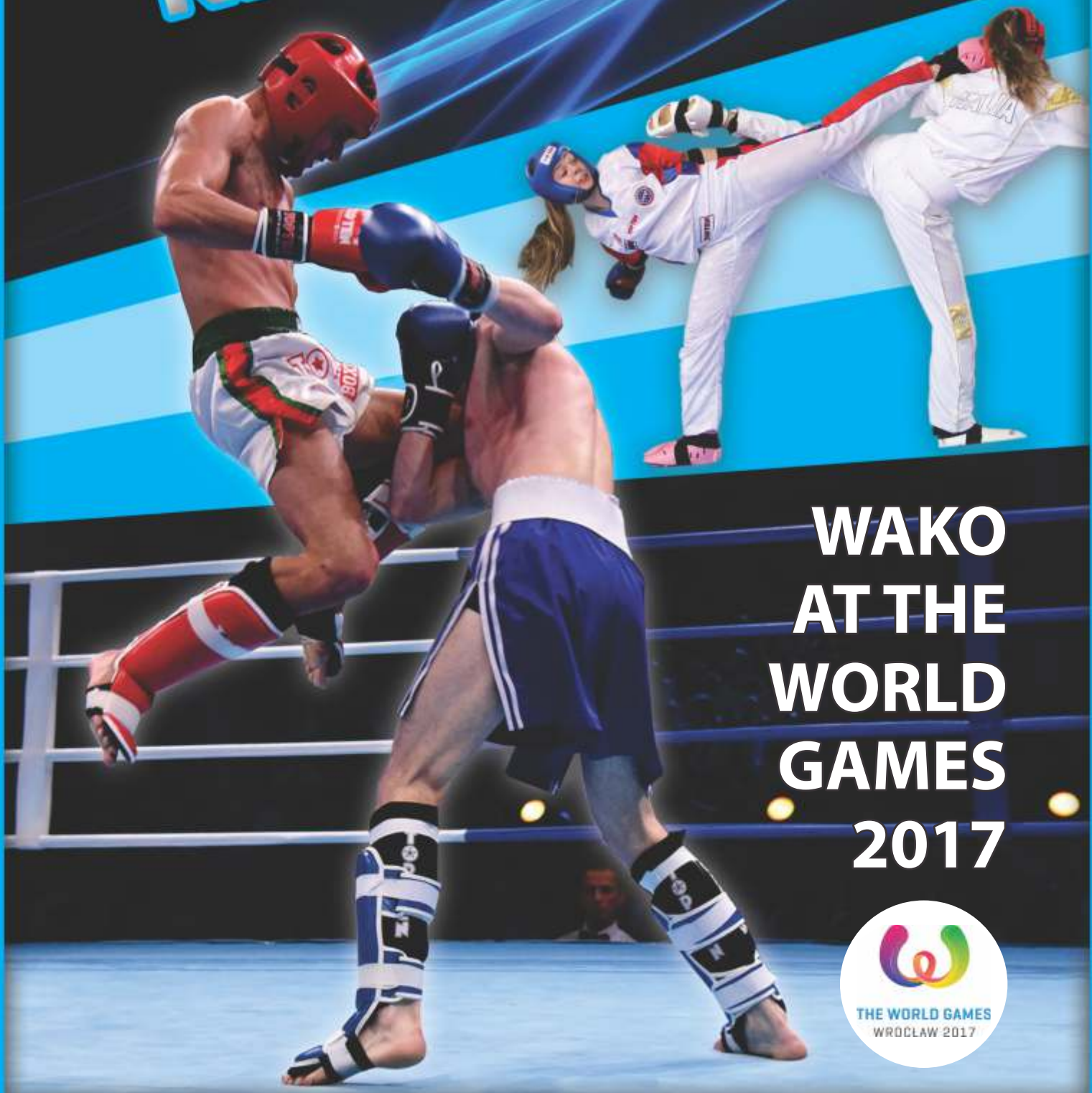


# WAKO

## KICKBOXING

### MAGAZINE



**WAKO  
AT THE  
WORLD  
GAMES  
2017**





# WAKO KICKBOXING



**WAKO President**  
**Borislav Pelević**



## **WAKO ASIA**

*President*  
*Nasser Nassiri*

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Barhain
4. China
5. Hong Kong
6. India
7. Iraq
8. I.R.Iran
9. Jordan
10. Kazakhstan
11. Kyrgyzstan
12. Korea
13. Kuwait
14. Lao PDR
15. Lebanon
16. Macau
17. Malaysia
18. Mongolia
19. Nepal
20. Oman
21. Palestine
22. Philippines
23. Saudia Arabia
24. Singapore
25. Syria
26. Taijikistan
27. Chinese Taipei
28. Thailand
29. Turkmenistan
30. UAE
31. Uzbekistan
32. Vietnam
33. Yemen



