



2020 Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation General Assembly Minutes
Saturday, November 21, 2020 – 8:00 AM Pacific Time - Virtual Meeting via Zoom

I. Welcome

President, Mr. João Silva, welcomes attendees and states that it is his pleasure and honor to once again be present at the General Assembly (GA) meeting. The President states that he believes in the importance of the GA meeting as it provides members with the opportunity to come together and have discussions at the international level, learning about one another's culture and the unique needs that each national federation may have and how those needs fit into the bigger, international picture of SJJIF. He believes this is important for the continued growth of the organization.

The president wishes everyone a successful GA and indicates that he will be jointly conducting the GA with the General Secretary, Summer Casebere.

The President requests that all attendees briefly introduce themselves. Attendees present themselves, indicating what federation/country they represent and their respective positions.

II. Attendance

The following attendees are present:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| I. SJJIF President | XV. BSJJF Representative (Brazil) |
| II. SJJIF Vice President | XVI. SJJFNZ President (New Zealand) |
| III. SJJIF General Secretary | XVII. SJJUF President (Ukraine) |
| IV. SJJIF Treasurer | XVIII. SJJFI President (India) |
| V. SJJIF Executive Assistant | XIX. SJJFI Vice-President (India) |
| VI. NABJJF President (North America) | XX. FIGMMA Representative (Italy) |
| VII. SJJSAF President (South America) | XXI. FPSJJF President (Tahiti) |
| VIII. ASJJF President (Asia) | XXII. FRMSJJF President (Morocco) |
| IX. SJJAF President (Africa) | XXIII. FRMSJJF Representative (Morocco) |
| X. ESJJF President (Europe) | XXIV. FJJF President (Portugal) |
| XI. ESJJF Vice President (Europe) | XXV. SJJUKF President (United Kingdom) |
| XII. SJJHF Representative (Hungary) | XXVI. SJJMF Representative (Malaysia) |
| XIII. SJJBF President (Belize) | XXVII. SJJFH President (Honduras) |
| XIV. SJJBF Representative (Belize) | |

III. Approval of Agenda

The SJJIF General Secretary, Summer Casebere, asks the GA to approve the proposed agenda. The GA unanimously agreed.

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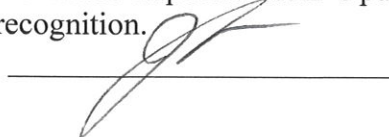
IV. Reports

A. President's Report

The President opens the President Report by stating that 2020 was a different and challenging year that placed limitations on many normal activities, however, many goals that were established at the previous general assembly meeting were met.

Activity is as follows:

- a. Acquired membership of UNESCO/TSG games and working towards being part of the 2020 TSG Games.
- b. Attendance at the 2019 TAFISA General Assembly meeting in November of 2019 in Tokyo, Japan where SJJIF's full member status was confirmed. Participation in the 2020 TAFISA World Games was postponed due to COVID-19's global implications to events, however, SJJIF looks forward to future participation once sporting events return to normal.
- c. Further developed SJJIF Educational Resources, implementing new or adapting existing resources to better meet the demands and challenges of current events as they relate to COVID-19 and its implications.
 - i. Hook Sweep - Partner organization to assist coaches with virtual teaching.
 - ii. School of Sign Language & Sign Language 101 - Developed relationship to be able to share their resources on the SJJIF website to better support Deaf BJJ athletes and the community
 - iii. SJJIF Game - Free online BJJ game for kids to teach BJJ rules and concepts.
 - iv. Free Basic BJJ Drills for at home virtual training for both adults and kids.
- d. SJJIF Software - Development of the Event Management System that will allow access to both national/continental federation members and event organizers. The President presents the following details on software development:
 - i. System updates to the back and front end to allow the system to require less resources and provide a more modern interface.
 - ii. System functionalities such as mat management, athlete management, scoreboard management, bracket management, award pages, and key event information pages showing schedule per mat and results.
 - iii. Expanding athlete management resources providing more details on records of athletes to enhance their profile.
- e. SJJIF Software - COVID-19 Safety Protocols developed and implemented:
 - i. Event registration page that includes Safety Protocols and waivers.
 - ii. Option to include a COVID-19 waiver, as well as a 15-day temperature check, allowing event organizers to track all competitors' health prior to participating in the event.
- f. SJJIF Software - Membership Profile expansion of features:
 - i. Forum where SJJIF members can participate using their name to create a positive environment and platform for exchanging ideas, information or asking questions.
 - ii. Training log for record keeping
 - iii. Member's quarterly check-up
 - iv. Competition History with an added feature that keeps data on both SJJIF events and other events.
- g. COVID-19 impact on other organizations that affected the 2020 SJJIF Activity:
 - i. The 2020 Sport Accord/GAISF Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19 which impacted SJJIF's pursuit of its Olympic mission / GAISF recognition.



