



*News Release – 30 August 2011*

## **WJF - WORLD JUDO FEDERATION**

**Niteroi, RJ - Brazil**

On August 26, 2011, between 1700 hrs and 1900 hrs, in Niteroi-RJ, Brazil, the Founding Congress of the World Judo Federation (WJF) was conducted, including the approval of Statutes and the election of its First Board of Directors (2011/2015).

Founding National Members who were present or represented at the Congress were: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Spain, United States, Dominican Republic, Panama, Romania, Sweden, and Venezuela.

Mr. Jaime Casanova representing the Dominican Republic was elected President of the WJF. Mr. Paul Dubois representing Brazil was elected the Vice-President (America) and also the Treasurer. Mr. Bruce Bethers representing the United States was elected the General Secretary, Dr. Paul Hoglund representing Sweden was elected Vice-President (Europe), Mr. David Gordge was elected Vice-President (Oceania) and Mr. Jose Manuel Garcia representing Spain was elected Education and Coaching Director. Also conducted on 26 August were the Technical and Clinical Congress of Arbitration, from 1900 hrs to 2200 hrs, under the responsibility of Mr. Carlos Diaz and Mr. Alejandro Giuliano, respectively Sports and Referee Directors were elected for WJF.

Brazil presented the candidacy of Brasilia to conduct the Youth and Junior World Judo Championships 2012. The event was approved by the Congress for Brasilia, Brazil and will be held on 24, 25 and 26 August 2012. The 2nd World Judo Senior Championship is approved to be held in Malaga, Spain, on a date to be set. After the day's activities on August 26 was provided by the League of Judo in the state of Rio de Janeiro a wonderful celebration dinner for the representatives of countries participating in the World Championship and the newly inducted National Members of the World Judo Federation. The Official Opening Ceremony of the First World Senior Championship (WJF) occurred at 0900 hrs on Aug. 27, in Gym Singing River Soccer Club, in Niteroi-RJ, with the participation of 225 athletes. Brazil was represented at the event for athletes of leagues affiliated to the State LNJ-BRAZIL. In overall total of points: Brazil won 1<sup>st</sup> place, Venezuela won 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Chile won 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

***The MOTTO Of WORLD JUDO FEDERATION Is JUDO FOR ALL..!!***