

Newfoundland & Labrador Judo Association
Annual General Meeting, 2002
St. John's, Newfoundland, June 1, 2002

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

The 2002 Annual General Meeting convened at 9:15 A.M. A quorum was present.

1. **Welcome** – B. Bradbury, NLJA President, welcomed all and had list of voting delegates established.

2. **Agenda** – Tournament videotapes & summer training were added under Any Other Business.

3. Minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting

It was pointed out that since there was not a quorum at the 2001 annual general meeting that the motions were for discussion only and the minutes should not be called “minutes”. The point was made that they should be called a “Record of Discussion”. Moved by D. Earle, seconded by M. Sheppard that the 2001 AGM minutes be renamed as the “2001 Annual General Meeting Record of Discussion”. Motion carried.

4. **Business Arising from the 2001 Annual General Meeting** – there was no business arising

5. Reports

a. **President** – B. Bradbury commented that 2001/02 had been a good year after the previous one had been more of a planning year. There were a number of activities including: J.P. Cantin visits, black belt grading, new points system to encourage competitors, and Canada Winter Games team development.

b. **Treasurer** – D. Earle presented his report.

M.Kay questioned who was the NLJA insurance company. The answer was Crosbie, Jobe Insurance. B. Bradbury gave more details on insurance and pointed out that insurance fees have gone up significantly following Sept. 11.

G. Humber asked about the cost of the annual audit. Answer was that it was conducted by Fred Earle and cost \$500 + HST.

P. Dunne asked about deficit spending. D. Earle explained the NLJA Executive plan to spend down the surplus in bank account in activities designed to further judo in the province. He pointed out in his report that the Executive expected to have \$14,000 remaining by the end of the year. P. Dunne expressed his concern about overspending. D. Earle replied that he felt the budget plan was prudent planning on the part of the Executive. N. Murphy pointed out that the government grant would be affected if the NLJA did not spend the money it was given. G. Beckett pointed out that \$10-14,000 was seen as minimum reserve for operations for a year with emphasis on spending funding for the advancement of judo.

G. Humber asked about what was the government funding formula. D. Earle agreed that the Executive should look into it.

F. O'Brien commented that past Executives had targeted having a \$30K surplus in order to provide funding for needs including purchasing mats for new clubs. A discussion about what reserve should be needed followed. B. Bradbury re-emphasized that the Executive had deliberately spent money to promote Judo.

E. Bradbury commented that she felt the NLJA was not wasting money when it was spent on sport development and athletes.

D. Earle re-emphasized that he felt the current budget plans were sound and prudent management for the association. B. Simms stated that it was normal for organizations to access their surplus if needed. N. Murphy commented that we need to look at a four year cycle for funding so that we will have funding in the future tied to the CWG cycle.

G. Humber raised the possibility of setting aside a special fund for helping to fund mats or other needed equipment. F. O'Brien agreed with the idea of a separate fund. P. Waclawek suggested doing an inventory of mats across province to ensure that we knew what was available and where. It was agreed to discuss this under new business.

F. O'Brien suggested having budget headings for refereeing & coaching in future

Moved by F. O'Brien to accept the financial statements, seconded by N. Murphy. Motion passed.

c. **Grading Committee** – B. Simms presented a report on two sets of black belt grading: fall and spring. He acknowledged the valuable support from J.P. Cantin. The committee struggled with the Ju No Kata requirements for Kodokan Shodan grading for females. From discussion with the National Grading Board it was determined that there are four people in the province who can do Ju No Kata grading: C. Lavallee, T. Gallant, F. O'Brien and G. Humber. This will not be a problem in the future. There is a need for more kata clinics in the future.

There was a discussion about the problems with the Ju No Kata grading for N. Bell. T. Gallant raised question about the need for the Provincial Grading Board to evaluate people and the qualifications for grading committees. B. Simms replied that there was very mixed information at the time of the Bell grading and the committee was trying to work through it at the time. There were mixed information at both the provincial and national levels. P. Waclawek commented that he felt the grading committee was quite competent. He felt the problems were with procedure issues before and after the Bell grading

B. Simms offered to resign as a member of Grading committee if the membership felt he should. He commented that he had taken on the chair role as a duty for the association and would be glad for a replacement...

B. Simms summarized that he would submit Bell's application in June, 2002. T. Gallant expressed frustration by lack of communication with the process and concerned by delays. B. Simms made the point that he felt the PGB had legitimate reasons to be concerned about the Bell application and then did an investigation as was appropriate. He felt it was a very difficult situation compounded by the learning curve of the PGB. There were lessons to be learned by all. C. Lavallee commented that he hoped this experience would eliminate confusion in the future.

