



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2015
Irving, Texas

Attendees:

USA Judo Board of Directors:

Lance Nading, President

Christal Ransom

Joe Marchal

Jason Rivera

Devin Cohen

Leo White

Mark Hill

Noboru Saito

Gerry Navarro

USA Judo Staff:

Jose H. Rodriguez

Ed Liddie, Director of Athlete High Performance

Corinne Shigemoto, COO

1. Roll Call

President Nading conducted roll call, declared a quorum established and called the meeting to order at 6:02pm MST.

2. Motion by Lance Nading

To accept the Board Minutes of November 21, 2014, January 13, 2015, January 28, 2015, March 4, 2015 and amended March 18, 2015. Seconded by Devin Cohen, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

3. Audit Committee Report-Noboru Saito

Review of financial reports was conducted. High Performance expense and income was discussed and explained that funding from the USOC is distributed 4 times a year. Because of the timing of the funding, USA Judo operational funds are sometimes used for High Performance activities until the USOC funding is received. At which time, USA Judo operational funds used are reimbursed.

The AUP (Agreed Upon Procedures) audits which are completed quarterly are sent to AJF and the Board of Directors. Monthly Audit Committee Minutes continue to be sent to AJF and the independent auditors.

Jim Tangelder has replaced Werner Walter as USA Judo Finance Director effective March 16, 2015. Jim is reviewing all financial data and will suggest reporting changes to the Audit Committee in the near future.

4. Motion by Noboru Saito

To approve Osborne, Parsons & Rosacker LLP as Independent Auditors for the year ending December 31, 2014. Seconded by Mark Hill, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

5. CEO Report-Jose H. Rodriguez

Report to be given over the course of the next two days. The organization continues to grow and improve financially. In this business, we have a tendency to listen to outside influences and we go through the effort that the "sky is falling".

This is untrue. Having been in Edmonton, Canada this past weekend at the Pan American Championships, our athletes, which is our number 1 concern, performed very well on the mat. We, the coaches and athletes, no longer care who we draw unlike 5-6 years ago. Our athletes have proven that they can compete with the best in the world. This is something to be proud of.

We need to also remember that we are competing against nations like Brazil that has a budget of \$24 million compared to \$700K which our athletes receive.

The USOC has gone through some restructuring over the past two and a half months. Rachel Isaacs is no longer our Sports Partner. She has been moved over to Boston 2024 and that effort.

Ron Brandt now works directly with coaches through High Performance. It is USOC's desire to have more direct contact with coaches.

The sanction process was discussed and determined that a more specific policy should be defined. Devin Cohen to work with Corinne Shigemoto on this.

CEO Rodriguez reminded the Board that Standing Committees and Task Forces must have athlete representation.

Membership was discussed by Corinne Shigemoto. Numbers continue to grow and a historical recap was distributed to the Board. Personal calls were made to every registered club. These calls will continue to be made throughout the year, reaching out to each club multiple times.

6. Motion by Jason Rivera to move to Executive Session, seconded by Noboru Saito, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

7. Motion by Leo White to move out of Executive Session, seconded by Devin Cohen, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

8. Presidents Report-Lance Nading

Report also to be given over two days. President Nading stressed the importance of the Strategic Plan and the need to complete the objectives. Suggested that an in-person session be held with as many Board members attending to complete this plan.

The negative impact social media has on USA Judo was discussed. There are members who receive funds from USA Judo and post incorrect and derogatory information about USA Judo. It was suggested that the Code of Conduct include verbiage to hold these members accountable.

Also discussed was a need for Board Members to participate in fund raising/sponsorship activities.

President Nading attended several committee meetings and was pleased with the attendance. He especially wanted to thank the Nominating Committee for their work in getting the new committee seated and the elections completed in a timely manner.

