

Wednesday, May 6th: Board Meeting Agenda

Welcome

A meeting of the board of directors of Judge Foundry was held on Wednesday, May 6th, 2026, at 8:01 p.m. Eastern Standard Time by videoconference. President Joe Klopchic presided. Vice President Khailyn Schaefer, Treasurer Tobias Vyseri, Director Rob McKenzie, and Secretary Ryan Wood were present. Meeting Opening Joe Klopchic called the meeting to order at 8:01pm. He verified that there is a quorum of board members present.

Meeting Minutes

[April meeting minutes](#)

Treasurer's Report

[Treasurer's Report](#)

Total Revenue 5,510.22
(website and mailchimp)
Total Expenditures \$154.54

Member Report

Joe Klopchic provided a report on the membership status of Judge Foundry.

Affiliate - 720 (138)
L1 - 288 (-97)
L2 - 139 (-34)
L3 - 25 (-5)
L4 - 8 (-1)
L5 - 15 (-1)
Total - 1195 (0)

Q&A

<https://apps.magicjudges.org/forum/14860/>

Question from Walker Metyko:

With the retirement of the Azorius Senate can judge foundry take steps to fill that void to make their discord have channels dedicated to studying, education, and level up?
ideally it would include:

Ryan: We appreciate what the Azorius Senate was to the Judge Foundry community, and it is a loss for the community. This server was intentionally separate to allow for the community to own

and run it. That said, we are open to someone wanting to use the Judge Foundry official server for this purpose. If anyone wants to volunteer and wants to discuss resources that we can provide, please email either ryan@judgefoundry.org or board@judgefoundry.org.

Question from Dennis Bradford:

What's the status of the election for a new Great Lakes RA? Has a date been set?

Ryan Sears has stepped away from being the Great Lakes RA. As a default Bprill will be filling the role until the next formal RA election.

Project Committee Reports

Conferences: Here is our update from the JF Conference Committee for the new process started in November of 2025. Since that time, we have helped sponsor and host seven conference, primarily connected to larger regional events across the US and Canada. Locations included: San Antonio, Calgary, Milwaukee, Dallas, Seattle, Berkley, and Vancouver. We had a few more applications as well that did not work out for the organizer to host them. We also supported a judge class for 16 classes in New Jersey, running weekly sessions on various rules and policy discussions. From our allocation, we've spent \$2364.71, and engaged 167 attendees, of which, 121 were or became Judge Foundry Members.

Our successes have been to bring judges together and give them some incentive to participate, learn, attend, and connect with judging, running events, and Judge Foundry's efforts. We could do better on supporting organizers, and will look to increasing support for them to make hosting a conference a valuable experience for them as well. We also are adjusting to have a bit more oversight of conference presentation topics, requiring slides and some review by both conference organizers and the committee. For that to work, we're also looking at recruiting more members for the committee, and so are opening a search to have more judges join the committee.

Testing and Update Exams: The team is transitioning to 4 set update quizzes a year (roughly one a quarter), instead of creating one for every set. Lorwyn/TMNT was the first product of this change. Furthermore, if you want to help the set update quiz team write questions or join the team itself, check out the article about this on the JF Website.

Project Grants: The grants team is still dedicated to spending all of Judge Foundry's money in a way that is both responsible and continues to fund judge projects. I am happy with the first 2 grants we approved, but my hunger to spend JF funds has not yet been sated and so we continue into Q2 2026. The pitfall we are primarily encountering is a lack of applications, much of our job will pivot towards soliciting grant applications for the remainder of Q2.

Organizational Bylaws: We are closing in on when we need bylaw changes to make voting easier. (There is a requirement for a 90 day warning before the member meeting for a lower vote threshold for changes.) If you want to propose a change, reach out to either Kyle Ryc (the head of the Bylaws Committee), or me. rob.mckenzie@judgefoundry.org

Judge Recruitment and Retention: The new recruitment and retention project is focused on building its core team, gathering information, and aligning its strategy to better support the wider judge community. In the near future we'll be launching an exit survey for judges departing the program as well as a way to gather feedback on under-served areas. If you're interested in taking part or know an area that is lacking judges for events please reach out to Chris via judge apps or discord.

Website: Not much movement here, I've been keeping it current and been updating links as needed.

Levels: Maintenance is complete and we had better numbers than last year, which is a bit expected.

L1 254/385 (66.10%)

L2 134/173 (77.15%)

L3 24/30 (80.10%)

L4 7/9 (77.18%)

L5 15/16 (93.18%)

The levels project has added Kyle Ryc to help accommodate panels, and is moving forward with a few applications for L4/L5.

New Business

Joe Klopchic moved that we adopt [Resolution 1 - Amending Judge Recruitment Charter](#). It was approved by all present members.

Joe Klopchic moved that we adopt [Resolution 2 - Allocate Funds for Community Project Grants Committee](#). It was approved by all present members.

Announcements

Announced five months from the next Board election. All proposed Amendments must be made at least 90 days in advance. Reminded Members to propose amendments to the Bylaws Committee before then.

It was announced that the Judge Foundry shop is closed at the time of announcement, and will open June 1st to July 31st 2026.

Explained it was time to take your Lorwyn/TMNT Set Update Quizzes.
Announced that the Review Contest had started, and for judges to write.

Reminded judges to write Exemplar Nominations. The window was open; it closed in 1 month 3 weeks from the date of the meeting.

Adjournment

Joe Klopchic adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm Eastern.

April Minutes Respectfully submitted by Secretary Ryan Wood.