



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

February 25, 2022, 9:00am as a hybrid meeting: online and at Beltsville, MD

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order, by Miki. Meeting started a little late as members were late in getting access to building. Members signed in on **sign in sheet** and there were approx. 17 members attended online. A quorum was confirmed.
- II. Moment of Silence – a moment of silence was held for our members that are sick, recovering or that have passed. Specific reference to Barry Snader who recently passed away.
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Dick made motion to approve agenda, Roy seconded, motion passed.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Past minutes not available, will be brought up for approval at **next meeting**.
- V. President's report
 - A. USJF news
 - National office is fully staffed for the first time in years. Team is new and still learning.
 - Terri Waibel (office manager retiring in May 2023).
 - Member registrations slowly climbing.
 - USJF Website – updated and revamped. Member Portal for individual/club/Yudanshakai.
 - Koka Kids -teaching source for junior promotions. Kevin mentioned this can be a resource for kids and they are continuing to provide ongoing upgrades.
 - Mentoring and rotation of leadership in committees. It was emphasized we need new and some younger members to get more involved.
 - Senior requirements for promotion are being reviewed. At a national level there is a push for Shodan and even a push for Godan. National is proposing making requirements easier. Kevin not in favor of this. Kevin wanted everyone to know it is being worked on and to watch for future changes.
 - USA Judo and USJF are still in discussions in a bilateral agreement (USJA not included at this time) There is a month-to-month agreement as an ad hoc committee is working on another agreement. Not having this completed could eventually affect sanctioning of tournaments and rank acceptances. Tad asked if the impact on event insurance had been considered if USJF not part of the agreement and it was agreed that they were aware of these challenges.
 - USJF Club Banners are supposed to be out in May of this year.
 - USJF is considering negotiating with Smooth Comp (the company that has been doing numerous event registration/coordination) to buy credits at a discount. They would be used for USJF sanctioned events.
 - USJF BOD/BOE and Committee meeting will be April 13-16 in Boise ID. Kevin, Miki and Chuck will likely attend.
 - USJF Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement Awards – Shufu to nominate Peggy Whilden.
 - B. Shufu News
 - Continued Shufu Central Promotion/BOD/BOE events 2x/year.
 - Continued Shufu North Promotional 2x/year.
 - Miki mentioned there are a growing number of clubs in the South and future promotional and other events are being considered.
 - Takemori Clinic Memorial Clinic featuring Kevin Asano – Rescheduled to Saturday, March 11th @ Beltsville Community Center. Kevin has offered a practice session the evening before this event. Cost would be \$20 per person.

- Shufu Shimbun – has been going since April 2022 – They have tried to continue to provide up-to-date news and upcoming events. Some have questioned the value of this, but Miki and Kevin have been committed to providing these updates and believe it provides some history for Shufu. Chuck stated that the Shufu has lots of history and commended Miki and Kevin for continuing the Shimbun. Everyone should read.
- Kata Clinics continue – Diane is in Ohio doing a Kata clinic and next week there is a Kata clinic in Shufu North. Shufu has an incredible number of Kata resources. Let Board know if you need help.
- Referee – Novice Referee Clinic on March 4, organized by Sharon Landstreet (IJF-A). Michael Landstreet said this will be a hands-on clinic.
- Bobby Donaldson continues as important referee mentor to national and international referees and was chief referee at Lone Star Classic. Sharon Landstreet is currently in Germany as a referee there. Last week Sharon was in Denmark refereeing there. She continues to also do top level referee work.
- Shufu CARE systems are over 7 years old and have started to breakdown. Sharon Landstreet has done extensive research in CARE system laptops and consulted Patrick Lo (USA Judo referee who is coordinating west coast purchase of CARE systems). The Shufu EC has reviewed the material and decided to buy 3 systems for Shufu use. Rental of these systems will be possible for non-Shufu Events to help defray the cost of the systems.
- Athlete Funding continues, there is not currently money being added due to budget, but these funds are available for athletes and a continued goal to grow more funds.
- Roy mentioned he just heard the Liberty Bell tournament will take place in April. Watch for more details.

C. Congratulations to local Athletes.

Congratulations to Jake Tamai (competed in the Pan Am infantile Games), Jas. Elemen (sp?)(Competed in the Presidential Cup) and Brian Lopez competed in the Veterans Cup in Texas.

