In this month’s issue:
★ Special Feature on Judo Summer Camps
★ The new USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu program
★ Photos from Visit-Another-Dojo Month
★ Upcoming events
★ And more!

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Please contribute your news to Growing Judo! Make sure your submissions are:

* CONCISE, well-written and proofread.
* Contain correct details (like dates and contact information) and include hyperlinks to event forms.
* In WORD format (not PDF!) or in the body of the email. Photos can also be sent as separate attachments.
* Is your original work, or includes the expressed permission of the creator.
* If possible, includes a few quality, interesting photos; be sure that you have permission to submit photos of others, ESPECIALLY minors.
* Has "Growing Judo" or "GJ" in the subject line of your email.

Thanks for your support!

Joan Love, Editor, Growing Judo
USJA BoD
Chair, Club Support Services/Regional Coordinators
judolady210@aol.com
Important Reminder!

Is your Background Check up-to-date?

Just a reminder to all certified coaches, instructors, referees, USJA committee members and officers, as well as anyone claiming promotion points for coaching activities or applying for a promotion to shodan or higher: You must undergo a USJA background/screening and you should keep this credential current at all times.

If you have already had a background check, it should be listed (along with the expiration date) under the "Certifications" listed on your USJA membership card.

The cost for the screening is only $16 and the form is simple to complete. The screening is valid for a period of four years. For more information on the USJA Background Screening Policy requirements and procedures, please see:

Background Screening Policy and Procedure

Background Screening Consent Form:

Learn Judo with the Gokyo Gang

The USJA and Interactive Sport, Inc. have partnered to promote the DVD series "Learn Judo with the Gokyo Gang."

The DVDs feature an interactive menu, 3-D animated characters, live video, multiple camera angles and kid-friendly instruction to help children understand the judo techniques they are practicing in class. It is intended to supplement (not replace) good judo instruction. The series is organized along the requirements for each belt promotion and is suitable for ages 5 & up.

If you order through this link (also on the USJA website), you will be helping the USJA and you will receive a 10% discount!


CODE: USJA241
Donor of the Decade: Dr. James Lally

Dr. James Lally, president and chief medical officer of Chino Valley Medical Center, is the USJA’s donor of the decade, having given over $100,000 in support of our organization. Recently elected to our Board of Directors, he purchased and donated new computers for our headquarters. He also enjoys supporting up-and-coming athletes.

Lally grew up as an Army brat and later enlisted in the Army, training as an Airborne Ranger Special Forces infantryman. He later trained as a Special Forces Medic. In his 15 years in the military, he earned 20 commendations and awards, including the Legion of Merit and the Army Commendation Medal for heroism. After the military he graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Western University in Pomona.

Dr. Lally also served as team physician and head of the U.S. Olympic Shooting Team for the last three Olympics. He holds nidan rank and instructs at the Goltz Judo Club in Claremont.

Dr. Lally recalls, “I visited and remembered that some years earlier I had covered a judo tournament for Sensei Goltz, and he had impressed me. There was a controversy during the tournament and Sensei Goltz demonstrated that he was a “class” act and that honor and integrity were more important that winning. One of the firemen from Orange County suffered an open fracture of his elbow, and he and his coach were carrying on like a couple of horses’ behinds. Sensei calmly and firmly affirmed my position as physician on the scene and ended the match over their protest (he was winning). Anyway, it made an impact on me.

“The next day I sat down with my partner and reorganized our practice, including getting up earlier on judo days so that I could check out earlier. I do everything I can so that I can be at class, and although [my partner] Joshua has lost some interest recently, he has promised to stay involved for at least one year. At that time we will reevaluate the situation and decide his [judo] future.”

“The school represents all the right things. It is not economically driven; black belts who attend regularly are there for the right reasons. They come to teach, to sacrifice, to cooperate, so that others can excel, and that is incredible considering today’s “what is in it for me?” society. The blending of the philosophy, history, and traditional methods along with components of competition and sport offers something for everyone. There may be differences in techniques of teaching and time management, but no session has been anything less than excellent.”

