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Paris, November 29th, 2014

To: All National Federations

Minutes of the 2014 JJIF General Assembly

Thursday, 27 November 2014 – 14.00-19.00 – Paris, France

1. WELCOME

The President, Mr. Panagiotis Theodoropoulos, welcomes the attendees and starts his introduction speech with congratulations for Mr. Dario Quenza, who has recently been elected President of the JJEU. We are looking forward to working together with him until the next elections. Further, the President extends thanks to the host country, to the French federation, for organizing the 2014 JJIF World Championship. We apologize for any existing problems and we'll do better in the future and prevent the issues that we face now.

The President indicated that we will start the GA with the roll call after he finishes his welcome. Mr. Theodoropoulos indicated that he just wants to say that we will try to change some things. We sent to all of the NF's the reports of the members of the Board. Therefore, the President is not going to present a report. The Board expects the delegates to ask questions to each of the persons, if they have such questions.

Mr. Theodoropoulos concluded, wishing a successful congress and assuring the participants that ju-jitsu will be bigger and bigger every year.

2. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION – (that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes)

The following member federations were present:

- 1. Algeria NO proxy
- 2. Angola president
- 3. Austria proxy
- 4. Belgium president
- 5. Bulgaria president
- 6. Cameroon president
- 7. Chinese Taipei proxy
- 8. Croatia president
- 9. Denmark president
- 10. Ethiopia president
- 11. France proxy

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- 12. Germany president
- 13. Great Britain proxy not valid (no signature for GB)
- 14. Greece president
- 15. Iran proxy
- 16. Israel NO proxy
- 17. Italy president
- 18. Japan NO proxy
- 19. Mauritius president
- 20. Mexico president
- 21. Montenegro president
- 22. Netherlands proxy
- 23. Norway proxy
- 24. Poland proxy
- 25. Romania proxy
- 26. Russia president
- 27. Senegal president
- 28. Singapore proxy
- 29. Slovenia proxy
- 30. Spain proxy
- 31. Sweden president
- 32. Switzerland proxy
- 33. Tunisia president
- 34. Turkey president
- 35. Ukraine president
- 36. United Arab Emirates proxy
- 37. United States president

Bosnia & Herzegovina sent a proxy to the General Secretary, but was not present in the meeting of the General Assembly.

3. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS – (for all voting procedures) Not the case.

4a. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF A MEMBER – (if there is) Not the case.

4b. ACCEPTANCE OR APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERS – (if there is)

The President, Mr. Theodoropoulos, presented briefly to the assembly the re-establishment of the Ju-Jitsu Asian Union (JJAU), and the acceptance by the Board of the status of provisional members of the new ju-jitsu Asian federations.

At the moment of re-establishing the JJAU, the JJIF had in Asia only 5 national members - Chinese Taipei, Kazakhstan, Iran, Singapore and South Korea and 3 provisional members – Iraq, Thailand and Uzbekistan. In the Board meeting in January 2014, the following federations were accepted as provisional members of the JJIF: Afghanistan, Bahrain, India (replacing the former,

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inactive member with the newly created Ju-Jitsu Association of India), Kuwait, Lebanon, Maldives, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Since the re-establishment of the JJAU, new federations have submitted applications and were accepted by the Board as provisional members: Pakistan, Bangladesh and Tanzania.

The President asks the General Assembly to ratify the acceptance of all new provisional members. The assembly unanimously agrees. The vote is carried by acclamation.

Further, the President asks the Assembly to acknowledge the special support and help provided by the ju-jitsu federation of the United Arab Emirates and asks that the General Assembly accepts the UEA federation as national member. The assembly unanimously agreed. The vote was carried by acclamation.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The General Secretary, Mrs. Dana Mortelmans, asks the General Assembly to approve the Agenda proposed by the President. The assembly unanimously agreed. The vote was carried by acclamation.

