

Constitution and By-Laws

KONAN JUDO ASSOCIATION, INC.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME AND JURISDICTION:

The name of this corporation shall be “KONAN JUDO ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED” (hereinafter called KONAN, INC.) Its jurisdiction shall comprise the area assigned it by the United States Judo Federation, Inc. (hereinafter called USJF).

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES AND POWERS:

KONAN, INC. is does not seek pecuniary gain or profit for its members. The purposes for which it is formed are:

- Section 1. To represent, safeguard, and promote the principles and teaching of Kodokan judo.
- Section 2. To act as exclusive representative of the USJF within its assigned jurisdiction.
- Section 3. To set, supervise, maintain and improve standards; to provide technical assistance and advise; to grant and/or recommend awards and promotions which are within its authority; and to adopt and interpret rules and regulations pertaining to judo.
- Section 4. To acquire and disburse funds; to enter into contracts or agreements not otherwise prohibited by laws or USJF; and to sue or to be sued.
- Section 5. To arrange, control, and manage contests, championships, tournaments, demonstrations, instructions and to select individuals to represent KONAN, INC. in judo.
- Section 6. To acquire, hold mortgage, and dispose of property, real and personal, or right, license, or interest in property of any kind or nature whatsoever.
- Section 7. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

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ARTICLE III

LIMITATIONS:

The following limits are placed upon KONAN, INC.:

- Section 1. KONAN, INC. shall not intervene in matters essentially within the jurisdiction of its member clubs unless requested by such member to do so, or unless two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Governors deems that such intervention is necessary in the best interest of judo or the furtherance of the purposes of KONAN, INC.
- Section 2. KONAN, INC. shall have no power to discriminate against any person or group because of sex, race, religion or nationality.
- Section 3. KONAN, INC. shall have no power to enter into any agreements, contracts or arrangements that bind any of the members personally or which diminishes its authority or that of its members or which violates the Constitution, By-Laws or agreements with USJF.
- Section 4. No members of Konan, INC. shall be bound personally by any obligations or liabilities incurred by KONAN, INC.
- Section 5. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on a propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP:

There shall be club and other classes of membership. The different classes of members, the qualifications of memberships, the method of becoming members, the rights and privileges of members, the liabilities of members for dues and assessments, and the termination of membership shall be set forth in the By-Laws. All members shall be bound by the constitution and By-Laws and subject to the authority of this organization with respect to judo matters.

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ARTICLE V

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

The affairs, business and powers of the organization, subject to the limitations set forth elsewhere herein, shall be conducted, controlled and exercised by the Board of Governors which shall be comprised of individual members selected in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws by the club members and who shall serve without remuneration.

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF EXAMINERS:

A Board of Examiners consisting of high ranking individual members shall be selected by the Club members in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws and shall handle the technical matters referred to it by the Board of Governors or specified in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS:

This constitution may be amended on the recommendation of the Board of Governors and on a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Club members voting on the amendment, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment shall be furnished to the club members at least forty-five (45) days before the vote is taken.

ARTICLE VIII

DISSOLUTION:

- Section 1. This organization may be dissolved after dissolution is approved by the Board of Governors and by a two-third (2/3) vote of the Club members, provided that notice that a vote of dissolution will be taken is furnished to the Club members and national federation at least sixty (60) days before the vote is taken.
- Section 2. Upon dissolution, the Board of Governors shall utilize the assets of the organization to pay all obligations and expenses of the organization, including those arising from dissolution and the balance, if any, shall insofar as possible, be distributed forthwith to a USJF. successor organization having substantially the same purpose, or equitably among the Club members, in the sole discretion of the Board of Governors.
- Section 3. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

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ARTICLE IX

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Section 1. This organization may be incorporated as a non-profit corporation upon approval of a majority of the Board of Governors. Incorporation shall not be deemed to be dissolution of the organization.
- Section 2. This organization shall be deemed to have its principal office and place of business at the location specified in the By-Laws.
- Section 3. No member or group of members shall be deemed to be acting in any matter for or on behalf of the organization or as the organization, unless specifically authorized to so act by the Board of Governors or by the By-Laws.

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**KONAN JUDO ASSOCIATION, INC.
BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I

PURPOSES AND POWERS:

- A. The purposes and powers are set forth in the constitution.

