



# JJIF Ju-Jitsu International Federation

JJIF Registered Office: c/o Limus Bruhin, Leutschenstrasse 9, CH 8807 Freienbach, Switzerland  
JJIF Headquarter: P.O. Box 110006, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Capital Tower, ADNEC Area,) [mail@jjif.org](mailto:mail@jjif.org)

## Minutes of the Ju-Jitsu International Federation (JJIF) Congress Meeting

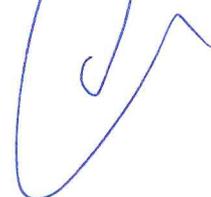
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	11:00 AM- 01:30 PM (Bangkok Time)
Meeting Called By	PANAGIOTIS THEODOROPOULOS, JJIF President
Type of meeting	Congress
Note-taker	Mr. Kostiantyn Pavlenko

### Attendees with Voting Rights (33 present with voting rights)

	FEDERATION	POSITION	NAME
1	AUSTRALIAN JUJITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	DAVIS SAM
2	AUSTRIAN JIU-JITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	HORAK ROBERT
3	JIU-JITSU BAHRAIN FEDERATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	JANAHI AHMED
4	BANGLADESH JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_PRESIDENT	AHSAN NADIRA
5	BELGIAN JU-JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	GHIKAS VASSILIS
6	CANADIAN JIU JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_PRESIDENT	ISAACS DAVID
7	TAIWAN JIU JITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	TSAI KUN LONG
8	FEDERACION COLOMBIANA DE JIU-JITSU	REPRESENTATIVE	LUGO ALEJANDRA
9	CROATIAN JU-JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	LANSCAK LUKA
10	DANISH JUDO AND JU-JITSU UNION	REPRESENTATIVE	TOBIASEN CLAUS
11	DEUTSCHER JU-JITSU VERBAND E.V.	REPRESENTATIVE	RIDDER MARKUS
12	GREAT BRITAIN JUJITSU	NF_PRESIDENT	MCGARRY MICHAEL
13	JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION OF INDIA	NF_PRESIDENT	JOSHI VINAY KUMAR
14	INDONESIA JU JITSU FEDERATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	ARBA MAHESA
15	JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	NF_PRESIDENT	ROSTAMIAN MOHAMMADHASSAN
16	IRAQI JU-JITSU. SAMBO and KURASH FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	MOKHLES HASAN ALBU-MOHAMMED
17	FEDERAZIONE JU JITSU ITALIA	REPRESENTATIVE	QUENZA DARIO
18	KAZAKHSTAN JIU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_PRESIDENT	SAGIYEV KUAT
19	JIU-JITSU ASSOCIATION OF KOREA	NF_PRESIDENT	OH JUN HYUK
20	MAURITIUS NATIONAL JU-JITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	PROAG TRILOK KUMAR (NUVIN)
21	FEDERACION MEXICANA de JIU JITSU	REPRESENTATIVE	SALGADO TOMAS
22	NORWEGIAN MARTIAL ARTS FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	JENSEN GEIR
23	JIU JITSU FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES	NF_PRESIDENT	AGUSTIN FERDINAND
24	FEDERAÇÃO DE JU-JITSU E DISCIPLINAS ASSOCIADAS DE PORTUGAL	REPRESENTATIVE	CARRIL FABIO
25	RUSSIAN JU JITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	KUKOVEROV GEORGII
26	SAUDI JIU JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	ALFEHAID RAKAN
27	SWEDISH JU JITSU FEDERATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	BERGDAHL BERTIL
28	JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION of THAILAND	NF_PRESIDENT	CHANCHAI SUKSUWAN
29	TURKISH MUAYTHAI and JUJITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	YILDIZ HASAN
30	SINGAPORE JU JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_PRESIDENT	KOTHAGODA HENRY
31	UAE JU JITSU FEDERATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	SALEM AL DHAHER MOHAMMED
32	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION JU-JITSU OF UKRAINE	NF_PRESIDENT	RUBTSOV LEONID
33	FEDERACION URUGUAYA de JIU JITSU	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	CORTAZZO MARIA CECILIA

