

Oceania Judo Union

Statutes

Adopted by OJU Congress, Auckland, New Zealand, 9 November 2013

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INDEX

Preamble

1. Definitions

2. Aims

3. Structure

4. Membership

5. Participation in Competitions and Medical Codes

6. Official Languages

7. Bodies of the Continental Union. Signing Authority.

8. The Ordinary Congress

9. Extraordinary Congress

10. Provisions common to discussions and decisions at Ordinary and Extraordinary Congresses

11. Executive Committee (EC)

12. President

13. Vice Presidents

14. General Secretary

15. General Treasurer

16. Technical Directors

17. Place of performance of OJU Tasks

18. Events organized and recognized by the OJU

19. The spirit of Judo

20. Accounting period

21. Income and Expenditures

22. Audit of Accounts

23. Grades and "Dan" Ranks

24. OJU Honours and Awards

25. Amendments to the Statutes

26. Specific Regulations

27. Expulsion, Resignation, Suspension

28. Dissolution

29. Validation by the IJF

STATUTES

Preamble:

Judo was created in 1882 by Professor Jigoro Kano. As an educational method derived from the martial arts, judo became an official Olympic sport in 1964.

Judo is a highly codified sport in which the mind controls the expression of the body and is a sport which contributes to educating individuals.

Beyond competitions and combat, judo involves technical research, practice of katas, self-defense work, physical preparation and sharpening of spirit.

As a discipline derived from ancestral traditions, judo was designed by its Master Founder as an eminently modern and progressive activity.

The OJU statutes shall comply with Statutes proposed and approved by the IJF, while remaining consistent with the laws of the country of incorporation.

Article 1 – Definitions

1.1 Statutes

The "Statutes" shall mean all provisions contained in this document, which have been duly approved, together with any addendums and/or appendices which may complete, amend or substitute for this document. The Preamble constitutes an integral part hereof. These Statutes replace the previous statutes.

1.2 OJU

The Oceania Judo Union Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the OJU was incorporated in New Zealand in 2002.

The OJU is made up of National Federations in the Oceania/Pacific region. The OJU is a non-political and a non-profit organization. It shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, religion, gender or politics. The OJU is one of the five Continental Unions forming the IJF.

The OJU is in charge of implementing the policies of the IJF and the International Olympic Committee, hereinafter referred to as the IOC.

The liability of the OJU as an IJF member is limited.

1.3 National Federation

The term "National Federation" shall refer to a member of the OJU.

The liability of National Federations as members of the OJU is limited.

All National Federations undertake to contribute to the assets of the OJU.

In the event the OJU is wound up, all National Federations which are members at that time agree to pay the debts and liabilities of the OJU contracted before they cease to be members, as well as the costs, charges and expenses of winding up. Such amount as may be required must not exceed ten US dollars (US\$10.00).

1.4 Country

A "Country" shall mean an independent State recognized by the international community and which has a flag and a national anthem.

1.5 President

The term "President" shall mean the President of the OJU.

1.6 Vice President

The term "Vice President" shall mean one of the Vice Presidents of the OJU.

1.7 Director

The term "Director" shall mean one of the Directors of the OJU, comprising the members of Executive Committee.

1.8 General Treasurer

The term "General Treasurer" shall mean the General Treasurer of the OJU.

1.9 General Secretary

The term "General Secretary" shall mean the General Secretary of the OJU.

1.10 Executive

The "Executive" shall mean the Executive Committee of the OJU.

1.11 Congress

The "Congress" shall mean the Congress of the OJU held either on an ordinary or an extraordinary basis.

