

# NLJA Annual General Meeting

Agenda for 2023

Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Roll Call

Club membership is as follows :

Knights of Hounor19

Fudoshin 33

Zanshin 4

St. John's School of Judo 20

Goose Bay 95

Sosei 48

Kokoro budokai 16

Tung Yen 3

Review of 2022 AGM meeting

Business Arising

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Grading Committee Report

Referring Committee Report

Medical Committee Report

NCCP Report

Canada Winter Games Report

New Business

Election of Treasurer

Election of Secretary

Change of Date For AGM to April

Possibility of virtual venue for all AGM's

Change of Fees

Membership and Tournaments

Budget structure for President and Chairs of Committees

Open comments or any other new business

Meeting adjournment

## **JudoNL President's Report 2023**

Before I provide updates on the 2023 activities of the Judo Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, I report with great sadness, the loss of two more judoka this year. Sensei Tom Gallent and Sensei Pat Linehan.

Sensei Tom was a Godan and a founding member of JudoNL. He started The Indian Head Judo Club in Stephenville and later moved to St. John's and founded the Kokoro Budokan Judo Club. He also sat on the executive board of Judo Canada and held a number of positions on the JudoNL executive as well as various other associated committees. When I met Tom, he was a green belt, and at the time I was 14 years old and that was the highest belt I had ever seen. I would always call Tom, "Sensei" until one day when we were walking home from practice, and I asked him how I should address him since a higher belt was about to visit the club. He smiled and said, "You can call me Tom". From that point he had always been my Sensei and one of my very best friends for over 50 years.

Sensei Pat was a Sandan and also a founding member of JudoNL. He was an extremely well respected Sensei and leader at the MUN Judo Club. When I was a young judoka, I remember that Pat would have the biggest smile and the friendliest demeanor, despite his sheer physical size and overwhelming stature. He was reputed to be the strongest Judoka in Newfoundland and Labrador. Passing at the age of 91, his contributions to the sport in the province will always be remembered fondly.

2023 has been a very busy year for the Newfoundland and Labrador Judo Association (JudoNL), and the new Executive.

This year, there was a substantial change to the executive of JudoNL. Unfortunately, the handover to the new Executive did not go smoothly, as the past president resigned, creating a steep learning curve for the new executive. There were also a number of issues that the new executive had to address immediately.

First, there were issues related to getting the bank account signing authorities transferred. The account at CIBC had taken more than 6 weeks to get the signing authority straightened out, leaving the Executive without the ability to sign cheques.

Second, a number of cheques were improperly issued outside the authority of the Executive. One of these cheques was sent to the supplier Hatashita, and was

improperly endorsed. The bank canceled the payment and the Executive issued a new cheque to the supplier. The new executive is now working to ensure that signing authorities are properly implemented and utilized.

As a result of these issues the Executive has moved the JudoNL bank account to The Bank Of Montreal. The Executive also changed the type of account, which now allows JudoNL to collect interest on the account balance, putting our money to work.

Further, there was a complication in that the financial records had been misplaced and could not be found. The current acting treasurer Mr. Dave Banko is working on solving this issue, and a new set of records will be re-built if they cannot be retrieved.

As a final complication this year, the provincial tournament scheduled for November had to be cancelled as a number of clubs had a late start and the Goose Bay club was unable to attend. Further complicating this, only one person is trained to use the computer program that manages the fighting draw, and that person is no longer available. The executive is currently evaluating options to train new people on this tool, to ensure it can be used in the future.

During this year, JudoNL also said goodbye to one of the executive, who resigned for personnel reasons. At this time the JudoNL would like to sincerely thank Mr. Matt Jones for all his work as Secretary. His contributions to the Executive have been substantial, his efforts are greatly appreciated, and he will be missed. JudoNL wishes him well, and looks forward to his continued participation in the sport.

JudoNL would also like to recognize the effort and contributions of Mr. Ethan Terris for his work as Treasurer. Ethan had to resign this position earlier in the year for personal reasons, but was able to come back and join the board as Acting Secretary.

