

MODERN COMMUNICATION

Like most successful discoveries, Ju-Jitsu can boast something that started quite by chance and is now a legacy just short of entering JJIF regulation. When the fight between opponents is spectacular, the level of their preparation high, the points neck to neck and the seconds are simply running out, when the coaches scream their orders and the gymnasium resounds to the echo of the cattle bells, horns and applause and a variegated chorus of enthusiastic voices, the table referee stands no chance in letting the mat referees hear his voice... so he does not even try.



Today in Slovenia, after a fast evolution, we no longer find the bean bag, the tennis ball, the referee armband carrying out the delicate task (although these have all been used). No, this is the era of the Teddy Bear. There



are three here in Maribor (Slovenia). Each dominates a referee table and each is well aware of the importance of a role only they can perform.



Thus, at the end of every fighting round of every weight-class and every male and female match alike, we can see them flying, like kamikazes hurdled in the air and onto the centre of the tatami area with the message that the time is up. And in every match, at their second mission, although there may be disappointment in one of the competitor's face, and although the referee had not imagined another two minutes had passed, the Teddy Bear's judgement is final...

a winner must now be declared.