“The way in which a physician interacts with a patient or family -- not competency or skills -- determines whether or not he or she is a good doctor. It’s the same with black belts. I can tell the ones who are sincere and want to help versus those who come for their own edification. It goes into all walks of life. I see it in Olympic athletes. There are those there for all the right reasons and some who are living a secondary agenda.”
Summer's Coming--Go to a Judo Camp!

Summer is a great time to enjoy the outdoors and spend a little extra time on your judo training. Whatever your schedule, location or age, there are some great judo camps to choose from. Here are three well-established programs that you may want to attend:

Thursday June 24 - Saturday, June 26:
THE GREATEST CAMP ON EARTH, Matthews, NC

The Greatest Camp On Earth was first held in 1992 in Virginia. In subsequent years it moved to North Carolina, then to South Carolina; and for about the last decade it has taken place in or near Matthews, North Carolina. The Greatest Camp seems to get bigger every year, and has outgrown several venues. For 2010 it is in a new venue that we think is large enough to accommodate the expected growth of the next several years.

We believe that The Greatest Camp On Earth is North America’s largest annual martial-arts training camp. Scheduling is not complete for 2010, but in 2009 there were about 330 attendees, of whom about half were Juniors, 22 scheduled instructors and several additional instructors; more than 120 scheduled training sessions and about a dozen randori sessions. Perhaps two-thirds of the sessions were devoted to various aspects of contest Judo; others included various kata; Sambo; traditional Jujutsu; Brazilian Jiu Jitsu; kendo; kenjutsu; cane-fighting; stick fighting; kappo; knife defenses; referee training; coach certification training; Aikido; karate; kyudo (Japanese archery); yawara; police tactics; dealing with multiple attacks; conditioning methods; and promotional examinations.

Instructors at The Greatest Camp every year include Olympic medalists from various countries; national champions from various countries; coaches of national teams; and others of similar standing. In 2009, for instance, we presented Olympic gold medalist Mark Huizinga, who came to us from the Netherlands; in 2010 we will present Olympic silver medalist Nicolas Gill, from Canada.
The Greatest Camp welcomes campers from all regions of the United States, Europe, and other continents as well. A great many, perhaps most, of our campers return year after to continue training and to renew friendships that are likely to be lifelong. Newcomers are made welcome and almost always return in following years.

For more information go to http://www.greatestcamp.com

photos courtesy of Carl Hayes

Monday, July 5th - Friday, July 9th: CAMP BUSHIDO, Sonora, California

Celebrating 29 years of operation Camp Bushido offers great judo and jujitsu training with featured guest instructors who are coaches or competitors from the national or international level. Established by beloved Sensei Charlie Robinson (8th Dan) the camp has been held in Northern California for nearly three decades.
With 120 or more campers, ages 5 to 82, and 20-25 black belts attending every year, the camp offers something for every age and every level! The camp is currently held at Old Oak Ranch in the beautiful foothills of the High Sierras outside the old Gold Rush town of Sonora, CA. The Hilltop Lodge offers clean and modern air-conditioned rooms and dojo, our own private swimming pool, three nutritious meals brought to us in an open-air dining hall, our own snack bar, and an "always open" coffee bar.

A full program in both judo and jujitsu is offered and classes are scheduled so campers may participate in one or both. The camp includes room and board, swimming, and many other fun activities.

Every year we have special "Featured Guest Instructors" who are known nationally or internationally, such as Olympic and World Games medalists, and high ranking judoka or jujitsuka who have studied in Japan. Our featured guest judo instructor last year was Ronda Rousey, the only 2008 Beijing Olympics USA medalist in judo.

Many of these Featured Guest Instructors often return year-after-year once they have discovered the magical nature of Camp Bushido. Their added presence weaves an incredible experience for every level of training. We also have our core of top level regular instructors.