The Association would also like to thank Mr. Dave Banko for stepping up and taking on the roll of acting treasurer.

The positions of Secretary and Treasurer will be voted on and filled during this 2023 AGM.

Despite the complications and transitions, the current Executive members have carried out a very productive year for JudoNL. All government grant applications were successfully submitted and the associated grant money was approved and received.

To execute the functions of JudoNL, the Executive has set a schedule to meet on a monthly basis to conduct regular business. The Executive participated in numerous activities that improve the visibility of Judo in Newfoundland and Labrador and across Canada, increasing communication with other associations and organizations.

The following activities were conducted this year:

- Execution of eleven JudoNL Executive meetings
- Participation in the Judo Canada AGM
- Participated in SportNL AGM

- Participation in two meetings with the Presidents of Judo Associations across the provinces and territories of Canada
- Participation in a meeting with the Atlantic Provinces Presidents
- Participated in meeting with Mr. Scott Tanner, president of Judo Nova Scotia

In an effort to grow the capabilities of the JudoNL, the Executive appointed Mr. Mike Kay to the role of Dojo Assistant/Dojo Instructor for JudoNL. As part of this role, Mike went to Montreal, at the invitation of Mr. Andrzej Sadej, and completed the requirements to become a DA/DI Course Conductor. This enables the Association to hold training clinics and Mike to certify instructors. The first clinic is tentatively planned for spring, 2024.

In addition, JudoNL also supported Mr. Mike Montague in obtaining his Kata Certification, which address the new requirements set by Judo Canada for the grading board, and enabled him to obtain a position on the grading board.

Additionally, as chairman of the grading board in the province, I traveled to Ontario and sat with the Ontario Grading Board where I audited 15 black belt gradings.

I also traveled to the West Coast, meeting with Mr. Ken Walsh, the Sensei of The Tung Yen Judo Club in Corner Brook. While there I instructed two classes, held a Judo clinic for The Anchor BJJ club, and performed a Judo demonstration for approximately 200 students at Corner Brook Intermediate Highschool.

While on the West Coast, I also visited Stephenville to chat with a brown belt that has an interest in restarting judo in that area. JudoNL is working to support this effort, as more resources are required to start a club.

I would also like to recognize the efforts of Grant Lambe, who held a session with CNIB Newfoundland and Labrador, to provide education to their organization on the sport of Judo in NL.

I would also like to thank Mr. Dither Naulleau, the sensei of the Labrador Straits Judo club for a cash donation and for donating 55 Judo mats. Unfortunately Dither was unable to restart his club due to COVID. These mats were delivered to St John's for free by a friend of mine, Mr. Myles O'Brien, and were then sold to The Knights of Honor Judo Club. The money from this sale will be used for the Todd Hodder Memorial fund to help provide fees for under privileged Judoka in the province.

In the 2024, the Executive is looking forward to stimulating growth in the sport in Newfoundland and Labrador. We are making efforts to increase the quality of Judo, increase the number of clubs, increase participation, and provide more training opportunities to elevate the sport in the province. I'd like to thank you all for your continued contributions to the sport, and our Judo community.

Sincerely,

Gerard Humber, Yodan

## 2022 NLJA Treasurer's Report

December 17, 2023

2022 into 2023 has been a challenging year with a litany of issues which has prevented a smooth transition of board members and the duties associated with the roles. This was a culmination of several factors beyond our control and is not a negative reflection of the previous board.

I stepped into the role as acting Treasurer after the previous Treasurer had to step down for personal reasons and I was tasked to fill in the Treasurer roles at that time. Additionally, schedule conflicts, challenges of geography, unfamiliar software and extremely poor customer service at CIBC prevented us from having full access to our financial records and access to funds. We are presently still having issues with online access to CIBC.

The Troy Smith took the time to meet with me and go over the new book keeping software and access an old back up financial file.

Once the financials are sorted out over the next 2 months CIBC account will be closed and the association will be using BMO. Between the two financial institutions, the association has \$43,415.97 in the bank. The NLJA will present the audited financial statements for 2022 and 2023 at the upcoming April/May AGM.