ARTICLE II

LOCATION:

- A. This organization shall be deemed to be located at the address of the Secretary.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP - GENERAL:

- A. The following types of membership are established and recognized:
1. Club membership
 2. Individual membership
 - a. Yudansha
 - 1) Regular
 - 2) Special
 - 3) Non-affiliated
 - b. Mudansha
 - 1) Regular
 - 2) Special
 - 3) Non-affiliated
 - c. Junior
 - d. Honorary
 - e. Life Member
 - f. Associate membership and parents
- B. The Club members, acting through their affiliated individual members are the active members of the organization and shall manage and control its affairs.

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ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP - DEFINITIONS:

- A. Club - A member club is an association of individual members operating under a written constitution and by-laws or other agreement of association, and having a minimum of ten (10) registered and recognized members.
- B. Individual members - Individual members shall be divided into the following groups;
1. Regular (Yudansha and Mudansha) - A regular member is one who permanently resides within the jurisdiction of this organization, who is a member of his local club and who has obtained a rank recognized as either Yudansha or Mudansha.
 2. Special (Yudansha and Mudansha) - A special member is one who is temporarily within the jurisdiction of this organization but does not permanently reside therein, and who has a rank recognized as either Yudansha or Mudansha.
 3. Non-affiliated (Yudansha and Mudansha) - A non-affiliated member is one who permanently resides within the jurisdiction of this organization, who is not a member of his local club and who has obtained a rank recognized as either Yudansha or Mudansha.
 4. Junior - A junior member is a member who is under seventeen (17) years of age and not registered as a regular, special, or non-affiliated Yudansha or Mudansha member.
 5. Life Member - A life member is any individual who is registered and paid his life membership fee. If for any reason a life membership status is canceled by this organization, the life membership fee shall be refunded after deduction of all annual fees accumulated during the period of life membership.
 6. Honorary – An honorary member is one who has been awarded special recognition by Konan, Inc. because of distinguished service to the art and sport of Judo or to Konan, Inc.
 7. Associate – An associate member is one who believes in and supports the purposes of Konan, Inc. An associate member of the organization shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges granted to individual members of the organization and shall hold membership in a registered club of Konan, Inc. Such associate member shall pay annual registration fees or other dues to the USJF and other such dues as may be assessed by a registered club or by Konan, Inc. for other classes of individual membership; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that such annual assessment shall not include any fee for insurance coverage. Associate membership, by way of example and not limitation, is principally intended for inactive students, inactive instructors, volunteer members of the USJF, family members and friend and judo “booster club” members, all of whom wish to associate with USJF and Konan, Inc. in order to support the purpose of the USJF and Konan, Inc. and where the USJF’s limited insurance coverage is not an important consideration.

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ARTICLE V

REPRESENTATION OF MEMBERS:

- A. Management: The affairs of this organization shall be managed and controlled by the member clubs acting either as member clubs or acting through the Board of Governors or Board of Examiners.
- B. Club Vote: In matters where the constitution and by-laws require voting by the member clubs, each shall have one vote and shall be represented by its duly elected President or his proxy who shall cast its vote.
- C. Board of Governors: In all matters other than those of Letter B of this Article V, this organization shall act through the Board of Governors or Board of Examiners and each member club shall be represented by individual members that are qualified and designated to sit on these Boards.
- D. Board of Governors - Composition: Each member club shall duly designate two of its individual members in good standing with this organization to serve as its representative on the Board of Governors. One of the representatives shall be a voting representative and the other shall be designated as alternate who shall act in the absence of the voting representative.
- E. Board of Examiners - Composition: Each member club shall duly designate all Sandan and above who are registered members in good standing with this organization to serve as its representatives on the Board of Examiners. One of the representatives shall be a voting representative, having one vote, and the other one shall be an alternate who shall act in the absence of the voting representative. Member clubs having no qualified representatives on the Board of Examiners may appoint one observer to the Board of Examiners who shall be an individual member in good standing with this organization who has obtained the minimum rank of Shodan.
- F. Board of Governors Vote: Each member club shall be entitled to additional votes and representatives on the Board of Governors, based on their total individual membership as certified 30 days before any regularly scheduled Board meeting by the organization’s rank registration chairman as follows:

10 - 19 members	1 vote Total
20 - 39 members	2 votes Total
40 - 59 members	3 votes Total

and one additional vote for every member up to increments of 20 individual members thereafter.

