

CEO Update to Members – June 2016

Dear JFA Members,

There's certainly been a lot happening in Australian Judo since my last update in March, so I thought I'd take this opportunity to provide you with a quick update on some of the recent activities at the JFA:

2016 Rio Olympic Games

The JFA is very pleased to have seven Australian athletes qualified for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games in August. Those athletes are:

- Chloe Rayner (U/48kg)
- Katharina Haecker (U/63kg)
- Miranda Giambelli (U/78kg)
- Joshua Katz (U/60kg)
- Nathan Katz (U/66kg)
- Jake Bensted (U/73kg)
- Eoin Coughlan (U/81kg)
- Daniel Kelly (Coach)

This is an excellent result for our Australian Judo community. Each of these athletes and their support teams committed to what was a long and challenging qualification period. Along the way they have achieved some great results, always representing their country with pride and supporting each other on the journey. Congratulations to these athletes and their support teams of coaches, parents, family and friends.

2016 National Championships – Geelong, June 10-13

The 2016 National Championships were recently held at the Geelong Arena in Victoria and proved to be a huge success, including once again breaking the record for most competitors across all divisions. Personally, it was great for me to experience my first Judo Nationals and witness the passion and rivalry our sport can generate. Results are available on the JFA website.

Obviously, an event like the National Championships doesn't happen without a lot of planning and hard work. The JFA would like to thank and acknowledge the commitment from the Sports Committee, the Referees and all the volunteers involved. We could not run events like this without them.

Committee Update

The JFA recently undertook processes of calling for nominations and appointing both a new Special Needs Committee and a new Kodokan Committee. Congratulations to the following individuals on their respective appointments:

Special Needs Committee: Alan Foley (Chair), Campbell Dunstan, Graham Anderson, Dawn Santos, Cliff Illingworth and Paul Reeves.

Kodokan Committee: Akira Yamada (Chair), Alan Broadhead, Michael Picken, Janet Lambert and Morgan Endicott-Davies.

IJF Academy Level 1 Instructor Course

We have had 25 students, 24 from Australia and 1 from NZ, successfully complete the 3-month online theory component of the IJF Academy Level 1 Instructor Course. These students will now attend a 10-day practical assessment at the AIS in Canberra during July.

IJF Educational Journey through Australia

The JFA recently delivered a project called the 'Judo For All' Educational Journey through Australia.

Working in conjunction with the International Judo Federation and Member States, the purpose of the project was to promote the educational values and the philosophy of Judo, focus on the young generations and to show how Judo can teach them skills for life to become better citizens. It was also to highlight that Judo truly can be a sport for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

The journey made several stops including Brisbane to Bamaga at the tip of QLD, Adelaide and the Barossa Valley, Melbourne and Geelong and finally Sydney.

In Brisbane, a judo demonstration was organised inside QLD Parliament House on the lawns with young girls who were experiencing the sport for the first time under the leadership of a master Japanese coach. In Bamaga, the tour visited a remote Aboriginal community, where there is a Judo club established and the sport is well known as the sport which has the capacity to bring people together in a peaceful way and deliver beneficial social outcomes for young Indigenous children.

In Victoria, there was a successful demonstration on the waterfront of Geelong involving toddlers right through to one of our Rio bound Olympians.

In the picturesque Barossa Valley the journey took place in the middle of the vineyards, where the JFA has just established our newest Judo club.

The journey concluded in Sydney with events around the harbour and city and a tour of the Sydney 2000 Olympic venue.

Overall this was a hugely successful educational and promotional project for sport of Judo in Australia.

A brief movie of the journey which 'tells the story' of Judo from individuals at the local level is available and I recommend you watch it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0AsnMnuj7Eo&list=PLcThtoN6E0szWYgOBIAsz2WFB4JQFP4CD>

The JFA would like to acknowledge and thank the Member States involved for their commitment and contribution to this project. Various images from the journey can be found on the JFA Facebook page.

2016 Oceania Championships – Canberra, April 8-10

The JFA hosted the 2016 Oceania Championships at the AIS Combat Centre in Canberra during April and Australian Judo can certainly hold its head up high after excellent performances by our team.

In the senior divisions the Australian team won 10 of the 13 gold medals on offer. The great story for Australian Judo is that our junior and cadet teams also did very well.

Well done to every member of the Australian team for giving their best while wearing the Green and Gold. The JFA is proud of both the performance and the excellent behaviour of the team.

We were very pleased with these results and we're looking forward to the Australian team continuing to perform well in the future.



Judo Federation of Australia Inc.

ABN 58 406 097 608
www.ausjudo.com.au
+61 2 6214 3578

AIS Combat Centre
PO Box 176 Belconnen ACT 2616
Leverrier Crescent Bruce ACT



Governance Update

On the 11th June the JFA held a Special General Meeting with Member States, passing a resolution to transition the organisation from being an Incorporated Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee entity. This will not have a significant impact on the way individual members interact with the JFA, but it will give the organisation a much more robust and modern governance structure which will allow improved performance into the future.

The JFA has achieved a lot of positive progress across many key areas in the first half of 2016 and I look forward to continuing that progress with our Member States in the second half of the year.

Don't forget to tune in and watch our Olympians doing Australia proud at the Rio Olympics from August 6-12th!

Yours in Judo

Alex Vallentine

Chief Executive Officer