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- ii. The 2020 TAFISA World Games for All was to be hosted in Portugal, but was cancelled due to COVID-19. This would have been the SJJIF's introduction of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in the Games.
 - iii. The 2021 World Police & Fire Game was postponed due to COVID-19 implications and has not yet confirmed a location or date.
 - iv. World Traditional Sports and Games postponed their inauguration event to 2022 due to COVID-19 implications.
- h. COVID-19 impact on 2020 SJJIF World Jiu-Jitsu Championship:
 - i. 2020 SJJIF World Jiu-Jitsu Championship cancelled due to COVID-19 implications.
 - ii. Originally set to occur in September of 2020 at the Long Beach Arena, Long Beach, California. However, events have not been permitted due to COVID-19 state guidelines.
 - iii. SJJIF attempted to host the event in Reno, Nevada, however mid-planning state guidelines were implemented due to COVID-19 that restricted events.
 - iv. Cancellation of the Reno, Nevada venue forced SJJIF to reassess the logistics and risks of conducting the event as the participation of international athletes would be restricted due to the 15-day quarantine requirement of international travelers, increased risk of COVID-19 contamination of the BJJ community, and jeopardized SJJIF's ability to maintain its event standards.
- i. 2020 - 2021 Objectives:
 - i. Finalize software goals and implement them in the national and continental federations in 2021 to continue the development of a united BJJ community.
 - ii. Finalize the SJJIF BJJ Support Project and work closely with a Grant Advisor to acquire grants for the development of new projects that allow SJJIF to better support SJJIF organs, projects, and the BJJ community.
 - iii. Implementation of the Additional Event rulebooks and events.
 - iv. Development of the SJJIF Continental Tour (in progress)
 - v. Development of a SJJIF World Bidding Protocol (in progress)

The President notes that this concludes his presentation with some topics addressed going into further detail at later points of the GA meeting. The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

B. Vice President Report

Vice President Tawfiq Jaunbocus reports that shortly after his appointment to vice president of the SJJIF the world jointly faced the onset of COVID-19, however, within his capacity as Vice President of SJJIF and role with the African federation there have been significant accomplishments:

- a. Acquired recognition from UCSA - African Union of Sport Council, recognized by the African Olympic Committee and has currently applied for the African Sport Union Council.
- b. Prospective relationship with Cambridge University to implement Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in course options. Development will determine an expanding model on an



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international level. There is a combined goal of providing Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu instruction at the primary and secondary school level as part of the education program to provide learning and professional opportunities, in addition to increasing the awareness and recognition of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu.

- c. Applied to be part of the African Games, however, the 2020 Games were postponed due to COVID-19 implications and we are now turning to 2021 with the hope that it will be a better year for sport activity in the African continent.
- d. Africa Open 2019 was very successful with participation from 20 countries and 1100 competitors. Unfortunately, the 2020 African Open had to be postponed due to COVID-19 implications.

