I / Education and Coaching Activities

Technical Courses for Coaches

The Covid 19 pandemic has a negative impact on the running of the technical courses for coaches. The experts encountered many difficulties to travel abroad due to the health restrictions in place in most countries.

• For the period 2021-2022 seven (07) courses for coaches were implemented.
• 189 coaches took part to these technical courses.
• Hereinafter are the Federations that have hosted a training session:
  - Africa: Tunisia, Comores, Togo, Sierra Leone, Cape Verde
  - Europe: Armenia
  - Panamerica: Chili

Scholarships for Coaches

• 18 scholarships were allocated. They are distributed as follows:
  - Africa: Botswana, Seychelles, Morocco, Nigeria, Mozambique
  - Asia: Tadjikistan, Bahrain, Kirghizstan (have received 4 scholarships)
  - Panamerica: Chili, Uruguay, Peru, Dominican Republic

Development of the National Sport Structure

• Three programmes were implemented in the following countries:
  - Tadjikistan, Paraguay and Bhutan

All the Olympic Solidarity activities were entirely managed through « RELAY » platform in close cooperation with the National Federations.

II / Athletes Olympic Preparation Scholarships

• The gradual lifting of the health restrictions concerning the COVID-19 virus, gave the opportunity to the athletes to resume their activities and plan their future.
• The number of athletes who registered in the World Judo Tour events, with the prospect of an Olympic qualification, has significantly increased.
• The award criteria for a scholarship are defined as follows: the athletes’ participation to the World Judo Tour and continental competitions, the achieved sports results and their ranking in the IJF ranking list.
• The requests for an Olympic scholarship are distributed as follows through the continental unions:

  - **Africa**: 37 scholarships
  - **Asia**: 23 scholarships
  - **Europe**: 30 scholarships
  - **Panamerica**: 16 scholarships
  - **Oceania**: 2 scholarships

**III / Athletes’ Commission**

• All information concerning the athletes were consistently circulated to the IJF Athletes’ Commission.
• The Athletes’ Commission is a crucial transmission belt between the IJF Executive Committee and the Athletes’ Community.
• The Commission Chair is very active and has participated to many IOC Forums aimed to protect the athletes’ interests.
• The members of the Commission are very active on social networks.
• The IOC reference guide « Athlete365 » is posted on IJF website. This document aims to help and support the athletes in their career up to the Olympic Games and later once the Games are over.

**IV / Master Coach Licence Award**

• IJF established since 2022 a Master Coach licence award for coaches with an exemplary profession in judo coaching who have obtained extraordinary results by their athletes in the Olympic Games and in IJF senior World Championships.
• The Education Commission handled 86 applications during the year 2022.
• It is worth to remind that staring from 1st January 2024, all coaches who participate in IJF World Judo Tour need to hold an IJF Master Coach Licence or an IJF Academy Certificate.
• The request for a Master Coach Licence is extended until 31st December 2023.
• All the coaches who obtained a Master Coach Licence need to pass an online theory examination.

**V / Application of Judogi Rules**

• The Judogi Rules were reviewed and updated in 2021 in order to strengthen fairness between the athletes.
• A tolerance period is granted to the athletes to give them time to comply with the new changes made to the judogi regulations.
• All IJF recognised manufacturers were contacted and informed about the new changes to make them adjust to the new judogi updated regulations.
• A pre-control opportunity is given to the athletes two days prior to the competition in order to have their judogi checked and given the possibility to get a judogi that complies with the rules. The athletes are at the core of our priorities and concerns.
• The current statistics highlight good progress with regards of the Judogi rules application.
• An optical stamp is displayed on Judogi that meet the requirements of the new rules, the day before the competition. This new stamp aims to allow a smooth judogi control the day of the competition and help the athletes better focus on their contest.
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- We should note that the athletes and coaches have welcomed the use of this new stamp. The day of the competition the athletes holding the imprint of the stamp spend very little time at the judogi control. They are less stressed prior to their contest.
- A project to produce a chip with all relevant informations concerning the athletes and possible infringements record is under progress. This chip will be installed in the judogi. An application will be developed for the Judogi Control. This outlook aims to have a record of the infringements and facilitate the work of the supervisors.

VI / Fairplay Trophy
- The Fairplay Trophy was created in 2019. It is awarded to an athlete, coach, club, a country, or personality that have demonstrated an exemplary respect for judo values.
- This trophy will be awarded on the sidelines of the upcoming world championships of Doha 2023.

VII / Kata
2021 Activities
- The 2021 Kata World Championships were hosted by Portugal.
- Despite the health restrictions, 102 pairs from 25 countries participated to the event.
- The list of kata experts was updated. They were tasked to support the national federations and the members of the Kata Commission with the objective to develop and promote the Kata.

2022 Activities
- The World Championships were held in Krakow, Poland.
- We have recorded a good participation. 119 pairs from 26 countries have participated to this major event.
- 12 countries out of 26 won a medal.
- The event was live streamed during two days. We have recorded 24,773 views in 74 countries.
- On the sidelines of these World Championships, the educative kata project was presented to the members of the Commission.

VIII / Application of the judo Code of Conduct
- The Education Commission have addressed all the disciplinary cases that occurred during the World Judo Tour events.
- The number of religious signs has decreased dramatically. This trend was made possible thanks to the raising awareness among the athletes, coaches and National Federations.

Message of Thanks
I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to the members of the Education Commission for their outstanding efforts and to Mr Marius VIZER and the members of the Executive Committee for their continued support to implement our development programmes that are coaches and athletes-oriented.