3rd place.

Group B membership awards - 2nd place is Florida Judo Inc.
3rd place is Texas Judo, Inc
1st place is California Judo Inc.

Club membership awards 1st Place Lafayette Judo Club
2nd Place –Atlanta Judo Academy
3rd Place Florida Judo International

B. Development – Mr. Tommy Dyer

1. Sport Women's Subcommittee. Ms. Rusty Kanokogi

Had a very good turn out at the meeting. She stated they covered many things from coaching, referring to competition. The good news is that 44% of International competition is females. She stated that there is a life after competition for females. They can enter into the administration of our organization.

Rusty also stated that Ms Sheperd is pursuing a development scholarship fund in the memory of Elizabeth Lee who passed away earlier this year.

Recently the Women's Sport Foundation gave a \$2,000.00 scholarship to Ronda Rousey. Please encourage your female athletes to submit applications for scholarships to the WSF.

There is a need for more females in all levels in administration – USJI, USOC, IOC and the IJF.

She stated that we had been notified that the Iraqi Judo Federation was back in operation.

Fletcher asked for point of order regarding the information she was discussing. He felt that since there was not action necessary she could file a report with the secretary for inclusion in the minutes.

C. Law and Legislation – M. Tad Nalls, Esq

Mr. Nalls addressed X Old Business – Outstanding debts dues USJI. He stated that since we do not have an interest agreement in our dues application which people sign we would be hard put to insist on this matter. In some jurisdictions you need to be licensed to collect interest on debts

Executive Committee is recommending rejection of item X.

We had an arbitration by Rhadi Ferguson as to the methodology of the Olympic Trials..Mr. Ferguson's attorney has agreed to defer as it most likely will be moot. If necessary the Executive Committee will act as a complaint in accordance with our by-laws. Complaint procedures and arbitration procedures were distributed to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Nalls stated that Mr. Brehe's removal was sustained again by the athletes at their meeting last night by a majority of 24-7.

There was a disciplinary matter regarding a controlled substance being shipped via the mails to a University in Japan. One athlete was a victim and did not have knowledge of the contents of some marijuana which was contained in a teddy bear. Formal complaints were filed based on the information which was available. One athlete was exonerated and the other one was suspended effective immediately. He did not appear at the hearing. There was sufficient evidence presented before the Standards Committee clearly indicating his involvement and responsibility in this matter. He has been suspended pending a hearing at the next meeting if he so desires to make a presentation then they will determine the length of his suspension which I believe has been recommended to be three years.

The hansokumake rule will be two events. The elimination division and the fight off, therefore hansokumake in the first will not run over into the fight off. But will be applicable to any match in the fight off – in 2 out of 3 rounds.

Non participation at the Nationals was modification to the Olympic Trials procedures as well as the timing of the actual event.

There was an unsanctioned event in Florida. Florida Judo diligently cooperated with the resolution of this matter. He felt that since he had three clubs in YMCAs under his jurisdiction that he did not need a sanction. That is incorrect. The definition of a club is 5 or more people practicing at a common location. This is not a debatable point. The individual retained counsel who contacted Mr. Nalls agreed that there was a misconception the individual's part. Florida stated they would not issue sanction until all registrations have been presented. He was given a 90-day suspension during which time he could not hold any events. We considered the matter resolved and Florida is complying with the requirements as to events.

USJF has a policy that all members of their clubs should be registered with USJF.

The insurance provides insurance to any registered club for all practice sessions that are supervised by certified coaches or teachers. That language is important. It requires your club practices to have certified instructors supervising the practice. If an athlete is injured during practice in a recognized club then you have insurance for your practices. In no event is there insurance where one athlete sues another athlete. That is called player versus player exclusion. There is insurance coverage if a certified coach allows or is teaching a prohibitive technique he can then be sued by a student if he receives an injury.

Sports accident insurance applies only to registered athletes. Liability insurance applies at the club level rather or not all of your students are registered. You can not blend liability and sports accident together is erroneous. Sports accident insurance follows the player for practices and sanctioned events. It is secondary to their health insurance and helps defer medical expenses.