C. General Secretary Report

General Secretary Summer Casebere reports on activity as follows:

- a. COVID-19 Resources Developed for BJJ Community:
 - i. Development of COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocol Recommendations for Re-opening BJJ Schools.
 - ii. Covid-19 Health & Safety Protocol Recommendations for Events (in progress)
- b. Ranking Events Summary: 2020 had a total of 53 SJJIF ranking events with 44 occurring before the impact of COVID-19 and 9 after the initial emergence of COVID 19. SJJIF hopes for current events as they relate to the global pandemic change and that SJJIF activity can return to normal in 2021.
- c. SJJIF Membership Booth Material to address the growing need as national federations and event organizers use the SJJIF software when hosting events. Material is Phase 1 of a development tool kit for event organizers to have a SJJIF booth at events with the end goal of providing a library or resources to support event organizers and membership development.
- d. 2020 - 2021 GS Objectives:
 - i. Update National Federation Application Processing & Requirements (in progress).
 - ii. SJJIF Website:
 - i. Donation Page
 - ii. Update national and continental federation information.
 - iii. Finalize Covid-19 Health and Safety Protocol Recommendations for Events (in progress)
 - iv. Support finalization of the SJJIF Continental Tour and SJJIF World Bidding Protocol
 - v. Membership to the International Sport Network Organization (research benefits)

The General Secretary notes that this concludes her presentation. The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

D. Finance Report

SJJIF Treasurer, Patricia Silva, presents the 2019 balance sheet with details, and the profit and loss account. Treasurer indicates that this is an updated report that includes information unknown at the time of the last general assembly meeting. SJJIF total income in 2019 was \$379,189 USD, however, it closed at \$20,478.70 USD. Clarifications are provided regarding how expenses are itemized.



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The floor is open for questions and comments again; however, there are no further questions or comments from members. The General Secretary asks the assembly to accept the financial reports for 2019. The General Assembly unanimously approved the 2019 financial reports of the SJJIF.

The Treasurer presents the estimated 2020 financial reports and indicates that the profit and loss report is as realistic and as skeptical as possible to present realistic data. The Treasurer indicates that the estimated report includes accurate information from January through October 2020.

The Treasurer proceeds to review the report by line, providing clarifications as needed regarding the updates to detail on item expenses in the finance report. It is noted that 2020 income has been adversely affected by COVID-19, both in membership and event income and actions taken by SJJIF to mitigate loss of income are discussed such as applying for grants, reduction in staff hours and/or stipends. The President shares some long-term financial goals of SJJIF to garner funds to support programs for the BJJ community and support SJJIF's membership to international organizations.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no further questions or comments from members. The General Secretary asks the assembly to accept the estimated financial reports for 2020. The General Assembly unanimously approved the 2020 estimated financial reports of the SJJIF.

E. Continental Council VP Report North America Report

CF President Mr. Sam Aschidamini of the NABJJF states that 2020 activity has been highly affected by COVID-19, with California being fully closed. CF President noted that an attempt to host an event at a private venue was closed by the hosting venue's city due to COVID-19 restrictions and forecasts that a California event is unlikely until the summer of 2021. On a positive note, other states are updating restrictions that allow for BJJ events. NABJJF is presently slated to host an event in Arizona in December 2020 with positive registration projections due to increased traveling and athlete excitement to compete.

CF President notes that 2020 began very positively with beginning of year events highly attended and projections for the year very positive and he looks forward to moving past current events and back to normal activity.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no further questions or comments from members.

Honduras - NF President reports that Honduras is fully closed, with only essential businesses allowed to operate. Academies risk losing their business license if they teach or permit training on their premises.

Belize - NF President reports that Belize is fully closed, with all BJJ gyms closed and no training permitted. Belize is a small country and cases are rising so there is public panic.



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South America Report

CF President Mr. Cleiber Maia of the SJJSAF reports that they had a large event just the month prior in Brazil with over 1000 competitors, citing that athlete excitement to compete generated a high demand after several months of no competitions and he hopes it continues for the upcoming events. CF President cites some concerns for upcoming events as COVID-19 cases are on the rise once again in Brazil as he is uncertain as to what restrictions may be imposed.

The CF President notes that he looks forward to moving past current events and back to normal activity as everyone else.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no further questions or comments from members.