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<b>Attendees with No Voting Rights/Observers</b>		
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF PRESIDENT	THEODOROPOULOS PANAGIOTIS
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJAU Gen. Secretary, Representing JJIF Vice President, President of JJAU Abdenmunem Al Hashmi	AL SHAMSI FAHAD ALI
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF Vice President - President of JJEU	MICHAEL KORN
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF Vice President - President of JJPAU	VALLARINO GREGORY
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF Vice President - President of JJAFU	PROAG TRILOK KUMAR (NUVIN)
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF BOARD MEMBER	SILVA LUZ ELCIRLEY
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF BOARD MEMBER	HORVATH-PORTELE CHRISTIAN
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	JJIF BOARD MEMBER	LKHAGVANYAM NYAMDAAVA
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	GENERAL DIRECTOR	THUMFART JOACHIM
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR	SCHOUTEN PETER
JU JITSU INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	HEADQUARTERS	PAVLENKO KOSTIANTYN
BANGLADESH JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	REPRESENTATIVE	AHMED MUKTA
FEDERATION CAMEROUNAISE DE JU JITSU ET DA	NF_PRESIDENT	BOAENSEN JEAN HUBERT
CANADIAN JIU JITSU ASSOCIATION	REPRESENTATIVE	BOWEN RYAN
TAIWAN JIU JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	HSU HSUAN-WEI
BANGLADESH JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	REPRESENTATIVE	ISLAM MD_AMINUL
BANGLADESH JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	REPRESENTATIVE	RAHAMAN MD_AREFUR
HONG KONG JIUJITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_SECRETARY	LEE HO-KONG
JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION OF INDIA	REPRESENTATIVE	ARORA AMIT
KAZAKHSTAN JIU-JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_SECRETARY	ARAPBAEV NURZHAN
MAURITIUS NATIONAL JU-JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	VEDONTA PROAG
MYANMAR JIU-JITSU FEDERATION	NF_PRESIDENT	OO THANT ZIN
SAUDI JIU JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	ORFALI ANASS
SWEDISH JU JITSU FEDERATION	REPRESENTATIVE	BACK TOBIAS
JU-JITSU ASSOCIATION of THAILAND	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	LERTTAWEEWIT PATHOM
TURKISH MUAYTHAI and JIUJITSU FEDERATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	ELMAS HULISI
SINGAPORE JU JITSU ASSOCIATION	NF_VICE-PRESIDENT	TEO HOON TONG KEVIN
SLOVAK ASSOCIATION of SPORT JIU JITSU	NF_PRESIDENT	SEVCIK MIROSLAV
SLOVAK ASSOCIATION of SPORT JIU JITSU	REPRESENTATIVE	FASIANOK LUBOMIR
<b>Guests</b>		
AIMS	PRESIDENT	FOX STEPHAN
JJAU	REPRESENTATIVE	MATROSOVA LIUBOV
JJIF	REPRESENTATIVE	KING OLIVER
HAGEN-BOSSDORF.DE	REPRESENTATIVE	BOSSDORF HAGEN
SCHEIBER CONSULTING	REPRESENTATIVE	SCHEIBER EMMANUEL

