



CONSTITUTION
OF
SHUFU JUDO YUDANSHAKAI
(CAPITOL JUDO BLACK BELT ASSOCIATION)

Article I

Name

The name of this organization is Shufu Judo Yudanshakai. Shufu Judo Yudanshakai is incorporated as not for profit under the laws of the State of Delaware.

Article II

Purpose and Objectives

The purposes and objectives of this organization are as follows:

- a) to promote the art and science of Judo and to maintain the standards and traditions and to further the teachings of the United States Judo Federation (USJF).
- b) to guide, lead, and administer all Judo activities including major competitions and rank promotions within the eastern U.S.A. area under its jurisdiction as specified by the United States Judo Federation.
- c) to act as a coordinating body between its various member organizations and to maintain the necessary relations with appropriate national and international organizations.
- d) to operate as a member Yudanshakai of the United States Judo Federation and to cooperate with other Judo governing bodies, including but not limited to USA Judo (United States Judo, Inc.) in fostering and maintaining competition for its members.

Article III

Government and Officers

Section 1. This organization is an independent organization, officially recognized by the United States Judo Federation, United States Judo, Inc., the Pan American Judo Confederation, the International Judo Federation, and the Kodokan but governed by its own constitution and by-laws. It may cooperate with other sports governing bodies for the advancement of Judo provided such cooperation does not endanger the autonomy of the Shufu Judo Yudanshakai.

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- Section 2. This organization shall have a Board of Directors with the following membership, powers, and duties:
- a) The Board shall consist of all voting members of the Yudanshakai as defined in Article V(a) of this Constitution (i.e., all Registered Black Belt members).
 - b) The President of the Yudanshakai shall act at all times as the Chairman of the Board of Directors.
 - c) All actions of the Board shall be taken by majority vote of the members of the Board actually casting votes.
 - d) A quorum of the Board shall be deemed present whenever 15% or more of the voting members are present—physically or by an electronic means that permits voting by secret ballot—at a properly noticed meeting or, in the case of a vote conducted in writing, when 15% or more of the voting members cast votes or abstain in writing.
 - e) The Board shall meet twice each year, at the winter/spring and summer/fall promotionals. In the winter/spring meeting in each even-numbered year immediately following a year in which the Summer Olympic Games have been held, the Board shall conduct a Quadrennial Meeting. The Quadrennial Meeting may not be canceled. Any other regularly scheduled meeting may be canceled if the President determines that the Yudanshakai's officers and Board of Examiners are capable of conducting the business of the Yudanshakai without the need for a separate Board meeting. All regularly scheduled meetings of the Board shall be deemed properly noticed meetings, without the need for a separate notice, unless the President shall have notified one or more member voting members that he or she intends to cancel the meeting. Special meetings of the Board, including meetings conducted by written or electronic votes, may be conducted in accordance with the by-laws.
 - f) At each Quadrennial Meeting, the Board shall elect the officers of this organization specified in Section 3.



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- g) At any regularly scheduled meeting (including the Quadrennial Meeting), and at any special meeting conducted in accordance with the by-laws, the Board may conduct any of the business of the Yudanshakai, and may ratify or overrule actions of the officers, Executive Committee, or Board of Examiners. The Board may remove or replace officers, with or without cause. Unless and until the Board of Directors orders otherwise, however, all actions of the officers, Executive Committee, or Board of Examiners shall be presumed valid, and all officers shall be presumed to continue in office until the next Quadrennial Meeting.

Section 3. This organization is governed by the following officers, elected in the manner prescribed in the by-laws:

- a) a President, who presides at all regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee or Board of Directors.
- b) a Vice-President, who acts as the President in the President's absence and carries out other duties delegated to him or her by the President. The Vice-President is responsible for Public Relations and the relations of the organization with all other groups interested in Judo.
- c) a Secretary, who keeps minutes of all official meetings, including promotional meetings. He or she conducts all official correspondence delegated to him or her by the President or other officers and prepares and disseminates minutes of meetings, tournament information, and results, etc., to all members.
- d) a Treasurer, who, under the direction of the Executive Committee, collects and has custody of all income from any source whatever and notifies members who are delinquent in any payments; keeps all necessary financial records and submits to this organization an annual report of receipts and expenditures; files necessary reports and makes all authorized disbursements on approval; and is responsible for the Corporate Charter, book, and seal.