Brazil - NF President reports that current events are dominated by COVID-19 with many academies closing and professors seeking other employment. However, projections for the future are positive with many positive talks with government officials / sport initiatives being discussed to support BJJ.

Asia Report

CF President Edson Kogahara of the ASJJF reports that their last event prior to the emergence of COVID-19 was in February of 2020, with no events occurring between March through July 2020, and their first event post COVID-19 held in August in China. The event was very successful, having a high demand, and reaching capacity very quickly which has also been the case with events scheduled in China, Japan and Taiwan.

CF President notes that other countries have yet not lifted COVID-19 restrictions to permit for events, so he projects that the remaining events for 2020 and early 2021 will likely only be hosted in these 3 countries. He looks forward to moving past current events and back to normal activity as everyone else.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no further questions or comments from members.

Malaysia - NF Representative reports that current events in Malaysia are disheartening as well. The country closed in March, re-opened for a month, and then returned to full closure. Currently, not even outdoor leisure activity is permitted and the country is awaiting information from the government on restrictions to move forward with resuming training and planning events.

India - NF President reports that India currently has a restriction on events / large gatherings of 100 people which makes planning an event difficult. The emergence of COVID-19 in early 2020 forced the cancellation of what was to be the first BJJ event of the year and current restrictions do not permit an event, so they are waiting for a more opportune time to host their event. NF Vice President reports that some academies are re-opening which is positive, however, the federation is now waiting for January 2021 to have new information on event restrictions.



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Oceania Report

CF President Minol Tavaras is unable to attend the GA meeting due to personal reasons, however, President Joao Silva reports that in 2020 activity was adversely affected by COVID-19. However, the CF finalized key organizational accomplishment such as becoming officially registered and recognized by the government, launching the continental website, and the first regional event, hosted by New Zealand, being very successful. NF President Paolo Rogerio reports that the regional event hosted approximately 1300 competitors.

New Zealand - NF President reports that regionally most countries are COVID-19 free due to early closures and New Zealand has been able to move forward with hosting successful events. NF President reports that NF moved forward with key recognition from the government and has a healthy number of schools registered under their federation. Due to SJJIF Worlds being postponed due to COVID-19, NF moved forward with award ceremony for top ranked athletes and academies to give back to the community and supporters

However, the NF President reports a concern regarding the level of activity in the region and the overall prominence of SJJIF's CF due to inactivity. NF President reports that there is an opportunity to move forward with events in both New Zealand and Australia as they have the support of athletes and community. NF President requests guidance / feedback from SJJIF on how to proceed forward with the current level of activity in Oceania.

French Polynesia - NF President reports that Tahiti was able to host two events prior to COVID-19 related lockdowns in March. Currently, BJJ academies are closed with no events or gatherings permitted. Tahiti has moved to virtual meetings to further organize NF and support schools and professors; however, they are presently unable to forecast upcoming re-opening of BJJ academies or events.

Europe Report

CF President Marcello Rosa reports that Europe is very much affected by COVID-19 and has halted all activity. The year began very positively, projected to be the most successful yet for CF with the CF President acquiring significant government and media support, in addition to sponsored mats and amenities for events and the committed support of other European NFs for the CF events of 2020. 2020 did see the development of a CF board and the European NFs growth in unity which was creating continental excitement for events and growth.

United Kingdom - CF VP President & UK Representative reports that the focus of the UK and European federations was to focus on what could be done during these unprecedented times when COVID-19 is devastating BJJ activity. In the UK and Europe, they are exploring opportunities for elite training and specialized events to establish some growth and movement as they move towards a more normal activity.

In addition, the European CF has come together with a lot of combined strengths that make for an exciting future. CF VP President looks forward to a relaxation as vaccinations move forward and we resume to some normalcy. 2020 was a hard year, but things are being developed that will open new avenues moving forward so the future still feels hopeful.



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The UK President Terrence Yu reports that there are significant restrictions on training and events from March 2020. Restrictions were lifted in July but reinstated and the UK currently finds itself back in full lockdown until COVID-19 cases go down. The exploration of other avenues, opportunities, or potential markets for elite / pro events that could be successful and beneficial for BJJ athletes and the community. NF President will be looking at the coming weeks' updates on COVID-19 restrictions to determine the schedule of upcoming events but looks forward to 2021.

