



## Southern Area Judo Jersey Report for SA AGM 2023

Our update follows the layout of our sports development plan for Jersey Judo, which was endorsed by British Judo Association and Jersey Sport (our local government body) in early 2022. In July 2022, Jersey Judo secured funding from the Jersey Community Foundation to support our sport development plan for next 3 years. We are very grateful to Jersey Sport, Nick Shepherd from BJA, Chris and Jo Hunt for their support with the preparation of our funding submission.

### **Performance**

It's been a challenging year for our senior athletes. During the year we lost our strength and conditioning support as the Jersey Sport Foundation stopped operating without warning. Sadly Judo wasn't included as a sport for Island Games in 2023 nor the 2026 Commonwealth games, and the costs of sending a team to South Africa for 2023 Commonwealth Judo Championships were prohibitively high. With the limited opportunities to compete for Jersey, the majority of our senior athletes have now stopped training.

During the year we supported the Queens Commonwealth Baton visit to Jersey in July 2022 on its way to Birmingham 2022 with a judo session on the beach, which was covered by local TV news. Our next target is to mobilise a Jersey team for the 2024 Commonwealth Judo Championships in Malta.

### **Participation**

As at the end April 2023 our total members recorded on BJA MyDojo was 70 (with 13 or 19% female members), this was an increase of 15 members (27%) from the end March 2022. With the support from Jersey Community Foundation and our sponsorship, we are now able to offer subsidised places for members to eliminate any financial barriers to participation.

Level 1 competitions were held in Jersey on 21 May 2022 and 18 March 2023, to provide on-island competition experience for our members and referees. We invited Guernsey to attend but travelling between the islands has become challenging with increasing costs and less choice of sailings/flights, which makes inter-island trips difficult.

Our juniors have attended various events during the year hosted by Southern area groups including: Hampshire, Surrey, Kent and Kin Ryu judo club. We are very grateful for the continued hospitality and support from event organisers on the mainland for our young athletes, who at times have to overcome delayed flights, rail strikes and lost luggage to compete in UK.

### **Officials - Coaches and Referees**

Chris Doherty delivered a BJA level 1 coaching course in Jersey on 2-3 July 2022 for new Jersey coaches (including 2 female coaches) and a new coach from Guernsey. On 30 April 2023, we completed a coaching revalidation course in Jersey delivered by Chris Hunt from Police Sport UK.

Dave Stanley delivered a referee course in Jersey on 29 Oct 2022 with four new club referees qualifying. Our local referees allow us to run on-island events and support mainland competitions with our athletes.

### **Governance**

At the AGM in July 2022, Bill Baker was elected as Chairman to fill role left vacant following the death of Andre Bosio. The main focus for Jersey Judo continues to be the delivery of our sport development plan which seeks to establish a sustainable future for judo in Jersey with a range of opportunities for islanders to take part.

Bill Baker  
Chairman of Jersey Judo