



**INTERNATIONAL JUDO FEDERATION  
DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

**CASE: n° 2017-3**

**AZERBAIJAN JUDO FEDERATION**

**COMMISSION COMPOSITION:**

- Mr. Envic GALEA	President
- Mr. Colin DRAYCOTT	Vice-president
- Mr. Hirofumi OTSUJI	Member

**CONCERNED PERSON:**

- **AZERBAIJAN JUDO FEDERATION;**

**FACTS AND PROCEDURE:**

According to the European Judo Union report:

*“An athlete Mehdi ASGAROV with date of birth 1997-03-27 was registered in 2014 in JUMAS and won bronze in Cadet EJC Poland 2014-05-17, last cadet appearance 18 May 2015.*

*In 2015 a new profile was created for the same athlete in JUDOBASE, same date of birth, new but resembling picture.*

*On 2017-02-23 a new profile was created in JUDOBASE for athlete Ali Askarzade with date of birth 2001-11-22, pictures were changed twice. Ali Askarzade whose latest photos strongly resemble Mehdi ASGAROV from 2014 – 2015 was winning Cadet EJC Antalya TUR, 2017-03-05 and Teplice CZE, 2017-04-08.*

*The EJU Head Office had asked General Secretary of Azerbaijan judo federation for explanation but he said there was only some administrative confusion with pictures and denied any manipulation. Conclusion: The athlete appearing as Mehdi ASGAROV in 2014 and 2015 and the athlete appearing as Ali ASKARZADE in 2017 is one and the same person. Attached please find a report and full analysis & comparison of two identities prepared by a certified expert anthropologist in Prague and its English translation.”*

*“Based on another complaint to EJU regarding the age of another AZE athlete, the HO in a meantime had gathered evidence proving the complaint was right. This boy competed in Kiev 2013 under Jafar AKBAROV and in Teplice 2017 under Jafar AKBARLI. Everything is documented on one Facebook account, see attachment.*

*Conclusion: The athlete appearing under two different dates of births and different names AKBAROV / AKBARLI is one and the same person.”*

On the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017, by an official order, the IJF Disciplinary Commission President pronounced against Jafar AKBAROV / Jafar AKBARLI a provisional suspension from all competitions organized or authorized by the International Judo Federation and its Unions, until the IJF Disciplinary Commission decision.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the International Judo Federation General Secretary informed the Azerbaijan Judo Federation that a disciplinary procedure was open against it and asked it to choose between the written procedure and the hearing.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the Azerbaijan Judo Federation informed the International Judo Federation General Secretary that they choose the written procedure and informed the IJF that the Azerbaijan Judo Federation feel sorry for the actions of the athletes.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the International Judo Federation General Secretary duly noted that the Azerbaijan Judo Federation had chosen the written procedure, sent to the Federation the case file and informed it that the Federation could send to the commission all observation, evidence and testimony, for its own defense.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the Azerbaijan Judo Federation sent to the International Judo Federation General Secretary a complete defense file in order to prove that Jafar AKBAROV / Jafar AKBARLI are two different people and that Mr. Jafar AKBAROV died on the 30 May 2015 according to the related death certificate.

#### **REGARDING THE CASE FILE,**

The action to change a date of birth of an athlete in order to make him appear younger to participate in a cadet competition can have really serious consequences.

The registration of the athletes to IJF or EJU competitions can be only done by federations with passwords in order to enter in the related database.

Consequently the Azerbaijan Judo Federation undertakes the responsibility of this action.

This action represents a major breach of IJF regulation and Judo moral code.

#### **ON THESE GROUNDS, THE IJF DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION PRESIDENT:**

- **Pronounces against the Azerbaijan Judo Federation an official warning.**
- **Says that this decision shall be communicated to :**
  - Mr. Marius VIZER, IJF President;
  - Mr. Jean Luc ROUGE, IJF General Secretary;
  - Mr. Sergey SOLOVEYCHIK, EJU President;
  - Mr. Vladimir BARTA, IJF Head Sport Director;
  - Mr. Mohamed MERIDJA, IJF Education and Coaching Director;
  - Azerbaijan Judo Federation President;
- **Informs the Azerbaijan Judo Federation that this decision is subject to appeal with the Court of Arbitration For Sport. The time limit for appeal shall be twenty-one days from the receipt of the decision appealed against.**

Paris, the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017

President  
**Mr. Envic GALEA**

Vice-President  
**Mr. Colin DRAYCOTT**

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