1.12 General Headquarters
The "General Headquarters" shall refer to the administrative headquarters of the OJU where the administrative tasks of the OJU are performed, the locations of which shall be decided by the President of the OJU.
1.13 Head Office
The "Head Office" shall refer to the registered head office of the OJU, the location of which shall be decided by the Executive.
Article 2 – Aims
The OJU has the following aims, without this constituting an exhaustive list:
- to implement the IJF and relevant IOC policy in Oceania.
- to promote cordial and friendly relations between its members and to lead and organize judo activities throughout the Oceania region.
- to protect the interests of judo throughout the Oceania region.
- to organize Continental events, to supervise where necessary events organized by its members and to participate in the organization of Olympic events.
- to develop the practice of judo throughout the OJU for all categories of the population.
- to improve the quality of judo training.
- to supervise the awarding of grades, including "dan" ranks, and their compliance with IJF rules.
- to promote the ideals and objectives behind the Olympic movement.
- to represent Oceania Judo before third parties and to arbitrate in any possible disagreements between Member National Federations.
Article 3 – Structure
3.1 Composition of the Oceania Judo Union (OJU)
The OJU is composed of member National Federations that are in its territory or are validated by the IJF derogation on its territory.
3.2 Statutes of OJU Member Federations
The Statutes and Regulations of Member National Federations must be in compliance with the OJU and IJF Statutes and all other Regulations and Decisions of the OJU, as well as with the principles of the Olympic Charter. The election of the members of the Executive Committee must comply with the same principles.
The IJF, the OJU EC, and the member federations of the OJU must be informed of the dates and places of congresses held by the OJU 18 weeks (one-hundred and twenty six days) prior to the date such congresses are held.
The OJU must supply any requested information connected with its operations and activities in Oceania to the IJF upon request from the IJF. The OJU has the right to request any information connected with the activities of any OJU Member National Federation, this information must be supplied on request.
3.3 Auditing of the use of funds and Communication of Information
The OJU may audit National Federations' use of funds originated by the OJU.
Article 4 - Membership
4.1 Application for membership
Only one Federation per Country may become a member of the IJF and the OJU. If two or more Federations within a country claim representation, membership in the OJU will be given to that Federation which is recognised by its National Olympic Committee or by the highest sporting organisation of that country.
In accordance with the IOC rules, National Olympic Committees can recognize as members of their NOC only the federations recognized by the International Olympic Federations for the disciplines for which they are responsible.
4.2 Procedure
Any National Federation which would like to join the OJU and the IJF must apply for membership in writing to the IJF General Secretary with a copy to the OJU General Secretary.

The statutes of the National Federation must mandatorily be attached to the membership application and must absolutely provide that this National Federation agrees to comply with the Statutes and all regulations and decisions of the IJF and the OJU.
An opinion from the OJU, giving reasons for its opinion, must also be sent to IJF General Secretary with the membership application and a copy to the applicant. The OJU Executive will examine the application and together with the IJF EC approve the candidacy.
Associate Membership. Associate Membership in the OJU may be granted in the case of a Territory which is a department of a country whose National Judo Federation is already a member of the IJF, through the offices of another Continental Union. Such Associate Membership, subject to the continuous payment of the annual fees prescribed by the OJU, shall entitle the Associate Member Federation to engage in all OJU activities but shall not include the right to vote as a member Federation at the IJF Congress.
4.3 Defense of Federations
The OJU is dedicated to defending Member Federations from all attacks against democratic processes they may suffer in the area of elections held by Member Federations and their participation in competitions.
OJU Member Federations that are not members of their NOC shall apply for affiliation to the NOC of their country or to the highest sporting authority of that country.
Article 5 – Participation in Competitions and Medical Codes
5.1 Athletes' right to participate
To be eligible to participate in the Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships, International Competitions and Competitions held under the supervision of or recognized by the IJF, a judoka and his Staff must comply with rules of the IJF and the IOC.
5.2 Antidoping
The OJU shall comply with Olympic Movement Medical Code and the World Antidoping Code.
Article 6 - Official Languages
6.1 Official Languages
The official languages of the OJU are English and French.
Official documents of the OJU must be published in these two (2) languages. Congresses, meetings and sessions must be held in the English language and, if feasible, in French.
In the event of a discrepancy in interpretation between the official languages, the original language in which the document was written shall prevail.
6.2 Simultaneous Interpretation
Simultaneous interpretation of a minimum of 2 official languages namely English and French must if feasible be made available at all Congresses.
Article 7 - Bodies of the Continental Union. Signing Authority.
7.1 Bodies of the OJU
Bodies of the OJU are:
- the Congress, supreme body of the OJU. The Ordinary Congress is held every two years and is governed by Articles 8 and 10 hereafter. Powers of the Congress are listed at article 8.3. The Extraordinary Congress is governed by Articles 9 and 10 of the Statutes;
the Executive Committee ("Executive"), governed by Article 11 of the Statutes and whose powers are listed at article 11.1;
- the Statutory Auditor, when required by law.
7.2 Signing Authority of the OJU
The joint dual signature of the President and the General Treasurer is required for the OJU to be bound.
The Executive may designate other Directors, whose signature together with the General Treasurer, or in his absence the President, is binding upon the OJU.
7.3 Common Seal of the OJU
The Common Seal of the OJU shall be kept in custody of the General Secretary, and shall be affixed to such official documents as are approved by the Executive.