## **WAKO AFRICA**

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*Emmanuel Essessima*

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2. Angola
3. Benin
4. Cameroon
5. Congo
6. Egypt
7. Gabon
8. Ghana
9. Isle Maurice
10. Kenya
11. Libya
12. Madagascar
13. Mauretania
14. Morocco
15. Namibia
16. Nigeria
17. Senegal
18. Sierra Leone
19. Somalia
20. South Africa
21. Tunisia
22. Zimbabwe

# IN THE WORLD



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*Paulo Zorello*

1. Argentina
2. Barbados
3. Bermuda
4. Bolivia
5. Brazil
6. Canada
7. Colombia
8. Chile
9. Cuba
10. El Salvador
11. Ecuador
12. Guatemala
13. Mexico
14. Panama
15. Paraguay
16. Peru
17. Puerto Rico
18. Trinidad&Tobago
19. Uruguay
20. USA
21. Venezuela



## WAKO EUROPE

*Acting President*

*Roy Baker*

1. Austria
2. Armenia
3. Albania
4. Azerbaijan
5. Belarus
6. Belgium
7. Bosnia Herz
8. Bulgaria
9. Croatia
10. Cyprus
11. Czech Republ.
12. Denmark
13. Estonia
14. Finland
15. France
16. Georgia
17. Germany
18. Great Britain
19. Greece
20. Hungary
21. Ireland
22. Israel
23. Italy
24. Kosovo
25. Latvia
26. Liechtenstein
27. Lithuania
28. Luxembourg
29. Malta
30. Macedonia
31. Moldova
32. Monaco
33. Montenegro
34. Netherland
35. Norway
36. Poland
37. Portugal
38. Romania
39. Russia
40. Serbia
41. Slovakia
42. Slovenia
43. Spain
44. Sweden
45. Switzerland
46. Turkey
47. Ukraine



## WAKO OCEANIA

*Acting President*

*Peter Thompson*

1. Australia
2. New Zealand
3. Samoa

# EDITOR'S LETTER



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**Dear WAKO friends,**

Last year was one of the best in the WAKO history.

Four continental championships were held (Asia, PanAmerica, Europe and Africa). All of these were in fact qualifying disciplines K-1 rules for the World Games 2017 in July in Wroclaw, Poland, where the WAKO is participating for the first time since its beginning.

I am especially pleased with the sudden increase in the number of the participating countries and the quality seen on the WAKO PanAm Championships 2016 (17 countries with over 850 athletes). I was present there and it was really nice to see Canada, Brazil, the USA, Mexico, Argentina, Chile etc. together.

I was also present on the WAKO Africa Championships in Morocco; yet, I have to say that I am not satisfied either with the number of the participating countries or the number of athletes.

However, this year we will do everything we can to pay more attention to the WAKO Africa, to try to raise quantity and organize more activities: seminars for referees and coaches, regular and various other competitions...

A large number of Cups were held in Europe and PanAm: 5 World and over 15 Continental Cups with more than 60 participating countries.

A lot was done on the sports-diplomatic field, too.

The WAKO delegation consisting of Espen Lund, Roy Baker and myself, was twice in Lausanne on the SportAccord Convention where we held meetings with the officials of the IOC, IWGA ( World Games), AIMS, WADA, FISU ( the International University Sports Federation), Peace&Sport...

We also visited the IOC headquarters in Lausanne upon the invitation of the IOC Sports Department and concerning the IOC recognition of the WAKO. We were received by a high IOC delegation. In WAKO delegation was also Mrs. Francesca Falsoni, WAKO Vice President and Chairman of the WAKO Legal Committee.

Another event in which we were delegates was the Conference of the International Fair Play Committee in Budapest. The WAKO became a member of this great international organization which is under the patronage of the IOC.

