

# Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation

*Statutes & Bylaws*



## History of Sport Jiu-Jitsu

Jiu-Jitsu is a multi-faceted method of self-defense and dynamic sport composed of techniques that work towards superior positioning in order to submit an opponent by applying force to a joint or to a chokehold. Technique is emphasized over strength to place an opponent in a controlled position or submission. During competitive matches, winning is achieved by earning points by placing the opponent in different positions or by forcing them to submit.

The Jiu-Jitsu of today is composed of many key factors that include the many ancient forms of combat that found its way to Brazil in the early 1900's through the Japanese migration into the country and the unique Brazilian culture that embraced the arts of fighting in its many forms. Its evolution is a direct product of the contribution of many Brazilian families that dedicated themselves to the sport, integrating familial values, healthy lifestyles, and determination to prove the superiority of Jiu-Jitsu as a martial art.

On April 25, 1967 the Jiu-Jitsu Federation of Guanabara was founded in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The federation was established under the National Sports Confederation by five founding schools led by Hélio Gracie, Alvaro Barreto, Joao Alberto Barreto, Hélcio Leal Binda and Oswaldo Fadda. The president of the federation was Helio Gracie, the Chairman of the Advisory Council was Carlos Gracie, the Director of Technical Department was Carlson Gracie, the first Vice-Technician was Oswaldo Fadda, the second Vice-Technician was Orlando Barradas, the Director of Education was Joao Alberto Barreto, and the Deputy Director was Robson Gracie. Today, these individuals are recognized as great masters of the art.

Chaired by Hélio Gracie, the founding of the Jiu-Jitsu Federation of Guanabara was the first step in making Jiu-Jitsu a sport, and not only a form of self-defense or a street fighting art. The art of jiu-jitsu began to have structure and organization, evident in the implementation of a belt system, age divisions, competition time, points, and legal techniques.

In June 1973, Jiu Jitsu was legally recognized as a sport in Brazil and in December 1973, the Jiu-Jitsu Federation of Guanabara organized their first championship, the "1º Torneio Oficial de Jiu-Jitsu do Brasil", hosted in Rio de Janeiro at the Athletic Association Bank of Brazil. This event marked the beginning of a new era for Jiu-Jitsu as a sport.

After the implementation of Jiu-Jitsu as a sport and its fast growth throughout Brazil, in the 1980's Jiu-Jitsu began to expand and develop internationally. As a result of all founders, professors, representatives, and participants of the sport being Brazilian at that time, the name Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu was adopted.

By 2010, Jiu-Jitsu or Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu was a sport practiced and recognized worldwide, but it lacked an established federation that met the IOC requirements or that was recognized as a single international governing body for the sport. With this in mind and the main motivating factor, a group of Jiu-Jitsu professors and tournament organizers thought that it was time to invest and dedicate themselves to the unifying and growth of the sport and its community, thus founding the Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation.

### **History of the Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation**

Led by Professor João Silva, in March of 2013, the Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation (SJJIF) was founded by professors João Silva, Patricia Silva, Samuel Aschidamini, Edison Kagohara and Cleiber Maia.

These individuals realized the importance of organizing and structuring the sport of Jiu-Jitsu and understood that this would be a journey that would need the collaboration and partnerships of everyone with love for the sport. It was understood among these individuals, that with the sport constantly changing and growing popularity around the world, a unified body was necessary to make Jiu-Jitsu a stand alone sport that could represent itself independently in the Olympic Games.

Since its inception, the mission of the SJJIF has been to make Jiu-Jitsu an Olympic Sport. By formulating one set of rules, the SJJIF has helped unify existing federations by creating high quality and reliable competitions internationally. It aims to expand its goal of unifying existing federations and transition the sport to Olympic standards that embody the Olympic spirit.

SJJIF hosted its first international event, the SJJIF World Championship, on December 14 and 15 of 2013 at the Long Beach Pyramid in Long Beach, California USA. The SJJIF has grown tremendously since its founding and it has already had sanctioned events and federations in North America, South America, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania.



## Preamble

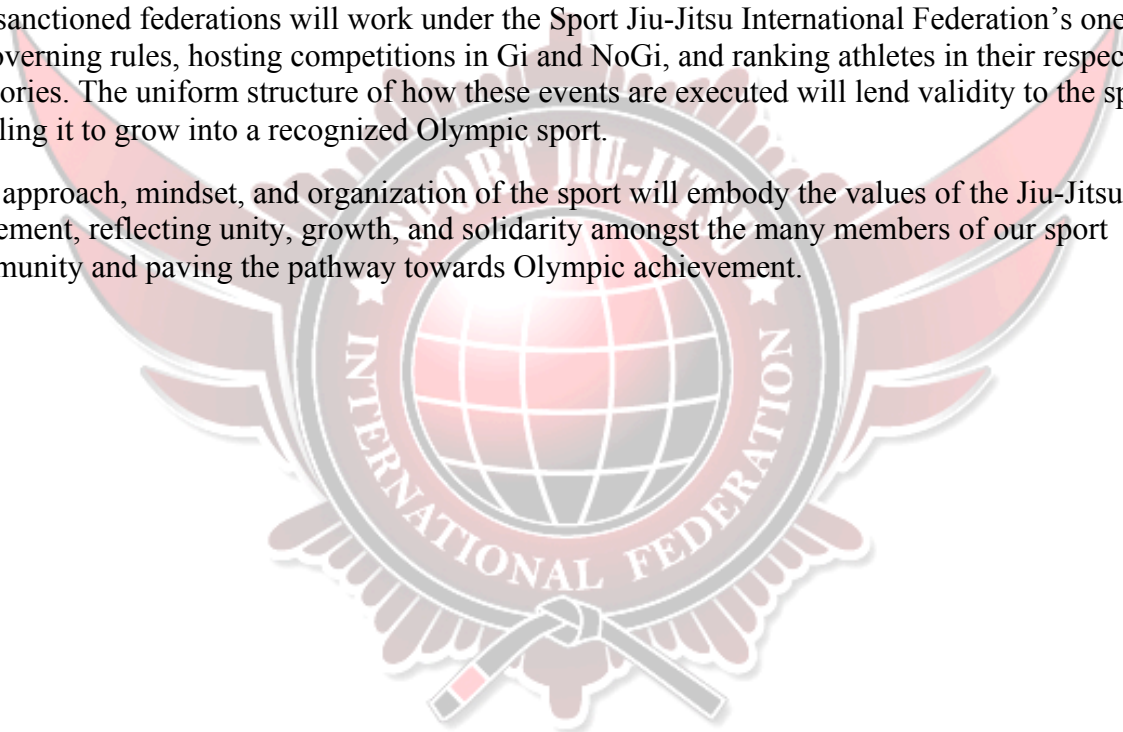
The Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-discriminatory, non-political organization that shall not discriminate on the ground of race, religion, general or politics.

The primary goal of the Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation is to unify and organize existing Sport Jiu-Jitsu, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, and Jiu-Jitsu federations throughout the world under one governing body that share the vision of reaching Olympic greatness and international recognition.

The Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation seeks to have worldwide national federations who will expand, and improve worldwide the practice of Jiu-Jitsu in light of its educational, cultural, and sports values (the “Jiu-Jitsu movement”). Each founded federation, along with existing federations, will work diligently to uphold the principles set forth by the Olympic Charter.

All sanctioned federations will work under the Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation’s one set of governing rules, hosting competitions in Gi and NoGi, and ranking athletes in their respective territories. The uniform structure of how these events are executed will lend validity to the sport, enabling it to grow into a recognized Olympic sport.

This approach, mindset, and organization of the sport will embody the values of the Jiu-Jitsu movement, reflecting unity, growth, and solidarity amongst the many members of our sport community and paving the pathway towards Olympic achievement.



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## **Article 1      Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation**

- 1.1 The Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation, hereinafter called “SJJIF”, is a permanent non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 2013.
- 1.2 The SJJIF is the permanent governing organization of Sport Jiu-Jitsu, including Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Jiu-Jitsu, in both Gi and NoGi, worldwide.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Olympic Charter, the SJJIF maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of the sport of Jiu-Jitsu in its Continental Federations, hereinafter called “CF”, and National Federations, hereinafter called “NF”.
- 1.4 The SJJIF maintains headquarters and operational offices in the United States of America, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee.