The camp also offers opportunities for belt rank promotions and recommendations, along with kata and coaching certifications.
Sunday, August 15 - Saturday, August 21: INTERNATIONAL JUDO CAMP, Huguenot, NY

A great camp in a beautiful setting!

In 2010, The International Judo Camp, founded by George Harris and George Pasiuk, will celebrate its 38th year!

Located in scenic upstate NY, just north of the Pocono Mountains, The International Judo Camp started as a sports camp in 1972. Among a variety of sports such as swimming, track & field, basketball, and weight lifting, judo had the largest participation. The following year, a judo-only camp began. At first the dojo consisted of a tent and borrowed mats, but in 5 years moved to the current facility, with Olympic quality Tatami Mats in a 10,000 square foot Field House with walls of windows, showers, locker rooms and sauna, qualified medical staff, and more!

The International Judo Camp features a number of excellent, regular instructors, such as Clyde Worthen (6th Dan), Jim Bregman (9th Dan), Harry Glackin (7th Dan), Bonnie Korte (8th Dan), Sid Kelly (8th Dan), David Kiang (5th Dan), Noriyasu Kudo (8th Dan), Konstantyn Tshovrebashvili (5th Dan), Joe Walters (5th Dan) and more. Each year, a special guest instructor is also invited. In 2010, the International Judo Camp is honored to host David Starbrook, two-time Olympic Medalist (Silver in 1972, Bronze in 1976) and two-time World Medalist (Silver in 1971, Bronze in 1973).
Daily schedule:

- Start your day at the International Judo Camp with a Tai Chi class or a morning jog.
- Follow that with morning and afternoon technical judo sessions.
- In between judo practices, you may choose from a variety of camp activities.
- End the day with evening Randori to practice new skills, and then,
- Lights Out!

Also offered:

- Self-defense classes
- A daily Kata clinic
- Referee Training and Local/Regional Certification with Rick Celotto, 7th Dan; International Judo Federation Class "A" Referee
- Coaching Certification with Bill Montgomery, 5th Dan, USJA Coaching Committee

Campers’ dorms are bunk-style cabins with showers. Caring, trained counselors provide a safe and supervised environment. Between judo sessions, campers have the opportunity to swim, fish, canoe, play other sports, or relax and watch a movie. Horseback riding is also available for a separate fee. The Camp’s Food Service is first rate, with a variety of healthy food choices including: fresh fruit, homemade breads and muffins, salad bar at lunch/dinner, and multiple tasty main dish choices.

For more information, go to: www.newyorkymcacamp.org/judo

Photos courtesy of Connie Halporn and Deborah Shapiro
A WARM WELCOME to Our NEW USJA Clubs!

Editor’s Note: As a new, regular feature, we will be recognizing and sending our best wishes to newly registered USJA clubs. Special thanks to Dee Dee Weller at the USJA National Office for her assistance with this project.

March, 2010

Club Name: Battleground Training Center  Location: East Greenwich, RI
Head Instructor: Christopher Jacobs  phone: 401-374-1382
email: chriscwj@yahoo.com  website: www.battlegroundtrainingcenter.com

Club Name: Judo America Temecula  Location: Temecula, CA
Head Instructor: Valerie Gotay  phone: 951-699-8969
email: val@judoamericatemecula.com  website: www.judoamericatemecula.com

Club Name: Judo and JuJitsu Club at William and Mary  Location: Williamsburg, VA
Head Instructor: Andre Walker-Loud  phone: 757-221-3515
email: walksloud@gmail.com  website: wmpeople.wm.edu/site/page/judo/home

Club Name: Gracie Barra Phoenix  Location: Phoenix, AZ
Head Instructor: Krisztian Marki  phone: 602-488-2339
email: marczee@zeebjj.net  website: www.zeebjj.net

Club Name: Yosokan Dojo  Location: Monterey, CA
Head Instructor: James Campbell  phone: 831-375-7551
email: yosokandojo@sbcglobal.net  website: www.yosokandojo.com

Club Name: Goshin-jitsu  Location: Hayden, ID
Head Instructor: Bijay Singh  phone: 208-262-6768
email: HaydenMartialArts@gmail.com

Club Name: Peter Martial Arts Center  Location: Sylmar, CA
Head Instructor: Peter Marquez  phone: 818-361-7333
email: pmarq1368@yahoo.com  website: www.pmactkd.com
Thanks to Everyone who participated in Visit-Another-Dojo Month!