Article 8 - The Ordinary Congress
8.1 Meetings
The Congress shall be held every two (2) years - in the year before and in the year after the Olympic Games, at a place designated by the Executive.
The Congress must be held at the same time as another OJU event in the same city. When choosing the place where the Congress will be held, an equitable rotation amongst the different countries of the OJU shall be taken into account.
8.2 Additional Congress Meetings
Additional Congress Meetings may be held, however, if the Executive deems it necessary.
8.3 Powers
The Congress shall have the power to:
a) define, orient and control the general policies of the OJU;
b) approve the Minutes of the preceding Congress;
c) approve the reports of the President which shall be valid as the Executive Report, as well as the reports of the General Secretary, the General Treasurer and the Technical Director.
d) approve, amend or reject the accounts of the previous accounting period and the budget for the accounting period to come;
f) elect at four (4) year intervals the voting members of the Executive for a four (4) year term of office
g) ratify expulsions decided by the Executive of one of the Executive members once the IJF appeal period has expired.
h) decide on the expulsion of an Executive member if requested by at least one-third (1/3) of the National Federations;
i) approve the Statutes and the Regulations, and make all necessary amendments thereto;
j) where relevant to the OJU, decide on sporting and technical issues and issues related to judo training, refereeing, development and promotion and also on any new rules and amendments proposed by the IJF.
k) decide on disputes on the validity of a representative of a National Federation;
l) decide in the last resort on all issues relating to the aims of the OJU;
m) decide on all proposals submitted by Member National Federations, and the Executive;
n) decide on any other issues set down on the agenda.
8.4 Proposals of Member Federations and Continental Unions
At least 18 weeks (126 calendar days) prior to the Congress, the General Secretary must invite the member National Federations to submit points they would like to include on the agenda. These proposals must be sent in at least 8 weeks (56 calendar days) before the date scheduled for the Congress.
8.5 Agenda and Convening of the Congress
The Congress may consider only those items which are included on the Agenda. The Agenda shall be decided on by the Executive and must naturally include all issues within the Congress' powers.
At least 6 weeks (42 calendar days) before the date scheduled for the Congress, the General Secretary will send to the Member National Federations, the Executive Members and the IJF General Secretary, notice to attend the Congress, signed by the President or by the General Secretary, together with the Agenda drawn up by the Executive and the reports of the President, the Vice Presidents, the General Secretary, the General Treasurer and the Directors.
Notices of the Congress shall be sent via registered letter and electronic medium, return receipt requested. The date the registered letter and electronic communication, return receipt requested, is sent shall be the sole date used as proof that notice was validly given within the required time limit.
8.6 Urgent matters
The Executive shall decide on the order in which the items on the Agenda will be discussed.
Matters which the Executive considers urgent and which have arisen too late for inclusion on the agenda may be brought before a Congress.
8.7 Representation of Member National Federations
Each Member National Federation may be represented at the Congress by the President and one (1) delegate, or in the absence of the President by a maximum of two (2) delegates. Delegates other than the President must be of the same nationality as that Federation or prove that they have 5 years current residency in the country of the National Federation they represent and shall be a member of that Federation. A delegate by residency must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the Congress. If not

approved he or she may attend as an observer to the Congress.
Delegates must be registered on the attendance sheet. Only one of the Delegates shall have the right to vote, as each Member National Federation shall have a single vote.
8.8 Credentials
Each delegate of a Member National Federation must be in possession of credentials signed by the President of his National Federation unless the delegate is the President himself.
Delegates of Member National Federations must be residents of the country of the Federation they represent, having been residents for at least the preceding five years.
8.9 Interpreting assistance
Any member National Federation whose language is not one of the official languages being used may also have their own interpreter in attendance.
8.10 Observers
Observers may attend the Congress subject to prior Executive approval.
8.11 Voting Right Credentials Commission
The verification of valid membership of National Federations and of the credentials held by the representatives of National Federations with valid membership in the OJU shall be carried out prior to the Congress by the Voting Right Credentials Commission. This Commission shall be composed of OJU General Secretary and two National Presidents appointed for this purpose by the Executive and assisted by the legal advisor of the OJU. In the event of a dispute, the Voting Right Credentials Commission shall hear the claims of the parties, draw up a summary of these claims and submit the dispute to the Congress so that the Congress may settle such dispute by way of a vote before any other business is dealt with.
8.12 Chairmanship of the Congress
The Congress shall be chaired by the President of the OJU or if absent, by a Member of the Executive appointed by the Executive..
8.13 Chairmanship Pro-Tem
During the election of the President or a no-confidence vote against the President, the President will surrender his seat to a member of the Executive appointed by the Executive as a Chairperson Pro-Tem to conduct the said election or no-confidence vote.
In the case of elections for President, the newly elected President will take over the chair immediately after the election.
If a no-confidence vote against the President is ratified, the Chairperson Pro-Tem will chair the Congress until it is closed. However, if the no-confidence vote is defeated, the President will resume the chair and will chair the Congress until it is closed.
8.14 Quorum
The Chairperson of the Congress may only declare the official opening of the Congress when at least one-half (1/2) of the Member National Federations are present.
If the quorum to open the Congress is not met, another Congress must be convened and must be held within a maximum period of 18 weeks (126 calendar days) with a quorum of 1/4 (25%) of the Member National Federations present. The agenda will be identical to that of the first Congress, as well as the conditions for giving notice of the meeting
8.15 Proxies
Voting by proxy is not allowed.
8.16 Voting rights
The Members of the Executive do not have voting rights at Congress in their capacity as Executive members. If any Executive member is the President or delegate of their own country they may exercise the vote of their country.
8.17 Decisions
The Congress shall decide by a simple majority of the valid votes cast unless otherwise defined in the Statutes. Abstentions and invalid ballots shall not be counted.
For questions of particular importance or sensitive issues or whenever one-third (1/3) of the Member National Federations present at the Congress so demand, voting shall be conducted by secret ballot.