6. APPOINTMENT OF THREE MEMBERS TO CHECK THE MINUTES

Ms. Claudia Behnke, Mr. Anestis Poulikidis and Mr. Rick Frowijn were proposed as members in charge of verifying the minutes. There were no other proposals, so the assembly unanimously accepted them, by acclamation.

7. VOTE ON APPROVAL OF THE 2013 MINUTES

The General Secretary submitted for approval of the assembly the Minutes of the 2013 annual General Assembly. The assembly unanimously agreed with the minutes submitted. The vote was carried by acclamation.

9. ACTIVITY REPORT - (separate booklet)

9.1 Activity Report 2014

Vice-president Dylan Sung presented the written form of his report to all members, in case not all of them had a chance to read the electronic version.

The National Delegate of Denmark, *Mr. Frank Furst*, asked for more details with respect to the proposal included by Joe Thumfart, the JJIF Sports Director, in his report.

Mr. Thumfart: It's just a proposal with the same graphics that we presented last year in the Technical Congress. We must face reality regarding the multi-sports events. If we have a maximum of 120 athletes, we need to see what options we have to bring our athletes to the event. We always have to cancel categories and I think in the long term it's not good to kick out categories. All athletes work very hard, do qualifications, put in a lot of effort etc. and then we must kick them out of the multi-sport events. It's a proposal to be decided on in the convention (as the new platform for discussions). We hope that you discuss with your people and we can reach a conclusion in the convention.

Mr. Furst: We are not taking weight classes from an existing system - the Fighting system, in order to give to ne-waza. It has nothing to do with liking or not, but it's a question of the volume of the weight classes. We find it not so good to take weight classes for something we know is very attractive

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to something we don't know. Next, I know the Board will fight very much to get more places in the multisport events.

Mr. Thumfart: If we think in the future, for a possible participation in the Olympic Games, we must acknowledge that we may have to cut our categories in half.

Mr. Furst: I have difficulties to see the future. Maybe because I'm not informed. But I have difficulties to see what you're doing at the moment.

Mr. Theodoropoulos: As things are now, we must be flexible, must adapt our activities to the needs of the sports society. Of course we're working within the barriers of our athletes and what we'd like to do, but we must be logical and flexible on how to deal with the categories. One of the proposals for discussion is that we can keep or increase the categories in some events and we choose events for qualification or minimize the categories for qualification because the pressure from the multi-sport games is very high. I spend too much time exchanging letters with WG in order to have this amount of athletes. I'm not sure we'll be able to keep this high number of athletes in the future; the pressure is fantastic. For them, more athletes and categories means more money. For us, it means a better representation for the sport. We'll continue fighting, but it's not in our hands to be sure we can do it. Talking about Olympic recognition, with help of Sheik Ahmed, president of OCA, we are on a good road to be accepted in World Beach Games (new multi-sport game for ju-jitsu). We must adapt our dressing and behavior to the beach games conditions and environment. But it's a great opportunity because in this event participate only sports recognized by the IOC, plus Ju-Jitsu, at the demand of the President of OCA, with support of the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheik Mohamed, who is really giving great support to ju-jitsu in Asia and in other continents, through the NOC's. This is our role. Our Sports Director and the General Manager are working hard to present you good proposals of what we can do. But apart from the sports presentation, they must address the professional area. It's a marketing issue. We must be honest. We'll try to do many things, but we're not confusing things. We keep our disciplines in sport as pure as they are and then we grow to other presentation of martial arts through ju-jitsu. We don't want to give it to the Brazilians or other organizations. I believe that with your help, that's why we're talking so much about the convention, we need your participation (countries) because what we will do in jujitsu should come from the NF's, not the Board. We can help and make policies, but in this serious subject, the opinion and proposals from the NF's are very important. We are not a one-culture federation. We are an International Federation: we represent all cultures, all people, financial levels, religions, doesn't matter. We must have a solution that everyone is satisfied with and we should give all members equality and equal opportunities to participate and be represented in ju-jitsu. We have time to make proposals and discuss until July. Today is a good opportunity for proposals and presentations (coaches, referees). It's not all for discussion in the GA, at least not before the discussion of the technical people.

