

Official Languages



January 18, 2000

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

INTRODUCTION

Judo Canada is committed to **official languages**.

As an association, Judo Canada has a great deal to gain by pursuing a policy designed to achieve bilingualism. Membership satisfaction towards Judo Canada will increase and more Canadians will enjoy practising judo.

CURRENT STATUS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

Membership / Participation:

Current Status: Based on 1999 membership statistics approximately 40% of Judo Canada's members are from French speaking origins.

Objective: To ensure the availability of services and publications in both official languages.

Strategy:

- All future technical resources, for example, National Coaches Certification Program Manuals, policies, guidelines... will be released in both French and English.
- Maintain the production of a bilingual newsletter.
- Translate and maintain a bilingual Judo Canada Web site.
- Produce bilingual educational/promotional pamphlets and posters on the specific values of judo.
- Strive for equal television coverage in both official languages when national championships and International events hosted in Canada are broadcasted.
- Continue to ensure members have access to services in their language of preference.

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Developmental & Competitive Programs:

Current Status: Services at National Championships are available in both official languages. Technical packages are produced and distributed in both French and English.

Objective: To improve the availability of National Championship Souvenir Programs and posters in both official languages.

Strategy:

- Encourage the production of bilingual souvenir programs by providing generic text in both French and English to the organizing committee.
- Provide the organizing committee with bilingual text for the announcers.
- Maintain and promote access to bilingual Technical packages for all Judo Canada events.
- Review Judo Canada "Sanction Policy" in order to add a bilingualism clause.

High Performance Programs:

Current Status: Judo Canada's National Team is composed of more than 50% of French speaking athletes. All National Team policies and procedures are available in both official languages. The National Training Centre (NTC) in Montreal is providing services in English and French.

Objective: To maintain the current quality of service to the National Team members in both official languages.

Strategy:

- Ensure that athletes have access to services in their language of preference.
- Ensure that athletes can communicate with their coaching staff in their language of preference.
- National team training camps should be conducted in both official languages.

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- Ensure that the full time National coaches are fluent in both official languages.
- Maintain the "Project Coach Policy" and the language criteria.
- Maintain the "Team Leader Policy" and the language criteria.
- Maintain bilingual NTC
- Improve services in both official languages at Regional Training Centres (RTC).

Coaching and Teaching Programs:

Current Status: At the national team program level, the majority of volunteer assistant coaches are bilingual. Project coaches are selected based on NCCP levels, time available to commit to the program, language capabilities, team composition and experience.

Objective: Increase the talent pool of coaches that meet certification requirements and are bilingual.

Strategy:

- Improve NCCP in both official languages.
- Develop bilingual education/training programs for coaches and teachers.
- Develop supplementary coaching related resources in French and English.
- Present a biannual coaching/teaching seminar in both official languages.

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Referees

Current Status: Provinces are consistently providing high quality referees. However, most of the bilingual ones originates from Quebec. The IJF introduced a list of about 50 questions that referees must master in various languages including French and English.

Objective: To increase by the number of functionally bilingual referees by 20% at all levels by the year 2000.

Strategy:

- Promote the IJF list of multilingual questions.
- Organize a bilingual referee seminar.
- Maintain "Referee Manual" in both official languages.
- Develop a National training program for technical officials in both official languages.

Governance

Current Status: Most committees, for convenience, are functioning in English only. However if translation is needed it is provided. Judo Canada Bylaws and other operation policies are available in both official languages. AGM minutes and other related information are distributed in French as well as in English.

Objective: To maintain current bilingual services and improve in the area of conducting meetings.

Strategy:

- Ensure both languages are represented on committee.
- Ensure all policies are written in both official languages.
- When appropriate, provide minutes of meetings in both official languages.

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