

Nanka Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

2023-05-28

Attended By: Keith Chu, Cheryl Harai, Dennis Hannon, Rob Oishi, Bill Phillips, Jerry Hazamoto, Hayward Nishioka, George Teer, Jojo Aguilar, Gary Goltz, Charles Bremner, Philippe Morotti, Scott Momii, Ken Teshima, Eddie K. ,Kristina Kehkejian, Frank Sanchez, Eric Sanchez, Kenji Osugi, Bob Brink, Tori Oishi, Jason Uno, John Kelly, David O., Joey, Mitchell Palico- USJF President Presnet for presentation.

Call to order 10:00

Approval of Agenda

Dennis Hannon, motion to approve-passed.

Approval of minutes of February 19th 2023 BOD meeting

Motion to accept- Dennis Hannon, 2nd Kristina Kehkejian-passed.

Approval of minutes of Special BoD Meeting April 2nd, 2023

Motion to accept Bill Phillips 2nd Jojo Aguilar-passed.

Mitchell Palacio Presentation- USJF President

Mitchell read through the timeline from his perspective, emailed last night.

Discussion and questions followed:

- **Ken: A lot of water under the bridge ? is there any chance of revisiting any of this and make a better deal with USA Judo.**

Mitchell: We are trying, we are back to the 1970's war with USA Judo. We cant force the other side to come to the table. we were willing, What they wanted to do is to come to Boise and spend a week. We are a volunteer organization and no one could take the time to take a week. We needed a starting point then we could move forward. We were ready,

- **Ken: you mentioned that USJF would be willing to supplement the negotiation team, Nanka would like to have a representative, We would feel better about all this if we had someone representing Nanka directly.**

Mitchell: it was offered at the board meeting in April. We would have to have board approval. Yes Im fine with that. That offer was made at the board meeting. But now we open a can of worms- every yudanshakai would want their person on the team. I balanced it with the young and the old. Yes; but we open a can of worms with the other yudanshakais. Judo politics, you guys go behind each others backs and cut the deals, but dont trully represent the organization. It could happen in August if you guys really want that. It was offered.

- **Keith: you formulated the negotiation team without the board of directors.**

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Mitchell- that is incorrect

- **Keith: totally refute the motion he made at the USJF meeting. Did not at any stage indicate that he wanted to be a part of the team or change it. Your minutes need to change to reflect the motion.**

Mitchell: When an ad hoc committee is formed, the board has to approve it. There has been board of approval. go to the website to see. We can change the meeting minutes at the next meeting if you disagree

- **Keith: it has come to my attention that USJF has not renewed membership as an A organization**

Mitchell: We always get an invoice from USA Judo, when they didn't do it this year, Yes it was a mistake- we did not pay our dues.

- **Keith: when was that due?**
- **Cheryl: is USJF is trying to re-establish as an A level organization?**

Mitchell: what you are not understanding, this is bad for judo, we want to get everyone back together

As part of the sanction, the submission of paperwork - is not what is being published The difficulty we are having, we don't have an executive director, so Im is trying to do the job- emphasis on his volunteer time and having another job.

- **Keith: Nanka tried to get a copy of the policy and so far we have not been able to obtain it.**

Mitchell: the insurance company and cooptate counsel recommended that it not be released. Because bad actors will read it and find ways around it.

- **Eddie: You stated that it was USAjudo that walked away from the table is that correct?**

Which organization walked away from the negotiations?

Mitchell: USA Judo

- **Eddie: Which organization canceled the Boise meeting?**

Mitchell: USA Judo

- **Eddie: We have other people..**

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Mitchell: I'm telling you what happened! You have to understand the way the system works, everything stops with me. Matsumoto reports to me, it is my call. Matsumoto has no power

- **Goltz: letter from Hill saw it as an invitation to negotiate. I said talk is cheap, especially since USJF has any \$.**

Mitchell: We did that, Its on the minutes of the meeting. Then on Nov. 11th we received the termination letter. I even sat at dinner with Barbara Shimizu and talked with her

- **Goltz: USJF is the one in the best position to have USA Judo decertified.**

Mitchell: We do not want to be the NGB

- **Goltz: I know that and agree, but negotiate is a game.**
- **Eddie: If this thing is so important why the email at 9:44 PM with the documents when it was**

Mitchell: Offered to come- then included in emails that said we didnt want to come, took a lot of time to put this information together. Ive learned to be transparent. I would love to not be the executive director, I would love to... So who is doing this and still have a life? What should I be doing. Nanka is only one yudanshakai and we have problems throughout the country.