Section 4. This organization has the following officers appointed and approved by the Executive Committee in the manner prescribed in the by-laws:

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- a) an Assistant-Treasurer, who assists the Treasurer in all matters pertaining to registration and annual dues.
- b) a Rank Chairman, who assists the President in matters related to rank registration.
- c) a Registration Chairman, who assists the President in matters pertaining to club, family, and individual registration with the United States Judo Federation and the Yudanshakai.

One person may simultaneously serve in two or more of the positions listed in this section. In addition, when there is a willing volunteer, the President may appoint a Tournament Recorder to assist in the compilation of tournament points by individual competitors.

Section 5. The term of office of each officer will be four years.

Article IV

Committees

The President will have the authority to create and disband all committees, appoint the members and chairman thereof, and determine the size and duties of such committees.

Article V

Membership

Membership in this organization is limited to three classes specified as follows:

- a) Registered Black Belt Grade membership (voting member) is limited to all yudansha who are Regular, Secondary or Life members of the United States Judo Federation (USJF) and hold black belt grade recognized by the USJF and/or the Kodokan and who have paid their yearly dues as set forth in the By-laws. Voting members who have not paid the annual membership dues are not permitted to hold active membership in any committee or board, or to make recommendations for promotions.

- b) Nonvoting (mudansha) membership is open to all practicing judokas who are



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Regular, Secondary or Life members of the USJF who have not attained Black Belt grade.

- c) Booster membership (non-voting) shall be open to anyone who is interested in the promotion of Kodokan Judo.

Article VI

Executive Committee

- Section 1. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairman, Board of Examiners, together with the immediate past President, constitutes the Executive Committee.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee will have the following specific powers:
- a) to set administrative policies in conformity with the national requirements for the Yudanshakai.
 - b) to set the number and type of the Yudanshakai's annual competitive events.
 - c) to appropriate funds for Yudanshakai business.
- Section 3. Subject to the supervision of the Board of Directors as specified in Article III, Section 2(g), the Executive Committee has all the powers of the Shufu Yudanshakai in the intervals between meetings. All actions taken by the Executive Committee will be reported to the Board of Directors, to the Board of Examiners, and to the Registered Black Belt Grade members by memorandum and/or at the official meetings. This committee will meet on the call of the President or on the request of any three members of the committee. The Executive Committee shall also act as a Credentials Committee and an Agenda Committee with respect to the affairs of the organization.

Article VII

Board of Examiners

- Section 1. This Yudanshakai has the right to establish a technical body officially
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titled the Board of Examiners, composed of Registered Black Belt Grade members (voting members) who hold the Kodokan Judo rank of Yodan or higher and who have been residents of Shufu for a minimum of two years. Subject to Section 5 below, the number of members of the Board of Examiners shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the total number of Shufu registered Yudansha that are registered as of the quadrennial election of officers.

Members of the Board of Examiners, who do not attend (without excused absence) two (2) meetings in a row of the Shufu Board of Examiners, shall be placed on inactive status for lack of participation.

After one year on inactive status, a member of the Board of Examiners shall be removed from the Board if there is no substantive participation in the Board of Examiners activities or continued failure to attend the semiannual meetings.

The Board of Examiners shall have the following functions:

- a) to set the standards of conduct and practice for Kodokan Judo within the jurisdiction limits of the Yudanshakai based on the United States Judo Federation's requirements.
- b) to establish the maximum promotion authority allowed the respective Yudanshakai members and provide methods of awarding those grades that are beyond their authority.
- d) to award promotions to qualified individual Yudanshakai members based on appropriate examinations and competition results.

