

Newfoundland and Labrador Judo Association
Annual General Meeting
June 7th, 2008

Minutes

1. Welcome

Blair welcomed everyone to this year's AGM with a special welcome to Glenn Littlejohn from the Department of Recreation and Sport. As there was not a quorum present, while we were waiting for another two people to arrive, it was decided to carry on with items on the agenda that were for information and did not require a vote.

2. Several items were added to the Agenda under any Other Business:

MUN's 40th Anniversary

Hall of Fame

Plans for weekend

Under 10 shiai/randori at the Provincials

5. Glenn Littlejohn from Department of Recreation and Sport

Glenn brought greetings from department. He was present to fill us in on what has been going on over the last 1 ½ years and how these developments affect us. The Department has partnered with Sport Newfoundland and Labrador (SNL) to promote Strategic Planning by all Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs). A template for Strategic Planning is being produced this year by SNL. Once this has been worked through it will be made available to all PSOs and money, on top of the normal grant, will be made available to all PSOs to put in place a Strategic plan. This will become a requirement for grant applications in the future. This should also include a look at our constitution every couple of years.

Over the next 2 – 3 years the Department will be reorganized and restructured.

There have been no increases to grants this year but there will be an increase to grants to PSOs, Community Recreation and CWG groups next year.

There will be a consultant hired to reorganize the Department.

There is a process in place to review the Newfoundland Games.

A new look is being taken at how we should plan for CWG. Should it be a 4 year cycle or if this too long should it be reduced to 2 or 3 year cycle?

The new ADM is Mark Janes. He comes to Recreation and Sport from Education. He has a strong background in sport, primarily in baseball and basketball.

The Athlete's Travel subsidy to National Competition has been available for the last 2 years and will continue. In answer to Bob, Glenn said that requests for travel in Eastern Canada may be funded if it is required to go forward to National Competition.

Judo has taken advantage of the Premier's Athletic Award which is available to athlete's who excel at Atlantic, National and International competition with Brittany Stephenson being awarded \$1,000.

He advised us that Maurice Sheppard has been appointed to the Mission Staff for the 2009 Canada Winter Games.

The High Performance Centre at the new Rec. Centre will be available for use soon. We should contact Rod Snow for the cost.

Blair asked whether funding to PSOs depended on performance like the Sport Canada funding. Glenn says that performance does have some influence but it is not the only thing looked at.

Money for capital grants is going to communities for recreational projects this year not to PSOs. He suggested that we find some proof, e.g. a witness that the Gander mats were used by 9/11. This might help us get more help to get them replaced. Joe said he would go back the person who has 3 of the mats in his basement and ask where he got them from.

Glenn mentioned that all sports need younger volunteers and he was glad to see some younger people at the meeting.

In answer to Bob's question on the Labrador Travel subsidy and the possibility of using it to go to the Atlantics, he said that more money was required in their budget; they are \$28,000 over budget for last year. This fund was for travel to the island. The province makes the decision for the highest level of competition in the Athlete's Travel subsidy and Labrador may be able to be funded through that to go to the Atlantics.

Glenn was asked to check the NCCP provisions for competency based promotions.

Glenn was thanked for Departmental support and recognition of our program.

6. President's Report

There were **2 NLJA Provincial Events** this year.

Nov 11-12 Judo Weekend. It included Nage No Kata, Katame No Kata and Gokyo clinics and Black Belt Grading.

March 29, 2008 NLJA Provincial Championships and Training Camp. This was the most successful tournament that we have had in some time and included a Training Camp conducted by Scott Tanner our Judo Canada Atlantic Coach.

Brittany Stevenson of MUN Judo Club captured a Bronze Medal at the Hatashita International Judo Tournament in Ontario, Nov 17-18. This is the first medal at such a high level in this Province in quite some time. Clubs from all over the province did well at both the Blake Lumsden Memorial and at the Atlantics in PEI. We will be sending athletes to both the Senior and Junior Nationals this year.

This coming year we will be identifying athletes and putting our coaching team together for the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

Kata continues to become more important Nationally. Regional Kata competitions are becoming more frequent. A Kata Judging Clinic was held in conjunction with the Senior Nationals in Quebec and Felicity O'Brien and Maurice Sheppard attended from this province.

