

MINUTES OF THE

# UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION

## JAMES BREGMAN, PRESIDENT

APRIL 16, 2003  
3:00pm, CAPRI ROOMS 115 & 116  
RIVIERA HOTEL & CASINO  
2901 LAS VEGAS BLVD. S.  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89109  
SUBMITTED BY GENE FODOR  
SECRETARY UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION  
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The meeting of the United States Judo Association, Inc. was held at the Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas Nevada in accordance with the established By-laws of the organization at a time and place designated by the president of USJA.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting of the United States Judo Association, Inc.

President James Bregman

Vice President Michael Szrejter

Secretary Gene Fodor

Fellow Board Members

George Harris

Thom Layon

Virgil Bowles

George Weers

Jessie Jones

Ernie Smith

Absent were;

Terry Kelly

Steve Cunningham

Tom Reiff

Pat Szrejter

James Webb

Katrina Davis, Executive Office Manager

Connie Halporn

12 Members of the USJA were present as guests

President Bregman Report;

President Bregman began the meeting and noted that we had a quorum present to conduct the business of the USJA.

President Bregman

Mr. Bregman began the meeting with a note that Mr. Edward Szrejter was going into the hospital for serious surgery, and that we all wished him well and a speedy recovery, and he also prayed for a safe return of all of our forces engaged in the war. He noted that the USJA has a long standing history with our military since our beginning.

He noted that we have had a very tumultuous year, fighting the Insurance war with the United States Judo Incorporated and that we have to move forward and to move our organization ahead by ourselves, to make it a greater organization. He also noted that the USJA is involved in several big events this year, the newly formed Battle of Columbus, the Arnold Classic and the Disney Festival in Orlando Florida, we have many camps, the USJA Jr.Nationals and the USJA Senior Nationals, which will have a symposium connected to it. He spoke on how we got involved and where we hope to go with these events.

The NJI Building was sold, we had one building to sell, and that is also sold we will be free from debts that plagued us for a number of years. The office has moved from the downstairs part of the building to the upper offices, some 2000 sq. feet and will be renting it at \$5.00per foot. He thanked the Board of Directors and the membership for their dedication for their support during these hard times. He then turned to the Vice President.

Vice President Michael Szrejter;

Mike says he is proud to have worked with the board and members, even though we always have not seen eye to eye on issues.

He commented on the Disney Arts Festival which will be held in Florida in October, and that he is having a part in its Judo portion, he will have some flyers available to pass out to the members. He also indicated that he is looking forward to getting the financial statements up to date so we can see what is happening in the organization. He closed with a thank you to everyone once again.

Office Manager Katrina Welch.

Katrina brought with her, copies of the financial statement prepared by

James Webb, Treasurer for the USJA. Mr. Webb was not able to attend meeting, but made available the statement. For the first quarter, all in all outlook will get a lot better with the final sale of the building, the office is getting caught up on service to the membership since many of the holds were a direct result of the need to sell the buildings, attend closings and on.

Secretary Gene Fodor.

Gene stated that all members of the Board were furnished a copy of the minutes from the last Las Vegas meeting. That during the taping of that meeting, the player was faulty and most of the meeting could not be transcribed, it was noted that the former secretary did not know it had been set in another mode, which caused the tape to jump and re-record over what was already taped. Thom Layon made a motion to table the acceptance of the minutes, and said he would work with the secretary on this. Motion passed. Gene also requested that for the proper identification of persons speaking or making motions, that they identify themselves for the record. Nothing further to report at this time. Motion to accept the report as given by the President, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Szejter and passed.

Mr. George Weers, it was noted that during the Insurance problems, the number of conditions were demanded by the USJI, one of them of being notified of the results of the competitions being held, even though they are not sanctioned by the USJI. Connie Halporn stated, that they have done all along and that she has forms that would be made available to directors so that they could comply with the reporting issues. Connie will get these from the office, so that they can be given out. Mike Szejter indicated that what the USJI wants, does not work for the majority of tournament directors, it will take some time. Mr. Bregman indicated that we would not seek indictment against some small tournament director who does not comply with the USJI edicts, because they do not do the same when they have even done it. These requirements are not requested by the Insurance underwriters.