We had a complaint alleging a violation in 1995. They were given the complaint procedures and they refused to do so. We do not have jurisdiction to take any action.

A contract is going to issued between Virginia Judo and USJI concerning the 2005 Senior Nationals.

USOC wants our bylaws to be on the internet. This issue has come up many times before. Many of our loss control devises have been placed in our By-Laws. It has been the opinion of Law and Legislation whenever it has been reviewed and has been acted upon by this Board that our by-laws are not be on the internet. One of the things that we have done recently is to publish our complaint procedures to anyone as well as our arbitration procedures.

Good attorneys will engage in preliminary investigation and determine who the necessary parties are and then file a law suit.

The USOC has demanded that we publish our by-laws on the internet. We recommended that we have a password so that our bylaws may be made available electronically to our members which has always been our policy. They refused to let us do that. They want to be transparent and suggested it is a requirement of the Ted Stevens Amateur Act.

Mr. Nalls is recommending that he make substantial revisions to our by-laws for the next meeting. These revisions will explain that so far as the USJA and USJF sanctioned events we are not responsible. He will take many of the loss control devises that our included in our by-laws out of the by-laws and put them in the Code of Operations.

The revised By-laws after approved will be on the Internet and the Code of Operations will not be there but will be available to members only. Tad feels we should do this so that we are protecting our organization.

MOTION; TO ALLOW MR. NALLS TO REVISE THE BY-LAWS.

SECONDED. PASSED.

The complaint procedures have been distributed to the Board of Directors.

There was a complaint under Article IX received just as he was getting on the plane to come. Bill and Tad need to attend to that matter within an hour via phone. They are requesting a resolution within 48 hours. This matter concerns the appointment of the manager for the Olympics which was determined in July, 2003. Money damages, intention infliction of emotional distress, negligent infliction of emotion distress and other claims and causes of action. That have never been presented in any format until this week.

He stated he always tries to keep the Board advised of any litigations in which we are involved.

A great amount of time was spent on the screening procedure. People say that Tad will be up at the podium the rest of the day trying to deal with this program. Basically the executive committee has directed that we advise the Group[A, B & C members that you must comply with the screening protocol. As to the A members must have a screening protocol in place by July 1, 2004. This protocol must be similar to that which the USJI has in place, or they will face suspension of their privileges if they are not engaged in screening.

This matter is being heavily litigate produced as sex abuse relates go the Catholic church. It has produced inquiries and action by insurers. We have Sex abuse and molestation coverage and having that coverage we must have a screening protocol in place for disqualifying events.

It is a new program – it is new for the olympic sports as well as the insurers. We reviewed the program we adopted in 1994. The 1994 program dealt with arrests and/or convictions for sex abuse, sex molestations and thing so that nature because we had an incident with the rape of an individual. It was not by a coach but by another athlete who interjected himself into a girl who was under 18 years of age and produced a relationship of trust and ultimately committed act and we responded in 1994. That protocol was in place since 1994 and the insurer appreciated that but then demanded screening.

Screening is by no means popular. When we discussed this in 1994 and we dealt with it. At that time we asked regarding a screening protocol and we did not have the ability to do it due to privacy considerations and issues related to screening.

Since then with the development of a National Screener the quality of which is not necessary of an issue of which we have to deal with. We implemented or adopted a screening protocol in our October 2003 meeting. We made it effective January 1. We are registering our clubs and requiring our coaches do background screening. The USJF is cooperating. They have not adopted a screening protocol. They are working with us. What we do not want is a coach with a DUI from 20 years ago being disqualified.

Some of the recommendations from these screeners would vary tremendously with the organization. What you do with a bus driver, a DUI would cause some concern. However a DUI from a 20-year old who only teaches in his dojo and never takes his kids anywhere and teaches at a local community center should have no impact and should not disqualify him.