Italy - NF Representative Alessandro Federico of Italy reports that the country is currently in lockdown. They are tentatively planning an event for January 2021; however, any confirmation of the event awaits government updates on restrictions.

Ukraine - NF Representative Serhii Pasichnyi of Ukraine reports that the country is in lockdown which forced NF to cancel all events for 2020. However, they will be meeting with the Sport Committee of Ukraine which he believes will be positive for the NF.

Africa Report

CF President Jildson Simoes reports initially on Angola which is a reflection at large of the situation in Africa which is that COVID-19 restrictions have made impossible any BJJ activity, both in training and events. The CF is currently discussing options on hosting the Africa Open once training / contact sports are permitted in Africa.

SJJIF VP Tawfiq Jaunbocus continues the report on Africa, sharing that Africa has been largely impacted by COVID-19 and that the timing was unfortunate as African countries, largely poor and undeveloped, were beginning to have growth and progress that COVID-19 devastated. However, as it relates to BJJ activity it has been decided that an African Club Championship, the Africa Open and an African Nation Championship will be hosted beginning in 2021. The African Nation Championship will be very important to align themselves with key organizations such as the African Games and other sport entities in Africa. SJJIF VP believes that 2021 will require that a lot of things that COVID-19 destroyed be rebuilt.

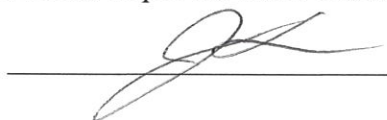
Mauritius - NF Representative reports that Mauritius has been COVID-19 free since June 2020 and although things are getting better the borders remain closed. The closed borders have adversely affected any type of continental / international event, but in Mauritius events have re-started. NF has hosted events since August, with another event in November and their national event in December. They are hopeful that things will continue the same in Mauritius.

Morocco - NF Representative reports that Morocco's COVID-19 restrictions are currently city-based with some cities having BJJ activity and others not.

SJJIF President João Silva thanks everyone for their national and continental updates stating that he appreciates the opportunity to come together and see what is happening around the world with the BJJ community.

F. Approval of New Members

General Secretary presents the next item, which is to approve the Provisional National Members to Full Member status as per the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.



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This year the SJJIF has received membership applications from the following countries: Israel, Romania and the United Kingdom that have been approved and given provisional membership status as they await final approval from the general assembly. The federations are:

- a. Sport Jiu-Jitsu Israeli Federation - Israeli Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu League
- b. Romania Sport Jiu-Jitsu Federation
- c. Sport Jiu-Jitsu United Kingdom Federation

The floor is open for questions and comments.

NF VP James Saks comments on the positive experience the UK has had with Romania both in collaboration and support.

There are no further questions or comments from members. The General Secretary asks the General Assembly to ratify the acceptance of all remaining provisional members. The assembly unanimously agreed and welcomed the Sport Jiu-Jitsu Israeli Federation - Israeli Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu League, Romania Sport Jiu-Jitsu Federation, and Sport Jiu-Jitsu United Kingdom Federation. Present NF Representatives are provided with (virtual) voting cards.

G. Discussion Topics

1. Proposed Rulebooks for Additional Events (Pro Jiu-Jitsu, Team, and Submission Only)

The President begins by stating that the proposed rulebooks are an initiative to further develop and expand the hosting event opportunities that NFs and CFs have, in addition to providing the BJJ community and athletes with different opportunities to compete. In addition, the proposed event formats may allow for more marketing and existing event partnership opportunities.

Pro Jiu-Jitsu - Events that host super fights, may be open or by invitation only, may provide cash prizes, may have different approved techniques and weight divisions.

Team Events - Events that host team-based competitions that may consist of local teams, dream teams, national and continental teams, etc. with different elimination systems.

Submission Only - Events that may present BJJ in a more exciting way and may garner media support and public following because the match / results can be easily understood.

