

**BRITISH
JUDO**



**ANNUAL REPORT
& ACCOUNTS 2024/2025**

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR OVERVIEW

CONTENTS

YEAR OVERVIEW

- 01** Contents
- 02** Company Information
- 03** Chairman's Annual Review
- 05** Chief Executive's Statement
- 07** Performance Report
- 10** Development Report
- 12** Progressive Events Report
- 17** Safeguarding Report
- 18** Membership & Gradings Report
- 20** Marketing, Digital & Communications Report

COMMISSION REPORTS

- 22** British Judo Trust
- 23** Judo Commission Report
- 24** National Officials Commission Report
- 26** National Refereeing Commission Report
- 28** Promotions & Gradings and High Grades Commission Report
- 31** Kata Commission Report
- 34** Coaching/National Source Commission Report
- 36** Veterans Commission Report
- 38** Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Commission Report

HOME COUNTRY REPORTS

- 40** Judo England
- 42** JudoScotland
- 44** Northern Ireland Judo Federation
- 46** Welsh Judo Association

AFFILIATES REPORTS

- 48** Army Judo Association
- 50** Royal Navy Judo Association
- 52** Police Sport UK
- 54** British University Judo

AREA REPORTS

- 56** Eastern Area
- 57** London Area
- 59** Midland Area
- 61** North West Area
- 62** Northern Area
- 64** Northern Home Counties Area
- 66** Southern Area
- 68** Western Area
- 69** Yorkshire & Humberside Area

2024/25 ACCOUNTS

- 71** Report and Financial Statements 2024/25

BRITISH
JUDO



COMPANY INFORMATION

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Andrew Scoular

BUSINESS ADDRESS

Walsall Campus, University of Wolverhampton,
Gorway Road, Walsall WS1 3BD

DIRECTORS

Gerry Gualtieri, Chair

Alex Slade, Senior Independent Director

Neil Fletcher, Vice Chair

Diana Hunter

Ben Quilter

Paul Ajala

Garth Illingworth

Lee Shinkin, Welsh Judo Representative

Russell Brown, Northern Ireland Judo
Representative

Graham Campbell (to August 2024)

Mark Preston, JudoScotland Representative
(from October 2024)

Delia Wright

Rebecca McCreath

SECRETARY

Andrew Scoular

COMPANY NUMBER

1393958

REGISTERED OFFICE

(for Reporting Period)

Walsall Campus, University of Wolverhampton,
Gorway Road, Walsall WS1 3BD

AUDITORS

Sedulo

62-66 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2EN

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Dr George Kerr CBE

HONORARY PRESIDENT

Rowena Birch 7th Dan

VICE PRESIDENTS

Colin Draycott, Senior Vice President

Richard Barraclough

Brian Davies, JP

Mick Leigh

Colin McIver (from November 2023)

Tony Sweeney

COUNCIL MEMBERS

David Allen – Western Area

Sarah Newbury – Midlands Area (to February
2025)

Juliette Langstone – Midlands Area (from
February 2025)

Dave Rance – Northern Home Counties

Nadia Minardi – London

Raymond Taylor – Eastern Area

John Malkinson – Southern Area

John Gibson – Northern Area

Ben George – Yorkshire & Humberside Area

Matthew Clempner – North West Area

Seth Birch – Yorkshire & Humberside Area

Rick Kenney – JudoScotland

Darren Dean – Welsh Judo Association

Robin Newett – Northern Ireland Judo
Federation

Lt Cdr Stephen Watson – Royal Navy Judo

Jim Mackenzie – Army Judo

Andy Moss - Police UK

Matthew Bradley – Royal Air Force

Stephen Milne – Armed Forces

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW

APRIL 2024-MARCH 2025

KEY PARTNERS

At the time of writing this report, I have now been in the role of Chair for 18 months, which has passed very quickly. My focus for this period has been on supporting Andrew and the team, being present in clubs and grassroots judo as well supporting domestic and international relations.

During the past year, I have continued to attend both domestic and international events. I have been engaging with our judo community at events across the country, and I would like to thank all of you for your honest feedback and insightful thoughts, all meant for the good of our sport, which I take on board and feedback where appropriate to the British Judo Executive staff.

GOVERNANCE

There was just one change to the Board membership this year with Marc Preston replacing Graham Campbell as the JudoScotland representative, I therefore had very stable support throughout the year as I still navigate the Chair role. I would like to note my thanks to Graham for the 7 years he contributed to the Board.

I also carried out Board member annual reviews, as well as Alex Slade, Senior Independent Director, carrying out mine, which provided useful feedback on how our Board Meetings are run and we have implemented some of the suggestions, including streamlining reporting, so that the Board can have a more strategic focus.

There has been an extensive review of our England Areas, led by Garth Illingworth in collaboration with all the England Area Chairs and an independent consultant. This has resulted in 8 key recommendations that will be discussed in greater detail and we hope to have a further update before the end of 2025.



Nearly one year into the role, I met with Dame Katherine Grainger, UK Sport Chair. This was an opportunity to share thoughts on our Olympic and Paralympic experiences. Katherine was very supportive, making it clear that UK Sport's overall view of British Judo remains extremely positive and that they understood results at the Games don't always go as planned. I also shared with Katherine, that we had already commenced a review that would include all areas of our sport and looking beyond just the Los Angeles cycle, which was well received.

There has also been a review of the British Judo Trust application process and governance of the Trust as we are looking to utilise it for a new initiative, a Patrons Club. It is hoped that this will be launched by the end of 2025.

Following some behaviour at competitions, that did not reflect the values of Judo, I recorded a short video that is being utilised as a reminder of what behaviours and conduct there should be at our competitions and events. I am pleased to say that there has been a significant improvement in the most recent events I have attended, thank you to everyone. You can watch the video here https://youtu.be/sCvj2_D0xt4

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Andrew and I have continued to attend European and World events and our relationships with both the International Judo Federation and the European Judo Union, remain strong. We have also had productive and interesting discussions with other international federations including Judo France and Saudi Judo.

PERFORMANCE

This was of course an Olympics and Paralympics Games year, and whilst we may not have medalled in the Olympics, I would like to acknowledge all the hard work and dedication from all of the fighters and staff during the cycle and especially the qualification period and other significant achievements at World and European Championships should not be forgotten or undervalued. I should also like to note congratulations to our Paralympians, Dan Powell and Chris Skelley, winning Silver and Bronze respectively, and to Evan Molloy who performed extremely well and one to watch for Los Angeles 2028. Chris has since announced his retirement from elite judo, and I wish him every success in his next life chapter.

As at the end of every UK Sport funding cycle, there has been a review of the Performance Department, which has also fed into developing the new strategy. Several meetings have taken place that have included Board, Executive staff, UK Sport as well as club coaches, that have helped to shape how we see the Association structure, especially Performance and the Performance Pathway, being shaped to ensure it is in the best position for success in the next two Olympic and Paralympic cycles. As soon as the new strategy is finalised, this will be shared publicly.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise Mr John Thacker and congratulate him for being awarded his Honorary Life Membership. This is a fitting reward for his many years of service and we wish him ongoing success now he has relocated to Tokyo where he continues to devote his time and expertise to judo.

FINANCE

Finances continue to be challenging, with some additional unanticipated costs this year, which meant we ended the year on a deficit. However, we have utilised our reserves to cover this and we have several opportunities identified and new initiatives planned for the upcoming year to promote and grow judo and recoup these funds for our reserves.

DEVELOPMENT

The Development Team continue to work on a wealth of initiatives to grow participation in Judo, with some new initiatives and some that they have built on from the previous years. It's really positive to see some of these initiatives targeting all areas and ages of society. You will find a lot more detail on all of the individual reports included in this Annual Report. Another significant area of work for the Development Team, has been the continued involvement of Three Steps Safe, which has now been adopted by Home Nations and affiliated associations. This is extremely important as it is the framework for judo delivery as it is to ensure that all judo provision is safe, inclusive and regulated.

CONCLUSION

This year ended with some difficult yet exciting changes across the Association and I now feel that we have the right structure in place to really drive both grassroots and elite judo across Great Britain with excellent prospects to both grow judo and to achieve many successes in this Los Angeles 2028 cycle and beyond to Brisbane in 2032.

I would like to end by thanking our members, volunteers, coaches and staff for their efforts, passion and commitment and look forward to continuing to work with you all.



Gerry Gualtieri
Chair, British Judo Association

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S STATEMENT

This year has been a significantly busy year across all departments within the organisation.

The year began with the first submission to UK Sport for our 2025-2029 funding bid for which we received an indicative funding amount to budget with. However, the final offer would not be confirmed until the end of 2024. This allowed us to focus on the preparation for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris. It was disappointing that we were unable to qualify a male fighter however we did qualify 5 females. Sadly, we were unable to medal at the Olympics but this was followed a few weeks later with a Silver for Dan Powell and a Bronze for Chris Skelley at the Paralympics, which followed up on Chris' Gold medal from Tokyo.

As with all ends to an Olympic and Paralympic cycle we took time to review the cycle in conjunction with UK Sport which led to a significant restructure of the Performance Department and has had a considerable impact on the end of year finances.

Membership over the year has increased in England by over 1,100 and there were also some good signs of growth in the Home Country associations. It is important that we continue to show steady progress in growth and retention to secure the future of the sport.

We have also seen a positive uptake in our coaching awards along with some new initiatives such as 'Finding Your Feet' where there has been significant participation in the course across the country and some from Ireland. Click here to watch our Finding Your Feet feature from "This Morning" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQVLfaSx5vQ>

We have continued with the development of the MyMA system supported by NEST and we will be shortly launching the club MyMA system which will fully integrate with the



British Judo national system. This will give additional information, details and value to our clubs, which is all part of our digital transformation strategy to help out clubs and make things much easier for the hard working volunteers.

In November we began to review our Strategic Plan for British Judo. This has focussed on more integration/collaboration between the National Governing Body, the British Judo Association, and the national associations and England Areas. This is in line with UK Sport and Home Country Sports Councils System Master Planning and structural alignment. The final pieces are being put together for the Board to review and finalise and it is hoped that it will be released at the AGM on Saturday 1 November.

Lastly I would like to thank all the staff, Board, Council, Committee members, volunteers and members for their valuable time, contributing to the success of the organisation.

Andrew Scoular

Andrew Scoular
Chief Executive

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S STATEMENT

BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE MATRIX 2024 TO 2025

	30.04.24	18.06.24	27.08.24	01.11.24	16.12.24	18.02.25
Gerry Gualtieri	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alex Slade	✓	V	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diana Hunter	A	✓	V	A	A	✓
Ben Quilter	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Lee Shinkin	✓	✓	A	✓	V	✓
Graham Campbell	A	✓	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a
Marc Preston	n/a	n/a	n/a	✓	A	✓
Russell Brown	✓	V	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garth Illingworth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Neil Fletcher	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paul Ajala	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Delia Wright	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rebecca McCreath	✓	A	✓	✓	V	V

KEY:

In Attendance ✓ Virtual Attendance V Apologies A



PERFORMANCE

LOS ANGELES 2028 AND BEYOND

For continued success at the Olympic and Paralympic Games, there is the need to consistently develop the future potential of our sport. The primary focus of the World Class Performance Programme is to prepare fighters for the current Olympic and Paralympic cycle; however, we invest in the future to ensure that we have momentum going into Brisbane 2032 and beyond, with a clear strategy to ensure that we qualify the strongest teams possible.

UK Sport communicated their Los Angeles investment figure, with British Judo receiving

£7,025,000 for the Olympic Programme and £1,106,032 for the Paralympic Programme.

PARIS 2024 AND BEYOND

In April 2024, we entered the final 3 months of qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. This phase included the European Championships, Tajikistan Grand Slam, Kazakhstan Grand Slam and the World Championships. There were notable performances with Grand Slam medals from Emma Reid, Kelly Petersen-Pollard and Jemima Yeats-Brown. Emma Reid rounded off her qualification with a bronze medal at the World Championships.



EMMA REID



KELLY PETERSEN-POLLARD



JEMIMA YEATS-BROWN



NATALIE POWELL



LUCY RENSHALL

At the end of the qualification period, Great Britain had managed to directly qualify 6 female fighters; Chelsie Giles, Lucy Renshall, Jemima Yeats-Brown, Kelly Petersen-Pollard, Emma Reid and Natalie Powell. Lele Nairne managed to qualify through a European continental quota place. A team of 5 fighters were selected plus 2 reserves as 2 fighters qualified in both the u70kg & u78kg, but only one fighter per weight category can be selected. Unfortunately, no men qualified with Lachlan Moorhead being 88 points and just 1 Olympic Ranking List place off qualification.

The team had a mixed preparation phase leading into the Paris 2024 Olympic Games with both Lucy Renshall and Chelsie Giles unfortunately picking up significant injuries resulting in them having limited competition and training opportunities two months prior to the Games. The other fighters' preparation into the Games was good but unfortunately the women came home without a medal.

CHELSIE GILES





PARIS 2024 PARALYMPIC PROGRAMME

Following the final qualification event in Georgia, 4 fighters directly qualified for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games; Evan Molloy, Dan Powell, Chris Skelley and Jack Hodgson. As 2 fighters qualified in the same weight category, Chris Skelley was selected, and Jack Hodgson was named as reserve. This meant that a team of three fighters participated in the Paralympic Games.

The team had a solid preparation phase combined with the Olympic teams' preparation and then travelled to Japan for their final preparations leading into Paris. The fighters all put in great performances, with Evan Molloy placing 7th, Chris Skelley Bronze and Dan Powell clinching a hard-fought Silver medal.

POST GAMES...

Post Olympic and Paralympic Games there have been extensive reviews and recommendations with changes made at the start of the LA 2028 Olympic Cycle. The Senior fighters are progressing up the IJF World Ranking List, in order to break into the top 36. The Junior fighters are being exposed to training camps and competitions in preparation for Brisbane 2032.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Across this period there were several notable performances in the pathway at Junior level, such as Summer Shaw who placed 7th at the 2024 Junior World Championships and placed 5th at the 2024 Junior European Championships, along with Chloe Link and Charlie Ayre who both placed 7th. At cadet level, Eva Ewing placed 5th at the 2024 European Cadet Championships along with Zhaklin Satari placing 7th.

KEY PARTNERS

The Performance Leadership Team have worked extensively with all key partners and would once again like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their continued help and support. Our key partners include UK Sport, The British Olympic Association, The British Paralympic Association, UK Sport Institute, Home Country Sports Councils, Judo Associations and Institutes, Sports Aid Foundation, Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme and the forever growing partnership with the University of Wolverhampton.

Kate Howey

Kate Howey MBE
Performance Director

DEVELOPMENT



We have continued to build on the Strategic Mission to 'Maximise the contribution of judo to British society', understanding that to grow participation of judo through the United Kingdom we need to connect the benefits that judo offers to the needs of our nation. The Development Team work closely with our Home Nation partners – JudoScotland, Welsh Judo Association and Northern Ireland Judo Federation.

In May 2024, we hosted our first conference to a non-judo audience 'Revealing the Secrets of Judo'. This was an opportunity to showcase the unique benefits of judo, beyond that of all sports. It allowed us to share the two principles judo is based upon, our moral code and specific initiatives developed to optimise judo for specific audiences: Finding Your Feet, Adaptive Judo and Judo Activators. Click here to watch the highlights from the day https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Az1RP4F_alE

This has led to projects with various National Partners, Active Partners, charities, Schools Games Officers and Schools. We are collecting case studies of the work achieved to further inform society of what judo can offer.