The problem is putting it in stone for each state law is almost impossible to deal with, on a definitive basis. We created a program to rely on the judgement of the screening committee to review positive reports. The screening committee maintains confidentiality. The National Office does not know who does not pass just those who have passed.

The screening procedures are in developmental stages. All amendments to the screening procedures must be sent to the insurance carrier for approval.

Mr. Nalls is recommending that we screen for pedophiles.

We do need to be aware that entrusting your children to responsible person or other than responsible persons does exist.

We owe it to our members to protect them from sexual abuse and molestation. We all love the sport of Judo. We will go out of business if we do not protect our members from this type of invasion. Our insurers stated that the standard of care in youth sports in their industry is to have screening for anyone involved in youth sports.

If you are involved in youth sports and are not doing screening of coaches it could be considered gross negligence.

Our insurers have recommended the program that USA Judo uses to other sport organizations. We are in the fore front. We have blended our program with what Tad must do for the Court of Appeals in Maryland as he screens lawyers.

Marissa Pedulla asked regarding serving on the Screening committee. She said she had never been asked for input and was wondering about that. Tad told her that everyone on the Screening Committee are not asked regarding those

applications. He stated that the committee will convene for serious matters but not just normal DUIs, etc.

It was asked since there is a delay in getting notification regarding clearance of the screening if there was a number they could call regarding if this matter. Tad told them to call the National Office regarding this matter.

Washington State delegate asked if they issue a sanction for an event are they the ones that will be sued, if need be. Tad told him that if Washington State issued a sanction for an event it is their responsibility to see that the event is safe in all areas of concern. You need to be there to look the situation over for the safety of the athletes, etc. Each state is protected by their By-Laws and by registering their state with the National Organization as they do have liability coverage.

Dr. Tripp recognized Ms. Norizaki who is from Japan and residing in Nebraska at the present time.

Dr. Tripp announced a special presentation made by Andor P-Jacob to Mr. Yosh Uchida.

DISMISSED FOR LUNCH.

\
STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION - MR. FLETCHER THORNTON

He stated that he has many good chairperson on his committee and everyone is doing and excellent job. He has asked some to give detailed reports.

MEDICAL REPORT – Dr. Robert Nishime

Dr. Nishime has been asked to develop a judo specific first aid program which can be disseminated to the coaches, athletes, officials or to whomever needs it. He believes sports medicine education is very important. He is presenting Part I of that request. Mr. Thornton has asked him to present this program to this body.

Dr. Nishime presented an excellent program. Contact him if you have questions.

REFEREES:

IJF A

1. Robert Fukuda
2. Gary Takemoto

Continental Referees:

Meredith Bregman
Keith Hayashi

Raymond Saito
Calvin Terada

The referees have started a Junior referee Program in states where they have Junior referees. Kei Narimatsu is in charge of that program.

The manual for chief referees is under development and is not quite ready yet.

Dallas Judo Tournament was approved as a testing site.

Northglenn Judo was approved as a Level E and for a credit event for referees.

Coaches and Teachers certification will have reciprocity between the two of them. You may not obtain the same level of certificate but they will recognize it.

If you send in your background screening form along with your coaches or teachers certificate it will expedite the process.

JUNIOR RANK SYSTEM

He has about nine revisions on this system. If you have any more please give them to Fletcher so he can them into the manual.

COACHES CERTIFICATION

This program is going well. We are not getting cooperation from one of the Group A members but we have asked them to help us if they are interested in having reciprocity on Coaches Certification. This can not go on as it has been until we can sit down with them and iron out some of the problem areas that exist.

Technical Officials

Tawni ran a clinic for officials here. She is doing a good job.

Mr. Thornton addressed funding of the team. Discussions have been held all during the year regarding funding of athletes to International events. He stated that he and Mr. Leo White have had several discussions on this matter. Brian Olson said that Mr. Jay Warwick has stated that we need to fund contenders rather than teams.