California

On this sixth day of Visit-Another-Dojo Month, the Seikaryu Martial Arts Academy of Santa Rosa, CA visited Joa Schwinn's Club, Twin Cities Judo Club, at Maysville, a trip of 135 miles each way. After a strenuous work out, everyone visited the home of the best ice cream ever, where a "single" is two scoops. --Charlie Robinson

Connecticut

Norwich Judo Dojo hosted Open Workouts on Saturday, March 13th and Monday, March 22. We had visitors from a few other Connecticut clubs, and from New York and Massachusetts as well!
Tennessee

On March 27th two schools from the city of Clarksville, TN got together for training and randori. There were separate sessions for both juniors and adults. Mackel Reagan, Head instructor for Clarksville Budo hosted the event with SSF Submission Academy under Sensei Nick Cascaden and Eric Schwalm as guests. A great time was had by all, with students from both schools perfecting their landing techniques with the eager help of others.

(Far left standing – Nick Cascaden, 2nd from left- Eric Schwalm….Far right standing – Mackel Reagan  students are a mix from both schools. Below: Kids Randori & Uchi Mata practice

California

On Monday, March 1st, three members of Team Katame were warmly welcomed by Riverside Judo Club at the University of California, Riverside. Josh and Tadashi Hiraoka, Brian Money and the entire group were very nice. Special thanks to Kote and Yuske for working with the visiting judoka.
Judo News From Around the Country

Montana, March 27


Staggered division times allowed competitors to enter and visitors to watch all three arts. Adult BJJ and kids Judo ran in the morning while adult Judo, kids BJJ and No-Gi grappling competed in afternoon. This venue set-up was easy, with Judo mats at one end of the facility and BJJ/grappling at the other. Basic wrestling mats for the BJJ/grappling were provided by the local MMA club and event host, Fight Force Fighters. Each group provided their own volunteer workers and referees, as the BJJ/grappling rules are different from judo. Players win by points or a tap out.

Helena YMCA Judo club hosted the Judo part of the tournament, which also served as the Montana State Tournament. Approximately 60 judoka from Montana competed. The Butte Judo club, coached by JohnAmtmann won the Best Overall Shiai Team trophy with Helena YMCA, coached by Gregg Trude coming in second. The Billings Judo Club coached by Dave Allen took third place.

There were some great Judo matches fought as the players really stepped up and showed the BJJ and No Gi grappling people and visitors what judo is all about. The Junior matches were the highlight of the tournament with most of the matches going all 3 minutes. Trophies for the Best Technique for Junior Male and Female were awarded to Rylee Trude, from Helena YMCA and Willam Lorash, from Billings.

Having Judo, BJJ and No Gi matches fought in the same tournament really allows for the competitors and visitors to see all three venues and that three can learn from each other and crossover. Some of the concerns with this kind of venue were insurance and staggering match times. This was the 4th Judo/Grappling tournament that Helena YMCA and Fight Force have done. On the Judo side we of course get a USJA sanction and make sure all judoka have a USJA/USJF/USAJUDO card. The host of the grappling/BJJ event, Fight Force Fighters, secured an insurance rider to cover their competitors. There are many companies that provide one-day sports event insurance and are easily accessed by searching the Internet. One such company is www.KarateInsurance.com

If any clubs are looking at or considering this kind of mixed venue, feel free to contact me. The mixed competition of Judo, BJJ and Grappling can only enhance Judo and helps cut down on the costs associated with running a Judo tournament.

