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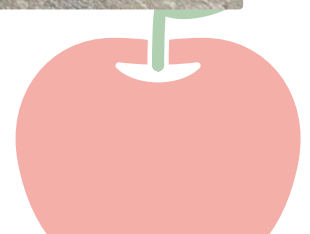
Japanese Children's Society DD Team — Full Tournament Record 13 Gold, 16 Silver, 14 Bronze — 43 Medals Total, All 14 Team Members Reach the Podium

New York Ikuei Gakuen's jump rope / Double Dutch team, the Japanese Children's Society (JCS), won a record-breaking 43 medals at the AMJRF National Championship 2026, held in Buffalo, New York. All 14 traveling team members brought home at least one gold, silver, or bronze medal.

New York Ikuei Gakuen (based in New York City) operates a jump rope club team, the **Japanese Children's Society (JCS)**. From Tuesday, June 17 through Saturday, June 20, 2026, the team competed at the **AMJRF National Championship 2026 (the 7th Annual American Jump Rope National Championship)** in Buffalo, New York, and won a total of **43 medals — 13 gold, 16 silver, and 14 bronze**. With roughly 900 athletes from about 30 teams across the country competing (approximately 2.5 times last year's turnout), JCS placed among the top finishers across multiple age divisions, and **all 14 traveling members stood on the podium**.



JCS traveling members with the medals won at AMJRF Nationals 2026 (Buffalo, NY, June 2026)



Official Tournament Name

AMJRF National Championship 2026
(7th Annual American Jump Rope
National Championship)

Location & Dates

Buffalo State University, Buffalo,
NY
June 17 (Tue) – June 20 (Sat),
2026
Preliminaries: June 17–19 /
Finals: June 20

JCS

Japanese Children's Society (JCS)
New York Ikuei Gakuen
Traveling members: 14

JCS Medal Summary**43 Medals in Total – A School Record****About the AMJRF Tournament**

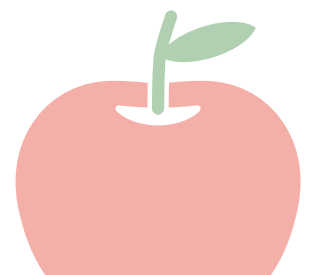
The American Jump Rope Federation (AMJRF), founded in 2016, is the official U.S. jump rope governing body recognized by the International Jump Rope Union (IJRU). It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Boulder, Colorado, with member club teams across the country.

The 7th annual 2026 championship was held at Buffalo State University in Buffalo, New York. Approximately 30 teams and over 900 athletes from across the country took part (per the school's own research, roughly 2.5 times last year's turnout), making it a large-scale event estimated to generate over \$1 million in local economic impact.

Competition was divided into preliminaries (June 17–19) and finals / grand championship (June 20), contested across Double Dutch (DD) and Single Rope (SR) events within age divisions (11 & under, 12–13, 14–15, 16–18, 19+, 30+, and 50+). The medals JCS earned came from the Age Division Championship results.



AMJRF National Championship 2026
June 17–20, 2026 Buffalo, NY



Local Media Coverage

This year's tournament received advance coverage from Buffalo's major television and radio stations, drawing attention as a nationwide sporting event. The City of Buffalo successfully secured the event as one of its 2026 signature events, with reports projecting over 750 attendees, 1,250 hotel room-nights, and more than \$1 million in economic impact.

During the tournament, on Thursday, June 19, 2026, a jump rope demonstration was also held at the Buffalo Juneteenth Festival, helping to introduce the sport to the local community.

WKBW-TV — Buffalo ABC affiliate / News article

7th annual American Jump Rope National Championship brings competitors from 28 states to Buffalo ↗

WBEN / Audacy — Buffalo radio news / News article

National jump rope competition coming to Buffalo in 2026 ↗

WIVB-TV — Buffalo CBS affiliate / News video

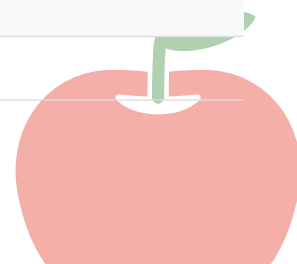
Locals gather for jump rope community events ↗

WGRZ-TV — Buffalo NBC affiliate / Video news

U.S. Jump Rope Federation demonstration at Buffalo Juneteenth festival ↗

Event Glossary (Abbreviations)