## **Article 2      Mission and Objectives**

- 2.1 The mission of the SJJIF is to acquire International Olympic Committee sport recognition and admittance into the Olympic program as a competing event of the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, and Deaflympics; and in all other games of the Olympic cycle by uniting, organizing, and providing effective international governance to the sport of Jiu-Jitsu.
- 2.2 The SJJIF embraces the general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, Paralympic Charter, and Deaflympic Charter; and furthermore, aims to promote these fundamental principles in all activities.
- 2.3 The SJJIF aims to respect and preserve the history of Jiu-Jitsu and ensure lineage of all participants.
- 2.4 The SJJIF aims to promote, expand, organize, improve, regulate and popularize worldwide the practice of Jiu-Jitsu in light of its educational, cultural, and sports values (the “Jiu-Jitsu movement”); and to improve the health worldwide through its practice.
- 2.5 The SJJIF aims to protect the physical and mental health of the athletes, promoting the importance of youth development, fair competition, respect, equality, cooperation, peace, and friendship.
- 2.6 The SJJIF aims to strengthen the Sport Jiu-Jitsu, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, and Jiu-Jitsu communities, contributing to the development of friendly relationships among the National Federations, and of defending the interests of Jiu-Jitsu throughout the world.
- 2.7 The SJJIF will organize the annual Worlds Jiu-Jitsu Gi and No Gi Championship in collaboration with member federations. The right to organize World Championships and other official SJJIF events shall be granted only to countries that are able to receive all the eligible participants and delegates on their territory.
- 2.8 The SJJIF will provide organizational and promotional support to all member federations and SJJIF sanctioned events, as appropriate.
- 2.9 The SJJIF aims to continue improving the technical rules regulating Jiu-Jitsu competitions sanctioned or promoted by the SJJIF, including the Jiu-Jitsu event of the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, and Deaflympics.
- 2.10 The SJJIF aims to continue improving standards pertaining to various items of clothing and equipment used within the sport of Jiu-Jitsu.
- 2.11 The SJJIF aims to adopt, implement, and promulgate the World Anti-Doping Agency Code.
- 2.12 The SJJIF aims to respect the principles of democracy, equality and harmony within the sport of Jiu-Jitsu. To oppose all forms of racial, political, religious, cultural, ideological and gender discrimination and to oppose discrimination based on internal factions within the sport of Jiu-Jitsu.

- 2.13 The SJJIF aims to promote the educational, scientific, literary and charitable aspects of the sport, improving cultural and sporting contacts between the Jiu-Jitsu nations of the world.
- 2.14 The SJJIF aims to engage in other activities in support of the above objectives.

### **Article 3 Statutes, Rules, and Codes**

- 3.1 The SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws is the principal document, which has been duly approved, and upon which the administration of Sport Jiu-Jitsu is based.
- 3.2 The Statutes and Regulations of the Continental Federations and National Federations shall conform to the principles of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 3.3 All competitions, events, and activities promoted or sanctioned by the SJJIF shall abide by the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations.

### **Article 4 Official Language and Working Languages**

- 4.1 English is the official language of the SJJIF and is to be used by all its members in communications, announcements, websites, logos and any and all other matters related to the sport itself. Portuguese is the auxiliary language of the SJJIF.
- 4.2 All communications of the SJJIF will be available in English. Each federation must advise the headquarters and operational offices of the SJJIF in English only.
- 4.3 All official publications and reports of the SJJIF are published in English. Portuguese and Japanese technical terms may be used when appropriate and/or untranslatable to English.
- 4.4 All official proceedings of the SJJIF will be held in English. All members maintain the right to have interpreters present at their own cost.
- 4.5 It is desirable that, as far as possible, proposals for changes to the Rules, Statutes & Bylaws, and annexed texts be made in English.
- 4.6 All SJJIF representative federations are responsible for translating all SJJIF official publications to the native languages of their governing territories. In an event of a dispute, all decisions shall be based on the English text.
- 4.7 All SJJIF official awards or prize giving ceremonies, competitions, and announcements must be made in both English and the local language of event, as appropriate.

### **Article 5 Jiu-Jitsu Styles**

- 5.1 The SJJIF recognizes the following Jiu-Jitsu styles; Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Sport Jiu-Jitsu, Jiu-Jitsu, Self-Defense in its Gi and NoGi form.

### **Article 6 Organizational Structure**

- 6.1 The SJJIF is composed of the following bodies; the General Assembly, hereinafter called the “GA”; the Executive Committee, hereinafter called the “EC”, the President; and the Secretary General.
- 6.2 The SJJIF also encompasses other organizations that have been duly authorized or recognized by the EC and the GA and that operate under the auspices of the SJJIF. SJJIF recognized or authorized organizations include but are not limited to the Continental Federations.



## **Article 7      General Assembly**

- 7.1 The GA shall be the highest authority of the SJJIF and shall have all the powers in SJJIF that according to the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, have not been given to other bodies of the SJJIF.
- 7.2 The ordinary meeting of the GA shall be convened every year in conjunction with the SJJIF world championships.
- 7.3 The following shall be entitled to take part in the GA:
  - i. the Executive Committee;
  - ii. the representatives of the National Federations in possession of voting rights;
  - iii. the Directors of the SJJIF Committees;
  - iv. the Honorary President(s);
  - v. the National Federations with provisional and/or associate status.
- 7.4 The powers of the GA are the following:
  - i. election of Officials;
  - ii. approval or amend the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws;
  - iii. approval of the financial budget and financial report prepared by the EC;
  - iv. approval of the operations report and operations projects;
  - v. ratify and discuss policies undertaken by members of the EC, including applications for membership, termination of NFs as proposed by the EC, and proposals presented by Member Federations.
  - vi. other matters of importance;
  - vii. the GA may refer matters under its jurisdiction and/or responsibility to the President or the EC.
- 7.5 The annual accounting period and fiscal year adopted by the SJJIF shall coincide with the calendar year (1st of January through 31st of December).
- 7.6 The President of the SJJIF shall be the Chairman of the GA.
  - i. In the event of a tie in votes, the Chairman of the GA shall cast the deciding vote.
  - ii. The Chairman may conclude GA discussion if deemed necessary for smooth progress of the meeting.
  - iii. If the President is unable to attend he or she shall delegate the responsibility to a Vice President.
  - iv. An ad-hoc chairman may be appointed to preside over election of Officials.
- 7.7 Unless otherwise provided herein, EC members, Continental Council Vice Presidents, and the Voting Representatives of NFs that have satisfied the necessary eligibility requirements are entitled to vote.
- 7.8 The GA can consider only items that are included in the official agenda.
- 7.9 At least 6 (six) months before the date fixed for the GA, the General Secretary shall invite the Full Member Federations to submit via post or e-mail items to which they wish to have included in the agenda. The proposals will have to be submitted at least four (4) months before the date of the GA. The Secretary General may also propose amendments based on administrative best practices.
- 7.10 The Secretary General shall compile the proposals and then send the draft agenda to the EC for review and approval two (2) months prior to the convening of the GA.
- 7.11 At least one month before the scheduled date of the GA meeting, the General Secretary shall send to every Full Member Federation and Provisional/Associate Member Federation and, when appropriate to Observers, the agenda, based on items presented by Full Member Federation or by the EC.
- 7.12 The items not included in the agenda, but proposed to the General Secretary at the beginning of the GA meeting can be discussed, at the consent of the majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. The GA Chairman maintains the right to bar