The Finding Your Feet programme has been extremely well received by our coaching



community, and in turn it has captured the imagination of the nation, with significant national coverage of judo being introduced to older adults to increase their confidence in their physical ability and reducing their fear of falling. At the beginning of 2025, Parkinsons UK confirmed funding for a project to introduce participants living with Parkinsons to judo through the Finding Your Feet programme. This project was designed and implemented with the University of Wolverhampton (UOW) as well as two other academic institutions, University of Hertfordshire (UoH) and Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), in England who have now supported the Association with the programme. We were also invited to present the evolution of the programme at the 2024 International Safe Falls Conference.



Three Steps Safe Programme



BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

Three Step Safe has continued to evolve over the last 12 months, with the core principle to protect the integrity of judo through the country. This has continued to build with commitment of the judo community, Home Nation partners and British Judo Affiliates. Focussing on three pillars: Approved Coaches, Internationally Recognised Grades and Safe Training and Competition Environments.



The quality assurance of these three areas is a critical function of the National Governing Body and gives those not familiar with judo a solid reference to ensuring they chose a judo provision that is safe, inclusive and regulated. To assist with this quality assurance, the BJA Dan Grade Register returned in the summer of 2024, and the Coach Register was launched in November 2024.

We have supported the work of the Youth Sport Trust and Sport England, using judo in a variety of settings, to contribute to the promotion of the physical literacy consensus statement and driving positive relationships with physical activity for children and young people.

Our Club Accelerator days have continued through the country, supporting clubs in their sustainability and growth, looking at club programming, onboarding of new starters, experience of their members, how to market their club and sharing experiences of the judo community.

Our Judo Activator programme has been delivered to qualified teachers at Our Lady and St Chads School in a pilot, with judo content for successful delivery in PE lessons to introduce children to the idea of judo, increasing attendance at school, encouraging confidence

in other PE activities and connecting children to British Judo clubs.

The Kanji Awards have continued to build momentum, being delivered by coaches throughout the country at their judo clubs, to introduce coaching, refereeing and officiating to young judoka. This has been very positively received by all, offering pathways to stay connected and contribute to the judo community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION

We gratefully acknowledge the academic support of Professor Mike Callan (UoH), Dr Katrina McDonald (ARU) and Dr Tina Smith (UoW) and the support received from Sport England, Youth Sport Trust, Active Partners and the further direct support to both the British Judo Association and directly to our coaches and clubs. Most importantly, our sincere thanks and recognition to the judo coaches, clubs, volunteers, referees and officials throughout Great Britain and Northern Ireland, providing engaging environments for our communities to discover and participate in judo.

Karen Roberts

Karen Roberts
Development Director

PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	HOST	VENUE	INFO
British National Teams Championships	6 th July	Midland Area	Walsall Sports Centre	45 teams entered the three age groups. Northern Home Counties and London came out joint top with two golds each.
British Masters Championships	7 th July	Midland Area	Walsall Sports Centre	A total of 236 judoka entered.
EJU Get Together	12 th and 13 th July	Wales	Swansea Leisure Centre	100 entrants across 33 categories, led by Welsh Judo and the EJU. Pictures and EJU write ups https://www.eju.net/event/swansea-get-together-tournament-2024/305768/
British Kata Championships	7 th September	Samurai Judo Club	Samurai Judo Club	Event summary https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/kata-commission-celebrates-most-successful-kata-championships/
English Closed	21 st and 22 nd September	Eastern Area	Breckland Leisure Centre	490 entrants across Pre Cadets, Cadets, Juniors and Seniors.
British Minors Championships	5 th October	Northern Home Counties	Brentwood Centre	A total of 139 entrants.
English Open	24 th and 25 th February	English Area Chairs	Walsall Sports Centre	Over 600 individuals entered across the four age groups.
British Veteran Open	29 th March	London Area	University of East London	Event summary https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/successful-debut-of-the-british-veterans-open-in-london/

EJU JUNIOR EUROPEAN CUP, 15TH AND 16TH JUNE AT WALSALL SPORTS CENTRE

There were a total of 258 competitors from 17 countries. Great Britain finished 4th in the medal table, behind Poland, Netherlands and France.

AGM AND AWARDS DINNER, 2ND NOVEMBER AT SCARMAN HOTEL AND THE SLATE, WARWICK

We were thrilled to receive over 150 nominations for this years awards. The awards recognise a select few who have made exceptional achievements this year, but our volunteers across the country contribute to making the sport a success in the UK, and to every one of them we are thankful!

This year we had the addition of a Club Accelerator Day and a masterclass led by Neil Adams onsite.



CATEGORY	WINNERS
Adaptive Athletes Award	Christopher Murphy Georgina Grayson
Cadet Athletes of the Year	Kevin Gordon Eva Ewing
Club of the Year	Middlesbrough Judo Club
Coach of the Year	Daniel Hankinson
Inclusion Award	United Judo
Junior Athletes of the Year	Irakli Goginashvili Summer Shaw
Kata Award	Lewis Hannington and Jim Crompton
Kano Way Award	Wayne Dyer
Official of the Year	Christopher Lambert
President's Award	Brian Davies
Referee of the Year	Michael Guatieri
Senior Athletes of the Year	Michael Fryer and Rhys Thompson Emma Reid
Veteran Athletes of the Year	Colin Francis Fiona Chan
VI Athletes of the Year	Dan Powell Kirsten Taylor
Volunteer of the Year	Zoe Locke
Young Volunteer of the Year	Max Seely





BRITISH PRE CADETS AND CADETS CHAMPIONSHIPS, 7TH AND 8TH DECEMBER AT WARWICK

This event had a total of 466 judoka from 127 clubs. The weekend saw 36 new British Champions crowned.





BRITISH JUNIORS AND SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIPS, 14TH AND 15TH DECEMBER AT WARWICK

This event has a total of 365 entrants from 113 clubs.

The Saturday saw 15 junior national champions crowned.

The Sunday saw 14 senior national champions crowned.

YEAR OVERVIEW

COMMISSION REPORTS

HOME COUNTRY REPORTS

AFFILIATES REPORTS

AREA REPORTS

2024/25 ACCOUNTS

BRITISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND BRITISH ADAPTIVE AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS, 9TH AND 10TH MARCH AT EIS SHEFFIELD

This weekend saw over 700 pupils battle it out to be crowned British Schools judo champion with 84 champions crowned across the two days. All Saints Catholic School crowned British Schools winning school.

Special recognition went to Braydon Robus, who was presented with the Sam Haycock award for Best Player in Adaptive and VI competition. Christine Scott was presented with the Malcolm Collins Award for Services to Adaptive Judo.

The weekend saw 13 referees and officials under the age of 30 in action. Zara Howe was presented with the Ken Webber award for Outstanding Young Referee. Elizabeth Merredew one of our young officials was awarded the Jerry Hicks award for Outstanding Junior Official.

Jess Hastings

Jess Hastings
Events Manager



MEMBERSHIP & GRADINGS

BRITISH MEMBERSHIP

Membership of British Judo (including affiliates) is up by 1,905 on the previous year (Table 1).

YEAR	ENGLAND	N. IRELAND	SCOTLAND	WALES	AFFILIATES	TOTAL
2020-21	12,406	1,337	4,045	972	4,055	22,815
2021-22	21,697	1,446	6,270	1,505	2,055	32,973
2022-23	20,515	2,124	7,896	1,621	3,887	36,043
2023-24	23,302	1,365	8,172	1,648	4,127	38,823
2024-25	25,069	1,460	8,359	1,821	3,810	40,519
+/- Prev. Yr.	1,767	95	187	173	-317	1,905

Table 1

Compared to 2023-24 England membership is up by 7.6%, Northern Ireland membership is up by 7%, Scotland membership is up by 2.3% and Wales membership is up by 10.5%.

The male/female ratio has remained stable from last year (Table 2).

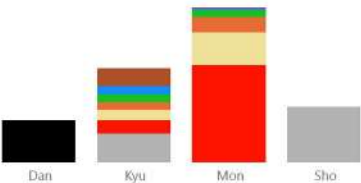
CLUB REGISTRATION

In the period from April 2024 to March 2025, we returned to the pre-Covid club membership fee and offered a lower payment for early registration.

COUNTRY	MALE	FEMALE
England	75%	25%
Northern Ireland	67%	33%
Scotland	71%	29%
Wales	72%	28%
Totals	71%	29%
+/- Prev. Yr.	0%	0%

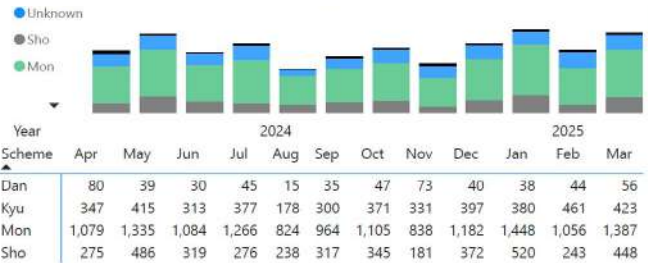
Table 2

Current Grade Profile of English Judoka



Belt Colour	Dan	Kyu	Mon	Sho	Total
Black	3,012				3,012
Brown		1,258	39		1,297
Blue		576	149		725
Green		589	505		1,094
Orange		554	1,082		1,636
Yellow		699	2,329		3,028
Red		1,031	7,068		8,099
White		2,054		3,962	6,016
Total	3,012	6,761	11,172	3,962	24,907

Grade promotions in last 12 months



22,423
Gradings

Karen Roberts

Karen Roberts
Development Director

SAFEGUARDING

I have now been in post for nearly two years and have worked on building on the existing best practice within British Judo to establish us as a leader in safeguarding practice across the sport National Governing Body sector, with the whole Safeguarding Team working to establish positive and trusting relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

There have been significant achievements through the year:

- In September 2024, we completed our annual Child Protection in Sport review check in, and were assessed as meeting all the requirements. This has now been submitted as part of our annual compliance documentation for 2025 to Sport England;
- Met the requirements of the Ann Craft Trust Safeguarding Adults Framework and were invited to an Ann Craft Trust conference via Sport England with other NGBs to promote our good practice in this area;
- MyConcern electronic recording system which was launched in January 2024, is now embedded and we have seen a rise in reported cases, mainly low level, however this is a positive indicator of the judo community working with us to provide safe practice. Also, the launch of MyVoice, which allows direct reporting to British Judo has provided a process to facilitate this;
- In line with recommendations from the Whyte Report, we achieved our plan to have Club Welfare Officers in all British Judo Clubs. There are also bi-monthly clinics in place to support Club Welfare Officers accompanied by a monthly Safeguarding Newsletter;
- We have become members of the Unicef UK Safe in Sport Pioneer Programme, which supports developing safeguarding culture at governance and leadership level;
- We have also been identified as one of two sports organisations to be part of Durham University new Contextual Safeguarding Unit, which is headed up by Professor Carleen Firmin;
- Received endorsement from CIMPSA for a British Judo Safeguarding Children & Adults online course for validation and revalidation

of Club Welfare Officers and coaches. This has been assessed as a high quality product and will be facilitated by our dedicated safeguarding trainers.

Working with the Marketing & Communications Team, we have promoted awareness of significant campaigns such as the NSPCC/ CPSU Play Safe Sport Week in October and are planning two conferences – Safeguarding and Club Welfare Officers. Also, the production and promotion of excellent resources to our clubs via the new British Judo website has continued.

The Safeguarding Team have an established presence and relationship with the England programme, Olympic and Paralympic teams, whereby we provide guidance, training and support to both coaches and athletes in conjunction with UK Sport Institute and Grey Matters. We also have a presence at national British Judo events.

I also have a positive and proactive relationship with the Safeguarding Board Lead with whom I meet quarterly to review the British Judo Safeguarding Action Plan.

I have quarterly meetings with Home Nations Safeguarding leads to facilitate the protocol signed off by all four Home Nation Chief Executives for joint working on safeguarding.

We have built up a growing reputation with stakeholders and the National Governing Body community for our work in safeguarding and inclusion, which has led to us receiving requests throughout the year to share and facilitate our work with forums led by the CPSU, Ann Craft Trust, Sport England and Hydrant Programme.

The Safeguarding Team will remain committed to promoting a safeguarding culture that strives to make judo safe, inclusive and accessible to all.



Andrew Bowly
Head of Inclusion, Safeguarding & Wellbeing

OPERATIONS

FACILITY

The University of Wolverhampton completed a fire door review this meant three new fire doors being installed in the British Judo gym and dojo. This has included the installation of an electronic card entry system to ensure security and safety. A fourth fire door was installed in Head Office which is now the main entrance.

Branding of the gym and new Head Office entrance has been completed.

The purchase of the Mercedes Vito was completed, with the first actions in place for a second 9-seater vehicle. These vehicles are an important factor in the running of the World Class Performance Programme, England Talent Programme and Events..

We have been supporting the University of Wolverhampton in their bid to become a UK Sport Elite Training Centre. If successful, this could mean that there is opportunity for further investment or more opportunity for other sports to join the facility which would benefit us.

The University has also released their intention to develop the Walsall Campus. This puts the current building at risk but also provides an opportunity for a British Judo owned facility. Along with the University and Walsall Council we have commissioned a feasibility study to be conducted by The Sports Consultancy, looking at the development of a multi-sport facility within the Walsall region. This study will be finalised in summer 2025.

HUMAN RESOURCES

We have appointed a Media & Communications Officer to work alongside Ben Pollard, Head of Communications.

A comprehensive review and restructure of the Performance Department has been completed with some roles still to be fulfilled, to be completed during summer 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT

A Carbon Footprint report has been completed. We record over 2,100,000 air miles per year and over 4,000 hotel nights per year. The majority of this is for competitions, both international and domestic.

Key learnings so far are:

- Most of the BJA carbon footprint is within areas that the Association has no direct impact. For example flights.
- There is opportunity to cut down on some purchases or processes to reduce emissions.
- How the Association records and tracks this information should be improved as data is not as accurate as it could be.

A small team of staff now meet regularly to create and implement an action plan to help reduce or offset emissions.





MERCHANDISE AND CLOTHING

The new range of clothing for the Los Angeles cycle has been finalised, and will be showcased by all GB and England Teams. There is also a range of items now available to purchase through our partner store Team Elite. The range will continue to be updated.

CLEAN JUDO

- The Clean Judo group have met three times this year with Tim Ellis taking on the lead.
- The British Judo 2024 annual submission was accepted by UKAD
- Training has been completed for GB World Class Performance Programme and Home Nations.
- Annual update of TUEs has been communicated.
- Prohibited list updated for 2025 and will be circulated to all members.

Tim Ellis

Tim Ellis
Performance Pathway & Operations
Director

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

This year has been a landmark one for British Judo's Marketing and Communications team, as we strengthened our digital presence and brought the stories of our judo community to life. From the successful launch of our modern, accessible website to enhanced social media storytelling and dynamic event coverage, our focus has been on celebrating our members, clubs, and the sport we love. By tailoring content for different audiences, we have increased engagement and inspired participation across all levels of judo.