There was discussion about whether the application for grading should be firmly set as six weeks before the date of grading. The sense of the discussion was that flexibility was needed in the application date.

In reply to question from V. Caul about future Ju No Kata gradings B. Simms stated that he felt the issue was resolved for the future.

d. **Refereeing Committee** – M. Sheppard summarized his report. F. O'Brien suggested signing a code of conduct once per year at the beginning of the year. G. Humber also expressed concern about the need to sign a code of conduct. T. Gallant pointed out that it was referred to in the Judo Canada National Refereeing manual. F. O'Brien and B. Bradbury said the code of conduct was useful as a reminder each year.

G. Humber asked about any comments re. the quality of refereeing. M. Sheppard replied that he had received some useful comments from J. Serianni of Judo Canada during his visit. The question was posed of how to move ahead with refereeing? P. Waclawek commented that referees need practice in competition as well as clinics.

F. O'Brien asked about sending referees to the National tournaments. B. Bradbury responded that he felt it was a priority to invest in athletes at this time..

G. Humber expressed concerns about the safety of the mat area at provincial tournaments held in St. John's. G. Beckett noted the comments and said that he will look in to enhancing flow control around the mat areas but needs the cooperation of coaches especially to control competitors. He will also look into the issue of using a larger area in the MUN gym although this makes already difficult scheduling even more difficult.

e. **Constitution Review Committee** – G. Beckett reported briefly on the work of the committee to date. Discussion of the proposed constitution change was left to later in the day.

f. **NCCP Committee** – M. Kay reported that changes were underway in the NCCP program. Changes will eventually require a re-certification process. A Technical 1 course was done in Fall 2001. He will do a Technical 2 course if people are interested. Coaches can log on to the Coaching Association of Canada web site to check their qualifications. He and T. Gallant are certified course conductors. He can certify up to Level II and T. Gallant up to Level III.

He reported that M. Chiariamonte and J. Coffey had been certified at Level II. A question was raised about the possibility of doing a Level III technical course in the province. He felt that the issue was that a lot of support people were needed for Level III technical.

B. Bradbury commented that we need to be more proactive in offering NCCP judo technical courses. A key issue is getting sufficient interested people to participate.

G. Humber raised the issue of Canada Winter Games coaching qualifications. This item was deferred to the CWG agenda item.

E. Bradbury commented that she had contacts with local sports scientists and could help make contact with them. M. Kay commented that the committee could do coaching updates outside of formal qualification courses. He also reported that the new NCCP Theory courses are being piloted now. The Technical courses are due in 2003/04.

g. Medical Committee – M. Kay summarized his report and provided some tournament injury data. He sees some patterns in injuries at tournaments. He identified an issue about funding medical support if trying to get health professionals to work at tournaments. He is interested in training health professionals to work within the judo tournament format. He is also interested in conducting a Head Injury session.

G. Humber inquired about the purchase of medical equipment that had been discussed at the 2001 Annual General Meeting. B. Bradbury responded that the matter had been considered by the Executive and the purchase deferred. It was seen as a question of priorities for funding.

Moved by G. Humber, seconded by F. O'Brien that the NLJA fund the purchase of a treatment table in the current fiscal year. P. Dunne moved an amendment to this motion, seconded by T. Gallant, that the amounts for the treatment table not exceed \$1,000. Amendment defeated. The original motion to purchase the treatment table passed.

h. Judo Canada National Councilor – B. Bradbury reported on the Atlantic meeting and Judo Canada AGM. He reported briefly on the membership submission problem for the 2001/02 year. The NLJA partially funded J.P. Cantin's visits to the province.

F. O'Brien volunteered to chair a National tournament committee proposal if others were willing to work on it. P. Dunne moved and C. Lavellee seconded the motion that "the NLJA should submit a bid for the 2005 Senior Nationals to be hosted in St. John's". Motion passed.

N. Murphy asked about the role of the Atlantic Coach. B. Bradbury responded that it is not a major role for J.P. Cantin that is why there are only a few visits per year. B. Simms reported that Cantin had volunteered to visit Labrador in the Fall.

i. Canada Winter Games, 2003 – M. Kay spoke to the CWG report.

G. Humber congratulated the NLJA for the Blake Lumsden tournament participation by the CWG and felt that it should be done again.

A question was raised about CWG coaching certification. A long discussion followed with the following major points made:

B. Bradbury reported that he had met with the provincial chef d'mission and Clayton Walsh re. the coaching credential situation. It was not yet resolved. Both Bradbury and Waclawek made the point that the Executive chose the best CWG leadership team that it could.

