



## **USJA Background Screening Policy**

### **Goals**

The goals of this policy are to protect our students and members by:

1. Preventing and dealing with sexual abuse;
2. Preventing interaction with sexual predators and sexual abusers;
3. Preventing interaction with individuals who may be a danger to USJA members
4. Insuring that those in leadership positions within the USJA and member dojos are in compliance with USJA Standards and Ethics.

### **Protocols**

A national screening agency shall be used to determine if any applicant for certification to be a coach, club instructor, referee, or black belts candidate for promotion to a rank of 1st dan or higher has a felony conviction for the following:

1. Crimes against children;
  2. Sex abuse, rape, or assault;
  3. Crimes of violence;
  4. Drug and alcohol crimes.
  5. Other felonies as determined by the Standards & Ethics Committee and the USJA Board of Directors.
- If charges have been brought against the candidate without a felony conviction of a pedophilia type nature, sanctions may apply.

### **Who Must Undergo Background Check/Screening**

The policy requires that ALL of the following individuals must undergo the USJA background Check/screening program:

1. All members of all USJA Committees;
2. All members of the Board of Directors and all Corporate Officers;
3. Applicants for instructor certification - both new and renewing;
4. Applicants for coach certification - both new and renewing;
5. Applicants for referee certification - both new and renewing;
6. Applicants for black belts promotions to any rank of 1st dan or higher;
7. All members claiming promotion points for coaching activities.

In order to implement this program, all members of all USJA Committees, all Members of the Board of Directors, and all Corporate Officers must undergo the USJA background check/screening program.

### **When to Apply For the Background Check/Screening**

1. ALL currently Members of the Board of Directors, all Corporate Officers, and all Members serving on Committees must undergo the USJA background check/screening program NOW.
2. Any time to have it in your records in anticipation of future certifications and/or promotions.
3. When applying for any black belts promotion (1st Dan or higher) and/or if applying for coaching or referee certification.

### **Exemptions and Other Provisions**

The screening is not necessary if one of the following apply:

1. Applicant is a minor; Unless applying for dan ranks.
2. Applicant has passed a SSCI screening within the last 2 years