

## VETERANS COMMISSION



**Chair:** WEISSER Denis

**Members:** BONDOR Andrei, CHERY Priscila Nicole, CHEW Li Ying, FERLAND Donald, FLORI Miklos, HUYSUZ Sezer, MOORSHEAD Susan, NAKAMURA Isamu, NAULU Josateki, RODRIGUEZ Edgardo, VAN ZYL Andre, VELASCO Arturo David

The worldwide activities of judo's veterans have been on the rise at national, international and even global level for several years now.

The 2023 World Veterans Championships, hosted by the United Arab Emirates Judo Federation from 31st October to 3rd November 2023, was yet another important step in the right direction.

852 participants from 31 countries competed for medals in Abu Dhabi and displayed amazing judo. The event was organised perfectly and generally received praise from all sides.



Furthermore, there were numerous tournaments and training events worldwide at national and continental level in 2023 and 2024. The veteran community is very well networked, with the judo value of friendship being of central importance.

From a global perspective, veteran judo is developing well, both in terms of sport and organisation.

The support of President Marius L. Vizer, the co-operation with the Executive Committee, the offices, the colleagues of all the commissions, as well as with the continental and national federations was and is outstanding and for this I would like to express my sincere gratitude.

The World Championships Veterans 2024 took place in Las Vegas, USA, from 4th to 7th November 2024. The number of participants increased once again with a total of 1132 judoka from 67 countries competing. The event in Las Vegas was organised brilliantly and met with a very positive response overall.



After taking a break due to coronavirus in 2020, the 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 championships saw a steady increase in the number of participants:

Year	City	Country	Continent	Total competitors
2019	Marrakech	Morocco	Africa	1273
2020	Pandemic	-	-	-
2021	Lisbon	Portugal	Europe	359
2022	Cracow	Poland	Europe	837
2023	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates	Asia	973
2024	Las Vegas	USA	America	1132

The Veterans' Commission co-operates at a very high level. Its composition is harmonious and well-balanced; networking with each other, the individual continents and the national federations is better than ever. The level of events is being improved continuously, in terms of both judo technique and the performance of the judges, as well as in terms of organisation and media technology.

As of January 2025, it was still uncertain where the World Championships Veterans 2025 would take place but the search for an organiser is in progress and promising.

New formats, such as team events, are also being considered.

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