G. Humber asked what is the point of NCCP qualifications if they aren't required.

P. Dunne was concerned that the Executive was implying that Level III people qualified coaches were not capable. P. Waclawek stated that that was not the case – the Executive selected the best coaches that it could under the circumstances

G. Beckett commented that there were not many applications for the coaching positions when it had been advertised originally. When D. McIsaac was unable to continue as female coach the Executive felt it had to make a replacement appointment immediately rather than re-advertising the position.

P. Dunne moved , seconded by T. Gallant “That all coaching positions for the provincial team be advertised in the future and filled by qualified people”. Discussion on the motion contained the following points:

- NLJA has to deal with a small pool of people and qualifications
- coaches have to make an effort to get qualifications
- some practicality is needed in appointment processes
- T. Gallant felt coaches should get qualifications to be fair to athletes
- Members of the Executive stated that they felt that they had put together the best coaching team possible at the time even if it had lesser certifications
- B. Bradbury expressed the view that coaches shouldn't be hired on paper qualifications only. There is a need to evaluate on personal characteristics and experience
- It was pointed out that it is very difficult to get Level III qualifications because of scarcity of courses and course cancellations
- M. Kay pointed out that part of the problem is provincial government failure to get Level 3 courses out
- A number of people expressed the need for coaches to obtain Level III qualification to coach at the Canada Winter Games or national tournaments

The motion failed. Names recorded:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Chris Lavallee	George Beckett
Blake Gabriel	Noel Murphy
Felicity O'Brien	Marco Chiaramonte
Pat Dunne	Ian Ash
Tom Gallant	Erin Bradbury
Virginia Caul	Blair Bradbury
Gerard Humber	Piotr Waclawek
	Maurice Sheppard
	Keith Morey
	Joe Coffey
	Jay Coffey
	Bob Simms

M. Kay further reported that the CWG leadership team is clarifying team assignments in a few situations where they are getting feedback from coaches. If they can't reach a consensus on team selection then there may have to be an appeal process. He reported that the final selection would take place in the next week. Consideration will be given to dealing with the natural growth of athletes before the Games. Team members may have to shift and the coaches will deal with it.

G. Beckett asked for comments re. the priority for allocating funding. Should it be on team development or for uniforms/coats, etc. F. O'Brien suggested seeking sponsorship for tracksuits that can be a memento for team members. J. Coffey emphasized the need to conduct special fund raising to get team members to out of province competition like Ontario Open.

Plans for the remainder of the time before the games include cross province fundraisers for getting the team to out of province competition, coaches to do a clinic on the West Coast and possibly in Goose Bay.

There was a discussion about the need for fund-raising for CWG team development. G. Humber volunteered to help solicit companies. There was negative reaction to a suggestion to aid CWG development through increases in NLJA membership fees. There was general agreement to emphasize corporate fundraising.

A general expression of thanks was given to the CWG leadership team.

6. Strategic Plan for the NLJA

B. Bradbury explained that for the next year the focus of the association would be on the CWG and development of a post CWG schedule of camps and events. He emphasized the importance of getting parents more involved. The NLJA should try to support new clubs; try to continue general participation in the Blake Lumsden tournament; and work with JP Cantin for long term competitor development. C. Lavallee reported that there may soon be a new club in Main Brook, Northern Peninsula.

B. Simms commented on getting communities involved in support of clubs and the need for plans if a club founder leaves. B. Bradbury mentioned that Pierre Legresley is trying to start a club in the Bay Roberts area.

D. Earle spoke on the budget for 2002/03. He pointed out that the government grant is running around \$7,000 to \$12,000 over the past five years. The budget emphasized expenditures focused on athletes. Approximately \$3,000 goes for administrative costs. Some \$800 was spent on advertising for judo across the province in 2001/02.

After a discussion it was agreed to add \$1,000 to the budget for purchase of a treatment table.

T. Gallant asked why travel to the Blake Lumsden tournament was funded and not the Atlantics? B. Bradbury answered that Campellton (site of the 2002 Atlantics) was much more expensive for travel.

B. Simms moved and P. Waclawek seconded the adoption of the amended budget for 2002/03. Motion passed.

D. Earle moved and F. O'Brien seconded a motion for approval of the auditors for next year. Motion passed.

7. NLJA Constitution Amendment Proposal

G. Beckett provided a summary of the work of the constitution review committee and introduced the proposed amendments.

T. Gallant expressed serious reservations about the proposed amendments including:

- the relationship of Judo Canada to the NLJA for areas such as grading, refereeing and coaching certification
- a concern that the revisions would make it possible for non-black belts to set policy for the association
- a concern that the Executive has to be answerable to someone
- perceived inequity about provisions for regional representation

In general he stated that Kokoro Budokai couldn't support the proposed changes. He and F. O'Brien stated that they would like to see a Board of Directors composed of club senseis that

would supervise the Executive Committee. They felt it was important that every NLJA club be represented on a Board of Directors.

