

Minutes of the Ju-Jitsu International Federation [JJIF]

22 nd of February, 2026	05:00 PM – 06:05 PM (Abu Dhabi Time)	online
Meeting called by	H.E. PANAGIOTIS THEODOROPOULOS, JJIF President	
Type of meeting	JJIF Board Members Meeting	
Notetaker	Kostiantyn Pavlenko	
1. Roll call		
Attendees with voting right	<p>Present at the beginning of the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos – JJIF President 2. Fahad Al Shamsi – JJAU General Secretary <i>[representing JJIF Senior Vice-President, JJAU President Abdelmunem Al Hashmi]</i> 3. Michael Korn – JJIF Vice President, JJEU President 4. Nuvin Proag – JJIF Vice-President, JJAFU President 5. Elcirley Luz Silva – Board Member - Inclusive Sport & Para Ju-Jitsu 6. Christian Horvath-Portele – JJIF Board Member, JJ4GOOD Commission 7. Dmytro Pernykoza – Board Member, Athletes Commission 	
Attendees with NO voting right	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Joachim Thumfart – JJIF General Director 9. Peter Schouten – JJIF Administration Director 10. Kostiantyn Pavlenko – JJIF HQ Manager 	
2. Quorum		
	Joachim Thumfart	
At the commencement of the meeting, seven (7) out of ten (10) Board Members with voting rights were present meeting the quorum requirement.		
3. Welcome by the JJIF President		
	Panagiotis Theodoropoulos	
JJIF President Theodoropoulos, opened the meeting, welcomed all participants, and extended his best wishes for the day. He then invited the Board to proceed with the review of the agenda items.		
4. Accounting Policy and Chart of Accounts		
	Joachim Thumfart, Kostiantyn Pavlenko	
Discussion	<p>General Director Thumfart introduced the topic and invited Mr. Pavlenko to present. Mr. Pavlenko explained that the accounting policy and chart of accounts were prepared in line with IOC expectations, IFRS, and ISA. The document establishes a fundamental framework applicable to non-profit organizations. Enhancements include detailed expense categorization (per diems, travel, allowances, etc.); improved cost center allocation and enhanced analytical and budgeting capabilities. Internal auditors reviewed the document and provided only one comment. No further comments or objections were raised.</p> <p>Geneneral Director Thumfart informed that full 2025 expenses are not yet finalized due to transition to the new chart of accounts. Financial statements will be restructured accordingly for presentation at the next meeting.</p>	
Discussion	With 7 (seven) out of 7 (seven) Board Members voting in favour, the Board approved the adoption of the Accounting Policy and the enhanced Chart of Accounts. The final 2025 financials will be presented at the next Board meeting under the new accounting structure.	

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5. Application JJIF Athlete Status [UKR]

Discussion	The General Director Thumfart introduced the case, noting that the application had previously been postponed due to the absence of support from the Ukrainian Federation, which has now confirmed that it has no objection. The Board discussed the athlete's status as a minor, permanently residing in Germany without German citizenship, and therefore unable to represent Germany. The concept of displaced athlete status was highlighted as a mechanism to address such transitional situations, noting that neutral athletes do not affect national quotas. It was confirmed that the athlete meets all criteria under the applicable federation policy, with the prior lack of federation support now resolved. The President emphasized the need for a humanitarian approach in light of the circumstances affecting Ukrainian athletes and confirmed that the Ukrainian Federation's non-objection is sufficient for consideration.
Decision	With 6 (six) out of 7 (seven) Board Members voting in favour and 1 (one) against, the Board decided to grant Ukrainian citizen JJIF athlete status for a period of one year, subject to review.

6. Request for Participation of Non-Cypriot Residents as JJIF Athlete

Discussion	The General Director introduced the agenda item concerning a request for participation by a group of 18 non-Cypriot resident athletes of mixed nationalities, including Russian, Ukrainian, Kazakh, and Polish, currently residing in Cyprus. He explained that the group originally consisted of 20 athletes but was reduced due to visa constraints, that most of the athletes are minors, and that none have confirmed refugee status, having relocated voluntarily. Mr. Pavlenko added that the athletes have actively participated in the Cyprus National Championships and achieved competitive results. President Theodoropoulos reaffirmed the general principle of supporting athletes but noted that such cases are becoming increasingly complex in light of global migration trends. Concerns were raised regarding the eligibility of certain athletes, who may not qualify as displaced and may be seeking neutral status without sufficient justification, as well as the inclusion of adult athletes alongside minors. It was further noted that some athletes, including EU nationals, clearly do not meet the criteria for displaced status. Procedural concerns were highlighted regarding the absence of individual application forms, with emphasis that a simple list of names is insufficient for informed decision-making. The potential impact on relations with National Federations and the risk of creating imbalance or unfairness were also discussed. Clarifications were provided that, under JJIF rules and Olympic principles, athletes must compete under their nationality as stated in their passport, and that voluntary relocation does not automatically justify neutral or displaced athlete status. The President concluded that proper individual applications with clear justification are required, and that further investigation is necessary, including verification of each athlete's legal and residency status.
Decision	The Board agreed to postpone consideration of the request pending submission of complete documentation and further review.

7. JJIF Calendar 2026

	Joachim Thumfart
Discussion	The General Director presented an update on the 2026 competition calendar, which has been shared via the federation website and Google Calendar. He noted that calendar coordination was challenging due to late submissions and limited communication, resulting in several event overlaps, including the Pan-American Championship coinciding with the

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Discussion	<p>Youth World Championship. While some overlaps with externally organized events are unavoidable, he emphasized the need for improved coordination and earlier communication with the Technical Commission and the Board. The General Director outlined the main planned events for 2026 and confirmed that the term “World Cup” will be replaced by “JJF Cup” from 2027. He proposed including a regular calendar update as a standing agenda item at Board meetings.</p> <p>The Board took note of the information and acknowledged the need for improved planning and communication.</p>
8. JJIF Fighting Rules 2026	
Joachim Thumfart, Christian Horvath-Portele	
Discussion	<p>The General Director informed the Board that an open consultation meeting on JJ Fighting Rules was held, which proved to be structured, constructive, and effective. He reported that valuable proposals were received and have been referred back to the relevant committee for further refinement, with the aim of presenting a revised draft to the Board for consideration of its implications and consequences. Positive feedback was received from participants, who appreciated the transparent and inclusive approach to the rule-development process.</p> <p>Mr. Horvath-Portele confirmed similar feedback and commended the leadership of the meeting, noting its constructive and well-moderated nature.</p> <p>The Board acknowledged the update and supported continuing this open and structured consultation approach, with final decisions to be taken by the Board in accordance with established governance guidelines.</p>
Next Board meeting is planned for April 19 th , 2026.	
<p>The JJIF President thanked all members for the fruitful meeting and confirmed that the next Board meeting will take place on 19th of April. The meeting was officially adjourned.</p>	

Online Meeting, 22nd of February 2026

Minutes by Kostiantyn Pavlenko

Approved by JJIF President Panagiotis Theodoropoulos

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