



UNITED STATES COALITION OF JUJITSU ORGANIZATIONS - USCJO -

The National Coalition of Jujitsu in the United States of America

USCJO NATIONAL OFFICE

Address: 2822 Elmhurst Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533 USA

Official Website: www.uscjo.org · Email: richardjbunch@yahoo.com

RICHARD BUNCH
President

Non-Profit Corporation

MICHAEL ANTONIDES
Executive Director

April 26, 2020

Ju-Jitsu International Federation (JJIF)
P.O. Box 220006
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Re: USA Membership in JJIF

Dear President Theodoropoulos,

I am writing you to introduce myself, and the U.S. Coalition of Jujitsu Organizations (USCJO) to the JJIF. The USCJO is a coalition of the major and most prestigious Jujitsu organizations in the United States. U.S. organizations under the banner of the USCJO include: *United States Ju-Jitsu Federation, Ju Jitsu America, Danzan Ryu Yudanshakai, United States Sport Jujitsu Alliance, American Sport Jujitsu League, American Jujitsu Institute, USA Judo & Jujitsu Association, International Kwanmukan, Bushidokan, United States Judo Association (Jujitsu Division), United States Martial Arts Federation, USA Jiu-Jitsu (USAJJ), United States Para Jiu-Jitsu (USPJJ) and Shin Kodenkai.*

This Coalition unequivocally represents the premier Jujitsu organizations in the United States.

It is important to note that our organization collectively conducts countless clinics and seminars as well as numerous successful regional and national tournaments monthly. We have a huge pool of competitors from Coast to Coast, ranging from New York to California and Hawaii. Our advisors include the likes of Prof. Willy Cahill, and the late Professors Wally Jay and George Anderson.

Our Coalition is concerned that an organization as prominent as the JJIF does *not* effectively exist in the United States.

This statement stems from the following facts:

- The current USA representative of the JJIF does *not* conduct competitions or trials, nor does it conduct any athletic events to screen potential athletes.
- Over the past several years, the JJIF USA representative has *not* conducted *any* national championships.
- The current USA representative of the JJIF has *no* program in place to develop membership or endorse competitions. As such, the USA's representation in the JJIF has been effectively abandoned.

- The USA is greatly underrepresented at JJIF and Pan American events. At the last Pan America Championships, only three athletes, one coach, and two referees represented the USA. Two of these competitors came from the same club. This is simply an embarrassment to the diverse and dedicated United States JuJitsu Community.
- This underrepresentation stems from the fact that the current American JJIF representative has *no* programs to cultivate or promote quality athletes from the USA, despite the multitude of skilled, seasoned, and eager athletes.
- Our large and diverse nation has a rich history of quality martial artists, coming from numerous backgrounds and styles. The failure to allow these athletes to showcase their talent at JJIF and Pan American events is a travesty.

Given these facts, it is safe to assume that the current JJIF representation in the USA has been effectively abandoned. The JJIF has been negatively affected by the inability of its current USA representation to perform even the most basic of responsibilities.

This failure to adequately represent has caused very real harm to the reputation of the JJIF in the United States. The cancellation of the National Championships and the Para-Jujitsu event in Washington, DC in the March of 2019 caused great distress. Please see the attached Facebook post from the International Jiu Jitsu Without Limitations Federation, whose athletes bore financial losses to attend this non-event. This failure represents a huge embarrassment to the JJIF, and the United States.

As active representatives of martial arts in the United States, we are very concerned about future events. With the 2022 World Games in Birmingham, Alabama USA looming, we are dismayed to see that not a single sanctioned qualifying event has been scheduled to assemble an appropriate team. Furthermore, given the current representatives incredibly detached approach to their responsibilities, we fear that adequate steps will not be taken to ensure a successful event in 2022. This would cause further embarrassment to both the JJIF and the United States.

Please consider this letter as an official request from the United States Coalition of Jujitsu Organizations to replace the USA's current *inactive* representative with a legitimate organization that can truly embody and represent Jujitsu in the United States of America.

We await your response and continued dialogue concern this extremely important and time-sensitive matter.

Regards,



Professor Richard Bunch
President - USCJO