Gregg Trude, Sandan
Helena YMCA Judo Ryu
gtrude@aol.com
406-439-1576 cell #
Upcoming Events

Below are some upcoming USJA and USJA/USJF events. You can also see a listing of sanctioned events on the USJA website: http://usjamanagement.com/public/eventlist.asp

APRIL

Saturday April 10, 2010
Grassroots Clinic at Goltz Judo featuring Nick Lowe
Creator of the Eudo Program with over 4,000 members in England
9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Kids/10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Teens & Adults
contact: Gary Goltz: 909-985-0486, gary@goltzjudo.com

Saturday & Sunday, April 10–11, 2010.
Junior & Senior Judo Training Camp at Granite State Judo Institute, Manchester, NH. Open to Judoka of all levels. Coaches are welcome. Saturday 9:30 am – 12 pm/ 1pm – 3:30 pm; Sunday 10 am – 12 pm. fee after April 1st is $ 100.00. Contact Robert Proksa: 1-603-568-0054 or Robert@gsji.org

April 17-18th 2010
Martial Arts Weekend, St. Paul, MN:
・ Midwest Regional Judo Tournament, St. Bernard’s Catholic School. Weigh-ins, 8:30-10:30 am; Kata, 9:00 am; Junior Shiai 11:00 am; Senior Shiai 30 min. after finish of Juniors
・ 1st annual MN USJA Annual Banquet: Saturday, 7:00 p.m. at DeGidio’s Restaurant & Bar
・ Mixed Martial Arts Clinic: Sunday, Registration 9-10 am -Clinic 10:00am to 1:00pm
LODGING: The Best Western Kelly Inn – St. Paul 651-227-8711 or 1-800-635-3359.
Special Bonus Rate All Three $65.00. Please RSVP for dinner
Contact: Ken Otto: k-d-otto@msn.com, (651) 291-7105.

Sunday April 18th
Jason Morris Clinic at Fredericksburg Judo Club, VA. 1pm to 4pm; $40 for adults and $30 youth/or second family member. contact Chuck Wall: www.FredericksburgJudoClub.com or wall.chuck@gmail.com
Saturday, April 24, 2010

2010 Shigatsu Open Judo Tournament at The Dojo Martial Arts Training Center, 16 Town line Road, Wolcott, CT

Hosted By Gentle Way Judo Club & The Dojo Martial Arts Training Center, including JUNIORS, MASTERS, SENIORS and NEWAZA divisions. Information and entry form at: www.gentlewayjudoclub.com / www.thedojoonline.com  *First place in Senior women’s/Senior men’s advanced divisions receive $50 cash prize if division contains at least 6 competitors. Limit one cash prize per competitor.*

MAY

May 1-2: Clinic with Nagayasu Ogasawara, 8th Dan (Author of “Textbook of Judo”) at the Ameri-Kan Judo Club Dojo in Findlay, Ohio. http://www.amerikanjudo.org

Saturday, May 29, 2010

AAU Freestyle Judo Nationals,  Kearney High School, 715 E 19th ST, Kearney, MO.

Gi & No Gi competition, Juniors (Gi only) Seniors & Masters. $25.00 for one style - $35.00 for both (gi/no gi).

Registration and Weigh-in 7:30 – 9:00 am; Rules clinic 10:00; Competition starts @ 10:30 with Gi.

All participants must have a current AAU membership. See www.aausports.org.

For Freestyle Judo rules see www.welcomematdojo.com

Contact: Kenney Brink (816) 969-9019 or kbrink8952@aol.com or www.brinkswelcomematjudo.com

Steve Scott @ stevescottjudo@yahoo.com or www.welcomematjudoclub.com

JUNE

June 12: Clinic with Jim Pedro, Sr. at Derry Judo Club, Derry, NH.

