



**USA Judo
Board of Directors Conference Call
July 31, 2009**

TO: Board of Directors
Group A Members
Group B Members
Group C Members
Committee Chairpersons
Delegates
Other Interested Person

FROM: Jose H. Rodriguez, USA Judo CEO

I. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT Nading

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. MDT by Mr. Lance Nading.

II. ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS:

President Lance Nading
Board Member Gail Stolzenburg
Board Member Jim Webb
Board Member Noboru Saito
Board Member Jason Rivera
Board Member Reno Reser
Board Member Leo White
Board Member Mike Swain
CEO Jose H. Rodriguez

III. CEO Report

USA Judo CEO Jose H. Rodriguez has established an office in Miami at the Miami-Dade Sports Commission. Mr. Rodriguez continues to be in touch with office staff on a daily basis and requests that the Board evaluate the success of this venture based on measurable outcomes such as financial stability, membership growth and continued success in providing great member service. This success can be evaluated on a monthly basis and Board can make a decision on the arrangement in September or later in the year.

The USA Judo National Junior Olympic Championships in Orlando was a success. The event met the projected revenue and the tournament director is

waiting for expenses and invoices to come in. By the first week of August an expense report should be completed; however, Tournament Director Corinne Shigemoto did an excellent job at keeping the cost of the event down.

The Cadet World Championship Team is scheduled to leave for Budapest, Hungary on Aug. 3. A 15-person team has been entered for the event and all expenses have been pre-paid.

Expenses also have been pre-paid for the upcoming Senior World Championships, Aug. 26-30 in Rotterdam, Netherlands. General Secretary Ron Tripp and CEO Rodriguez will be departing on Aug. 19 to attend the IJF Congress.

In October, USA Judo will send a team of 16 athletes to compete at the Junior World Championships in Athens, Greece. As with the Cadet and Senior Worlds, the expenses have been pre-paid for this event as well.

A sponsorship deal was been finalized with Seko Sports and Adidas at the Junior Olympics. Seko Sports has provided Adidas apparel throughout this year to the junior national teams and senior national teams will be added to the program in 2010. USA Judo may have a challenge in getting senior players used to wearing Adidas apparel at events in which they are members of Team USA. This situation will be helped by new rules established by the IJF that states that all team members must wear the national team suit. This deal is Value-In-Kind only with no cash involved; however, equipment is provided for all of our teams, including warm-ups, shirts, travel bags, gis, etc. It is also important to note that coaches are no longer allowed to wear their own apparel while sitting in the coaching chair during international tournaments. During the preliminary rounds, coaches must wear the national team shirt. Those coaching in the finals must wear a suit and a tie.

USA Judo has established a new program with a club in Brazil with the support of the Brazil Judo Confederation. As part of this program, a masters tournament will be held at the Sogipa Club in Porto Alegre. This demonstrates USA Judo's continued support of providing growth to masters judo in the United States. We also will be announcing a National Point Roster for master's competitors. Approximately 3,000 letters have been sent to masters competitors to promote their participation at the U.S. Open as well as offer them a special rate to continue their membership in USA Judo.

USA Judo received an invitation from Brazil to compete in a men's team competition on Sept. 19 between the United States, Japan, Brazil and Spain – each of the four nations bidding to play host to the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

On Aug. 3, USA Judo will submit a four-year budget proposal to the U.S. Olympic Committee, followed by a presentation to the USOC Allocation Committee on Aug. 17. The presentation will be made by CEO Rodriguez and Athlete Performance Director Eddie Liddie.

The USOC recently provided USA Judo with new offices within the Olympic Training Center complex. The move was completed in early July and provides the staff with 100% more work space. The new offices are located in the Aquatics Center and next to the building that houses the USA Swimming offices. The USA Judo mailing address remains the same as all mail is forwarded through the USOC internal mail system to the new building.

The floor was opened to questions for CEO.

MOTION MADE BY LANCE NADING TO ACCEPT THE CEO REPORT.

MOTION SECONDED BY GAIL STOLZENBURG, PASSED.

II. FINANCIAL REPORT

Audit Committee Chairman Gail Stolzenburg reported that the committee has met monthly with Director of Finance Werner Walter, Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Liddie to review monthly financials. The Audit Committee has asked for financial projections through the end of the year. Mr. Walter was asked to prepare a report through December. It is estimated that there will be a \$247,000 deficit for the year; however, this includes a \$277,000 deficit that was carried from 2008. This shows an improvement in the deficit, but as much as was hoped. USA Judo is repaying loans from the American Judo Fund as well as the line of credit. Mr. Rodriguez will create a plan for presentation to the Board to reduce this year's budget even further in order to decrease the projected deficit.

MOTION MADE BY LANCE NADING TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT.

