

**USJF Shufu Judo Yudanshakai, Inc. - Board of Directors (BOD)  
Meeting Minutes (draft)**

**November 4, 2023, 9:30 am at Hui-O Judo in Beltsville, MD and Zoom**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Confirmation of quorum - Welcome. Confirmation of quorum (15%)
- II. Moment of silence to remember those who are no longer with us.
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Motion to adopt agenda – motion by Roy, second by Mike. Motion passed
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve last BOD meeting minutes – motion by Kevin, second by Diane – Motion passed
- V. President's report
  - A. USJF news
    - The National Office is fully staffed for the first time in years.
    - Terri Waibel (office manager retiring in May 2023- on-going retirement – She is still in the office teaching the new staff)
    - USJF website – updated and revamped. Member Portal for individual/Dojo/Yudanshakai.
    - USJF has been conducting webinar series - past ones can be found on the USJF home page site under resources tab. The next one will be the second with Jennifer Schoo-Batchscher, new Chair of the Teachers Institute on Sunday, November 12th @ 4 pm EST, will be discussing the practical aspects of applying established educational techniques to training of new and intermediate judokas. Make sure you pre-register for the webinar.
    - Mentoring and rotation of leadership in committees – See USJF website for details
    - Senior requirement changes are being proposed. Kevin Tamai will discuss in his report.
    - USA Judo and USJF are still in discussions in a bi-lateral agreement (USJA is not included at this time). There is a month-month agreement as an ad hoc committee is working on another agreement.
    - USJF has negotiating w/ Smooth Comp (the company that has been doing numerous event registration/coordination) to buy bulk credits at a discount. They can be used for USJF sanctioned events to reduce SmoothComp costs for organizers
    - USJF BOD/BOE and Committee Spring meeting was held April 13-16 in Boise, ID
    - USJF BOD/BOE and Committee meeting was held on October 26-27 in conjunction with the USJF Nationals in San Francisco
    - USJF Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement Awards of 2023 – Awarded to Peggy Whilden (nominated by Shufu) and Dr. Medani (nominated by Mitch Palacio)

**NEW information from the recent National meetings**

- USJF Endowment Trust has purchased the building of the National Office for \$215,000.
- Concern from the Treasurer that the 2024 budget will be running ~ \$60,000 deficit. The BOD voted to reduce the amount that the Yudanshakai receive from membership to \$10/person.
- A group from Hawaii have started a for-profit company called Premiere Judo. It will concentrate on team competition (5 males and 5 females). It will concentrate on tachi waza and submissions (shime waza and kansetsu waza), points for osaekomi. Eventually will be live-streamed
- FYI - appointments for USJF Finance Committee up in April
- USJF is trying to set up National Point system which is supposed to provide scholarships for judoka and dojos
- Event Excess Accident Medical Coverage (EEAMC) is a program to provide insurance for allowing USA Judo members at a cost of \$4/person/event. It describes various scenarios on how to use the system. For example, you can add the \$4 to the entry fee or provide a discount to USJF members.
- Special needs judo program, contact Miki Takemori [Shufu.President@gmail.com](mailto:Shufu.President@gmail.com)
- There are new guidelines for Junior requirements and Senior 6th-10th Dan. Kevin Tamai will provide details in his report.

- Shufu is in the running to host the USJF Spring 2024 meeting. Final candidates are Miami and Shufu. USJF wants a national tournament and/or clinics with the meeting
- Mitchell Palacio, USJF president is seeking younger judoka to become involved in USJF National Judo Organization, Contact Miki Takemori, Shufu President to connect you to the right groups depending on your interest. USJF committees can be found on the USJF website.