Code	Event Name	Description
◆ Double Dutch (DD) Events — Two ropes turned in an alternating cross pattern		
DDSS	Double Dutch Speed Sprint	A 3-person team (2 turners + 1 jumper) competing on total jumps within 30 seconds.
DDSR	Double Dutch Speed Relay	A 4-person relay team competing on total jumps while rotating jumpers.
DDC	DD Challenge (1×30)	2 turners + 1 jumper, competing on the combined total of three 30-second attempts.
DDPF	Double Dutch Pair Freestyle	A freestyle event performed by 4 athletes who rotate roles rather than holding fixed positions. Judges score difficulty, performance, and execution.
DDSF	Double Dutch Single Freestyle	A freestyle event performed by 3 athletes who rotate roles rather than holding fixed positions. Judges score difficulty, performance, and execution.
◆ Single Rope (SR) Events — Using a single rope		
SRSS	Single Rope Speed Sprint	An individual event where the athlete turns their own rope, competing on total jumps within 30 seconds.
SRDR	SR Double Unders Relay	A 2-person relay in which teammates alternate performing double-unders for 30 seconds, competing on combined total jumps.
SRSE	Single Rope Speed Endurance	An individual endurance event measuring total jumps sustained over 3 minutes.
SRSR	Single Rope Speed Relay	A relay speed event with baton-style hand-offs among 4 athletes, 30 seconds each.
SRIF	SR Individual Freestyle	An individual freestyle single-rope routine, judged on difficulty, performance, and execution.
SRPF	SR Pair Freestyle	A 2-person freestyle single-rope routine, judged on difficulty, performance, execution, and synchronization between partners.
SR TU	Single Rope Triple Unders	An event measuring triple-under jump count and difficulty.



Medal Results List

Event	Category	Place	Entry #	Members	Medals
🥇 Gold Medals (13 total)					
DDSS	Male 12-13	🥇 1st	#1151	Shimato Ishikawa • Kaishin Lin • Sohta Nakajima	Gold ×3
DDPF	Male 14-15	🥇 1st	#1166	Shimato Ishikawa • Kaishin Lin • Osuke Naito • Sohta Nakajima	Gold ×4
SRDR	Male 12-13	🥇 1st	#1140	Kaishin Lin • Sohta Nakajima	Gold ×2
SRSR	Male 14-15	🥇 1st	#1136	Shimato Ishikawa • Kaishin Lin • Osuke Naito • Sohta Nakajima	Gold ×4
🥈 Silver Medals (16 total)					
DDSS	Male 12-13	🥈 2nd	#1152	Hiroto Kitayama • Kaito Minami • Ryotaro Mine	Silver ×3
DDSS	Mixed 14-15	🥈 2nd	#1444	Akari Amemiya • Daichi Kitayama • Aoi Minami	Silver ×3
DDSS	Male 19+	🥈 2nd	#1670	Yuki Fukai • Daimu Ishikawa • Yusuke Tanno	Silver ×3
DDSR	Mixed 12-13	🥈 2nd	#1198	Hiroto Kitayama • Kaito Minami • Ryotaro Mine • Yuri Tanno	Silver ×4
DDSF	Male 19+	🥈 2nd	#1676	Yuki Fukai • Daimu Ishikawa • Yusuke Tanno	Silver ×3
🥉 Bronze Medals (14 total)					
DDSR	Male 14-15	🥉 3rd	#1147	Shimato Ishikawa • Kaishin Lin • Osuke Naito • Sohta Nakajima	Bronze ×4
SRDR	Male 12-13	🥉 3rd※	#1141	Shimato Ishikawa • Hiroto Kitayama	Bronze ×2
SRDR	Mixed 12-13	🥉 T-3rd	#1190	Osuke Naito • Yuri Tanno	Bronze ×2
SRSS	Male 12-13	🥉 T-3rd	#336	Hiroto Kitayama (individual)	Bronze ×1
SRSS	Male 16-18	🥉 3rd	#762	Daimu Ishikawa (individual)	Bronze ×1
SRSR	Mixed 12-13	🥉 3rd	#1179	Hiroto Kitayama • Kaito Minami • Ryotaro Mine • Yuri Tanno	Bronze ×4

※ Regarding the Placement of SRDR Male 12-13 (Entry #1141)

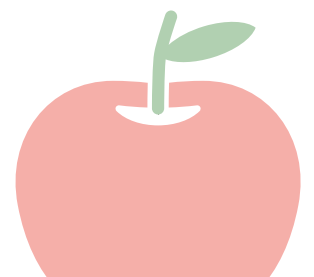
According to AMJRF's official Verified Results, this entry (Shimato Ishikawa, Hiroto Kitayama) is listed in 4th place. However, at the awards ceremony the athletes were presented with bronze medals for 3rd place, and they are currently in possession of those medals. As of July 5, 2026, we have requested that AMJRF confirm this discrepancy. This release counts the result as 3rd place / 2 bronze medals, based on what was awarded at the ceremony.

