

## OSJI Presidential Notes - December 2004

I. All issues of "OSJI Presidential Notes" are posted on the [OSJI Website](#). Please refer to that source for current and previous issues. It is our desire to distribute these "Notes" to all who desire to be on the distribution list and not to bother those who are not interested. If you know of someone who would like to be added, please send me their e-mail address. If you are on our distribution and want to be removed, also please send me an e-mail stating such.

II. The OSJI Travel Team members who participated in Santa's Shiai (Fond du Lac, WI) on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004 were small in numbers but had great results. The four-member team garnered 4 gold medals, 1 silver and 1 bronze. Kayla Harrison led the way with 2 Gold Medals (Junior and Seniors). A.J. Acosta fought in two divisions, winning a Gold and a Silver medal. Ryan Scherer, the youngest member of the team, captured a Gold in his first out-of-state competition, and Anthony Phelps took the Bronze medal in Seniors. This event proved to be an excellent choice for our team travel this year. It was within a reasonable driving distance (8 hours), was well attended (especially in the Junior Divisions), provided competition against quality players who we normally do not compete against, and was an event our players would not have attended if it were not for the Travel Team program. A good time was had by all and participating team members are looking forward to the next team trip. **A GREAT BIG THANKS TO BRETT WOOD-TAYLOR AND THE WELCOME MAT JUDO CLUB FOR HOSTING THIS EVENT!!!** Plans for 2005 are currently underway and we hope, with more advanced planning and coordination, a much larger number of our Travel Team will be able to participate in our next team event.

III. REMINDER: The State Championships are set for February 12, 2005 at Miami University, Oxford, OH. Again this year the OSJI State Championships will be open to competitors from surrounding states as well as all judoka within Ohio. The following divisions will be offered: **Senior, Junior** (including ages 17-20), **High School, Middle School** (new national competition conducted with the H.S. Nationals), a **Development** Division (for Orange Belts and below who have been in 4 or less tournaments) and **MASTERS** competition (just added this year). Details will be forthcoming shortly. Check the [OSJI Web Site](#) often - this info, as well as a lot of other

useful info, will be/is posted there. Remember Points toward the OSJI Travel Team are awarded for both Senior and Junior divisions.

IV. The following actions were taken at the OSJI Board of Directors Meeting held Dec.11, 2004 at the New Albany Library (on the outskirts of Columbus, OH):

- A. Proposed budget for 2005 was adopted. Income from individual and club membership fees, sanctions and promotions was projected at approximately \$1,900.00 and is the basis for the budget. Additional funds (from special fund raising events and other activities of OSJI) that are not already designated (such as profits from state championships which go to qualified OSJI athletes competing in designated national championships) for specific use, will be added to a variety of OSJI programs. Minimal reimbursement for administrative expenses are designated for Directors of Operations, Development, Standards & Certification, and Promotion Board Chair (total = \$150). USA Judo Group B Dues \$100. Initiation of 501C3 status - \$300. Monthly web site fee for 2005 - \$420. Awards - \$200. Discretionary Elite Athlete Fund - \$500. Travel Team - \$145 plus \$1,000 (carry-over from 2004) plus camps/clinics profits. The budget will be reviewed (and adjusted if necessary) on a quarterly basis.
- B. First, Second and Third Place players in each division on the OSJI Travel Team Roster will have their participation fee reduced by one half for all OSJI run Clinics and Camps.
- C. Competitive divisions for the OSJI Open **Junior** State Championships will be light, middle and heavy in each age bracket (both boys and girls) [6 & below, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-20] starting in 2005.
- D. Masters competition will be added to the OSJI State Open Championships starting in 2005.
- E. A Junior Referee Program will be developed, starting with a clinic to be held some time prior to the date of the 2005 OSJI Open State Championships. Those junior competitors (brown belt and age 15 minimums) who attend the special clinic and pass a proficiency evaluation will be allowed to referee at the championships (for age groups younger than their age) and at the discretion of other tournament directors (with the concurrence of their chief referees).

- F. Discussion was held on potential changes to the OSJI Travel Team program including potential changes to the structure of the divisions, return to more formal implementation of the program, updating the program documentation, etc. It was decided to have a special committee appointed by the President to review the program and submit for vote at the next Board of Directors meeting, a consolidated list of all proposed changes. If you are interested in serving on this special committee, please contact Russ Scherer, ASAP.
- V. Upcoming Events in Ohio during January and February (for a more complete list and info, check the website):
- Coaches Certification Clinic - Jan 22 or Feb 5, 2005
  - Competitors Clinic - Jan 23 or Feb 6, 2005 (held the day following the Coach Certification Clinic)
  - Junior Referee Program Clinic - Jan 22 or Feb 5, 2005 (whichever day the Coaches Certification Clinic is not held)
  - OSJI Open State Championships - Feb 12, 2005 (may possibly be changed to Feb 19<sup>th</sup> [if the site is available] to alleviate a conflict with the Indiana State Open Championships scheduled for the same day)
- VI. Please remember to register your club for 2005. Contact Jim Starcher for registration materials. Remember, your club instructor is required to have a background check and must be a certified coach or teacher through the USJI, USJA, or USJF in order to register your club with the OSJI.

*Happy Holidays!!!*

That's all for now.

Keep in touch,  
Russ