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- G. Board of Examiners Vote: Each member club shall be entitled to additional votes and representatives on the Board of Examiners, based on their total individual Yudansha membership as certified 30 days before any regularly scheduled Board meeting by the organization's rank registration chairman as follows:

1 member	1 vote Total
5 members	2 votes Total
10 members	3 votes Total

and one additional vote for every member up to increments of 5 Yudansha thereafter.

(By mutual agreement, all routine matters before the Board will be decided by each member casting one vote. On matters relating to promotion of candidates before the Board, each member shall cast the number of votes equivalent to his Dan grade. Any member at any time may request secret ballot and Dan grade method of voting.)

- H. Certification: The designation of each representative, alternate and observer to the Board of Governors and the Board of Examiners, his address and whether or not he is a voting representative or an alternate or observer, shall be certified by the President of the member's club to the Secretary of this organization at least thirty (30) days before any regularly scheduled Board meeting to be attended. Persons not so certified may be refused their seats upon motion made and approved by a majority of the duly certified voting representatives of such meeting.
- I. Change of Domicile: Subject to the limitations of Letter K of this Article, a representative, alternate or observer changing club membership or moving out of the jurisdiction of this organization, shall cease to represent such member club and shall lose his seat on either Board. In such cases, the member club shall duly designate and certify a replacement in accordance with the provisions of this Article to serve the remainder of the term.
- J. Replacing Representatives: Each club may, at any time on notice sent by its President to the Secretary of this organization, withdraw any or all of its representatives, alternates or observers and duly replace them with others in accordance with the provisions of this Article to serve the remainder of the term, provided, however, that no replacement hereunder may be seated without majority approval of the Board on which the replacement is to sit, unless the notice is received thirty (30) days before the first meeting to be attended by the replacement.
- K. Officers: The provisions of Letters I and J of this Article shall not prohibit a duly elected officer of this organization from serving the balance of his term in the capacity of an elected officer, provided, however, that such officer shall not have moved out the jurisdiction of this organization.
- L. Term Expiration: The term of each representative, alternate and observer shall be two (2) years and shall commence at the annual meeting of this organization, provided that in every case the term shall automatically cease if he/she ceases to be a member in good standing of this organization.
- M. Dual Capacity: The same person may serve in more than one capacity in this organization on both the Board of Governors and the Board of Examiners.

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ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

- A. Composition: The Board of Governors shall be composed of voting representatives and alternate representatives of each member club as provided in Article V.
- B. Responsibility: Except as otherwise specified in the constitution and by-laws, the Board of Governors shall be responsible for conducting all the affairs and business of this organization and shall be vested with all powers of the organization and shall have authority to act on all organization matters.
- C. Jurisdiction: The Board of Governors shall have the power to assume original or appellate jurisdiction, the opinion of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board members who feel the best interest of the organization will be served thereby; and the decision of the Board, after a full hearing of those involved who wish to be heard, shall be final and binding unless appeal to the club members is specifically provided in the constitution or by-laws. The Board shall have the power to appoint from among its members a hearing body of not less than five (5) members to conduct a hearing and make findings of fact and law and recommendations to the Board for a decision.
- D. Discipline: The Board of Governors shall have the power to discipline members and impose, enforce or remit penalties for any violation of the constitution, by-laws or rules and regulations of this organization.
- E. Amendments: The Board of Governors shall have the power to amend these by-laws upon majority vote after thirty (30) days previous written notice of the proposed amendment to all voting members of the Board.
- F. Delegation of Authority: The Board of Governors may, while retaining its responsibility, delegate power and authority to officers and committees and others associated with the organization.
- G. Officers: At the annual meeting of every even numbered year, the Board of Governors shall elect from among its voting members and alternates, the following officers who shall be officers of this organization:
 - President
 - Vice Presidents (two)
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 1. The Vice Presidents shall be individually elected from and by the Board members
 2. The Board of Governors as a whole shall then vote to designate one of the Vice Presidents as the organization's First Vice President.
 3. Term of Office: The officers shall take office at the annual meeting at which they were elected and shall serve until the next election.
 - a. The annual meeting at which elections are to be held shall be scheduled and be held at least thirty (30) days in advance of the National USJF meeting at which USJF officers are elected.