Gary Norton asked if this includes all programs, all teams and all levels philosophically. Fletcher stated it is targeted for International competition. We will have the same criteria for development juniors as we do for seniors. For instance we will track every juniors through all point tournaments held in this country. They will be rewarded for performance. They will be funded to events.

MOTION: To accept this Program in principle. By RUSTY KANOKOGI,
PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK.

SECONDED. More discussion was held regarding this program. PASSED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Budget and Finance – Mr. Lance Nading

Lance explained that this meeting is mainly a housekeeping meeting. committee reviewed Joe Aherns' report. The U S Open budget was increased from \$28,000.00 to \$41,000.00. This was done due the fact that sponsorships was available.

With the change in tournament bidding with cities and co managing it is not necessary to include this in the budget as it is managed by the Tournament Subcommittee and the Operations Subcommittee.

With the performance of the Foundation which is \$2.8 million which has not been that high since 1995. We should appreciate that.

We need to support our Program Directors with administrative resources. All of these positions are necessary and do require a lot of work but we need to support them.

He stated there is a tremendous work load for all Program Directors. They all are doing fantastic jobs.

The National Office has always done an excellent job of supporting the Program Directors. We would like to make more money available to the Programs Directors so they can do a better job but we all know that our money is needed for the athletes.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT.
SECONDED AND PASSED.

E. Kata Subcommittee

Copy of report is attached to these minutes

F. Promotion Subcommittee

Copy of the Promotion Board meeting is attached. It was read and passed by this body.

G.. MEDICAL REPORT – Dr. Robert Nishime

Dr. Nishime has been asked to develop a judo specific first aid program which can be disseminated to the coaches, athletes, officials or to whomever needs it. He believes sports medicine education is very important. He is presenting Part I of that request. Mr. Thornton has asked him to present this program to this body.

Dr. Nishime presented an excellent program. Contact him if you have questions.

H. Miscellaneous Reports

1. Resident Athlete Report – Mr. Ed Liddie

After the trials all 18 slots will be available but they will need to apply for those slots.

Whomever makes the Olympic team will be available for clinics to train with those other athletes. A charge will be made for these clinics. Other athletes will be available to do clinics. These clinics help generate extra money for travel for the athletes.

Please let Ed know which athlete you would like to put on a clinic at your club and he will arrange it.

He would like to recognize the following athletes who has assisted in the Olympic Program:

81KG – Rick Hawn
90KG – Brian Olson
100 KG Rhadi Ferguson
+100KG Kirk Hoffmann
52 KG – Charlee Minkin
Ellen Wilson
Grace Jividen
Christine Yannetsos
Jill Collins

He would like to thank the coaches that had these athletes before they came to the OTC.

2. Athlete Representative to the Executive Committee – Mr. David Williams

At the meeting last evening the athletes covered the Trials timing and how it would done in June. They determined the 60 kg, 48kg and +78kg female divisions would be contested at the trials. This will allow us to have an eligible competitor in case some country should give up their slot and we could move someone up.

President Tripp asked that Mr. Nalls address the issue of direct hansokumaki. He explained that the preliminary(elimination) event will be one event and the fight off event in the evening will be the second event.

Non participation at the Senior Nationals was an issue but does not affect any athlete who desires to participate.

Timing of the fight off event will be determined by the San Jose Sports Authority.

The medical time as defined by the IJF will be applied at this event. There will be no recorded medical time at this event nor any other USA tournament. This was passed by the referees commission and applies only to Senior division. The only events affected by this will be Senior Nationals, US Open and the New York Open.

3. Executive Director – Mr. William Rosenberg

In the Antidoping program we require our athletes within the top five of all Olympic categories or International categories to register with USADA. This being an Olympic year, if you fall out of top five we remove your name and you are no longer in the 'no notice' pool. This being an Olympic year we did not remove names of those who had previously been on that list. He encourages you to work with your athletes to ensure they keep USADA on notice any time they have a variation in their training location. If USADA show up to test and your are not their that shows up as a missed test. Three missed tests will achieve the same as a positive test.

He also informed them that second hand smoke from marijuana can be detected by the test that USADA conducts.

