

Ju-Jitsu African Union JJAFU Statutes



Version 1.0

Valid from 13.07.2024



History of this document

Responsible:

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Version	Changes	
1.0	Complete review and renewal of statutes. Adopted by the extraordinary General Assembly 2024.	July 13 th 2024
1.0	Approved by the JJIF president	July 13 th 2024

These documents shall be deemed to be gender-neutral.

The terms he, him, and his shall be deemed to mean she, her and her when a person of the female gender occupies the position (officer, director, stakeholder or other) or otherwise when the context requires.

STATUTES FOR THE JU-JITSU AFRICAN UNION JJAFU

1.0 DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 Defined terms in the statutes of the Ju-Jitsu International Federation as approved on 25.04.16 ("JJIF Statutes") as may be amended from time to time shall have the same meaning in the present statutes.
- 1.2 The present statutes are based on Article 11 of JJIF Statutes.

2.0 NAME AND STATUS

- 2.1. The Ju-Jitsu African Union (JJAFU) shall be the African Ju-Jitsu Continental Union (JJCU) of the Ju-Jitsu International Federation ("JJIF"). JJIF is registered as a sports association in Switzerland under Swiss law with the Handelsregister Des Kantons Schwyz.
- 2.2. The JJAFU shall therefore conform with the JJIF Statutes, Rules, Regulations, Resolutions and Policies. In the event the JJAFU Statutes are silent on a particular matter, resort shall be had to the JJIF Statutes and to the principles therein.
- 2.3. In case of any inconsistency between the JJIF Statutes and the JJAFU Statutes, the JJIF Statutes shall have precedence to the extent of such inconsistency. JJAFU statutes and regulations are subordinate to the JJIF statutes
- 2.4. The JJAFU shall be a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization, under the authority of the JJIF Congress and the JJIF Executive Board.
- 2.5. The JJAFU must preserve its autonomy as against third parties and resist all vested pressures of any kind, including but not limited to any political, religious or economic pressures.
- 2.6. The office of JJAFU shall be at such place where the JJAFU Presidency may decide in consultation with JJIF. The office is regarded as a branch office of the JJIF headquarters: "JJIF office – AFRICA"
- 2.7. The official languages are French and English. Proceedings shall be held in English. Any person may speak in a language of his choice but must have the assistance of an interpreter. All documents must be in English or translated and certified by an interpreter.

3.0 MEMBERSHIP AND REGIONS

- 3.1. The JJAFU shall consist of Ju-Jitsu National Organisations (JNNOs) on the African continent which are already members of JJIF and which, at all times, maintain their membership with JJIF.
- 3.2. The JJAFU shall consist of five [5] Regions as provided in the JJIF Statutes and African Union Sports Council ("AUSC") statutes, namely: (1) North Africa (2) West Africa (3) Central Africa (4) Eastern Africa (v) South Africa.



4.0 EMBLEM AND FLAG

4.1 The emblem of the JJAFU is as follows *[must be redesigned with JJIF logo inside African map]*:



Colours: The colours shall be white, blue, orange, yellow with the JJIF logo in the map of Africa with the colours, black, blue, white and red.

4.2 The JJIF logo in the JJAFU emblem shall remain the sole property and intellectual property of the JJIF. The JJAFU shall comply with the JJIF Logo rules. JJAFU may register the JJAFU logo with the consent of JJIF with an Industrial Property Office in 1 or more countries in Africa. The JJAFU shall have the duty to protect its rights over the JJAFU emblem. However, the JJIF logo shall, at all times, remain JJIF's sole intellectual property.

5.0 OBJECTS, OBLIGATIONS, MISSION AND ROLE

5.1 The objects, obligations, mission and role of the JJAFU shall be:

- a) To develop, promote and protect the fundamental principles and values of the JJIF on the African continent in the fields of Ju-Jitsu and more generally martial art and self-protection as well as sport and education in accordance with the JJIF Statutes, JJIF Codes, Rules and Regulations;
- b) To further the mission, values and goals of the JJIF as provided in Article 4 of the JJIF Statutes and otherwise uphold and ensure compliance with the JJIF Statutes, JJIF Codes, Rules and Regulations in Africa;
- c) To encourage, organize, supervise and assist in the development of Ju-Jitsu events, including the African Championships, technical and referee seminars as well as sports for all;
- d) To adopt and implement and enforce the WADA Code and the JJIF Anti-Doping Rules;
- e) To take action against any form of illicit and unlawful discrimination and violence in sport and enforce the safeguarding principles;