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ARTICLE VII

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- A. The Executive Committee shall conduct the affairs of the organization between meetings of the Board of Governors and shall act as a committee on credentials at the meeting of the Board of Governors and Examiners. It shall meet prior to the Board of Governors and arrange the agenda and prepare recommendations to the Board of Governors with respect to the affairs of the organization.
- B. Appropriation of Funds: The Executive Committee shall have the power to appropriate funds for organization business not exceeding \$500.00 on any one item.
- C. Special Meeting: The Executive Committee shall have the power to call special meetings of the Board of Governors at a time and place specified by it by three-fourths (3/4) vote.
- D. Composition: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following:

- President (who shall be Committee Chairman)
- Immediate Past President
- Two (2) Vice Presidents
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chairman of Board of Examiners
- Registration Chairman
- One member in good standing of the organization of professional or specialized training as deemed necessary by the President.

- E. Committees:
 - 1. Standing Committees: The standing committee of this organization whose members and chairman shall be appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise provided herein, shall be as follows:

- Executive Committee
- Finance Committee
- Public Relations
- Rank Registration
- Development Committee
 - Junior Development Sub-committee
 - Senior Development Sub-committee
 - Kata Development Sub-committee
 - Coach Development Sub-committee
 - Teacher Development Sub-committee
 - Women's Sub-committee
- Referee Development

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2. Temporary Committees: The President shall have the authority to create and disband all temporary committees, appoint the members and chairman thereof, and determine the size and duties of the committees.
3. Removal of Officers: The Board of Governors has the power to remove officers for cause and to fill the vacancies in the elected office.
4. Report: At least once each year, the Executive Committee, upon decision of the Board, shall make available a report to each member club of the financial position and activities of the organization.
5. Executive Director: The Board of Governors shall have the power to employ and to discharge an Executive Director who shall report to the officers and perform duties as directed by them with the advice and approval of the Board. The Board of Governors shall have the authority to employ such help as it may deem advisable from time to time.
6. Removal of the Board Members: For cause, after a full hearing, the Board can remove a representative and/or alternate upon a two-third (2/3) vote.

ARTICLE VIII

BOARD OF EXAMINERS:

- A. The Board of Examiners shall be composed of voting and alternate representatives having the rank of Sandan or higher as provided in Article V, Letter E of these By-Laws. In all matters pertaining to promotions, vote is by rank. It may also include observers as provided.
- B. Powers to Promote: The Board of Examiners shall have the sole power through the jurisdiction of this organization to make and rule upon rank and proficiency awards and to determine rules of competition, subject however, to the provisions of the next section.
- C. Delegation of Powers: Unless and until otherwise decided by the USJF, the power to make and rule upon rank and proficiency awards within the jurisdiction of this organization shall include all ranks up to and including the rank of Godan (5th degree) black belt. Sixth Dan and higher may be recommended to the USJF. Nothing in the power of this organization shall conflict with national policies and directives.
- D. Duties - General: The duties and powers of the Board of Examiners shall include the following:
 1. To examine and rule on the technical qualifications of any group applying for membership and make recommendations to the Board of Governors.
 2. To designate or recommend to appropriate groups the members of judo teams and officials representing this organization in all competitions outside of its jurisdiction.
 3. To the extent permitted by agreement with other organizations, to declare or certify regional and organizational champions.

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4. Power to make Rules: Whenever applicable, the Board of Examiners shall promulgate rules establishing uniform procedures and standards on the matters set forth in letters B through D which shall have the force and effect when adopted by a majority vote of the Board and may be amended by majority vote on the Board at any duly called meeting.
5. Duties: The Board of Examiners shall elect a Chairman and Secretary and such other officers as it may deem necessary. The Chairman shall serve as Honorary Chairman of the Board of Governors. The Secretary shall take the minutes and file them with the Secretary of this organization and prepare a report on the activities of the Board for presentation at each of the meetings of the Board of Governors.
6. Promotion Sub-committee: While retaining its own authority, the Board of Examiners has established the following sub-committee to act on its behalf, with authority and responsibility as specified in the promotional procedures:
 - A. In all matters before the promotion sub-committee, each member of the committee shall cast vote equal to his registered judo rank.
 - B. All decisions and recommendations of the promotion sub-committee shall be subject to final approval by the Board of Examiners.