JJEU General Secretary, Mr. Robert Perc: I appreciate reports from all parts. The International Federation is doing really international work. I have a question relating to the YouTube channel, the JJIF homepage layout and policy. What exactly do you mean?

Mr. Thumfart: On YouTube it is, for now, free of charge to upload videos. Another option is the WG channel. We can link further live streaming through the YouTube channel and upload all videos and offer a base for all our members. At this point, we have only 2 videos uploaded, in order to register. There is now an official JJIF channel. The more content we have, we will make it possible to publish. We have hours of videos, but we need someone to cut it into small pieces. We want to have live streaming at all events. We must finalize with the organizers to get videos from all events, to give to all NF's and get good content. So not every nation will have to bring cameras. Also, we'll put highlights on the web homepage over which I started to take over the responsibility at the beginning of this year. It's a content management system. Different people have access to the homepage. We didn't have the time to make the education yet, but Dana, Panagiotis and Vicky have their own access. We created the



layout. We like clear information. Not so much graphics and nice features inside, but all information was available and, like written in my report, I need help. Check your own data. Send the correct data to me, so everything is posted correctly. We made a general policy, with responsibility, because this is the official information line. Facebook differs from the official page. Facebook can have different information, but the official documents are on the home page.

9.2 Next JJIF events

The 2015 U18 & U21 World Championship will take place in Athens, Greece, 13-15 March.

For the seniors World Championship, the JJIF received proposals from Tunisia, Guatemala, Philippines and Thailand.

Tunisian Judo & Ju-Jitsu Federation President, Mr. Hachicha Skander, made the introduction, thanking the JJIF for the opportunity to present an offer for the 2015 WCh. He mentioned the successful organizing of the JJIF convention in 2014 and gave the word to the partner company, for the presentation of the Tunisia project (attached).

Guatemala did not send an actual presentation, just an e-mail offering the participants very good prices for accommodation and meals and assuring everyone that the sports hall and the hotels provide very good conditions.

Philippines - presentation made by Mr. Thumfart, as JJAU Technical Director (attached).

Thailand – presentation made by Mr. Thumfart, as JJAU Technical Director. Mr. Thumfart indicated that the organization is in the hand of the military, who are also the rulers of the country, at the moment. Bangkok is an airport hub, and Thailand is very moderate with visa affairs/requirements. The visa-granting process is much easier than in Europe. Thailand offers good prices. From previous experience (2014 Asian Beach Games), Mr. Thumfart indicated a comfortable relationship in working with the official authorities, fact which contributed to the success in the Asian Beach Games. VP Dylan Sung intervened and stated that, according to his very recent information, the Thailand federation is worried that they will not have enough support to organize a World Championship.

The JJIF Board indicates that they will focus on further negotiations with Tunisia and the Philippines. A final decision, accompanied by the signing of the contract with the host-federation, will take place before January 31st, 2015.

The *delegates of Germany and Sweden* asked the Board to please schedule the events for 2 years in advance (time and location). Booking the flights 1 year in advance is much cheaper.

Mr. Theodoropoulos: Since 2015, the World Championships will be controlled fully by the Board of the JJIFş they will no longer be under the NF's. Our championships should be in the market, allowing the opportunity to attract sponsors. We will also charge higher fees from the host federations and maybe use these fees as discounts for athletes' participation. But this needs centralization of decisions. Some NF's are enthusiastic, but they don't have the experience and connections. This makes everything difficult. Big teams, of course, need to be prepared in advance. Sorry for this time and from next year we'll have a program for 4-5 years.

