

## Presidents Report November 2010

As 2010 comes to a close I would once again like to thank the many dedicated JVI members who are the backbone of our organization.

The tournament volunteers who regularly give up their Sundays throughout the year. These events would be impossible to run if there wasn't the support of Referees, weigh-in/ competition draws coordinators and competition time-keepers.

This year has been especially pleasing given JVI is seeing off one of its darkest periods, with the close of the well known T&K Debt. With this chapter behind us JVI can consider building the organization, with prospects already in the pipeline such as employing a Development Officer to assist in promoting such things as a long awaited schools program. We are currently in the process of asking for expressions of interest. Fortunately the closure of the debt also coincides with State Government funding requirements which stipulate sporting bodies have complete solvency to be eligible.

I would like to highlight the efforts of two Committee members in Frankie Serrano and Gil Tidhar who have put in a countless number of hours to correlate a new Strategic Plan. Again this ties into future Gov funding and underpins the possibilities of employing someone part time.

Sponsorship was another topic that became hotly contested with two of the major Martial Arts suppliers vying for supporting rights. Jols were the successful company this year and we thank them for their contributions in assisting with State Team expenses.

The newly formed Kata Commission has successfully held a number of Seminars this year allowing many in our judo community to fine tune the various Katas. A consistent example of current Kodokan guidelines has always been a problem with Kata practice, so the Seminars held in recent times are serving to rectify this problem. My thanks to all involved in running these educational days.

From a JVI Committee perspective it is pleasing to see that the upcoming election has yielded a larger than usual nomination list, meaning an election will have to be undertaken. All the candidates nominated have something to offer and I look forward to working with the makeup of the Board in 2011.

Many of you are aware that there is going to be a long overdue change to the Kyu Grading structure throughout this country, which is being initiated by the JFA. The basic principle to the new system will be very similar to the Canadian model with an onus on a continuous belt system, rather than the current loss of grades at designated age groups. As you can imagine this is going to create many questions so JVI will, at the appropriate time, hold an open workshop when we know more. Hopefully this will be in the first half of 2011.

State Championships are just around the corner which is a mandatory event for State Team selection. If last year is anything to go by it will again be a very well attended event. Good luck to all the competitors on the day.

I would like to close this report by once again thanking the Geelong JC and the Bendigo JC who put in a supreme effort to move the JVI mats to a venue in their respective areas to run a regional comp. This along with Sandy Hollingsworth efforts to run the Shoreham Judo Camp deserves applause.

Yours in Judo,

Michael Picken