I was also present on the Peace and Sport International Forum in Monaco and we became partners and their members. So, we became full members and partners of these two great international sports federations.

In the first half of this year we are going to become members of the FISU ( the International University Sports Federation ) as well as of the International Working Group on Women and Sport (IWG). Everything is set for the signing of our membership in these two organizations which are the IOC partners.

I visited the Organising Committee of the World Games in Wroclaw, 5 national Olympic Committees in the world and held numerous meetings with the world sports officials concerning our membership in the IOC.

Clearly, the most important of all is the submission of our official Application for the IOC recognition in August, 2016.

In January, 2017, during the official visit to the IOC in Lausanne, we were assured that our Application is good (yet, there was a remark that we are expected to have more women in the managerial bodies and that the work of the Athlete and Coach Committee needs to be improved).

The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere, and the WAKO was welcomed with appreciation and sympathies. It was agreed that the existing drawbacks be improved in a reasonable period, but we were also told that they are impressed with our quantity, the number of competitions, good organization and structure, as well as the popularity of kickboxing in the world.

We do expect and hope to become members of the IOC this year and thus make our long- lasting dream come true.

Thank you for your attention.

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Prof. Borislav Pelević, Ph.D.  
WAKO President

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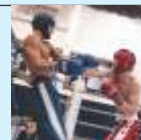
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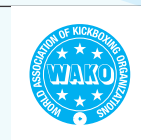
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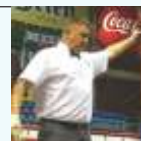
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## OPTIMISTIC MEETING WITH IOC REPRESENTATIVES



Under the rings: WAKO delegates with IOC Representative Mr. Mike Joyce

WAKO officials were on the de-brief meeting with the IOC in their HQ in Lausanne.

The representatives from IOC Sports Department were: Director Mr. Kit McConnell, Ms. Jenny Mann and Mr. Mike Joyce.

WAKO Delegation was: President Borislav Pelevic, Francesca Falsoni as WAKO Vice President and the Chairman of the WAKO Legal Committee, Espen Lund, WAKO Vice President and Chairman of the International Relations WAKO Committee and Roy Baker, WAKO Vice President and WAKO Europe Acting President.

The atmosphere of the meeting was very pleasant and it was obvious that WAKO has their sympathies.

We went through the application elements, both the strong elements, and improvements.

IOC was actually impressed with WAKO and our application, so we are in a very good state in many aspects and a step in front of many IFs, which are already a part of the IOC today.

We of course, know internally that we have many improvements in general, but it is important to absorb what's positive and to get the confidence that we move in the right direction.

Actually, the questions that we got concerning the "red flags" from the IOC, was actually not big issues and we will be already working on clarifications on such.

We can mention that they would see a plan to improve the gender balance more than now, even though we made some clarifications with what we

have already upgraded in our By-Laws.

We have to have more women in WAKO IF Board, knowing that situation now is only two women as the Board members. That gives the number less than 12 percents.

Their proposal is that WAKO IF Board has 40 % women. They expressed the possibility of adopting our plan and our WAKO Board decision to increase the number of women in the Board progressively in the near future (not just right now).

What is important, decision and the plan about that should be delivered.

The gender balance issue was the only serious issue we were discussing. All other issues they wanted to clarify were not so serious and WAKO can overcome them very easily.

They wanted to have some clarifications concerning Sustainability and we will summarize a bit what is facts today that can be seen as sustainable elements. Obviously, sustainability is not that a big and issue since we cannot be compared to many IFs that need special infrastructures to organize and develop their sports.

They wanted to know more about the educational aspects we conduct at the Championships, for which they already like. They liked the idea of **the Coach and Athletes Committee's role as an important entourage factor.**

It was asked for a breakdown in disciplines/countries and some other statistic issues. This was to mention some issues, not dramatic at all.

The application process is open and when we have delivered the new documents, we will get a confirmation and then we need to know when will Executive Board IOC handle new recommendations from the IOC Sports Departments.

We were told that it is very realistic that WAKO application for the IOC recognition would be discussed at the Executive Board meeting in July 2017.

The process is in good hands and WAKO have a full control of it.