The Derry Judo Club will be hosting a Clinic with Jim Pedro Sr.  USJA Coaching certification and continuing education requirements for recertification will be available to those coaches that attend.  Morning Session for ages below 10: 8am to 9:30 am; morning session for ages under 12: 8am to 11am; afternoon session for ages over 12: 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm.  Coaches and seniors interested in coaching certification must attend both morning and afternoon sessions.  Pre-registration fees (postmarked by June 3rd) are $10 for ages 10 and under, $15 for ages 11 to 16, and $25 for Seniors.  Please contact Roger Lenfest, 603-458-1742 or derryjudo@comcast.net for forms or any questions.  Hope to see you there!

Monday, June 14th – Thursday, June 17th

4-day Ashi Waza Seminar featuring Bruce Toups & sponsored by Wakaishu Judo Club

T. V. James Center, 1501 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Columbus, MS 39701. $10.00 per day per participant.

Contact Keith Worshaim at (662) 352-6795, esquire1wakaishu@hotmail.com

Saturday, June 19, 2010

State Games of Mississippi Judo Competition, Boy’s and Girl’s Club of Columbus – Lowndes County, MS.

Weigh-in: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. / Competition: 11:00 a.m. (Masters, Juniors and Seniors)

Contact Keith Worshaim at (662) 352-6795, esquire1wakaishu@hotmail.com

The first 25 people who register online at http://www.stategamesofms.org will be entered in a drawing for a $100.00 prize.
**JULY**

**July 3 & 4: 1st Annual USJF & USJA Junior National JUDO Championships**, University of California, Irvine

Nanka Judo Yudanshakai is excited to host the upcoming 2010 United States Jr National Championships & the 2010 USJF/USJA National NOVICE Tournament open to all competitors holding the rank of White or Yellow Belt. Entry and information forms for the Championships and for the Novice Tournament are separate. Download all forms and full information at [http://nankajudo.com/2010USJFJrNational.html](http://nankajudo.com/2010USJFJrNational.html)

contact: Ed Shiosaki, President, Nanka Judo Yudanshakai, 310-702-0023, Eshiosaki@aol.com; Nanka Office (310) 222-8690, NankaOffice@aol.com

Also featuring:

**July 1:** Coaches Certification Clinic

**July 2:** Kata Clinic

**July 5-6:** USJF/USJA Grassroots Judo Training Camp. contact Paul Nogaki pnogaki@verizon.net

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**July 9–10, 2010**

**AAU Grand National Judo Championships**, Kearney High School, 715 E 19th Street, Kearney, MO.

Shiai and Technique Divisions for Juniors, Collegiate, Seniors and Masters competitors.

Contact: Kenney Brink (816) 969-9019 or kbrink8952@aol.com or [www.brinkswelcomematjudo.com](http://www.brinkswelcomematjudo.com)

Steve Scott @ stevescottjudo@yahoo.com or [www.welcomematjudoclub.com](http://www.welcomematjudoclub.com)

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Gary Goltz presenting Brad Karmann the USJA National Master Player of the Year Award for 2009
Many clubs are making use of social networking sites to publicize themselves and keep people informed about events. Here are two great ideas:

For those interested:

I was asked if I wouldn't mind providing answers to questions coaches, referees or players might have about the Judo Rules. I started a group: Facebook | Judo Contest Rules Questions and Answers: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=313466418559 at which you may ask questions and I will provide answers. In this way any question asked and its answer will be available to all who have access to the group.

Video can be uploaded for review. However, if possible please edit just to the incident you may have questions about. My responses will be my answers and are not endorsed by any National Organization. However, my answers will reflect the majority opinion of the highest ranked referees. I will respond to technical and judgment questions. Questions or comments as to the worth or viability of changes to the rules are better directed to other sites.

Put it in your favorites list or toolbar.

Richard Celotto
IJF-A (International) Referee

Hello Judoka,

I was recently appointed as the Washington/Oregon Regional Coordinator for USJA and have been trying to find an easy way to get information out quickly to all judo clubs in our area. It seems like a daunting problem, but every teenager knows how it's done - Facebook.

