

USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2021

I. Roll Call

Present – Russ Scherer (Co-Chair, Domestic Activities)
Gary Takemoto (Co-Chair, International Activities)
Gary Berliner (Member)
Michael Eldred (Member/Athlete)
Hector Estevez (Member)
Bill Gugino (Member)
Katie Sell (Member/Athlete)
David Smith (Member)
David Malek (RC Assistant)
Ralph Palmer (RC Assistant)

Absent - Doug Tono (Member/Coach)

II. Review /acceptance of last RC Meeting (3/6/21) Minutes – *passed unanimously*

III. Status Reports of RC Activities

A. Policies/Procedures updates

1. *Tournament Staff Roles & Responsibilities – discussed suggested changes and passed unanimously as previously distributed*
2. *2021-24 Referee Commission Workplan – no suggested changes and passed unanimously as distributed*

B. Website Updates

1. List all international activities (as they become known) that U.S. referees can attend – *List on Referee Information Site – status – Reviewed the U.S. Department of State International Travel Advisories – mostly “Reconsider Travel” and a number of “Do Not Travel” – Pan Am Championships moved to Guadalajara, Mexico – All IJF-A Examinations have been suspended for 2021 – IJF Head Referee Director Juan Carlos Barcos will be retiring at the conclusion of the 2021 Olympic Games – The Head Referee Directors will then be Jeon Young and Daniel Lascau – Gary Berliner will be Commission member at Azerbaijan IBSA Grand Prix – Tokyo Games will have no foreign spectators*
2. International trip reports - *start with recent past reports – post list on Referee Information Site – provide to RC and referees who are approved to participate in that event in the future*
3. Publish “Lessons Learned” list/Travel Log for international travel (including financial and time requirements for various level events) – *solicit from recent international travelling referees. – Post on Referee Information Site*

IV. Career Planning

- A. Questionnaire – the next step – *A Zoom meeting will be set up for discussion of Personal Development Plans and Mentoring approaches – if interested in presenting material contact Russ Scherer – When set, it will be advertised by email blast to all of our Referee Corps.*

- B. RC keeps database (*not yet a part of USA Judo Referee Info System*) – a Microsoft Access database has been established and populated with current data to document activity in this area
- V. Task Force Updates
 - A. Referee Evaluation System Modifications (TF #6) – *proposed beta test will span all 4 national championships in 2021 which will include for N4 and B4 referees the use of partial points (0.1 increments) – if the test is successful, these procedures will be incorporated into the Evaluation Process. – TF #6 is continuing to work on an education document relating to these partial points. Unanimously approved the trial.*
- VI. Event Status Reports
 - A. Domestic Events – (Youth Nationals – 4/24-25 - 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. Referee and staff assignments for 4 national events – *Youth Nationals staffed with 32-35 working referees, male weigh-ins and CARE setup fully staffed, female weigh-ins fully staffed for Friday and partially staffed for Saturday - Senior Nationals referee registration deadline is April 1st – National J.O.’s to be discussed during today’s Executive Session*
 - 2. Other N1 Events – *none currently scheduled – Corinne will send a list of those events that have been approved for points for athletes – new events are being considered*
 - B. International Events –
 - 1. *Startup and Assignments - Published IJF and other international events – assigned, requested and/or suggested recommendations – most everything is on hold*
 - 2. *Update Travelling Referees data on website – Gary T. is working with Richie Endow for updated look of “Referees on the Go”*
- VII. Other Old Business - none
- VIII. New Business - none
- IX. Executive Session
 - A. Proposed Budget – *reviewed proposed working budget – combined Chief Referee costs with 3 Evaluators with total of \$2,000 for travel for the four individuals. Lunch will be provided from event budget which was inadvertently left off the prior draft budget. Reviewed room assignments for the Youth Nationals. Budget passed unanimously.*
 - B. National Junior Olympics – *After registration packet is posted we will open up the Referee Information Site including requests for weigh-in personnel and a CARE system setup team. A Zoom meeting is being set up to discuss CARE system logistics - short term operation and maintenance.*
 - C. Verification of most recent International Event Level list – *Designated all PJC events as Level 1. Dave Malek and Russ Scherer will conduct a final review to make sure there are no errors in calculations or raw data transfer and then will send the file to all RC members. Then a listing of name, total points, domestic points and international points will be posted as a download. Approved*

- D. Senior Nationals – selection of 3rd evaluator – currently the team is Gary Takemoto (Chief), Gary Berliner (Evaluator) and David Smith (Evaluator) – Dan Israel selected as 3rd Evaluator
- X. Next Meeting – April 10, 2021 – 7:00PM Eastern Time
- XI. Adjournment – 10:08 PM - Motion by Gary Berliner (seconded by Gary Takemoto) – passed unanimously.