Club certificates are not out yet for 2004. They will be going out next week as we have now had approval from the USOC that the certificates can bear the Olympic marks.

The only thing we have done so far is to verify a clean screen of the coach. This has been a great burden to our staff. This is done for pass-through funds. We have not been able to add staff to assist in this work load.

Titan Games, a multi-sport Olympic by the USOC. This years games will be in Alanta, Georgia during June 18, 19 and 20th. The initial information stated that we had invited China and Mexico to compete against the United States. China just recently sent a regret as this is an Olympic year they must remain in China to train. We are asking recommendations from our coaches as to another team to invite and we will by early next week have another team invited to participate.

\
Tickets for the Titan Games will be available at the National Office for a face value of \$25.00 per session.

Trials will be on June 5 in San Jose, California. He does have tickets for the trials with him. The Marriott is the host hotel for that event. They have a judo rate of \$79.00 available during that event.

He is continuing to work the City of North Miami with multiple other sports however Taekwondo has been excluded from that project. This program is being limited to Judo, Boxing, Wrestling and fencing.

Our High Performance funds for this year will provide for High Performance training for two athletes – Brian Olson and Jimmie Olson. We also received an International Training Grant for training partners which we used to conduct a training program at the training center with Canada and Puerto Rico.

We also have a training grant for training partners for our Olympic Team. This program is limited to athletes that are in the emerging athlete program. That will be the athletes that are most likely to be the Olympic Team for 2008.

We have also been successful to petition for some Olympic funds to copduct a USA Judo High Performance Strategic planning conference in conjunction with Sports Partnerships and USOC Coaching Division. Dr Tripp will be leading that effort.

USOC has started a program now where they will be looking at quadrennial funding as opposed to year to year funding. They are going to request comprehensive reviews and requests of the NGBs during the months of May and June. We are scheduled for a late June meeting to petition for next years funding. Hopefully our Strategic Planning Conference will direct efforts put into that area.

Dr. Gary Berliner has been appointed as the referee for the Paralympic Games.

MOVED. SECONDED AND PASSED TO ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

International Report – Mr. Frank Fullerton

This report is on file with the Secretary. *It is 83 pages long and therefore a fee of \$20.00 will be required from those requesting it..

- E. Actions of the Executive Committee
 - 1. Brehe Complaint

2. Level I allocations for 2004
3. Trials Notice
4. Contest all divisions

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED.

VI. AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS

MOTION: Amend Article III, Section 3(a) to read “(a) elect the officers and Program Directors of the corporation by a majority vote and remove the same for cause on thirty days (30) day written notice, by a two-thirds vote of its members voting, and fill vacancies that may exist among the officers and the Executive Committee Athlete representatives and the two athlete representative on the Executive Committee may be removed for cause, on thirty (30) days written notice, by a two thirds vote of the individuals eligible to elect the athlete representatives, as they are described in Article III, Section (c) and (d)who are present at the meeting where the vote for removal is taken.”

RATIONAL: The above Amendment clarifies the provisions for removal, provides for written thirty (30) days notice and for consistency between Sections 3(a) and 3(I) of the By-Laws where a discrepancy existed as noted at the October 30, 2003 meeting.

SUBMITTED: M. Tad Nalls, Esq, Director, Law and Legislation.

SECONDED: MR. FLETCHER THORNTON

The current by laws is inconsistent and this amendment will correct it. This inconsistency was presented at the last meeting but could not be acted upon at that time.

The action at the last meeting was upheld by the USOC and by this body.

PASSED. NO DISCUSSION HELD. No abstentions or objections.