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<b>1. Opening remarks by the JJIF General Director.</b>	
	<b>Mr. Joachim Thumfart</b>
<p>Mr. Thumfart, in his capacity as General Director, facilitated the Congress proceedings and requested a moment of silence to honor the mourning of the Kingdom of Thailand and to pay tribute to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, The Queen Mother of Thailand, who passed away in October 2025.</p> <p>Mr. Thumfart further requested that a moment of silence be observed in tribute to JJIF Hall of Famer Mr. Heinz Lamade, who passed away earlier this year.</p>	
<b>2. Welcome Speech by the President of JJIF</b>	
	<b>Mr. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos</b>
<p>Welcomed the delegates and guests present at the Congress.</p>	
<b>3. Welcome speech by the President of Ju-jitsu Association of Thailand</b>	
	<b>Mr. Chanchai Suksuwan</b>
<p>As the host of this year's World Championship, extended a warm welcome to all delegates and guests and expressed best wishes for a successful and memorable event.</p>	
<b>4. Speech by the President of AIMS</b>	
	<b>Mr. Stephan Fox</b>
<p>As a guest speaker, Mr. Fox welcomed the delegates, acknowledged the significance of Ju-Jitsu as an emerging international sport, and emphasized the great potential for JJIF to secure its rightful place among IOC-recognized sports.</p>	
<b>5. Appointment of Scrutineers to verify credentials.</b>	
<b>Discussion</b>	Mr. Thumfart, requested nominations for two scrutineers to oversee credential verification. Ms. Liubov Matrosova, Mr. Fabio Carril and Mr. Oliver King were suggested.
<b>Conclusion</b>	The scrutineers were appointed as proposed.
<b>6. Roll call and Right to Vote</b>	
<b>Conclusion</b>	Mr. Joachim Thumfart has carried out the roll call and attendance. It has been confirmed that the JJIF Congress was attended by representatives with voting rights from 33 national federations across all continents.
<b>7. Adoption of the Congress agenda</b>	
<b>Discussion</b>	The agenda, comprising activities, financial reports, statutes, ethics, strategy, technical matters, membership, calendar, continental reports, and closing, was presented to the members. Mr. Thumfart, invited comments and inquired whether any additional proposals were to be made or if the assembly was prepared to approve the agenda as presented.
<b>Decision</b>	The Congress accepted the presented agenda unanimously, with all 33 votes in favor.
<b>8. Report on JJIF Activities for the Period 2024-2025</b>	
<b>Multi-Sport Events</b>	
<p><b>The CSIT World Sports Games</b> (from 3 to 8 June, 2025, Loutraki, Greece) – a biennial international grassroots multi-sport event focused on amateur sport, cultural exchange, and community building. The Games emphasize participation, education, and friendship rather than elite performance, combining sporting competitions with cultural and social activities. Ju-Jitsu under JJIF was included as part of this major grassroots multisport event, involving over 5,000 athletes across approximately 100 sports. The JJIF competitions comprised of Ju-Jitsu Fighting, Duo, and Show disciplines, with Youth and Master categories (top elite level excluded). In addition to competitions, the JJIF programme included Duo System special workshops, training sessions and competitions; "Ju-Jitsu for All" workshops, training and seminars.</p>	

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**AIMS Mediterranean Festival** (from 13 to 15 June, 2025, Ostia (Rome), Italy) – marked a significant milestone as the first JJIF Grand Prix event in the Mediterranean region, organized in collaboration with FIJKAM and under the auspices of the JJIF within the AIMS Mediterranean Festival 2025 framework. Hosted alongside the AIMS Mediterranean Festival, the Grand Prix combined elite sport with cultural exchange, celebrating Mediterranean spirit and international friendship while reinforcing the strategic development of Ju-Jitsu in the region. The competition attracted a high level of international participation, with over 860 athletes from approximately 25 nations and 55 Italian clubs competing across the full range of JJIF disciplines including Fighting System, Duo System, Show System, Jiu-Jitsu, Para Jiu-Jitsu, and Inclusive Self Defence, covering age categories from U12 through Masters.

**World Police and Fire Games** (from 27 June to 6 July, 2025, Birmingham, USA) – the event brought together first responders from law enforcement, fire services, corrections and emergency response professions. JJIF participation, limited by Jiu-Jitsu Gi and No-Gi disciplines, reached record levels, with nearly 490 entries from 24 countries, demonstrating strong global engagement and the importance of Ju-Jitsu within the first-responder sports community. The competition featured age, experience and weight divisions in accordance with JJIF-aligned guidelines, promoting broad inclusion and competitive fairness across all levels of participants.