III. UPDATE ON THE U.S. JUDO ASSOCIATION HEARING

Mr. Rodriguez presented a report on the upcoming U.S. Judo Association hearing. As of July 31, USA Judo has not heard back from the attorney for the USJA regarding the proposed date for the hearing. A date was set for Sept. 8; however the USJA requested a change to a later date. USA Judo submitted Oct. 24 as a proposed hearing date, but a response has not been given by the USJA.

USA Judo has met with USOC representatives to update them on all issues relating to the suspension of USJA and the upcoming hearing. As requested by USA Judo, a USOC representative will be present at the hearing to demonstrate that all rules are being followed regarding due process. USA Judo has assured the

USOC that this suspension will not negatively impact that athletes, coaches or officials.

A mention of commendation was made for the support the U.S. Judo Federation has given USA Judo in relation to athletes from the Dominican Republic attempting to compete in the United States without proper approval from USA Judo at the USJF Junior Nationals. USJF Executive Director Robert Fukuda was very responsive and we were able to get a letter of explanation out to the Pan American Judo Confederation and the IJF. The Dominican Republic Judo Federation sent a letter of complaint to the USOC and the USOC requested information regarding why the team had not been allowed to compete. This information was provided and the USOC accepted the explanation.

A question was asked regarding whether there is an appeal process that the USJA can take advantage of after the completion of the hearing. President Nading stated that the USJA can reapply for membership at a later date as the Board of Directors is the final decision making body within the organization.

A question was asked regarding whether the USOC is being kept informed on this situation. Mr. Rodriguez replied that they were well-informed.

IV. USA Judo / Jujitsu

President Nading and Jay Warwick, the consultant on the USA Judo / Jujitsu project, conducted a presentation on the opportunity that is presented to USA Judo by the sport of ju-jitsu. For example, USA Wrestling saw an opportunity in grappling and moved to capitalize on this. Many judo clubs currently conduct ju-jitsu classes and a meeting was held with the USA Judo insurance broker to understand our existing coverage. Research was done to examine the opportunity that is presented by ju-jitsu as well as the rules that are presently used by different jujitsu groups in the United States.

A proposal was made to integrate jujitsu into USA Judo and a Jujitsu Committee was appointed by President Nading. The committee will study and assess benefits that can be offered to jujitsu clubs in the United States.

USA Judo will sanction several jujitsu tournaments between now and the end of the year.

Mr. Swain reported on a jujitsu competition that will be held during the U.S. Open in San Jose, Calif. this year.

Members of the Board supported exploring this project further.

Mr. Saito asked if creating a membership category for jujitsu would require a bylaw change. President Nading asked CEO Rodriguez to pose this question to

legal counsel. CEO Rodriguez stated that he has discussed the project with legal counsel, but has not asked this specific question and will do so.

Mr. Swain stated that he expects between 300 and 400 athletes to compete in the jujitsu event at the U.S. Open. Competition at the U.S. Open will include eight mats for jujitsu competition and four for judo competition. Mr. Swain went on to state that Brazilian JiuJitsu has grown tremendously in the United States.

President Nading stated that USA Judo is not seeking to take members away from any other jujitsu organizations. Mr. Swain, Mr. Warwick and Mr. Webb have been in touch with key leaders in the sport of jujitsu in the United States.

A discussion will be had regarding this project during the next Board meeting in San Jose and President Nading asked everyone to look closely at this project and come to the meeting prepared for further discussion.

Mr. Webb noted that one of the issues that occurred in the past with jujitsu is the fact that the rules seem to change all of the time and that seem to hurt the sport.

USA Judo also is working with other jujitsu promoters in the United States to sanction judo / jujitsu events.

President Nading stated that USA Judo will not become involved in the politics of international jujitsu and that the goal is to promote our program domestically.

V. Business / Strategic Plan

President Nading asked for volunteers to work on the creation of a business / strategic plan with Mr. Webb. President Nading stated that anyone working on this committee needs to commit to a 24-hour turn-around on all committee issues. Mr. Stolzenburg, Mr. Saito, Mr. Rivera and President Nading each volunteered to serve on the committee.

VI. IJF / Coaching Rules

The IJF has recently made new rule changes and it needs to be understood that it is not the role of USA Judo to judge the rules, but to apply them. Coaches need to understand the new rules and referees will start applying these rules. CEO Rodriguez stated that Mr. Julio Clemente, Chair of the PJC Referee Committee, had said that the behavior of our coaches would be unacceptable at international competitions. This includes coaches getting up from the chair to address the referees and complain which is not allowed under the new rules.

VII. UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Sept. 24 in San Jose, Calif. Every Board member must purchase his or her own airline ticket. USA Judo will provide hotel rooms. Board members who have problems with this were asked to speak to CEO Rodriguez individually. President Nading asked the Board to concentrate on fundraising and praised Mr. Saito on his efforts and dedication to fundraising for USA Judo.

VIII. MOTION BY LANCE TO ADJOURN MEETING

MOTION SECONDED BY GAIL STOLZENBURG, PASSED

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. MDT.