

USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2020

- I. Roll Call – Present: Russ Scherer, Gary Takemoto, Gary Berliner, David Smith, Michael Eldred, David Malek (Assistant to the RC), Keith Bryant (USA Judo Exec. Dir.)
 - Ralph Palmer (Assistant to the RC) joined for Executive Session
 - Absent: Hector Estevez, Raymond Saito, Sayaka Torra
- II. Scope of RC Activities
 - A. Domestic (Russ Scherer)
 1. Develop and publish all USA Judo domestic referee programs, policies, and procedures – *Updated all forms (dates, contacts, etc.)* – final modifications to the following DRAFT documents were made and will be submitted to referee corps for comments:
 - a. National Referee Test Eligibility & Documents Required
 - b. Referees from other Federations
 - c. National Test Site Procedures – Chief Referee & Evaluators
 - d. Emeritus Referees
 - e. Leave of Absence Procedures
 - f. Requesting International Event Participation
 - g. Tournament Staff Roles & Responsibilities
 2. Expansion of the use of the Referee Information Site – Dan Israel will work with Vaughn to host videos (RC Meetings and Town Halls) and he will work with Babek to verify that an on-line National Referee Test is able to be posted on the Referee Information Site
 - B. International (Gary Takemoto)
 1. List all international activities (as they become known) that U.S. referees can attend – *List on Referee Information Site – Gary will coordinate with Vaughn*
 2. Publish all international trip reports when they are received – *start with recent past reports – post on Referee Information Site. – reports have been requested by Gary*
 3. Publish “Lessons Learned” list for international travel (including financial and time requirements for various level events) – *solicit from recent international travelling referees. – Gary is working the issue and will consult with the international advisors to update the list of referees who went on recent trips*
- III. Career Planning
 - A. Questionnaire – *Develop the document and distribute to all referees (National and above) – comments were reviewed by the RC and will be incorporated and the survey will be sent*
 - B. RC keeps database (*part of USA Judo Referee Info System*) – *a template will be developed for the personal development plan and timeline.*
- IV. Education and Training
 - A. Establish a Task Force for Referee Education and Training – *Review status*

1. Develop program – curriculum, class outlines, presentation methods, etc. for each certification level (local, regional, national) to supplement other established education and training programs in the U.S.
2. Provide on-line consolidated access to classes and reference material – *Put links on USA Judo Referee Page – a link has been put on a new “referee education” page to the Ohio Judo, Inc. Referee Training Index webpage – PJC info is supposed to be on the PJC Facebook Page but we have been unable to locate the referee round table series so far*

V. Status Reports

- A. Domestic Events – Startup and Assignments (Youth Nationals – 3/13-14 - Salt Lake City, UT); (Sr. Nationals – 5/15-16 - Reno, NV); (J.O.s - 6/18-20 - Winston-Salem, NC); President’s Cup – 11/21 – Irving, TX) –
 1. *Discussed new policy of USA Judo to select additional athlete point events and the impact that might have on National Referee Test Site selections.*
 2. *Collegiate Nationals (College Station, TX in March) – NCJA not currently interested in combining with the USA Judo Youth Nationals*
- B. International Events – ****Startup and Assignments - Need to update Travelling Referees data on website – congratulations to Sharon Landstreet (Pan American Championships – Guadalajara, Mexico) and Saro Balagezyan and Oren Knopfmacher (Pan American Cup, Panama)*

VI. Other Old Business

- A. American Judo Development Model (AJDM) Interaction and Referee Focus (Task Force)

VII. New Business

- A. Consideration of expanding the awarding of the National Gold Patch to those who refereed for many decades and made many contributions to Judo and are no longer able (due to death, disability, etc.) to attain N4 ratings. *It was decided not to merge this type of support with the Gold Patch program but, instead, we will look at another recognition program.*

VIII. Executive Session

- A. Ranking List Procedures
 1. Reviewed current procedure
 2. Discussed proposed algorithm and changes (Document for A & B Test Candidates)
 3. Discussed Alternate (#2) Proposal
 4. Discussed Alternate (#3) Proposal
 5. Decided to send to Task Force #4 for recommendations at the next RC meeting
- B. Assignments for Task Forces
 1. Task Force #3 - Education – Rick Celotto (Leader), Sheldon Konno, Ryan Shimokawa, David Malek
 2. Task Force #4 - Ranking System – Russ Scherer, David Malek, Rick Celotto, Janet Johnson, Sheldon Konno
 3. Task Force #5 - AJDM – Manmohan Chima

- C. Potential expansion of RC in 2021 (coach, etc.) – recommendations for 2021
- D. 2021 referee levels review and verification
- E. Youth Nationals – Gary Berliner (Chief), Gary Takemoto and Mike Takata as Evaluators
[Edson Mallo and Mark Hirota as Backup]
- F. Senior Nationals – Gary Takemoto (Chief), Gary Berliner, David Smith, Sheldon Konno as Evaluators
- G. US Open approved as an Evaluation Site pending completion of application form – selected Gary Berliner (Chief), Gary Takemoto and Hector Estevez as Evaluators
- H. Capture minutes of earlier meetings
- I. Town Hall will have video recording, no minutes
- J. Referees to be determined by level quotas
- K. USA Judo staff will provide RC Assistants with reason(s) referees drop off active list so we can assist in keeping referees current
- L. RC Meeting Common Practices
 - 1. Include a statement in the minutes that the previous minutes were approved by email
 - 2. Distribute agenda with Zoom link
 - 3. Observers must use chat or raise hand, if allowed during meeting
- IX. Next Meeting – January 9, 2021 – 7:00PM
- X. Adjournment