**The World Games 2025** (from 10 to 12 August, Chengdu, PRC) – as part of the 12th edition of the Games organized by the International World Games Association (IWGA) with technical oversight and sanctioning by the Ju-Jitsu International Federation (JJIF). The programme comprised 19 events across Fighting, Duo and Jiu-Jitsu (Ne-Waza) disciplines, including expanded para ju-jitsu events for athletes with physical, mental and visual impairments, marking an important step in inclusiveness for the sport. A total of 39 countries qualified for the Ju-Jitsu competition, with 37 nations ultimately participating in Chengdu, reflecting extensive global engagement throughout JJIF qualification pathways. Athletes from 25 different countries from three continents achieved podium finishes, and 14 national federations secured gold medals, underscoring the wide competitive spread at this major multisport event. The inclusion of Para Ju-Jitsu Inclusive Self-Defense events brought additional competitive and developmental opportunities, advancing JJIF’s commitment to accessibility and diversity in competition. The competition garnered significant media and social engagement, including notable re-posts of a Mexico team video clip with over 47,000 shares, and high-visibility reports and special postings by the IWGA, SportsIn and UTS platforms, contributing to broader awareness of Ju-Jitsu at the World Games.

## JJIF Event

**The JJIF World Championship 2024** (from 21 October to 4 November, 2024, Heraklion, Greece) – was held as the Federation’s flagship global event, comprising 14 days of competition across multiple disciplines and age categories under JJIF governance. The championship brought together approximately 3,050 participants from 60 countries, reflecting one of the largest events in JJIF history and demonstrating the continued global growth and competitive depth of sport ju-jitsu.

## JJIF Sustainability

The Congress was informed of the need to strengthen sustainability integration within JJIF activities and events. It was noted that sustainability actions, including Earth Week engagement and structured reporting, were limited in 2024 and should be addressed proactively for 2025. In line with practices adopted by other international federations, the proposal includes initiating carbon footprint assessments linked to JJIF events (athletes, officials, delegates and travel), with a view to identifying impact and proposing compensation and mitigation measures.

It was further proposed to introduce a dedicated sustainability session (30–60 minutes) following the General Assembly, similar to previous thematic congress initiatives, and to integrate short sustainability briefings into Congress activities and meetings with athletes and coaches. These actions aim to raise awareness, demonstrate JJIF’s alignment with global sport sustainability frameworks, and reinforce the federation’s commitment to responsible governance and environmental leadership.

## JJIF Safeguarding

The Congress was informed of the safeguarding activities undertaken in 2025, including the handling of over 30 safeguarding cases, with three cases remaining under investigation. Several safeguarding education initiatives were delivered during the year, primarily through JIAU in cooperation with the OCA, and it was noted that an additional Safeguarding Officer is currently in education through IOC programmes.

The Congress also took note of the Safeguarding Action Plan for 2026, which provides for mandatory appointment of Safeguarding Officers by all national federations, supported by compulsory online education. The plan further includes the installation of regional safeguarding officers, the delivery of safeguarding seminars both in person and online, the development of a more effective online and social media presence using JJIF resources, and the systematic promotion of safeguarding awareness at all JJIF events and activities.

## Official JJIF Website – Updates and Development

Mr. Thumfart informed the Congress of the implementation of significant updates to the official JJIF website, including the transition to the new official domain [ju-jitsu.sport](http://ju-jitsu.sport), replacing the previous [jjif.org](http://jjif.org). It was reported that an AI-based chatbot has been integrated into the new website to assist visitors with general and federation-related inquiries; this tool remains under development and is being progressively trained using JJIF documents and reference materials. In addition, dedicated pages for Continental Unions and National Federations have been created and populated with structured

