



# JUDO IN SCHOOL COMMISSION REPORT

## JUDO IN SCHOOL COMMISSION



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*“Fulfilling oneself and benefiting the world – this is the purpose of Judo.” Kanō Jigorō*

### IJF Judo in Schools - introduction

The IJF Judo for Children Commission believes that judo and its values have the power to build a better society. Judo is a ‘school of life,’ where all practitioners follow a moral code in their practice and in life. That’s why the commission sees judo as an indispensable asset for children as they grow up.

Almost a year ago, the outbreak of COVID-19 shocked and disrupted normal life. Being in physical contact with each other and therefore practising judo became an insecurity. According to the WHO, the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will continue to have significant effects on the sporting world, as well as on the physical and mental wellbeing of people around the world. The consequences of not being able to touch each other, to play with each other and to practise judo, had become very visible. Children need to be strong and resilient in order to stay positive during the COVID-19 pandemic. The work of the JfC Commission has become more relevant than ever.



Despite many schools and clubs being shut down, we continued our Judo for Children work and are finding other ways to teach children skills for life. It is our mission to keep bringing judo and its values to children worldwide.

### Work until Congress 2021

With recent developments concerning the Corona virus outbreak, most IJF Judo in Schools programmes have been shut down temporarily.

Fortunately, we have received positive feedback from a few programmes that can start again, albeit in adjusted forms. We hope that more programmes will be able to reopen fully, gradually through the year.

### Audit 2020

After two years, we repeated the audit of 2018 to see where we stand. In general, we have a much better view of what’s happening in different countries.

Since the last report, we dedicated our time to help these federations make steps in their own way. We can now offer them:

- A structured way to begin (on-boarding)
- A rich environment with tools, guidelines and lessons (platform [schools.ijf.org](https://schools.ijf.org))
- A dedicated support unit (unit)
- Monitoring to create a feedback loop (monitor)

## Strategy and Achievements

### In general

- The IJF Judo for Children Commission supports 50 countries (with another 9 in draft)
- Almost 600 schools are supported, with over 500 Judo for Children teachers worldwide
- Material support. 591 areas of tatami (1 per school). 32,109 judogi
- We have a dedicated daily support unit for federations and judo teachers
- We have an online platform ([schools.ijf.org](https://schools.ijf.org)) with information, tips and tricks and a monitoring system
- We back up the online system with online support calls and field trips (up until the COVID-19 pandemic), for example, to Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan. The latter included a meeting with the Minister of Public Education Mr. Sherzod Shermatov.

### Platform

Our platform, [schools.ijf.org](https://schools.ijf.org), launched in October 2019. The goal of this platform is to support organisers and teachers in setting up and teaching Judo in Schools. They will be able to find a toolkit with manuals, videos of exercises and communication materials.

### Communications

- At the end of 2019, a Judo in Schools video was launched explaining our philosophy.
- The judo values were translated into 8 illustrations that are used in our branding.
- Through the year around 60 articles were published on IJF.org.

### Activations for the Children

During the year 2020 we aimed to create more content for children. Projects were: The Great 8, Fit Kids Golden League, JudoKids, Climate Kids, United Through Sports Festival, Judofest 2019/2020 and Judo for the World Panel. The first three had a combined total social media reach of 8,4 million, showing that there are strong grounds for producing more content.





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## EU+ Funding: Schooljudo.eu

- The International Judo Federation applied for European funding. The project was approved in October 2020.
- The objective is to use learning from Schooljudo.nl (the Netherlands) on a local level to amplify the framework for other countries. The IJF partners for this programme are IJF Academy, Skills4Live Foundation, Slovenian Judo Federation, Italian Judo Wrestling Karate and Martial Arts Federation and the Hungarian Judo Association.

## Training Course for Teachers – IJF Academy

- November 2019 the IJF Academy and Judo for Children Commission met in Haarlem, Netherlands to talk about a special course for children.
- We are now in the process of exploring new ways of learning, to see what is the best fit for our community of teachers.

## Future

1. Differentiate: we develop and explain strategies to offer more specific local help.
2. The platform: Give a qualitative impulse and deliver more quality content.
3. Support judo teachers: Guide and nudge them towards being 'Entertrainers.'
4. Explore new partnerships and content formats in close co-operation with the Marketing & Media Team.