There were 238 members in the association at the end of the 2022-year with the following breakdown which will be used for voting purposes.

Knights of Honor 19

Fudoshin 33

Zanshin 4

St. John's School of Iudo 20

Goose Bay 95

Sosei 48

Kokoro Budokai 16

Tung Yen 3

Dave Banko

2 nd Vice President/Acting Treasurer

## 2023 NLJA Grading Board Report

December 17, 2023

There was not a lot activity by this board in the past year. The executive elected me shortly after the last AGM.

In 2023 Judo Canada (JC) changed the rules for members of a grading board. Now it requires that each member have a Kata Certification. This shows how JC has emphasized the importance of Kata for Black Belt requirements.

According to the JC colored belt curriculum, kata has to be taught and made a requirement belt gradings. This should start as early as grading for green belt. It is recommended that all Sensei use this curriculum for their clubs.

Therefore, going forward, more emphases will be put on the Kata performance during a Black Belt Grading. All gradings will be open to the public and hopefully take place after tournaments. Also the sensei of the student being graded, will be able to sit with the grading board as an observer.

A grading board consists of three Black Belts. Two of these must be at least one grade above the Dan being tested for and the third should at least be at the same Dan level. When I assumed this position, there were only two people qualified to serve.

Last summer, I was invited to a Kata certification clinic in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The NLJA sponsored Mr. Mike Montague, Sandan, to go as my uki. During this time Mike was tested and received his Nage No Kata Certification. This completes the minimum requirement for the grading board.

During the last year the NLJA reached an agreement with SJMAC to rent space at their Dojo. The time is Sunday Mornings from 10:30 to 12:00. This time will be used for two purposes, Kata Classes and Refereeing Classes. Sensei Maurice Sheppard will be conducting the Refereeing classes and I will hold the Kata classes. All classes will be available via a virtual medium and a link will be provided if required. Please advise either myself or Maurice if you would like to attend in person or virtually.

There is an opportunity to hold a Black Belt Grading after the next tournament in the spring. Please get in with me, as early as possible, if you have a candidate. I will be happy to provide assessment prior to the grading.

Wish you all a safe and happy holiday

Gerard Humber, Yondan

## 2023 NLJA Referee Report

December 16, 2023

I have worked with the IJF referee rules as presented by Judo Canada to help keep the Judo community in NL up to date, especially for all Judoka and coaches who travel outside of the province for competition. I have attached two referee lists: the list of referees from April 2023 which I provided to update our NLJA web site and our current bare bones list from December 2023 which is close to current situation; please provide me with any omissions and corrections of current errors.

I have presented the latest interpretation of the latest IJF referee rules at our NLJA referee clinic before each tournament and I have presented a referee course online through Zoom meeting software using the multimedia capabilities of our Dojo.

I now have the latest knowledge to help all referees to move along further if they **so** desire.

I encourage all athletes and coaches to contact me at any time for any questions or concerns they may have for IJF referee rules interpretation.

I had **a** Canadian IJF referee available to be scheduled for St. John's February 2024 (Funding solely by Fudoshin Judo **Club**) to present high level **Kata** in a training practise format seminar for four days and **is** a perfect facilitator to train our referees for referee practice and certification **for** newaza and kata Judging competition. I am working with the Fudoshin competition athletes from teen to masters, **as in** the recent 2023 Ontario Open to compete in newaza and JudoShiai competition; in Nationals in May 2024 the athletes and/or coaches will add kata competition and referee kata Judging. This is the new shot in the arm for Judo promotion and lets other martial arts athletes try their skills in the Judo competition presentation. Unfortunately the NLJA executive would not request **this** seminar **with** Judo **Canada** **as is** the protocol for the services of the high level Judo Canada professionals such as referees, coaches, technical officials and Nationally carded athletes.

Thank  
you.