*M.P.*

In front of IOC Headquarters: Mr. Borislav Pelevic, Mr. Roy Baker and Mrs. Francesca Falsoni





WAKO is officially included in International Fair Play Committee, CIPF



Presidents shaking hands: Mr. Jenő Kamuti and Mr. Pelevic

# WAKO IN FAIR PLAY

During the General Assembly which was held in Budapest on October 15th 2016, WAKO officially became included in the International Fair Play Committee, CIPF. CIPF, an organization recognized by IOC, is a worldwide organization with the aim of defending and promotion of fair play.

Fair play is intended for everyone. Everyone involved in sport is responsible for fair play.



Mr. Espen Lund introducing WAKO to CIPF delegates



CIPF regards the following five aspects as crucial to putting fair sport into practice:

1. Performance and achievement.
2. Creating rules and complying with them.
3. Equal opportunities.
4. Respect.
5. Health.

These five aspects play the significant role in all performance levels and age groups in sport, ranging from competitive sport at both elite and popular levels, to sport for fun, leisure and health as well as extreme sports. Furthermore, the CIPF does not view sport for disabled as an independent category since disabled athletes are engaged in similar categories of sport.

WAKO IF President, Mr. Borislav Pelevic says:

"The WAKO gets inspired by the idea of the Fair Play and wants in all aspects to focus on the athletes and to act preventive. Observing the worldwide development within sports, we experience that credibility is at stake on many levels. Education is everything and WAKO wants to strengthen its effort to promote Fair Play as an important educative tool within our movement. Our objective is that Fair Play will be a natural part of the behavior through activities, using best practices, cherish initiatives and create involvement and understanding. Fair Play enabled through actions is not only important for our athletes but also important for our entourage. So, let's have a goal to be best example using simple methods but yet creating important results".

Fair Play Committee President, Mr. Jenő Kamuti from Hungary, who

Fair play is the necessary basis for engaging in sport positively. Fair sport is fun and enjoyable, giving those involved a good feeling and ensuring that sporting achievement can be perceived as deserved and honestly won.

Respectful actions based on mutual recognition form the basis of fair sport. Not only athlete but all those involved in the sporting system are responsible for this. Respectful conduct is based on moral conviction and on rules. The two are complementary. It is fair to teach children how to treat others respectfully because respectful conduct has to be learned based on moral conviction. Spectators have both a positive or negative impact on the competition through the atmosphere which they arouse.

was re-elected as President on the October 14th for the four years mandate, congratulated The WAKO for the initiatives taken and all the

inspiration in WAKO activities he experienced during the last World Cadets and Junior Championship in Dublin, Ireland in August.

The WAKO also attended as a guest the World Fair Play Award Ceremony held in Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest where awards for 2015 were announced.

The WAKO expresses huge thanks to CIPF for its friendly attitude and for making us welcome in this important organization.

M.P.

Sport is as diverse as life itself and the fair play ideal forms the basis of all sporting activity. Enjoyment and satisfaction can be derived from sporting achievement only if the principle of fair play is adhered to.

The International Fair Play Committee (CIPF) regards the diversity and appeal of sport as the basis of its understanding of fair play.

Fair play cannot be understood without incorporating such fundamental ethical values as justice and human dignity. Such an approach makes the fair play ideal achievable for everyone, underlining its special significance.



# WAKO European Championships

October 22nd - 30th, 2016, Maribor, Slovenia

## THE BEST OF EUROPE 2017



WAKO European Championships (K1 Rules, Low Kick, Light Contact) is over and another great WAKO event came to an end. Next stop is Loutraki, Greece, where the second part of the WAKO European Championships, this time in Point Fighting, Kick Light Contact, Full Contact and Musical Forms, will take place.

In Maribor, we had 523 kickboxers representing 40 European countries.

Congratulations to all of the new WAKO European Champions and to all the kickboxers who succeed to qualify for the IWGA World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland.

The most successful nation is the Russian Federation followed by Serbia, Poland, Turkey, and Italy. During the Championships WAKO Europe had a pleasure to host Mr. Janez Kocijancic, European Olympic Committee Acting President, who was very satisfied with the organization and the level of the competition.