9.3 JJIF Convention – World and Continental Championships - Asian Beach Games

Mr. Theodoropoulos: The Convention was composed of different subjects. It should be focused on presentations from different organizations, members, subjects relevant to the sport, the career of the athletes etc. A part of the Convention will be working in panels. As explained in Tunisia, but many of you were not there, we established 2 panels: one for referees, one for coaches. Their job is to look after the needs of the NF's and to program education in all continents. We must support countries to develop technically and with referees. These panels will be responsible for preparing united educational programs for referees and coaches. The difference is that the referee program should be compulsory. Referees should be the same everywhere. For coaches, the education program



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is not compulsory. The members are free to develop. It is, however, compulsory, when participating in official events, to follow the rules of the JJIF.

Regarding the system of the convention and the work I can give explanations about referees. Joe will talk about coaches, as being more expert. For the referees, in the panel there will be referees from countries already developed. They'll bring the experience of the country and give this experience to newcomers, new countries. For the coaches I cannot say that much, I'm confused with technical things, Joe will explain. For the referees there will be some changes. The referee commission should have a discussion as to how to be in accordance to our rules. The target is to prepare referees to be an independent body within JJIF. They must work together with the coaches. Athletes should not suffer from the different opinions of coaches/referees.

In the next convention we'll start the education program, in levels. 1st level is common for referees and coaches. Another subject will be the integrated summer camp – returning to inviting families, having different classes (1 week-10 days) for newcomers, higher technical athletes etc. + 5 days championship – separate according to technical level, belts, ages, weight classes, in order to give the opportunity to people to have vacation, to be educated and to participate in the seminar and have fun, all in one package.

The Convention 2015 will take place between July 18-25 in Cuba. At the end of the month of December we expect the results of the negotiations. Yesterday, we received a request from the United States that they would like to present a proposal for Las Vegas. Until December 31 we'll have prices and dates for the convention.

For 2016, the Convention is programmed in Asia. The seniors' World Championship will be in Europe (Poland).

We'll invite persons from IOC, UNESCO etc. to present their work to ju-jitsu people. Hopefully, the convention will be one of the biggest events in martial arts in the world. As I told you, from 1st of January we open the system of exchanging mails to be online informed about the proposals – similar to the TC – people will have the opportunity to write their ideas, ask for explanations, give proposals etc.

Mr. Thumfart: We need to negotiate the dates of the future conventions. Ramadan is next year until middle of July.

For the coaches, we work now on the 1st level of education. We have been in contact with a sports university regarding online course, an education tool that allows us to get people on similar level of education. The existing education, the persons who have a certain level of quality, are generally approved and accepted. If somebody studied sports, they don't need to go through the 1st level of education. It's just an instrument to get everyone on an equal level. The more experienced coaches we need in the WG. The others need to get on the same level.

Please read what we send out. Be prepared in the meetings.

Mr. Theodoropoulos: The General Assembly will be on the last day of the convention, no more on the World Championships. There, the teams should concentrate on the championship.

We will increase the days of World Championship by adding an open championship immediately after because we have a good marketing on that. If we say we do next year World Championship 3 days, as usual, then Monday and Tuesday, we have the open championship, it would be a very good income for the JJIF, which will return to support more participation to the World Championship.

Mr. Thumfart: In the working paper and my presentation of last year, you have the proposal regarding the tournaments where can we include belts, different quality levels – World Cup / Open Championship / World open – to give the opportunity for people/countries with not too much experience to have a second chance to compete at high international level. This would increase the number of athletes, if we give everybody a second chance. Also, we'd like to introduce a world cup series – open



during the convention. One after the World Championship. We must see on the market. I think this is a key to the success of the IBJJF – thousands of participants / many categories / open competition.

Mr. Thumfart further made a short presentation of the **Asian Beach Games**: There were 15 countries present, with 105 athletes. We used different rules – duo show + mix of ne-waza and Abu Dhabi rules. Everything worked very well, it was a success. Fighting on the beach, on stage, created a fantastic view. The atmosphere was great and everything was more relaxed. The tournament was very well organized by Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and this was the first event in which the JJIF participated fully, together with JJAU, in an Olympic event organized under OCA. We are very happy with results and with the fact that we had competitors from many countries.