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<p>content prepared and submitted by the respective Continental Unions and National Federations. As a next development step, it was outlined that Continental Unions will be provided with the ability to independently manage, fill and update their respective website sections, enhancing accuracy, timeliness and decentralised ownership of content.</p>	
<p><b>Awarding</b></p>	
<p>Following the 60th anniversary of Ju-Jitsu practice in 2024, the Congress noted that Mr. Dario Quenza (Italy) was presented with an honorary diploma by the JJIF President, in recognition of his outstanding dedication and contribution to Ju-Jitsu. The Congress further acknowledged his appointment as an Honorary Member of the JJIF.</p>	
<p><b>9. JJIF Financial Report</b></p>	
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Mr. Thumfart presented the financial statements for the financial years 2023 and 2024, which were prepared in accordance with the accrual basis of accounting and applicable accounting principles for non-profit international sports federations. It was reported that TAG.Global – Talal Abu-Ghazaleh &amp; Co. International had been appointed as the Independent Auditor for the financial years 2023 and 2024 and had conducted the audit in line with professional auditing standards. Key financial information, audit scope and the auditor's role were outlined to the Congress.</p>
<p>Decision</p>	<p>The Congress took note of the financial report and audit information presented. The financial report for 2024 was reviewed and formally approved by the Congress, with all 33 votes in favor.</p>
<p><b>10. Discharge of the board / Approval of Board decisions</b></p>	
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Mr. Thumfart requested the Congress to vote on the discharge of the Board and the approval of the Board decisions taken for the year 2025.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>The Congress unanimously approved the discharge of the Board and ratified the Board's decisions for 2025 with 33 votes in favor.</p>
<p><b>11. Amendment to the Statutes</b></p>	
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Prior to the Congress, Mr. Thumfart circulated to the members proposed amendments to the JJIF Statutes, prepared by Vice-President Proag. The proposed amendments concerned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Powers of the JJIF Congress (Clause j, Section 6.1.1);</li> <li>- the establishment of a new organisation unit – JJIF Alliance (new Chapter 12);</li> <li>- the rights of provisional JJIF National Members (Clauses g and h, Subsection 13.2.2.1);</li> <li>- provisions relating to non-voting members of the Board, the election and terms of the Executive Board, and the representation of the Athletes' Commission on the Board.</li> </ul> <p>The proposed amendments were presented and explained to the Congress.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>The Congress approved the proposed amendments to the Statutes with 33 votes in favour. The revised version of the JJIF Statutes was formally adopted and shall enter into force as of 1 January 2026.</p>
<p><b>12. Adoption of the JJIF Ethic Rules and Status of Ethics Commission</b></p>	
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>General Director Thumfart presented to the Congress revised JJIF Code of Ethics and Ethics Statutes, which were updated under the leadership of JJIF Board member Mr. Horvath-Portele and in consultation with the JJIF Ethics Commission.</p> <p>It was explained that the revisions aim to modernise the documents, remove outdated references, and ensure full alignment with IOC principles of good governance, safeguarding and democracy. It was further noted that certain provisions originating from traditional Budo/Bushido codes were no longer compatible with contemporary ethical and governance standards. In this context, JJIF requested the Ethics Commission to prepare a commented version of the Code in order to preserve the historical context while clearly clarifying that such elements are not applicable to modern sport ethics.</p> <p>Mr. Horvath-Portele added that the revised version consolidates the Disciplinary Code and the Code of Ethics into a single unified document, enhancing clarity, accessibility and consistency in format and structure across JJIF regulations.</p>