- discussion due to time constraints or for considering them of sufficient importance, decides to refer the question to the EC, or if considered of sufficient importance by the President, decides to refer the question to the next GA. Changes in the Statutes will by their nature be considered of sufficient importance as defined above.
- 7.13 Any decision of the GA, including decisions on amendments to the Statutes & Bylaws, comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the GA upon proposal of the President.
- 7.14 The quorum required for the GA shall consist of no less than one-third (1/3) of the total number of Full Members. A simple majority of the Full Members present at the GA is required for passage of resolutions. An amendment to the Statutes or termination of a NF shall be approved by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Full Members present at the GA. The dissolution of the SJJIF or renaming of the organization can only be decided at the GA by the unanimous resolution of all the members that comprise the GA. Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority.
- 7.15 Voting at the GA shall be conducted by open ballot in general. However, if one or more representative request for a secret ballot, the GA shall vote on this matter, and a simple majority shall decide. Secret ballot is also used for elections and when otherwise required by these Statutes & Bylaws.
- 7.16 Each Full Member, in accordance with the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaw, can be represented at the GA by no more than two representatives, and shall be entitled to one (1) vote, providing they have had sporting activity in SJJIF in the year of the GA, have paid the relative membership fee during the last two (2) years, and have cleared all outstanding payments to the SJJIF.
- 7.17 It is expected that the Voting Representative of the Full Member NFs will be the President of the NF. If the President is unable to attend, or if the President has eligibility to vote under another capacity (i.e., as a member of the SJJIF EC), then he or she may assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another member of his/her NF, such assignment to be by a proxy letter presented to the SJJIF.
- i. The Voting Representative must submit their credentials, signed by the president of the NF that he or she represents, to the SJJIF Secretary General in accordance with the procedure and deadline announced by the Secretary General.
  - ii. In case of contestation, the General Secretary will submit the case to the EC
- 7.18 A Full Member NF may not assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another Full Member NF, regardless of CF affiliation.
- 7.19 The observer of a Provisional Member or Associate Member has the right to speak (upon authorization by the Chairman of the GA), but not to vote.
- 7.20 During an election or vote, the General Secretary shall call the respective NFs in alphabetical order in the English version of their name according to their respective CF. The NF President or the designated representative in possession of a verified proxy shall indicate his/her presence to cast a vote.
- i. An abstention shall be recorded on behalf of a NF when its delegate has been duly called to vote on three separate occasions at one-minute intervals and does not respond.
- 7.21 An Extraordinary Meeting of the GA shall meet upon the following:
- i. Upon the initiative of the President, when considered necessary;
  - ii. Upon the written and justified request of at least more than one-third (1/3) of the members of the EC;
  - iii. Upon written and justified request of at least one-third (1/3) of the Full Member Federations in possession of voting rights;

- 7.22 The Extraordinary Meeting may deal with all matters normally handled by the Ordinary Meeting.
- 7.23 In the case of urgency, a resolution may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including electronic mail and/or live web conferencing, by the President of the EC and/or the Chairman of the GA. Voting eligibility requirements remain the same. For e-voting quorum purposes, unreturned ballots are considered abstentions. A simple majority is required for passage of resolutions. An amendment to the Statutes or termination of a NF shall be approved by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Full Members. The dissolution of the SJJIF or renaming of the organization can only be decided by the unanimous resolution of all the members that comprise the GA. Results shall be announced in the SJJIF website and reported to the GA at its next meeting.
- 7.24 Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the GA are established under the authority of the Secretary General. The minutes shall be distributed to each member no later than 45 days after the meeting(s).

## **Article 8      Executive Committee**

- 8.1 The SJJIF will be governed and managed by an EC, which shall serve as the Board of Directors, comprising of:
- i. A President elected by the General Assembly;
  - ii. A Vice-President elected by the General Assembly;
  - iii. A Secretary General elected by the General Assembly;
  - iv. A Treasurer elected by the General Assembly;
  - v. Six (6) Continental Council Vice-Presidents elected as President by their respective Continental Federation;
  - vi. A Technical Director appointed by the President;
  - vii. A Medical Director appointed by the President;
  - viii. A Disciplinary Director appointed by the President.
- 8.2 The EC assumes the general overall responsibility for the administration of the SJJIF and its affairs. Between the Ordinary Meeting of the GA, it has the authority to deal with and decide on all matters related to the SJJIF and its operations, except those matters that the Statutes expressly states must be approved by the GA. The EC is responsible, but not limited, to the following:
- i. Call Meetings of the GA and EC, establishing the agenda;
  - ii. Draft and approve the budget and the final balance-sheet, to be submitted for the approval of the GA;
  - iii. Establish, restructure and/or remove adhoc and/or permanent committees and working groups;
  - iv. Decide upon the provisional affiliation of NFs, to be submitted for final approval at the GA;
  - v. Approve, amend, and/or monitor compliance of the Statutes and Rules and Regulations;
  - vi. Consider matters referred to the EC by the GA or the President;
  - vii. Consider matters under its jurisdiction or responsibility as prescribed in these Statutes & Bylaws.
- 8.3 The President, Vice President, Secretary General, and Treasurer shall be elected by majority vote at the Ordinary Meeting of the GA, to serve six (6) year terms. The Continental Council Vice-Presidents are the elected President of their respective CF and shall automatically assume the position of Continental Council Vice-President upon



election. The Technical Director, Medical Director, and Disciplinary Director shall be appointed by the President within 30 days of the Ordinary Meeting of the GA, to serve three (3) year terms.

- i. All EC elected members found to have committed any actions that undermine or breach the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws are subject to disciplinary measures by the SJJIF.
- ii. All EC appointed positions will be appointed by the President and the President shall take into consideration the distribution of gender and continental representation as well as special skills/qualifications. The President maintains the right to withdraw the appointment if the appointed member is found to have committed any actions that undermines or breaches the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- iii. Elected members of the EC may be re-elected indefinitely.

- 8.4 In order to be valid, candidatures for the EC must submit completed application documents by post or e-mail four (4) months before the GA to the Secretary General of the EC. This formality is also necessary for all members who present themselves for re-election. In addition, candidatures must meet the requirements of the Statutes:
- i. Presidency, see Article 9.2;
  - ii. Vice President, see Article 10.2;
  - iii. Secretary General, see Article 11.2;
  - iv. Treasurer, see Article 12.2
- 8.5 The General Secretary shall screen the candidature applications and determine the list of qualified candidates. The final list of the candidates for election shall be circulated to all affiliated federations with voting rights by no later than 30 days before the GA.
- 8.6 Voting for elections shall be conducted by secret ballot unless there is only one candidate. If there is only one candidate nominated for a position, he or she shall be acclaimed, unless one third of the member NFs having voting rights request that a secret vote take place. Voting for elections shall be by held by majority of votes cast. If no candidate obtains the majority in the first round, a second round of elections is to be held and the candidate obtaining the higher number of votes is declared the elected.
- 8.7 In the event of an election, each candidate will be allowed five (5) minutes in which to give a presentation. The candidate may give his or her presentation verbally and/or through the use of video, slides or other communicative form. Should there be more than one candidate for a post, the speaking order shall be determinate by alphabetical order based on the candidates' surnames, with the exception of the current office holder who shall speak last if he or she should decide to run for re-election.
- 8.8 The term of the elected members of the EC will be automatically extended up to the time of the GA if the term expires before the date of meeting of such GA.
- 8.9 The newly elected President and/or EC members, per the election rotation, will take office immediately after the election. All attendance and accreditation rights of the outgoing EC members will be kept until the day after the close of the world championships where the corresponding elective GA has taken place.
- 8.10 All members of the EC of the SJJIF are its representatives in their respective countries and not delegates of their countries within the SJJIF.
- 8.11 The EC members shall not hold any positions in any other international Jiu-Jitsu organization.
- 8.12 The EC members, with the exception of the Continental Council Vice Presidents, shall have the right to be compensated for the time allocated to his or her activities and

- reimbursed for travel, hotel, and daily representation expenses resulting from activities for the federation. Continental Council Vice Presidents shall have the right to compensation as determined by their respective Continental Federation. See Article 32.5 for regulations regarding compensation.
- 8.13 Should a vacancy occur in the membership of the EC between elections, such vacancy shall be filled by resolution of the EC. Vacancy of the Presidency shall be resolved according to Article 9.9 of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 8.14 An elected or appointed EC member who fails to attend two consecutive meetings without approval of the SJJIF shall cease to be an EC Member.
- 8.15 The EC shall meet once a year before the Ordinary Meeting of the GA as an Ordinary Meeting of the EC. In addition, an Extraordinary Meeting may be called upon the initiative of the President, when considered necessary, upon the written and justified request of at least one-third (1/3) of the members of the EC, or upon written and justified request of at least one-third (1/3) of the Full Member NFs in possession of voting rights.
- 8.16 An agenda must be established prior to all meetings. The EC members shall submit to the General Secretary the items they wish to have included on the agenda 30 days prior to the date scheduled for the meeting. The General Secretary shall prepare the agenda, inform the president, and then circulate the notice of the meeting, together with the agenda and the necessary working documents 15 days prior to the meeting. If an urgent matter arises, it may be added to the agenda and discussed in the EC meeting pursuant to a decision of the EC.
- 8.17 At the request of the EC, meetings may also be attended by the Directors of the Committees for matters directly concerning them.
- 8.18 For voting at EC Meetings the following shall apply:
- i. A majority of all EC members shall constitute a quorum for a meeting.
  - ii. A resolution and/or other decisions shall be adopted with the approval of a simple majority of the members present
  - iii. The chairman shall not vote except in case of a tie.
  - iv. Guidelines on special situations may be provided separately.
- 8.19 When, for any reason, a meeting of the EC cannot take place, the President may call for a resolution via voting by E-Vote and/or live web conferencing.
- 8.20 Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the GA are established under the authority of the Secretary General. The minutes shall be distributed to each member no later than 45 days after the meeting(s).

