

# **JJIF** **Ju Jitsu International Federation**

*World Games Sport and Member of GAISF/AGFIS, IWGA, FISPT*

*The President  
Dr Paul G Höglund  
Jungfrudansen 38  
S-17156 Solna  
Sweden*

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To: **Representatives of JJIF Member Federations**  
**Others interested**

## **Letter from the JJIF President**

Dear ***Presidents of JJIF National Federations, Dear Colleagues in Sports,***

I hereby express ***my opinion and positive view of our present situation*** and ***my vision for our future development of the JJIF*** as a respectable, important and very active sports body within the International Sports Community. The results we have obtained and the things we have achieved in Asia and Africa is remarkable for a sport federation of our size and our limited recourses. In Europe we have had a stabile ground for operations now in more than 30 years since our foundation 1976. Our sport is here well established with many events and activities. The European National Federations are mainly government funded and supported with reasonable financial resources, which gives a sound base for development.

However, *Europe is not the total world.* The JJIF exists and is very active through its Continental Federations and Unions in many other parts of the World, despite limited national resources and non existing government funding. I will now point out our ***achievements outside Europe*** during the five years ***since I got elected president at the Ljubljana Congress 2003.*** At that time we practically only had Pakistan in Asia and a few countries in South America. Now we have an ***Olympic recognized federation in Asia*** and a ***federation in Africa, recognized by the highest body of sport authorities in Africa.***

In my capacity as member of GAISF Council I have had many possibilities of promoting ju-jitsu by various activities. I was asked to produce an article regarding our JJIF international development in connection with GAISF Congress and Sport Accord at Athens in June this year. The following text is based on an article for the 2008 Special Edition for Sport Accord of the Sport Insider Magazine:

The JJIF (Ju Jitsu International Federation) is continuing its special efforts for the jujitsu sport developments in Asia and Africa. Recently in March 2008 the 2nd Asian Championships and Congress was organized in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, together with our cooperation partner in Asia, the IBWA (International Belt Wrestling Association). The first Asian Championships was organized at Almaty Kazakhstan November 2006 after the foundation of the AJJBWF, also at Almaty during autumn 2005. The AJJBWF (Asian Ju Jitsu and Belt Wrestling Federation) President Khalil Ahmed Khan has done a great work for our Asian development, including the creation of a well functioning administrative office in Lahore, Pakistan.

The most significant JJIF achievements during 2007 were the **recognition by the OCA** (Olympic Council of Asia) of AJJBWF and the **inclusion of jujitsu and belt wrestling sports as demonstration sports in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indoor Asian Games 2009 in Hanoi, Vietnam** November 2009, as well as **permanent sports in the OCA 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Martial Arts Games to be held soon in Asia**. Now the decision is taken that those Games will **be in Bangkok**, April 2009. I had the pleasure of recently visit Bangkok on the invitation from The Thailand Olympic Committee. On that occasion the Thailand Ju Jitsu Federation was founded under the direct supervision from the Thailand National Olympic Committee. Also in Vietnam the government is now founding a national federation for organizing next years Games.

In the end of January this year the Asian President Khalil Khan and myself were invited to OCA Head Office at Kuwait for meeting with OCA President Shejk Ahmed Al Sabah for discussing the JJIF and AJJBWF participation to all the new activities and Games in Asia, mentioned above. The next **World Games at Kaoshiung, Taiwan end of July 2009** is also a significant activity in Asia next year for jujitsu.

A very important achievement was also the **recognition of our JJAFU (Ju Jitsu African Union) by the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa**. The JJAFU is now also **applying for recognition in Africa by the ANOCA (Association of National Olympic Committees in Africa)**. A significant event in Africa this year is the Continental Training Camp held at Yaoundé, Cameroon in April 2008. This successful development should lead to the organisation of the first Jujitsu African Championships. All this work is coordinated by our hard working African President Colince Tchinda and his office at Yaoundé. Despite lack of financial resources the jujitsu development in Africa is constantly increasing. Recently our African president visited the ACNOA office at Abudja, Nigeria, for promoting our application for African Olympic recognition.

