



Shufu Special Committee for Promotions

Maurice Allan, Chairman
Barry Snader
Jeff Steel
Terence McPartland
Christina Salmond
George Antoniou, Secretary

29 July 2017



Agenda

1. Background (Scope of Committee)
2. Committee Activities
3. What is Shufu (excerpt from Shufu By-Laws)
4. USJF Guidelines (excerpt from USJF Handbook)
5. Facts and Assumptions
6. Constraints
7. Recommendations



Background

On 21 May 2017 a motion was made by Diane Tamai Jackson at the Shufu Yudanshaka meeting to form a Committee to address changes to the promotions and was voted in by the Majority.

“The committee should look at other organizations (USA Judo, USJA, and national USJF) and recommend what the Shufu promotional criteria should be.

Ideally. This should be accomplished in 4 months and in a manner that yudansha can understand the recommendations for changes and the bases.”

Six members volunteered and were accepted by the group



Committee Activities

Meetings/Communications

- Committee Meetings @ Sport Judo/Teleconf. (3 June, 17 June, 8 July, 15 July)
- Email exchanges among Committee Members
- Individual Phone Calls among Committee Members
- Consultation with National Governing Bodies
- Consultation with Blackbelts with exposure to other National Governing Bodies and External National Governing Bodies to include Japan

Documents Reviewed

- Analyzing Judo Promotion Requirements, Terence McPartland, 21 May 17
- Whilden/Jackson Shufu Promotion Process Discussion- From May 17 Shufu Blackbelt meeting
- Special Committee for Promotions, Meeting Minutes 3 June 2017
- Terence McPartland's Comments to 3 June Meeting Minutes
- Terrence McPartland's Process Flow Chart for Shufu Promotions
- Reviewed letter from Barry Snader to the Promotion Committee
- Committee for Promotions, Meeting Minutes 17 June 2017
- Special Committee for Promotions, Meeting Minutes 8 July 2017
- Letter from Craig Agena to Shufu Promotion Committee from 8 July 2017
- Special Committee for Promotions, Meeting Minutes 15 July 2017
- Terence McPartland Comments to 15 July Meeting Minutes



What is Shufu?

Shufu Judo Yudanshakai is a charter member of the United States Judo Federation (USJF), and is responsible for maintaining and supporting the rules and standards of international Kodokan Judo within its area.

Excerpt from Shufu Constitution:

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 United States Judo, Inc., in fostering and maintaining competition for its members.



USJF Promotion Guidelines

Yudanshakai Promotions Excerpt

- Each member Yudanshakai is given promotional authority to a particular rank, depending upon the length of time as a Yudanshakai, and the number and rank of Yudansha. ***Each Yudanshakai shall establish its own procedures for examination of candidates and awarding of promotions within its USJF authorized promotion authority.*** The USJF has established the following guidelines for Yudanshakai in the evaluation and review of promotion applications.
- ***Each Yudanshakai shall hold at least two promotional evaluation examinations each year.*** To accomplish this, each member Yudanshakai shall create a Yudanshakai Board of Examiners whose members shall be the higher-ranking members in the Yudanshakai. When a Yudanshakai's Board of Examiners consists entirely of examiners below the rank of Yodan (4th Degree Black Belt), each examiner shall vote on candidates by casting votes equal to his or her rank: e.g., a Shodan would cast one vote, a Sandan would cast three votes, etc. Otherwise, all examiners shall have an equal vote.
- ***The Yudanshakai Board of Examiners shall review the promotion application of each member according to specific criteria for the rank being considered.*** Yudanshakai may adopt or modify the following USJF guidelines for promotion within each Yudanshakai's promotion authority, but such standards must be followed for promotion to rank beyond such authority.
- ***At all times the Yudanshakai must maintain the 300 minimum active USJF registered members AND a minimum of three or more Kodansha of Rokudan or higher as awarded by USJF on the Yudanshakai's promotion committee who are registered active USJF members.***



Fact/Assuptions

- Facts
 - Shufu is a Chartered Yudanshakai of USJF w/ Godan Rank Promotion Authority
 - Some Clubs within Shufu Promote through other National Judo Bodies
 - Shufu membership is trending down
 - Shufu is a “Not for Profit” Entity
 - Shufu Promotion Process Allows for Off Site Promotion Testing
 - Many do not know the current Shufu process and rules for promotion
 - Referee and Instructor Certification are not required for USJF promotions
 - Any change in promotion or requirements will require implementation plan and execution
 - USJF Promotion Standards are used successfully by other organizations
- Assumptions
 - Shufu will remain as a Chartered USJF Yudanshakai
 - Shufu would like to retain Godan Status with USJF but is at risk due to decline
 - Clubs stay in Shufu out of Loyalty and Habit but have other options
 - Any issues that arise from any implemented course of action for potential future promotions can be addressed on a case by case basis by Shufu



Constraints

Requirements that must comply with

- Shufu must adhere to the USJF Guidelines
- Shufu must adhere to the By-Laws or change them through procedure
- Shufu shall maintain its own procedures for examination of candidates and awarding of promotions within its USJF authorized promotion authority.
- Shufu shall hold at least two promotional evaluation examinations each year.
- The Shufu Board of Examiners shall review the promotion application of each member according to specific criteria for the rank being considered
- Shufu must maintain the 300 minimum active USJF registered members AND a minimum of three or more Kodansha of Rokudan or higher as awarded by USJF on the Yudanshakai's promotion committee who are registered active USJF members.
- Current Background Check (within 2 years), SafeSport and HeadsUp Training is required for promotion to Shodan



Committee Recommendations

- **Shufu should use the USJF Promotion Requirement Guidelines with no additions**
- Additional Recommendation to Karen Whilden/Diane Jackson's Promotion Process Committee
 - "In Club" Promotions up to Shodan should be allowed by Club Sensi's
 - In Club Test for Shodan must be through the existing Off Site Promotion Test Request process and have "In Person" Certification by two Shufu Board of Examiners.
 - Packet with fee processed through BOE at next Centralized Promotion Test
 - 6th Dan or Higher should have direct promotion authority