Maurice  
Sheppard

NUJA referee chair

NLJA Referee Directory

Revised: April 2023

Note: Only Referees currently registered with the NLJA and Judo Canada are listed

Send any omissions or corrections to the NLJA Secretary

Name

National "A"

Club

Maurice Sheppard

National "C"

Fudoshin Judo Club

Blair Bradbury

Provincial "A"

St. John's Jujitsu & Judo

Pat Dunne Kokoro Judo Club

Gerard Humber Kokoro Judo Club

Bruce Mann Zanshin Judo Club

AJ Marshall Fudoshin Judo Club

Scott Ogilvie Sosei Judo Club

Eileen Parsons Fudoshin Judo Club

Edward Quinn Fudoshin Judo Club

Bob Simms

Provincial "B"

Fudoshin Judo Club

George Gillett Knights of Honor Judo Club

Steve Patey Sosei Judo Club

Gerald Coady St. John's Jujitsu & Judo

Mike Montague Goose Bay Judo Club



## Provincial "C"

Ethan Terris Sosei Judo Club

Terry Whey Goose Bay Judo Club

Jack Hudson Fudoshin Judo Club

Brad Parsons Sosei Judo Club

## Provincial

"D"

Chris Wellon Sosei Judo Club

Dion Simmonds Fudoshin Judo Club

Scott Wood Fudoshin Judo Club

## **NCCP Report**

December 17, 2023

This year the NLJA supported the training for a Dojo Assistant and a Dojo Instructor( Da/DI) course facilitator. Mr. Mike Kay had this certification for many years, however, his certification had lapsed. At the invitation of MR. Andrzej Sadje, he was able to attend an accreditation course in Montreal and obtained the credential to teach this course.

We are currently looking at offering this course in the spring. We hope to offer it to judoka who have the rank blue belt and up. We will also encourage all sensei's to take the course as a refresher. We will be sending out a notice to all NLJA sensei's and the number of courses offered will depend on the response we get.

It should be noted that there is a change in the course structure. The course is carried out over a weekend and certification is obtained at this time, as no instructor audit has to follow.

## Canada Games 2023

### Final Report

The Canada Games 2023 has come to an end. With this report, the Coaches and Manager would like to outline certain aspects of this team, as well as make suggestions for future teams. We would also like to outline the formation of a provincial team.

This year's team has seen a step back from the results of the team from the 2019 games. We only saw two match wins, with one of them being between two NL athletes. Not to make excuses, but the coaching staff attributes Covid 19 and its effects on our sport provincially as a key factor. When much of the country reopened for training and competition, Newfoundland and Labrador clubs still had to endure months of further closures. In total, our team had just over one year of training and selection. We could only hold two training camps and attended 2 national competitions in the allotted time.

The remainder of this report will focus on the future, and in point form, where the coaching staff feels the team should focus, and make the necessary changes:

1. Coaching Staff should consist of:
  - a. Female Coach (NLJA board selected)
  - b. Male Coach (NLJA board selected)
  - c. Manager (picked by the coaches. Can be someone outside the judo world. More importance to be organized)
  - d. Mission Staff (NLJA should insist that team NL select the Judo mission staff from

Labrador, because of the logistics of athlete travel. Could be coach or parent)

e. Accredited Physical trainer (for off Mat training expertise)

## 2. Minimum Training Requirements

a. 4 Camps per year, with participants are by invite only. (Sunday morning camps don't count)

b. 2 Provincial and 2 Atlantic or National competitions per year.

c. When possible, the NLJA should endeavor to compete in team competitions.

## 3. Required equipment purchase:

a. Gi with NLJA logo

b. Team coat

c. Team Bag

d. Gi back patches

4. Athlete Agreement: Athletes must sign agreement specifying expected code of conduct. The agreement would allow coaches to cut athletes based on behavior, both in and out of competition. Also, they must agree that judo is their first sport. No exceptions.

5. Mission statement: To create and send the strongest team to the Canada Games, which could include sending two athletes in one category instead of one athlete in each of the seven weight categories.

In closing, the coaching staff would like to acknowledge that everyone performed as best they could, under the circumstances. The preceding are only the coaching staff's views of areas that could be improved upon for the next games. Had this year's team had the full four year training block, we are confident that they would have also realized and possibly surpassed the success of previous teams.