



JUDO IN SCHOOLS COMMISSION REPORT

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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 when growing up.

Almost three years ago, the outbreak of COVID-19 shocked and disrupted regular life. Being in physical contact with each other and therefore practicing judo became an insecurity. According to the WHO, the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will continue to have very considerable effects on the sporting world as well as on the physical and mental well-being of people around the world. The importance of being able to touch each other, to play with each other and to practice judo, became very visible.

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 the children worldwide.

Work until Congress 2023

During the corona virus outbreak, most IJF Judo in Schools programs had been postponed. After covid-19 restrictions were lifted in most countries the Judo in Schools programs also re-started. In 2022 there were also opportunities for 5 new countries to start with their Judo in Schools program and 5 new contracts were signed.

Report 2023

In 2023 we are going to do an audit in every country with an active contract for Judo in schools. Since the last report, we dedicated our time to support these National Federations to make steps in their own way. We support them in:

- A structured way to start (on-boarding)
- A rich environment with tools, guidelines, lessons (platform <https://schools.ijf.org>)
- A dedicated support unit (unit)
- A monitor to create a feedback loop (monitor)
- Innovative programs to engage children and promote judo

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Strategy and achievements

- The IJF Judo for Children Commission is supporting 64 countries (and another 5 in draft), who've had or have a contract
- 8 countries have started their Judo in Schools program in 2022
- In these countries, 638 schools are supported
- Over 600 judo teachers worldwide under contract, and thousands inspired by our tools and methodology
- Material support. 638 tatamis (1 per school). 32,959 judogi
- We have a dedicated daily support unit for National Federations and judo teachers
- We have an online platform schools.ijf.org with information, tips and tricks and a monitoring system
- We back up the online system with online support calls with (visits or) webinars

Erasmus+ Schooljudo.EU

In 2022 with the funding of the EU and IJF stakeholders we were able to develop and pilot a pan-European training and educational module for primary schools. Based on the Dutch Schooljudo program. Based on this program and international research we amplified a framework for other countries to use. The green paper of Schooljudo.eu was presented at the EJU congress in Ljubljana at the end of 2022. Other deliverables: judo teacher refreshment book, Schooljudo.EU guidelines, Teaching package and portfolio map.

Minecraft and judo

During the 2021 Summer Olympics, the IJF Judo for Children commission launched the first chapter of the Mystery of Judo sequence. A digital judo proposition to engage children at an early age. The first chapter was a great success with 2.2 Million unique participants in the age category between 7-15 years old. In September 2022, together with the Kodokan we launched the second chapter.

The legends book

5000 copies were distributed at the Tashkent World championships 2022.

Communications and activation

- Throughout the year, around 69 articles were published on IJF.org
- We participated in the United Through Sports editions 2021 and 2022. We won a silver medal in the edition of 2021
- Judogallerykids instagram reach 10.4K. 69.31% Engagement Rate
- Judo Fit Kids Golden League
- JudoKids techniques
- Judo Climate Champion
- Judo for the World panel
- Judo For Peace in Syria



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Future

The judo for children commission is dedicated to gain a sustainable position with the values of judo in the curriculum of primary schools and involve and engage as much children as possible worldwide in an innovative way.