Other Results (Non-Medal, Verified via Official PDF)

Event	Category	Place	Entry #	Notes
DDSS	Mixed 12-13	Scratch	—	JCS entered; withdrew
DDSS	Mixed 30+	4th	#38	JCS team
DDSR	Mixed 14-15	4th	—	JCS team
DDSR	Male 19+	6th	#1666	JCS team
DDC	Various categories	T-4th–T-40th	#966–969	Multiple entries (see Jr DDC Final Results.pdf for details)
DDC	Senior Mixed 16+	Scratch	—	2 JCS athletes (withdrew)
DDPF	Mixed 12-13	4th	#1037	JCS team
DDPF	Mixed 14-15	10th	#1038	JCS team
DDSF	Mixed 12-13	5th	—	JCS team
			—	JCS team

DDSF	Mixed 14-15	8th		
Team Show	All categories combined	8th	#2033	JCS (14 athletes)
SRDR	Male 12-13	7th	#1142	JCS team
SRDR	Male 14-15	6th	#1393	JCS team
SRDR	Female 14-15	T-15th	—	JCS team
SRDR	Male 19+	6th	—	JCS team (2 athletes)
SRSS	Male 12-13 (multiple individuals)	5th-T-10th	—	Multiple individual JCS entries (5th, 8th, T-10th, and others)
SRSS	Female 11Y	9th	—	JCS (individual)
SRSS	Male 30+	5th-6th	—	Multiple individual JCS entries (5th, 6th)
SRSR	Mixed 19+	17th	#1831	JCS team
SRIF	Male 14-15	16th	—	JCS (individual)
SRIF	Female 11Y / 14-15	Scratch	—	2 JCS athletes (withdrew)
SR TU	Mixed 30+	4th	—	JCS (individual)

※ "Scratch" indicates an event where the athlete was entered but did not compete.



Rising to the Challenge on America's Biggest Stage

— 43 Medals Won at AMJRF Nationals 2026 —

In June, New York Ikuei Gakuen's Double Dutch team competed at "AMJRF Nationals 2026," one of America's largest jump rope and Double Dutch tournaments, held in Buffalo, New York. Roughly 30 teams and more than 900 athletes gathered from across the country — about 2.5 times last year's turnout — making it an even more competitive tournament than usual.

Day 1 — Travel, Check-In, and Opening Ceremony

The first day of the trip was travel day. The team arrived safely in Buffalo and completed check-in and dorm arrival at Buffalo State University, the tournament venue. In the evening, they attended the opening ceremony. Seeing athletes gathered from across the country, the children seemed to truly feel that "the national championship is finally starting." Watching the discipline and quick teamwork of other organizations, the team was also seen discussing how "there's a lot to learn here beyond just the competition itself."

Day 2 — High School Division and the Dads' Division

Competition began in earnest on the second day. The team settled into a national-tournament rhythm: waking at 6 a.m. and eating breakfast by 6:30 in a cafeteria that filled up fast. This day centered on the high school division and the dads' division. This time around, several fathers of the athletes competed alongside their children, having trained in whatever spare time they could find between work commitments.

Among a field of the nation's top athletes, high schooler Daimu Ishikawa set a new personal best, finishing 3rd among 23 of the country's top competitors. The dads' team also delivered a composed, confident performance despite their nerves and came away with a medal. On top of that, a middle school team that had entered the high school division due to roster numbers also won silver — a promising start to the tournament.



A moment from the team Team Show event — all 14 traveling members performed in perfect sync

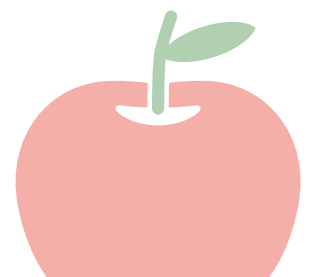


The finish of the Team Show — the traveling members performed as one

Day 3 — Elementary & Middle School, the Tournament's Biggest Highlight

Day 3, centered on the elementary and middle school athletes, was the biggest highlight of the tournament. The 14–15 age division alone drew more than 70 competitors, and every event was a top-tier national-level battle. Amid all this, the Ikuei team put on a dominant showing. In one event, the team achieved a clean one-two finish, winning gold with a performance that left the competition far behind. The team medaled in nearly every Double Dutch event, showing the strength that Ikuei is known for.