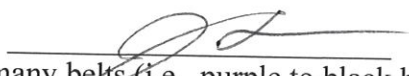
Q: Who decides the format / rule set of the event?

A: Organizer decides the format of the event prior to hosting.

Q: Will events consist of traditional BJJ divisions?

A: Rulebooks / organizers will have simplified age/ weight division options. Regarding belt divisions, it is an item for discussion on how belts are grouped as international / regional data on BJJ practitioners is considered. For example, a country that has a high number of black belt athletes can have a black belt only event, but a country that may have a more limited number of BJJ athletes may have a purple to black belt event.

Q: Will combining too many belts (i.e., purple to black belt) compromise the integrity of the



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event?

A: Combined belt events are discussed and formats that maximize participation while minimizing complexity are discussed, in addition to meeting the needs of different regions and making accommodations either with the event format, rule set, or weight / rank divisions to support athletes from different regions of the world that have varying degrees of BJJ development.

Q: What techniques would be permitted in combined rank divisions as traditional BJJ competition has techniques/submissions that only brown and black belts can do?

A: Importance of participating athletes knowing and preparing for the ruleset discussed.

Q: Participation in other international organization events often remove rank and only create division by weight, what would be SJJIF's approach?

A: The need to only qualify athletes with purple to black belt rank is discussed to ensure safety of athletes and maintain integrity of sport as the range in knowledge and skill between the beginner ranks and advanced ranks is significant.

Q: Do we take a different approach for GI and No GI?

A: Idea of perception that there is a greater difference in skill in GI than No GI is discussed. Opportunities of opening events to these formats and combined divisions is discussed as a positive thing that allows for BJJ athletes to participate in not only SJJIF special events, but in other organization's events which can positively impact the development of SJJIF on the international scene.

Q/A: Nation's submission-only event format is shared as an example.

Q: Do these new rules replace the SJJIF competition rules or belt ranks?

A: President clarifies that the existing SJJIF competition rules remain the primary ruleset for traditional BJJ events. The proposed special event rulesets are only for special events to allow SJJIF, CFs and NFs to host different event formats. The President notes that special events should be based on top ranked athletes, however, regional differences in BJJ development may require event format accommodations to be made to support or challenge regions based on their development as a sport and of their athletes.

Q/A: Pro Jiu-Jitsu ruleset discussed with options to use the traditional BJJ competition weight and age divisions or the special event weight divisions.

Q/A: Limiting Pro Jiu-Jitsu to only brown and black belts is discussed from an event hosting and safety standpoint.

Q/A: Clarification of the Pro Jiu-Jitsu ruleset providing guidelines for the event format (i.e., super fights) and not necessarily the rules of illegal/legal techniques/submissions or divisions.

Q/A: Discussion on language and wording of special events.

Q: For Team events who decides the order in which athletes compete?

A: Per proposed rule set the team coach decides the order of athletes competing.

Q/A: Continental's team only event format is shared as an example of experience and positive



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impacts to CF and BJJ.

Q/A: Clarification on submission only event time limits and over-time set-up.

Decision: Pro Jiu-Jitsu or Invitational wording. Pro just brown / black belts any other athlete event is titled invitational for blue and purple belts. Kids also. Photos need to be added. Submit and send for approval. Unanimously agreed.

President closes discussion item stating his belief that everyone's goal is to have a successful event platform that is beneficial to the federation, event organizer, athletes and BJJ community while promoting safety and fair play. The purpose of these special event rules is to expand opportunities for the sport while providing standards that are recognized universally but allow for accommodations that meet the varying needs of countries and regions as they relate to the respective development of BJJ and number of athletes.

2. Continental Circuit /World Bidding Procedures

The President introduces the idea of using the Pro Jiu-Jitsu event format to develop a continental circuit competition with NF and CF top ranked athletes qualifying to participate in this international event.

The floor is open for questions and comments.

CF President Cleiber Maia asked for clarification on the event, and whether it would be national or continental teams. Discussion leads to the conclusion that events would start at the continental level to allow nations to come together at the continental level and group resources such as number of athletes or event organizing experience, etc.