This year we lost two judoka who were former members of our organization. On July 15th 2007, soon after his return to Newfoundland, Tony Simmonds lost his battle with cancer and on May 15th2008, Ian Ash passed away suddenly while jogging with a group of friends. Both will be missed.

Blair informed us that he would not be standing for re-election but would continue to serve on the executive as Past President.

Blair was thanked for his efforts over the last 8 years.

7. National Councilor's Report

In his position as National Councilor Blair chaired the Atlantic Council and was Judo Canada VP Atlantic region. This report covers his activities in all these positions.

In his role as Atlantic VP he met with the Atlantic Council at the Atlantics in PEI. The date for the next Atlantics is not yet set. We should suggest dates- whether or not we think Easter is an appropriate weekend.

Joe Seriani attended the Blake Lumsden and promoted 6 refs to National C.

Blair recommended that everyone check the www.atlantic.judoclub.ca to keep up to date on what is happening in the region.

On the Judo Canada front the Data Base is finally available on line. George should be recognized for the input he put into getting it up and running. The tournament interface worked well with the wins going directly into the data base. One mat at the Hatashita International was run by the Pragma interface. It worked totally without runners, from a laptop with the scoreboard as a large TV screen.

The Pan-Ams broke even.

The funding to Judo Canada from Sport Canada for our elite athletes will depend on our results from Beijing. No medals will mean less funding.

Everything for Judo Day was late again. Hope to be on time for it next year.

8. Treasurer's Report

Membership dropped this year, especially on the west coast and Labrador. The number of Black Belts is up.

Our Insurance costs are down by getting it through Judo Canada. With the greater numbers it is much cheaper. We saved something in the region of \$1,000. Also saved some travel money as west coast teams were stopped by ice in the gulf.

George answered questions about the budget statement, noting that some of the costs for tournament, e.g. the Bake Lumsden this spring, will be on next year's statement.

George will try to fit in a workshop on using the database during the weekend.

9. Provincial Grading Board

This was a great year for promotions that saw 14 people promoted:

Yondan	Maurice Sheppard
Sandan	Blair Bradbury, Marco Chiamonte, Bob Simms
Nidan	George Beckett , Noel Murphy
Shodan	Kirsten Lavalley, Troy Martin, Andrew White, Princie Corbin, Edward Quinn, Patrick Walsh ,Chris Wass. The application for Bob Bugden is still outstanding.

Bob pointed out that the new grading forms are easy to use and are available on the Judo Canada website.

The last gradings have been done through a clinic format which helps everyone in the province improve their judo, especially kata.

Felicity and Maurice's participation in the Kata Judging Clinic will help even out the level of kata across the country. With the increase in number of Black belts across the province should we should see advancement in the level of judo.

Bob will present the certificates to those who have been graded on Sunday at the clinic.

It was suggested that Tina Takahashi should be asked to come to give a kata clinic.

10. NCCP Chair's Report

Bruce Mann and Kevin Massey have been certified this year as Mat Assistants (Pt. A).

The Technical course process consists of 5 stages after the course on the mat:

1. Complete the workbook
2. Make any corrections
3. Complete Ethical Decision Making on line.
4. Arrange for practical evaluations
5. Implement any corrections from practical review

There is no time limit so 4 and 5 can be done very quickly or take much longer.

Mike encourages anyone interested in beginning coaching education to start by taking the Pt A Theory when it is available in your community. He is making provisions to do two Technical courses for club coaches.

He suggests we should plan to do one Pt A Technical at least every May.

To complete the online Ethics Evaluation go to: www.coach.ca. On the lower right there is an icon for Ethics Evaluation. Click on and follow the steps. You should have your coaching ID number on hand. There is an opportunity for practice. Everyone, whether certified in the old or new system will need this. Mike recommends that everyone should participate.

11. Refereeing Report

Maurice said that the provincial refereeing badges should be available in the fall. He emphasized that the rules are changing and coaches should attend the coaches meetings before each tournament to keep up. He listed some important items in his report. Every club should have a copy of this.

Maurice emphasized that anyone who has been away from refereeing for any time should practice in their clubs and attend clinics before refereeing in a tournament.

12. Medical Committee Report

Medical coverage has been provided at all tournaments. Periodic additions to tape supplies have been obtained as needed.

A Sport Injury form is coming out shortly. It is an attempt to establish a data base on injuries both in practice and at tournaments.