- f) To promote fair play, tolerance, peace and understanding through and within sports and ethical values of sport in the broadest sense, in sport activities and in daily life.
- g) To encourage and support measures relating to the medical care and health of Ju-Jitsu athletes;
- h) To formulate proposals to the JJIF and participate in the composition and the activities of the JJIF commissions and committees;
- i) To submit a written annual report, including a financial report, to the JJIF Executive Board on their Ju-Jitsu developmental activities.
- j) To organize, supervise and assist in conjunction with the JJIF the African Championships once every year. The JJNOs of each region may organize regional events and competitions including open competitions.
- k) The JJAFU shall seek or maintain affiliation with the respective Continental Olympic Committees and other appropriate continental sports authorities and represent JJIF in these organisations.
- l) The JJAFU shall seek or maintain its inclusion in Continental Multi Sport events.
- m) The JJAFU can affiliate associations or other entities which are recognized by their Continental Olympic Committees and may take part in activities led or patronized by their Continental Olympic Committees or Continental sports authorities including Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), Association of African Sports Confederations (AASC) and the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) including continental and regional Games.

6.0 STRUCTURE

6.1 The JJAFU shall consist of 3 organs:

- a) The JJAFU General Assembly;
- b) The Presidency
- c) The Executive Board

7.0 THE JJAFU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 7.1 The highest organ within the JJAFU is the General Assembly with full powers to decide on the affairs and matters of the JJAFU.
- 7.2 The JJAFU General Assembly shall comprise of the delegates of the JJNOs. Only the JJNOs which are Full JJIF members (i.e which have full JJIF membership status) and which are fully compliant members, in particular, with respect to JJIF membership

financial obligations are eligible to participate and vote at the General Assembly. Provisional and non-compliant members may participate but not vote at the General Assembly.

Powers of the General Assembly

7.3 The powers of the JJAFU General Assembly shall include:

- a) Subject to (c) and (d) below in this sub-clause, to decide on, approve or ratify all matters submitted to it with a simple majority vote;
- b) To elect the President, members of the Presidency, except the Athletes' Representative, with a simple majority vote of the delegates present and entitled to vote;
- c) To remove the President or any members of the Presidency with a majority vote of at least 2/3 of the delegates present and entitled to vote at a duly convened General Assembly on a motion of no confidence upon a requisition of at least 50% of the Full Member JJNOs entitled to attend and vote. Should there be such a requisition, the Presidency shall convene an Extraordinary General Assembly within 30 days for such a purpose after receiving such a requisition;
- d) To adopt or amend the JJAFU Statutes with a majority vote of at least 2/3 of the delegates present and entitled to vote at a duly convened Extraordinary General Assembly.
- e) To appoint Honorary members and to withdraw such appointments;
- f) To approve or ratify budgets and financial reports

Proceedings of the General Assembly

- 7.4 The General Assembly is convened once every year and the electoral General Assembly shall be convened once in every four years. The Presidency decides on the date and venue of the JJAFU General Assembly.
- 7.5 The Presidency shall convene the General Assembly by giving the JJNOs, at least sixty 60 days prior notice. Items on the agenda shall include the annual reports and the calendar of activities and when relevant the election of the JJAFU Presidency.
- 7.6 Proposals for inclusion of items in the agenda must be sent to the Presidency [JJIF Office Africa] at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the General Assembly.
- 7.7 The final agenda for the General Assembly with the proposals submitted by the JJNOs shall be communicated by the Presidency at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the General Assembly, together with all relevant supporting documents.
- 7.8 An Extraordinary JJAFU General Assembly may be convened upon a request by the President or upon the written requisition of at least one third of the Full member JJNOs or in the case of a motion of no confidence to remove any Presidency Member upon a

requisition of at least 50% of the Full Member JJNOs.

The Presidency must convene such General Assembly within 30 days after receiving such a requisition.