8.18 Voting procedures

Voting for elections must be conducted by secret ballot unless there is only one (1) candidate. If there is only one (1) candidate that person may be acclaimed, unless one third (1/3) of the Member National Federations present at the Congress request that a vote by way of secret ballot take place.

Voting in elections for the offices shall be carried out by successive elimination of candidates receiving the least number of votes until only one (1) candidate remains or until one (1) candidate obtains more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes cast.

In the event of an equal vote between two or more contenders during an election by way of secret ballot, a second and final round of votes between the equal contenders shall be conducted.

In the event that the second and final vote also results in a tie, the election result shall be determined by the drawing of lots conducted by the Chairperson.

For all other elections, when an equal number of votes is cast, the status quo shall be maintained.

8.19 Voting Board and Presentation of Candidates

8.19.1 Scrutineers

The Congress shall organize a voting board by electing Scrutineers, chosen from among those delegates of Member Federations who are not presenting any candidates for office.

They shall be in charge of all matters in connection with voting.

The Executive shall suggest the number of scrutineers to be elected.

8.19.2 Presentation of Candidates

If an election is being held, each candidate for the office of President will be allowed a maximum of seven (7) minutes in which to give a presentation.

Each of the other candidates for election will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes to give a presentation.

If there is more than one candidate per office, the speaking order shall be determined by ballot.

8.20 Counting of votes

Once the voting has been completed, the Chairman of the Congress shall announce that the vote is closed and shall ask the scrutineers to start counting the votes cast. On completion of the count the scrutineers shall report the results to the Chairperson for announcement to Congress.

8.21 Challenge of elections

In the event the validity of an election is challenged, the President shall be immediately notified thereof and shall submit the case to the Executive. If the Executive takes the challenge into consideration, it must be reported to the Congress where a re-examination, re-election, re-vote or any other action as deemed necessary by the Executive shall occur. Only OJU Member Federations present at the Congress may challenge the election and any such challenge must be submitted before the end of the Congress.

8.22 Key Point Information

The General Secretary shall provide a statement of the key points regarding decisions passed at the Congress within 24 hours of completion of Congress. This statement shall be distributed to the Presidents of the Member National Federations upon its approval by the Executive.

8.23 Minutes

Each Executive Member shall receive a copy of the draft Minutes of the Congress within thirty (30) days after the Congress is held.

The Executive shall approve the draft Minutes at the first Executive Meeting held after the said thirty (30) day period.

The approved draft Minutes shall be sent to the Member National Federations by the OJU Secretariat.

8.24 Surveillance of Conduct

The Chairperson of the Congress shall have the right to take all measures to stop any disruptive conduct obstructing the efficient administration of the Congress.

Article 9 - Extraordinary Congress

9.1 Convening of an Extraordinary Congress

An Extraordinary Congress must be convened by the President or the General Secretary at a location chosen by the Executive if at least one third (1/3) of the Member National Federations so request, or if 2/3 of the Executive considers it necessary.

