



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2018
Conference Call

Attendees:

USA Judo Board of Directors:

Mark Hill, President
Serge Bouyssou
Devin Cohen
Doug Kawasaki
Nick Kossor

Joe Marchal
Gerry Navarro
Noboru Saito
Jim Webb

USA Judo Staff:

Keith Bryant

1. Roll Call - President Hill conducted roll call. Quorum established and meeting called to order at 1:01 ET.

2. Nominating Committee Discussion

a. In response to a request from Nominating Committee Chair, Pete Catlos, Mark Hill requested Board approval of Pete Catlos's selection as Nominating Committee Chair, per the appointment of past Nominating Committee. While this is not necessary, the Board acknowledges Pete's appointment per his request.

b. Request for Board approval to waive the process described in the USA Judo Bylaws for group member selection at assembly and use electronic voting means. Motion made by Mark Hill to waive the process for group member selection at assembly and use electronic voting. Seconded by Jim Webb, all in favor, no opposed, motion passes.

c. Election of board-appointed nominating committee member – some names were presented for consideration and a request made for additional individuals. Questions raised by Nick Kossor about the role of the nominating committee and concern that the nomination process for the board representative seems too rushed and asked for delay. Nick's objection was noted and his request for a delayed vote was denied by the rest of the Board.

Motion made by Jim Webb to close nominations. Seconded by Devin Cohen.

Voting took place and majority vote was for Brian Toth with one abstention by Nick Kossor.

3. Mark expressed his willingness to continue as President if that is the consensus of the Board. The Board agreed that they would like to see Mark continue in this role. Per USA Judo's Legal Counsel, Mark can run for re-election as an independent director and, if necessary, could also run as an At Large Member. The preference by Mark and the Board was to run for re-election as an independent, allowing the nominating committee to have a wide-open election to make a clean/thorough process and elect the best At Large Nominees to put forth to the Board. This will be expressed to the Nominating Committee for consideration.

4. Chairs of NGB Boards' Summit. Mark shared his recent attendance of meeting with most of the NGB Board Chairs, who met independently of their respective NGB Executive Directors. Mark mentioned it was a great networking and idea sharing opportunity with the potential for future collaborations among like-sized NGBs.

5. Athlete Inquiries presented by Nick Kossor

- #1 - Athletes are wondering if USA Judo is considering allowing athletes to compete in more than one division for point competitions? Athletes want more matches and more opportunities for prize money. It was determined to forward these requests to the USA Judo National office and/or the appropriate High Performance Committee for options/solutions and clarify what is current situation and what can be done in the future.
- #2 – Regarding Team Competitions, what is the selection process at IJF International Events and Olympic Games?
 - Overview of the newly implemented IJF Team Competitions:
 - Three men and three women will constitute a team in the following weight classes:
 - Women
 - W-57 (includes -48, -52, -57)
 - W-70 (includes -63, -70)
 - W+70 (includes -78, +78)
 - Men
 - M-73 (includes -60, -66, -73)
 - M-90 (includes -81, -90)
 - M+90 (includes -100, +100)
 - Every nation having athletes able to compete in all 6 mixed team categories will take part in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. All those athletes must be qualified for individual events.
 - As of 8/23/18, the United States needs to qualify a male in the M+90 category to be eligible for the mixed team competition. Naturally, there could be changes throughout the next two years leading up to the Olympic Games in Tokyo.
 - In terms of the selection process for who represents Team USA in each of the six mixed team slots, it will be the determination of the coaches at the international competitions where the US Team is qualified and it is decided that it's in the best interest of the team and the athletes to compete. For the Olympic Games, the USA Judo High Performance Committee will establish selection procedures if more than six athletes are qualified for the six mixed team categories. When it comes to selecting a representative to represent a weight class, most times the heaviest judo player will be selected, but again, that will be determined by the coaches present for international team events in which the U.S. participates and pre-determined selection criteria will be created in advance of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.
 - It should also be noted that USA Judo rarely enters its athletes into team competitions for the following reasons:
 1. USA Judo does not have a “deep bench” of players and sending US judo players into the team competition at the end of a match has historically resulted in injuries that have negatively impacted the athlete and organization from earning points due to missed competitions.
 2. The cost incurred for Team Competition can often be several thousand additional dollars which USA Judo does not believe is money well spent due to potential of injury, limited funds and competitiveness of US Athletes in team competitions.

Move to adjourn by Mark Hill. Seconded by Noboru Saito. Meeting adjourned at 1:51pm EDT.