ARTICLE IX**DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS:**

- A. President: The President shall be vested with the executive authority and shall be Chairman of the Board of Governors, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Honorary Chairman of the Board of Examiners and unless otherwise qualified, shall be the Executive Editor of all organization publications and shall perform the ordinary duties of the office.
- B. First Vice President: The First Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President at such time as may be required by the absence or incapacity of the President. He/She shall be responsible for public relations, Junior Development, Tournament Director of a Konan Evaluation Shiai once a year and the relations of the organization with all other groups interested in judo.
- C. Second Vice President: The Second Vice-President shall co-ordinate regional activities and act as its official representative and act as its official representative at all Konan meetings. He/She shall be responsible for Chairman of the Women's Committee, Tournament Director of a Konan Evaluation Shiai once a year and the relationship of this organization with all other groups interested in judo in this area.
- D. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep a record of the meeting of the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee. Secretary shall issue notice at least forty-five (45) days prior to any function or event and perform other ordinary duties of the office or assigned by the President of these By-Laws.

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- E. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect and, under the direction of the Board, arrange for the care and distribution of all funds of the organization and the keeping of full and regular accounts which shall be open for the inspection of any member of the Board of Governors. The Treasurer shall present a financial report at each meeting and shall submit to the President an annual report within thirty (30) days after the end of each fiscal year. The Treasurer shall serve as Chairman of a Finance Committee.
- F. Organization Funds:
1. The funds of the organization, as required to pay its obligations, shall be disbursed by check that shall be drawn by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President or his designated representative. The funds to be deposited in the name of "Konan" (note just reformatted)
 2. Any individual to receive funding from Konan must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Must be a current member of Konan.
 - b. Must have been a contiguous member for the past two years.
 - c. Must be a member of a full benefit club. (10 members or more)
- G. Audits: The President, with the approval of the Board of Governors, shall just prior to the end of this term of office appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of the organization and certify the findings to the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE X**MEETINGS:**

- A. Time of meeting: The Board of Governors and Board of Examiners shall meet at least twice each year in advance of the National USJF meeting.
- B. Place and Notice: All meetings shall be rotated throughout the Konan area. The time and place of the meeting shall be announced at least forty-five (45) days in advance of the meetings.
- C. Arrangements: Unless otherwise provided at the preceding meeting, the host member club in whose area or facility the meeting is to be held shall constitute a committee on arrangements and shall be responsible for coordinating activities and facilities.
- D. Agenda: Any member of the Board may place before the Board any matter relating to the affairs or objectives of this organization, provided that at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting he submits a written notice to the Secretary describing specifically the matter he/she wishes to place before the Board and stating his proposal with respect to such matter. Matters so noticed approval of the Executive Committee.
1. The Executive Committee may place any matter on the agenda at any time, but this power shall not be construed as a limitation of Letter A of this section. Matters placed on the agenda by the Executive Committee shall require a three-fourths (3/4) approval of the Board for adoption.
 2. At least fifteen (15) days before each meeting the Secretary shall distribute to each voting and alternate member of both Boards a copy of tentative agendas. Items not on the agenda, unless the omission is due to an error of the Secretary or placed on the agenda by the Executive Committee, shall not be acted upon.

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- E. Credentials: The Executive Committee shall act as a committee on credentials to determine the qualification of each voting member and alternate to be seated at the meetings, and the votes that he/she possesses, either as voting representative, alternate or proxy. Only duly certified voting representatives, alternates and proxies shall be seated Alternates, Committee Chairman and members who have no vote to cast shall have the right to attend meetings as observers but shall have no right to be heard except in accordance with the agenda.
- F. Quorum: A Quorum at meetings of the Board of Governors shall be obtained if those seated are authorized to cast at least 50% plus one vote of the total votes on the Board.
- G. Votes: If a voting representative is not present, his/her votes shall be cast by his/her club's alternate. If there is no alternate present, the club's votes may be cast by another seated Board member who has that club's proxy.
- H. Proxy: A proxy must be in writing and signed by the Board member and may be tendered only to a recognized Board member from another club.
1. No member may cast more than three (3) proxy votes.
- I. Order of Business: The order of business at all meetings shall be as follows:
1. Seating of members and roll call votes
 2. Minutes of previous meeting
 3. Financial report
 4. Committee reports
 5. Special reports
 6. Unfinished business
 7. New Business
 8. Election of Officers (if scheduled)
- J. Parliamentary Authority: In the event of dispute, the latest edition of Robert's "Rules of Order" shall govern the proceedings at all meetings.
- K. Special Meetings: The Executive Committee shall have the power to call a special meeting of the Board of Governors for good and sufficient reason. Special meetings shall also be called by the President upon written request of 50% of the members of the Board of Examiners or member clubs. Such request shall state the reason for calling the special meeting.
1. The President shall determine the time and place for a special meeting with due regard to the convenience of the members calling for such meetings.
 2. Notice of special meetings shall be sent out by the Secretary at least seven (7) days in advance. Such notice shall specify the reasons for calling the meeting. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting that is not embraced within the scope of the reasons specified in the notice unless consideration of such business is first approved by 50% of the total vote of the Board of Governors.