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Conclusion	The Congress approved the revised JJIF Code of Ethics and Ethics Statutes with 33 votes in favour. The revised version was formally adopted and shall enter into force as of 1 January 2026.
<b>13. Amendment to the Statutes</b>	
	Mr. Nuvin Proag
Discussion	<p>The Congress was informed of the composition of the newly elected JJIF Athletes' Commission for the term 2025–2028. It was noted that the Commission reflects JJIF's commitment to inclusivity, gender balance and global representation, comprising elected athlete representatives from the Asian, European and Pan-American Continental Unions. The members of the Athletes' Commission are: Marianne Alejandra Gaviño Barenca (Mexico), Gary Hensley (USA), Isra Waseem Khan (Pakistan), Mehran Sattar (Iran), Anna Fuhrmann (Austria), and Dmytro Pernykoza (Ukraine).</p> <p>The Congress further considered the ratification of the JJIF Board members and Athletes' representatives for the term 2025–2028. The following positions were presented for ratification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vice-President (JJEU President): Michael Korn;</li> <li>- Appointed Board Members: Nyamdavaa Lkhagvanyam; Christian Horvath-Portele; Elcirley Luz Silva;</li> <li>- Athletes' Representatives on the Board: Isra Waseem Khan; Dmytro Pernykoza</li> </ul>
Conclusion	The Congress unanimously ratified, with 33 votes in favour, the JJIF Board and the JJIF Athletes' Commission for the term 2025–2028.
<b>14. Strategy, perspectives and action plan 2025–2028</b>	
	Mr. Joachim Thumfart
<b>IOC Recognition</b>	
<p>General Director Thumfart informed the Congress that Ju-Jitsu had been proposed to the IOC Directorate for inclusion in the upcoming IOC recognition cycle. He reported that a letter requesting the formal initiation of the IOC recognition process has been submitted. Mr. Thumfart further noted that the IOC recognition process would require substantial internal preparation, including a comprehensive review of JJIF legal documentation, statutes, governance structures and financial compliance, and that these matters were included on the agenda for further discussion. It was further noted that, while the IOC has accepted JJIF's request to apply for recognition, the specific recognition criteria and procedural requirements have not yet been communicated.</p>	
<b>Multi-Sport Events – Specific Target Groups</b>	
<p>The Congress was informed of developments concerning multi-sport events targeting different age categories – school, university and masters sport sectors.</p> <p>The Congress was informed of a proposal to explore potential cooperation between JJIF and the International <b>School Sport Federation (ISF)</b>. The Congress noted JJIF's interest in integrating Ju-Jitsu disciplines into the ISF sports programme. Furthermore, the Congress was informed that JJIF is looking forward to cooperating with ISF with the aim of including JJIF disciplines in the upcoming 2026 ISF Gymnasiade, subject to ISF regulations and approval processes. The potential development of a formal cooperation framework or Memorandum of Understanding was noted as a possible next step to define roles, responsibilities and areas of collaboration.</p> <p>In the context of cooperation with <b>International University Sports Federation (FISU)</b>, it was reported that Jiu-Jitsu (Ne-Waza) under JJIF has been officially included in the programme of the 2026 FISU World University Championship – Combat Sports, to be held in Brasilia, Brazil. In this context, a Handbook for Ju-Jitsu University Events has been prepared and approved, containing all procedural frameworks and communication algorithms governing cooperation with local and national FISU representatives, as well as registration processes and deadlines applicable to university competitions. At JJIF level, the FISU-endorsed "World University Ju-Jitsu Series" has been launched in 2025. Two events were successfully conducted in August–September in Bangkok, Thailand, and in October in Bogotá, Colombia. The Congress noted the positive outcomes of these events and that JJIF expects further requests from National Organisations to host additional events within this series.</p> <p>The Congress was informed of ongoing developments regarding cooperation between JJIF and the <b>International Masters Games Association (IMGA)</b>, the IOC-recognised international body dedicated to promoting lifelong participation in sport through Masters multi-sport events for athletes aged 30 and above. It was noted that Ju-Jitsu under JJIF has been included in the sport programme of the upcoming Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026, scheduled to take place from 6–15 February 2026.</p>	

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## Administration Matters – JJIF Grading App and Data Management Platform

The Congress was informed of the ongoing development of a JJIF Grading App and centralised data management platform, following an administrative initiative arising from recent external engagement. The platform is intended to establish a structured digital ecosystem supporting JJIF’s “Sports for All” strategy and long-term federation development.

Key features of the JJIF Grading App and Database were outlined, including a centralised registry for grading and certification, fully linked to JJIF and national federation systems. The platform will enable mandatory digital registration of individuals seeking JJIF diplomas, ensuring traceability, standardisation and international recognition of grading activities. Recognised styles will be integrated into the system, allowing grading to be conducted and recorded within an approved and transparent framework.

## Doping-Free Programme

The Congress was informed of developments related to JJIF’s anti-doping framework, including an enhanced cooperation with the International Testing Agency (ITA) under a bulk agreement coordinated with AIMS and ARISF. The updated arrangement strengthens JJIF’s anti-doping operations by expanding ITA’s role to include results management, compliance support and education programmes, in line with international anti-doping standards. The Congress took note of these measures as part of JJIF’s continued commitment to maintaining a doping-free sport and full alignment with the World Anti-Doping Code.