10. FINANCE - (separate booklet)

10.1 Consolidated financial statements for 2013 + 10.2 External Auditors' report to the Congress

Mr. Luc Mortelmans, JJIF Treasurer, presented the financial situation of JJIF in year 2013, showing the General Assembly the consolidated results, the balance sheet with some details, the profit and loss account, as well as the independent auditor's report, all of which the delegates had received in advance by e-mail. Afterwards, he opened the floor from questions from the delegates.

Mr. Rinaldo Orlandi, JJIF Honorary President, asked about the payable difference at the end of the year. He pointed out that at the end of 2012, the JJIF had to pay to third parties approx. 12,000 eur and approx. 70.000 eur at the end of 2013. Mr. Orlandi's question was why does the JJIF not pay out these amounts?

Mr. Mortelmans: I must thoroughly check all expenses, and sometimes those operations may occur at the end of the year. Sometimes, it takes 2-3 months before I make payment.

Mr. Frank Furst, President of the Danish Ju-Jitsu Federation: Does the JJIF have an audit or a review of its financial situation?

Mr. Mortelmans: We have a review. I give the auditor all documents. The auditor verifies if all the documents are original, if they are paid, if the incomes are related to the invoices etc. In a thorough audit, the auditor would contact the partner to check if the corresponding amounts exist in their accounts and would make inquiries with the respective tax authorities in the third-party countries. The expense of such a service would increase from 1,100 eur/year, which we pay now, to approx. 10,000-15,000 eur/year.

Mr. Furst: Did the auditor check the accounts?

Mr. Mortelmans: Yes, of course! Maybe, in the future, I can ask that in the report, the auditor specifies what kind of documents he received.

Mr. Furst: Do we have a procedure as to how we do economy in the federation?

Mr. Mortelmans: We'll check if there is an existing written procedure or, if necessary, we'll make a new one.

Mr. Furst: Why should we increase the amount that the treasurer can transfer with his/her own signature to 100,000 eur? This is a big amount.

Mr. Mortelmans: Sometimes, it is interesting to transfer money between the different JJIF accounts, in order to get better interest rates or for other financial purposes.

Mr. Orlandi: Maybe we should think of a lower limit, for instance, 50,000 eur. We all trust you as Treasurer, but we should protect our federation for the future, when another person will occupy this position.

Mr. Furst: For me, 50,000 eur sounds good.

Mr. Mortelmans: It is a good proposal.



10.3 Vote on approval of the consolidated financial statements for 2013

The General Secretary asked the General Assembly to vote on the approval of the 2013 accounts. The assembly unanimously approved the accounts, by acclamation.

10.4 Detailed budget for 2015

Mr. Mortelmans presented the JJIF draft budget for 2015, based on the events scheduled by the JJIF, then he opened the floor for questions or comments from the delegates.

Mr. Furst: For me, the budget is a kind of wish. It is an estimate of what the future will be. I heard that next year we'll make proposal for the future. I would like the budgets in the future to make a mixture of budgeting and strategy. The budget draft should be a plan for several years.

10.5 Vote on approval of 2015 budget

The General Secretary asked the General Assembly to vote on the approval of the 2015 draft budget. The assembly unanimously approved the accounts, by acclamation.

