



“Flower of Inclusion”

Dear Judo Friends,

Our Judo Veterans Society, following its broader scopes of promoting the Sport and contributing for its beneficial effects to expand all over Society, decided to organize a multi-activity event on May next year, especially for athletes with any sort of disability or impairment.

The event shall be organized under the guidelines and collaboration with the newly formed Committee “Special Needs Judo International” (SNJI).

The “Hellenic Judo Veterans Society-Kyuzo Mifune” was created in Greece in 2014, as an entity independent to the Greek Judo Federation, as we believe should be any veterans’ society of any sport. Apart from “Judo for life” as a goal to keep our membership active for ever on the tatami, we strongly encourage all educational and cultural activities to make our members better as humans and to this end further, we are particularly sensitive in taking part or organizing humanitarian events.

The “Special Needs Judo International” is an advisory/development Committee, which was founded in February 2016, by members who have dealt for a great lot of time with the field of Special Needs Judo in their countries and through their experience have played an eminent role in organizing international events or contributing to the success of ones, when organized by different bodies Worldwide. Whereas it is known that there are Associations in the World giving chances of Judo activities principally for mentally disabled athletes or ones with sensorial restrictions, a prime concern of the SNJI is to urge, consult or even assist Judo entities to include in their classes athletes of any sort of disability, as indeed, as rightfully conceived by its founder and as well grounded in the course of time, the discipline of Judo can be beneficial to all people regardless sort or level of ability or disability.

Major events of the past brought a considerable number of our members together with the founding members of the SNJI, giving floor thereby for a common trust and estimation to be established amongst them. As our broader scopes have common fields with the prime concern of the SNJI, it was only natural for a mutual decision to be reached, that organizing international events, enhancing the above inclusion, would initiate from Greece in 2017, with our experienced members having the responsibility of the organization and officials selected by the SNJI conducting the event.

We decided to give our event the name "*Flower of Inclusion*", in the meaning that we make a noble gesture to people of Judo, urging them to include in their classes athletes of all sorts of disabilities, showing to them in action that it can be done.

The invitation

We therefore, invite you to take part in the event of 2017, with as many athletes and companions as possible, in order to share the chances of joy our sport can give and make spectators all over feel it. **Athletes of all 5 levels of abilities** are eligible for participation.

Athletes are free to participate either as members of a club or federation or any other entity.

Please follow the instructions given attached or in linked pages to facilitate the part of the organizer and make your trip more comfortable and the participation safe.

When

The "Flower of Inclusion" shall be offered between the 25th (first day) and the 28th of May (last day) 2017. Day of arrival shall be Wednesday the 24th and day of departure Monday the 29th.

Where

The place of the event shall be the small town of Loutraki! This town is a nice touristic resort by the sea side, very close to the location of ancient Corinth, where the homonymous prefectural capital of today lies. It has a distance of about 82 km from the center of Athens (approx. 1 hour driving) and of 113 km from the Athens airport (approx. 1 hour and 15 min. driving), with the possibility for one to reach it totally detouring the Capital.

Our own village

We preferred Loutraki to Athens, because there we shall have more chances to feel like a family and have fun all together, away from the noise, the crowds and the atmosphere of a huge town, easily changing between sport and relaxation activities.

In addition, we collaborated with the "Sport Camp", a local long experienced sport enterprise there, which will offer to our disposal its facilities and friendly personnel, to facilitate and make the staying joyful to the participants, before, during and after sport engagements (see link following).

A bouquet of joy and a festival of activities rather than a mere sport event

In fact, what we aim at is organizing, beyond an event a Judo, an aggregate of activities through which we shall all have the chance to joy, make new friends, see and know more, experience

the beneficial effects that our chosen Sport can give to all people and thereby admire its magnitude and leave with good memories!

Relaxation time shall have its share, visiting places of natural beauty or historical importance shall be programmed, joyful time for the athletes to play around and on the tatami, the parents of the athletes shall be tendered to deviate routines, seminars through which coaches and referees shall be further educated or even new ones shall be given the opportunity to emerge and, of course, the athletes shall enjoy competitions.

Special invitation for potential coaches and referees

Following our aim to make our event a real festival of activities, we invite all coaches and referees either those who have already been involved with the Special Needs field of Judo and want to extend their knowledge or those who would have the noble intention to start up offering their services from now on, to come and take part in our seminars which shall be specially delivered by the experts of the SNJI and relative diplomas shall be awarded at the end.

The above coaches and referees do not need to accompany athletes. They make come in private, following however our instructions.

Note please, that they have to be present from the beginning to the end of the event, as they shall be occupied with educational activities all the event throughout.

Fill in properly the special entry form please.

Provisional program

- Wednesday, May the 24th: Arrival of the participants
- Thursday, May the 25th: Seminars until noon, visits to destinations around after lunch until dinner time.
- Friday, May the 26th: Morning: Joyful time on the tatami in the Hall of Competition (within the facilities)-Seminars.
Afternoon: Seminars-Opening Ceremony at the Main Sport Hall of Loutraki.
- Saturday, May the 27th: Morning: Competitions at the Hall of the Sport Camp
Evening: Free time in town after Competitions and dinner
- Sunday, May the 28th: Morning: Competitions at the Hall of the Sport Camp
Evening: Farewell party by the Hereon Lake.

Later on, after January 2017, this initial program shall be updated and its parts shall be detailed in from and specified in contents.

