

USJF vs. USA Judo

A comparison of Choice A versus Choice D

What exactly is the problem?

- American Judo Agreement Expired March 2023
 - USJF announced that it was wanting to renegotiate the AJA
 - USJF indicated that there was no advantage of being in the AJA
 - USJF stated it was going to extend AJA membership for 6 months
 - USA Judo Decided not to renew its commitment to the AJA
- Outcome: All organizations decided not to recognize members from other organizations. Counter to the understanding that has existed for decades.
- Consequence: Difficulty in allowing all judoka independent of organization membership to participate together in Tournaments, Clinics and Dojos
- Impact: Reduced participation in Tournament (60% USA Judo, 28% USJF, 12% USJA)
- Counter to Nanka's culture of community

	USJF	USA JUDO
Nanka operation and structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There would be no immediate change to the current status of Nanka. Dojo/Clubs would renew their membership by August 31st, and members annually. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is one of the options open to the Nanka. In this case Nanka would disassociate from USJF and enter into a new formal agreement with USA Judo as a “Contributing Organization Member”. • The internal organization and operation of Nanka would not fundamentally change with all existing Nanka Committees and activities remaining structurally the same. As with Nanka’s existing relationship with USJF, under Choice D Nanka would remain autonomous from USA Judo setting our own policies and programs under the umbrella of USA Judo rather than USJF. • Any determination by Nanka to leave USJF and affiliate with USA Judo would require Nanka to revise its By-Laws which mandate ongoing membership in USJF. Amendment of our existing By-laws would require the approval by Nanka’s Board of Directors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The full USA Judo Bylaw clause for this membership is provided below in Appendix I and the Voting rights of such a member is described in Appendix II of this document.
Relationship with other National and State Judo Organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship with USA Judo will need to be understood considering USJF’s prohibition of participation by non-USJF members. Nanka will continue to follow the USJF policies which may include possible Insurance and sanction consequences. • A likely outcome would be that USA Judo members would have an obstacle to participate in NANKA USJF sanctioned events. • USJF no longer recognizes the validity of members who have secondary membership. This could impact those judokas who have a USA Judo Primary membership and a USJF secondary Membership. • USA Judo members are being encouraged to join USJF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka’s obligations to USA Judo would be as listed in the membership requirements for the Contributing Organization Member and in the USA Judo By-Laws which will need to be analyzed in careful detail as part of Nanka’s due diligence. • There would be an annual Contributing Organization Member membership fee to be paid to USA Judo • If Nanka were to depart USJF and join USA Judo, a plan to accommodate our member base to transition should be established and advertised. This is for both Clubs and Individuals.

<p>What would be the Nanka Revenue Structure</p>	<p>USJF</p> <p>At the August 6th, 2023 USJF Board of Directors meeting, a first reading of a proposal to reduce the amount of the Yudanshakai member fee portion by 43% from \$17.50 per member to \$10.00 per member. The reason given is to use this portion for the purposes of operating the National Office (Salaries, logistical expenses etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka’s revenues from Nanka membership and Nanka’s tournaments and other programs would be determined by Nanka alone. USA Judo would have no direct or indirect claims on Nanka’s funds, accounts or revenues. • Nanka’s revenue would continue to be earned mostly from our Tournaments and other events, but the membership rebate which Nanka receives from USJF for a partial rebate of membership dues in USJF (which represents approximately \$16,000 -\$17,000 per year to Nanka) would no longer be received should Nanka adopt Choice D. • USA Judo is proposing a rewards program that can be used upon mutual agreement if Nanka were to become a Contributing Member. <p>The Rewards program considers and includes items that will have defined metric to determine the degree of success. The items include (but not limited to) Judo growth, Judo publicity promotion, dojo, coach, referee, athlete support, development programs and number of members.</p> <p>The size of the annual rewards, if all metrics are met would be commensurate or even in excess of the equivalent USJF member fee portion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Rewards Program would be fine-tuned and negotiated with USA Judo prior to any membership, in conjunction with appropriate committee participation. • The decision to adopt Choice D would require the Nanka Board to potentially consider adopting the following: • The decision to adopt Choice D would require the Nanka Board to potentially consider the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nanka to adopt its own membership fees including a fee discount for existing members in Nanka sanctioned events. 2. Nanka to consider utilizing its non-profit 501 (c) (3) status to secure donations and available governmental grants and offer scholarships to worthy members training costs.
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<h2>Insurance</h2>	<p>USJF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka would continue to be a member of USJF. Nanka Dojos would be required to renew their USJF memberships every September 1. • All Nanka events would continue to use USJF sanctions, unless otherwise necessary (i.e. Points tournament or an Evaluation event). • USJF is the only organization that provides a medical malpractice insurance option to protect our medical volunteers. • It remains unclear from the USJF what their policy is on allowing non-USJF members to practice in a USJF registered club. Nanka formally requested clarification on this issue from USJF by letter sent May 26, 2023. • It remains unknown if USJF will permit Nanka to purchase additional medical and accident insurance to allow non-USJF members to participate in a Nanka USJF sanctioned event. • Providing additional Medical and Accident insurance for non-USJF participants, if permitted, would increase operating expenditure as Nanka would need to do so for all tournaments, clinics and seminars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a Contributing Organization Member of USA Judo, Nanks'a Dojo Members would be required to join USA Judo as club members. Dojo insurance through USA Judo would be a member benefit. Dojos would need to encourage their members to join USA Judo. USA Judo does not mandate that non-USA Judo members cannot train in the dojo (as long as player has one of the other two organization memberships). USJF has advised Nanka and other USJF Yudanshakai that they will no longer allow non-USJF members to participate in USJF sanctioned events and to practice with non-USJF members in Dojo practice sessions and classes. This is a major departure in long standing status quo apparently being driven by an unstated policy of USJF allegedly dictated by USJF's insurance carriers. • Under Choice D, Nanka would sanction all Tournaments under USA Judo exactly as Nanka was forced to do in our recent Spring tournament by providing additional Medical and Accidental Insurance for USJF and USJA member participants. • Insuring of non-USA Judo members for Nanka clinics, Shorai and other events would need to be available. These events would need to be planned more in advance to manage this additional cost.
<h2>Nanka Committee and Programs</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka would be required to conform to the USJF policies regarding who can participate in Nanka programs. (i.e., only USJF members) • Nanka will need to understand that certain groups will not be able to participate in our events without a risk mitigation strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The interaction of each of our committees and their associated programs within USA Judo be a process that we would undertake if we were to join USA Judo. This would be how Nanka would have its voice heard within USA Judo. • Nanka's programs would typically focus on (but not restricted to) grassroot judo. That is introduction, intermediate development of Judo relevant skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o These include Development Committee, Referee Committee, Kata Development Committee, Teaching and Coaching Committee, Police Judo Committee, Medical Advisory Committee. • These skills include the ability to perform judo, but also educating and providing credentials for Teaching, Coaching, Referee Dojo Management and Marketing. • How would Nanka play in the advanced and elite space?