So, I set up a facebook page called "Judo in Washington and Oregon." Eventually I hope to have all clubs and events listed in one easy to use spot. Non-facebook people can still access it through the web address. All you have to do is paste this link in your web-browser and bookmark it. (You will have to join facebook if you want to make comments on the site.) Here is the address: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Judo-in-Washington-and-Oregon/105247062839778?ref=ts

Another wonderful thing about facebook (if you've never used it), is that the administrator (me) only has to keep an eye on it. Once you join the group you can post information about your events, post comments or questions to others, and even post photos or videos from your dojo or special events.

At this point, the project is new and I only have a few clubs listed. Click on the "notes" tab to see the list of schools so far. Please send me information about your dojo and forward this letter to any other clubs you know of. Thank you so much for your help with this project.

Yours in judo,

Alan L. Best
Best Martial Arts Institute
1235 Willamette Street
Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 345-0684
www.bmai.org
USJA and JA debut new Sport Jujitsu program

The US Judo Association (USJA) and Jujitsu America (JA) are proud to announce their new Sport Jujitsu program for competitive Jujitsu. This program combines the depth and reach of USJA’s strong national presence and membership base with the history and experience of JA’s longstanding Sport Jujitsu program. By uniting their efforts, the two organizations have together developed an even stronger program with a dynamic updated rule-set. Heading up this joint venture are veteran coaches such as Willy Cahill (Co-founder of Jujitsu America, 2x Olympic Judo Coach, 5x World Team coach, 2x Pan-American Team coach, 2x Goodwill Games coach, and has coached over 1000 national and international medal winners, 10th degree black belt Kodokan Jujitsu and 8th degree black belt Judo) and Lowell Slaven (USJA Jujitsu Program Director and member of USJA Board of Directors, host of over 75 tournaments including over 30 Judo National Championship tournaments, involved with the sport since 1967 as competitor, coach, and referee, 7th degree black belt Judo and Jujitsu).

The goal of the USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu program is to promote a balanced and vigorous approach to competition Jujitsu that provides equal opportunity for competitors from any martial arts background to succeed. The training focus may be in any style of Jujitsu, Judo, or any other arts combining or including striking and kicking, throwing and takedowns, or grappling. Recent tournaments have included practitioners of many different styles of Jujitsu, as well as Judo, Hapkido, Jujukkenbo, Karate, Kung Fu, Muay Thai, Tae Kwon Do, and others. Providing a safe format for aggressive competition in this open-style format offers a fun competition experience for all.

Strong competition provides a healthy opportunity for participants to test their skills while allowing the athletes to develop physically, mentally, and culturally. Beyond dynamic competition, good sportsmanship and competitor safety are of prime concern within the USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu program. Competitors range in age from 6 to 60+, with most competitors planning to compete with 100% focus on tournament day, then going back to school or work the next day. In order to ensure this, the USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu program has employed a range of safety rules designed to protect the athletes, while allowing them to fully test their skills and techniques in competition.

The USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu program delivers an exciting, balanced, and fair competition format. Points are awarded for striking or kicking to legal target areas, for effective throws and takedowns, and for matwork (pins and submissions). Matches consist of two two-minute rounds with a one-minute break. Points are totaled at the end of each round and the winner is determined based on accumulation of points or by immediate win if a competitor accrues two submissions during the course of the match.

On Dec. 5, 2009, JA sent a team of instructors and competitors to perform a series of exhibition matches at the USJA Winter Nationals Judo Tournament, hosted by Gary Goltz, near Los Angeles. The JA team presented five matches showcasing the new USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu rules and format. The spectators, Judo coaches and competitors, and USJA leadership at the event all witnessed immediately how the Sport Jujitsu format complements Judo competition through the strong use of throwing and matwork skills, combined with striking and kicking in a continuous fighting format. It’s clear that athletes with a background in Jujitsu or Judo, or any other similar arts, with the interest to compete, could all do well and have fun participating in this format.
Brief Summary of USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu Rules