- **Goltz: where do we go from here?**
- **Hayward: where is USA Judo where do we get the explanation from them, you dont have a vote from them, you dont have representation, This something USA Judo doesnt do. Asked a question of Keith Bryant**

Mitchell: In our organization you have a voice, a voice through the board and through the yudanshakai

all the people and all the yudanshakai have a voice.

Im not politically savvy but I tell it how it is.

- **Eddie: Why didn't anyone 2nd the motion**
- **Ken: You know Im a finance guy watch the numbers, our life blood come from our tournaments We are seriously considering going to usa judo.**
- **Eric Sanchez: Along the lines of what Ken: lets say there is not an agreement: is there is a plan?**

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Mitchell: Participation is the issue, looking at the insurance. really really hopfull we can do something similar to what USA Judo is doing. But- in addition we are still trying to negotiate, I want to keep trying. We are going to continue to try.

- **Hayward: It is in reference to what Ken says-**

Mitchell: thank you for opportunity for clarification

11:00 presentation and questions conclude- Mitchell Palacio left the meeting.

Standing Committee Summaries

1. President Report (Keith Chu)

- very quickly: moment of silence for members and Judoka we lost since August.
- Comment that we hope Robert recovers speedly
- Executive action ratification- none
- Expiry of the American Judo Alliance Agreement- basically goes through the timeline, with key points.
 - Personal perspectives: based on conversations- dont represent the opinion of the organization. Primary motive- Safe Sport, they badly explain this, the letter they provide was misinterpreted as a total merger, proposal logistically merge. USJF says no value to the merger, Proposed to have a meeting in Boise- David matsumoto refused to take the meeting. Also mention we are no longer a level A . Mixed member - There is a difference of opinion of what USJF says and USA Judo says. Couldnt find the policy
 - Sent a letter asking for clarification. Nanka sent via our legal counsel asking for clarification. We made it very clear we were not talking about litigation.
 - We have a tournament coming up next week, purchased insurance.
 - The current situation has rocked the community, Mitchell did say other yudanshakai are having the same issues
 - Role of leadership team- present the information unbiased. Goal is to present option, choices, it will be the BOD to make the decisions, no one

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person. it is our goal to provide all the information available at the AGM meeting in August.

- All the information will be available for at least one month before that date.- July 13.
- We invited Mitchell to make his presentation
- This will be available on the website
- Ken: The letter Bill Buckner sent to Mitchell, to the point, refused to respond to. The bottom line- can we have mixed membership and put on our events and have insurance and still be covered. My concern is about little events; various participants come from different organizations Also we cant have mixed members training at the club?
- Keith: That is what USJF is saying, cant find any documentation. Asked Keith Bryant- there is not problem it is a secondary insurance. Aspect: general liability; it is still notquite clear- the USJF has not explained their point of view.
- Ken: its a big decision we have to make, without clarity.
- Eddie: is it safe to say to say USA Judo is lying to us.
- Keith: The complete email thread of USA Judo is available. What Mitchell is saying, and what Keith Bryant is saying- dont tally.
- Bill Phillips: it doesn't make sense that they wouldn't have yudanshakai representation on the negotiating team.
- Keith:
- Hayward: Have we asked USA Judo about their insurance. one of the things we have to remember- yes you can jump what are you jumping too. The behavior of USA Judo and all things done in the past
- Kenji: In the past experience with USA Judo- unless they put it in writing. Biggest concern; we dont have representation at usajudo they could change it any time they want.
- Eddie: we had representantion at the USJF meeting what did it get us.
- Kenji & Hayward
- Eddie and Hayward discussion- Eddie you are so biased, Hayward: why dont they help our athletes. I wouldnt sent my kid to that

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- Keith: I promise all information will be presented
- Jojo: USA Judo is looked
- Keith: most of the comments are true under Jose R. Since Bryant & Rogan have taken charge there has been a changed. The situation is differnet not under the control of Jose.
- Hayward: If they went back to the era when I was competing- I would join then in a flash buts it not happing now. and they get more money than they had back then
- Eric Sanchez: With all respect one of their athletes was offered \$1000 for accomidations
 - Website Situation- About 3 weeks ago our website went down quite dramatically, a system problem with the ISP it took a while to get it back up, still not 100% but it is working. Nothing we could do to fix it. The host had to reinstall. We are back up to the point where it is back up and running
 - Motion to accept: Dennis 2nd Bill Phillips-Accepted

2. **Executive VP Report (Scott Momii)**

update on the Nanka Spring Tournament- competitors, 8 kata teams, starting on mat

Tonight regular registration closes-

Dennis: How many are USA Judo vs. USJF

Motion to Accept: Kenji 2nd Dennis- Accepted

3. **CFO Report (Ken Teshima)**

not able to complete the April financials yet. Read a letter

Motion to accept: Dennis 2nd Bill Phillips- Accepted

4. **Office Manager and Registration Report (Kristina)**

Nanka Club Renewal applications will be going out Mid July

Keith presented: summary of where we are as an organization.

