

## **BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED BY THE USSF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **1. ADD Bylaw IV.12**

It is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees to protect the integrity of USSF elections. The Board of Trustees must prevent members from circumventing the election process or unethically altering the outcome of any USSF election, especially by enlisting non-participating members for the specific purpose of gaining votes. Any such unethical action may result in disciplinary action, including a possible lifetime ban from the USSF, subject to the Board's decision after a hearing.

### **2. AMEND Bylaw II.1.B.2.a.2**

a. Only Qualified members shall have voting rights in electing the members of the Board of Trustees, Officers, or in voting on such matters as may from time to time require a vote of the Membership. Each Qualified member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in all such matters.

### **3. AMEND Bylaw IV.2.B**

#### B. Eligibility

Each member of the Board of Trustees shall be a Qualified Member in good standing at the time of election.

### **4. ADD Bylaw V.1.G**

#### G. Eligibility

Each member of the Executive Committee shall be a Qualified Member in good standing at the time of election. Additionally, a President must have previously served a full term on the Executive Committee or one half-term on the Board of Trustees (that is, roughly 2 years) at the time of election and must have participated in at least 80% of conference calls in that time.

### **5. AMEND Bylaw IV.9**

Any decision of the Trustees may be overturned by petition, with the support of a simple majority of Qualified Members, within forty-five (45) days of the decision being announced.

### **6. ADD Bylaw II.1.B.2.f**

#### f. Qualified Member

Only a Senior USSF member with continuous membership in the three previous consecutive years may be a Qualified Member. Annual memberships expire at the end of each calendar year and must be renewed by the end of January in order to be considered continuous. The first year's duration may be less than a full year provided that the member enrolled prior to the end of that calendar year.

Prior to achieving the rank of shodan, during each year of membership leading up to Qualified Member status, and also thereafter (to retain continued Qualified Member status), the member must participate in at least one USSF-sanctioned event or recognized training camp—as a competitor, an official, or as essential staff, confirmed by the Tournament Director. Essential staff are persons serving an official and essential function in running the event, such as scorekeeper, registration coordinator, or announcer. This annual requirement is waived upon achieving shodan, per below. (Nevertheless, all USSF members are encouraged to participate in and support USSF-sanctioned tournaments and other events, on a regular basis. USSF members are also encouraged to participate in sumo training, to deepen their knowledge and ability.)

Upon achieving the rank of shodan, a Qualified Member whose membership lapses will, upon becoming a member again, retain Qualified Member status, without the standard three years of consecutive membership prerequisite. Further, upon achieving the rank of shodan (and becoming a Qualified Member), the requirement to participate in at least one USSF-sanctioned event or recognized training camp annually is waived.

Lifetime members are subject to the same standards as annual members regarding eligibility.

All current USSF members, as of July 21, 2020, are Qualified Members as long as their membership does not lapse and they participate in at least one USSF-sanctioned event or recognized training camp annually beginning in 2021—as a competitor, an official, or as essential staff, confirmed by the Tournament Director. Members who have previously achieved the rank of shodan are not required to participate in at least one USSF-sanctioned event or recognized training camp annually.

New members who are interested in contributing to the development of the federation but who are not yet qualified to vote or hold office are encouraged to contribute and learn more about federation leadership by serving on USSF committees.

## **7. AMEND Bylaw IV.10**

### Section 10. Amendments

The Board of Trustees shall have the power to amend these Bylaws upon majority vote after thirty (30) days previous notice, which may be sent via email, of the proposed amendment to all voting members of the Corporation.

## **8. ADD Bylaw X.11**

### Section 11. Definition of Written Notice

Any reference to "notice" or "written notice" herein shall be understood to include email. That is, email shall satisfy any requirement to provide "notice" or "written notice" in these bylaws.