During his visit, Mr. Kocijancic had a meeting with Mr. Roy Baker, WAKO Europe Acting President and Mr. Borislav Pelevic, WAKO IF President. The main topic of the meeting was the inclusion of kickboxing in the next



**Vladimir Sitar, Roy Baker and Borislav Pelević with Matjaž Pecovnik, EUSA (European University Sports Association) Secretary General**

**WAKO delegates with Mr. Janez Kocijančič, European Olympic Committee Acting President**









**Opening ceremony  
with 40 participating countries, 523  
competitors and many important  
guests from international sports  
establishment.**

edition of European Games which will be held in Minsk, Belarus.

The opening ceremony of the Championships was spectacular with the presence of many important guests from the sports establishment such as Mr Janez Kocijancic, European Olympic Committee Acting President, Mr Bogdan Gabrovec, the President of the National Olympic Committee of Slovenia, Mr Andrej Fistravec, the Mayor of Maribor, Mr Miroslav Cerar, CIPF Council member and Mr Dejan Zavec, a boxing legend and a former World Champion.

During the Championships, Dr. Ivica Flis Smaka, spec. of physical med. and rehabilitation and sports medicine held a medical seminar on the topic: Injury Prevention and Kickboxing. It had huge attendance of more than 100 European National Coaches and support staff.





WAKO Europe General Assembly took place 24th October during the European Championships. We had 32 countries representatives present, and all the reports and 2016 working plans were adopted. After resigning of the two Board members, the new ones were elected: Mr. Daimi Akin and Mr. Istvan Kiraly. This year was very successful, with 57 tournaments held in Europe, with more than 20 000 athletes participating.



**Medical seminar in Maribor**  
Dr. Ivica Flis Smaka, spec. of physical med. and rehabilitation and sports medicine held a medical seminar: "Injury Prevention and Kickboxing" for WAKO Europe Coaches and Entourage Committees



WAKO Europe had its Ordinary General Assembly where all important decisions for the future of kickboxing in Europe were taken. Congratulations to Istvan Kiraly (Hungary) and Daimi Akin (Norway) on being elected to the Board. It can be said that the year 2016 was very successful, with 57 tournaments held in Europe, with more than 20 000 athletes participating.

As previously decided this Championships was the qualifying event for European countries for

participation in the IWGA World Games in Wroclaw next year. After five days of competition we got the very best of kickboxing. Many great fights, huge energy and desire from all participating kickboxers to reach their place for Wroclaw. Unfortunately, there was no place for all of them. Only the best of the best got their tickets.

The WAKO will participate in the next edition of the IWGA World Games as an invitational sport represented by only one discipline, K1 rules. The decision about including kickboxing was made by the IWGA based on the popularity of the sport, especially its discipline K1 rules. It was recommended by Wroclaw Organizing Committee also in relation with the host country, Poland, which is very strong and successful in this exciting and world famous fighting sport.

The WAKO has great expectations from the IWGA World Games. For the first time ever, the WAKO will be able to show to this important World organization the real spirit of kickboxing. We are sure that great skills, exciting fights, high quality of our top kickboxers will make IWGA decide to accept the WAKO as a full member and kickboxing as an official sport for the future.

In compliance with the WAKO IF Board decision and the qualifying system, here is a list of the qualified kickboxers from Europe (first, second and two third places).

M.P.