Motion to accept: Cheryl 2nd: Jerry Hazamoto- Accepted

5. **Event Manager Report (Maria)**

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No report

6. **Medical Advisory Committee (Dennis Hannon)**

Medical is alive and well

Ken: insurance question Has the insurance situatin changed

Dennis: if we stay with USJF we are covered, If we go to USA Judo we will have to look at malpractice.

Hayward: Comment: One of the things we forget- our membership the greatest percent do not compete, but they are trained by Nanka instructors, A lot of Japanese Center, Its about quality, Surprised Ken used the word Company, we are not in the business of making money. only 10% of members compete. it is our silent majority. Keith: Hayward please hang on

Motion to accept Cheryl 2nd Kenji - Accepted

7. **Communications/Marketing Report (Jojo)**

Thank you for picking up the slack – Jojo is about ready to cycle in and manage the website- Keith advised him to contact Cheryl.

8. **Development Committee Report (Jason)**

Development is still operational, this turmoil couldnt come at worse time, some delay due to sanction issues. What development is doing: Sanctioning with USA Judo- because the majorty are USAJudo. USA Judo has a way for us to function, USJF and USJA dont have that option. Only a few people have requested the waiver.

2 Shodai practices; Turnout has been a bit low. Delay in scheduling, the practices are terrific. Hopefully we will be gaining momentum again.

Other than Shodai our Nanka/ Canada relationship is moving along. Took 13 players to Canada,

Did have a team from BC come down in April they were all between cadets and juniors 2 1/2 day training camp.

Quickly point: the sr nationals 9 kids from Nanka places in Elite division Our results are getting really good.

Bill: How much Nanka assistance do you get on your program?

Jason: USJF none, basically self funding right now. Eddie is a extreme help in fundraising. zero funding from USA Judo.

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Bill: An agenda?

Jason: expand your experience outside of your home dojo get these kids out there and exposed to other dojos.

Keith: of the 2 Shodai - how many were actually Nanka members.

Jason: Not sure- they would all be secondary USJF

Keith: Reminder: Shodai is a USJF function.

Jason: need a solid option to stay functional

Bill: it is a Nanka program

Keith: Be aware

Ken: Similar what Hayward is bringing, we are trying to teach judo, For the most part those that come from other clubs - they are keen on competing, by default- the participants are our elite and USA Judo.

Eddie: define a Nanka Member- If the club is Nanka- are their students?

Keith: We need to make sure we are respecting our membership as best we can. It is just a recognition that we are acting for our membership

Motion to accept: Bill Phillips 2nd Kenji-Accepted

9. Referee Committee Report (Gary Takemoto)

Gary not able to attend did provide report- see slide

Motion to accept: Bill, Jojo 2nd- Accepted

10. Kata Committee Report (Kenji Osugi)

Verbal report: 2 teams go to sr nationals - 4 events both USJF & USA members 2 gold and 1 silver, Pam also won the gold in Sr. Women

Motion to accept: Bill 2nd Jojo -Accepted

11. Police Committee Report (Robert Draper)

Robert Draper- nothing new to add, will be redoing the manual talks with judo Canada fizzled out.

Still our biggest competition in the US is the Grace program 30% of law enforcement in the country, no seminars recently,

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Motion to Accept: Kenji, 2nd Dennis -Accepted

12. Nanka Jr. Promotion Board Report (Bill Phillips)

Not too much to report, things are going along well 4-5 dan ranks since

Have had inquires, can Bill promote through USA Judo Organizations. Normally, send to USJF.

Can I submit to USA Judo for their ranks. Their paperwork is very similar to ours.

Keith: my understanding it should go through the head instructor.

Bill: dont know about the head instructor

Keith: we can ask USA Judo. - weve never done it before but we can ask.