The President informs GA of the upcoming project of developing World Bidding procedures with more information to come throughout 2021.

The floor is open for questions and comments. There are no questions or comments.

3. Online Streaming & Courses

The President introduces the need for online streaming and courses which became very apparent during COVID-19 and highlighted the learning and connection opportunities of online content. However, the President shares his belief that certification opportunities should be coupled with quality material and courses. Goal is to develop two courses; one that focuses on the rules of traditional, adapted and special event competitions and a second that focuses on training referees on how to apply the rules during competition.

Mr. James Saks shares the importance of creating a platform that all CF and NF members use for training that will be beneficial to all members and SJJIF and be a tool to innovate the sport across the globe. It is discussed that SJJIF will develop the curriculum and recording location / team will be decided after curriculum development.

The floor is open for questions and comments. There are no questions or comments.



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4. Continental Federations

The President notes that communication is a key component of success amongst the federation, and directly impacts development, support and sharing of resources. Utilizing platforms of communication to have an easy and constant form of communication amongst national, continental, or international teams is necessary.

President addresses concerns regarding Oceania's development, recognizing key actions and impact of early members and sharing openness to the emergence of new leaders in that region, and any region in fact, if it is a collaborative, united effort that further moves SJJIF and its CFs and NFs in the direction of growth.

The President addresses the need for NFs and CFs to have their own General Assembly meetings so that there is transparency and collaboration amongst members to address issues or identify goals at the national and continental level.

The New Zealand NF Representative shares his of his national boards concerns for Oceania and the need for an Oceania General Assembly. The North America CF President shares his belief that the SJJIF goal of growth and development should always be the primary focus and supports the idea that new leaders should have the space to emerge when existing leaders are not as active or committed to SJJIF goals.

The President agreed and invited the New Zealand NF Representative to share ideas on how to best move forward. The New Zealand NF Representative shares some regional experiences of the previous year and identifies two areas; leadership in activity and communication and the need for an individual to take that leadership role today. The New Zealand NF Representative shares his willingness to take on some of those goals as he is invested in the growth of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in that region and is willing to commit time and energy to such a goal.

The North America CF President acknowledges that for the success of SJJIF there must be space for individuals to move forward in leading the growth of the federation, citing the fluctuation of his own drive and commitment to growth as he balances it with other obligations, both personally and professional.

The President agrees and emphasizes that this process must be done respectfully and with recognition of the prior leaders' contribution to the federation which is why he believes it is key to have national and continental meetings so that space for new leadership is paved while simultaneously recognizing the various work that existing leaders may be doing. As an example, he cites that the Oceania President, although not recently active in events in 2020 did finalize the legal registration of the Oceania federation and its website which are key pieces to

its development. He further cites as examples the timeline for development of other regions and notes that there is an added difficulty to setting wheels in motion as opposed to continuing to propel the wheels forward, and both must be valued.

Regarding the concerns in Oceania, it is discussed that the Statutes & Bylaws need to be utilized to hold leadership accountable for their required duties, submit a vote of non-confidence if deemed necessary and to vote transparently and democratically to have a transfer in leadership.



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It is agreed that the President will initiate a method of shared communication amongst the Oceania leadership which includes NF leaders to begin addressing and resolving the concerns of members and identify obligations per SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.

5. Protocols & Development

The General Secretary notes that SJJIF and its efforts began as a grassroots movement composed of BJJ Black Belts, practitioners and professors who wanted something different and better, but it does not take away from the fact that it was a grassroots movement. Today, there is space for professional growth across all positions and interactions. The concerns regarding Oceania are a perfect example of the transitional growing pains SJJIF may experience as we move away from a grassroots movement to what we want to envision for the present and future.

The General Secretary suggests that WhatsApp regional groups that include the SJJIF EC be developed so that communication and growth is consistently pursued. This suggestion is a result of seeing the exciting progress and growth of the European CF due to increased communication and influx of new members.

