



Southern Area Judo Jersey Report for SA AGM 2024

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 a 3 year period.

Performance

Our veteran athletes had a good year and attended a range competitions in UK, France and Malta. Our athletes won two gold medals at the British Masters and Jersey's first ever medals at the Commonwealth Judo Championships.

We expect that Judo will be selected as one of the sports for the 2027 Island Games in Faroe Islands. We aim to send a senior judo team as part of Jersey's multi-sports team.

Participation

We held local club competitions in December 2023 and May 2024, to provide on-island competition experience for our members and referees. We invited Guernsey to attend, but travel between the islands continues to be challenging with increasing costs and limited choice of sailings/flights, which makes inter-island trips difficult.

Our juniors have attended various events during the year in UK including: Hampshire, Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Liverpool and picked up our first ever medal at the British Minors in London. We are very grateful for the continued hospitality and support from event organisers on the mainland for welcoming our young athletes. We hope to attend some French events in future too.

We had great media coverage during the year including local BBC radio broadcasting live commentary from Southern Area Schools competition and an extended report on Channel ITV news for our juniors.

Officials - Coaches and Referees

In April 2023, we completed a coaching revalidation course in Jersey delivered by Chris Hunt from Police Sport UK. In June 2024 we ran another coach revalidation course delivered by Peter Powell, which was attended by two coaches from Guernsey

Our referees have supported our local club competitions and Hampshire trials during the year. We are planning to run a referees course in Jersey in November 2024 to build our skills on-island.

One of our coaches, is working through the level 3 coaching qualification following attendance at BJA courses at club SKK in 2023. Another one of our coaches is looking to complete BJA Senior examiner and National Referee qualifications over the next year.

Governance

At the Jersey Judo AGM in July 2023, we created a new committee role for our Club Welfare Officer, Joanne Reid. In January 2024 our Secretary, Andre Blaby, resigned due to ill health and we appointed Natasha Little as an Interim Secretary. 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 opportunities for islanders to take part.

Bill Baker
Chairman of Jersey Judo