Motion to accept: Hayward 2nd Jerry Hazamoto -Accepted

13. Nanka Sr. Promotion Board Report (Cheryl Harai, in absentia)

The last cycle of promotions we had no one to present to the USJF Promotion Board,

Outstanding Promotions

- Milton Shiosaki submitted twice, no response yet. Will follow-up on it this week
- Mary Wakabashi submitted multiple times, - just received response letter from USJF with issues to correct - prior to this, email or verbal communication requesting additional information and corrections.- each was corrected or provided and resubmitted.
- Pam Moye submitted multiple times, - just received response letter from USJF with issues to correct - prior to this, email or verbal communication requesting additional information and corrections.- each was corrected or provided and resubmitted.
- Next Senior Promotion Application Deadline- August 1, 2023 I will be sending reminders to the clubs.
- We still do not have a Sr. Promotion Chair: Hayward Nishioka has temporarily volunteered. We will need to have a meeting to elect one as soon as we figure out who is eligible and willing to work in this position.
- Hayward: We located someone who might do the trick for us: Jovany who owns a computer shop, with a dojo in the back. Kenji does kata there, As far as Jovany

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is concerned he is a very knowledgeable person, he has applied to the state for boxing or jujitsu or something like this.

- At the National level something we should consider, USJF has the finest of insurance and the best promotion system around. even Yosh Uchida who got his 10th dan from USA Judo petitioned USJF. A problem exists is changes in the National office, losing Terri, if there is anything missing they will be sending a letter out. in a two week time line.
- In case anyone wants to know the promotion committee is 13 people or so Hayward gets an automatic vote. He should be bringing back more information. We have the finest group of people they are dedicated and trying to make things better.
- Hopefully Jovany will be taking care of over.
- Eddie: neither Jovany or his dojo are Nanka members
- Motion Jojo 2nd Kenji - Accepted

14. USJF Delegates Reports (Keith Chu, Hayward Nishioka, Cheryl Harai)

The reports are on line. We have discussed all the main points

The referee committee is changing- is under Julie Koyoyama

15. Auditor's Report (George)

No Report

Old Business

1. Outstanding actions from prior meetings

- mission statement and goals- present AGM
- Nanka Star Card-
- Standards Committee- Hayward Nishioka everyone needs to read and understand the bylaws, we have the biggest problems with the ageing process, people age and fade out of judo as we fade out we forget the important things that were said or voted on, or a disinterest in things and then things don't get solved. Some of the standards we need to think about, what we think about judo, what is the purpose of judo are we in the business of judo or in the business of making good people. Reviewed history of Japan/ Judo from Kano's time. one is we never give up, we keep fighting.

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- Smoothcomp

New Business

1. Website

Keith:

Cheryl: At this time, I will not be continuing with the backburner project. To be very clear, my time on this project was volunteer, no Nanka resources were used in this project, all development tools were purchased personally by my web design business and at no cost to Nanka. Now that Jojo is ready to start working again, I will be turning the website content uploads back over to him.

Motion: Gary suggest we get a professional website manager and pay him **Eddie** is the expert and 2nd. Kristina

Conversation: Keith: hear what you are saying, since jojo is back in the saddle, it is his committee responsibility. Put the ball back to Jojo to make the proposal. Jojo: my two sense- the structuring the web site.

John Kelly: ISP Host Gator- Will offer his technical advise. If we are going to pay someone it is safer to hire from outside our membership- so we dont ostersize our members.

Jojo: investigate and bring info back to the table.

Ken: Comment on that: I think Eddie is very capable, need a detailed proposal on the table before we vote on it. based on an approved proposal

Gary: Alternate Motion: get a professional and competitive bids and ask for bids

Keith: Suggested a committee under Jojo

John Kelly: Authorize the committee to get bids.

Jojo: will ask for bid to overhaul the website and the pricing on maintaining, timeline

Present the recommendation in August at the AGM

John Kelly: The whole idea of seeking bids on is a bit creative. We should not wait until August to repair the website.

Keith Summarize: We will reach out to people to- seek web designes to give proposals and recomendations on the website.

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Amended: We will invite professional webdesigners to make proposals and ideas on the website.

Under Jojo's purview.

motion passed

Timeline: It could wait until August- option to hold a special executive meeting to decide.

2. **Impact of the Alliance Agreement Expiry**

Gary: was trying to do when he called Mitchell on the carpet at the beginning of the meeting

1. Nanka independent
2. USA Judo
3. Take over USJF- If we could get the USJF to run right.-

1. Keith: since this is an option he will reach out to Gary to talk about this option.

Meeting Schedule (Tentative)

13 August 2023 AGM (In person event)

November 2023 Q4 BOD meeting

Hayward: 1. At the meeting in ID there were other things going on coach certification, teacher certification and clinics other than that we had a big meeting about Smoothcomp. We could do something like that. The highlight: Mickey Matsumoto was inducted into the Hall of Fame 8 times National Champion.

Gary: A bigger point is he teaches kids, and is a good example of a good judoka.

Scott: The Nanka Spring Tournament Plaques are being donated by the Sanchez-

Adjournment Motion Gary, 13:08