1. Each match consists of two two-minute rounds of continuous fighting with a one-minute break.
2. Matches are governed by one Mat Referee assisted by two Side Referees.
3. Competitors are matched based on gender, age, weight, and training experience.
4. There are three parts in the Sport Jujitsu competition format:
   a. Part 1: Strikes and kicks
   b. Part 2: Throws and takedowns
   c. Part 3: Matwork – pins and submissions
5. (Part 1) Strikes and kicks to legal target zones score one point, with kicks to the head scoring two points. Legal targets include sides of the head, front and side of torso, and thighs.
6. All strikes and kicks are delivered with control.
7. No strikes or kicks allowed to the back or top of the head, neck, back, groin, or knees or below.
8. Once a competitor secures a grip with at least one hand on the opponent, then no more strikes or kicks are allowed by either opponent (Part 2).
9. Throws and takedowns score one, three, or five points depending on the quality and strength of the throw.
10. No throws which land the opponent directly on the head or neck are allowed.
11. (Part 3) Pins score as follows:
    a. 10-second pin scores one point.
    b. 20-second pin scores two additional points for a total of three points.
12. Juniors have divisions for submissions (10yo+, green belt+) and divisions without submissions.
13. No joint-locks on the neck or spinal column, nor rotational locks on the knee or ankle are allowed.
14. The first submission scored by a competitor scores five points. The second submission by the same competitor automatically wins the match.
15. If neither competitor scores two submissions, then the match winner is determined by total of points at the end of two rounds. A runaway will be called if the competitor is ahead of the opponent by at least 15 points as scored by each of the two Side Referees (total of at least 30 point lead at the end of the first round). A tie will go to a one-minute third round to determine the winner.

USJA, JA, and longtime JA partner Tiger Claw are working closely together presenting a series of Sport Jujitsu events including tournaments, training seminars, and Referee Certification & Competitor Orientation clinics. USJA and JA rolled out the first joint clinic in January 2010 at Cahill’s Judo Academy in San Bruno, CA (San Francisco area), and are also planning clinics and tournaments around the country. These planned events include the combined USJA/JA US National Championship Sport Jujitsu Tournament which will be presented in Fort Lauderdale, FL, on Sept. 4, 2010. This will be an open tournament welcoming all competitors.

Complete USJA/JA Sport Jujitsu Rules, competition and training event listings, and detailed program information are all available online at [www.usja-judo.org](http://www.usja-judo.org) and [www.jujitsuamerica.org/sportjujitsu.php](http://www.jujitsuamerica.org/sportjujitsu.php).

- Eric Renner

*Eric Renner holds 6th degree black belt in Kodenkan Jujitsu and 2nd degree black belt in Judo. He is on the Jujitsu Executive Committee with US Judo Association, and is Chairman of the Sport Jujitsu Committee and President of Jujitsu America. He is Chief Instructor of Renner Jujitsu Club and a Senior Instructor at Cahill’s Judo Academy in San Bruno, CA.*
In Memoriam

The following judoka in our USJA family have recently passed away. They will be sincerely missed:

Luis Feliciano, USJA Life Member since 2005 passed away on 3/12/2010 at the young age of 53. He was from Boca Raton, FL and held the rank of Sandan in Judo and Shodan in Jujitsu.

Ralph C. Beardslee, Godan and long-time USJA member passed away in December, 2009. He owned and taught at Sensi Dojo, in Rehoboth, MA until 1999.

Since we are a Judo community, I would like to dedicate some space in Growing Judo for members to share some personal news. Next month, two new features will be added:

Milestones: a listing of any significant events such as marriages & births in the USJA community

In Memoriam: a recognition of members of the USJA community that we have lost. Please include a couple of sentences about the individual’s achievements and contributions to judo and a photo if you wish.

Matt Marcinek has agreed to compile this information. Please email him at Polish_Power152@yahoo.com with any news that your family chooses to share.

Finally, if you have feedback or suggestions for Growing Judo, please contact:

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