11. STRATEGIC AND SPORTS-POLITICAL MATTERS

11.1 Update on decisions passed at the 2013 Congress

11.2 Refereeing - (JJIF Convention Referee Panel – Referee Education Program)

11.3 Ju-Jitsu development - (JJIF Convention Coach Panel – Coach Education Program)

11.4 The fight against discrimination/racism

11.5 Event - Match manipulation

11.6 Medical and Anti-doping matters

11.7 Communications

This point of the agenda was globally presented by **President Theodoropoulos**. Mr. Theodoropoulos indicated that the IOC is asking for too many things. We have all the requirements. I explained a bit in my letter that we are working on several levels. We must declare and work on several things. In the JJIF there is no discrimination and no racism. However, we must work on event and match manipulation and on betting. I am not satisfied with the communication. There is no standard way for communication with the NOC's and third parties. We must have commissions. In the Convention, we'll work on Commissions. I want to thank all participants to the Convention of 2014 and I hope for the same good outcome for the next convention.

The **General Secretary** addressed dome anti-doping issues. First of all, she informed the delegates once more that starting with January 1st, 2015, a new WADA Code is in effect and the JJIF is working closely with WADA on the adoption of the new, updated, JJIF Anti-doping Rules. We have been in communication with WADA for the past two months and we received comments on our proposed rules. Dr. Paco Gomes incorporated the comments and we submitted the rules again for WADA review. Unfortunately, there are still two articles on which WADA requested clarifications. Therefore, the JJIF Anti-doping Rules cannot be submitted for the approval of the General Assembly at this moment. The General Secretary asked the assembly to give a mandate to the JJIF Board to approve the version on the rules agreed by WADA, following that in the next GA the delegates will ratify the Board's decision.

The assembly unanimously approved the entrusting of the Board to adopt the new JJIF Antidoping Rules, agreed by WADA, in effect since January 1st, 2015.

Secondly, the General Secretary reminded the delegates that all senior World Champions are automatically included in the JJIF Registered Testing Pool (RTP), which means they should all be registered in ADAMS and provide their whereabouts, for anti-doping purposes.



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12. UPDATE ON REFORMS BASED ON THE 2012 AND 2013 CONGRESSES (Vote on proposals) Not the case.

13. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS – (submitted by the members and the Executive Committee)

13.1 Proposals for amendments to the JJIF Statutes

Mr. Theodoropoulos: We received proposals from you and we have to amend our statutes. We'll open discussion on Internet for all NF's and we'll work for the next 5-6 months on the subject. At the end, we'll have conclusions on how to move with the structure. In the beginning you'll receive our proposals, from the Board. We can change everything, because you, the members, will decide.

Mr. Furst: What do you mean to change the structure? I was not aware that the structure will be a subject of the Convention. That is why I did not attend...

Mr. Theodoropoulos: In the open discussion we will send the detailed proposal. The main idea is to centralize the decisions. I mean that I want to stop deviations from the decisions by the Unions. I don't want to see phenomena like Khalil in the future. Decisions should be centralized. The JJIF will decide and only the JJIF will decide. We want to increase the number of Board members, to include persons from all Unions/continents. I mean equal representation or equal number. At least 2 members of the Board should come from each continent. We must push and help women to be Board members. We'll propose an additional election, if we don't succeed to have women in the Board as proposals from the feds. We'll ask some members to be partners of the Board (maybe without voting authority), but it's important to have a certain percentage of women in the Board.

We're going to change a little the way the unions are working. Their presidents will be elected in the JJIF General Assembly, not by Unions. We must know the candidates in advance. The unions must work. If by vote it doesn't go, we'll appoint people. It's one of the best ways and more democratic. The continents don't know about the activity of the others. I think they should be all together, because the unions represent JJIF, in total. The voting members will represent, proportionally, the continents. There are opportunities to get help from other unions. At the moment, they are all working isolated. The JJIF needs to transfer budget/people to help. This is not easy.

Everything I say now will be in the proposals. There will be time to think, to discuss, to present your ideas and then we'll make the decisions.

The members of the JJIF Board should be responsible for their work. Otherwise, there should be a possibility to stop them and replace them. Board members are coming because they like to be Board members. Therefore, they must work, must take care of the financial situation of the JJIF, by spending the minimum possible amounts or by attracting sponsors. Of course, in my mind, in my proposal, in the Board will be also a link to the Athletes' Commission (maybe a voting member); not immediately, because they are just in the process of development. But in the near future, the athletes will be represented in the Board with a vote.