VII. DEVELOPMENT ITEMS

A. JUNIOR WORLD TEAM FUNDING PROPOSAL

For athletes who meet the already approved 2004 Junior World Team selection criteria, provide three levels of support based on performance in the weight division for which they qualify to compete at the 2004 Junior World Championships, as follows:

Provide 100% of travel, housing and food for the 2004 Junior World Championships for the athletes who meet the approved Team selection criteria, who are "A" level Juniors who are ALSO either Senior "B" level, OR who are the 2004 USJI Senior National Gold, Silver or Bronze Medallist, OR who are a 2004 Pan American Judo Union Gold

medallist in the 17-19 age group, as of the selection cutoff at the close of the 2004 Fall Classic. Also 100% funding will be provided for any athlete who places 1st through 5th in the Junior World Championships that were self funded.

MOTION BY TOMMY DYER. SECONDED. PASSED. NO QUESTIONS OR ABSTENTIONS.

PASSED.

B. .MOTION: Junior Point Applicability

Allow points to accrue to any athlete who finishes in the top three of his or her category of any event that is identified as a "point event" with regard to the Junior Elite Rosters.

Rationale:

This motion will change the current policy where the two top athletes in the country could be the only entrants in a division, one could win two matches by hantei in Golden Score and get 5 points for 1st place while the other, having won no matches receives NO points.

The current policy creates a situation in which several athletes each year spend significant sums of money to attend various events only to find out that their division is not sufficiently populated to afford them more than a single opponent - and, unless they win, NO points.

When an athlete is "uncontested", the current system allows him or her to receive 5 points just as though he had won the division. The reasoning has always been that it was not that athlete's fault that no one else showed up.

Discussions with several athletes, coaches and parents at various events yielded a number of comments. One man said that it was embarrassing for his son to win uncontested divisions. He indicated that the other boys knew they could not beat his son AND they knew that they could not get ANY points unless there were sufficient other attendees. You can argue for or against, but the bottom line is that we have DOZENS of incidents of Junior athletes and their families traveling to Junior National events and even to Senior "E" level events from time to time, only to find few, if any, people to fight.

NOTE: Effective January 1, 2004, the Congress of the Pan American Judo Union adopted a measure that allows a medal to any participant who finishes in the top THREE, including those athletes who may not have won a match. Part of the stated rationale was that National Governing Bodies go to the expense of sending athletes and it is not their fault that no one else came to the event.

We should extend the same consideration to our self-funded athletes at home as the Pan American Judo Union has extended to its member countries.

SUBMITTED BY: JIM HRBEK WITH THE APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR OF DIRECTOR

SECONDED.

Ms. Kanokogi addressed the motion.

PASSED. NO ABSTENTIONS.

C. MOTION:. Junior Point Rosters

Effective immediately AFTER the completion of the selection of the 2004 Junior World Championships Judo Team, change the Junior Elite Rosters by discontinuation of use of the Alphabetic A through E levels BUT continue to apply the A through E level multipliers so that high performance at more difficult level events will still be reflected in the point standings. The point standings would then become the sole indicator of order of selection from the Junior Elite rosters.

Rationale:

The Junior Point System was written in such a way as to afford a certain amount of protection to the leading athletes - and it is debatable whether it is fair, or right, or necessary to protect leading athletes.

The fact that winning an "A" level event earns points on an accelerated scale that yields double and sometimes TRIPLE points should be sufficient.

The fact that awarding an "A" level, which makes a total of as few as 3 points unassailable by a total of 30 points where there is a designation below "A" level, should be sufficient.

The fact that winning an "A" level event provides TRIPLE points AND the unassailability of an "A" against any number of other points is redundant and a double dip.

The current system forces athletes into a never-ending (substantially expensive) steeple chase for points, sometimes to the detriment of being able to spend time and money pursuing training or other competition opportunities.

On one hand it is necessary to hit as many Junior National events as possible because everyone ELSE does, so it must done in order to stay competitive. THEN just miss one, get a bad draw at the Junior US Open and suddenly have someone who has not attended ANY of the Junior Nationals show up, place and get an "A" level. This is not a theoretic scenario. There is no need to use names, but the records and rosters are there and history

tells us that the system, as it is, allows people to sit on the side lines and cherry pick the events.

