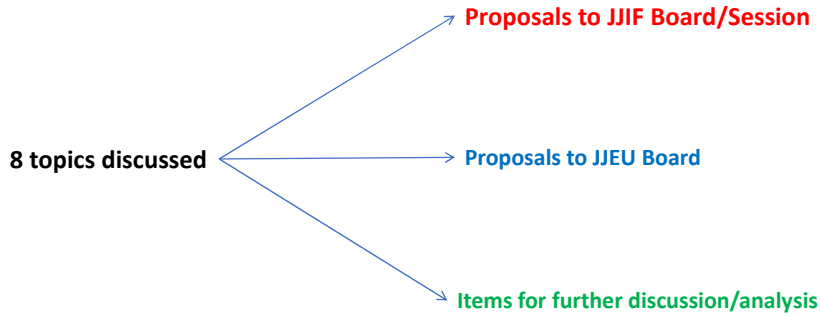




Panel 3 - FIGHTING



10 - 12. March 2017

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Proposals to the JJIF Board/Session

Proposal 1 – Fixed positions of the Side Referees

Background: At present, too many referees on the tatami – takes the focus off the fighters, confusing for the audience, sometimes difficult.

Idea: Give stationary positions to the SR (sitting on chairs, both on the corners opposite the table, facing the TR).

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on athletes; - Less dominant referees; - Calmer for the public; - Better overview of the fight and a more professional appearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not always possible to have a proper view (good angle) of techniques in Part 1

End proposal: Try it out in the Ech masters 2017 – official, high-level tournament, with no impact on the Ranking list.



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Proposals to the JJIF Board/Session

Proposal 2 – Injury/medical time

Background: Sometimes, the 2 min for injury time are used in a tactical way by athletes who do not need a doctor, but would like to rest during the fight. Is this fair-play?

Idea: Try to prevent the abuse of the injury time, by limiting the situations when the doctor can come to the tatami.

End proposal: If the MR does not see any clear contusion/reason to call for the doctor, if the athlete asks for the medic, he is out of the match. If the MR calls the doctor, there is no consequence for the athlete (in the sense of losing the match). The MR will always call the doctor in case of bleeding or injury to the head/neck. The 2 min limit stays. The MR will always ask the athlete: Do you want me to call the doctor? Remember that if you do, it's the end of the match.



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Proposals to the JJIF Board/Session

Proposal 3 – Reintroduce straight punches to the head

Background: Straight punches to the head, semi-contact and with good control are a matter of technical skill. By not allowing this technique, we lose a lot of potential athletes

Idea: Try to reintroduce this type of technique, only at senior level, with a reasonable preparation time (up to 2 years).

End proposal: Re-allow the application of straight punches to the head (no kicks), within the limitations of the current fighting rules (good control, balance, semi-contact etc.).
Mandatory use of mounthpiece protector is required.



Reintroduce straight punches to the head (2)



Reintroduction of straight punches to ju-jitsu fighting

Ju-jitsu had for years straight punches, which means that direct punches are nothing new to our sport. The decision to forbid straight punches was done without analysis of injuries and with reason that this will help ju-jitsu become the Olympic sport. In the period of decade and a half this change didn't bring ju-jitsu closer to Olympic games, but it certainly estranged fighters to move to other martial arts.

What fighting is about?

Fighting is presentation of martial technique **skills and knowledge**, otherwise anybody could do it. We should be proved that we can do things that others can not and not set the lowest possible standard. Fighting is about **control**. We teach ju-jitsu fighters techniques which are all potentially dangerous, i.e. locks, strangulations, throws. In all these fields the fighter has to express control.

Ju-jitsu fighting should reflect **mixed martial art fighting** with rules that prevent injuries. Ju-jitsu is the only mixed martial sport recognised as sport. Exclusion of straight punches severely damages this identity of ju-jitsu.



Reintroduce straight punches to the head (3)



Potential **injuries can be mitigated in several ways** (continue 2):

- only junior and senior age categories would be allowed to use straight punches
- transition period, which would allow all athletes to adopt to new rules;
- adjustment of protection equipment by main suppliers of gloves (more padding);
- quality of refereeing is the main guarantee to prevent any kind of injuries,
- in terms of injuries to the head and concussions hard contact haito uchi and uraken uchi techniques are not less dangerous, not even to mention high mawashi geri to the head – it is reasonable to expect that we reintroduction of straight punches skills and control will be improved in all techniques to the head.

Goal of joining to Olympic games shouldn't be limited by this change and current inclusion of karate in the Olympic Games is clear example of this. On the other hand the national Olympic committees started favouring hard contact martial arts (boxing, kickboxing) from technical disciplines like katas and duo-system, which again speaks against the argument. Nations that don't except fighting won't excepts it regardless of straight punches. This is why ju-jitsu offers other disciplines.

We have international ju-jitsu federations which adopted ju-jitsu fighting rules, but included straight punches, since **reality is clear trend in fighting martial arts**. Ju-jitsu has to adjust to this trend in terms of publicity and number of practitioners.