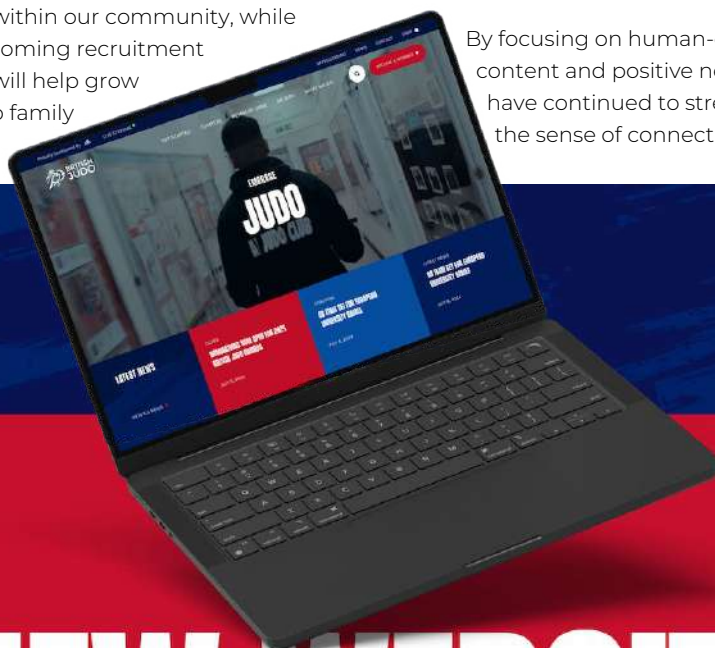
Working collaboratively with every department, the team has played a key role in connecting with stakeholders and showcasing the positive impact of judo nationwide. Looking ahead, our new communications strategy will continue to shine a spotlight on the remarkable achievements within our community, while supporting upcoming recruitment initiatives that will help grow the British Judo family even further.

SOCIAL MEDIA

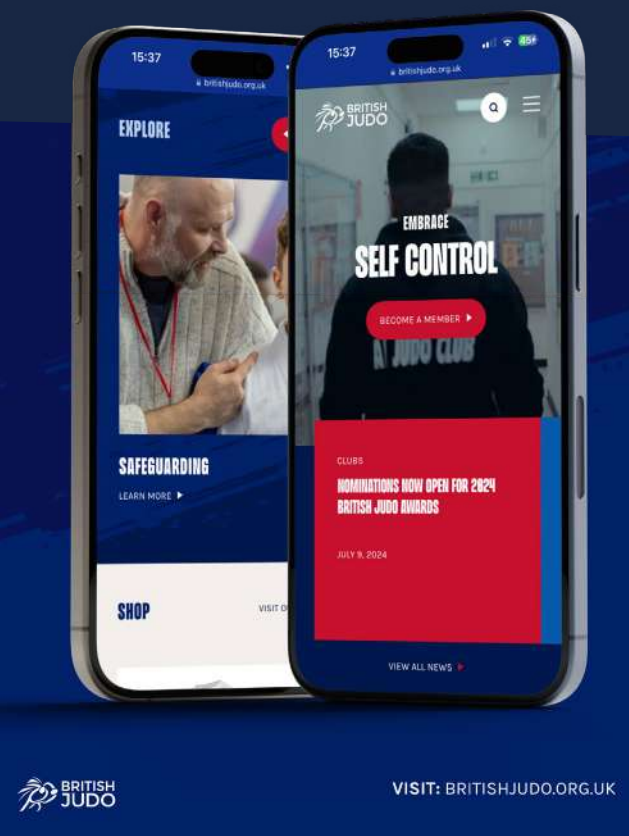
This year, British Judo placed renewed focus on celebrating the people who make our sport special. Our social media channels have showcased the inspiring stories of our community – from the incredible achievements of our clubs to the personal milestones of our members – ensuring that the voices of British Judo are heard across the sporting landscape.

Event coverage has also reached new heights, with enhanced on-the-ground reporting and dynamic video content, led by Tom Llewellyn's creative expertise. This shift towards rich, visual storytelling has brought our events to life online, giving followers a front-row seat wherever they are.

By focusing on human-centred content and positive news, we have continued to strengthen the sense of connection within



NEW WEBSITE



our judo family. Our growing and engaged online audience reflects the power of sharing these stories, which not only celebrate success but also inspire participation, pride, and community across British Judo's digital platforms.



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

This year marked an exciting milestone with the official launch of British Judo's brand-new website. Designed with the community at its heart, the platform delivers a modern, engaging, and accessible online experience for all members and supporters of the sport.

The site features a clean, refreshed design, making it easier than ever to find essential information, from news and events to membership renewals. Navigation has been significantly improved, ensuring a smooth journey for both long-standing members and those discovering judo for the first time.

Accessibility has also been a key priority. Partnering with ReciteMe, the website now offers a suite of accessibility and language tools, helping every visitor engage with content in a way that best suits their needs.

And the journey doesn't stop here. A host of exciting updates are on the horizon, including a dedicated Member's Zone with exclusive content, revamped grading resources, and further enhancements to enrich the British Judo digital experience.

STAFF

I have now been joined in the team by Thomas Llewellyn into the role of Media and Communications Officer in November, and he has hit the ground running offering a fresh dynamism to the team.

Ben Pollard

Ben Pollard
Head of Communications

BRITISH JUDO TRUST

I am pleased to report another successful year for the British Judo Trust in assisting a large number of Judoka with financial help to attend numerous International competitions and training camps.

Financial grants made to competitors during the past year exceeded £25k assisting many judo players to achieve medal success on the international stage.

Those who have received grants include the following:

Ben Levy, Lachlan Moorhead, Irakli Goginashvili, Kelly Petersen-Pollard, Joshua Bell, Lewis Fryer, Rebecca Dunning, Barry Watson, Shelley Ludford, Kieret Bassi, Ben Westcott, Ben Caldwell, Logan Campbell, Lanina Solley, Wesley Greenidge, Tommy Jackson, Max Gregory, Rhys Thompson, Jack Hodgson, Emily Betts, Tatum Keen, Lele Nairne, Ethan Narine, Jamal Petgrave, Finley Allan, Anthony Moylett, Jake Pasquill, Nikita Gilchenko, Robyn Davies, Ellis Davies, Sam Hall, Eva Minarikova, Roxanne Proctor, Finley Waugh, Lewis Rhodes, Michael Fryer, Chloe Link, Darren Harris, Charlotte Potter.

Northern Home Counties 8 players to train in Japan.

VI German Open and training camp 13 judoka.

Louie Sequin training in Japan for one month.

I wish to thank my fellow Trustees together with the British Judo Finance Team of Sajid Hussain and Sarah Reed for their much appreciated help and support in the administration of the Trust during the past year.

Since establishing the Judo Trust in 2007 approximately 1,000 mainly young Judoka have received grants from the Trust, with many going on to win medals for Great Britain at European Championship, World Championship, Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Brian Davies

Brian Davies JP
Chair



JUDO COMMISSION

OVERVIEW

In August 2024, Ronnie Saez formally handed over the role of Chair of the Judo Commission to Neil Fletcher, a serving member of the BJA Board. The Commission would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to Ronnie for his significant contribution and dedicated leadership during his tenure.

Over the reporting period, the Judo Commission convened for three meetings, during which a range of key topics were discussed and decisions taken. The main areas of focus included:

- Promotions from 5th to 6th Dan
- Promotions above 6th Dan – now submitted directly to the BJA Board of Directors by the National Promotions & Gradings Commission
- Welfare Officer provision and risk assessments for BJA Competitive Dan Gradings
- Development of the new Dan Grading Syllabus
- Updates to Mon and Kyu Grades, including the introduction of digital resources
- Proposal regarding Visually Impaired Judo Rules for Level 4 events (2024)
- National Referee Commission's proposal concerning the Junior and Senior British Championships 2024 – including the introduction of a Referee Supervisor role at events



- Implementation of the new IJF Rules within the UK
- Proposal for an additional level of Competition Controller
- Use of coloured judogi in competition settings
- Participation of athletes with prosthetic limbs in competition
- Participation of athletes with a stoma in competition

The Commission remains committed to ensuring that British Judo continues to develop in line with national and international standards, whilst promoting inclusivity, welfare, and progression across all areas of the sport.

Neil Fletcher

Neil Fletcher
Judo Commission Chair



NATIONAL OFFICIALS COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Sarah Newbury – Chair

Keith Merrick – British Judo Lead Executive Officer

Denise Oates – Commission Member

Susan Wright – Commission Member

Paul Sexton – Commission Member

Andy Scott – Commission Member

Averil Taggart – Commission Member

Jessica Hastings – British Judo Events Manager (Observer)

COMMUNITY GROWTH

AWARD LEVEL	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	VARIANCE
Timekeeper	125	149	164	146	169	23
Contest Recorder	108	93	93	93	125	32
Senior Recorder	59	56	47	47	58	11
Competition Controller	38	42	42	42	32	-10
TOTAL	330	340	346	328	384	56

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

There has been an increase of around 17% of technical officials overall, mainly due to timekeepers/scorers and contest recorders, these are the levels most needed to stimulate local competition deliveries. This shows a clear desire by all to provide the necessary resources to the Areas and meets with the National Officials Commission intentions, and much appreciation must go to the tutors across British Judo for making this happen.

There is an action plan in place to address these issue:

1. To validate more tutors to facilitate the required education swiftly.
2. The Kanji qualifications are steadily growing, more clubs, coaches and young people are engaging in this process.
3. Commission to continue the focus on the Competition Controller and Senior Recorder awards directly and provide support to home nations and Areas to in order that they produce and retain Timekeepers and Contest Recorders.
4. Meet the strategic plan objectives.



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Commission have reviewed the Provisional Competition Controller (PCC) process for the National Competition Controller Award and created the Local Competition Controller Award. The latter award allows officials to run Level 3 point scoring events whilst the National Competition Controller award enables officials to run National, Open and Ranking events. In March 2025 Liz O'Neal, London, was awarded the National Competition Controller Award and Jenny Barnes, Midlands was the first official to receive the Local CC award. Currently there are 5 candidates on the PCC programme.



Contest Recorder Course materials have been reviewed, we are grateful to those officials from JudoScotland for giving of their time to complete this, and in addition to face-to-face options, several courses have now been delivered online. The Commission are now working towards reviewing and updating the Senior Recorder course materials.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Technical Official's National Seminar was successfully run at the National Training Centre in September 2024 by myself and Keith Merrick with 16 attendees. The Commission has the seminar planned for September 2025, again at the National Training Centre and being technically led by myself and Keith Merrick will support organisationally as well as offer any British Judo rule updates.

Local tutor officials will be encouraged to match the needs of the Area events with the training of officials required to sustain their events, this means that Areas must have a clear plan for the Commission to consider.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

The Provisional Competition Controller programme involves the identification of mentors for each candidate; this ensures that the knowledge and expertise of experienced Competition Controllers can be utilised and passed on in a supportive environment.

The Commission continue to be committed to the development and retention of young Technical Officials, 50% of the Technical Officials at the British Schools Championships in March were young officials and many young officials are invited to other National and Area events. The Commission are resolved to work with all Area Representatives in the development of all officials.



Sarah Newbury

Sarah Newbury
*National Officials Commission
Chair*

NATIONAL REFEREES COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Carol Leverton – Chair

Keith Merrick – Executive Officer and Technical Lead

Lisa Rivers – Complaints and conduct

Martin Rivers – Tutor Management, Examinations and Selections Administration

Archi Shrimpton – Documentation

Stefan Newbury – International referee event attendance for foreign trips (not GBR)

Dan Harris – Area Liaison, Secretary, U30s and Club, Area and National C Development

COMMUNITY

AWARD LEVEL	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	VARIANCE
Club	106	79	93	73	100	27
Area	61	83	96	67	91	24
National C	59	50	61	54	87	33
National B	37	35	35	27	24	-3
National A	21	19	23	26	24	-2
National A – Honorary	1	1	1	0	0	0
Senior National – Examined	3	3	3	3	3	0
Senior National – Honorary	7	5	5	8	6	-2
IJF B – Examined Active	5	4	2	1	2	1
IJF B – Examined In-active	1	1	0	0	0	0
IJF B – Honorary	4	5	5	5	5	0
IJF A – Examined Active	4	5	6	7	7	0
IJF A – Examined In-Active	3	3	3	4	5	1
IJF A – Honorary	1	1	1	1	1	0
TOTAL	313	294	334	276	355	79

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

Referee quantity recovered to a 10-year high. Some reasons for the increase were:

- Many successful courses and programmes run;
- Improved reporting process; and
- Northern Ireland referees have been replenished from previous losses although some work needs to be done to increase experience levels and therefore expertise.

Note:

Consolidated effort needs to be shown to keep the new referees by inviting them to events, otherwise the enthusiasm falls and referees drift away.



George Laws in action whilst on his National B training programme.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

Natasha Maslen passed her Continental Award in 2024 and Paul Grady will be re-taking his in October 2025 in Malaga.

Dan Harris passed his Continental Award in May 2025, Uzbekistan.

The National Referees Commission (NRC) are now working very hard to prepare two more continental referee award candidates for October 2025 and beyond, it is hoped that Paul Grady and Stephen Sims will be successful in Malaga and that Adam Lowe will make it onto the training programme to prepare for 2026 or beyond.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Lisa Rivers has maintained her position on the IJF World Tour and is being called to many events which has its obvious benefit of reinforcing her position as an elite referee. Graeme Maclachlan, Archi Shrimpton, and Stefan Newbury have also had success with European selections.

2024 British Championships was a good realisation of the hard work put in by Cian Maris, George Holland and Samir Sydykov who all achieved their National B awards, these were swiftly followed by Kirsty Lyon



and Emma Herd at the Scottish Open. To gain 5 new National B referees in a period of just over a month was indeed a period to be remembered for British Judo.

Three National A candidates also showed the fruits of their hard work during 2024 with Jason Bull, David Dunsford and Ben George successfully completing their awards.

The new cohort of National A and B candidates will be embarking on their educational journey in November 2025 by which time we expect the remaining candidates from the current programme will be satisfied.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The NRC were delighted to provide three collaborative rules update seminars in January 2025 (in collaboration with Neil Adams), February 2025 and finally the annual seminar in March 2025. It was necessary to run three seminars to offer good opportunity to referees, coaches, players and other interested bodies with 2025 being the official rules change year. The rules change each year following an Olympic year.

The NRC would like to extend sincere appreciation to the tutors and assessors who have assisted the NRC to train, develop, assess, and examine the referee community throughout the year.

Carol Leverton

Carol Leverton
Chair, National Referees Commission

PROMOTIONS AND GRADINGS COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dave Clark – Chairman (appointed 1st June 2024)

Dave Horton-Jones – Member, National Dan Gratings Manager (NGM)

Steve Lesik – Member (resigned 1st July 2024)

Nick Fletcher – Member

Kim Tilley – Member

Rick Kenney – Member (appointed 1st June 2024)

Ben George – Member (appointed 1st July 2024)

The Promotions & Gratings Commission has had a number of personnel changes in this reporting period and has undergone a year of transition to new procedures and processes. Reports are submitted to the British Judo Board and Judo Commission. The Area Director of Examiners (ADofEs) and affiliate organisation ADofEs, have continued as a cohesive working group on operational grading matters and are a vital part of the organisation and continuing success of Competitive Dan Gratings.

I would like to thank the Area Committees, their ADofEs, all Senior Examiners (SEs), and members of the Promotions & Gratings Commission for their continued and valued contribution to the BJA.

DAN GRADE ADMINISTRATION

Dave Horton-Jones continues as National Dan Gratings Manager working under a Service Provider Agreement. Dave continues to be the main point of contact for all Dan Grading activity and enquiries. Sarah Walker continues as the Dan Grade Administrator and is the first point of contact on all Mon and Kyu grading activity.



COMPETITIVE DAN GRADINGS

The number of promotions to and within the Dan grades are provided below and have again improved on the previous year. A historic record of the last 5 years of promotions is also provided below. Booking events online has allowed SEs time to plan in advance the running of the event by analysing the numbers, weights, grades, and ages of judoka to enable a fair and credible promotion experience.