## **Article 9      President**

- 9.1 The President is elected by the GA, by secret ballot, from among its members for a term of six (6) years. A simple majority is required for election of the President.
- 9.2 Only elected members of the SJJIF EC who have acted as a member of the EC for at least one (1) complete term may be a candidate for Presidency.
- 9.3 The president is responsible for the following:
- i. To lead and represent the SJJIF in all matters;
  - ii. To concurrently lead the GA and the EC as its chairman, and preside over the meetings and other activities;
  - iii. To designate official duties to the Vice President and Continental Council Vice Presidents on an ad-hoc basis for the betterment of the development of the sport of Jiu-Jitsu and the SJJIF.
  - iv. To appoint the directors of the SJJIF Committees.



- 9.4 The President has the power to establish ad hoc committees and working groups, as deemed necessary to further the mission and objectives of the SJJIF.
- 9.5 The SJJIF President will be, by right, a member of the EC of each of the CFs recognized by the SJJIF. Furthermore, SJJIF Presidents upon completion of term will remain EC members for life, as Honorary Presidents, without voting rights.
- 9.6 The President may appoint representatives to observe any CF and/or NF's meetings and/or activities.
- 9.7 In case disputes occur over matters not specified in these Statutes, or matters that require urgent solution during the period between the two GA, the President may take decisions normally attributed to the EC or to the GA. These decisions shall however be submitted for the ratification of the EC, and in its case of the GA, at its subsequent meeting.
- 9.8 If the President is incapacitated and thus unable to fulfill the duties of office, the Vice President shall serve as acting president, and together with the EC, shall continue to carry out the ordinary administration of the SJJIF until such a time that the president is able to resume duties. In the case that the President is permanently incapacitated or has resigned the Vice President shall serve as acting president, and together with the EC, shall continue to carry out the ordinary administration of the SJJIF until the following GA, at which a new President will be formally elected.

#### **Article 10 Vice President**

- 10.1 The Vice President is elected by the GA, by secret ballot, from among its members for a term of six (6) years. A simple majority is required for election of the Vice President.
- 10.2 Only elected members of the SJJIF EC and/or the CF EC who have acted as a member of their respective EC for at least one (1) complete term may be a candidate for Vice President.
- 10.3 The Vice President is responsible for the following:
  - i. To assist the President and to fulfill official duties delegated by the President.
  - ii. To concurrently be included in the GA and the EC as its vice chairmen.
  - iii. To preside over the ad-hoc duties designated by the President and submit a report thereafter.

#### **Article 11 Secretary General**

- 11.1 The Secretary General is elected by the GA, by secret ballot, from among its members for a term of six (6) years. A simple majority is required for election of the Secretary General.
- 11.2 Only elected members of the SJJIF EC and/or the CF EC who have acted as a member of the EC for at least one (1) complete term may be a candidate for Secretary General.
- 11.3 The Secretary General is responsible for the following:
  - i. To execute the decisions taken by the EC;
  - ii. To maintain relationships with the CFs, with the affiliated NFs and with outside parties;
  - iii. To oversee the voting procedures of the SJJIF during ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the EC and GA, tallying votes accordingly;
  - iv. To draw up and take care of the minutes of the EC and of the GA meetings;
  - v. With the approval of the President, may negotiate and sign all contracts between the SJJIF and other organizations or companies;
  - vi. With the approval of the President, may represent the SJJIF at negotiations concluded on its behalf.

## **Article 12     Treasurer**

- 12.1 The Treasurer is elected by the GA, by secret ballot, from among its members for a term of six (6) years. A simple majority is required for election of the Treasurer.
- 12.2 Only elected members of the SJJIF EC and/or the CF EC who have acted as a member of their respective EC for at least one (1) complete term may be a candidate for Treasurer.
- 12.3 The Treasurer is responsible for the following:
  - i. Responsible for the financial management of the SJJIF;
  - ii. Prepare the annual financial reports, including annual budget and balance sheet, which shall be submitted to the GA, together with the auditor's report if any;
  - iii. Present financial reports to the EC before the Ordinary Meeting of the GA.
  - iv. Shall explore possibilities of increasing the Treasury of SJJIF and shall submit proposals to the EC.

## **Article 13     Continental Council Vice President**

- 13.1 The Continental Council Vice President(s) are elected Presidents of their respective CF and shall automatically assume the position of Continental Council Vice-President upon election.
- 13.2 The Continental Council Vice President(s) is responsible for the following:
  - i. General Requirements of CFs; see Article 17;
  - ii. Responsibilities & Obligations of CFs; see Article 18;
  - iii. Restrictions & Regulations of CFs; see Article 19;
  - iv. Mode of Election for Continental Federations; see Article 20

## **Article 14     Secretariat**

- 14.1 The Secretariat is a permanent installation of the SJJIF that is responsible for the secretarial affairs and duties of the President and the Secretary General.
- 14.2 Personnel working at the Secretariat shall be appointed and dismissed by the President at the recommendation of the Secretary General. The President may also entrust the Secretary General with the power to appoint and dismiss personnel.
- 14.3 Personnel may be employed at the Secretariat, regardless of race, religion, nationality, creed, etc. by the President and the Secretary General.

## **Article 15     Committees**

- 15.1 When needed permanent or temporary special committees and ad-hoc working groups may be established. Permanent committees are established upon proposal of the President and approval by the EC. Ad-hoc committees and working groups may be established upon sole decision of the President.
- 15.2 The various committee and working group members are nominated by the NFs and appointed by the President to serve three (3) year terms. The President may also appoint other candidates to serve in such committees and working groups at his or her own discretion.
- 15.3 If a NF no longer supports its recommended candidate and the candidate currently holds an official position within the SJJIF, the NF shall submit an official letter advising the SJJIF that it no longer supports its candidate and provide clear reasons for such withdrawal request. The SJJIF shall investigate and the President may make the final decision as to whether such candidate should be removed from his or her position.
- 15.4 Committees and working groups shall develop working guidelines, which will be implemented following the approval by the EC.

- 15.5 Permanent Committees include, but are not limited to: Technical Committee; Medical & Anti-Doping Committee; Disciplinary Committee, etc.
- 15.6 The Technical Committee is responsible for all technical matters of the SJJIF, including, but not limited to the research, organization and effective management of competition rules, technical grading, uniform regulations, training courses for referees, and overall improvement and/or legality of technique related to Sport Jiu-Jitsu competitions.
- 15.7 The Medical Committee is responsible for all medical matters of the SJJIF, including, but not limited to formulating and revising the regulations regarding medical supervision of athletes and the anti-doping code and for supervising the implementation of these regulations. The following are additional responsibilities of the Medical & Anti-Doping Committee:
- i. Coordinating anti-doping tests in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Agency standards at all the competitions organized by the SJJIF.
  - ii. Coordinating medical examinations during competitions organized by the SJJIF.
  - iii. Organizing lectures on medical supervision means and methods for NFs and CFs.
  - iv. Examining and handling proposals relating to medical affairs that are submitted by NFs or CFs.
- 15.8 The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for conducting investigations into violations of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations, or other SJJIF regulation or bylaw including anti-doping codes, and for participation in activities that are contrary to the SJJIFS's mission and objectives and Code of Conduct. Where necessary, the Disciplinary Committee makes recommendations for penalties or sanctions to the SJJIF EC; these recommendations remain confidential.