- 7.9 Only items on the agenda may be discussed at the General Assembly. Additional items must be authorised by the President.
- 7.10 Each member JJNO may be represented by maximum two (2) delegates but is entitled to only one vote. The delegates must be members of the JJNO with right to represent the JJNO (as specified in the JJNO Statutes) and must be citizens or permanent residents of the country they represent. If the President is not personally present, any representative who should be a member of the JJNO must be duly mandated in writing to represent the President.
- 7.11 There shall be no quorum requirements at a duly convened General Assembly.
- 7.12 The JJAFU Presidency and Executive Board members shall attend the General Assembly and shall submit such reports or decisions which have to be approved or ratified.
- 7.13 The General Assembly may also be held or joined by means of audio and visual communication (videoconferencing) by which members participating can simultaneously hear and see each other throughout the meeting held, except for matters which have to be voted upon by secret ballot like the election of the JJAFU Presidency members and a motion of no confidence to remove any Presidency member unless the videoconferencing system allows for such secret voting.
- 7.14 The President shall preside over the General Assembly proceedings.
- 7.15 Prior to the commencement of the JJAFU General Assembly, a commission made up of two (2) persons (proposed by the President and approved by the General Assembly by a simple majority vote) shall verify the credentials of each participating JJNO delegate; the same 2 persons shall also act as the ballot scrutinizers. In the electoral General Assembly, these 2 persons must not be delegates from JJNOs presenting candidates for election to the Presidency, unless this is impossible to comply with.
- 7.16 In the event of a tie in the voting of decisions, the President shall have the casting vote.
- 7.17 The JJAFU President decides the number and the duration of the speeches allowed and allocated to the JJNO delegates.
- 7.18 The General Assembly is private. External parties may be invited to attend and speak subject to approval of the JJAFU President.

Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the General Assembly are prepared by or under the authority of the General Secretary and shall be communicated to all JJAFU members in a timely manner.

8.0 THE PRESIDENCY AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

8.1 Presidency ELECTED by General Assembly (voting members)

- President
- Senior (1st) Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- 3rd Vice President

1 athlete ELECTED by JJAFU Athletes' Commission (voting member)

- 1 Athlete

Appointed members by the President after consultation with Vice-Presidents with no voting right in Presidency

- General Secretary
- Sports Director

They may also be revoked in the same manner i.e by the President after consultation with Vice-Presidents.

8.2 The members of the Presidency with the right to vote cannot be:

- a. Citizens or permanent residents of the same country; (except for the athlete)
- b. Spouses whether married civilly or living as spouses or first-degree relatives;
- c. Associates or partners in the same or related business organizations;
- d. In an employer-employee relationship.

8.3 The Presidency may, as it deems fit, appoint Commissions and the Chairpersons / Directors of such other Commissions shall be ex officio, non-voting members of the Executive Board.

Their appointment may also be terminated by the Presidency.

8.4 Executive Board APPOINTED by the Presidency and APPROVED by General Assembly¹

- 5 Executive Board members

The Executive Board members assist the Presidency in its tasks and duties and some or all members are convened to meetings of the Presidency as and when necessary having regards to the responsibilities assigned to each Executive Board member.

Their appointment may also be terminated by the Presidency.

¹ A number of appointed board members with specific tasks (JJ4G, Para, ...) and to balance the gender ratio minimum 30% recommended 50%

Presidency Elections and Terms of Offices

- 8.5 The voting members of the Presidency i.e The President and 3 Vice-Presidents except for the Athlete are elected by the General Assembly for a period of office of four (4) years, by a simple majority of the votes cast by delegates attending and entitled to vote.
- 8.6 The Athlete shall be elected in accordance with the JJIF athletes commission statutes.
- 8.7 Any member of a JJNO having Full JJIF member status and being fully compliant and of good standing is eligible to stand as a candidate for election to any position in the JJAFU Presidency, provided that his / her candidature is supported by his JJNO. Proof of such support must be submitted in writing signed by the JJNO President and Secretary General along with the candidature application.
- 8.8 Only Full Member compliant JJNOs have the right to nominate candidates to the elected positions in the JJAFU Presidency and to vote.
- 8.9 Persons who have:
 - (i) been convicted of any offence involving dishonesty, hate crimes, sexual related offences and serious assault;
 - (ii) have been suspended or banned by JJIF;
 - (iii) have been suspended or banned under the WADA Code or JJIF Anti-Doping Rules shall be ineligible to stand as candidates. The persons convicted under (a) shall become eligible 5 years after the period of conviction. The persons under (b) and (c) shall become eligible immediately after the period of suspension or ban.
- 8.10 The Secretary General shall inform the JJNOs in writing of the elections and the elections process at least 60 days before the electoral General Assembly. Nominations of candidates for positions in the Presidency or Executive Board shall be submitted to the Secretary General at least 30 days prior to the elections (together with the support letter of his JJNO). No submission of candidature beyond the 30-day deadline will be accepted. The Presidency shall communicate the list of candidatures 15 days prior to the elections.
- 8.11 In case there is more than 1 candidate to a position, there shall be several rounds of voting as may be necessary. The candidature with the least number of votes will be removed until there are 2 candidatures remaining. The Presidency must be elected with 50% (+1) of the votes.
- 8.12 The JJAFU shall invite an authorised JJIF delegate to observe its electoral General Assembly. The JJIF delegate has the right to fully participate in the debate at the General Assembly with no right to vote. JJAFU or the host JJNO shall pay the travel and accommodation costs of the said JJIF delegate.
- 8.13 A JJAFU Presidency or Executive Board member whose JJNO is suspended or expelled by JJIF Board or Congress immediately loses his position as Presidency or Executive Board member.

