

JFA (NSW) Inc.  
Presidents Report  
2006 Congress

As President of Judo NSW, I table this report to members on the 2005-2006 year.

The key areas of my report are listed below.

1. 2006 Judo NSW activity
2. The move to North Hall, complete with new sprung floor & construction of table space for TMC
3. Office damage & relocation
4. Registration, participation & retention rates
5. Member Protection Policy
6. JFA Inc. changes & directions for 2007
7. New President & Treasurer
8. Thanks

1. The highlight of February was Judo NSW's hosting of the All Japan University Judo Union Team on behalf of the JFA Inc. The team competition, coaching session by Shinichi Shinohara and athlete participation in our Sydney Open provided many members and athletes the opportunity to practise, compete and learn more about Japanese Judo. It was also very heartening to be able to jointly reciprocate the hospitality extended to Australian athletes when in Japan by coordinating with the JFA Inc. a positive, relationship-building visit for the Japanese team. I extend my thanks to the many individuals who worked in support of this initiative and in particular Shane Alvisio, Gail Galea and Peter Herrmann.

Our Nationals campaign was again very successful. Our seniors maintained their dominance in winning 8 gold medals. From a personal perspective it was very pleasing to see the coaching and athlete support team working together to provide the best possible planning and preparation for the long journey to Perth. It is commendable to all involved that we were able to send an 85+ member team. Again, my congratulations are extended to all athletes, coaches, managers and athlete support staff. Our model is the envy of other states and it is something that we should not take for granted. Congratulations Lyn Gonano on receiving a national volunteers award. Well done Lyn and thanks for your generous support. A special thanks to Nigel Fricker for his outstanding effort in coordinating all the "stuff" that arises when planning on this scale and range of athlete needs.

Our NSW referees have supported NSW events in good numbers over the year. Tom, Peter and the Commission are always well organised, informed and ensure the safest, fairest environments for our athletes. Thank you all for your commitment to NSW Judo this year.

The NSW International Open was also very successful. The quality of many of the divisions was fantastic with strong athletes visiting from New Zealand, New Caledonia, Queensland, Victoria and the ACT. A lot of hard work goes into the preparation and planning of the event and I thank Jacqui Zelter, Nigel Fricker, Ed Colliver, Tom Godkin, Peter Williams, Colin & Midge Hill for their contributions.

UNSW celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and it was a pleasure to attend their anniversary dinner. I congratulate this outstanding Judo Club on reaching this significant milestone as well as acknowledging the commitment and hard work of head coach Warren Rosser. Warren is one of our great, former champions who continues to make a significant contribution to our sport in his leadership of the UNSW club. Congratulations everyone!

Whilst the UNSW celebrated 50 years, we welcomed Zenbu Judo Club to NSW Judo. Coach Morgan Endicott Davies has demonstrated new and innovative ways to market, administer and provide quality training at club level. Congratulations Morgan and club members for your outstanding achievements in such a short time. I also wish Rob Maurency and John Gould every success in establishing the new club at Terry Hills.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of the BBR and BBR Academy. The quality of instruction and technical excellence being demonstrated on the mat on a weekly basis is providing visiting members many opportunities to increase their knowledge or improve aspects of their Judo. I encourage all clubs to get involved, as the BBRA avails us the opportunity to work together in an apolitical structure to improve the quality of our Judo knowledge, technique and instruction. The BBRA will continue to foster talent identification with opportunities to travel overseas to train under the guidance of experienced senior players. I encourage again, the membership to support this unique opportunity in Australian Judo. Don't take it for granted!

2. The relocation to North Hall has more benefits than negatives for Judo NSW. During the Easter break, the BoM has been able to further refine the footprint of the North Hall by the design and construction of bench space for tournament management. This has been achieved at no cost to Judo NSW. SOP will always be in a state of continuous change. One of the challenges for the BoM is responding to these changes. We will be constantly looking for ways to improve our space and programs for Judo development.

Currently, the installation of the boom gates have caused concern. It has caused concern for other sports as well. The negotiation of access and passes etc. take time. The BoM is establishing good working relationships with the SOPA and this will need to continue as we grow further activity and programs on a yearly basis. Please understand that change is inevitable and that for Judo to prosper in this environment we will need to be flexible in our approach to this continuum.

3. Unfortunately, the recent September hail storm in Sydney had a dramatic effect on our operations. The office at Sports House was totally destroyed by the water damage caused by the clogging of the drainage. Jacqui has undertaken a stock take of damage including photocopier, computer, grading certificates etc. The most frustrating thing in all of this is the time it takes away from our day to day administration. After a few hectic weeks and lots of hard work, Jacqui is back on deck and now preparing for the office relocation to Olympic Park at the end of October. Our new address will be Sports House, 6 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park. This relocation is a direct result of the closure of the DSR Sports House at Glebe. The new location will be rent free for the first year and bring our office and venue much closer together. The national office will also be relocating to the same building. Thank you Jacqui for coordinating many aspects of the move at this time.

4. Registration, participation & retention rates have dipped for the first time in 5 years. It is timely that we discuss and act on the data in front of us in an open and honest way. Phil will explain the implications from his report but a number of things are very clear.