9.2 Procedure
In this case, the Extraordinary Congress must be held within ninety (90) calendar days of the date on which:
- either the request containing the reasons for the meeting has been sent via registered mail, email or facsimile by one third (1/3) of the Member National Federations
- or the Executive has decided with two third (2/3) Executive members to convene the Extraordinary Congress.
9.3 Agenda
The Agenda for the meeting must indicate the reasons for the Extraordinary Congress and shall constitute the sole items on the agenda. Only those items on the agenda shall be discussed.
9.4 Decisions
The discussions and decisions passed at an Extraordinary Congress shall have equal validity with those passed at an Ordinary Congress.
The discussions and decisions passed at an Extraordinary Congress must meet the same conditions as those required for an Ordinary Congress.
Article 10 - Provisions common to discussions and decisions at Ordinary and Extraordinary Congresses
10.1 Challenge
Decisions passed at an Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress may not be annulled if, in spite of the existence of one or several voting irregularities, the vote held on such Decisions would have passed in any event.
10.2 Internal appeal procedure
The National Federations, as well as all legal entities or private individuals directly or indirectly connected to them shall have no right to take legal action against the OJU on the basis of discussions or decisions passed by the Congress of the OJU without having first submitted their complaint to the OJU Executive.
Article 11 - Executive Committee (EC)
11.1 Powers
The Executive shall determine the orientation for OJU activities and shall ensure implementation thereof within the limits of the aims of the OJU and subject to the powers expressly attributed to the Congress under these Statutes.
The Executive shall handle all issues related to the proper operation of the OJU and shall settle business it is involved in by way of decisions.
- The Executive shall carry out all audits and verifications it deems necessary.
- The Executive shall validate urgent decisions under its authority made by the President.
- The Executive has the power to decide on all issues that have not been placed under the authority of another OJU governing body pursuant to these Statutes.
11.2 Composition
The Executive is composed of the following Members:
(a) The President
(b) The 1st Vice President
(c) The 2nd Vice President
(d) The Secretary General
(e) The Treasurer
(f) The Technical Sports Director
11.3 Presidency
The Executive shall be chaired by the President. In the event the President cannot be present at a Meeting of the Executive, the President shall appoint another member of the Executive to replace him.
If a member of the Executive is also a member of the IOC, that member shall take on this duty.
11.4 Filing of candidacies
Names of candidates for the positions of voting Executive members must be received by the General Secretary at least 8 weeks (56 calendar days) before the date scheduled for the Congress.

The General Secretary shall send the names of the candidates with the notice and documents for the Congress at least six weeks (42 calendar days) before the date scheduled for the Congress.
Nomination of candidates from the floor will not be accepted at a Congress.
Individual candidacies must be duly signed by the President of the National Federation the candidate is a member of. All candidates must also be residents for at least the preceding 5 years of the countries of the Federation presenting their candidacies.
Executive Members running for re-election do not need the confirmation of their National Federation.
11.5 Term of Office
The Members elected to the Executive shall remain in office until the Ordinary Congress convened in the fourth year of their term.
Elections for President, 2 nd Vice President and Technical Sports Director in that order must take place at the time of the first Ordinary Congress held in the year after the Olympic Games.
Elections for the offices of 1 st Vice President, General Secretary and General Treasurer in that order must take place at the ordinary Congress held in the year prior to the Olympic Games.
11.6 Plurality of offices
No Member National Federation shall have more than two (2) members on the OJU Executive.
11.7 Vacant seats
If because of death, resignation, a long-term impediment, impeachment or any other reason, a seat other than that of the President becomes vacant on the Executive, the Executive may appoint an interim Member to serve until the next Congress, when the Congress will elect a candidate to fill the vacant seat for the term of office remaining initially.
11.8 Executive Meetings
As a general rule, the Executive shall meet at least once per year and particularly during the days preceding a Congress. A meeting of the Executive may, however, be convened by the President each time the President deems it necessary or at the request of a majority of the members of the Executive. National Presidents may attend Executive meetings at their own expense on an ex officio basis and may enter the discussions but not have a voting right.
11.9 Agenda
An agenda must be established for each meeting. The Executive members shall submit to the General Secretary the items they wish to have included on the agenda 14 calendar 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 7 calendar days prior to the meeting. If an urgent matter arises, it may be added to the agenda and discussed in the Executive Meeting pursuant to a decision of the Executive.
11.10 Written consultation
When, for any reason whatsoever, an ordinary Executive meeting cannot take place, the required decisions may be passed by way of a vote in writing. Decisions passed by way of written consultation (Electronic consultation allowed) shall have the same validity as decisions passed at ordinary Executive meetings.
11.11 Decisions
Decisions shall be passed by the Executive by way of simple majority vote. In the event of a tie, the President or the Executive Member the President appointed as a substitute, shall have a casting vote.
The Executive Member who substitutes for the President shall have the right to cast his own vote, in addition to the vote of the President but shall not have any casting vote. In the case of an equal vote the status quo shall prevail.
11.12 Quorum
In order for decisions to be validly passed, the meeting of the Executive must have been properly convened and at least two thirds (2/3) of its members must be present and the Meeting must be chaired by the President or by the Executive Member chosen by the President as a substitute. In the case of decisions taken by electronic communication votes must be received from at least 2/3 of the members.
11.13 Commissions
The Executive may be assisted by Standing Commissions or Commissioners to work on the following topics, such as but not limited to:
- Athletes
- Development
- Discipline