#### B. Shufu News

- Member registrations slowly climbing at present (10/20/2023)
- There are clubs with expired registration. Miki contacted the clubs to request their renewal. I have also been contacted by 3 – 4 other clubs that are interested in joining Shufu.
- Continued Shufu Central Promotional/BOD/BOE events 2x/year, and Shufu North Promotional events 2x/year.
- Shufu Executive Committee (EC) meets most Wednesday via Zoom link. Let Miki know if you are interested in a sensei / club lead to join periodically (2 -3/year).
- Shufu EC has discussed but have not scheduled the following: Instructor Certification Course, Self-Defense Course
- Jimmy Takemori Memorial Clinic featured Kevin Asano on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at Beltsville Community Center.
- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The next Jimmy Takemori memorial clinic will be held January 14 at Sport Judo in Springfield, VA. The clinicians will be three Berliners: Gary, Kell and Ari.**
- Shufu Shimbun has been going since April 2022 – We have tried to continue to provide up-to-date news and upcoming events. It is primarily written by Kevin Tamai AND
- **ACTION ALL: The Shufu Shimbun (e-newsletter) needs YOUR news! Please give articles, picture with captions, dojo news by about the 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month to Kevin and/or Miki.**
- **ACTION ALL: looking for a lead for the Shimbun – contact: Kevin and/or Miki.**
- Kata clinics continue. Mainly at Sport Judo. They are given by Shufu's experts in kata, including Karen Whilden, Diane Jackson, Karl Tamai and Fran Vall.
- Upcoming Event: January 28, 2024, will be a Nage no Kata clinic at Trident Judo Club near Woodbridge, VA.
- Referee – Novice Referee clinic on March 4 was organized by Sharon Landstreet (IJF-A). Sharon has also agreed to become Chair of the Referee committee. (Sharon will give a report later in this meeting).
- Upcoming Event: January 7 will be the next Shufu Rules clinic. Contact Sharon or Mike Landstreet.
- Bobby Donaldson continues as an important referee mentor to national and international referees.
- Shufu CARE systems are over 7 years old and have started to break down. Sharon Landstreet has done extensive research in CARE system laptops and consulted with Patrick Lo (USA Judo referee who is coordinating west coast purchases of CARE systems). The Shufu EC has reviewed the material and purchased 3 systems for Shufu use. Rental of these systems will be possible for non-Shufu Events to help defray the cost of the systems.
- Tentative plan in Summer 2024 (late July – August) for Joshi Camp (main audience is female judoka) in the Shufu area. YDK support and venues for multiple days would be needed.
- USJF forming an at-large / large club association, clubs without YDK.
- Diane Tamai Jackson earned international certifications in all 5 of the IJF katas (Ju no kata, Katame no kata, Nage no kata, Kime no kata and Kodokan Goshin jutsu) in 2023 IJF World Kata Championships in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Theo Schwalm, Shufu in Texas, was the USA Judo team manager.
- USJF would like to have 4 national tournaments per year – looking for hosts
- New subcommittee on leadership.
- USJF Exe Committee: encourage younger judokas to lead and do
- Probationary period for new clubs (6 months) to join a YDK