## Media and Broadcasting

The Congress was addressed by Congress Guest Mr. Haagen Bossdorf, who presented an overview of JJIF’s media and broadcasting strategy aimed at achieving global reach through professional production and international distribution. The presentation outlined the JJIF broadcasting vision, focusing on delivering high-quality coverage of major events, in particular the World Championships, across television, digital platforms and social media. Information was provided on the JJIF TV Production Manual, which defines production standards, technical requirements, formats and guidelines, and serves as a binding reference for Hosts, Broadcasters and Local Organising Committees. The Congress was further informed of the established global signal distribution framework, international broadcaster cooperation and content distribution through specialised media partners. The presentation also highlighted current and future media partnerships, including international broadcasters, news agencies and inflight entertainment platforms, as well as strategic objectives to further strengthen JJIF’s media presence through cooperation with major international media organisations and production partners.

## 15. Technical Issues – Fighting Rules Proposals 2026

Mr. Joachim Thumfart

The Congress was informed of the Fighting Rules Proposals 2026 prepared by the JJIF Fighting Working Group, established by the JJIF Board and composed of referees from different countries and Continental Unions, as well as coaches. The main objectives of the proposals are to clarify grey areas in the rules, reduce the scope for interpretation, and introduce necessary changes to support the continued evolution of the sport. It was reported that the working group followed a structured procedure, including the collection of relevant information, twelve working meetings held since August 2025, consultations with all Continental Unions, and the preparation of draft proposals. The proposals were presented to the General Assembly in Bangkok 2025, followed by Board review and approval.

The proposed amendments cover Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Fighting Rules and address, inter alia, scoring criteria, penalties, safety measures and the introduction of new referee signs. Subject to publication and implementation are scheduled for January 2026.

## 16. Membership matters and Anti-Doping

Mr. Joachim Thumfart

Discussion

The Congress was informed that Slovak Association of Sports Jiu-Jitsu had submitted an application for full membership of JJIF. General Director Thumfart noted that although the Slovak national entity has demonstrated consistent commitment and active participation in JJIF activities, including participation in the 2022 Congress, the 2024 World Championship and the 2024 European Championship, and had submitted all required legal documentation confirming its status as the national governing body for the sport.

The Congress further noted support for the application based on the Slovak association’s engagement in international events, involvement in safeguarding activities, and compliance with JJIF membership criteria.

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# JJIF Ju-Jitsu International Federation

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 JJIF Headquarter: P.O. Box 110006, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Capital Tower, ADNEC Area,) [mail@jjif.org](mailto:mail@jjif.org)