A motion was made to have Connie assist George Weers, on a committee. Motion by Mr. Weers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Bregman and passed.

Mr. Thom Layon, Legal Council for the USJA.

Mr. Layon reported that there have been no new litigations involving the USJA. Also he spoke on license and property rights issues, as Ms. Halporn had concerns on persons using material that was written by others, and getting permission to use such material from them. She will not give wholesale permission.

Katrina at this time, was applauded for all her efforts in dealing with the issues that was presented to her on the Insurance matters, and the difficulties in dealing with the people that she had to deal with, something different all the time.

Standards and Ethics.; Dr. Tony Zimkowski;

Tony gave a report on the actions taken by the Board, that several persons had been dropped from the rolls of the USJA and one person was cautioned on behavior, all cases that had lingered on prior to the establishment of new rules, are being caught up and disposed of through investigations.

Electronic Service Committee; Tom Reiff

No report, from him, but Jim is not happy with the data base conversion membership processing so far. Many things are moving well, such as merchandise sale and so on.

Promotion Board Chairman; Virgil Bowles

Mr. Bowles reported that the board heard 36 promotion requests, of them 23 were granted, and 13 did not meet the requirements or needed more information and will be sent back.

There was much talk on the granting of certificates from the USJI, JI want to stop issuing rank certificates to class A bodies, unless they go through their promotion process, most believe it is a money issue more than a promotion issue, since there is an agreement to recognize each others rank.

Women's Task Force; Connie Halporn

Posters, "Throw like a girl" is available, there have been no others that are new. 100% of the revenue goes to the USJA. There have been 54 Video Tapes made available, this is the 1964 tape, which included Jim Bregman and George Harris, there have even been inquiries from foreign students tapes. Women will be billed at the symposium this year in Indy. Women's role in Judo and so on. Women's task force is trying to get into the inner cities with a program also.

Camps and Clinics; Gary Monto

Gary says he has attended many events, and the camps have been well attended., he has requested that people contact him, so he can get qualified people to attend, this is so that certifications can be made available in various areas, Virgil Bowles is the most consistent

person, that makes contact with him so he knows what is going on. Gary says to let him know about your event, even if you have made contact with people to teach. He also indicates, that people who are on the list and do not attend events will be removed for lack of involvement.

USJA National Symposium; Hope Kennedy

Hope was not able to attend, Jim Bregman gave an overview of persons who will be speaking on various topics to be presented. Coaching certifications will be available by Dr. Dewey, in coaching 1 & 2. There is wealth of knowledge being made available to Those attending the symposium.

USJA Awards Committee; Dr. Charles

Dr. Charles could not attend, Gary Monto told the body that they are in t process of making awards in a number of categories, requests that coac pass on the names of qualified people in their state to the committee.

Publications Committee; Steve Cunningham.

Steve did not attend the meeting, Mike Szrejter indicated that he has be in contact with him and that hopefully the magazine, American Judo, will done soon, and then it will be posted to the Web site.

Competitive Development; Terry Kelly

Terry was not present to give a report, no other information. George We spoke on his trip to Russia and what is being done there in judo, he has some tapes that include training and that may be a topic for the development committee. Jim Bregman spoke on student exchange programs, and that too may be something for development. George said may put that in his next USA Headline Issue.

Kata Certification; Gary Monto,

Gary has redone the Kata and the Judging qualifications and it will be on the web as soon as Tom Reiff can post them. He would like to see more people involved, and more move up the ladder.

Examiner Certification Committee Charles Robinson - No Report

Referee Certification Committee - No Report

Collegiate Committee - No Report

Club Accreditation Committee - No Report

Jujitsu Committee - No Report

Mike Szrejter makes motion to accept all committee reports, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tho Layon and passed.