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- L. Board of Examiners: The Board of Examiners shall, as far as practical, hold all meeting in accordance with the provision of these articles.

ARTICLE XI

MAIL OR ELECTRONIC VOTE:

- A. When a mail or electronic vote on any question shall be directed by the Board of Governors, the Board of Examiners or the Executive Committee, the Secretary shall mail or e-mail to each voting representative of the Board of Governors (or in the case of e-mail if the voting representative(s) do not have e-mail, he/ or she can designate someone as their official receiver of e-mail) a statement of the question to be voted upon and fix a reasonable time limit, not less than fifteen (15) days from the date of mailing, within which ballots shall be mailed for return.
- B. The ballots, (whether mail or electronic) received shall be counted by the Secretary unless otherwise directed by the Executive Committee. If properly marked ballots are received totaling at least one-third (1/3) of the total number of votes that can be cast, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the ballots received shall be the action or position of the organization.
- C. Each ballot shall bear a notice that it shall not be counted unless signed by the member casting the vote or in the case of electronic mail the Secretary shall accept as signed the e-mail coming from the official e-mail address and no ballot shall be counted unless so signed. Each ballot shall be presumed to count one vote unless otherwise indicated on the ballot.
- D. No alternates or proxies may vote by mail or e-mail.
- E. The Secretary shall make exact minutes of the question, the number of ballots received and the vote, all of which along with the ballots received, shall become a part of the records of this organization. The Secretary shall notify all members within one week of the results of the mail vote.
- F. The provisions of this Article, insofar as applicable, shall be followed in all mail votes taken of the member clubs.

ARTICLE XII

ADMISSION OF CLUB MEMBERS:

- A. To be eligible for membership, a club must submit proof of organization and complete such membership application as may be approved by the Executive Committee and file the appropriate fees.
- B. Eligibility for club membership shall be limited to those organizations devoting a substantial amount of activity to the promotion and development of judo and shall not necessarily be limited to non-profit organizations.

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- C. All applications for new or annual renewal of club memberships shall be processed by the Secretary subject to review by the Executive Committee. Membership may be denied by the Executive Committee to those club issuing ranks which are not recognized by the USJF or for just cause such as violation of the principles and spirit of judo.
- D. A club, to be eligible for membership, or be eligible for renewal of membership, shall have a minimum of ten active and registered members. Clubs failing to meet the minimum requirement may be retained as club members, but shall lose all right to voice in the organization.

ARTICLE X III

ADMISSION OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

- A. Admission of individual members shall be upon payment of the prescribed registration fees.

ARTICLE XIV

FEES AND ASSESSMENTS:

- A. Powers: The Board of Governors with the approval of the majority of the member clubs shall have the power to set and collect from the members, all fees, dues, and assessments required for conducting the affairs of this organization.
- B. Club Membership Fee: The annual club membership fee shall be \$35.00 payable on or before the first day of September of each year to the Treasurer.
- C. Individual Membership Fees: Annual individual membership fees and rank registration fees, for those who qualify, shall be as follows, payable by the member's club in the case of those members affiliated with clubs.

ANNUAL FEES

Effective April 1, 2001:

	USJF	Konan	Insurance	Club	Total
Seniors	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$35.00		\$50.00
Juniors	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$35.00		\$50.00
Life Member			\$35.00		\$35.00
Associate	\$10.00			\$5.00	\$15.00

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RANK REGISTRATION FEES:

	USJF	Konan	Total
Juniors		\$5.00	\$5.00
Seniors (Kyu)		\$10.00	\$10.00
Shodan	\$30.00	\$10.00	\$40.00
Nidan	\$40.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
Sandan	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$60.00
Yondan	\$60.00	\$10.00	\$70.00
Godan	\$70.00	\$10.00	\$80.00
Rokudan	\$80.00	\$10.00	\$90.00
Shichidan	\$90.00	\$10.00	\$100.00
Hachidan	\$100.00	\$10.00	\$110.00

PROMOTION EXAMINATION FEE:

	USJF	Konan	Total
All candidates		\$10.00	\$10.00

- D. Registration: Members clubs shall register the ranks and all changes of ranks for all members within their jurisdiction in accordance with registration procedures and shall annually pay the prescribed membership fees for all such registered members as provided in Letter C of this article.
- E. Failure to pay: Members in arrears in payment of fees shall not be entitled to any of the privileges, benefits, or rights of membership, including the right to register future promotions or the right to certify existing ranks of its members until all such arrears have been paid in full. In the case of individual members affiliated with club members, the responsibility rests with the member club and failure to register and make proper payments shall subject the club and those members affected to discipline by the Board of Governors.
- F. All annual fees, promotion fees, assessments and other obligations due the Association must be paid a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance before a member shall be eligible for promotion evaluation or consideration.

Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE XV

TERMINATION - TRANSFER - DISCIPLINE:

- A. Club Dissolution: Upon dissolution of a member club the Executive Committee shall take appropriate steps to ensure the continued registration and participation of the club members.
- B. Discipline: Any club or individual member may be expelled, suspended, place on probation, or otherwise disciplined for violation of the Constitution, by-laws rules or regulations duly adopted by this organization, or for conduct which disloyal to this organization, or is unbecoming to a judoka, or which tends to discredit Judo to this organization, or tends to impose upon, endanger, or mislead the public.
- C. Authority: The Executive Committee, by majority vote, shall bring charges but the authority to hear and make a determination of charges arising under Letter B of this Article XVI, shall be vested in the Board of Governors as provided in Article VI, letter D.
- D. Right of Hearing: No member may be disciplined without benefit of a hearing of which there shall be given at least fifteen (15) days notice, and no member so charged shall be required to travel more than 50 miles to any hearing except a hearing held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting.
- E. Presentation of Charges: It shall be the right of any member against whom any charges are preferred to be presented with a copy of the charges at least fifteen (15) days prior to any scheduled hearing. No other charges may be asserted or heard at the hearing. The charges shall be in sufficient detail to enable the member to prepare a defense.
- F. Board Vote: A two thirds (2/3) vote of Governors shall be required to uphold and charges which have been preferred.
- G. Appeal: The right to appeal shall lie only with the member or club concerned who, or which may, within 30 days of the original decision, petition the President for an appeal to the member clubs.
1. The appeal shall be heard by the member clubs who may, by a two third (2/3) vote, reverse or modify the decision of the Board of Governors. The action of the member clubs on appeal shall be final and binding and without further recourse.
 2. In all appeals to the Club members, each club shall have one vote.
- H. Assigning Rights: No membership, regardless of class may be assigned or transferred.
- I. Return of Property: Upon termination of membership for any reason whatsoever, each member agrees to return all property of the organization and cease forthwith all further use of any property or other rights of this organization, unless expressly authorized otherwise by the Board of Governors. Each member agrees not to indicate, directly or indirectly, affiliation with or recognition by this organization after termination of membership.

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J. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS – BOARD MEMBERS

1. In the event that any Officer or Board Member demonstrates a failure to perform their assigned duties, or in the event of the conviction of a felony, demonstration of malfeasance, or other mental or physical incapacity is found in any Officer or Board Member, that Officer or Board Member shall be subject to removal from all duties and responsibilities of their office.
2. In the event that removal of an Officer or Board Member is necessary for the reasons described in paragraph J 1, the President (or an Officer who sits on the executive committee) may commission a “Progression and Succession Committee” of at least two elected Officers and up to three additional persons (no more than 5 in total) to find a temporary replacement, serve written notice on the Officer or Board Member who is subject to removal of their immediate temporary removal, and replace the Officer or Board Member subject to removal proceedings with a temporary replacement.
3. The majority decision of this “Progression and Succession Committee” will be in full effect until the next regularly occurring Board of Governors meeting. This Committee may also propose changes in the roles and responsibilities of the position if needed.
4. At the next regularly occurring Board of Governors meeting following the installation of any temporary replacement by the “Progression and Succession Committee”, the Board must document the underlying causes for the removal, reach consensus on the need for the removal, need for legal remedy (if required), and enact a formal resolution attesting to these findings.
5. After formal resolution, the Board shall request an official resignation of the Officer or Board Member who was subject to the temporary removal, and if not received within seven business days, the Board of Governors shall have the unilateral right to extend the temporary removal and replacement until the completion of the next regularly scheduled election.

ARTICLE XVI

- A. The fiscal year of this organization shall be from September 1 to August 31.