Of course, we must look very carefully on the member status because we have wrong/bad information from the NF's. So, according to our Statutes (existing + future amendments) we'll be able to have some criteria for the NF's to fulfill in order to pass from provisional members to national and to full membership. The most important criterion is that they must fulfill criteria of statutes. In the statutes, they must say they are ju-jitsu sports federations. There must be a declaration that they will follow JJIF rules/statutes. They must be non-profit organizations. They must send regularly to the JJIF Board of each federation structure - President, General Secretary, yearly GA minutes/summary etc. to see that this is an existing federation and not a one-man show.

Moving forward, because federations sometimes ask for financial support, this financial aspect will be declared in their financial balance sheet. We're asking the NF's to inform the Treasurer with their

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balance sheet. In the future, if we succeed in having funds from IOC, it's compulsory. If the NOC pays some expenses, it should be mentioned in the balance sheet of the NF and the JJIF Treasurer should be informed on time. The aims of the federation must be declared that they will be working on development of sports – at all ages, levels, competition systems, women, children etc. They must create a referee commission and a technical commission. Otherwise, they can't develop. We need from next year the results of your national championships – without National Championship, there is no federation. It's not strange because in some cases in the country there is only one club, without developing the sport in their country, just for their own interest. We need to see if there are athletes and clubs. Sometimes, they declare thousands of athletes but participate in JJIF events with only 1-2. By improving and integrating the database system, we'll prepare the membership cards. This will be a proof of existing people. These are the main things we'll have to do in the next 6-7 months.

13.2 Proposal regarding Members Status/Levels - (Detailed Criteria)

Not the case.

13.3 Proposal submitted by National members

Israel – weigh-in proposal regarding the best time to schedule the weigh-in of athletes participating to a JJIF-approved event. The Board suggested and the assembly agreed that this proposal should be sent to and discussed in the Technical Congress

Kazakhstan – requested in advance by e-mail to speak about a World Cup system. **Mr. Theodoropoulos** said that this proposal, as well, should be presented before the Technical Commissions.

Mr. Theodoropoulos: Joe Thumfart should send proposals regarding the amendment of the ne-waza rules. We should discuss and then decide in the Convention. Politically, I prefer to propose that we use the rules used in the Beach Games, because we'll attract more people and more federations.

13.4 Proposal submitted by Athlete Committee

Ms. Claudia Behnke, spokesperson of the Athletes' Commission: The proposal for the General Assembly is to accept the creation of the Athletes' Commission and to include it a JJIF body. She reminded the delegates that all NF's received the relevant information and that on Sunday (November 30th, 2015) the Athletes' Commission will have its first elections, in which 5 (five) athletes will be elected as representative of all JJIF athletes, in relation with the JJIF and its bodies, as well as with interested third parties. Ms. Behnke reminded the delegates that the Athletes' Commission needs a representative from each federation to be present in the election assembly.

The General Secretary reminded the attendees about encouraging the athletes to sign the Athlete's Commitment (which includes the anti-doping commitment) prepared by the Athletes' Commission.

14. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

Mr. Theodoropoulos: Some commissions should start working. The Board and the President have the right to appoint people in commissions, but it's necessary to start some very sensitive commissions: Women Committee, Ethics/Fair Play/Athlete-Event manipulation Committee and Event Managing Committee.

We try to keep our events according to protocol and the Sport and Organizing Code. Sometimes we have problems with coaches' behavior or with the dress code.



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14.1 Women Committee

Mr. Theodoropoulos: I can propose some ladies to start this commission and work for the future because we need women to be very active in all fields. I can propose the lady from Philippines, Samantha Cebrero, one lady from Africa, from Tunisia, Hanene Marouani and from Europe, Samantha Bardelli. Should add an American lady to work in this field. I have discussed with IOC. They're expecting work from us and we're expecting help from them. I hope you'll be active and take leadership.