#### **Article 16      Structures of Continental Federations & National Federations**

- 16.1 The SJJIF recognizes six CFs composed of the NFs that belong to the same continent.
- 16.2 The six continental federations will help the SJJIF develop NFs under their respective continent and collaborate to uphold the statutes of the SJJIF. The recognized CFs by the SJJIF are as follows:
- i) A Continental Federation of the African Continent.
  - ii) A Continental Federation of the Asian Continent.
  - iii) A Continental Federation of the European Continent.
  - iv) A Continental Federation of the North American Continent.
  - v) A Continental Federation of the Oceania Continent.
  - vi) A Continental Federation of the South American Continent.
- 16.3 The SJJIF recognizes only one CF per continent.
- 16.4 Recognition by the SJJIF shall be granted to and withdrawn from each CF per decision of the EC. The decision of the EC to recognize or withdraw recognition from an organization, as a recognized CF shall be made based on the capability of the organization to function in the interest of Sport Jiu-Jitsu and the interests of the SJJIF.
- 16.5 In the case of a serious breach of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws or SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations, or a serious failure of governance, the SJJIF shall have the right to appoint an emergency replacement of CF leadership.

#### **Article 17      General Requirements of Continental Federations & National Federations**

- 17.1 Respect the Olympic Charter of the IOC and carry forward the Olympic Spirit.
- 17.2 Support the SJJIF in its Olympic movement and make all efforts to achieve its objectives.



- 17.3 Recognize the SJJIF as the only worldwide governing body for Jiu-Jitsu in all its forms and ensure that none of their EC members and officials participate in, hold any official positions in, or support in any way or take part in the activities of other conflicting international organizations.
- 17.4 Must be a neutral organization, which create a neutral environment for all teams that support the federations, mission, and events of the SJJIF.
- 17.5 Implement the resolutions of the SJJIF EC and GA.
- 17.6 Implement the Anti-Doping rules and regulations of the IOC, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the SJJIF, and conduct anti-doping educational campaigns.
- 17.7 Protect and maintain their autonomy and independently manage all internal affairs without any pressure or interference from a third party.
- 17.8 Resist all forms of external pressure, including but not limited to political, religious and economic pressures that may infringe upon their commitment to comply with the Olympic Charter and/or the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 17.9 The President and other members of the EC of a CF and/or NF must be democratically elected and hold the citizenship of their respective NF country.
- 17.10 All members of the governing body must have a clear criminal record.
- 17.11 Ensure that their constitutions make provisions for an election or internal appointment system that ensures their complete independence vis-à-vis governments and other public authorities.

#### **Article 18 Responsibilities & Obligations of Continental Federations**

- 18.1 Under the leadership of the SJJIF, CFs are responsible for organizing and managing Jiu-Jitsu activities in their respective continents, developing NFs under their respective continent, and upholding the regulations of the SJJIF.
- 18.2 CFs are required to welcome other federations or events to work under the rules and regulations of the SJJIF and establish sub-federations under their designated territory. All sub-federations must follow the same guidelines set-forth by the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws and SJJIF Competition Rules and Regulations.
- 18.3 Each CF shall be registered in accordance with the laws of where it is registered.
- 18.4 Each CF shall adopt a constitution that strictly conforms to the principles of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws. The continental constitution or charter must state that the federation runs under the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws and SJJIF Competition Rules and Regulations. Within 30 days of adoption of a new constitution or amendment of an existing constitution, CFs shall submit their new or amended constitutions to the SJJIF.
- 18.5 CFs shall operate transparently and respectfully, and comply with and conform to the SJJIF & Bylaws, goals, and best interests.
- 18.6 The CF has as an essential role, by all lawful means, to make all necessary and useful contact between the NFs of the continent concerned and to promote Jiu-Jitsu as widely as possible in its territory. Under no circumstances can the CF replace the SJJIF in relations between it and the NFs.
- 18.7 At the end of each calendar year, CFs are required to submit annual reports detailing the continental activities they have organized throughout the course of the year and their working plans for the following year, in writing, to the SJJIF.
- 18.8 CFs shall each organize an official continental Jiu-Jitsu championship.
- 18.9 Each year and coinciding with the continental championship, the CF will gather the affiliated NFs of the continent concerned to a general assembly during which the continental competitions are scheduled (date and place) considering the dates set aside by

the SJJIF. This calendar must be ratified by the SJJIF and inserted in the SJJIF's General Calendar.

- 18.10 Every four years, the CF will gather together the NFs affiliated to the SJJIF, during the Continental Championships, as an elective general assembly for the re-election of the President and for the re-election of the CF EC of the aforesaid CF.
- 18.11 CFs shall keep minutes of all official meetings, including all ordinary and extraordinary general assembly meetings and council meetings, and shall submit those minutes to the SJJIF promptly after the minutes are prepared.
- 18.12 CFs submit to the SJJIF for decision all questions of general interest specific to its continent and those which relate to the conditions for application of all official regulations, as well as the calendar of the continental competitions (dates and places) taking into account the dates set aside by the SJJIF and which will be inserted into the SJJIF calendar.
- 18.13 CFs are responsible for the strict application of the SJJIF regulation concerning international transfers of athletes and change of nationality.
- 18.14 CFs take the necessary measures to lead coaches training courses programmed at the highest level by the SJJIF and whose technical support can only be carried out by nominated SJJIF Grand Masters.
- 18.15 CFs organize advanced training courses for athletes of the sport.
- 18.16 CFs can be made responsible for preparing the organizational material for international referee training courses, control over which remains exclusively the responsibility of the SJJIF.
- 18.17 CFs can autonomously carry out statistical or research work, or at the SJJIF's request in order to determine the level of development on that continent or in order to make suggestions in the general interest of the SJJIF.

#### **Article 19     Restrictions & Regulations of Continental Federations**

- 19.1 Under no circumstances will a CF decision with regard to a NF be taken and considered legally binding. Only the SJJIF has administrative, technical, and disciplinary capacity against its members.
- 19.2 The CF shall not write or apply measures that are contrary to the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws or SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations Book.
- 19.3 The CF shall not promote a competition whose characteristics would not be in conformity with the SJJIF's Competition Rules & Regulations.
- 19.4 The CF shall not work to different ends, or those contrary to those identified in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws and can in no case substitute its authority for that of the SJJIF.
- 19.5 The Continental Federation is not competent to confer the title of international referee on any member of the NFs in its territory.
- 19.6 The CF is not competent to nominate any of its members as a SJJIF representative.
- 19.7 The CF shall not regard a NF as being its subordinate concerning the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws. The CF ensures the SJJIF regulations are respected. Any violation to the obligations mentioned here above will involve the dissolution of the concerned CF.

#### **Article 20     Mode of Election for Continental Federations**

- 20.1 CFs will gather together the NFs affiliated to the SJJIF, as an elective general assembly for the re-election of the President and for the re-election of the EC of the aforesaid CF within six (6) months after the election of the SJJIF president. See Article 18.10.



- 20.2 Only individuals who are a board member of a SJJIF NF belonging to a CF are eligible for election as an officer of the respective CF. CF officers cannot be members of more than one NF.
- 20.3 Only individuals belonging to the EC of the CF may be candidate to the presidency of the CF.
- 20.4 Candidates for CF president must be recommended by at least three (3) of the CF's NFs or by the SJJIF President. The CF presidential candidate must be ratified by the SJJIF. If there is no ratification, the SJJIF may designate an interim CF president until new elections can be held.
- 20.5 Candidates for presidency must hold a minimum rank of Black Belt.
- 20.6 Candidates for presidency must have a minimum age of twenty-seven (27) years.
- 20.7 All members of the governing body must have a clear criminal record
- 20.8 Only the SJJIF Full Member NFs are entitled to vote. The members of the EC in office cannot take part in the election process.
- 20.9 The members of the EC are elected by a simple majority.
- 20.10 The position of SJJIF EC member is not incompatible with the position of CF EC member.
- 20.11 The SJJIF has the right to appoint an observer to each CF council and/or general assembly meeting. The observer has the right to attend and speak at all official CF meetings, but has no voting rights. Attendance costs for the observer are to be covered by the CF.

