

Ohio Judo, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2020

A. Roll call

President (Russ Scherer) - present
Vice-President (Michael Mooney) - present
Secretary (Laura Suzuki) - absent
Treasurer (Dominic Backowski) - present
Operations Director (Eric Strohecker) - present
Development Director (Ray Smith) - absent
Standards & Certification Director (Mark Curry) - absent
Law & Legislation Director (John Shriver) - absent
Athlete Rep #1 (Aaron Handy) - absent
Athlete Rep #2 (Stephanie Tomlin) - present
Club Representatives –
 Kettering Rec Center Judo Club – Brian Donovan
Guests – none

Quorum met

B. Reading, correction and adoption of minutes of the preceding meeting – Approved as posted on the OJI website

C. Reports of Officers

President -

1) The “Midwest Presidents Group” has been established including Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky. The goals of the group include coordination of tournament schedules, mutual support for our activities, joint projects, etc. Several Zoom meetings have resulted in the following actions: a) event scheduling will be tracked on the OJI website and prioritized with state championships on top, large sub-national (e.g. Cohen Memorial, Komatsu Cup, etc.) next, then smaller regional and local events; b) State Team competition will be added at the end of the regular divisions at each of the state championships – each state will be allowed to enter 1 team – and points will be tracked throughout the year with awards at the end of the year – the program will be tested with Senior teams; c) Referee Program development: two Zoom clinics have been held (8/8 and 8/29) for potential and current referees, covering an overview of the Referee Training Index located on the OJI website – additional training sessions are scheduled for 10/4 (Why referee? by Alex Murray) and on 10/25 (miscellaneous referee information – the final part of the Training Index by Russ Scherer)

Vice-President - no report

Secretary – no report

Treasurer – report attached to these minutes

D. Reports of Committees

Operations – A map of the locations of Judo Clubs in the state of Ohio has been added to the OJI website. When the marker for each club is selected, full information about the club is displayed. To have the marker permanently displayed, the club owner must edit his information as outlined in a post by Kevin Brennan on the Ohio Judo Facebook Page.

Development – no report

Standards & Certification – no report

Law & Legislation – no report

E. Reports of Athlete Reps – It was requested that OJI see if there is anything that we can do to help those clubs that may not be able to reopen due to the financial (or other) effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

F. Reports of Delegate(s) to United States Judo Inc. and others – no report other than all USA Judo events have been cancelled at least until January 1, 2021.

G. Unfinished Business

Report on 2020 Ohio Open Championships – We had 144 entries, good competition, OJI profit of \$1,464.34 and got it all in prior to Covid-19 closing everything down – overall a very successful event.

Report on 2020 Awards Banquet – Our first ever Hall of Fame Banquet honored Kayla Harrison and Ryoza Nakamura. The turnout was much less than expected, leading to a shortfall of approximately \$1,000 but those that did attend all seemed to have a great time and were very happy that this recognition program has been established.

Status of Tri-State (OH, IN & KY) Team Shiai Program – This program has been expanded into the Midwest program discussed in the President's report above.

H. New Business

Zoom meetings implementation – Due to Covid-19 restrictions we were forced to hold our Fall meeting on Zoom, which had actually been discussed prior to any signs of the pandemic. We used the free version of the software which met our needs for this meeting, primarily because a special was being run that allowed a much longer meeting time (the free version is normally only 40 minutes max. We discussed the options of purchasing Zoom Pro versus using a different free platform – research will continue.

Selection of 2021 Inductees for Ohio Judo Hall of Fame – Potential candidates were discussed, reviewing their contributions, and Les Fazekas and Russ Scherer were selected. We hope to be able to have a banquet similar to 2020, the evening prior to the 2021 Ohio Open State Championships – possibly in late Spring. We will be looking at additional fundraising to offset some of the expenses so we do not have a shortfall again next year.

Awarding the 2021 Ohio Judo Championships & Hall of Fame Banquet – It was decided to hold off awarding these events until the beginning of November due to the uncertainties caused by the ever-changing Corona virus impact. If your club (must be a member club of OJI) is interested in holding these events, contact Russ Scherer at rschererjudo@gmail.com. Requirements can be reviewed on the OJI website.

Proposed Programs for 2021 – The scope and timing of 2021 programs will depend on the restrictions in place due to Covid-19 as the year progresses. We anticipate there will be activity in the following areas (at a minimum):

- Coach Certification
- Referee Certification
- Clinics
- Open Workouts

Bylaws Amendment – MOTION: “Delete the second sentence of Article III, Section 10” – This section would then read “SECTION 10. The officers shall take office on January 1 following the fall meeting at which elected and shall serve for a term of two (2) years.” RATIONAL: Dropping the prohibition of electing an officer to more than two consecutive terms will allow the members to fill each position with the person they desire without overriding the Bylaws, which has happened several times in the past. *Since this motion had already been passed unanimously at the March 3, 2013 OJI Board of Directors Meeting, this motion was modified to “Validate the desire to remove the limitation of only allowing two consecutive terms in the same position and update the Bylaws to reflect this change”.*
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaws Amendment – Administrative – update the bylaws to reflect the increase in Club Membership dues in OJI to \$50/year which passed unanimously on 12/15/19, effective 1/1/2020.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2021 Budget – Will be set prior to the end of 2020 with input from the 2021/2022 Executive Council

I. Resolutions and Orders - none

J. Election of Officers and other members of the Executive Council – there were no nominations other than current E.C. members to retain their current positions. Those on the E.C. who have verified they desire to continue in their current position are listed below and the list was unanimously passed by acclamation.

- President – Russ Scherer
- Vice President – Michael Mooney
- Secretary -
- Treasurer – Dominic Backowski
- Director of Operations – Eric Strohecker
- Director of Development – Ray Smith
- Director of Standards & Certification -
- Director of Law & Legislation -
- Athlete Rep #1 -
- Athlete Rep #2 – Stephanie Tomlin

K. Adjournment – moved by Michael Mooney – seconded by Stephanie Tomlin – passed unanimously