14.2 Ethics/Fair Play/Athlete-Event manipulation Committee

Mr. Theodoropoulos: When Mr. Rinaldo Orlandi was president, I was in the commission of ethics with a person from Slovenia, Mr. Srecko Krope. Seeing all these years how the Slovenians are working in ethics and fair-play, I proposed the commission to be directed by Robert Perc, but he's already fully occupied. The Slovenians propose Mr. Srecko Krope. When we appoint somebody as responsible for a commission, he/she will choose his team. The commissions must have members from all or from many continents. We should adopt the ethics code.

We must make some statements as to how to react when we have actions of manipulation of athletes/events. So far we have no problems because we have no money and, therefore, we have no match-fixing.

14.3 Disciplinary Committee

Mr. Theodoropoulos: I ask Linus Bruhin to say a few words on the Disciplinary Committee.

Mr. Bruhin: It's a small committee, composed of myself, Mr. Dario Quenza and Mr. Michael Korn. We analyze behavior around the mat or somewhere else, brought to our attention by a complaint, and we can apply punishments. We don't have a lot of work. We work through e-mail. We'll be ready when we have something to do. One example, in the Cali World Games we had an athlete found positive for anti-doping. His federation suspended him for 2 years, but in case they would not have done it, the Disciplinary Commission could have done it. We will have elections next year.

Ms. Behnke: How does it work? Is there an official way?

Mr. Bruhin: You can write a complaint. You can send a complaint to the General Secretary or directly to me. Anonymous letters cannot be accepted. We work like in court, with opposite sides.

Mr. Michael Kunz (Head Coach of the Swedish team): Does it apply to everyone, including referees?

Mr. Bruhin: Yes, of course!

Mr. Furst: You have the final decision and not the Board?

Mr. Bruhin: Yes, of course. But the decision can be appealed to the Court of Arbitration.

Mrs. Mortelmans: If there is a complaint, what is the level of proof necessary? The last time there was a video proof accompanying the complaint, which was considered inconclusive.

Mr. Bruhin: The proof must be very clear. Otherwise, we cannot punish someone unless we have very sure that he/she is guilty.

Mr. Furst: Is there a fee for complaining?

Mr. Bruhin: No.

Mr. Theodoropoulos: We're not sending all complaints to the Disciplinary Committee. There are other ways, according to statutes and rules. The Disciplinary Committee doesn't actually apply the penalties. The Board does.



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14.4 Appeal Committee

Mr. Theodoropoulos: Until now, we don't have a permanent committee. We appoint Appeal Committees for each JJIF-approved event.

14.5 Event Managing Committee

Mr. Theodoropoulos: We need a standard committee, but it can be done in the future. We started with Mr. Anestis Poulikidis. He'll be responsible for protocol here, in Paris, for the 3 days of competition. If there are people interested to work with him, say so. I underline that the commission is under the control of the Sports Commission.

15. PRESENTATION OF CANDITATES FOR NEXT WORLD CHAMP'S 2015-2016

The candidates for the 2015 events presented their proposals earlier in the assembly.

16. PROPOSALS FOR HONORABLE MEMBERS

Not the case.

17. NEXT CONGRESSES

Mr. Theodoropoulos: In 2015, the JJIF Congress (General Assembly) will be at the end of the JJIF Convention, in July, in Cuba or in Las Vegas. In 2016, the JJIF Congress (General Assembly) will take place in Asia, together with the JJIF Convention.

You will be informed in time. The dates will be more or less the same, in July, during the vacation, when schools are closed.

19. PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Theodoropoulos: Thank you for your participation in the Congress. I hope we are good representatives for you and we try to do our best for the future to increase our image and the image of ju-jitsu as a sport and a way of life.

P. Theodoropoulos JJIF President



Mortelmans

Dana Mortelmans JJIF General Secretary