



Welcome to the 4th Annual Int'l Police Judo Conference! April 28th and 29th, 2021

Thank you for your interest and participation at our 4th Annual Police Judo Conference. This year, due to COVID-19 travel and health restrictions, we have to bring our two-day clinic to you virtually from the Odd Squad Studios in Burnaby, BC. We have a great line-up of presenters, including Police Judo Instructors, academic researchers, subject matter experts and international speakers.

Use of force training has evolved considerably over the past few decades, with great strides and improvements in research, technology, weaponry, and training. Police Judo has invested significant effort and resources in enhancing and refining physical use-of-force training for its members. The foundation of this physical skill training program lies with the original Vancouver Police Department (VPD) Police Judo Club which was started over 25 years ago by Ret. Insp. Tim Laidler.

There is a saying that officers need to “train the most for what is done the most”. When we look at the use of physical force by law enforcement (the most likely application of force), it is clear that we need to find more time to develop and retain physical skills. Agencies need to do more to help their members acquire these critically important skills. The VPD has made integrating ongoing training a priority for its members.

Training individuals for a profession in law enforcement with evidence-based techniques and timely access to best practices is of critical importance. We must partner with academia, and integrate focused research into force options training. This combination will improve the safety of both our members and the public.

By bringing together subject matter experts, academic researchers, force options trainers, police and law enforcement personnel from a wide variety of agencies and different countries we hope that this Conference provides a platform for information sharing, skills development and learning in a positive and friendly environment.

We hope the friendships here grow beyond this conference, and open up a network of camaraderie and progressive thinking that stretches beyond any one agency or jurisdiction. After all - by virtue of our shared purpose built on a common pledge of serving and protecting others - we are all in this together. Please enjoy your time with us.

Ret. Cst. Al Arsenault
President, Law Enforcement Training Association (Police Judo)