- C. Congratulations to local athletes:
- Brian Lopez, Hui-o, first place at PJC Veteran's Championship in Mexico in September 2023
  - David Terao was on the pan am and pan am games team.
  - Josh Terao took bronze at US Open.
  - Solomon Choran took silver at US Open.
  - Yasmin Alamin, Sport Judo, Pan American games team member, medal at 3 pan am open championship, and national champion
- VI. FINANCIAL REPORT by TREASURER – Gaiv Tata, Shufu Treasurer
- A. Overall Shufu in healthy financial condition
- B. Events, overall, are breaking even
- C. Athlete's fund, a portion of the net income generally goes to athlete fund but since none during pandemic, Shufu EC used some funds from USJF refund
- VII. NON-FINANCIAL REPORTS
- A. Vice President – Mike (will wait to new business)
- B. Board of Examiners (BOE) – Kevin Tamai, Chair, [shufuboechairman.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:shufuboechairman.kevin@gmail.com)
- Miki, Eric and Kevin out at USJF national mtg and tournament (October 2023)
  - BOE – complements to Karen Whilden – because of her work and her team, Shufu is only the YDK that does not have incomplete applications. Karen will be the clinician on a zoom webinar on how to properly complete Form 20 for promotion.
  - New junior promotion guidelines on USJF and Shufu websites. New matrix by rank.
  - National Office working on more digital forms, e.g., Form 20
  - Janet Johnson (Hudson YDK) is working on requirements for 6-10 dan ranks, based on how a person contributes
  - Koka Kids on USJF website. Cartoon-style books aimed to young judoka
  - Kata clinics continue
  - 12 new master instructors nationally – Shufu planning to host certification.
  - Dr Medani is coordinating routine national-level zoom webinars on various topics. Check the USJF website.
  - USJF requests registrations go through SmoothComp since it will keep records
  - Nov 12, Jennifer Schoo-Batchtscher hosting Instructor webinar, Part II
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- VIII. FIRST BUSINESS
- A. Amend Shufu By-laws / constitution – Roy Englert to cover information on this topic.
- Two years ago, new election, the constitution amended, BOE membership can decrease by attrition, and fixed other items.
  - Approved at Spring 2023 meeting
  - **ACTION:** Secretary will send out the amendment for vote. A majority of ALL registered Shufu black belts is needed to pass the amendment.
- B. Repeat - Need for Shufu Junior Development Chair and Committee members and Kata Committee Chair and members – contact Miki Takemori, [Shufu.President@gmail.com](mailto:Shufu.President@gmail.com)
- IX. NORMAL BUSINESS
- a. Ad hoc committee (approved at Spring 2019 BOD meeting) – Committee to be composed of athlete fund chair and referee and kata committee chairs to research criteria/limitations regarding use of funds for referees and judges \* If there is no progress or report for this Ad Hoc Committee then it will be discontinued\* - Diane move to discontinue, Mike second - passed
- b. Ad hoc committee (approved Fall 2021 BOD meeting) on How We Grow Judo – George Antoniou. Informal interactions so far. Looking to do small, developmental tournaments. Support to new clubs. To contact George, text is best: 719-440-5369
- c. Question: Closely related to the athletes fund, do we have a process for in-kind donations of support such as pro bono clinics and coaching? Not at this time. If interested in creating an ad hoc committee to develop criteria to fairly award funds and understand non-profit law. If interested, contact Miki Takemori, [Shufu.President@gmail.com](mailto:Shufu.President@gmail.com)
- d. Highlights from...
- Shufu's USJF membership registration status – Dr. Medani (see below)

