International Judo Federation Event Legacy Project

The International Judo Federation (IJF) annual World Judo Tour (WJT) consists of between 20-22 major events a year across the world. Focusing on high performance these events allow athletes to earn prize money and points for the IJF world Ranking List which contribute to Olympic Games Qualification.

When delivering an IJF WJT Judo competition, the IJF works in close cooperation with the National Federation of the host country. This experience provides the National Federation with experience and know-how for organising competitions at the highest level, which will reflect on the respective National Federation’s performance in all areas, from competition organisation to refereeing.

Depending also on the level of judo in the host country, through various side activities and public engagement, we wish to improve the notoriety and public appeal of the sport, hoping to attract more youth and in general more practitioners to the sport.

In addition to the top-level competition, the IJF encourage and support the host National Judo Federation to have parallel development and recreational events or activities which are included in the Judo for the World programmes and activities (Judo for Children, Judo in Schools, Judo for Peace, Judo for Refugees, Judo for All, Gender Equity).

The type of events frequently includes:

- Meet the champions trainings and seminars led by former and current top-level athletes, (often from the host country) which can make the event more attractive especially to younger participants. These can take place on the actual competition tatami between sessions.
- Visits to refugee camps i.e. Kilis, Turkey, social activities and/or judo in schools programmes...
- Visits to remote areas of countries to help develop and/or to introduce judo to new communities i.e. Mongolia, Peru, Canada, Australia.
- Training of National Federation technical officials and event managers in the IJF competition management and draw software and the IJF computer-aided referee system.
- Training of National Federation technical officials in sport and education procedures such as official weigh-in, judogi control and backnumber check.
- Allowing younger competitive judoka (cadet and junior athletes) the opportunity to work as volunteers at the event so they can experience what it means to be a top athlete.

The choice of venue is of paramount importance from a legacy point of view. If it is a new venue or an existing but refurbished venue, it can become home for future high-level judo competitions and even become host of a WJT competition. It will always bear a mark of prestige and will become an iconic location.
This event legacy project aims to:

• Promote judo.
• Increase participation.
• Develop volunteers.
• Communicate the judo values and philosophy.
• Pass information and know-how increasing the pool of judo technical officials.

Anyone interested in the IJF Event Legacy Project should contact:

sport@ijf.org

International Judo Federation Observer Programme

Coupled with the above the IJF also offer an observer programme for anyone who will be or is interested in hosting/organising an IJF WJT event in the future. This programme involves attendance at an IJF WJT event. While there, they are able to meet, discuss with IJF staff and observe each department in “real-time” allowing an insight into the operational and logistical needs and challenges of a WJT event. It allows the participants to go behind the scenes and experience the event from the organiser’s perspective.

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