Powers of the Presidency

- 8.14 The affairs of the JJAFU shall be managed by, or be under the direction or supervision of, the Presidency. The Presidency shall have all the powers necessary for managing, and for directing and supervising the management of the ordinary affairs of the JJAFU.
- 8.15 In the exercise of its powers, the Presidency shall observe the principles of good governance and transparency. It shall also observe the principles of natural justice i.e the principle that a person has a right to be heard and defend himself before an impartial body.
- 8.16 The powers of the Presidency include:
- 8.17 The adoption, enforcement and implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the JJAFU General Assembly;
- 8.18 The preparation of the agenda for the JJAFU General Assembly;
- 8.19 The monitoring, enforcement, observance and compliance with the JJIF Statutes, JJAFU Statutes and regulations of IOC and any other relevant sports authority.
- 8.20 JJAFU General Assembly, Presidency or its Executive Board cannot suspend or terminate the membership of any JJNO or otherwise take any disciplinary measure against the JJNO but may propose such action to the JJIF Board and the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with the JJIF Statutes.
- 8.21 Overarching tasks like Competition Rules, Grading, Licensing for Referee and coaches, Media and Marketing, Scheduling of Calendar are managed by JJIF and coordinated in close cooperation.
- 8.22 The Presidency has the right to delegate further tasks and authorities to the JJIF HQ and the JJIF Office Africa.

Proceedings of the Presidency

- 8.23 The JJAFU Presidency may meet as often as may be necessary and shall be convened by the President or by the Secretary General at the request of the President by giving at least 10 days' notice to the Presidency members. On urgent matters, the meeting may be convened by giving 5 days' notice. Members may also waive notice. A majority of the members of the Presidency may also requisition the President to convene a Presidency Meeting with an agenda and the President shall do so as soon as practicable.
- 8.24 JJAFU Executive Board members and Ex-officio non-voting members may be convened as and when necessary.
- 8.25 Meetings may also be held by means of electronic media (videoconferencing) by which members participating can simultaneously be heard and/or seen throughout the meeting.
- 8.26 There shall be no quorum requirements for a duly convened meeting.
- 8.27 At meetings, decisions are taken by majority vote of voting members present and entitled to vote.

- 8.28 The President shall have a casting vote in case of a tie on any decision being voted upon.
- 8.29 Decisions may also be taken by the unanimous written resolution of the voting members of the Presidency which can be circulated by electronic means (email, WhatsApp or any other electronic means).
- 8.30 When the Athlete is not able to attend, he/she may appoint another member from the JJAFU Athletes Commission to participate at the JJAFU Presidency meeting with all rights, associated to Athlete's position in the Presidency (including the right of vote).

9.0 THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 9.1 The President represents the JJAFU at all times and presides over all its activities.
- 9.2 The President may take any action or decision on behalf of the JJAFU on urgent matters when circumstances prevent such decision from being taken by the JJAFU Presidency. The President shall as soon as reasonably practicable inform the other members of Presidency and submit such decision for ratification. If the decision is not ratified by the Presidency, the decision shall be annulled in so far as it is reversible.
- 9.3 The Senior 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President and the 3rd Vice-President shall generally assist the President in his duties and in case of absence of the President, they shall replace the President in order or rank and exercise the same powers and rights, and assume the same responsibilities as those of the President.
- 9.4 The President and the Vice-Presidents may decide among themselves on the sharing of the tasks for the proper management of JJAFU.

10.0 THE SECRETARY GENERAL

10.1 The Secretary shall:

- a) work in close collaboration with the President and generally assist the President in his duties;
- b) convene all meetings of the Presidency and General Assembly;
- c) draw up the minutes of proceedings of all meetings or arrange that they be drawn up under his authority and supervision;
- d) have the custody of the records of the JJAFU at the JJIF-Office Africa.

11.0 COMMENCEMENT

- The present JJAFU Statutes shall come into force on 13 July 2024, subject to its adoption at the JJAFU General Assembly and approval of the JJIF Executive Board.
- Any amendment to the present Statutes shall come into force after adoption by a JJAFU General Assembly and approval by the JJIF Executive Board whichever is the later.