Motion to accept Presidents report by Lance Nading, seconded by Noboru Saito, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

9. Motion to move to Executive Session by Jason Rivera, seconded by Joe Marchal, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.
10. Motion to move out of Executive Session by Mark Hill, seconded by Christal Ransom, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

Recess at 9:16pm CST

Meeting reconvened on Friday May 1, all Board Members present

11. CEO Report continued-Jose H. Rodriguez
Report on IJF: IJF is enforcing the notice put out a few months ago not allowing ranked IJF athletes to participate in other combat sports.

CEO Rodriguez will be attending the World Masters in Morocco the middle of May as a guest of the IJF. All expenses associated with this event will be covered by the IJF; no USA Judo funds will be used.

IJF will start enforcing a new coaching rule in 2016. All coaches at international events must be certified through an IJF coaching program called IJF Judo Academy. Details on this to follow.

A referee rules clinic will be held in Mexico City on June 6.

Report on PJC: Congress was held in Edmonton the end of April. A letter asking for President of PJC, Paulo Wanderley's resignation was submitted. An Extraordinary Congress has been called the beginning of June for this purpose.

High Performance Report was given by Mr. Ed Liddie. Qualification for Rio begins this past May and will conclude May 2016. Qualification for Rio 2016 was explained.

Pan Am Game's qualification was also discussed. The USOC has recently become heavily involved in the Pan American region, participating in PASO as well as meetings and receptions.

Top athletes continue to receive funding; Kayla Harrison \$60,000, Marti Malloy \$50,000, Travis Stevens \$42,000, Nick Delpoplo \$42,000 and Hannah Martin \$18,000. This is a combination of USA Judo and USOC money.

A request to the IJF has been made for a grant for junior athletes to attend events in Hungary and Poland over the summer.

Junior and Cadet World teams have been selected for participation later in the year.

All level events, cadet, junior and elite are expensive to attend as most events are in Europe.

Motion to accept CEO Report by Lance Nading, seconded by Leo White, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

12. Motion to move to Executive Session by Devin Cohen, seconded by Joe Marchal, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

13. Motion to move out of Executive Session by Leo White, seconded by Mark Hill, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

14. Motion by Mark Hill

To approve the Committee assignments with the exception of the Chairmanship of the Rank and Certification. Mr. Pat Burris to be assigned Chair of Rank and Certification. Seconded by Devin Cohen, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

15. Motion by Gerry Navarro

Motion to add a surcharge of \$5.00 per athlete to all USA Judo sanctioned events to be used for junior development.

Motion to table by Mark Hill, seconded by Devin Cohen. Discussion: determined that more research/input needs to be done on this motion. Call to question, all approved, no opposes, motion tabled.

16. IJF Event Review

Discussed that closer monitoring of events must be done to ensure all protocol is maintained.

Recess

Meeting reconvened on Saturday May 2

17. Meeting called back in order on Saturday May 2 at 2:21pm by Lance Nading, seconded by Leo White, all in favor, no opposes.

18. Discussion of membership increase revenue disbursement. Determined that a "savings/reserve" should be established.

19. Report on Fundraising-Jose H. Rodriguez

Working with independent consultant on sponsorship package to present to potential sponsors.

20. Motion by Devin Cohen

Motion to authorize President Nading to approach the American Judo Fund to become a sub-organization of USA Judo and that in the context thereof, that they return the funds to the control of USA Judo and forgive the debt on the financial books for the already existing loan.

USA Judo would appoint the AJF Board. Also to authorize President Nading to engage counsel for the purposes of the transfer and whatever change in corporate structure may be required. Seconded by Leo White, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.

21. Motion to move into Executive Session by Leo White, seconded by Joe Marchal, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.
22. Motion to move out of Executive Session by Devin Cohen, seconded by Mark Hill, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.
23. Old Business
None
24. New Business
Devin Cohen inquired about the status of USJA. Gary Goltz resigned from the Presidency and Board of Directors and Mr. Marc Cohen has been elected. USJA in a restructuring phase.
25. Motion Mark Hill
To adjourn, seconded by Joe Marchal, all in favor, no opposes, motion passes.