Old Business; No Reports

New Business;

Mike Szrejter

1. That the USJA establish a Point System for all USJA Athletes that compete, this is not to be in competition with the USJI current Point Sys Mike believe we should have this set up for events such as the new Arn

Classic, The USJA Nationals, the USJA Jr. Nationals and any other USJA event where nationwide competition is held. Mike believes that such a system would benefit the players for recognition for a variety of awards. Could be used for scholarships, assistance, sending persons to camps, clinics, and in many ways. Only for USJA members, and not from any other organization.

Thom Layon moved to table this motion. There needs to be more work on this, George Weers and Ms. Connie Halporn will assist Mike Szrejter and Thom Layon to move this motion forward, Motion tabled at this time by a vote of the Board.

2. Mike brought up the Technical Committee, headed by Jeff Miller, Mike believes that officials such as , Technical Officials could believe invaluable to the Point System he proposed. They could have testing sites set up at these tournaments to get people involved. Mike Szrejter, George Weers, Cinnie Halporn and Gary Monto will work together to iron out the details implementing these new motions.

On a motion by Thom Layon to table, the motion advanced by Mr. Szrejter, President Bregman called for a vote, the BOD voted to table with no abstentions.

Ron Cooley, a member of USJA proposed that the USJA present a proposal for grass roots development for JUDO and present it to the USOC for funding. President Bregman injected his thoughts, that if there was a way to get the USJI and the USJF to get to the USOC, get money and split it between the three organizations, he would work 24 Hrs. a day, however reality is that they will not. Cooperation is out the window. President Bregman believes that the best way to implement such a program, is to have the USJF and the USJA work on it, and when finalized that the USJI agree with it, an step aside and let the two organizations do it.

No formal motion was made on this, and it required no further action. Mr. Cooley's proposal was well taken.

Motion by Mr. Thom Layon, advanced by a USJA member.

Motion,

Mr. Layon moves that the USJA budget funds to pay for a Chief Executive Officer of the corporation. To hire the same to manage and trouble shoot business affairs of the USJA, and that person be Mr. James Bregman.

Rationale, it is time to have such a person to run the business affairs of USJA in a professional manner, and not in a part time manner, as it is currently the policy. Mr. Layon presented Mr. Bregman's qualities as he

sees them.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. George Harris. Discussion, Mike Szrejter, making a large financial consideration to have such a position like this, is not in the best interests at this time, his rationale at this time, is based on the fact that we have not had time to digest the financial status of the corporation, he maintains that he is not against having such a paid position.

Mr. Thom Layon questioned Mr. Szrejter and asked if his statements are a motion to table, Mr. Szrejter answered yes.

President Bregman, called for a vote on the table, Mr. Thom Layon voted to table, as did the rest of the majority of the Board. This is only to table it at this time for further consideration.

The President called for further business to be brought before the body.

Virgil Bowles, Chairman of the Promotion Board called for a motion to have all promotions from Yodan and below, to be acted upon in 60 days from the date of request, and that those of Godan and above be acted upon in 120 days, from the date of filing. This is valid, only if the paper work is complete.

Rational by Mr. Bowles, currently there is a rule, which in effect says, that if the Promotion Board does not act on requests for promotion in 45 days, that the candidate is automatically promoted to the rank requested. Sometimes, the dates fall in between meetings, and run over the 45 day time, thereby granting the promotion, without promotion board review.

Mike Szrejter defended the former process, saying the for unknown reasons, paper work was not acted upon when sent in, thus it was carried over until a actual meeting, making it over the 45 day limit set at a board meeting. The promotion process was set up to be acted upon over the site established for the promotion board to review promotion, and lessening the work load at meetings. Mike is in favor of the newer motion.

Mike called for the vote, Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Szrejter, vote by the BOD passes the motion, no abstentions or nays.

There was a call to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 8:12pm, the meeting was concluded with a pending meeting of the Standards and Ethics Board at that time, the meeting held, was to hear investigations of complaints against USJA members.

Dr. Tony Zimkowski chairs that committee.

Minutes submitted by;

Gene Fodor, Secretary USJA

June 30, 2003