Section 2. To assist in determining the qualifications of individual Yudanshakai members for promotion, the Board of Examiners shall designate a Promotion Committee, consisting of the Chairman and at least (4) four other members of the Board of Examiners of the rank of Rokudan or higher.

Nominations to the Promotion Committee (officially titled Kodansha Committee) shall be made by the Chairman of the Board of Examiners from eligible members of the Board. Nominations shall be accepted or rejected by the Executive Committee of Shufu by a simple majority vote. Members of the Kodansha Committee shall also be subject to placement on inactive status for failure to attend two consecutive meetings (without an excused absence) and may be removed from the Kodansha Committee if inactive status is not removed within one year.

Section 3. A candidate for membership in the Board of Examiners must be



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nominated by a member of the Board of Examiners. A qualified candidate is elected a member of the Board of Examiners by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Examiners.

- Section 4. The Chairman, Board of Examiners, will be elected as specified in the by-laws.
- Section 5. If the number of Registered Black Belt members shall decrease in any 4-year period, such that the size of the Board of Examiners as specified in Section 1 would decrease, no member of the Board of Examiners shall be removed from the Board for that reason alone. Instead, the size of the Board shall remain larger than the size calculated under Section 1 until attrition by other factors—including but not limited to departure from the Yudanshakai, voluntary resignation, removal in accordance with the third paragraph of Section 1, or death—has brought the number of members of the Board of Examiners down to the number calculated under Section 1. No new member shall be admitted to the Board unless and until either (a) the number of members has fallen below the size calculated under Section 1 or (b) the quadrennial calculation under Section 1 has resulted in an increase of the permitted size of the Board.

Article VIII

Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the Registered Black Belt grade members. Amendments may be proposed in writing to the Secretary by any voting member. Before any written amendment to this Constitution may be acted upon, each member of the Board of Directors and the Officers of this Yudanshakai must be furnished a copy of such proposed amendment in writing by the Secretary of this Yudanshakai at least sixty (60) days in advance of any vote on such proposed amendment.

Article IX

Matters Required to Be in Writing

Any matter required by this Constitution or the by-laws to be in writing may be in any form of written communication, including electronic mail (E-mail), reasonably calculated to reach the intended recipient.



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Article X

Dissolution

This Yudanshakai may be declared dissolved by two-thirds vote of the Registered Black Belt grade members. In the event of such dissolution, the funds of the Yudanshakai shall, after all outstanding obligations have been paid, revert to all affiliated Judo activities and will be distributed to them on a basis that is proportionate to their current membership within a period of sixty days after such dissolution.

April 20, 2024

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Revision Log

The Revision Log is used to track the changes and modifications to the Constitution in order to provide a record for Shufu Judo Yudanshakai. While this log must be maintained in the master version of the Constitution, it is not required, nor necessary, to present this log in a public presentation of the Constitution.

The Log tracks the date of the actual change, by whom it was performed (usually the Secretary), the Article and Section affected, date of the Board of Directors meeting when the change was approved and a comment describing the change.

Date	By	Article, Section	Date of BoD Meeting	Comment
11/04/2007	D. Berry Secretary	Article V, Article IX	11/04/2007	Modified Section V to reflect changes in USJF membership levels and Shufu voting privileges; Modified Article IX to change "Board of Examiners" to "Board of Directors"
11/27/2010	J. Morrisson President	Article VII	11/07/2010	Modified Section VII to change requirements of the Board of Examiners
4/22/2024	R. Englert, Immediate Past President	Numerous	4/20/2024	Numerous modifications throughout the document, mostly of an updating nature. The most significant changes were to eliminate references to standing committees that may not have existed, and to substitute a power in the president to create, appoint members of, and disband committees as needed; to ensure with respect to the membership of the Board of Examiners that, if the membership of the YDK decreases, any necessary diminution in the size of the Board may occur over time by attrition; to allow electronic presence to be counted, in addition to physical presence, for purposes of establishing a quorum; and to acknowledge that there are no geographic constraints on the YDK's ability to accept individuals or clubs as members.