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Proposals to the JJIF Board/Session

Proposal 4 – Change the way we judge Part 2 for U15

Background: The rules for U15 forbid most of the throwing techniques, based on an assumption that in this age category there can be no control for those particular moves.

Idea: We must simplify the rules and give maximum freedom to the fighters, while ensuring their maximum safety.

End proposal: Exclude from the rules for seniors/U21/U18 only the throws that are truly dangerous (drop seoi nage, kani basami) and for the rest apply the existing rules (good control, balance etc.).

Like:

- forward throwing technique on two knees
- Gripping with arm around neck in standing position.
- Kansetsu waza
- In ne-waza every grip around the neck like kata sankaku grips (necktie)



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Proposals to the JJEU Board

Proposal 5 – Education of referees / Common referee-coaches seminars

Background: Most problems occurring during the matches come from insufficient education / lack of consistency of referee decisions / insufficient referees-coaches communication and collaboration.

Idea: Must improve this situation.

End proposal: Organize once a year a common seminar with coaches and referees. It should be compulsory that each federation sends at least one referee. All coaches are welcome, but not obliged to attend. The seminar should be organized either at the end or at the beginning of the year, to provide the baseline for refereeing in the coming year. Materials should be prepared (video and paper), so that all participants have exactly the same videos, the same situations, the same explanations/interpretation of the rules to take home and further educate the referees. Hopefully, this approach will bring about the desired consistency and uniformity of decisions.



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Proposals to the JJEU Board

Proposal 6 – Creation of video materials for educational purposes

Background: Video proof is not accepted as grounds for changing the result / points of a fight, but video materials are great educational tools. Athletes (and implicitly coaches) get immediate feedback to their actions – points or penalties during the match. As a consequence, they can start working towards improvement from the next match or the next training. Referees get delayed feedback, sometimes months after the event.

Idea: Try to have videotaping of all JJEU events, in order to create a “database” used for education, as well as for marketing purposes.

End proposal: Videotape all fights, from the viewpoint of the central table (viewpoint of the TR indicating the scores). You can see all fights and give immediate/fast feedback to the referees. Costs almost nothing. Can also be used as a marketing tool – easy to make short clips “Best 10 throws”, “Best 10 strikes/kicks”, “10 fastest Full Ippons” etc.



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Items for further discussion/analysis

Proposal 7 – Using on the mat 2 referees, instead of 3

Background: Same idea that there are too many people on the tatami, all moving.

Idea: Use only a MR and one SR. They move as in the current rules and the athletes get points only when both referees agree.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less referees = less costs; - Same number of total referees = more open mats = shorter competition time; - Less people – easier to understand the fight and the scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less points awarded, less victories by Full Ippon; - A less experienced referee will have a much bigger impact on the end result

End result: We should have 1 or 3 referees, but not 2. The quality level of refereeing could decrease. We are not yet ready to try out this proposal.



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Items for further discussion/analysis

Proposal 8 – Introducing a 3-point Ippon in Part 1

Background: Athletes are avoiding making kicks to the head because it is riskier than punching and they get the same score.

Idea: Score very good kicks to the head as 3-point Ippon, to encourage a more spectacular Part 1. Either stop and award the 3 points or TR should recognize that it was a kick and not a punch.

End result: Too early for such a proposal. We still have debates between awarding Ippon or Waza-ari for a kick/punch. The TR looks at the referees, not at the actual fight, so putting this extra decision on his shoulders would be too much. Stopping the match would fragment it too much and would increase the time of the match.



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Items for further discussion/analysis

Proposal 9 – Giving an advantage to athletes who score in more parts of the fight

Background: The goal of the fighting match is to get the Full Ippon.

Idea: We should score more an athlete who is able to get Ippons in two parts of the match than the athlete who scores Ippon in only one part. Either disregard the total score and take into account only the number of parts in which an Ippon was scored, or change the scoring system to give, for example, 2 points for the first Ippon, but 10 points for the Ippon in the next part.

End result: Too early for such a proposal. It is better to encourage the natural progress of the fight from Part 1 to Parts 2 and 3.



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Items for further discussion/analysis

Proposal 10 – Changing the interpretation/penalty of passivity and of throwing outside

Background: At present, we have passivity in Part 3 for an athlete who is not actively trying to escape an osae-komi. We also give passivity penalties for athletes escaping the osae-komi by leaving the mat. A second problem is giving a penalty for throwing outside the safety area, even when there is no danger to the athlete.

Idea: A possible solution would be to let osae-komi continue even if both fighters are out of the fighting area, as long as there is sufficient safety area (3 m or more). Also, not escaping an osae-komi could be a tactical decision of the athlete/coach and they should be allowed to make it. Regarding throwing outside, the purpose is to prevent injuries. If there is no danger, there should be no penalty (maybe a verbal warning). On the other hand, given the fact that you must keep the grip on the opponent's gi, the 2 m safety area should be enough.

End result: We would not like to change anything in the rules. The interpretation of passivity can be reconsidered.



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Thank you, everyone, for your great ideas and nice work!

See you in Expert Technical Meeting Event 2