MALE 2024/25	1 ST DAN	2 ND DAN	3 RD DAN	4 TH DAN	5 TH DAN	6 TH DAN	7 TH DAN	8 TH DAN	TOTAL
Competitive	289	87	25	7	3	0	0	0	411
Technical	52	25	30	23	22	0	0	0	152
Board of Directors	0	1	1	1	0	9	0	0	12
IJF/EJU	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
TOTAL	341	113	56	31	25	9	6	1	582

FEMALE 2024/25	1 ST DAN	2 ND DAN	3 RD DAN	4 TH DAN	5 TH DAN	6 TH DAN	7 TH DAN	8 TH DAN	9 TH DAN	TOTAL
Competitive	58	18	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	85
Technical	8	6	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	23
Board of Directors	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
IJF/EJU	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
TOTAL	66	24	10	6	3	1	2	0	1	113

MALE	1 ST DAN	2 ND DAN	3 RD DAN	4 TH DAN	5 TH DAN	6 TH DAN	7 TH DAN	8 TH DAN	TOTAL
2020-2021	27	16	6	9	8	7	0	1	74
2021-2022	172	54	39	20	29	6	1	1	322
2022-2023	312	91	47	26	16	7	1	0	500
2023-2024	319	104	48	36	15	15	2	2	541
2024-2025	341	113	56	31	25	9	6	1	582

FEMALE	1 ST DAN	2 ND DAN	3 RD DAN	4 TH DAN	5 TH DAN	6 TH DAN	7 TH DAN	8 TH DAN	9 TH DAN	TOTAL
2020-2021	11	5	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	21
2021-2022	41	11	10	5	1	1	1	0	0	70
2022-2023	79	20	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	106
2023-2024	84	24	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	119
2024-2025	66	24	10	6	3	1	2	0	1	113

TECHNICAL DAN GRADINGS

The Annual National Technical Dan grading plan for the delivery of preparation and examination weekends was implemented. These events were led or coordinated by Dave Horton-Jones. Judoka were able to book and pay for these courses online, streamlining the process and making planning more effective and delivery more efficient. Many Areas also now have an annual program delivering these courses.

REVISED DAN GRADING SCHEME

Following the Board's approval, the Commission began work on modernising the BJA Dan Grade Scheme. The proposed Dan Grade Scheme, based on the Kodokan/IJF 100 techniques, is a blend of prescriptive and creative learning, comprising five sections. The first two based on fundamental skills, and the other three on performance skills. Other changes have also been included to comply with European Judo Union (EJU) and International Judo Federation (IJF) grading policy. The revised scheme will be launched on 1st July and implemented on 1st January 2026. We want to thank Neil Adams MBE, 9th dan, Professor Mike Callan, 7th dan, and the SEs for their support.



SENIOR EXAMINERS CONFERENCE

The year ended with a Ses Conference held at Samurai Judo Club Kidderminster on 6th April 2025. The event was co-presented by Commission Chair Dave Clark, Dan Grading Manager Dave Horton-Jones, Commission member Nick Fletcher and Refereeing commission member Martin Rivers. Commission members Kim Tilley, Ben George and Rick Kenney also contributed to the success of the day.

A formal bow and photograph was the official start of the conference, followed by an Introduction from Dave Clark. Nick Fletcher and Dave Horton-Jones presented proposed changes to the Dan Grade Scheme. Their focus was on why the changes are needed, the use of the Kodokan 100 techniques, a creative approach to combinations, proposed changes to the Technical Dan grade, and changes to kata requirements. Following the presentation, Dave thanked the members of the National Promotions and Gradings Commission.

There was an extremely positive display of support for all the proposed changes with informal discussions held during a refreshment break. After the break, a presentation was then given by IJF referee Martin Rivers on the changes to the rules with particular relevance to their use in Dan Grading. Martin showed

some excellent video examples and gave very clear and accurate descriptions.

The conference finished with a Q&A open forum which again was extremely positive, plenty of ideas suggested and recorded for consideration.

LORETTA DOYLE PROMOTED TO IJF 9TH DAN

In February 2025 Loretta Doyle was presented with her 9th Dan by IJF President Marius Vizer. This was an opportunity to celebrate the career of a judoka who has dedicated her life to the sport of Judo. Loretta became World Champion in Paris in 1982 and returned to Paris decades later to receive her 9th Dan diploma.



FINALLY

The Promotions & Gradings Commission would like to thank all of you for your continued support, participation and contribution. This enables us to provide an effective and efficient promotions pathway for all our membership including the increasing number of non British Judo judoka who have joined from other organisations and federations.

Dave Clark

Dave Clark
Chair, Promotions & Gradings Commission



COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr Llyr Jones – Chair

Dave Horton-Jones – Member and Executive Lead

Paul Jordan – Member

Duncan Kinnear – Member

Martin Savage – Member

The Commission worked as a collective of five judoka – all strong kata proponents, led by Dr Llyr Jones as Chair and Dave Horton-Jones as Executive Lead. Duncan Kinnear acts as the chief National Kata Judge and Paul Jordan and Martin Savage lead very successful kata programmes in their Areas.

Over the reporting period the Kata Commission have carried out a multitude of tasks to support the development and growth of kata. They are described next.

KATA ADMINISTRATION

All kata administration in British Judo was carried out by Adam Spencer supported by Dave Horton-Jones. Adam in addition to processing all kata performance certificates

and registration produces statistical analysis of kata activity including lists of kata exams processed and examiner activity.

KATA EXAMS

This year there has been a targeted approach to provide learning and examination opportunities for the Randori-no-kata.

As a result, the number of Katame-no-kata exams have increased from 97 to 214 and Nage-no-kata examinations increased from 79 to 268. The number of kata examinations have increased from 479 to 860 which once again is the highest ever annual total. This is a significant achievement and credit must be given to all course organisers, kata examiners and especially all the keen kata students. See the below table for details of the kata examinations registered.

KATA	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Itsutsu-no-Kata	0	5	75	85	96
Ju-no-Kata	0	9	12	65	38
Gonosen-no-Kata	0	27	49	68	111
Kodokan Goshin Jutsu	0	5	13	50	13
Katame-no-Kata	3	47	96	97	214
Kime-no-Kata	1	6	19	21	79
Koshiki-no-Kata	1	4	4	14	41
Nage-no-Kata	2	43	94	79	268
TOTAL	7	146	362	479	860



KATA COURSES AND ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

We are promoting and encouraging Kata Courses. Nearly all are now led by volunteers, with over 60 courses held. For the next reporting period we already have a large number of courses advertised covering all the Kodokan kata with more to follow. All course attendance and examinations are logged on a judoka's record and can be viewed via the BJA app. The kata performance award certificates have been updated and we have completed the third year of the planned three-year cycle of providing National courses for all 7 Kodokan kata. A new cycle, to start in November 2025, is already planned and advertised.

NATIONAL KATA COURSE

The annual 2 day, National Kata course delivered by Yoshihiko Iura-sensei a Kodokan 8th Dan and shidoin (official instructor), is now a firm fixture in the BJA Kata calendar. Over the weekend of 23rd and 24th November 2024, two kata were covered – Koshiki-no-kata and Kime-no-kata. The course was organised by the Southern Area, hosted at the Army School of Physical Training in Aldershot, and supported by the BJA Kata Group through

Llyr Jones, Dave Horton-Jones and Paul Jordan. Many other BJA Kata Officials and Senior Examiners attended and provided additional support and instruction for the course attendees. There were 37 Judoka in attendance on the first day and 42 on the second day. BJA Vice President, and kata pioneer, Mick Leigh 9th Dan also attended on the second day.

INTERNATIONAL KATA

An increasing number of British judoka are now traveling abroad to take part in international kata tournaments as well as the accompanying high-level kata seminars. These seminars frequently feature visiting instructors from the Kodokan and therefore provide a great opportunity to receive exceptional instruction.

BRITISH KATA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2024 National Kata Championships were held at Samurai Judo Club on 7th September with 44 pairs entering from all 4 home nations. Once again the GB Kata community came together to support and deliver this event alongside the Kata Commission. Pre event organisation was carried out by Dave Horton-

Jones and Llyr Jones with Duncan Kinnear as Head Judge and Vicky Cleevely organising the scoring system on the day. Sarah Newbury and Samurai Judo Club provided an excellent venue. Among the day's highlights were:-

- Paul Laverty and Alex Reid making a triumphant return to the number one position in Katame-no-kata, prevailing in a highly competitive field of 12 pairs – an unprecedented turnout for this category.
- Shizentai Judo Club again taking 3 national kata titles.
- Bob and Ricky Cleevely clinching the Kime-no-kata title for the 11th consecutive year.

EJU KATA SEMINAR

The BJA also hosted an EJU-level Kata Seminar led by the Head of the EJU Kata Commission Dr Slavisa Bradic (known as Brada) 7th Dan. This event was organised by Llyr Jones and Dave Horton-Jones. Brada was a very engaging and knowledgeable presenter and his passion for judo was inspirational to all attending. The dojo exuded a distinctive and positive atmosphere, with all delegates demonstrating great enthusiasm for learning. Again, we were pleased to be joined by Mick who observed and enjoyed the session.

The subjects covered were:-

- Technical analysis of Nage-no-kata
- Technical analysis of Katame-no-kata
- Technical analysis of Kodokan Goshin-jutsu
- An introduction to EJU "Kata for Children" project

SUMMARY

Kata serves as an excellent pathway to achievement for judo practitioners of all ages. For competitive players, it provides valuable insights into techniques that can give them an advantage in contest. For those



less focused on competition, it offers a way to refine their skills and, through its examination framework, presents an alternative route to accomplishment. The Kata Commission's mission is to promote greater participation in kata while enhancing its standards, comprehension, and enjoyment. We will collaborate with everyone involved in judo to achieve this goal.

FINALLY

On behalf of the Commission, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their ongoing support, active participation, and commitment to developing kata throughout the Association.

Dr Llyr Jones

Dr Llyr Jones
Chair, Kata Commission

NATIONAL COACHING COMMISSION/ NATIONAL SOURCE GROUP

COACH EDUCATION

Across the four Home Nations, coaching continues to grow post-Covid. The new CRM can provide us with accurate coaching statistics promptly. The table below provides detailed numbers of valid coaches across the Home Nations.

AWARD LEVEL	2020/21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	VARIATION
LEVEL 1	284	230	343	444	463	+19
LEVEL 2	653	599	635	790	845	+55
LEVEL 3	246	205	197	228	276	+48
LEVEL 4	12	11	11	14	9	-5
LEVEL 5	8	8	13	13	18	+5
TOTAL	1,203	1,053	1,199	1,489	1,611	122

Gender figures per level across all Home Nations:

BJA Level 1 – 24% Female; 73% Male

BJA Level 2 – 17% Female; 83% Male

BJA Level 3 – 15% Female; 85% Male

BJA Level 4 – 43% Female; 57% Male

BJA Level 5 – 33 % Female; 67% Male

The table below details the number of coaches participating in the 2024-25 Coach Education Programme (Judo Scotland not included).

AWARD LEVEL	PARTICIPANTS	MALE	FEMALE
BJA LEVEL 1	150	113 (75%)	37 (25%)
BJA/1ST4SPORT LEVEL 2	210	117 (56%)	93 (44%)
BJA/1ST4SPORT LEVEL 3	15	10 (67%)	5 (33%)
	375	240 (64%)	135 (36%)

COACH REVALIDATION

Over 1,650 coaches participated in the programme of 107 coach revalidation courses during the year covered by the report. These courses were conducted by British Judo staff, with support from the Areas and Clubs. This collaboration highlights the collective effort and resources dedicated to ensuring coaches maintain and update their qualifications and skills. Total participants: 1650, Male 1349 (81%), Female 311 (19%).

An additional 168 coaches have also completed the online Matside Coach Award. This important qualification grants coaches access to competitions appropriate to their coaching level and equips them with the essential skills and knowledge required to maintain high standards of conduct when coaching matside. Access the course <https://britishjudo.talentlms.com/plus/login>

NATIONAL COACHING COMMISSION & NATIONAL SOURCE GROUP

Following the restructuring of British Judo Commissions in 2024, the National Coaching Commission (NCC) and the National Source Group (NSG) have been re-established. The NSG is a mandatory requirement set by 1st4Sport, which approves our coaching qualifications and issues certifications. Its primary function is to oversee coaching awards in coordination



COLIN McIVER

with 1st4Sport and CIMSPA. In contrast, the NCC has a broader range of responsibilities. Colin McIver, 9th Dan, former British Judo Sport Director, chairs both groups. During the reporting period, the Commission met twice to discuss key issues, including:

Technical Restrictions: Feedback from youth events regarding technical limitations suggests a need to reassess these restrictions. Initial findings indicate a different approach to contest rule framing may be necessary. This work is ongoing.

Head Injuries and Shime-waza: A joint meeting with the National Referees Commission addressed concerns about head injuries and the protocols for shime-waza. Anecdotal evidence indicates that current protocols are not consistently followed, and more data is needed to guide future actions. In the meantime, concerns are being communicated to coaches and event personnel.

Coach Conduct at Events: There is growing concern over inappropriate behaviour by some coaches during events. Investigations show that a small number of individuals are responsible for most incidents. Further steps are being taken to address this issue.

Joyce Heron

Joyce Heron
Head of Technical and Education

Colin McIver

Colin McIver
Chair, National Coaching Commission



VETERANS COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ronnie Saez – Chair

Chris Doherty

Colin Francis

Caroline Brayson

David Gibson

Danielle Batt

Toby Lewis

Simon Rose

Laurence Kenyon

John Thacker – left midway through the year he as emigrated to Japan

EVENTS:

WORLD VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, LAS VEGAS 4TH – 11TH NOVEMBER 2024

There were 20 GB judoka headed to the IJF World Veteran Championships in Las Vegas. All told 11 medals were won by the team, with Shaun Mitty (Westcliff Judo Club) collecting a Gold medal in the M5 U90 category.

Medallists from Worlds 2024

Shaun Mitty

James Hornsby

Fiona Chan

Mark McCalum

Kay Andrews

Caroline Bon

Colin Francis

Caroline Rawlings

Ant Sayers

Fred Itiose

EUROPEAN VETERANS CHAMPIONSHIPS – RIGA, LATVIA 22ND – 25TH MAY 2025

An excellent entry from the GB Veteran community saw 25 Male and 15 female competitors, with 18 medals being won. European Golds were won by Colin Francis (Peterlee Judo Club), Samantha Craniuk (High Wycombe Judo Club) and Shaun Mitty (Westcliff Judo Club)

Medallists from Europeans 2025

Colin Francis

Samantha Chraniuk

Shaun Mitty

Sian Carr

Laura Plumridge

Andy Melbourne

Kay Andrews

Danni Batt

Natasha Glassford

Kyle Perry

Ria Jones

Adrian Besley

Ben Westcott (ne waza)

Caroline Brayson (ne waza)



**SAMANTHA CHRANIUK****SIAN CARR****RONNIE SAEZ**

VETERANS PLAYERS OF THE YEAR 2024

**MALE AWARD: COLIN FRANCIS****FEMALE AWARD: FIONA CHAN**

BRITISH JUDO VETERANS OPEN – 29TH MARCH 2025 UEL LONDON

New for 2025 a Veterans Open, that attracted a large number of contestants from across the World and an excellent turnout for the Women's competition. Over 250 entries made the event a success and the future looks bright for the event.

MASTERS TRAINING SESSIONS

These continue to be run on a regular basis and are well attended by the Veteran community. There are now a number of more local sessions organised by local clubs and coaches that are also attracting good numbers. The commission continue to support the sessions at the National Training Centre in Walsall along with ensuring sessions are promoted through all available channels.

COMMUNICATION

The Veterans Commission see communication through the available BJA social media and newsletter options as key in developing the Veterans community. To this end we continue to produce a regular Veterans newsletter along with dedicated Facebook and Instagram pages.