- Ethics
- Fight against doping
- Marketing
- Media
- Medical treatment
- Refereeing
- Sports
- Training
- Women's Judo
11.14 Organization of Commission Work
The composition and the responsibilities of the Standing Commissions, as well as the responsibilities of Commissioners Vice Presidents and Directors shall be determined by the Executive.
11.15 Accountability
All the Members of the Executive are accountable to the Executive and the Congress.
11.16 Key Point Information
The General Secretary shall provide a statement of the key points regarding decisions made at Executive Meetings before the Members leave the Meeting.
11.17 Impeachment
If an Executive Member commits gross negligence or is repeatedly absent at Executive Meetings, the Executive may impeach that Member by way of a no-confidence vote passed by the majority of two-thirds (2/3) of its Members. Impeachment will be applicable immediately. The Executive shall appoint an interim Member to replace the impeached member by way of a simple majority vote. The Executive shall put the ratification of the decision to impeach the Executive Member on the agenda for the next Congress.
The Executive shall also put the impeachment of an Executive Member on the agenda of the next Congress at the request of one-third (1/3) of the National Federations..
If the no-confidence vote is passed by the Congress, the said Executive member will immediately be impeached from his seat on the Executive and the Executive shall appoint an interim Member to replace the impeached member.
Article 12 – President
12.1 Powers
The President shall direct the OJU and represent the OJU towards third parties.
The President represents the IJF within the OJU.
The President must comply with the OJU Statutes and the Rules and Decisions of the OJU governing bodies.
The President shall chair Congresses, and Executive Meetings.
The President has the power to decide on all urgent questions under the authority of the Executive.
The Executive must be notified of any decisions made on this basis as soon as practicable or at the latest at its next Meeting, and validate such decisions.
The President shall be free to organize the secretariat of the IJF General Headquarters as he sees fit.
12.2 Vacant seat
In the event the President is prevented from holding office during his term of office due to resignation or for any other reason, the Presidency shall be assumed by a member of the Executive to be nominated by the Executive.
The interim President shall serve until the next Congress when a new President will be elected for the remaining duration of the initial term of office.
Article 13 - Vice Presidents
13.1 Composition
The Vice Presidents consist of the 1 st Vice President and the 2 nd Vice President.
13.2 Powers

The 2 Vice Presidents assist the President and the Executive as directed by the President. If possible each Vice President should also take on a technical or development role as appointed by the Executive.

Article 14 - General Secretary

14.1 Powers

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the administration of the Secretariat and relations with the Continental Unions and the Member National Federations. The General Secretary may benefit from the services of a personal secretariat in his city of residence.

The General Secretary has the right to represent the OJU towards third parties by way of an express power of attorney given by the President.

14.2 Responsibilities

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the administrative work of the OJU in accordance with the Statutes and regulations and for application of the Decisions of the Executive and of the Congress. The General Secretary shall keep close contact with Executive members, the Chairpersons of Commissions, and with the Member National Federations.

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the information and the correspondence within the OJU in cooperation with the relevant officers.

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the organization of Congresses and Executive meetings. The General Secretary shall establish the agendas for those meetings after consulting the Executive.

The General Secretary is responsible for administrative coordination of Headquarters, for sending invitations and regulations for the OJU Championships and other important events of the OJU.

In cooperation with the Olympic Games Organizing Committee (OGOC), he shall inform the National Federations (copy to IJF General Secretary) about the regulations and other technical details of the Olympic Judo Competitions. The General Secretary shall draft the minutes of Congress and Executive meetings, together with Key Point Information.

Article 15 - General Treasurer

15.1 Powers

The General Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the Treasury of the Continental Union and shall keep regular accounts, prepare financial statements and draw up the annual finance plan which will be presented for approval at each Congress (copy to the IJF President).

The General Treasurer administers the capital of the Continental Union and settles its financial obligations. The General Treasurer must be consulted on all financial matters.

The General Treasurer shall explore possibilities of increasing the Treasury of the OJU and shall submit proposals to the Executive.

The General Treasurer shall participate in negotiations with OJU official suppliers and shall coordinate with the President the TV rights to the OJU Championships.

The General Treasurer is also in charge of managing the copyright protecting the OJU emblem.

15.2 Budget

All income and expenses must be included in the annual provisional budget as approved by the Executive. Any expenses not included in the budget or which have not been approved by the Executive shall require prior authorization by the President and the General Treasurer before they are incurred.

15.3 Financial position

For each Executive meeting, the General Treasurer shall provide an up-to-date report of the OJU's financial position (copy to the IJF General Treasurer).

Article 16 - Technical Sports Director

16.1 Appointment

The Technical Sports Director shall be responsible for all technical and sporting activities of the OJU and shall supervise the activities of appointed officers.

Additional officers including Sports Directors, Media and Marketing Director, Refereeing Director and Education Director and others as required may be appointed by the Executive. Appointed Officers shall be ex-officio members of the Executive. Appointed Officers are accountable to the Executive and the Congress.