- Dan Rank Registration chair – Karen Whilden (see attached report). Karen will be the clinician in teaching outer Yudanshakais on how to best complete the USJF black belt promotion request (Form 20) and document the process – Date to be decided
- Athletes' Fund – Robert Hunt
  - Shufu will need to find a means to assist in raising money for this fund as the \$1/entry in Shufu events has not happened.
  - **ACTION:** Seeking suggestions on how to raise money for this fund?
- Coach – Eric Spears, Chair
  - **REQUEST:** Eric would like someone new to volunteer to be committee chair and maybe represent Shufu on the National USJF Coaches' Committee – contact Miki at [ShufuPresident.Miki@gmail.com](mailto:ShufuPresident.Miki@gmail.com)
- Kata – Robert Gouthro
  - **REQUEST:** Rob would like someone new to volunteer to be committee chair – Contact Miki at [ShufuPresident.Miki@gmail.com](mailto:ShufuPresident.Miki@gmail.com)
- Referee – Sharon Landstreet, Chair [sbojudo@msn.com](mailto:sbojudo@msn.com)
  - Polled referees on recent events that Shufu supported
  - 11 new local or regional referees certified
  - Local referee certification at local developmental tournament by Arlington Judo
- Communications – George Antoniou
  - Social Media Lead (Brandon Wang, Dale City Judo, Shodan)
    - a. **ACTION ALL:** like and follow Social Media pages
    - b. FB: Shufu page and also Shufu Communication page
    - c. Instagram, X @shufujudo
    - d. **REQUEST:** George Antoniou seeks a Communications contact per club (any rank). Contact: 719-440-5369 or [george.t.antoniou@gmail.com](mailto:george.t.antoniou@gmail.com)
    - e. **REQUEST:** seeking other person(s) for social media (any rank), Contact: Contact: 719-440-5369 or [george.t.antoniou@gmail.com](mailto:george.t.antoniou@gmail.com)
  - Shufu Judo – Clubs have been featured in the Shufu Shimbun
  - Website – Dr. Medani
    - a. **REQUEST:** seeking other people to maintain website (any rank) [charles.medani@gmail.com](mailto:charles.medani@gmail.com)
- e. Announcements of upcoming or in-planning events – from the floor
  - i. Arlington Judo Novice tournament, Saturday December 2, at Dawson Community Center, juniors only, age 5 – 16, on Smoothcomp, on Shufu website, local referee certification  
POC: Sharon Landstreet Mike Landstreet
  - ii. Andrew Furjanic – high intensity interval training using Blazepods – great to engage kids  
Contact: [andrew.furjanic@mac.com](mailto:andrew.furjanic@mac.com)
  - iii. Recognize birthdays: Edwin Takemori, Fran Vall, Dick Hugh
  - iv. Challenge (over-charged \$) to renew USJF membership on-line for Life members
- X. ADJOURNMENT – motion to adjourn by Mike, second by Kevin, motion passed

#### Shufu Executive Committee

**Miki Takemori**, President and BOD Chair

**Mike Landstreet**, Vice-President

**Gaiv Tata**, Treasurer

**Diane Tamai Jackson**, Secretary

**Kevin Tamai**, Board of Examiners Chair

**Roy Englert, Jr.**, Immediate Past President

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Meeting Attendance: V = Virtual

- 1) Miki Takemori, president
- 2) Mike Landstreet, vice-president
- 3) Roy Englert, past president
- 4) Kevin Tamai, BOE chair

- 5) Gaiv Tata, treasurer
- 6) Diane Jackson, secretary
- 7) Karen Whilden, black belt registration chair
- 8) Edwin Takemori
- 9) Eric Spears, development
- 10) Kurt Tamai
- 11) Pam Hinkle
- 12) John Floyd
- 13) Brandon Wang, communications/ social media
- 14) Greg Goebel
- 15) Andrew Furjanic
- 16) Daniel Smith
- 17) R. Wayne Brown
- 18) Steve Seaquest
- 19) Margie Kettl
- 20) Brian Lopez
- 21) Maurice Allan (V)
- 22) Roy Nanjo (V)
- 23) Sharon Landstreet (V), referee chair
- 24) Karl Tamai (V)
- 25) Tom Tedesso (V)
- 26) George Antoniou (V). communications
- 27) Gerard Cadet (V)
- 28) Robert Winston (V)
- 29) Percy Johnson (V)
- 30) Chris Waliser (V)
- 31) Chris Round (V)
- 32) Dr Medani (V)
- 33) John Lally (V)
- 34) Oliver Barre (V)
- 35) Alberto Agudello (V)

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**Shufu membership / registration report (as of 11/2/2023):**

**Total individual membership** 518 (a 54% increase in 1 year from 336)

194 Juniors (37.5%), a 123% increase in 1 year

324 Seniors (62.5%), a 30% increase in 1 year

**Number of Clubs:** 28 (428 members), with 1 At Large (92 members)

~86% of clubs have 20 or fewer members

~14% of clubs have 21-90 members

**Top 5 clubs:** Arlington (90); Hui-O (57); Dale City (53); Toshi (22); College Park (20)

**USJF numbers:** Total membership: 8046, with nearly exact 50-50 Junior/Senior split