Head injuries have dramatically decreased.

13. New Business

a. Strategic Planning.

This was put off until after lunch

b. Capital Grant request for mats This year CGs are only being given to communities for recreational requests.

14. AOB

a. CWG was put off until after lunch under Strategic Planning.

b. Hall of Fame

We have not had a Hall of Fame Committee in the last few years and Felicity gave a list of those people who are now eligible for consideration. It was suggested that a Hall of Fame Banquet might be associated with the Fall Tournament.

c. MUN's 40th Anniversary

MUN would like to host the Fall Tournament on Nov. 11th weekend to coincide with their 40th anniversary celebrations. Dr. LeGal might be able to attend. We could invite St. Pierre and have a high level clinic and a Hall of Fame Banquet at the same time. The possibility of using the MUN venue might be a problem so it was left to the new executive to study

LUNCH

After lunch as we had a quorum we returned to items that need a vote.

3. Minutes

As there was no quorum last year the minutes from the 2006 AGM were produced for approval

Motion to approve the 2006 Minutes of the AGM

Noel/Maurice

Unanimously approved.

There was no business arising from the 2006 minutes

The 2007 minutes were brought up to date.

Motion to approve the 2007 Minutes

Bruce/George

Unanimously approved

8. Treasurer's Report (cont'd)

Motion to approve Fred Rowe as our auditor for next year

George/Pat

Unanimously approved

14. Return to AOB

d. Under 10 randori./shiai

Discussion under this topic was split. Some felt we were adding to our problems of not enough competition by starting at a later age while others felt that we were emphasizing winning and loosing at an age when children really did not understand. The new Long Term Athlete Development Plan recommends children should not compete to win until at least 9 yrs of age. Others felt that a competition was a place for competition and should not be just for "fun".

Motion that children should be 9years old to compete in Provincial Tournament

George/Joe

Carried

6. Constitution updates
7. Association Unity
8. Tournament rules for parents and judoka
9. Sponsorship –equipment and travel

1 Coaching

This needs assessment at the club level. Clubs need to identify to the Executive their needs for potential coaches. Need to list qualifications already in place and needs for new courses.

We need to get improvements to the NCCP program we need to be proactive in getting courses and we need to remove minimum numbers for technical programs.

We need to know when courses are taking place so that we can plan our lives both at the provincial and National level with level 3.

2 Advertising

We need to advertise both for people and fundraising. We could use MUN's 40th with Judo Day.

Recruiting with Judo Day needs to be done earlier. We are not using marketing as well as we could. PSA are free and could be used in conjunction with Judo Day etc. This year we should use the Olympic connection. Bruce, Kevin and Noel all showed interest in being involved in this.

3. Development of new clubs and sustaining of present clubs

Need to develop more than one coach for each club! Senseis need to develop a sustainability plan for their clubs. They need to coach the coaches coming after them. WE need to find what attracts people to judo and adapt to new attitudes. The executive needs to find ways to help the clubs. We need to encourage all coaches to get involved with NCCP.

Maybe Michelle Healey at MUN would be able to help us with this.

4. We need to work on communication between the CWG coaches and the club senseis. They have to realize that when their athletes go to CWG they are turned over to NCCP level 3 coaches and the club senseis should not try to interfere from a distance. (See CWG above)

5. Refereeing Development

We need to develop more and higher National Referees. Need to get refs away to big mainland tournaments to get the practice to go for a higher grade.

6. Constitution

We need to have a look at our constitution to make sure it is doing what we want it to do. Our quorum is obviously a problem as we have problems in reaching it for voting. Maybe we need to make room for parent's help.

Pat offered to help with this.

7. Association Unity

We need to reach out to the west coast to try to get them on side. When the clubs do not work well the Association does not either. We also need to reach out to St. Pierre again.

8. Tournaments

We need to get more mats so that we can hold tournaments in different parts of the province. We also need to develop a promotional kit – “How to view a Judo Tournament- for both parents and judoka.

9. Sponsorship

We do have tax receipts for donations! We could sell advertising at our tournaments e.g. round the edge of the mat. We need to help fundraising by the clubs again, something we have not done in a long time. Perhaps we can get Association sponsorship for equipment and travel.

We need to find a way to develop our membership across the province.

Again the meeting thanked Blair for his work as president for the last 8 years.

The meeting adjourned at 4.15pm.