#### **Article 21 National (Territorial) Federation Membership**

- 21.1 Jiu-Jitsu governing bodies of all nations or territories may apply to join the SJJIF and become its NF.
- 21.2 The SJJIF shall only accept one NF from each country or territory.
- 21.3 NFs that are recognized by their respective NOC and/or NSA may apply to become Full Members of the SJJIF.
  - i. Full Members are NFs that have fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws and which have been approved by the SJJIF EC and GA.
  - ii. Full Members shall have voting rights at the GA and shall have the right to participate in all official events of the SJJIF.
  - iii. Full Members shall be required to pay annual membership fees as identified in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 21.4 NFs that have fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in the SJJIF Statutes, and which have received confirmation from the SJJIF shall be Provisional Members. Provisional Member status will be altered to Full Member status upon approval of the SJJIF EC and GA.
  - i. Provisional Members have no voting rights in official meetings but shall have the right to participate in all official SJJIF events.
  - ii. Provisional Members are not required to pay annual membership fees.
- 21.5 NFs that are not recognized by their respective NOC and/or NSA may apply to become an Associate Member of the SJJIF.
  - i. Associate Members may attend official meetings of the SJJIF as observers, but they shall have no voting rights.
  - ii. Associate Members have the right to participate in official SJJIF events upon approval of the SJJIF.
  - iii. Associate Members are required to pay annual membership fees as identified in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.

- iv. Associate Members are ineligible to receive development funds.
- 21.6 Upon approval of the SJJIF EC, organizations and/or sub-federations representing territories that are not self-governing and/or have no independent NOC or NSA are eligible to become Associate Members of the SJJIF.
- 21.7 If a NFs' NOC and/or NSA recognition status is altered, upon verification, the SJJIF shall have the right to reclassify the NF's membership accordingly.

## **Article 22 National (Territorial) Federation Membership Process**

- 22.1 A Jiu-Jitsu organization seeking NF recognition from the SJJIF shall submit the following documents electronically:
  - i. Application in written form;
  - ii. Two sets of its Constitution, one of which must be written in English;
  - iii. A report on Jiu-Jitsu activities carried out over the previous two years;
  - iv. A proof of payment to the SJJIF of a non-refundable application fee of one hundred and fifty US Dollars (US\$150).
- 22.2 NFs applying for Full Member status must submit a letter of recommendation or certificate endorsed by the NOC and/or NSA of its nation or territory.
- 22.3 NF application documents will be submitted to the SJJIF EC for approval. Upon approval by the EC, the applicant shall become a Provisional Member of the SJJIF.
- 22.4 NFs that have fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, and which have received confirmation from the SJJIF as Provisional Members or Associate Members should begin the membership application process for their respective CFs.
- 22.5 A Provisional Member that has fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws shall acquire Full Member status upon receiving the approval by two-third-majority vote of the Full Members present at the annual SJJIF GA.
- 22.6 If multiple jiu-jitsu organizations claim to represent a nation or self-governing territory, the SJJIF will investigate to determine which candidate is most qualified to become its NF.

## **Article 23 Rights of National (Territorial) Federations**

- 23.1 NFs have the right to be recognized as the only jiu-jitsu governing body of their respective nation or territory.
- 23.2 NFs that have acquired Full Members status shall have voting rights at the GA.
- 23.3 NFs have the right to host SJJIF competitions and activities organized or approved by the SJJIF as identified in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 23.4 NFs have the right to apply to host and participate in the international referee training courses organized by the SJJIF.
- 23.5 NFs have the right to participate in international competitions and activities organized or approved by the SJJIF.
- 23.6 NFs have the right to organize national or territorial Jiu-Jitsu competitions, using the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations Book and software as identified in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 23.7 NFs have the right to organize national or territorial referee training courses in accordance with the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations Book, and upon SJJIF certification.
- 23.8 NFs have the right to conduct training for Jiu-Jitsu practitioners using teaching materials authorized by the SJJIF.

## **Article 24      Responsibilities & Obligations of National (Territorial) Federations**

- 24.1 NFs must be registered as a non-profit, non-discriminatory, non- political organization. It shall not discriminate on ground of race, religion, general, cultural, ideological, gender, or politics.
- 24.2 NFs shall receive SJJIF's regular inspection on membership qualification.
- 24.3 NFs are required to strictly develop and/or align their constitution to conform to the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws. The national constitution or charter must state that the federation runs under the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws. Within 30 days of adoption of a new constitution or amendment of an existing constitution, NFs shall submit their new or amended constitutions to the SJJIF.
- 24.4 Under the leadership of the SJJIF, NFs are responsible for organizing and managing Jiu-Jitsu activities in their respective nations, uniting other Jiu-Jitsu organizations within their nation or territories, and upholding the regulations of the SJJIF.
- 24.5 NFs are required to welcome other organizations or events to work under the rules and regulations of the SJJIF and establish sub-federations under their designated territory. All sub-federations must adhere to the same guidelines set-forth by the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws and SJJIF Competition Rules and Regulations Book.
- 24.6 Each NF shall be registered in accordance with the laws of where it is registered.
- 24.7 Each NF shall become a member of the CF of their respective continent.
- 24.8 NFs shall pay the annual membership fee of \$400.00 USD to SJJIF.
- 24.9 NFs shall operate transparently and respectfully, and comply with and conform to the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, goals, and best interests.
- 24.10 NF presidents are required to attend the SJJIF annual GA meeting to participate in voting and understand the implementation of SJJIF resolutions, guidelines, requirements, and rules & regulations.
- 24.11 At the end of each calendar year, NFs are required to submit annual reports detailing the national activities they have organized throughout the course of the year and their working plans for the following year, in writing, to the SJJIF.
- 24.12 NFs are expected to send competitors to the SJJIF World Championship and/or SJJIF international competitions.
- 24.13 NFs shall organize a minimum of two (2) national (territorial) Jiu-Jitsu championships per year.
- 24.14 All SJJIF sanctioned federations must work with the SJJIF software/ranking system to ensure organization and records of participants around the world, and to update the SJJIF world ranking system.
- 24.15 Each year and coinciding with the continental championship, the NFs of the continent concerned will gather to a general assembly meeting during which the continental competitions are scheduled (date and place) considering the dates set aside by the SJJIF. This calendar must be ratified by the SJJIF and inserted in the SJJIF's General Calendar.
- 24.16 Every four years, the NFs will gather together during the Continental Championships, as an elective general assembly for the re-election of the President and for the re-election of the executive committee of the aforesaid CF.
- 24.17 NFs shall keep minutes of all official meetings, including all ordinary and extraordinary general assembly meetings and council meetings, and shall submit those minutes to the SJJIF promptly after the minutes are prepared.
- 24.18 NFs submits to the SJJIF for decision on all questions of general interest specific to its nation and those which relate to the conditions for application of all official regulations,



- as well as the calendar of the national competitions (dates and places) taking into account the dates set aside by the SJJIF and which will be inserted into the SJJIF calendar.
- 24.19 NFs take the necessary measures to lead coaches training courses programmed at the highest level by the SJJIF and whose technical support can only be carried out by a nominated SJJIF Grand Masters.
- 24.20 NFs can autonomously carry out statistical or research work, or at the SJJIF's request in order to determine the level of development on that nation or in order to make suggestions in the general interest of the SJJIF.

## **Article 25 Individual Recognition & Membership**

- 25.1 Memberships will allow the SJJIF to keep an accurate record of all individual participants and overall count of competitors worldwide assisting in the process of Jiu-Jitsu evolving into an Olympic Sport.
- 25.2 Individuals entitled to recognition or memberships by the SJJIF and/or through a National Federation are:
- i. Athletes;
  - ii. Coaches;
  - iii. Referees;
  - iv. Officials;
  - v. Supporters
- 25.3 Individuals recognized by the SJJIF as supporters and/or members shall comply by the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations, and all other provisions issued by the SJJIF.
- i. Individuals that breach the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations Book, SJJIF Code of Conduct, and all other provisions issued by the SJJIF are liable to disciplinary action by the SJJIF.
- 25.4 Individuals recognized by the SJJIF as members are entitled to:
- i. Discounts on future SJJIF sanctioned events;
  - ii. SJJIF ID card and member number;
  - iii. Complimentary admission as a spectator to any SJJIF tournament.
  - iv. May be nominated for elective offices and appointments providing that minimum requirements for position are met.
- 25.5 Individuals recognized by the SJJIF as a supporter are entitled to:
- i. Access to future SJJIF seminars, events, and workshops at a discounted price;
  - ii. SJJIF ID card and member number;
  - iii. Complimentary admission as a spectator to any SJJIF tournament.