6. Committee for Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu federations in Africa

Item proposed by Morocco to address problems that African NFs are having with their Ministry of Sports in the face of competing entities wanting to be recognized as the NF of their nation. UK VP, previously President of the South Africa NF, shares previous steps taken in Egypt and recommends acquiring a copy of the letter from SJJIF VP that states that the CF is recognized in Africa to support the Moroccan case.

7. European Federation 2021 Competition

UK VP shares that the 2020 continental event was set to take place in Portugal, but with COVID-19 it has been pushed forward to 2021. A positive is that there are now more NFs in the European CF to support the continental event which presently does not have a set venue or date as COVID-19 measures are still in place. However, it is noted that information will be shared as soon as it is required as it pertains to the continental event.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

8. Member Duties / Annual Fees

SJJIF President thanks those who were able to pay their membership dues in 2020 and who through the pandemic continued to support the growth of SJJIF. For those unable, we hope to see the support in the future.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

9. Collaborative Events / Alliances

The SJJIF President informs GA that more information on this item will come in 2021 with the further development of the special event rulebooks.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.



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10. Software

The SJJIF President informs the GA that the software is in the final stages of development for its expansion and use across all NFs and CFs. More information will be provided in 2021.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

11. Social Media / Marketing

The SJJIF President shares that social media should be used to share content and promote SJJIF, CFs and NFs across the globe. The President notes that it is important to monitor content to ensure that social media presence and content is appropriate, is not discriminatory, and represents SJJIF appropriately. Furthermore, engaging in conflict on social media platforms should be avoided. The President encourages the exploration of all social media platforms to further promote the growth of SJJIF.

It is noted that social media sharing should include the hashtag and @ tagging so that SJJIF, CFs, and NFs can easily share content.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

12. Position of President

The SJJIF President informs the GA that the presidency, as a position and per the statutes, is up for election in 2021. Every qualified member who is interested in the position will have the opportunity to run for president, to be voted on, at the 2021 General Assembly meeting. The President shares in openness to growth and change, and although he also intends to be on the ballot for president in 2021, he looks forward to other members seeking growth and infusing SJJIF with that new energy.

The General Secretary briefly explains the election process.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

13. Open Topics

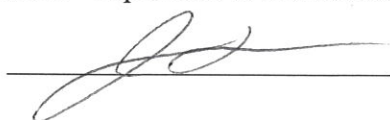
The General Secretary requests that when the SJJIF hashtags or @ tag are used to ensure that the event or activity being shared is an SJJIF sanctioned event, or at least not an event or organization that is in opposition to SJJIF. Furthermore, the official CF or NF social media platforms should only support SJJIF sanctioned events.

The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

H. SJJIF 2020 Objectives

The SJJIF President presents the 2021 objectives as follows:

- J. Finalized development of special event rulebooks
- J. Pursue grants
- J. SJJIF Software - expansion to national federations



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- J. Continue to develop SJJIF community & educational events around the globe
- J. Continue to propagate the SJJIF mission
- J. Continue to develop social work & events through Sport Jiu-Jitsu

Long-term objectives of the SJJIF are to organize and establish the minimum national federations required by the IOC and WADA and abide by the guidelines of transparency, integrity, democracy, sport development & solidarity, and control mechanisms. The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.

I. 2021 SJJIF General Assembly

The SJJIF President informs the GA that the 2021 General Assembly meeting date and location is still unknown due to COVID-19 and information will be shared at the soonest date possible. The SJJIF President informs the GA of the possibility of holding the 2021 General Assembly meeting via virtual meeting as it allows for the participation of many members. The floor is open for questions and comments; however, there are no questions or comments from members.


J. Concluding Remarks and Closing of the General Assembly

The President thanks everyone for his or her participation in the meeting, stating that this was a new experience for everyone, and he recognizes that the year brought many unexpected hardships and losses to people. He offers his condolences to everyone who may have experienced a loss and shares his hopes for a better tomorrow.

The President shares belief in the importance of the GA where we come together with an equal presence to discuss and decide on topics. He continues to believe that working and voting together is key to ensuring the continued growth of the sport and federation.



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