

## Minutes of the Ju-Jitsu International Federation [ JJIF]

08 <sup>th</sup> Sep, 2024	05:00 PM – 08:00 PM (Abu Dhabi Time)	Online
Meeting called by	H.E. PANAGIOTIS THEODOROPOULOS, JJIF President	
Type of meeting	JJIF Board Member Meeting	
Note taker	Ms. Shiela Maglalang	
Attendees with voting right	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos- JJIF President</li> <li>2. Mr Nuvin Proag – JJIF Vice President - JJAFU President</li> <li>3. Ms. Sarah Stanton – JJPAU Vice President <i>[representing JJIF First President Gregory Vallarino]</i></li> <li>4. Mr Fahad Al Shamsi - JJAU General Secretary <i>[representing JJIF First Vice President Abdelmunem Al Hashmi]</i></li> <li>5. Mr. Christian Horvath - JJIF Board Member</li> </ol>	
Attendees with NO voting right	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Mr. Joachim Thumfart- JJIF Director General</li> <li>7. Mrs. Claudia Behnke - JJIF Sport Director</li> <li>8. Mr. Peter Schouten - JJIF Administration Director</li> </ol>	
Observers (invited)	9. Ms. Denise Krahn-Member of the JJEU Athletes Commission	

### 1. Welcome by the JJIF President

Mr. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos

JJIF President, Mr. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos, welcomed all the members present.

### 2. Roll call / Quorum / Minutes

Ms Claudia Behnke

5 Members with voting rights were present, and the quorum was declared adequate. The minutes of the last board meeting were approved.

### 3. JJAFU General Assembly

#### Discussion

The meeting discussed the recent successful meeting of the Jujitsu African Union, the upcoming African Championship, and the proposed changes to the JJAFU statutes. The new statutes include a bicameral structure for Africa, with a presidency and an executive board. Mr. Nuvin has proudly presented to the JJIF board the newly elected board members of the Ju Jitsu African Union. The upcoming African Championship was announced to be held from the 13th to 15th December in Marrakech, Morocco and the possibility of connecting it to a World Police Championship was discussed.

On the other hand, Mr. Fahad commended the Ju Jitsu African Union for a well-run assembly and election. He also emphasizes how hard they have worked to pursue the growth of jujitsu in Africa.

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## 4. World Championship 2024

Discussion	Mr Thumfart called on the decision of the board on allowing more participants per country in the divisions of Para jujitsu and inclusive self-defence at the World Championship 2024. Concerns were raised about separating Para jujitsu into different categories based on the number of participants and including local countries in the decision-making process.
Decision	5 of 5 approved allowing more participants per country in the divisions of Para jujitsu and inclusive self-defence at the World Championship 2024

## 5. Congress 2024

Discussion	<p>Mr. Thumfart spoke on the impending board elections and mentioned that they haven't receive any application for president so Mr. Theodoropoulos, the president at the moment, is running for reelection. He also included the election of ethics commission's members. He Also added that they also discussed about the athlete's representation of the board on how they can fix the election. He also added that Mr. Mario Dan Edel, former sport director, is invited as an honorary guest and Mr. Rinaldo Orlandi as honorary guest and Chief of Ethics Commission.</p> <p>Mr. Fahad also announce that OCA has appointed him as member of the Sport Commission. He emphasized sustaining the relationship with OCA to motivate NOCs' support for the JJF Federation. He highlighted jiu-jitsu's inclusion in OCA's sport program, providing funding for participants and coaches from Asia. The President, Mr. Panagiotis congratulated the Asian Union, stressing OCA's recognition's importance for developing jiu-jitsu regionally. He hoped other continents would follow suit in collaborating with their Olympic councils.</p> <p>The main topic of discussion was the proposed changes to the JJF statutes, which would remove the limitation on the number of terms a board member can serve. The changes were proposed to avoid potential conflicts and to allow for more flexibility in the election process.</p>
Decision	The board members agreed to consider the changes, with some expressing support for the proposed amendments.