## **Article 26 Membership Fees**

- 26.1 Each NF is required to pay an annual membership fee before May 30th of each calendar year. Failure to pay the annual membership fee may result in immediate suspension of membership until the fee, along with any resulting penalties, is paid.
- 26.2 Membership fees are scaled according to the following classifications:
- i. Tier One / Full Member = US\$400
  - ii. Tier Two / Associate Members = US\$300
  - iii. Individual Membership = US\$30
  - iv. Supporter Membership = \$US30
- 26.3 A new NF is required to pay a prorated membership fee for the remaining months of the current calendar year within 30 days of its admission either as Full Member or as a Provisional Member. Following the end of the current calendar year, the new NF shall pay the membership fee annually.

- 26.4 NF's that fail to pay membership fees for more than three months past the due date may be referred to the Sanctions Committee for further action. Memberships of NF's that are referred to the Disciplinary Committee cannot be restored without approval of the EC.

## **Article 27 Suspension, Termination, and Withdrawal of NF Membership**

- 27.1 Following due process, the SJJIF EC has the right to suspend any NF from all of or part of its rights under the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws for a defined or undefined duration.
- 27.2 The following circumstances shall be considered grounds for suspension from SJJIF membership:
- i. The NF fails to fulfill its financial or championship participation requirements.
  - ii. The NF fails to receive recognition from the appropriate NOC and/or NSA.
  - iii. The NF is found to have engaged in a violation of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.
- 27.3 Suspended members shall no longer be able to exercise voting rights in official meetings, such as at the GA, but they still retain the right to participate in all official SJJIF events.
- 27.4 Suspended members are still required to pay their membership fees.
- 27.5 Suspended members shall have their membership status restored when they fulfill the requirements prescribed in these statutes. The reinstatement of suspended NFs may be subject to approval by the EC on recommendation by the President.
- 27.6 For Suspended Members, the SJJIF may at its discretion, and in coordination with the pertinent NOC and/or governmental organization if appropriate, designate an interim body in order to ensure that athletes and officials of the Suspended Member are able to participate in SJJIF Promoted and Sanctioned events.
- 27.7 Following due process, the SJJIF EC has the right to propose the termination of any NF that fails to comply with the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws. In such cases, the NF will be terminated upon approval by a vote of more than two-thirds from the members attending the following SJJIF GA.
- 27.8 The following circumstances shall be considered grounds for termination from SJJIF membership:
- i. The NF fails to fulfill its financial or other outstanding obligations to the SJJIF.
  - ii. The NF commits a gross violation(s) that jeopardizes the reputation or interests of the SJJIF.
  - iii. A suspended NF fails to remedy the cause of suspension following due notice and a reasonable period specified by the SJJIF.
- 27.9 Terminated members shall no longer be able to attend official meetings, such as the GA, nor will they be able to participate in official events of the SJJIF, nor will they be eligible to receive funds from the SJJIF.
- 27.10 The following circumstances shall be considered a voluntary withdrawal from SJJIF membership:
- i. The NF no longer exists.
  - ii. The NF notifies the SJJIF Secretary General in writing that it is withdrawing its affiliation.
  - iii. The NF fails to pay its annual membership fee for two consecutive years.
- 27.11 Following the withdrawal or termination of membership of a NF, the SJJIF has the right to admit a new NF from the departed NF's nation (territory).
- 27.12 A withdrawing NF may not make any claims against the SJJIF, including but not limited to financial or property claims. Furthermore, the withdrawing NF must fulfill its financial and other outstanding obligations to the SJJIF until the end of the calendar year during which the withdrawal occurred.



- 27.13 If a withdrawn NF wishes to resume its SJJIF affiliation and no new NF from its nation or territory has been admitted, then it may be readmitted subject to the requirements that it pay double the membership fee.

## **Article 28     Activities**

28.1 The SJJIF engages in the following activities:

- i. Promoting and sponsoring championships, tournaments, and other events;
- ii. Research for the propagation and development of Jiu-Jitsu techniques;
- iii. Publication of Jiu-Jitsu-related material;
- iv. Promoting the principles, morals, and lifestyle of the Jiu-Jitsu Lifestyle;
- v. Sponsoring, recognizing, or otherwise supporting organizations working to further develop Jiu-Jitsu;
- vi. Developing education, training and certification programs for members of the SJJIF;
- vii. Supporting the advancement of scientific and medical understanding of Jiu-Jitsu;
- viii. Supporting the participation of both men and women in sports;
- ix. Supporting the participation of disabled persons in Jiu-Jitsu; and
- x. Other activities authorized by the EC to further the SJJIF's mission and objectives as defined in Article 2.

## **Article 29     SJJIF Sanctioned Tournaments**

- 29.1 The SJJIF promotes the SJJIF World Jiu-Jitsu Championship composed of kids and adults in both Gi and No Gi.
- 29.2 The tournament is held every year under the guidance and supervision of the EC and approval of the SJJIF.
- 29.3 All tournaments and/or events organize by a federation affiliated with the SJJIF must implement the SJJIF competition rule and regulations and use the SJJIF software ranking system ranking stipulated by the SJJIF.
- 29.4 All event organizers shall be responsible for paying to the SJJIF the sanctioned event fee and additional SJJIF software fee. Fees to be determined prior to event and based on membership status.
- 29.5 The SJJIF General Secretary shall be informed of the organizational details of the competition prior to the event. The competition results shall be sent to the SJJIF General Secretary within fifteen (15) days after the date of the conclusion of the event.
- 29.6 Any other Jiu-Jitsu competition and/or activities sanctioned by the SJJIF EC.
- 29.7 Any prospective organizer seeking to apply to host a SJJIF World Championship shall form a Bidding Committee and abide by the following procedure. The Bidding Committee with gather the following documents and submit to the General Secretary six (6) months prior to the convening of the upcoming GA meeting:
- i. Host city name and information, which includes a profile of the city and detailed maps showing the location of the competition and training venues, accommodations, and transportation. Information on competition and training venues, accommodations, and transportation should include name and exact locations, accommodation capacity, expenses for participants, etc.
  - ii. Letter of support from the NSA and/or NOC and/or local government.
- 29.8 Representatives of the Bidding Committee applying to host the World Championships shall make a presentation at the GA meeting.
- 29.9 The SJJIF President maintains the right to appoint representative(s) to make inspection visits of the candidate cities three months prior to the convening of the GA. The

representative(s) shall submit a report to the GA. All costs associated with the inspection visits shall be paid by the bidding federation.

- 29.10 The selected Bidding Committee shall enter into a Host City Agreement with the SJJIF with prescribed terms and conditions and shall be responsible for all relevant organizational work.

### **Article 30 Referees & Competition Rules**

- 30.1 SJJIF World Championships, and other international championships and/ or events sanctioned or promoted by the SJJIF shall be officiated only by SJJIF approved International Referees.
- 30.2 Only the SJJIF shall conduct or authorize International Referee training courses, refresher courses and seminars. Apart from CFs and NFs, no other organization shall be authorized to organize, execute, or issue certificates for referee training courses, refreshers courses, or seminars.
- 30.3 The President shall grant the qualification of International Referee to those who have successfully completed the SJJIF Rules Course Seminar and who have passed all the prerequisite tests and criteria deemed necessary by the SJJIF.
- 30.4 All championships promoted or sanctioned by the SJJIF shall implement the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations.