Apart from sport competition the JJIF is also involved in developing programmes for "**Sport and Peace**" and "**Sport for All**". With the special help from OCA, the AJJBWF will run a **special project called "Play for Peace"** at Pakistan, India, Lebanon and Iraq in the beginning of next year. This Training project between war conflicted countries is officially **adopted and supported by UNESCO in Asia**. By this very important project the sports of jujitsu and belt wrestling will get their due popularity particularly in Asia. In Africa "Sport for All" training courses has been held in Cameroon. The JJIF considers the development within Africa, as well as within Asia, as our top priorities.

The main event in Asia for the year 2008, apart for the 2nd Asian Championships, is the JJIF Asian Continental Referee Courses in Iran in the month of July and in Pakistan in December 2008. The Asian Federation is also organizing a project called "Sport Olympiad" in Iran together with Iran Government in the month of October 2008, in which 8 different styles of Martial arts will be played and jujitsu is one of its main events. Another significant activity in 2007 was the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Referee Seminar at Lahore, Pakistan, in April.

In my capacity as Council member of GAISF I have the possibility in working on a new great project for jujitsu and all other official Martial Arts and Combat Sports member federations of GAISF. That is the new huge project **GAISF Martial Arts Games scheduled for 2010**. The venue is not yet decided, but it will be somewhere in Asia. This project magnitude is around 8 Million USD. The plans are that all participating athletes and officials will have everything paid including air travel tickets. I am also member of the **GAISF Martial Arts Committee**, where we discuss all things concerning Martial Arts and Combat Sports. Also the AIBA (International Boxing Federation) is working together with us.

I will here also mention a very significant achievement for our present and future international image. The JJIF has also in September 2006 opened an **office in the "House of Sports" in Lausanne**. This is something we hope will significantly contribute to increased contacts with

other federations and colleagues within the "sport world". We have now obtained external sponsorship for this office including support for an office manager. The **JJIF was officially registered in July this year as one of the 26 International Sports Federation which are located in Lausanne.** Our flag is swinging high together with other federation's flags on the square Place D 'Europe in the "Olympic Capital" of Lausanne. Our office is located on the same street, 10 minutes walk from office of the IOC International Olympic Committee. The main task for this office is internal and external information collection for feeding our web site and our newly created JJIF monthly Newsletter. Also new project development and many other things could be handled from this office.

The JJIF is for its further expansion all over the world relying on all serious jujitsu instructors and practitioners as well as all devoted leaders and event organizers. We need also the help from our different Member Federations in the countries and their Sport Authorities and National Olympic Committees, especially regarding the above described JJIF "Sport for Peace" and "Sport for All" and "Play for Peace" development plans. Together with the competitive sport development ***the Sport for All dimension could hopefully help, and give further support, to an increased future expansion of the sport of jujitsu in all parts of the world.***

In order to reach all our goals and visions, the JJIF has to increase its financial resources. A lot of concrete sponsorship and financial support are needed. For making that possible, we need an increased marketing and media exposure. If that is obtained, the jujitsu sport will continue its successful growth. As we see it today, based on our recent past successful development, we have a great confidence in the future, both in the short time perspective as well as in the future long term development perspective!

Finally I hope I will be able to see to, that all my visions and goals for the future JJIF International Development will come through. For that I need all the possible help from serious and ambitious jujitsu athletes as well as leaders with an open and creative mind. ***Let us all together work in cooperation for a ensuring a continuing developing of the JJIF in all parts of the World!***

With greetings and my best regards!

Yours sincerely  
**JJIF (Ju Jitsu International Federation)**  
Dr Paul G Hoglund  
President  
Email address: [pghoglund@telia.com](mailto:pghoglund@telia.com)

**P.S.** You will soon receive many concrete documents from me regarding suggestions for the future organisation of JJIF as well as President's formal Activity Report for Nov. 2006-2008.