Ronnie Saez

Ronnie Saez
Veterans Commission Chair



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMISSION

SENIOR EXAMINERS CONFERENCE

This has been another busy period, where there have been many achievements and ongoing work to ensure that as an Association we continue to be committed to promoting diversity and inclusion and making the sport of judo inclusive to all.

The key items to highlight are:

- Continuing to work on our Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP). Compliance is a requirement by UK Sport and Sport England. Year 2 targets have now been identified and we will also be producing a shorter out-facing DIAP for stakeholders;
- Our diagnostic tool Moving to Inclusion was resubmitted to UK Sport in December. In collaboration with a UK Sport Mentor, we are focussing on the Experience and Leadership pillars within the tool;
- Our work on inclusion has been identified as worthy of celebration and will be shared with the UK Sport Equality Network in May 2025.

In regard to governance, the Diversity & Inclusion Steering Group has expanded its remit and meets quarterly, led by myself and with members from other departments of British Judo. As of May 2025, the Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Group will have a new Chair (thanks to be noted for the outgoing Chair for their work in establishing and supporting British Judo's Equality, Diversity & Inclusion agenda). Following this, we will be launching a campaign in the summer of 2025 to recruit new members. I also continue to meet with the Board Lead monthly and provide weekly updates.



We also continue to engage with external stakeholders to promote good practice within the sport sector as well as attending UK Sport, Sport England and other conferences to continue to learn and share good practice.

ADAPTIVE JUDO

It is great to see that Adaptive Judo continues to grow with squads representing British Judo at both domestic and international events. We also hosted our first Adaptive Conference in February 2025, alongside our weekend event to mark Inclusion Day.





INCLUSION

With approval and support of the Board, there have been three major steps forward in making judo inclusive for all:

- Wearing of non-white judogi at Level 1 competitions;
- Stoma bags allowed in competition;
- Lower limb prosthetics allowed in competition.

March 2025 saw another successful and enjoyable Female Fighters Festival, with over 100 girls and young women in attendance. This was run in line with celebrating International Women's Day on Saturday 8 March and we were also able to promote and support our period friendly club initiative partnership with Fab Little Bag.

YOUNG LEADERS GROUP

It has been a fantastic year for our Young Leaders Group. They continue to make an amazing contribution to the safety and inclusion of young people in judo and influencing change. There are currently 14 members with diverse identifies. We hold meetings every three months in person as well as virtual meetings. The Group created their own action plan, and this year has seen the successful introduction of:

- Young members safeguarding card, including Club Welfare Officer details;
- Injury reporting card for junior members;
- Young people's version of the Moral Code.

In September, the Group also contributed to the annual Safeguarding Conference for Club Welfare Officers and a stakeholder conference, where our pilot of Junior Welfare Officers was

celebrated. They have also been present at events and competitions throughout the year, where they have engaged with young people and gathered feedback.

The Young Leaders Group's work is also cited in our NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit 'Children Voice' training. Representatives also attend the Board meeting twice a year as well as being included in the Judo Commission, where they have a vote. I also meet with the Home Nations Young Leaders to ensure joined up practice and promote collaboration.

An exciting project for the Group going into this next reporting year, is a visit to Parliament where they will be raising having judo added to the national GCSE curriculum.

Going forward, myself and the Safeguarding Team will continue to work on the application of our Transgender Participation and Eligibility in Competition Policy. The team will also continue to support Performance, Paralympians and Pathway squads, working alongside the Marketing & Communications Team to promote and support relevant campaigns and to develop the inclusion section of the website.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers in our Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Group, the Board Lead and the staff that are involved in the Steering Group.

Andrew Bowly

Andrew Bowly
Head of Inclusion, Safeguarding & Wellbeing

JUDO ENGLAND

ENGLAND
JUDO



The past year marked a significant turning point for Judo England as we laid the foundations for a new era of governance reform and structural clarity. In direct response to the Judo England Review, we began the process of implementing more robust, transparent, and accountable governance practices across all areas. Area Chairs have played a central role in shaping this new direction – contributing to the co-design of national working groups and local engagement mechanisms that will underpin the next phase of implementation. We are prioritising clarity of purpose, improved communication, and modernised systems to ensure that our operations are aligned with our ambitions.

We have seen encouraging momentum in grassroots engagement across England. Area Chairs have supported clubs in expanding

their reach through school-based sessions, community hubs, and targeted initiatives focused on inclusivity. This year, we placed particular emphasis on building bridges between clubs, with several regions launching joint initiatives around participation, wellbeing, and access. These community-driven efforts align with the review's call for sustainable growth and local innovation. We are now working on strategic partnerships to enhance these developments further in 2025–26.

Consistency and collaboration in technical delivery have been a strong focus this year. Building on the review's recommendation for a more joined-up technical framework, Areas have begun coordinating randori-based events, cross-club training sessions, and technical development workshops for coaches and referees. We have also supported mentoring



schemes for Level 1 and 2 coaches, laying the groundwork for improved pathways in line with national coaching standards. A refreshed approach to technical governance, one that empowers local leaders while aligning with national direction, is being shaped through implementation task groups.

Event delivery remains a key driver of retention and development. In line with the review's recommendations, several areas piloted new competition formats in 2024–25 that move away from early elimination, instead focusing on mat time, development outcomes, and enjoyment. These have proven especially successful with younger age groups and returning adults. Area feedback is informing the creation of a national Events Implementation Group to ensure shared learning and coordinated planning as we enter the next competitive cycle.

We've taken early and important steps to address the historic disconnect between local performance activity and the England Talent Pathway. Through better dialogue,



shared talent identification tools, and enhanced visibility of national standards, Areas are now better integrated into the national performance conversation. Several regions hosted open ID sessions, camps, and workshops – creating better continuity for aspiring athletes. Further alignment is expected as implementation work progresses.

Lastly, our engagement work has matured significantly. We've listened carefully to feedback from athletes, parents, and volunteers through formal surveys, club visits, and local forums. These insights have directly shaped emerging national strategies on communication, inclusivity, and member experience. The English Area Chairs, remain committed to ensuring local voices influence national decisions and that Judo England feels more united, transparent, and responsive than ever before.

Garth Illingworth

Garth Illingworth
Chair, Judo England



JUDOScotLAND



JudoScotland

COACH REVALIDATION

As we close the second year of our *Judo for All* strategy, we're proud to reflect on a year of progress, innovation, and community across Scottish Judo.

We are proud to align our practices with British Judo's "Three Step Safe" framework, which upholds the highest standards in coaching, safeguarding, and club management. This initiative is fully embedded within our organisation and guides everything we do, reflecting our commitment to fostering a safe, well-regulated, and supportive judo community.

GROWING AN ENGAGED AND DIVERSE MEMBERSHIP

In 2024, actual membership reached 8,662, falling just short of the target of 8,886. Looking ahead, we've set ambitious goals, aiming to grow our membership to 9,450 in 2025 and reach 10,000 by the end of 2026.

April saw the launch of our Digital Membership, streamlining access to judo journeys for members and clubs alike. Designed with user feedback, it marks a key step in our digital transformation.

Two clubs (Destination Judo and Ultimate Judo) achieved JudoMark accreditation, showcasing excellence in governance, safeguarding, people development, and club management.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY

Our partnership with *FabLittleBag* brought free period products to over 50% of affiliated clubs, increasing support for female judoka. The *Judo Girls Rise* programme further strengthened female participation through dedicated sessions and leadership pathways.

INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS ALL LEVELS

The inaugural *Senpai Programme* welcomed 12 young leaders aged 16–24 to develop coaching and leadership skills.

Our Grand Prix Series and return of the Scottish Open provided vital competition experience, with standout performances including a thrilling men's -73kg final between the Short brothers.





- Josie Steele returned from injury with podium finishes in Riga and Prague.
- Alex Short earned silver at the Taipei Asian Open.
- Cadets Kevin Gordon and Eva Ewing had standout years, including European Cup medals and top-five finishes.
- Maia Thomson secured two European Cadet Cup medals.
- VI and Adapted judoka Murray McConnell, Sean Allan, and Chris Murphy all took gold on the international stage.

CORPORATE EXCELLENCE

We proudly launched the JudoScotland Kilt, designed to raise funds for greater participation and support for those facing financial barriers.



Collaborative work with the British Judo Association progressed in areas including performance, gradings, and club development.

Looking ahead to Glasgow 2026, we're excited for judo's role at the Commonwealth Games and beyond.

Capping off the year, we were honoured to be named *Scottish Governing Body of the Year* at the Team Scotland Awards – testament to our community's collective effort and passion.

Judith McCleary

Judith McCleary
Chief Executive, JudoScotland

The National Closed Championship drew over 400 entries, with highlights including two triple champions from Sportif Judo. Meanwhile, the *Supporters Club* launched to great success during the National Teams event, energizing the judo community.

The *Gathering* brought over 200 participants to Inverclyde for a weekend of technical excellence, featuring sessions from Olympic stars Shohei Ono and Takanori Nagase.

Keizoku offered a friendly introduction to events beyond the club environment, fostering confidence and connections.

Two Scottish groups travelled to Japan in October, immersing themselves in the roots of judo for both cultural and technical enrichment. Veterans Judo also grew steadily, with increased participation across domestic and international competitions.

ATHLETE SUCCESS

Scottish judoka celebrated major achievements in 2024:

- Five of six Scottish teams medalled at the BJA National Teams Championship, with Cadet/Junior Men winning gold.
- Finlay Allan topped the EJU senior ranking in the -66kg category after winning gold in Riga.

NORTHERN IRELAND JUDO FEDERATION



INTRODUCTION

This past year was a time of rebuilding, refocusing, and strengthening the Federation.

A significant eight-month delay in funding meant that key initiatives could only be executed in November and December and into early 2025. Rather than allowing this setback to stall progress, the Federation used this time to realign priorities, support members, and identify opportunities.

A huge thank you goes to all Northern Ireland Judo Federation (NIJF) clubs whose commitment, patience, and enthusiasm ensured that despite challenges, the year was filled with growth and achievement.

FUNDING AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

While funding delays created obstacles, they also provided an opportunity for reflection and strategic realignment.

The focus remained on supporting athletes, clubs, and long-term development, ensuring that when funding did arrive, implementation could be swift and effective.

EVENTS AND SPONSORSHIP

One of the standout moments of the year was the Northern Ireland Open in April, which not only delivered a competitive and exciting tournament but also secured new sponsorship.

A partnership agreement for 2026 is already in place, ensuring stability for the event and helping to elevate its profile.



In addition to the Northern Ireland Open, NIJF athletes participated in multiple high-profile competitions, reinforcing Northern Ireland's presence on the wider judo stage.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND ATHLETE ACHIEVEMENTS

The Northern Ireland Talent Development Pathway has proven to be a major success, offering a structured progression route for emerging and elite athletes.

This year saw outstanding performances, with podium finishes - gold, silver, and bronze - across major competitions, including:

- Commonwealth Championships
- British Schools Championships
- British University Championships
- Northern Ireland Open
- Northwest Open (England)
- Irish Intervarsity's
- British Championships
- Multiple podium placements at regional and club events



The dedication of coaches and athletes alike ensured Northern Ireland Judo continued to grow in stature and competitiveness.

COACHING AND LEADERSHIP

February 2025 saw the recruitment of Sarah Barritt as the part-time Performance Lead Coach, a move that adds further expertise to the coaching setup. She builds on the excellent foundation laid by Stephen McCluskey, whose contributions have been vital in shaping the Talent Pathway.



Alongside Jonathan Cooke and Jozsef Balogh, the coaching team has played a crucial role in developing athletes, refining strategies, and driving standards forward.

Additionally, in March, 17 new Level 1 club coaches were trained, reinforcing the commitment to expanding judo in under-represented regions and ensuring that grassroots development remains strong.

COMPETITION INNOVATION AND GROWTH

A significant innovation this year was the pilot No Gi event in November, which received fantastic feedback from competitors. The event showcased the growing interest in different competition formats and could pave the way for similar initiatives in the future.

Another major development was the introduction of an internal ranking system, designed to provide a structured framework for athlete progression and recognition at club and regional levels.

ADAPTIVE JUDO SUCCESS

Northern Ireland's Adaptive Squad continues to thrive. The funding delay reduced opportunities to compete, however at the Tipperary Open,



six athletes competed, and all returned home with medals, further reinforcing the success of inclusive judo programs in the region.

LOOKING AHEAD

As the Federation moves forward, the vision for a funded platform supporting all competitive and performance level Judoka in Northern Ireland, including Irish Judo Association (IJA) member clubs, is at the forefront.

A Performance Advisory Group has been assembled, with a Memorandum of Understanding already in place to facilitate collaboration and structured growth. However, despite this readiness, the IJA has yet to engage in progressing the initiative. Securing funding for this platform will be instrumental in ensuring long-term development, providing consistent resources, training opportunities, and structured pathways for athletes across Northern Ireland.

With new sponsorship agreements, expanded coaching networks, ranking systems, and inclusive squad development, the future of judo in Northern Ireland is strong, ambitious, and full of potential. The Federation remains committed to ensuring continuous growth, athlete success, and wider participation, driving Northern Ireland Judo forward into an exciting new era of 2025 and beyond.

Russell Brown

Chair, Northern Ireland Judo Federation

WELSH JUDO ASSOCIATION



This past year has been a time of both change and progress for Welsh Judo. In June 2024, we welcomed Chris Emsley as our new Chair, bringing fresh leadership and renewed energy to the organisation. Early in 2025, we said goodbye to our CEO, Lucy Scott, whose leadership helped shape the foundations of our current direction. In March, I stepped into the role of Interim CEO, ensuring continuity and momentum during this transitional period. In this time, Welsh Judo has continued to move forward, thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and community across Wales.

In the Summer of 2024, we were incredibly proud to host the EJU Get Together Festival in Swansea – the first time an EJU event has ever taken place in Wales. Delivered in partnership with Disability Sport Wales and British Judo, the festival brought together Adaptive and Visually Impaired (VI) athletes from across Europe and was a shining example of the commitment to making judo a truly inclusive sport.

Our Welsh Junior and Senior Open and Pre-Cadet and Cadet Open of 2024 saw continued success. The latter welcomed 22% more participants than the previous year and reached over 9,000 viewers via livestream – an exciting milestone for our events team and community alike. We were also proud to introduce

Adaptive and VI categories at the Welsh National Closed Championships for the first time.

Membership remains strong, with over 1,900 active license holders and 43 affiliated clubs. Our much-loved *Girls That Judo* programme continued to inspire, with events led by some incredible role models; Karen Roberts, Lele Nairne, and Jasmine Hacker-Jones, creating lasting memories and a space for our females to enjoy judo.

Our Regional Hub programme completed its first full year and is now firmly embedded as a key part of our athlete development pathway. Over 270 athletes participated across Cardiff, Carmarthen, and Brecon, with hubs offering technical coaching, wider exposure to randori, and a bridge from club to national-level training. Feedback from parents, athletes, and coaches has been overwhelmingly positive, with strong recognition of the programme's contribution to skill development, enjoyment, and readiness for competition.

Supporting and growing our coaching workforce remains a key focus. In 2024, we delivered multiple Level 1 and Level 2 courses across Wales, including an all-female Level 1 course in Cardiff, a first for Wales.





This was a powerful step in creating new pathways and removing barriers for aspiring coaches from all backgrounds.

We retained our NSPCC Level 2 safeguarding standard and transitioned to the Safeguarding Wales Safeguarding Plus service, welcoming Sian Jones as our new safeguarding lead. Her expertise has already made a notable impact, and we continue to prioritise both children and adults at risk in our ongoing work.