### **Article 31 Rules of Eligibility for Participation**

- 31.1 The national (territorial) flags and anthems of all NFs participating in tournaments or competitive events shall be utilized in accordance with the rules and regulations of the IOC.
- 31.2 All participants participating in competitions and activities organized or approved by the SJJIF must be citizens of the nation (territory) that they will represent. In cases where athletes have changed their citizenship, such athletes are required to have met the requirements set forth in the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations and have resided in the nation (territory) that they are representing for at least three (3) years prior to the opening day of the competition or activity, during which time they may not have represented any other nation (territory) in such events.
- 31.3 The Technical Committee shall deal with all disputes relating to an athlete's eligibility for participation and report to the SJJIF EC for the final decision.

### **Article 32 Finances**

- 32.1 The income of the SJJIF shall be derived from the following sources: membership fees; operating income; donations and subsidies; other income.
- 32.2 The financial year of the SJJIF shall start on January 1 and end on December 31 of each year.
- 32.3 Any CF, or Member NF, or other organization that receives SJJIF subsidies or funding, may be audited by the SJJIF as regards to the use of such funds. For this purpose, their accounts must be available at all times to the auditors appointed by the SJJIF. The SJJIF may demand return of misused or unused funds.
- 32.4 The EC will appoint an independent qualified accountant, or a firm of qualified accountants, who will be given the task of auditing annually the accounts of the SJJIF and reporting to it on them. For each GA, the appointed accountant will provide a succinct report on the audit of the SJJIF accounts. This report will also indicate whether the accounts have been kept in a regular manner and in accordance with the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws.

- 32.5 Compensation available to eligible EC members as determined by Article 8.12 shall be determined by the following process:
- i. An adhoc committee shall annually evaluate the eligible EC member's performance, and ask for his/her input on matters of performance and compensation.
  - ii. The adhoc committee will obtain research and information to make a recommendation to the GA for the compensation (salary and benefits) of the eligible EC members based on a review of comparability data. Data may include salary and benefit compensation studies by independent sources, written job offers for positions at similar organizations, or information obtained from the IRS Form 990 filings of similar organizations.
  - iii. The approval of compensation for eligible EC members by the GA must document how it reached its decisions, including the data on which it relied, in minutes of the meeting during which the compensation was approved.
- 32.6 Upon the dissolution of the SJJIF, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the SJJIF shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational and/or religious purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3), as determined by the EC.

### **Article 33 Intellectual & Media Properties**

- 33.1 The SJJIF logo is the following:



- 33.2 The logo of the SJJIF, its flag, motto (if any), symbol, anthem and identifications (including but not limited to "Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation", "SJJIF", and any derivatives) are collectively referred to as the "SJJIF Properties". All rights to any and all SJJIF Properties, as well as all rights to the use thereof, belong exclusively to the SJJIF, including but not limited to the use for any profit-making, commercial or advertising purposes. The SJJIF may license all or part of its rights on terms and conditions set forth on a case-by-case basis.
- 33.3 The SJJIF is the owner of all rights in and to all World Championships and World Cups, as well as all other international competitions, including but not limited to Golden Grand Prix events, on all recognized Jiu-Jitsu styles for all belt groups and ages, including all rights and data relating thereof, without limitation to all rights relating to the organization, broadcasting, recording, representation, reproduction, access and dissemination in any form whether now existing or developed in the future. An international competition is any form of competition, tournament or other event that involves the organizations of more than three participating countries.
- 33.4 All television, radio, photographic, film, internet, telephone and other media rights to SJJIF events known of or unknown of today are the exclusive property of the SJJIF. These rights may not be sold or negotiated without the written agreement of the SJJIF, which may delegate its powers to negotiate the sale or use of these rights, but which shall retain the sole authority for the final decision.
- 33.5 The personnel who participate in the competitions and activities organized by the SJJIF, including but not limited to, officials, referees, coaches, and athletes (hereafter referred to collectively as Participants) must consent to and agree that the SJJIF is entitled to use any



pictures, audio recordings and written materials of the Participants or other individuals who may be present and are photographed, recorded, filmed or televised live during the event or at any other time associated with the event whether during the competition or otherwise. The Participants must not for any reason or at any time pursue reimbursement or compensation from the SJJIF, the hosting NF or CF and/or its service providers directly or indirectly, for the use of the above described materials.

- 33.6 SJJIF Properties shall not be used without prior approval of the SJJIF. When a NF or a CF hosts an SJJIF promoted event, the event host shall obtain the approval of the SJJIF before signing a marketing contract with any private entity. The SJJIF has the right to receive a percentage of the revenue generated from such contracts and the parties will negotiate the percentage to be received by the SJJIF prior to the SJJIF approving any contract.
- 33.7 The SJJIF reserves the right to approve NFs to take appropriate legal action against pirating and/or illegal use of the SJJIF Properties by clubs, associations and individuals in countries where such violations have occurred.
- 33.8 Rules concerning the use of SJJIF Properties, in their original form or any other possible modifications, and the possible legal and/or disciplinary actions against perpetrators who did not obtain such official approval from SJJIF may be enacted separately.

#### **Article 34      Code of Conduct, Arbitration & Discipline**

- 34.1 It is the responsibility and obligation of all members and representatives of the SJJIF to practice and demonstrate the highest principles of sportsmanship and to observe the ethics of competition. The display of good sportsmanship is a statement of the individual's understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.
- 34.2 The SJJIF may take disciplinary measures towards its members and participants in SJJIF competitions and/or events for any violation of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations, or other SJJIF regulation or bylaws including anti-doping codes, and for participation in activities that are contrary to the SJJIF's Mission & Objectives or Code of Conduct.
- 34.3 The SJJIF EC has the authority to establish a Disciplinary Committee to evaluate presumed violations in relation to Article 34.2. In the case of a breach or violation, the SJJIF Disciplinary Committee shall be competent and able to take disciplinary action in compliance with the SJJIF Disciplinary Code.
- 34.4 Any incident giving place to disciplinary action or not, will be communicated immediately to the SJJIF President, SJJIF EC members and the SJJIF Disciplinary Committee.
- 34.5 A possible disciplinary decision will be taken after having heard the person or people concerned and any potential witness (es). If the concerned person is a minor, an adult responsible for the delegation will accompany them, during the discussion.
- 34.6 As soon as the decision is taken, the Disciplinary Committee is responsible for the following:
  - i. Immediately inform the SJJIF President and the SJJIF EC of its decision.
  - ii. Submit a report of the incident and its decision to the General Secretary within five days of the date of the incident. The report must state the following: the facts, including the recall of the alleged facts, a summary of the observations and arguments of the parties, the grounds for the decision, and any other comments.
  - iii. The Disciplinary Committee, upon the SJJIF's President's receipt, review, and approval of the documents, will inform the concerned persons about its decision 15 days after the date of the incident.



- 34.7 If an individual disagrees with a decision, a written appeal may be made to the SJJIF Disciplinary Committee and the General Secretary within one calendar month from the incident date. In the case of suspension, the decision will stand until the outcome of the appeal is heard.
- 34.8 If a situation arises that the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws, the SJJIF Competition Rules & Regulations, or other SJJIF regulation or bylaws does not cover, the SJJIF EC shall make a decision.

#### **Article 35     Dissolution**

- 35.1 The dissolution of the SJJIF can only be decided at the GA by the unanimous resolution of all the members that comprise the GA.
- 35.2 If the SJJIF is dissolved, the assets of the SJJIF shall be disposed of according to the resolution of the GA. See Article 32.6.

#### **Article 36     Headquarters**

- 36.1 The SJJIF maintains headquarters and operational offices in the United States of America, unless otherwise decided by the EC.

#### **Article 37     Interpretation of Statutes & Bylaws**

- 37.1 The right on interpretation of the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws resides with the President and the EC.
- 37.2 English is the official language of the SJJIF. Portuguese is the auxiliary language of the SJJIF. In an event of a dispute, all decisions shall be based on the English text.

#### **Article 38     Abbreviations**

- 38.1 The following are commonly used abbreviations in the SJJIF Statutes & Bylaws:
- i. SJJIF     Sport Jiu-Jitsu International Federation
  - ii. CF       Continental Federation
  - iii. NF       National Federation
  - iv. GA       General Assembly
  - v. EC       Executive Committee

**These Statutes & Bylaws have been approved by the SJJIF General Assembly  
in Long Beach, California on November 22, 2015**