	USJF	
Ranks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka’s rank recognition agreements with other organizations will be affected. USA Judo will not recognize USJF awarded ranks and vice versa. • There could be an impact on Elite competitors with a USJF awarded rank that WILL NOT be recognized at point tournaments. • With the dropping of Secondary membership support for USA Judo members, USJF promotions are only possible with a full USJF membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intent would be for Nanka to enjoy its own Ranking system, as long as it is consistent with that of the USA Judo (who uses the IJF structure). (E.g., Time in grade, Safesport, Concussion certifications etc.) • Rank recognition would be determined on a individual basis. • Nanka’s existing Godan Rank Authority would be a condition for joining USA Judo.
Timing	No issue	The execution of this choice will need to be coordinated with abilities of our dojo and individual members ability to transition away from the USJF and towards USA Judo. A transition in synchronization with the USJF and Nanka financial year is a good choice, but is not required. A transition could occur later in the year and could last over the period until the next financial year. If Nanka itself makes the move we can operate with USA Judo sanctions and mitigate the participation obstacle issues.

	USJF	
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USJF is well funded. It has \$0.75M dollars in accessible funds and \$1.3M in its Endowment Corpus. • USJF Promotions have a good reputation for maintaining good standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential to grow membership as USA Judo member clubs could join Nanka • Be part of the organization that is actually growing. • Relationships could extend through USA Judo to PJC and IJF. • Organization is more flexible in operation than USJF
Weakness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint collaborative efforts made difficult. • USJF Promotion reputation is declining, due to the operational and procedural difficulty to obtain a rank. Also, USA Judo relationship with PJC and IJF elevates the status of achieving those ranks through USA Judo. • Response time of USJF processes is very long and intermittent due to frequent new staff changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer have a direct impact on organization decisions. • Revenue from NGO could be affected.
Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with USJF programs for USJF members only. • USJF has approved to work with USJA and recognize the insurance of its members. • ‘Encourages’ growth of USJF membership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tangible opportunity to work with USA Judo on projects that would promote growth of judo in our area. (Potentially also outside our geographic zone) • Become involved with LA Olympic aspects through USA Judo and LA28. • Formally work with USA Judo committees • Opportunity to host high level events.
Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability for Nanka to grow membership could be impacted. 60% of current judo members participation in our region is by USA Judo members. • Obstacle to participation by USA Judo members in USJF sanctioned events could reduce turnout in Nanka’s sponsored events. Nearly 80% of competitors in our Development Tournaments are USA Judo members and approximately 20% are USJF members. • Potential impact on Nanka membership due to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retribution from USJF • Not allowed to compete at USJF Summer National Event.

	USJF	
Comments for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains the Status Quo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Judo would formally recognize Nanka and would always approach us on events in our area.
Comments against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanka is not fairly represented in the USJF management structure. Currently there are only two positions held. Hayward Nishioka on the Promotion Committee and Keith Chu as an Endowment Trustee. Hayward is chairman and most often maintains an appropriate neutral position. This means that Nanka does not have an active voice on the Promotion Committee. The Promotion Committee has been holding locked sessions, so we have no insight as to what is going on there. Hayward has the intention of stepping down and has been allowing temporary leaders. • The USJF's Development Committee has not been coy about its attitude towards funding Nanka projects. They have said out loud that Nanka does not warrant any funding since it has enough funds of its own. • USJF is not following its normal nomination procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The current practice of USJF management to determine who can participate and lead USJF committees is not transparent. Under the guise of promoting the "next generation" leaders, candidates are being rubber stamped during BOD meetings. There has been no notice or advertisement of current open positions and no attempt to openly solicit volunteers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severs our legacy ties with USJF