With judo confirmed for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, we look ahead with excitement and determination. Our refreshed strategy gives us a strong

foundation to build on, guided by our values and driven by our commitment to making judo more welcoming, visible, and successful across Wales.

Diolch yn fawr to all of our members, clubs, volunteers, staff, and partners for your continued support.

Tom Hughes

Tom Hughes
Chief Executive (interim)



ARMY JUDO ASSOCIATION



Sport helps to prepare our people for operations by improving physical fitness, mental resilience, leadership and teamwork. It fosters cohesion, the ability to thrive under pressure, promotes continual learning and the courage to overcome fear. 2024/25 has marked another year of growth for Army Judo, broadening our grassroots offer, developing our competitive athletes and driving technical and coaching excellence.

PERFORMANCE

At the British Senior Championships in December, Vlad Oleinic secured bronze at -90kg and at the British Masters Championships, Lewis Hannington won Gold at M1 -90kg. Lewis Hannington and Jim Crompton won gold in Itsutsu-no Kata and silver in Katame-no kata at the British Kata Championships, and represented British Judo at the European and World Championships, joining the newly formed World Series Kata tournaments in early 2025 and rising to 11th in the Kata World Ranking List.

GRASSROOTS

Two 5-day Army Judo skills courses saw another 110 soldiers of all levels on the mat. The Army and Inter-Services Judo Championships, while lower on total numbers owing to operational commitments, highlighted some excellent developing talent. Dan gradings have become a regular fixture on the courses, with the support of Llyr Jones and Peter Powell, alongside the Army's 3 Senior Examiners (Jim Mackenzie, Bob Kubath and Lewis Hannington). Our senior athletes travelled to Cyprus for training, with randori sessions hosted by Piero Academy in Limassol. The high performance junior and senior athletes and demanding climate there provided excellent training.

A formal coaching pathway has also seen more Army coaches than ever qualified at L3 or by the IJF (Undergraduate Certificate as Judo Instructor program).

This is most excellently demonstrated by Sarah Barritt (née Hawkes) who was appointed Lead Performance Coach for the Northern Ireland



Judo Federation. The quality and range of coaches is now a significant strength for Army Judo, providing strength at our foundation and opportunities for development for more competitive athletes. At the end of his military career, Lt Col Mark Field's tenure as Chair came to an end, with his guiding hand supporting development of high-performance and grassroots judo in tandem. He has handed over to myself.

KATA

From delivering kata training on the Army judo skills courses, to supporting Northern Home Counties courses and the National kata course, kata is now a core element of Army Judo. With 4 Senior Kata Examiners, kata has been integrated into all training frameworks to develop technical expertise, which is bearing

fruit for kyu and dan grades. To top off an excellent year, in addition to improving their performance at the European Championships and progressing to their first World Championships, Lewis Hannington and Jim Crompton were presented with the Kata Award for their contribution to British Judo kata at the British Judo awards evening in November.

FUTURE PLANS

Training camps to Canada and Gibraltar, international competition on the IJF kata circuit and encouraging greater participation from Army judoka in British Judo competitions are the primary outputs planned for the next year. Further coaching opportunities at home and abroad, including a visit to Japan are now being developed for 2027.



Jim Crompton

Lt Col Jim Crompton
Chair Army Area

ROYAL NAVY JUDO ASSOCIATION



Over the last 12 months the Royal Navy Judo Association (RNJA) has again been busy growing grassroots to elite level judoka and coaches, which has seen long standing relationships strengthened and new relationships formed.

With that we are proud to announce our new partnership with Navantia UK, their sponsorship allows us to take advantage of opportunities in the UK and abroad which helps us to support our athletes to the fullest extent. The support includes kit, equipment, competition entry and overseas training camps.



In April a number of players travelled to compete in the Northern Ireland Open, with LPT Bassil and AB Harris both making the podium. The pair then fought alongside Sgt Francis and Sgt Hutton in the Swedish Open, with strong performances across the board and valuable lessons learned for our performance athletes.

The 2024 instalment of the RNJA Annual Championships, was held this year at RNAS Yeovilton. A fantastic range of competitors from beginner to 3rd Dan gave it their all throughout the day, a special mention to Jeff Smith as he took home the Spirit of Judo award. A week long training camp followed to get the team ready for the UK Armed Forces (UKAF) Annual Championship, where the RNJA Men's Dan grade team took home Gold in a fiercely fought competition with the Army and Royal Air Force.

Throughout the year, we have continued to strengthen our long-standing relationship with Team Bath Judo. Our Performance players frequenting the sports village under the tutelage of Head Coaches Adam Hall and Greg Varey. This has also brought about new opportunities for the team, travelling to Cyprus with Team Bath for a weeklong international training camp in November.





With another exciting year on the horizon for 2025/2026, our goals of the Inter-Service Championships and strong representation in the UKAF team never change.

A large portion of the team will be heading around the world this coming year so keep your eyes on our socials to see what they get up to.

Get in touch with us @RoyalNavyJudo on Facebook and Instagram if you'd like to get involved!

Michael Nugent

Lieutenant Michael Nugent
Royal Navy Judo Association



POLICE SPORT UK



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

During the reporting period Police Sport UK (PSUK) has looked to add value to and expand the PSUK Technical Commission across all aspects of our sport. This has included the qualification of an additional Senior Examiner, two others about to complete the sitting in' provisional process and two other suitable candidates identified to commence 'sitting in'. Opportunities have been made available to commence refereeing qualifications and an additional commission member has been appointed. All commission members hold a judo portfolio with responsibility to develop these to the benefit of our members.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

Whilst PSUK Judo has continued to offer all aspects of our sport to serving and retired officers and police staff, the organisation accepted the challenge to set up community clubs across the UK offering membership to all members of the community adult and children alike, but particularly those whose lives are impacted by crime and the deprivation of the neighbourhoods they

reside within. There are now four PSUK clubs successfully operating across Cornwall, Bristol, Somerset and the East Midlands with officers leading the coaching. At Japan Arts Centre Bristol situated in a Level One area of deprivation the children's membership has expanded to the region of 150 with the adult membership maintaining around 100 members. The coaching team has increased to 20 level one to level three qualified coaches to manage the ever-expanding membership.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

Each year we hold a national technical weekend for our members and due to its success, this year we returned to the Welsh Centre of Sport for a coaching revalidation course led by Gemma Howell who presented to 120 judoka which included revalidating 60 coaches. This was followed by a very successful dan competitive dan grading up to 5th Dan. The PSUK Technical Commission comprises of a 7th Dan, two 6th Dans and three 5th Dans, providing a wealth of technical and competitive experience to pass on.



PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

Our National Championship was hosted by Police Scotland with competitors across all male and female categories, kyu, open, masters competing. From this event the British Police Judo Team was selected.

These officers will be eligible to participate in domestic and international events including the EJU approved European Police Judo Championships. PSUK continue to have strong bonds with other European Police Judo squads and look to build on these having exchange visits with Spain, Sweden, Holland, Austria and Swiss National police teams.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

Engaging in performance judo is a difficult task for operational officers many of which will be young in service so coping with patrol shift duties, studying for a degree plus the ongoing training and professional

development officers are obliged to complete. That said every encouragement is given by PSUK to these officer's senior commands to support these whose level of competitive judo allows them to seek the performance pathway.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

Police judo continues to thrive both within the service and its community clubs. This is solely down to the volunteers both police and civilian coaches, referees and table staff who continue to give their time and support to enable the judo community to benefit and engage with our sport.

Chris Hunt

Chris Hunt
PSUK National Committee



BRITISH UNIVERSITY JUDO



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY GAMES 2024

20 students (9 male and 11 female) from 14 individual Universities, selected from the medal winners of the 2024 BUCS championships competed in the European University Championships held in Debrecen-Miskolc, Hungary in July 2024. Lucy Williams of Anglia Ruskin University – Bronze +78kg, and Eleanor Whitmore Teeside University– 7th place +78kg. All competitors gaining experience of a major tournament.



WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES 2025 AND EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES COMBAT SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

3 female students – Tatum Keen, Summar Shaw and Lucy Williams will compete in World University Games, Germany, July 16-27, 2025.

18 students (10 male x 8 female) medal winners of the 2025 BUCS championships to compete in the European University Combat Sports Championships to be held in Wroclaw, Poland in August 2025.



BRITISH UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The BUCS Judo Championships 2025 brought together both experienced and novice university athletes from across the UK to Walsall. Organised by BUCS and a dedicated team of volunteers, including “Smudge” Smith MBE, Malcolm Limrick, Peter Holmes, Neil Lawcock, Alan Lingham, Graham Bayley, Katrina McDonald, Chris Doherty and Paul Grady, the event was an incredible success.

This year, for the first time, the championships included a novice section for 5th and 6th kyu grades. This addition allowed athletes relatively new to the sport to experience competitive judo, supported by enthusiastic teammates who created a welcoming atmosphere. It was amazing to see newcomers embraced by their peers, marking a significant step in the growth of university judo. This grew the event to over 400 competitors.

Throughout the event, team support was electric, especially with vocal backing from universities like Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bath, and Nottingham. The team finals attracted large crowds, amplifying the excitement and showcasing the strong camaraderie characteristic of university sport. The atmosphere reflected the dedication of both the athletes and their supporters.

The level of competition demonstrated the high standard of university judo in the UK, reinforcing the importance of the BUCS Championships as a platform for developing student talent.

Chris Doherty

Chris Doherty 7th Dan
British Universities

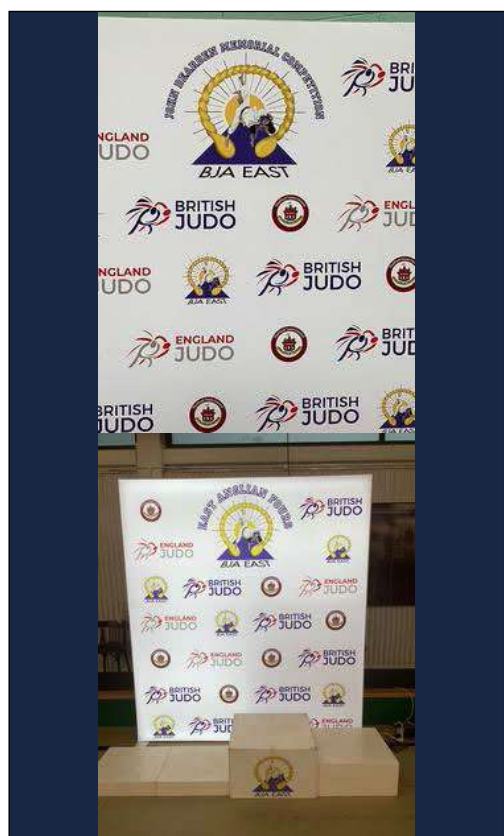


EASTERN AREA



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

We once again struggled to recruit committee members only managing to gain one new member, however we still managed to have committee meetings every other month and are now in the process of drafting a new development plan. We obtained a grant from Breckland Council and bought a new podium backdrop.



COMMUNITY GROWTH

There is very little sign of growth in the Area, in fact we have had some clubs shut down where the coach has retired and there is no one to replace them. We struggle to get coaching courses in the Area and there is little appetite for young people to travel long distances over three weekends.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

Unfortunately this year as an Area we were unable to put on any revalidation courses but thanks to David Horton-Jones there were Kata courses and Technical Dan gradings at Norwich Premier Judo /club.

PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

We ran several events throughout the year including a Closed and Open Championships. These are breaking even at the moment but with continual rises in costs it is likely that we will start losing money next year. We have been lucky enough to recruit 2 new technical officials and now have 2 dedicated Welfare Officers for our events. A couple of clubs run development competitions and these are well supported.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

With just 1,200 members in our area our competitive base is very low. We have few players competing at high level judo although the National Schools is a popular event for a lot of our competitive players, very few aspire to the British Nationals. We had just one player apply for Area funding this year and they received the full grant.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

As mentioned earlier we have not been able to put any revalidations on for our members this year, but it is hoped we will get support for a coaching day in June. We took the decision not to host a national event this year as our volunteer base is very small, and it is a struggle to run a large event with a small group.

Denise Oates

Denise Oates
Eastern Area Chair

THE LONDON AREA



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

In April 2024 Ray Stevens was re-elected as Vice President of the Area and Peter Blewett re-elected as Chair. Nadia Minardi was re-elected as Treasurer, Ms Tahmena was co-opted to fill a vacant position.

Kerry Merrill was commissioned by the BJA to gain an understanding of England Areas ways of working, challenges, strengths and judo offerings. She was tasked with meeting with all Areas and producing a report with options on how to develop and support Areas. She led the Area Committee through a SWOT analysis.

Key items highlighted by this analysis were:

Strengths: Our governance procedures including how our Committee runs including clear roles amongst the Committee, that we host a wide range of events and have good

community engagement as well as working well with other Areas.

Weaknesses were identified as the costs for hosting events and to look at getting support from British Judo for hosting events, issues with recruiting and retaining Committee members, a requirement for effective data from British Judo to assist with strategic planning and to look at securing sponsorship and funding.

Opportunities: Explore using the London Area running training sessions and to look at better collaboration with British Judo when planning our event calendar.

Threats: Maintaining the pipeline for referees, officials and volunteers and the personal cost this can to volunteers as well as there being a perceived lack of transparency from British Judo commissions.





COMMUNITY GROWTH

National Dan Gradings are held at the Budokwai and Stratford hosts the Veterans Gradings. In December 2024 the London Area had 3,651 members, 56 clubs, 66 coaches, 29 referees, 26 officials, 7 Senior Examiners, 20 Club Welfare Officers and held 197 gradings and had 24% female membership.

The Area hosted a development event on 27 January which was attended by 425 competitors and in March hosted the British Open Veterans which was supported by over 24 nations.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

- 3 x revalidation events
- 2 x kata courses
- National veterans training at the Budokwai
- The Budokwai provided a number of Masterclasses with guest instructors including Aleksander Kukolj and Shohei Ono which were incredibly well attended.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

At the National Team Championships in July the London Area won 2 Gold medals and 4 Silver medals. Congratulations to all involved.

In December the British Trials provided a showcase opportunity for London fighters to excel.

PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

In November we held the regional schools event and we added a new category to our development event which showcases adaptive judo. It was agreed that parents need to be better informed of the competition structure and format to manage expectations.

I would like to thank my fellow Committee members who give so much of their free time to enable such wonderful experiences and opportunities for our judo community in London.

Peter Blewett

Peter Blewett, 7th Dan
Chair, London Area



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis and has had a few changes of personnel in the past year. Juliette Langstone, Worcester Judo Club, has stepped down however continues to be our Mental Health Champion. We are very grateful for her valuable input and support during her involvement with the Committee and look forward to continuing to work with her in the future. Carol Leverton has taken on the role of Area Refereeing Representative becoming a Committee member in September 2024 and is working hard to increase the number of referees in the area. Sean Power, Solihull Judo Club, joined us at the AGM in November 2024. Sean has taken on the role of communications and I'm sure you have all noticed the vast improvement in our social media presence since he joined us.

At the beginning of 2025 we introduced our Grant Application Policy and, following several applications, we have been able to provide support to a number of players and clubs.

PROGRESSIVE EVENTS & PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

In the past year we again held our two major events – the Heart of England and Midlands Open. The Heart of England with a change of categories proved to be a great success and therefore the 2025 event will follow the same format. Also following the success of the Midlands Open combined with the Regional Schools Competition in 2024 we decided to stick with the format. Lessons were learnt from the previous year and the 2025 event was a much more smoothly run competition.