- a) Many Clubs are not registering on time.
- b) Many clubs are not registering all members
- c) Many clubs are exposing themselves to extreme risk, without Judo NSW support, by not registering on time and all members
- d) Many clubs registration process and admin in this area is of concern

Fees have had a modest increase, the first in 4 years.

The BoM strongly urges all clubs to give this area the priority it deserves.

The participation aspect of Judo NSW activity is also monitored. You will see in the calendar for 2007 some new initiatives. An example is the further refinement of the Club Teams concept. We are seeking the support of clubs to offer "fight nights" as a way of building club morale via a club teams format. The aim of these type of activities is to respond to the reality of a time poor society and provide sport/entertainment activity for our membership. Our junior competition format will trial some changes as well. Please get behind these initiatives as they will benefit athletes, clubs as well as Judo NSW. It is hoped that by promoting time effective activity, more athletes will be involved thus creating greater interest and retention rates.

5. A Member Protection Policy draft for Judo NSW is to be considered by the membership at today's Congress. Our society now demands much more in regards to member protection at all levels. Our national body, the JFA Inc. introduced Member Protection Policy in 2005. Our state funding is contingent upon the implementation of a member protection policy. The draft document before you today is aligned to the JFA Inc. model. It is timely that we introduce this policy and strongly recommend that you endorse the draft document before you today.

6. It is important that I update you with the JFA Inc. changes & directions for 2007 and beyond, as it will have implications for the way we administer the sport/business of Judo in the future.

At the national level, the Australian Sports Commission strongly suggested that in order to maintain our funding levels for Judo, we needed to adopt a more streamlined governance model. Historically, the JFA Inc. had 8 members, the President or nominee from each state or territory. This body of 8 plus the executive appointments of President, Treasurer and Secretary totalled 11 people on the national Committee of Management.

The new national constitution adopted and effective from September 2006 now dictates that the JFA Inc. will be run by a board of 5 directors elected by the 8 state/territory presidents. Nominations for a position as one of the 5 directors can come from anywhere in the membership structure.

Further to this, conflict of interest definitions in the new constitution will restrict the existing practise of state/territory presidents also being elected onto the national board of directors in dual roles.

Additionally, once the 5 national directors are elected, they then have the responsibility of making the appropriate appointments for the relevant commissions, tribunals etc. In effect, the 5 directors have the capacity to appoint relevant personnel to provide the efficient leadership & management of Judo at the National level.

This significant change will empower the national directors to run Australian Judo in line with government and ASC policy. It is hoped that national funding levels will improve as a result of this management change. It is also important that NSW has someone nominated for a position given its' numbers and capacity.

7. As you can see from the agenda, I have not sought re-election as President of Judo NSW. My 5 years in the role of reluctant President has been interesting. I feel that the organisation is in a much healthier state on a number of fronts and worth mentioning before I step down.

Culturally, we are a more open and communicative body. There is a much greater connectedness to athletes, coaches, clubs, referees and administrators. I think we share a greater understanding of working together for the benefits of our sport. We now have state camps, teams working for national and international success, technical development across many fronts and a range of judo activity for members of all ages and abilities.

Resource wise we are in a significantly stronger position. We have a designated Judo Centre with 240+ mats on a sprung floor as well as a fully resourced office operating 25 hours, over a 4 day a week. We own seating, scales, a sound system, crash mats, protective covers, office equipment and a set of mobile jig saw mats.

Financially, we are in an improved position. Phil McDermott has done an outstanding job as Treasurer and like me is, not seeking re-election.

I would like to publicly thank Phil for his honest and open dealings as Treasurer. He has made a significant contribution to Judo in NSW. His accurate financial reports and forecasts have enabled this BoM to be effective and I think, make a difference. Sincere thanks Phil!

Our new President will be Rob Ivers. I am very pleased that Rob is stepping up to this role. I am confident that Judo NSW is in good hands. Rob has been an outstanding competitor for NSW and Australia. He is an Olympian and understands the pathway from junior athlete to international competitor. Rob has also kept pace with technical matters and has an outstanding knowledge of Judo in this area. Professionally, Rob has a business degree and has supported BoM initiatives requiring liaison with administrators at all levels.

I thank him for giving something back to our sport and taking on this important position.

Our new Treasurer will be Warren Hillier. Warren is a former NSW representative who understands the Judo NSW scene. Professionally, Warren holds a senior position with the Commonwealth Bank and is extremely well qualified to undertake the Treasurer's role. Again I thank Warren for giving something back to our sport and undertaking this significant role.

8. To conclude my final report, I would like to thank my fellow board members for their strong support, their commitment and effort to develop our sport and above all their friendship while working together over the past 6 years.

To Jacqui Zellner, our hard working office assistant, thanks for your enthusiastic and positive dealings with our members and the support provided to me over many phone calls.

There is much to look forward to in the future but always much to do.

We need more volunteers to help drive new initiatives and grow our sport.

Consider club coaching, TMC help, a role on the BoM. It all helps and is also intrinsically rewarding.

I look forward to remaining actively involved in Judo in the future.

I am happy to take any questions from the floor.

Alan Broadhead  
President  
JFA (NSW) Inc.