

USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting – January 9, 2021 Minutes

- I. Roll Call – Members Present: Russ Scherer, Gary Takemoto, Gary Berliner, Hector Estevez, David Smith, Michael Eldred – Assistants: Ralph Palmer, David Malek – USA Judo Exec.Dir. Keith Bryant
- II. Motion by David Smith (Seconded by Gary Berliner) to accept Minutes of the 12/12/20 RC Meeting (after spelling corrections) – Passed unanimously
- III. Scope of RC Activities
 - A. Domestic
 1. Develop and publish all USA Judo domestic referee programs, policies, and procedures – *Reviewed referee corps comments on Groups 1 and 2 Policies*
 - a. *“Leave of Absence” [Moved-Gary Takemoto; Seconded-Gary Berliner; passed unanimously as amended],*
 - b. *“Candidate Requirements – National Referee Exam” [Moved-Gary Berliner; Seconded-Michael Eldred; passed unanimously as amended],*
 - c. *“Emeritus Referees” [Amended – further review and vote by email],*
 - d. *“Referees from Other Federations” [Moved- Gary Takemoto; Seconded-Gary Berliner; passed unanimously],*
 - e. *“Procedures for Chief Referees & Evaluators at Test & Eval. Events” [Moved-Hector Estevez; Seconded-Gary Berliner; passed unanimously as amended],*
 - f. *“Requesting International Events” [Moved-Gary Takemoto; Seconded-Gary Berliner; passed unanimously as amended]*

Note: “USA Judo Referee Commission Tournament Staff Roles and Responsibilities Guidance” was inadvertently not sent to the referee corps for comments so it will be reviewed by the RC one more time and then sent to the referee corps for comments.
 2. Expansion of the use of the Referee Information Site – *posted RC Meetings and Town Hall videos*
 - B. International
 1. List all international activities (as they become known) that U.S. referees can attend – *List on Referee Information Site* – the lists of events scheduled for the first half of 2021 for both IJF and PJC have been published and will be put on the USA Judo website
 2. International trip reports are being collected and will be kept in a separate file and when referees accept international assignments, previous reports on their specific event will be made available to them. A report template will be developed.
 3. Publish “Lessons Learned” list for international travel (including financial and time requirements for various level events) – *information will be solicited from recent international travelling referees.*
 4. *New anti-doping rules have been received and will be published*
- IV. Career Planning

- A. Questionnaire – *Report on completed questionnaires received to date from the Referee Corps was reviewed and we will start initiating direct contact on a one-to-one basis*
- B. RC keeps database (*part of USA Judo Referee Info System*) – *review of the best method of tracking is being conducted by Russ Scherer, David Malek, and will involve others.*
- V. Recommendation to develop another survey to solicit from the referee corps their needs/desires for activity by the Referee Commission that is not already underway.
- VI. Education and Training
 - A. Task Force #3 “Referee Education and Training” has been established and is starting to develop a plan
 - 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 – one link is up, the link to the PJC weekly roundtables are being investigated – additional training materials are being pursued.*
- VII. Evaluation
 - A. Motion (Russ Scherer) – (Seconded-Gary Takemoto) “To establish Task Force #6 to develop an enhanced Evaluation System and associated standards and training” Passed unanimously. The members to be Russ Scherer, Rick Celotto, Janet Johnson, David Malek and David Smith with Gary Takemoto and Gary Berliner as advisors. *They will solicit and discuss input from those who have served as evaluators in the past.*
 - B. Ranking list procedures
 - 1. Candidates for International (IJF-A) and Continental (IJF-B) Tests – *The recommendations from Task Force #4 were reviewed and favorably received. Review of specific data and further discussion was tabled to the Executive Session.*
- VIII. Status Reports
 - A. Domestic Events – Startup and Assignments (Youth Nationals – ****Date CHANGED to 4/24-25 - Salt Lake City, UT*)
 - B. International Events –
 - 1. ****Startup and Assignments - Published IJF and other international events on the USA Judo website – waiting to see reduction in limitations of Covid-19 on event participation (before action on assigned, requested and/or suggested recommendations)*
 - 2. *Update Travelling Referees data on website – Gary Takemoto will contact Vaughn to complete the updates*
- IX. Other Old Business
 - A. American Judo Development Model (AJDM) Interaction and Referee Focus (Task Force #5) – Chima will work with Task Force #3 (Education & Training)
 - B. 2021 referee levels notification – most levels will be carried over from 2020 with the exception of a few changes due to performance in early 2020 before all events were cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions. Each referee will receive their 2021 level by email from David Malek or Ralph Palmer.

- X. New Business
 - A. Budget basics – moved to Executive Session but ran out of time so it will be discussed at the next meeting.

- XI. Executive Session
 - A. Consideration of request from ATJA to recognize their Referee Certification Program for referees below National certification level – Discussion, clarifications – Passed unanimously
 - B. Task Force #4 (Ranking System) Report continued with review of actual real data (as of 1/1/2020) – recommended looking at effect of changing International Points for each event as follows (Level 1 = 0.3, Level 2 = 0.4, Level 3 = 0.6). Spreadsheet to be provided to RC members for further review. After Gary Takemoto and the International Advisors recommend the 3 levels of international events and identify which events are in each level, the spreadsheet will be updated and 2020 data will be added. The RC will then vote on the ranking system at the next meeting.
- XII. Next Meeting – Saturday, January 23, 2021 – 7PM Eastern Time
- XIII. Adjournment – 11:45PM