In addition to these we also hosted the 2024 National Teams and the British Masters on one weekend in July, both of which were very successful. Many thanks to all those who volunteered and worked so hard to make the weekend so successful. We also thank and congratulate the Midlands Area Team Managers led by Bill Kelly for organising and supporting the six teams entered by the Area. Once again, the area featured on the podium. Many Congratulations to our PreCadet and





Minor Boys, Junior and Cadet Girls and the Senior Women who all took Bronze against some fierce opposition.

Our randori days continue to be extremely popular and whilst we strive to host bimonthly sessions at the National Training Centre, it is becoming increasingly challenging to find viable dates. We are continuing to work to find solutions that suit everyone. We are extremely grateful to Bill Kelly and his team of coaches for leading these days and not forgetting Laura Payton for her support with the admin.

Our Dan gradings continue to run across the region, proving as ever to be popular events. We have a great team of Senior Examiners led by Matthew Harte, Area Director of Examiners.

Once again, several clubs across the Area continue to provide a comprehensive calendar of development events offering competitive experiences for players at all levels. We also must not forget the amazing work done by Gavin Davies and Jagjit Khara in the development of the Craig Fallon Cup which is now a firm fixture on the events calendar.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

Development of Technical Officials and Referees has continued throughout the past year and numbers of both are increasing. However, this is an area which is giving cause for concern as numbers are not increasing significantly, more officials and referees in the Area will mean lower costs incurred at competitions. Our Area events break even at best and generally run at a loss, if we can reduce costs at events then we will have more funds available to offer support to players, coaches and clubs throughout the Area.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

According to the data available to us the number of clubs in the Area has increased this year to 69 and in addition the number of members has once again increased by 500. That is a total of 2,890 judoka involved in our sport. This is a testament to the dedication of our 113 coaches and all the volunteers who run clubs and support players week in and week out.

Sarah Newbury

Sarah Newbury
Chair, Midland Area





As I come to the end of my five-year term as Chair of North West Area Judo, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our journey, express my gratitude, and look ahead to the future.

Over the past five years, we have made significant strides in strengthening the foundation of our organisation. We have implemented robust governance structures, developed clear strategic plans, and ensured financial oversight that supports both sustainability and growth. These efforts have been essential in aligning our operations with the core principles of Judo, particularly the philosophy of Jita Kyoei – mutual benefit and welfare for all.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Joe Burns, who stepped down from his role as Vice Chairman. Joe's dedication and contributions have been invaluable throughout his tenure. I am also deeply grateful to Mark Brew (Treasurer) and Dave Duffy (Secretary) as well as Committee member Phil Sullivan – without their unwavering support and commitment, I would not have been able to fulfil my role as Chair. My sincere thanks also go to all the committee members and volunteers whose time, energy, and passion have driven our progress.

A special mention must go to Chris Soakell, whose delivery of coaching in the area has been a real asset. This programme is already showing great promise and will undoubtedly go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

On the competitive front, I'm proud to report that we once again fielded six teams, a testament to the depth and enthusiasm of our judoka. Congratulations to the Men's Team, who earned a well-deserved Bronze medal, and to our Pre-Cadet and Cadet

Girls, who were crowned National Team Champions – an outstanding achievement that reflects the hard work of athletes and coaches alike.

The past six months have been particularly challenging for me personally, as I've struggled to balance the demands of family life with the responsibilities of this voluntary role. It has been a privilege to serve, but not without its sacrifices. I know many of you can relate to the challenges of volunteering, and I believe it is vital that we continue to work towards mitigating the costs of volunteering and ensuring parity and support for all who give their time.

Looking ahead, there is much to be excited about. As agreed at last year's AGM, we are committed to expanding our competition calendar, providing more opportunities for judoka across the region. We are also proud to introduce a new approach to this year's AGM, offering revalidation opportunities and courses to ensure that all members can maintain their accreditation in a convenient and supportive environment.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for your trust, collaboration, and shared commitment to the values of Judo. It has been an honour to serve as your Chair and I look forward to seeing the North West Area continue to thrive under new leadership.

With gratitude and respect.

Chris Milward
North West Area Chair

NORTHERN AREA



This will be my first/last report as Northern Area Chair.

As some of you are already aware I have decided to step down as Northern Area Chair, this decision has not been taken lightly but I feel it is right from both a personal and Area perspective. In the short period I have been in office we have achieved a lot and there is still some way to go but I feel I leave the position in a much better state than when I took over.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Area held its AGM in October 2024 at The Parks Judo Club. In order for the Area to move forward a range of measures were agreed in order to do this and a strategy put in place to ensure its success.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

Early this year a Masterclass by Marc Preston was fantastically well supported with both players and coaches in attendance. Our membership has grown 9% year on year with a healthy 31% of this female members.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT/ PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

Although one of the smallest Areas in England we are well represented at National Level with players from Blyth Juno Michi, The Parks Judo Club, Tees Valley Judo Club and Middlesborough Judo Club currently attending National Squad/Elite Performance Pathway sessions. In addition to this we have established an increased number of England Talent Development sessions in the Area.

Other achievements are:

- We have re-established the monthly Area training days with in excess of 100 players registered and training regularly
- Entry to the National Teams after withdrawing from this last year
- 2 Players selected to represent GB at the Cadet Europeans (Taylor Chrisp, Evan Anderson)
- Colin Francis silver medal at the Masters/ Veterans European championships



JOE GLYNN



TAYLOR CHRISP



EVAN ANDERSON



PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

The Area has worked hard to provide training opportunities to the coaches and officials to gain the necessary qualifications to continue to grow the Area ie: First Aid and Safeguarding courses as well as adaptive events and hosting a number of competitions which have all been well attended.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCES

As previously stated, the Area squads are going from strength to strength as too is the Masters squad and these programmes will continue to develop. We are still looking to recruit and develop young coaches supporting them to increase the number of clubs in the Area.

The future is bright for the Area and I feel the time is right for a new leader to take the reins and move it forward. My thanks to the clubs and coaches in the Area who bought into the vision and have supported the area, the parents who tirelessly travel the country to get players to events and the volunteers and officials who without we wouldn't be able to host the successful events we have had.

Terry McNeill

Terry McNeill
Northern Area Chair



NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES AREA



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

We uphold effective governance with regular committee meetings, AGM participation, and a focus on safeguarding, equality, and inclusion. Currently, 76% of clubs have a designated Welfare Officer. Financially, we maintain resilience through external reviews and strict controls. In 2024/25, total expenditure reached £63,747, with 76% (£48,337) allocated to events, and £6,885 covering governance costs like depreciation, insurance, and IT.

As of March 31, 2025, membership reached 3,599, a 13% increase from the previous year, surpassing pre-Covid levels of 3,302. Female members comprised 26% (935), and male members 74% (2,664). Notably, 63% (2,265) were under 18. The region has 67 clubs, up by 9, with most clubs (37) having 20 to 99 members.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

We have a small grants programme that allocated a total of £795 in funding to members in 2024/25. This funding facilitated the development of coaches, players, and clubs and was distributed among six clubs and seven members.



TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT/ PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

Technical Development/Performance Pathway Training sessions engaged 43 clubs and 418 players. Coaches and players from 12 Clubs attended the National Teams. NHC gained 2 Gold and one bronze medal, finishing third on the medal table. I want to thank all our coaches and players for their support.

In May, Martin Rance and Samantha Chraniuk led a group of ten first-year Cadets on a student development course at Matsumae Judo Juku in Tokyo, Japan.

We remain committed to the advancement of our officials, and we have 41 officials. Most of our officials serve as Timekeepers/Scorers (20), and we also have 14 Contest Recorders, 3 Senior Recorders, and 4 Competition Controllers.

Dan Harris launched Area ties and lapel Pins at the Northern Home Counties Open. Referees Owen Lambert and Jason Bull achieved National C and A, respectively. Eight referees completed education modules, earning area and club certifications. Dan Harris was selected for the IJF examination. The team continues to support events locally and internationally, demonstrating a commitment to refereeing excellence.





The NHC Kata programme thrived in 2024/25, with six courses, a Kata Weekend, and a Championships held at High Wycombe, Pinewood, and Amersham Judo Clubs. These events drew 128 participants and 28 pairs for the Championships. Special thanks to Paul Jordan and the hosting clubs for their efforts.

Dan gradings continue to be held at Bedford and High Wycombe Judo Clubs, with each hosting four events annually. Our Senior Examiners offer essential assistance at these events, and I want to express my gratitude for their ongoing support.

Coach development remains a priority, with 127 coaches across 67 clubs, up by 10 from last year. Most hold Level 2 qualifications (66).

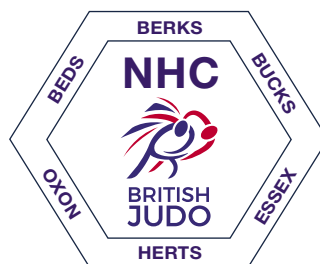
PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

Four events (level 2 and above) were held, including the BJA Minors and Regional Schools Championships, which attracted 1,451 players and 945 spectators. The Don Werner Memorial Championships hosted nearly 300 players. Officials work at the National Championships annually, while Under 8's Judo Festivals thrive with strong support from referees and officials.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

On 4th May, 9 participants attended a Technical Officials Training Course, leading to 2 Level 3 Senior Recorders and 6 Level 2 Contest Recorders certified. Thanks to Sharon Cottis and her team, along with new mats, our events programme continues to grow.

In closing my report, I wish to thank the Area Committee, players, coaches, volunteers, parents, and British Judo staff for their ongoing support and remarkable dedication to the sport.



Dave Clark

Dave Clark
Chair, Northern Home Counties

SOUTHERN AREA



2024/25 was an extremely productive year for many in the Southern Area, with athletes, coaches and officials achieving significant success at the highest levels of international judo. The tireless ongoing effort and dedication of clubs, players, coaches, referees, technical officials and other volunteers continues to be at the heart of Southern Area judo.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Area Committee includes representation from each of the constituent Counties and the Channel Islands. Over the past 12 months, we have further developed the Area's Action and Development Plan, aligned with the domains of the BJA Strategy, and invested in Area branding and infrastructure.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

There are currently 92 registered Southern Area member clubs, with an additional 49 registered venues. This is an increase of 5 clubs from last year. It is extremely encouraging to see that Area membership has also grown substantially over the last 12 months, from ca. 6000 in April 2023 to around 6500 at the end of March 2025 (8% increase).

We have awarded several thousand pounds of funding to a number of athletes and volunteers through our

open grant application and volunteer subsidy programmes, and launched a £10k Grass Roots Club Development Fund in summer 2024.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Area continues to host regular coaching, safeguarding, first aid and coach revalidation/ education courses, alongside joint referee/ technical official training courses to recruit and develop new officials.

The Area runs eight dan gradings each year, supported by our 16 senior examiners (SE), including two newly-qualified SEs in 2024/25. In November, the Area once again hosted an extremely successful National Kata course with Yoshihiko Iura, covering koshiki-no-kata and kime-no-kata.

The Area's international referees also continue to be very active on the continental and world stage (as well as domestically), notably with Lisa Rivers continuing to referee at the highest level on the IJF World Tour.



PROGRESSIVE EVENTS

The Area runs upwards of 15-20 events each year, with lower-level and development events managed by the Counties. Following our move to Woking Leisure Centre as a new home venue, we relaunched the Southern Area Open in October, and ran our Regional Schools in January and highly popular Inter-county Team Championships in May.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

All four Counties ran closed trials in 2024 to populate their squads, which are built upon to establish the Area squad. At the 2024 National Teams, the minor/pre-cadet boys took silver and the senior women bronze, with the senior men taking home the gold for the first time in over 20 years.

The Southern Area continues to be well represented on the England and GB squads. Area athletes won a total of 41 medals at the 2024 British Championships across all categories. Area athletes also continue to represent GB at the highest level of continental and international judo, with 25



European Cup event medals – 13 of these from juniors Chloe Link and Summer Shaw. Pre-cadet Louie Seguin won gold at three European Judo Hopes events as part of an extraordinary streak of 27 consecutive competition golds domestically and all over Europe. Kata pair Isabelle Everest and Braydon Robus were crowned European champions in nage-no-kata at the first ever European Adaptive Kata Championships in Sarajevo in June.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

The Area is active on social media as our primary mode of engagement, with numerous Area and County groups and pages. The South was well represented at the 2024 British Judo Awards, with Summer Shaw and Fiona Chan named Junior and Veteran (respectively) Female Athletes of the Year, the Kata Award going to Lewis Hannington and Jim Crompton, and United Judo Club winning the Inclusion Award.

John Malkinson

John Malkinson
Chair, Southern Area



WESTERN AREA



The West is thriving, and proactive in developing and retaining Club Welfare Officers. The Welfare Officers work is essential in keeping a safe environment for all our players, families and volunteers.

As of 30 June 2025, our membership stood at 2,127 current members and 51 clubs, in comparison to 2052 members and 50 clubs last year. We maintain a 26 percent female membership.

Nationally we are losing referees and officials at an alarming rate. The shortage of local Technical Officials and Referees is a challenge the West must overcome. We are so reliant on volunteers from outside the Area to man our competitions it is causing the executive serious financial concern.

There is a vast resource out there to be tapped; judoka who cannot compete through injury or convalescence or just needing a time out. Parents, siblings and carers who are not competitors but want to be involved in judo. Our referee and technical official trainers can help those people achieve their potential, we just need to know who they are.

Kingsley School, Yate, Kazoku and Nokemono judo clubs are in the forefront of hosting competitions. Bath remains the go to for our flagship competition. To create a competition of such value as the Western Area International Open takes the same dedication as making a thriving club successful. I am very proud of the working group that continually bring fresh ideas to improve the event year on year.

The personnel and ethos changes at the National Training Centre have not really impacted the performance pathway at the local level yet. The immense effort of the coaches in maintaining the pathway and developing new ideas to enhance engagement is a credit to them all.

To see club and membership numbers increasing means that the hard work of coaches is paying off in so many ways. If people are not enjoying their experience or not learning, they walk away. Our 59 percent retention rate says that is not the case.

The website could be used more to promote what our activities are and to capture the vast resource of potential referee and technical officials. Our Facebook and our X feeds are well used.

The English Areas Commission has fought long and hard to get more recognition of English Judo. There is an erroneous perception that there are 3 home nations and British Judo. The perception that England Judo and the British Judo Association are interchangeable is wrong and has to be addressed. To that end an independent in-depth survey was carried out, drawing the stark conclusion that England Judo should forge a new path toward self-governance under the British Judo umbrella. What that means in real terms is still to be determined and will likely bear little relationship to the speculation that is sure to be rife in the interim.

Lastly, British Judo have, as part of their governance, conducted a periodic audit of Area governance and finance. The Areas are audited in groups of three or four and we are part of this latest audit.

Andrew Scott

Andrew Scott
Western Area Chair

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Our Treasurer of many years stepped down this year, and we would like to thank John Bunyan for his dedication and diligence in keeping the Area spending under control. Kim Savage has now taken up the role of Treasurer from John.

The number of individuals from the Area involved in national organisational commissions has increased with Caroline Brayson joining the Veterans Commission and Ben George joining the Promotions & Gratings Commission.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

It has been very pleasing to see 3 new clubs registered to British Judo during the period. We hope to see them grow and become regulars at events around the Area.

There has also been a 20% increase in British Judo membership in the Area which is great to see, this is testament to the efforts of club volunteers bringing new blood into the sport.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

We would like our thanks noted to Dermot Heslop who serves the Area well by supporting the Area with organising various courses for coach qualification.



Dave Dunsford poses with Carol Leverton (Ref commission) after being awarded National A.

