

USA Judo Referee Commission Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2021

- I. Roll Call

Present: Members – Russ Scherer (Co-Chair – Domestic), Gary Takemoto (Co-Chair – International), Gary Berliner, Michael Eldred, Bill Gugino; Assistants – Ralph Palmer, Dana Rucker

Absent: Members – Hector Estevez, Katie Sell, David Smith, Doug Tono; Assistant – David Malek
- II. Review /acceptance of last RC Meeting (8/7/21) Minutes – previously accepted by email vote
- III. Task Force Updates
 - A. CARE System Operations – future upgrades – *discussed a couple options including upgraded cameras, cabling, computers, replay boards and optional central master control board (utilizing dedicated person) – Scott Morifuji is donating 2 Dell micro pc’s but need larger hard drives and monitors – we are also planning on a zoom call with PJC technical personnel and our technical personnel to discuss the CARE system the PJC uses and how we could utilize that system*
 - B. Education Task Force Plans – approval of additional website postings – Gary Berliner moved (seconded by Bill Gugino) that 3 handouts be approved to post on the referee education page of the USA Judo website (passed unanimously) – *Clinics/Seminars listing on the website expanded to include 2 more clinics*
- IV. Event Status Reports
 - A. Domestic Events – President’s Cup – 11/21 – Irving, TX) – only 2 men and one woman will be needed for weigh-in with other volunteers to fill out the staff
 1. Referee and staff assignments for 1 remaining national event – *currently 52 referees (including 2 candidates) have signed up*
 2. N1 Events – *Garden State Judo Classic – went well and we now have 3 new National referees - Dallas Invitational*
 - B. International Events

Mindy Buehman scheduled for Paris Grand Slam in October

Sharon Landstreet scheduled for PJC November event

Brian Toth will test for his A test in Malaga, Spain – Gary will support

Gary will provide info at Training Camp in Las Vegas for 2021 World Veterans Championship
- V. Other Old Business
 - A. Status of 2021 National Events reimbursements – Junior Olympic support sent, except weigh-in staff – Youth Nationals complete – Senior Nationals has one issue to resolve – tracking procedure finalized
 - B. Responses from Referee Corps on Reimbursement Policy – Referee Corps reviewed policy – Gary Berliner moved (Michael Eldred seconded) to accept the policy as distributed (passed unanimously)
- VI. New Business

- A. Site visitations for potential future N1 events – desired policy? This will be put on the agenda for the next RC meeting to allow further reflection on the topic
 - B. Sanctioned Point Level Event SOP – as of 12/6/2020 – current referee requirements are much less stringent than our current test event requirements – Keith requested input from the RC for potential modification to this SOP – action item for Russ Scherer, which will be reviewed by the RC and then submitted to Corinne Shigemoto with a copy to Keith Bryant
- VII. Executive Session
- A. It was reaffirmed that once a referee reaches 56 years old (the ranking list for A test) and 51 years old (the ranking list for B test) they will no longer be put on the list
 - B. Emeritus Referee Status – Moved by Bill Gugino (seconded Gary Berliner) passed unanimously - 2 requests (Randy Pierce and Pat Szejter) for Emeritus status be granted
 - C. *Compensation/names for weigh-in personnel at JO's – still working on the list and they will be notified that they need to submit receipts*
 - D. Recognition – Guest Referee Status for Rajesh Karmacharya – Ralph Palmer to follow through completion of the paperwork
 - E. Potential Clinic – 2022 Youth Nationals – need to wait until the IJF issues rule changes, holds its seminar and we can observe the application at an IJF event
 - F. Young Referee Development Program – looking at referees under 25 – start by tracking by name & enhance/reward current activity of young referees, including accomplished current competitors – have special exceptions to allow refereeing during part of event and competing during part – potentially forming a task force open to USA Judo, USJA, USJF, ATJA referees to implement the program – this will be a topic for the next Town Hall
 - G. 2021 RC Budget – filling in the data in our tracking file – we anticipate having excess left from our original budget – looking at providing partial reimbursement for some international travel and/or extraordinary national event participation
 - H. 2022 Programs (Budget Requests – initial scoping) – activities and program that will require line items in next year's budget – topic of discussion for next meeting
 - I. Impact of Covid on ability of referees is influenced by location and work requirements. Requirements were already relaxed to maintain each referee's level. Russ Scherer offered a suggestion to lessen the impact of Covid restrictions on the Ranking Lists, which are significantly impacted – the proposal will be written with more detail and reviewed by the RC
 - J. Consideration of priorities for international travel support were discussed and need to be implemented in future decisions
 - K. We will be reviewing potential “fast track” candidates effective July 1, 2021
- VIII. Date for Next Town Hall Meeting is set for December 4, 2021 unless that is the date of the Winter Nationals – moved by Gary Takemoto (seconded by Bill Gugino) passed unanimously
- IX. Next RC Meeting is set for October 16, 2021 – moved by Gary Berliner (seconded by Gary Takemoto) passed unanimously
- X. Adjournment