<b>Decision</b>	<i>The Congress unanimously approved, with 33 votes in favour, the admission of the Slovak Association of Sports Jiu-Jitsu as a Full Member of JJIF.</i>
	<p><i>The Congress was informed by JJIF Vice-President Proag of an observed increase in anti-doping rule violations involving diuretics and masking agents, with a particular focus on furosemide. Under the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Prohibited List, diuretics and masking agents, including furosemide, are prohibited at all times (in- and out-of-competition) due to their potential misuse for rapid weight loss and to mask the presence of other prohibited substances in samples. It was noted that furosemide has become the most frequently detected prohibited substance in the diuretics class, reflecting a broader trend in sport where this category is commonly misused despite its clear prohibition.</i></p> <p><i>Vice-President Proag reported that the average age of athletes returning positive tests in these cases appears to be decreasing, indicating that younger competitors are increasingly affected. The Congress took note of the ongoing anti-doping testing activity in 2022, 2023, 2024 and January–October 2025, underscoring JJIF’s continued commitment to maintaining clean sport and strict adherence to the WADA Code.</i></p>
<b>17. Calendar of Activities 2026</b>	
	<b>Mr. Joachim Thumfart</b>
	<p><i>The Congress was informed of the proposed JJIF Calendar of Activities for 2026, reflecting a structured event framework and adaptations requested by national federations, officials, and participants.</i></p> <p><b>World Championships</b></p> <p><i>It was noted that, following broad consultation, the JJIF World Championships will be split by disciplines and age categories. The provisional schedule for 2026 was presented as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>World Championship – Contact Ju-Jitsu (all age divisions): Antalya (TUR), 13–17 May 2026</i></li> <li>• <i>World Championship – Youth U16/U18 (Fighting, Jiu-Jitsu, Jiu-Jitsu No-Gi): United Arab Emirates, 1–8 August 2026</i></li> <li>• <i>World Championship – U21 &amp; Adults (Jiu-Jitsu No-Gi): Zadar (CRO), 22–23 August 2026</i></li> <li>• <i>World Championship – Duo &amp; Show (all age divisions): Ostia (Rome), Italy, 18–20 October 2026</i></li> <li>• <i>World Championship – U21 &amp; Adults (Fighting &amp; Jiu-Jitsu): Ostia (Rome), Italy, 21–25 October 2026</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Continental Championships</b></p> <p><i>The calendar includes major continental events, notably the JJIF European Championship (Heraklion, March 2026) and the JJIF Asian Championship (Almaty, July 2026).</i></p> <p><b>Grand Prix Events</b></p> <p><i>Two Grand Prix competitions were outlined for 2026: Genoa (February) and Paris Open (April).</i></p> <p><b>Regional Championships and World Cups</b></p> <p><i>Regional Championships will continue. It was noted for information that, from 2027 onwards, the “World Cup” event naming will be discontinued.</i></p> <p><b>JJIF-Endorsed Events</b></p> <p><i>The Congress was informed about the framework for JJIF-endorsed events, particularly suitable for open tournaments and belt-based or experience-level formats. Such events allow organizational flexibility while requiring compliance with JJIF branding, competition rules, anti-doping obligations under the WADA Code, cooperation with National Anti-Doping Organizations, and the right of JJIF to conduct doping controls. These events also provide opportunities for referee talent identification and official JJIF representation.</i></p> <p><i>The Congress took note of the 2026 Calendar of Activities as presented.</i></p>
<b>18. Reports from the Continental Unions and Development Plans</b>	
	<p><i>The Congress received and took note of the activity and development reports presented by the Continental Unions. Reports were delivered by Mr. Nuvin Proag, President of the JJ African Union (JJAFU); Mr. Fahad Ali Al Shamsi, General Secretary of the JJ Asian Union (JJAU), acting on behalf of the JJAU President; Mr. Michael Korn, President of the JJ European Union (JJEU); and Mr. Gregory Vallarino, President of the JJ Pan-American Union (JJPAU). The reports covered, inter alia, the strategic vision and objectives of each Union, key achievements, comparative analysis of competition results for the reporting period against previous years, educational and development activities undertaken during 2024–2025, the work of Union commissions, cooperation among Continental Unions and with external organizations, notifications of changes within Union Boards, and outlined future development prospects. The Congress acknowledged the comprehensive reports and the ongoing efforts of the Continental Unions in advancing Ju-Jitsu development within their respective regions.</i></p>

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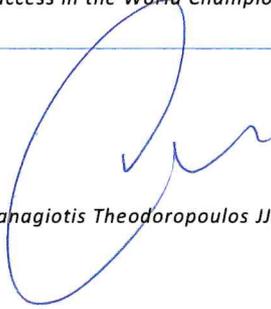


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<p>19. Congress 2026 – proposal for dates and venues</p> <p>The Congress was informed that the JJIF Congress 2026 is planned to be held in conjunction with the World Championship Adults, which is preliminarily scheduled for 1–9 August 2026 in Ostia (Rome), Italy. The final dates and organizational details will be confirmed in accordance with the approved event calendar and organizational arrangements.</p>
<p>20. Any Other Matter or Motions Not Previously Included in the Agenda</p> <p>No additional matters or motions were raised or presented under this agenda item.</p>
<p>21. Closing the Congress</p> <p>The President, Mr. Theodoropoulos, thanked all attendees for their participation, conveyed his best wishes to the athletes of the National Federations for success in the World Championships, and formally closed the Congress.</p>

Minutes approved by:



Panagiotis Theodoropoulos JJIF President

Confirmed by:

Ms. Liubov Matrosova

Mr. Fabio Carril

Mr. Oliver King



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