Most striking of all was that **every single one of the 14 traveling members won a gold, silver, or bronze medal**. The fact that everyone delivered results on the biggest stage in the country gave the entire team enormous confidence.





A moment from the team Team Show event — traveling members entering the arena, ropes in hand

Day 4 — Freestyle, and Niagara Falls

Day 4 featured the freestyle events. Even after fine-tuning routines right up until showtime, small mistakes crept into moves the team had nailed in practice, making it a frustrating day for the athletes. Even so, in the Double Dutch Contest (DDC), the team's signature flowing routines got a huge reaction from the crowd and earned high praise from many other teams and spectators. Beyond the results themselves, it proved to be a genuinely valuable day for learning what it takes to perform on a world-class level.

After competition ended, the team finally had a chance to relax a little. That evening, they visited Niagara Falls and took in the illuminated, dreamlike scenery along with a fireworks display. The children were seen laughing together with their teammates, showing a different side of themselves than during competition — a moment that added extra color to the memories of this trip.

Final Day — Watching the Grand Championship and Building Connections

On the final day, the team watched the Grand Championship, featuring only the top athletes across all age groups. Watching world-class speed, freestyle, and Double Dutch performances up close — well beyond their own age brackets — the children seemed to come away with new goals, saying things like "I want to stand on that stage next year" and "I want to practice more."

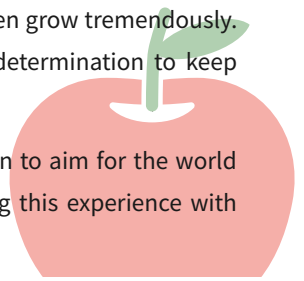
In the evening, the team also joined the tournament's traditional social event, dancing and taking photos with athletes who had been rivals just hours earlier, deepening new friendships. Making new friends through a shared rope, across languages and regions, was one of the tournament's biggest and most distinctive rewards.

Closing — What Lies Beyond the Medals

In total, the Ikuei team brought home **43 medals from this trip — 13 gold, 16 silver, and 14 bronze**. But medals were far from the only thing this trip gave the team.

They challenged themselves on the nation's biggest stage, tasted success, experienced disappointment, discovered their own areas to improve, and connected with peers from across the country. Each of these experiences helped the children grow tremendously. Beyond competitive skill, the ability to think and act independently, to support one another, and the determination to keep challenging themselves to the very end — these are the immeasurable riches this trip gave the team.

The 43 medals are, in the end, just one result. What the children truly gained from this trip — the ambition to aim for the world stage, and the courage to keep challenging themselves — was the most valuable outcome of all. Carrying this experience with them, the Ikuei Double Dutch team will keep pushing toward even bigger stages.





With Niagara Falls behind them, traveling members raise their fists in determination for next year

+ SPECIAL COLUMN

The Dads Take On Nationals — 4 Medals Earned Between Work Shifts

Two fathers of JCS athletes competed alongside their children at this year's tournament. Kiyotake Ishikawa and Daiki Naito — both working professionals — trained for the competition in whatever weekends and spare moments they could find.

The pair won **silver (2nd place)** in the Mixed 30+ Single Rope Double Unders Relay. In individual events, Kiyotake Ishikawa also took **bronze (3rd)** in Male 30+ SRSE, and Daiki Naito took **bronze (3rd)** in Male 30+ SRSS — bringing their combined total to 4 medals (counted separately from the 43 medals won by the 14 traveling members).

The sight of the two of them smiling with medals around their necks became one of the biggest highlights of the tournament, for the children and the whole venue alike.



The two fathers walking with silver medals around their necks (left: Daiki Naito, right: Kiyotake Ishikawa). AMJRF 2026 National Championship / Buffalo, NY

Event	Category	Place	Entry #	Members	Medals
🥈 Silver Medals (2 total) — Parents					
SRDR	Mixed 30+	🥈 2nd	#35	Kiyotake Ishikawa • Daiki Naito	Silver ×2
🥉 Bronze Medals (2 total) — Parents					
SRSS	Male 30+	🥉 3rd	#23	Daiki Naito	Bronze ×1
SRSE	Male 30+	🥉 3rd	#27	Kiyotake Ishikawa	Bronze ×1

MEDIA CONTACT

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