When the "A" level layer of insulation disappears, the point total will still be double, or more, the points earned at either of the USJA or USJF or Jr Olympic Nationals and it WILL be possible for someone to WIN two of those events and tie with the Jr USOpen winner - but no longer will it be possible for a player to win a Triple Crown, miss the Jr USOpen and be passed by someone who got 3rd place and 4 "A" level points.

The concept of protection is a difficulty one – if we have an athlete who is so high level a performer that he merits such protection, he most certainly does not NEED it. On the other hand, if the pack is not all that clearly separated, it is difficult to imagine a GOOD reason to HAVE a protection-based system.

SUBMITTED BY; JIM HRBEK WITH THE APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT.

SECONDED. NO DISCUSSION. NO ABSTENTIONS.

PASSED.

Mr. Hrbek reported that we have 5 Pan American champions. Olympic weight divisions 17-19 year olds. Katherine Ensler, Kenny Hashimoto, Ronda Rousey, Garry St. Leger and Harry St Leger. All were gold medals.

We had a group of 13 competitors(8-13 year old) along with parents and coaches and managers.

Mr. Leo White gave a report on the Senior Division. He said it is how we get the Juniors up there. Mr. Hrbek works really hard with the juniors.

Leo reported on those who have earned their way up the ladder to the trials which will be held in San Jose on June 5, 2004. There will also be trials for the +78KG and the 48 KG to be prepared in case some country doesn't send someone and we can take their slot.

He spoke regarding the athlete partnership to utilize what money we had to prepare them for International competition. Hungarian Cup – Jimmy Pedro placed 2nd, Alex Ottiano took a fifth. Jimmy Pedro took a gold at the German Open.

At the Korean Open Jimmy Pedro received a gold medal. Ellen Wilson received a silver medal, Alex Ottiano and Rick Hawn also took a bronze medal

We have National Coaching staff – Bob Berland, Ed Liddie, Marissa Pedulla and Brett Barron. This does help in the training and details when the team is over seas.

Grass root coaches are the ones to give credit to as they have trained these athletes.

The following coaches have worked with the Olympic athletes to get them where they are prior to this time – Daniel Doyle, Steve Cohen, David Matsumoto, Angelo Ruiz, Dr. Flores, Mike Swain.

Tommy Dyer wished to recognize Gary Norton for his hard work with the High School Program. A hand of applause was given Gary by the body.

.IX. SUBMISSION OF BIDS;

Mr. Miller asked that Wisconsin Packer Country Regional Tourism He is the regional sales manager for the company. He will present their bid for the 2007 Junior Olympics.

The dates they are proposing are July 19 through the 22nd. Proposed event center is the Brown County arena at Green Bay. It is a 3800 seat facility.

To consider the following tournament bids.

Note that the bid packages are being converted to PDF files and will be available electronically on USA Judo's website.

2005 Fall Classic/Ladder - Florida International University, Florida Judo, Inc., Marriott Lodging at Miami International Airport

Recommendation by the Tournament Subcommittee that this bid be awarded.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED.

2006 Fall Classic/Ladder - Florida International University, Florida Judo, Inc., Marriott Lodging at Miami International Airport WITHDRAWN.

2006 High School Nationals - Texas A&M University (Texas A&M has already been granted the NCJA National Collegiate Championships for 2006)

Recommended by the Tournament Subcommittee upon the assurance from Mr. Stolzenburg that the necessary information would be submitted ASAP.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED.

2007 High School/Collegiates - Florida International University, Florida Judo, Inc., Marriott Lodging at Miami International Airport

THIS WILL BE SUBMITTED AT THE 2005 NATIONAL MEETING.

Gary Norton and Martin Bregman addressed the reason for the division of these two tournament.

**2007 Senior Nationals - Florida International University, Florida Judo, Inc.,
Marriott Lodging at Miami International Airport**

TABLED. Recommended by the Tournament Subcommittee.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED TO GIVE IT TO FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

Ms. Nading stated that we do not know now whether they have the staff to host this event. She will be monitoring this under the new procedures of partnering with businesses to host events.