Moved by D. Earle, seconded by T. Gallant to table the proposed Constitution amendments and send them back to the Constitution Review Committee for further work. Motion passed.

Moved by J. Coffey, seconded by Blake Gabriel that each club should have a representative on the Constitution Review Committee. Motion passed.

B. Simms made the point that key principles need to be given to the review committee. He felt that it was vital to develop a representation model that will meet the association's needs.

8. Judo Sport Discussion

P. Wacklawek reported on new developments. There are some changes at the international level starting at the Canadian National Juniors this year. There will be no hiki-waki and a sudden death decision will be used instead of judges' decision in cases of draws.

A question was raised about the use of koshi guruma, especially for children. It was suggested that it should not be permitted in competition or at least to not count for scoring. T. Gallant felt that koshi guruma and makkikomi techniques should not be allowed since they are dangerous for kids in particular. He also expressed concern about kube nage. M. Kay felt that clubs should take the discussion about koshi guruma back to the clubs and monitor injuries to see if it has an affect on use by kids.

T. Gallant moved, P. Dunne seconded "that the NLJA ban koshi guruma and makkikomi techniques for mini to cadet age categories". Ban to mean Hans Somali for use in tournaments. Motion carried

M. Sheppard and B. Simms suggested that the NLJA seek national guidelines on the issue. There is a need to avoid confusion about tournament competition and what is taught.

A question about the use of mouth guards was raised. It was pointed out that there is nothing in existing judo tournament rules to stop use of a mouth guard.

9. Any Other Business

Male/Female competition in mini and minor age categories - there was a brief review of the discussion on this issue at the 2001 AGM. Moved by K. Morey, seconded by B. Gabriel to accept the Executive statement on this issue: "that competition between male and female judoka in NLJA sanctioned tournaments would only be permitted in the 6-8 year age category at the Tournament Director's discretion and with the agreement of the judoka and his/her coach". Motion passed.

M. Sheppard announced that he had video tapes of tournaments available for \$5 per tape and that summer training at MUN would continue on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Everyone was welcome to attend.

P. Wacklawek spoke to the need to do a mat and equipment inventory to find out what is available and see if can facilitate the use of mats where needed in province. C. Lavallee commented that it was possible to use mats for specific tournaments but he was concerned about loaning out due to possible damage.

10. **NLJA Elections** – M. Kay volunteered to run the elections with assistance from B. Simms. Results were:

President – Nominated: Felicity O’Brien, Blair Bradbury – Elected: Blair Bradbury
(13 – 7)

1st V.P. – Nominated: Piotr Waclawek, Chris Lavalley - Elected: Piotr Waclawek (13 – 7)

2nd V.P. – Nominated: Joe Coffey (7), Keith Morey (5), Chris Lavalley (4), Felicity O’Brien (4), Elected: Joe Coffey

Treasurer – Nominated: Dave Earle, Pat Dunne - Elected: Dave Earle (14-6)

Secretary – Nominated: George Beckett – Elected by acclamation

National Councilor 1- Nominated: Chris Lavalley (3), Blair Bradbury (11), Gerard Humber (6) - Elected: Blair Bradbury

National Councilor 2 – Nominated: Gerard Humber (10), Piotr Waclawek (7), Noel Murphy (3) – Elected: Gerard Humber

P. Dunne asked about the status of Past-President Aden White. He felt that if Aden had resigned then he would like F. O’Brien (the former Past President) to fill the post. B. Bradbury will investigate Aden’s status and report to the membership.

11. **Adjournment** – Moved by F. O’Brien, seconded by M. Sheppard to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Appendix A – Annual General Meeting 2002 Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
Ian Ash	MUN
George Beckett	MUN
Blair Bradbury	Astra
Erin Bradbury	Astra
Marco Chiaramonte	MUN
James Coffey	Sankyo
Joe Coffey	Sankyo
Patrick Dunne	Kokoro Budokai
David Earle	MUN
Tom Gallant	Kokoro Budokai
Virginia Caul-Gallant	Kokoro Budokai
Blake Gabriel	Indian Head
Gerard Humber	Tung Yen
Michael Kay	Kokoro Budokai
Chris Lavallee	Indian Head
Keith Morey	Goose Bay
Noel Murphy	MUN
Felicity O'Brien	Kokoro Budokai
Maurice Sheppard	MUN
Bob Simms	Goose Bay
Piotr Waclawek	MUN