In the event the Technical Sports Director is prevented from holding office during his term of office due to resignation or for any other reason, his office shall be assumed by an Executive Member to be appointed by the Executive until the next Congress when a new Member will be elected for the remaining duration of the initial term of office. The duties entrusted to the Executive Member replacing him shall be defined by the Executive based on the proposal made by the President.
The Technical Sports Director shall guide and manage the sporting activities of the Continental Union.
He is in charge for implementing the technical rules, sports rules in accordance with the IJF rules and checking their implementation and the competition organization.
The Technical Sports Director shall be responsible for sporting activity and its development and shall supervise sporting activities.
The Technical Sports Director shall manage the preparations and the course of the competitions with the assistance of other members of the Executive, Sports Directors and Commission members. The Technical Sports Director shall assume the role of Technical Delegate for the various international judo events organized by other Associations, Federations and organizations connected with the OJU.
The Technical Sports Director shall act as the chairperson of the OJU Sports Commission. The Members of the Sports Commission shall be the Sports Directors appointed by the Executive.
16.2 Refereeing Director
The Refereeing Director shall guide and manage the refereeing activities.
The Refereeing Director shall act as the chairperson of the Refereeing Commission. The Members of the Refereeing Commission shall be appointed by the Executive.
16.3 Education Director
The Education Director shall guide and manage the educational activities of the Continental Union and shall be responsible for proposing new developments and changes in the field of judo education.
He implements the instructions of IJF Education Commission and shall compile statistics. The Education Director shall be in charge of studies to further the development of judo.
The Education Director shall act as chairperson of the Education Commission. The Members of the Education Commission shall be appointed by the Executive.
Article 17 - Place of Performance of OJU Tasks
Administrative tasks shall be performed at the place where the administrative premises are located, known as General Headquarters. The President shall make a proposal to the Executive regarding the locations of General Headquarters.
All original OJU documents shall be finalized and archived at General Headquarters.
The Executive shall meet at the place stated on the notice for the relevant Meeting as chosen by the President.
Article 18 - Events Organized and Recognized by the OJU
18.1 Right to Organize
The right to organize international events will only be granted to those Member National Federations which are able to guarantee compliance with the Olympic Charter and which have proved that they are competent to organize such Championships and events.
Member National Federations must agree to comply with the specifications and all rules applicable to the championship they host.
OJU events are composed of the OJU Championships and the OJU World Cups.
18.2 Candidacy
All member National Federations shall have the right to apply as a candidate to organize an official OJU event.
National Federations which are candidates must apply to the General Secretariat as defined in the relevant Regulations.
Article 19 - Spirit of Judo
Delegations participating in OJU events or in events recognized by the OJU, as well as the organizers of such events must respect the spirit of Judo and behave accordingly.

Article 20 – Accounting Period

The financial, tax and accounting period of the OJU shall start on 1 January and end on 31 December each year.

Article 21 - Income and Expenditures

21.1 Resources

The resources of the OJU shall be derived from the annual membership fees paid by the Member National Federations, TV broadcasting rights, sponsorship agreements, marketing of the OJU activities, visuals, merchandise and OJU license fees, investments in moveable and immovable property, as well as donations and all remittances from other sources.

The OJU may also benefit from contributions in kind, such as equipment and the services of personnel made available by other organizations.

In addition, the OJU shall collect all royalties for participation in and organization of OJU events.

21.2 Membership Fees

The Members of the OJU are liable for the payment of membership fees directly to the OJU. The amount of the membership fees shall be proposed by the OJU Executive and submitted to the Congress for approval.

21.3 Non-payment of membership fees, all other fees, royalties or debts

A Member Federation whose membership fees or any other fees, royalties or debts to the OJU and IJF have not been paid by the 31st of May of each year, will not be authorized to take part in events held under the auspices of the OJU.

21.4 Out-of-pocket expenses

Authorized representatives of the OJU shall offer their services without pay. Their travel and accommodation expenses, as well as a per diem for personal expenses, will be borne by the OJU during all official meetings and missions, with the exception of meetings or missions for which expenses are borne by another organization.

Article 22- Auditing of Accounts

The General Treasurer shall recommend an auditing firm to the Executive for approval for the purpose of auditing and verifying the OJU accounts.

The General Treasurer shall participate in the auditing process of the OJU accounts organized by the firm appointed. Auditing shall take place for each accounting period as soon as possible after the end of the period. The firm appointed may also be instructed by the Executive to audit OJU Members using OJU funds.

At the request of the Executive, a representative from the auditing firm appointed may attend Executive and Congress Meetings.

Article 23 - Grades and “Dan” Ranks

23.1 Official recognition of grades

The OJU officially recognizes only those grades and “Dan” ranks which are awarded by the Member National Federations to their own members, to the exclusion of all others.