2007 Junior Olympics

1. Packer Country Regional Tourism Office, Green Bay Wisconsin
2. Florida International University, Florida Judo, Inc., Marriott Lodging at Miami International Airport

SUBMITTED By TOURNAMENT SUBCOMMITTEE.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED TO AWARD TO PACKER COUNTRY REGIONAL TOURISM.

Ms. Nading-Amman addressed the reason for the Tournament Subcommittee to give this event to Green Bay

Card vote held.

Green Bay - 29
Florida Judo International 26

X. OLD BUSINESS

The following items were brought from the table from the October 10, 2003 meeting and had been tabled for further study.

A. OUTSTANDING DEBTS DUE USJI

1. That USA Judo charge interest on all delinquent debts owed by members of the organization which are 60 days or older.
2. That the interest accrue at 15% simple interest, per annum

SUBMITTED; RUSTY KANOKOGI, PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK.

DIES FOR LACK OF A SECONDED.

We can not accrue interest on these debts. Collection of large debts shall be by judgement.

B. MOTION: Expand and Improve the Marketing of Judo, in order to grow Membership, by granting the Director of Operations the right to implement the following:

1. Commission Hal Sharp to produce an exciting, action oriented "This is Judo" tape for distribution to TV Sports programming outlets throughout the country.

Matter of funding. Must be open to bid.

2. Give free access to national, international, open tournaments for members of Boys and Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other youth organizations in order to fill the stands, expose more kids to the sport and have a full venue for competitors.
3. Conduct all national, international and open tournaments on Saturday and Sunday, rather than Friday and Saturday, in order to get more spectators and more exposure.
4. Similar to NFL guidelines, permit the player's name to be sewn on the back of gi's, again, to aid spectators.
5. Develop a Judo group to travel nationally doing demonstrations and interviews to promote the sport.
6. Include a Weight Division sign on each mat at each national, international and open tournament to make them more "spectator friendly" for judo and non-judo spectators.
7. Announce the competitors for each mat at each USJI national and international tournament in order to make it more "spectator friendly" for non-judo and judo spectators. Provide the related necessary equipment at each mat, rather than at a central podium.

SUBMITTED BY: ROBERT BYRD, President of Georgia Judo, Inc.

Much of this item depends on budget.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED FOR A SIX MONTH STUDY

TABLED AS NO ACTION. NO REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE TO WHICH IT WAS REFERRED AT THE LAST MEETING.

SECONDED AND PASSED.

C. Reduce exposure of the USJI and its officers

MOTION: To reduce exposure of USJI and its officers to costly lawsuits and errors and omission liability by doing the following:

1. Set up a separate 501(c) 3 charitable foundation to hold, manage and distribute Olympic Foundation and Life Membership funds in the form of unrestricted grants, which funds are contributed from the USJI. The USJI would thereby have limited assets subject to judgment or attachment. The USJI would essentially function as an agent for the execution of the charities' objections.

The guiding charter for the charity would provide for the development of the sport and athletes at all levels. The entity leadership and management would consist of USJI members, duly elected, and also experienced in financial management. Provide for nine trustees elected for staggered terms. From among the nine trustees would be elected a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

SUBMITTED BY: GEORGIA JUDO, INC., PRESIDENT ROBERT BYRD

Bruce Toups spoke on this item at great length.

MOVED, SECONDED AND PASSED FOR FURTHER STUDY.

MOVED TO REJECT AS IT WOULD IMPAIR OUR ABILITY TO OPERATE.

SECONDED AND PASSED TO REJECT.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

XII..ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Kanokogi announced that Leilani Akiyama won a Gold medal in High School Judo as well as in High School Wrestling. She was the first girl in the state of Washington to qualify for the Boys state championship. She also threw out the first pitch for the for the Sea Hawks

Dr Tripp announced to not forget the Referees Meeting.

Meeting adjourned. 4:40 PM

UNITED STATES JUDO INC.
APRIL 29, 2004

28

Verna Larkins, Secretary

28