## 6. Membership Requests

Discussion	<p>Mr. Joachim discussed recent membership requests, highlighting 4 out of 5 had NOC approval. He mentioned San Marino's link to the Italian NOC and Egypt's NOC and government recognition. Provisional membership for Azerbaijan and Hong Kong seemed viable. Mr. Christian questioned Hong Kong's company registration, which Joachim said was common in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Fahad discussed the upcoming OCA invitation program for Asian countries to determine NOC support. Joachim provided updates on Turkmenistan and Mali's growing compliance interest.</p>

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Decision	<p>The board has approved and granted the following countries a Provisional membership to JJIF.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. San Marino – NOC supported</li> <li>2. Hong Kong</li> <li>3. Libya – NOC supported</li> <li>4. Egypt – NOC supported</li> <li>5. Azerbaijan – NOC supported</li> </ol>
<b>7. Italy Agreement/ Mediterranean Open</b>	
Discussion	<p>Mr. President, discussed the agreement with Italy, recognizing it as a Ju Jitsu sport and merging two groups under one umbrella. By January 1<sup>st</sup> FIJLKAM shall be the official JJIF member representing Ju-Jitsu Italy. Mr. Theodoropoulos proposed organizing the Mediterranean Open in Italy, highlighting the country's jubilee year in 2025 and he also mentioned that it is also important to start working as Mediterranean group to introduce Ju jitsu for the potential to propose Ju jitsu as demonstrative sport in the next Mediterranean Games in 2026 in Italy. He also mentioned that they are expecting the stamp of Vatican for Ju Jitsu including in a bigger festival consisting of competition of Mediterranean Open and Youth Program with education programs for the coaches and referees a week before the Mediterranean Open. He also emphasized the importance of involving National Olympic Committees from Mediterranean countries, particularly those in Africa and Asia, in the event.</p>
<b>8. Montenegro Status</b>	
Discussion	<p>The board has discussed the financial issues faced by Montenegro, discussing that the Federation could be suspended or made to participate under a neutral flag. Dissatisfaction with the management of the Balkan Open, especially the financial intransparency emphasizing the need for explanations and details. The board members discussed the need for sanctions of officials involved in a recent incident, with a decision to be made after consulting with Mr. Robert Perc.</p>
Decision	<p>The board has agreed to communicate any decision before the end of registration for the world championships, emphasizing that sanctions shall hit the officials, not the athletes or the country as a whole.</p>
<b>9. CSIT Games 2025</b>	
Discussion	<p>Mr. Thumfart mentioned that they just got a contract proposal from the CSIT last week regarding with the project MoU under the sport for all. Mr. Christian details plan for the family-friendly CSIT Games in Greece in June 2025, with a focus on promotion via social media.</p>

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## 10. Para Ju-Jitsu - activities and MoU

### Discussion

Mr. Joachim informed the board that they already circulated the MoU which is the content accepted by the World Para Ju Jitsu Federation and as discussed and decided they can finally execute and hope for more to come. Mr Christian also shared that he has good conversation with the World Para Ju Jitsu Federation last month and informed hm that they are eager to join the JJIF competition and want to be part of JJIF. Mr. Joachim emphasizes full inclusion under JJIF's control, with Paralympic recognition through JJIF.

## 11. Event Management TD Team

### Discussion

Mr. Theodoropoulos discussed the importance of quality in event organization and proposed a committee of experienced individuals to oversee competitions, suggesting the possibility of including partners from other continents. (Annex\*\*\*) The team agreed on the need for a technical delegate team to support local organizers and decided to rewrite the document specifying their responsibilities. Concerns were raised about the lack of control over local organizers, and Mr. Theodoropoulos suggested having a pool of people to recommend stopping events if agreements are not followed. He also proposed starting Grand Prix and club competitions worldwide, requiring better organization. The team discussed the representation of the Technical Commission and the differences in the roles of sport directors across continents. They agreed on the need for a more structured approach to managing competitions, with a clear checklist and delegation of responsibilities. The president proposed having experienced individuals to handle issues, with clearly defined responsibilities in a document.

### Decision

It was agreed in building and enhancing the team, with a final meeting with the LOC and a Zoom call with Mr. Joachim and Ms. Claudia to finalize directions.

## 12. Grading Commission

Mr. Joachim mentioned that Mr. Paul Pawels, who was head of Grading Commission passed away due to cancer. He explained that the members of JJIF Grading Commission shall be reviewed and currently are only

- Dirk Schumeier
- Joachim Thumfart

## 13. Honorary Grading

### Discussion

Mr. Thumfart discussed awarding Maximo Arias from Chile for honorary 6<sup>th</sup> Dan JJIF.

### Decision

The Board agreed to grade Maximo Arias if the JJNO is compliant and he can be awarded in person

## Next Board Member Meeting October 24th Hybrid

The JJIF President addressed the board. He thanked all persons present for their participation and good discussions. The meeting was adjourned after that.

Online Meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

Approved by JJIF President Panagiotis Theodoropoulos

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