Yorkshire & Humberside in terms of referee development with 4 new national badge referees:

- 2 x National A : Dave Dunsford and Ben George
- 1 x National B : Cian Maris
- 1 x National C : Peter Kelly





PROGRESSIVE EVENTS & PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

The Senior and Veterans competition we started in 2022 is developing nicely.

We run 2 dan gradings annually, each are a 2-3 mat event for senior and veterans players. Our York gradings have become a regular fixture for many, with our long standing November grading particularly well attended.

The North Yorkshire Festival continues to be a great introduction to competition for many, frequently turning away players due to being oversubscribed.

The regional schools was held in Hull, and it made a nice change to run this in a different sports centre for a change! Thank you to the Hull club and volunteers for helping make that happen. Also, we are fortunate to have a few clubs that host events throughout the year.

Once again we were able to take a squad to the Glaspalast competition in Germany. With attendees being subsidised by the Area.

We were also able to contribute to support players taking part in international events as part of the British Judo programme and taking part in the EJU Junior Cup in Birmingham.

The refurbishment of Goole leisure centre, which was a core venue for our events, remains closed as the rebuild is taking longer than planned. If your club has a venue suitable for events, get in touch!

ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

We continue to move forward with developing our use of technology. In 2024 we finally caught up with other Areas in purchasing video replay (CARE) system for our events. An addition which has proven popular with coaches and players with mistakes being more easily corrected but also with referees who are now able to review actions and learn from discussions.

Ben George

Ben George
Chair, Yorkshire & Humberside



2024 ACCOUNTS

Company registration number 01393958 (England and Wales)

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

YEAR OVERVIEW

COMMISSION REPORTS

HOME COUNTRY REPORTS

AFFILIATES REPORTS

AREA REPORTS

2024/25 ACCOUNTS

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	P A Ajala W A R Brown N G Fletcher G J Gualtieri D Hunter G M Illingworth R McCreath B Quilter A W D Slade D Wright M A Preston S Davies	(Appointed 2 November 2024) (Appointed 11 June 2025)
Secretary	A Scoular	
Company number	01393958	
Registered office	Walsall Campus University of Wolverhampton Gorway Road Walsall West Midlands United Kingdom WS1 3BD	
Auditor	Sedulo Audit Limited 5th Floor Walker House Exchange Flags Liverpool Merseyside United Kingdom L2 3YL	

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

CONTENTS

	Page
Strategic report	1 - 2
Directors' report	3
Directors' responsibilities statement	4
Independent auditor's report	5 - 7
Income and expenditure account	8
Balance sheet	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 16

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The directors present the strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Principal activities

The British Judo Association ("British Judo") ("BJA") ("the Association") is the National Governing Body ("NGB") for Judo in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Our principal activities have continued to be the encouragement of national judo activities, education and the delivery of elite success in the form of world medals.

GOVERNANCE

During the year we have held 6 Board meetings which were all planned and included key elements that we identified as part of the annual Board agenda. All meetings were conducted face to face with the option of virtual attendance.

The AGM was held on the 1st of November 2024 in Great Barr, Birmingham and the Annual Report and Accounts were approved with no abstentions or votes against.

The CRM has continued to develop and gain trust from the members following the challenging issues of the previous year.

We have continued to confirm our standing with our key partners and have remained compliant with the Code for Sports Governance.

The Board has identified that the Strategic Plan is due for review and has set some dates to look at this later in 2025 with member consultation as part of that process. The current strategy and annual delivery plans continue to be monitored by the Board and are reported to the Council on a quarterly basis.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The board is responsible for the risk management and internal controls. The Chief Executive and management team are responsible for identifying and reviewing the risks, reporting these to the Audit and Finance Committee and the Board. Controls and appropriate actions are put in place to mitigate identified risks as far as it is possible and practical to do so.

FINANCIAL KPI'S

The turnover for the year was £5.2m (2024: £5.3m).

The administration costs for the year were £1.4m (2024: £1.3m).

The deficit for the year was £93k (2024: surplus of £41k).

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Review of the business

2024/25 has been an extremely busy and challenging year for the Association, however there have also been some significant highlights and achievements. It was of course an Olympic and Paralympic Games year and whilst we did not win any medals at the Olympics, we did win a Silver and Bronze at the Paralympics. As usual at the end of each funding cycle, we carried out a full review of the Performance Department which resulted in losing some senior members of staff but has allowed us to change the structure of the Association and put more emphasis on developing our talent pathway. However, this did mean that the Association incurred some unbudgeted restructuring costs which contributed to us filling a deficit in our accounts. Another significant impact on our finances has been the increased costs for hosting events.

We will be conducting a thorough review of events in 2025/26 to look at how we can reduce these costs and which events we should be investing in. We have continued to develop our CRM with additional features added for both clubs and members.

Also, work has begun on an 8 year strategy that takes us up to the Brisbane 2032 Games. We have now entered into a more stable phase for the Association and now have the correct resources and structure to drive the Association in the years ahead.

This year also saw a change in the Board membership, with Marc Preston being appointed as the JudoScotland representative.

Total income for the year was £5,236,700 which is a decrease of £86,443 against last year. This is mainly attributed to a decrease in Membership and Grant income.

At the end of March 2025, the Association generated a deficit of £92,694 decreasing the reserves which are £408,331. The cash balance remains healthy and currently there is no immediate cash risk to the Association.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The BJA and sport of Judo would be nothing without its employees, the members of the Commissions of all disciplines, clubs, coaches, technical officials and all volunteers across the United Kingdom - we thank them all for their continued hard work, dedication and support and wish them all continued success for the coming year.

We value the important relationships we have with our Areas, members and clubs and regularly engage with them to understand their requirements and to develop our service propositions to meet their needs. We also work closely with our suppliers to provide cost effective, value for money goods, services and solutions in compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

British Judo also formally acknowledges the outstanding support of its funding partners, UK Sport and Sport England during the year.

On behalf of the board



G J Gualtieri

Director

Date: 31/9/25

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

P A Ajala	
W A R Brown	
G H Campbell	(Resigned 14 October 2024)
N G Fletcher	
G J Gualtieri	
D Hunter	
G M Illingworth	
R McCreath	
B Quilter	
L Shinkin	(Resigned 22 April 2025)
A W D Slade	
D Wright	
M A Preston	(Appointed 2 November 2024)
S Davies	(Appointed 11 June 2025)

S Davies was appointed as a director after 31 March 2025 but prior to the date of this report.

L Shinkin ceased to be a director after 31 March 2025 but prior to the date of this report.

Statement of disclosure to auditor

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the directors individually have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Small companies exemption

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

On behalf of the board



G J Gualtieri

Director

Date: 3/9/25

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements and;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of British Judo Association (The) (the 'company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the income and expenditure account, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its deficit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE) (CONTINUED)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with directors and management, and we cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our knowledge of the business and sector, enquiries of directors and management, and review of regulatory information and correspondence. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We discussed with directors and management the policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with laws and regulations and otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations identified as potentially having a material effect on the financial statements. Our procedures included review of financial statement information and testing of that information, enquiry of management and examination of relevant documentation, analytical procedures to identify unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate fraud, and procedures to address the risk of fraud through director or management override of controls.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT****TO THE MEMBERS OF BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE) (CONTINUED)***Sedulo Audit Limited*

Katelyn Dutton (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Sedulo Audit Limited, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

5th Floor Walker House

Exchange Flags

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 3YL

United Kingdom

Date: 03/09/2025

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income	3	5,236,700	5,323,143
Cost of sales		(3,905,711)	(3,998,124)
Gross surplus		1,330,989	1,325,019
Administrative expenses		(1,423,683)	(1,283,991)
(Deficit)/surplus before taxation		(92,694)	41,028
Tax on (deficit)/surplus		-	-
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year		(92,694)	41,028

The income and expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

BALANCE SHEET

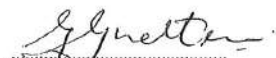
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	6		68,866		80,964
Tangible assets	7		63,891		92,241
			<u>132,757</u>		<u>173,205</u>
Current assets					
Stocks		-		7,332	
Debtors	8	177,074		189,652	
Cash at bank and in hand		792,886		970,063	
		<u>969,960</u>		<u>1,167,047</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(694,386)		(839,226)	
Net current assets			<u>275,574</u>		<u>327,821</u>
Net assets			<u>408,331</u>		<u>501,026</u>
Reserves					
Income and expenditure account			408,331		501,026
Total members' funds			<u>408,331</u>		<u>501,026</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 3/9/25 and are signed on its behalf by:



G J Gualtieri

Director

Company registration number 01393958 (England and Wales)

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Company information

British Judo Association (The) is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Walsall Campus, University of Wolverhampton, Gorway Road, Walsall, West Midlands, United Kingdom, WS1 3BD.

1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" including the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income and expenditure

Income and expenses are included in the financial statements as they become receivable or due.

Club membership fees

Turnover received from club membership fees is credited to the Income Statement over the period of the membership. Amounts relating to future financial years are included in creditors as deferred income.

Ticket sales and event entry fees

Turnover from event ticket sales and events entry fees is recognised when the event takes place.

Sale merchandise

Turnover arising from the sale of merchandise is recognised when the company has delivered the goods.

Education and other services

Turnover from the contract of a service is recognised in the period in which the services are provided.

1.4 Research and development expenditure

Research expenditure is written off against profits in the year in which it is incurred. Identifiable development expenditure is capitalised to the extent that the technical, commercial and financial feasibility can be demonstrated.

1.5 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the fair value of the asset can be measured reliably; the intangible asset arises from contractual or other legal rights; and the intangible asset is separable from the entity.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer software	20% straight line
-------------------	-------------------

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	20% on cost
Computer equipment	33% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to surplus or deficit.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting period end date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition.

At each reporting date, an assessment is made for impairment. Any excess of the carrying amount of stocks over its estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell is recognised as an impairment loss in profit or loss. Reversals of impairment losses are also recognised in profit or loss.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.11 Taxation

The company is exempt from corporation tax, it being a company not carrying on a business for the purposes of making a profit.

1.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.13 Leases

As lessee

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to profit or loss on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leases asset are consumed.

1.14 Government grants

Grants are accounted for under the accruals model with the deferred element of grants being included in creditors as deferred income. Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to the Income Statement at the same rate as the depreciation on the assets to which the grants relate.

Grants of a revenue nature are recognised in the Income Statement in the same period as the related expenditure.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income

The total turnover of the company for the year has been derived from its principal activity wholly undertaken in the England and Wales.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grant funded income	3,299,598	3,587,119
Membership income	696,198	633,094
Technical and education	323,924	330,286
Events	429,032	307,559
Other	487,948	465,085
	<u>5,236,700</u>	<u>5,323,143</u>

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4	Operating (deficit)/surplus	2025	2024
	Operating (deficit)/surplus for the year is stated after charging:	£	£
	Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	9,200	8,600
	Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	38,281	30,815
	Amortisation of intangible assets	22,598	20,865
	Operating lease charges	66,490	29,465
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5	Employees		
	The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed by the company during the year was:		
		2025 Number	2024 Number
	Total	41	43
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6	Intangible fixed assets		
			Other £
	Cost		
	At 1 April 2024		103,495
	Additions		10,500
			<u> </u>
	At 31 March 2025		113,995
			<u> </u>
	Amortisation and impairment		
	At 1 April 2024		22,531
	Amortisation charged for the year		22,598
			<u> </u>
	At 31 March 2025		45,129
			<u> </u>
	Carrying amount		
	At 31 March 2025		68,866
			<u> </u>
	At 31 March 2024		80,964
			<u> </u>

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7	Tangible fixed assets		
			Plant and machinery etc
			£
	Cost		
	At 1 April 2024		150,777
	Additions		9,931
			<u>160,708</u>
	At 31 March 2025		
	Depreciation and impairment		
	At 1 April 2024		58,536
	Depreciation charged in the year		38,281
			<u>96,817</u>
	At 31 March 2025		
	Carrying amount		
	At 31 March 2025		<u>63,891</u>
	At 31 March 2024		<u>92,241</u>
8	Debtors		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:		
	Trade debtors	15,954	9,024
	Corporation tax recoverable	76	-
	Other debtors	161,044	180,628
		<u>177,074</u>	<u>189,652</u>
9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Trade creditors	96,698	130,691
	Other creditors	597,688	708,535
		<u>694,386</u>	<u>839,226</u>

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Operating lease commitments

As lessee

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within 1 year	116,545	121,000
Years 2-5	463,348	461,500
After 5 years	230,000	339,000
Total commitments	809,893	921,500

11 Related party transactions

Key Management is considered to consist of the chair and the members of the executive team. Total key management remuneration for the year ended 31 March 2025 was £392,838 (2024: £448,679).

The Welsh Judo Association is a company related by the way of common directorship. Purchases were made from the company during the year totalling £6,096 (2024: £1,407) and sales were made during the year totalling £9,918 (2024: £7,074). All transactions were at an arms length basis. At the balance sheet date there was an outstanding debtor of £Nil (2024: £1,941).

The Northern Ireland Judo Association is a company related by the way of common directorship. Purchases were made from the company during the year totalling £Nil (2024: £167) and sales were made during the year totalling £2,984 (2024: £6,538). All transactions were at an arms length basis. At the balance sheet date, there was a net creditor balance of £Nil (2024: £80).

Judo Scotland is a company related by the way of common directorship. Purchases were made from the company during the year totalling £3,114 (2024: £1,283) and sales were made during the year totalling £73,502 (2024: £67,120). All transactions were at an arms length basis. At the balance sheet date there was an outstanding debtor of £Nil (2024: £2,134).

12 Parent company

The directors consider there to be no ultimate controlling party.

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grant income		3,299,598		3,587,119
Membership income		696,198		633,094
Technical education		323,924		330,286
Events income		429,032		307,559
Other income		487,948		465,085
		<u>5,236,700</u>		<u>5,323,143</u>
Cost of sales				
Opening stock	7,332		8,023	
	<u></u>		<u></u>	
<i>Purchases and other direct costs</i>				
Grant funded expenditure	3,006,303		3,299,417	
Events expenditure	562,136		400,952	
Wages	329,940		297,064	
	<u>3,898,379</u>		<u>3,997,433</u>	
Total purchases and other direct costs				
Closing stock	-		7,332	
	<u></u>		<u></u>	
Total cost of sales		(3,905,711)		(3,998,124)
Gross surplus	25.42%	<u>1,330,989</u>	24.89%	<u>1,325,019</u>

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION (THE)

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Administrative expenses				
Wages	626,287		613,548	
Staff training	7,621		17,294	
Rent	66,490		29,465	
Household and cleaning	707		495	
IT costs	77,713		46,490	
Hire of plant and machinery	9,225		10,946	
Motor expenses	14,700		17,726	
Travelling	42,581		67,254	
Subscriptions	18,097		22,478	
Professional fees	12,215		7,412	
Auditors' remuneration	9,200		8,600	
Bank charges	46,544		55,973	
Insurance	130,587		121,100	
Post and stationery	49,220		37,118	
Advertising	20,062		7,206	
Telephone	14,959		16,352	
Governance costs	13,456		1,055	
Support services	25,375		22,929	
Sundry expenses	177,910		128,189	
Amortisation	22,598		20,865	
Depreciation	38,281		30,816	
Profit or loss on foreign exchange	(145)		680	
		(1,423,683)		(1,283,991)
Operating (deficit)/surplus		(92,694)		41,028

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

AFFILIATES AND PARTNERS



Welsh Judo Association
Cymdeithas Judo Cymru



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WWW.BRITISHJUDO.ORG.UK

BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON, GORWAY ROAD, WALSALL, WS1 3BD