A National Federation may not award a grade and/or a “Dan” rank to a member of another Member National Federation without the written agreement of that Federation. Any grade or “Dan” rank awarded without this agreement will not be validated .

Each Member National Federation is in charge of representing the OJU for the purpose of ensuring compliance with International regulations on grades and “Dan” ranks throughout its national territory.

23.2 Grade diplomas

IJF grades and “Dan” ranks shall be awarded by the President of the OJU.

23.3 Application procedure

The awarding of IJF grades and “Dan” ranks shall be performed according to the procedure validated by the Executive.

From the 1st to the 6th “Dan”, ranks shall be awarded under the responsibility of Member National Federations.

The 7th “Dan” shall be awarded upon the proposal of Member National Federations by the Executive Committees of the OJU, after the opinion of the OJU Grade and “Dan” Rank Director is given.

As of the 8th "Dan", Ranks shall be awarded by the IJF Executive upon the proposal of Member National Federations and after the opinion of the OJU has been given, as well as the opinion of the Grade and "Dan" Rank Commission of the IJF.

Article 24 – OJU Honours and Awards

Where appropriate the Executive shall have the right to make rules for the awards of honours and awards in accordance with the OJU policies.

Article 25 - Amendments to the Statutes

25.1 Procedure

Amendments to the Statutes must be presented by the Executive to the Congress and must be approved by a minimum of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Member National Federations present or represented at the Congress.

25.2 Date of Application

Amendments to the Statutes become effective when validated by the Executive Bureau of the IJF and approved by the IJF President and the regulatory authority of the country of incorporation.

Article 26 - Specific Regulations

The Executive shall establish specific regulations in special fields that are not covered under these Statutes.

Article 27 - Expulsion, Resignation, Suspension

27.1 Grounds

A National Federation may be suspended or expelled from the IJF on one of the following grounds:

- non payment of membership fees

- serious breach, gross negligence or serious misconduct bringing the sport, Federation or OJU into serious disrepute, pursuant to a final decision of one of the OJU Discipline Commissions.

27.2 Suspension or expulsion: submission of the case to the Discipline Commission

27.2.1

If a National Federation violates the Statutes of the OJU or acts against the legitimate interests, the principles or the objectives of the OJU, the Executive may submit the case to the Disciplinary Commission of the first instance of the OJU and propose to the Commission all measures it deems fit to put an end to the prejudice being caused, including by way of restricting or suspending participation in activities or expelling the relevant National Federation.

27.2.2

If an individual member of a Member National Federation of the OJU violates the Statutes of the OJU or acts against the legitimate interests of the OJU or in contravention of the IJF Statutes, or the principles or objectives of the OJU, the Executive may, after hearing the opinion of the National Federation, or the OJU, submit the case to the Disciplinary Commission of the first instance of the OJU and propose to the Commission all measures it deems fit to put an end to the prejudice being caused to the OJU, including by way of suspending or expelling the relevant individual member.

Cases that lead to disciplinary measures and occur during a continental event are submitted to the OJU Disciplinary Commission.

Suspension applies to all judo activities.

27.3 Expulsion of a Member Federation

The OJU has the right to recommend expulsion of members to the IJF.

The Disciplinary Commission of the OJU must comply with the rights of the defence. Its regulation is specified in a specific appendix.

Such case may be appealed before the IJF Disciplinary Appeal Commission.

27.4 Relations with IJF dissident organizations or Member Federations which have been suspended

Member National Federations are prohibited from having sporting relations with dissident judo organizations, unless permission is given by the IJF.

Sporting relations with Member National Federations which have been suspended are likewise

prohibited.

Any Member National Federation violating this provision will immediately be suspended and reported to the Disciplinary Commission, which will take the necessary disciplinary action.

27.5 Relations with judo organizations which are not IJF Members or Associate Members

In the interest of developing Judo and raising its technical level in all countries, friendly sporting relations with judo organizations which are not members or associate members of the IJF are authorized. However, approval of the IJF President should be requested.

However, OJU Members are under the obligation to act cautiously and must verify that the third parties they have relations with and which are not IJF Members have not violated the rules or decisions of the NOC in their country.

Article 28 - Dissolution

The OJU may not be dissolved except by way of a Congress especially convened for this purpose and at a motion carried by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

Upon dissolution, the assets of the OJU shall be distributed equally to the member National Federations, or by a majority decision of Congress to another judo organisation with the same aims and objects as the OJU.

Article 29 - Validation by the IJF

The present statutes of the Oceania Judo Union Incorporated shall be validated by the Executive Bureau of the IJF and become effective once approved by the IJF President and the regulatory authority of the country of incorporation.