



## President's Note

Dear Fellow Judoka,

It has been a busy month and a half as President of Judo Canada. I would like to thank everyone who has sent congratulations to my new position. I thought I would send out a note on the happenings since I was elected September 15, 2012.

We are currently hiring a High Performance Director and an Executive Director for Judo Canada. Deadlines have been sent and hopefully the positions will be filled in the early New Year. This has been brought forth from Sport Canada and the consulting firm LBB Consultants that did a review of our current HP Plan. For more details about LBB Consultants and the review, please consult your regional directors – Sandy Kent, Garry Yamashita, Kevin Doherty, Roger des Champs and Tim Lohnes.

The Tournament Circuit will be introduced no later than 2014 with a potential to be a four level points tournament system with Nationals, Quebec Open, Ontario Open, Edmonton International and Pacific International being the higher level (A&B) tournaments and Atlantic Championships and Saskatchewan Open being the lower level points tournaments (C&D). As well we will be looking at a Tournament specifically for the top 10 in each weight class to be invited. The idea is to get the best athletes in Canada to compete at all major events. The lower level points tournaments are to allow athletes to compete and receive points at the local areas. This should allow for development at all levels. This will also allow us to build membership across Canada as we showcase our top athletes.

All Committees have been asked to submit a detailed plan and financial outline for the 2013-2014 season which will be reviewed by the Board of Directors at the next meeting, slated for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Calgary, Alberta. This will allow the board to review the direction of the committees and the necessary financial support needed.

I will be pushing hard for back patches to be sold to Provinces and used by all participants that attend any tournament circuit event, regardless of age or category. Money will be used specifically for athlete development. This was presented in my platform in June 2012. The IJF are currently doing the same and introduced the IJF back patches this September 2012. I feel this is a good opportunity to get sponsors for National and Provincial Sponsorship.

My first trip will be the Tokyo Grand Slam on November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. I am excited to meet people at the International Level. We must maintain our place at the IJF Level for the athletes and referees. Congratulations to Donald Ferland for being nominated for the China Grand Prix and the Tokyo Grand Slam. Donald will be attending both events and we wish him well.

I hope to continue to bring you updates from Judo Canada as well as the PJC and IJF. Good Luck to all athletes, referees and most importantly the families of Judo Canada in 2012-2013.

If you have any concerns or comments, please contact your regional representative and they can bring it to the meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors of Judo Canada, thank you for making our organization Great.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, looped initial followed by a horizontal line.

Michael Tamura  
President