The first issue of the English version of the Journal of the Japanese Society of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine will be published on May 25, 2012. I would like to thank Dr. Kazuhiko Imaizumi, chief of the editorial committee of the JPFSM, and the members of the editorial board for their valuable contributions.

The first general meeting of the Japanese Society of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine was held on November 3-4, 1949, at the National Institute of Public Health, and the first volume of the first issue of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine was published on February 10, 1950. In the first issue, after the “Words from the Publisher” written by Administrative Director Dr. Toshiro Azuma, appeared an article titled “An Introduction to Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine” posted by Doctor Seizaburo Uramoto, head of the editorial board. This first issue contained eleven original papers. In the course that led to the 61st volume of the second issue of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine, an English version of the journal has been published only once. Currently, contents from the first issue to the 61 volumes of the second issue of the journal are accessible anytime on J-STAGE.

Although members of the Japanese Society of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine expressed their desire to publish their research achievements as papers written in English for the entire world to see, we could not financially afford to publish a journal in both Japanese and English. However, since the journal Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine introduced an online submission system on April 1, 2010, some members appeared to no longer need the printed version, and, as a result, the journal has been able to economize on publication costs. In addition to the latter, with the prospect of the possibility of further economizing on publication costs by only accepting online submissions for the English version of Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine, we have decided to publish an English version of the journal.

The first issue of the journal in English has been published, but continuing to publish it on a regular basis in a sustained manner will be much more difficult than publishing the inaugural issue. It will be even more difficult to do so without the dedicated support of the members of the Japanese Society of Physical Fitness and Sport Medicine as well as the support of the editorial committee of the English version of the journal.

Finally, I would like to greet you on occasion of the publication of this first issue of the JPFSM and would sincerely like to sincerely ask for your cooperation and support of the journal.

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