D. Good luck to local athletes – nothing discussed.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT by TREASURER – Gaiv Tata, Shufu Treasurer,

Gaiv stated that Shufu's financial position remains strong. Balances have declined a little but he noted USJF is way behind in payments and still owes Shufu money. This will help restore balances. Cash flow was also slightly negative, but would have been positive if USJF funds owed had been paid.

Gaiv stated that last year two Takemori clinics were scheduled. One broke even and the other was rescheduled.

Alberto (online) asked how funds are determined to be spent. Miki stated funds are used on Shufu business and events. She stated that Shufu welcomes ideas and takes an informal approach welcoming suggestions.

Kevin made a motion to accept the financials as presented, Mike seconded and they were unanimously accepted.

VII. NON-FINANCIAL REPORTS

- VP – Mike – reiterate Shufu's strong position and is happy to see more events coming back on the calendar. Virginia Open is in August. Mike also said his Dojo could be available for Kata practice if requested.

- b. BOE – Kevin
 - USJF pushing to lower standards for Shodan and also pushing for easier achievement of Godan. Kevin not happy with this overall. Also national is looking at idea of 11th, 12th or 13th Dan ranks. Numerous members felt that would diminish USA's view from other international countries.
 - Form 20/promotion – Karen continues to do an excellent job in this area and keeps us ahead of many other Yudanshakai's in the submission of great paperwork. A new form 20 is being reviewed for the future. There will likely be more focus on contributions to Judo.
 - Many national changes being reviewed around promotions. Watch for future changes.
 - Mike Landstreet noted that some promotional standards have choices and Kevin stated that in these cases Yudanshakai's have options in what they adopt.

VIII. FIRST BUSINESS

- A. Amend Shufu By-laws / constitution – Roy
 - Amendment to these bylaws requires 50% +1 of all blackbelts who are members of Shufu.
 - Amendment proposed allows for natural attrition of Board members instead of having to have members resign during low membership numbers. Other more minor changes are also part of the changes. Also would allow President to appoint committee members without formality of EC approval. Would simplify the procedure but realistically EC always discussed the committees.
 - The vote to approve this can be online.
 - Karen made a motion to present this to all Blackbelts, Brian seconded. Motion passed. Roy will move this forward to all black belts.
- B. Miki reminded everyone Shufu still need Shufu Junior Development Chair and Committee members.
- C. Form 20 / promotion information – Karen thanked Mike Landstreet and George Antonio for all their extra work in getting her exceptional Form 20 paperwork.

IX. NORMAL BUSINESS

- a. Ad hoc committee - no report
- b. Ad hoc committee on How We Grow Judo – no report .
- c. Highlights from...
 - Shufu's USJF registration status – Dr. Medani
 - 23 Clubs in Shufu, 134 Juniors (up 54%), 293 Seniors (up 18%), 427 total (up 27%)
 - This is great improvement since having 290 members on March 2022.
 - Top 5 Clubs, Arlington (64 members), Dale City (45 members), Hui-O (37 members), Shinzan (17 members), College Park (17 members) and Toshi Budokai (16 members).
 - Some clubs are listed without members and head sensei's should make sure their members are listed as members of their clubs.
 - Alberto (online) mentioned that he would welcome any advice on recruiting new members.
 - Miki mentioned USJF has videos on their website about membership that may be helpful.
 - Dan Rank Registration chair – Karen Whilden – no further updates
 - Athletes' Fund – Robert Hunt – no report, but funds still available.
 - Coach – Eric Spears – no report
 - Kata – Robert Gouthro – no report
 - Referee – Bobby Donaldson – no additional report
 - Communications –

- Social Media - Brandon Way has been doing a great job on social media. He was being tested today so was not present to present report today.
- Shufu Judo clubs have been featured in Shufu Shimbun
- Website – Dr. Medani said he continues to keep the website updated. He said he is the sole person doing this and mentioned there is a need for additional support as its not smart to only have one person on an area as important as this. It was mentioned that there is a website web.archive.org . It provides web site info back to 2012.

d. Announcements of upcoming or in-planning events – from the floor

- i. Takemori Clinic - Kevin Asano
- ii. Referee Clinic - March
- iii. 4/16/23 - Garden State Classic, Wayne, NJ
- iv. Virginia Open – August
- v. Roy mentioned a possible Koshiki no Kata clinic in August

X. ADJOURNMENT – motion to adjourn

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