**WAKO Officials at the European Championships**



## WHO IS GOING TO WROCLAW 2017 FROM EUROPE?

### MALE:

#### -63.5 kg:

1. Aleksandar Konovalov (SRB)
2. Muhamet Deskaj (CRO)
3. Orfan Sananzade (UKR)
4. Yury Zhukouski (BLR)

#### -67 kg:

1. Slobodan Mijajlovic (SRB)
2. Vladislav Ukrainets (RUS)
3. Burak Eymur (TUR)
4. Yurii Peretiakko (UKR)

#### -71 kg:

1. Bogdan Shumarov (BUL)
2. Vitalii Dubina (UKR)
3. Ilya Usachec (RUS)
4. Ali Cakir (TUR)

#### -75 kg:

1. Datsi Datsiev (RUS)
2. Sergey Alexandrov (BUL)
3. Ljubo Jalovi (SRB)
4. Yauhen Lasheuski (BLR)

#### -81 kg:

1. Aleksandar Menkovic (SRB)
2. Aleksandr Dmitrenko (RUS)
3. Dzimitry Baranau (BLR)
4. Arkadiusz Kaszuba (POL)

#### -86 kg:

1. Dawid Kasperski (POL)
2. Vitalii Korchak (UKR)
3. Roman Piatnica (RUS)
4. Adrian Gologan (MDA)

#### -91 kg:

1. Mateusz Pluta (POL)
2. Igor Darmeskhin (RUS)
3. PetrKares (CZE)
4. Pavel Voronin (MDA)

#### +91 kg:

1. Piotr Ramankevich (BLR)
2. Ante Verunica (CRO)
3. Sasa Polugic (SRB)
4. Roman Holovatiuk (UKR)



**Piotr Ramankevich**  
heavy weight  
qualified fighter



**Winner**  
**Aleksandar**  
**Menkovic**

### FEMALE:

#### -52 kg:

1. Monika Chochilikova (SVK)
2. Myra Winkelman (AUT)
3. Monika Markowska (GBR)
4. Anna Poskrebysheva (RUS)

#### -56 kg:

1. Malgorzata Dymus (POL)
2. Sandra Maskova (CZE)
3. VeronikaPetrikova (SVK)
4. Christin Fiedler (AUT)

#### -60 kg:

1. Tatiana Ponomareva (RUS)
2. ZinaDjelassi (SWE)
3. Natalia Martiukhina (UKR)
4. Lucia Cmarova (SVK)

#### -65 kg:

1. Cristina Caruso (ITA)
2. Roza Gumienna (POL)
3. Sarel De Jong (NED)
4. Veronika Cmarova (SVK)



*Sport and Peace at the same trucks. Ukrainian and Russian fighters standing and singing together celebrating life, youth and joy on the Championships*





## WAKO PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

# KICKBOXING FOR BRIGHTER FUTURE OF YOUNG PEOPLE



Every person, regardless of age, ability, economic advantage or any other criteria which make us different, has the right to participate in sport. Physical activity is the key to each individual's physical and mental well-being. All young people need to be given a chance to practice sport if they want to and to be able to take part in physical activities regardless of their ability or disability. There is a lot kickboxing can do for you whether you want to be a performance athlete or if you want to do it recreationally.

Sport has the power to develop young people's potentials, helping them to stay healthy and happy and be included in society. What is more, it is through sport that young people are motivated to contribute and to succeed. Sport also equips them with competence and prepares them for the challenges of life ahead. It gives young people support to develop positive personality traits : creativity, aspiration, resilience and empathy. Moreover, when it comes to children with special needs, sport is seen as one of the main factors that will support them and teach them how to boost their self-confidence.

During the WAKO European Championships in Maribor in October 2016, part of the program at the Opening ceremony was the demonstration of kickboxing by disabled children.

As part of the performance five boys between 15 and 18 came into the ring and exercised kickboxing. It was such a touching performance which truly, deeply saddened even the toughest of the hearts among the spectators. Yet, what is even more important is that it did a lot to show us, very bluntly, that everyone, no matter what their physical status is, has the right to do sport.

That was a great opportunity for the hosting country, Slovenia, and the main organizer, the five time WAKO

European champion and the five time WAKO World Champion, Tomaž Barada, to present the activities they have in the Barada Sports Center in Maribor concerning disabled kids. With specially educated trainers, these young people come to the gym every day and they get free kickboxing trainings. They learn basic kicks and punches and have a controlled sparring, which they enjoy the most. In the Barada Center experts in kickboxing conduct a special program approved by the highest profession authorities to train such kids.

Moreover, during the Championships Tomaz Barada ran an auction sale of the most valuable trophies and pieces of sports equipment he has earned throughout his extensive and prolific sports career. He planned to raise funds for charity programs concerning Slovenian athletes from less privileged backgrounds. Luckily, he sold his professional title belt to a big company in Slovenia. With this act he proved once again what a great man he is and that the most precious things in the world are not material. This is what he said when he handed over his belt: "If this money puts a smile on the children's faces in my Sports Center then I am a lucky man".

M.P.





A charity campaign in the WAKO

# A BELT FOR HUMANITY

To be a true WAKO champion sometimes it is not enough just to be the best fighter. It takes a lot more- a blend of skill, strength, humanity, altruism, care for others and good will.

We have had many examples of true champions finding the best way to immediately offer concrete funds for solving some problems in the community.

The WAKO and the WAKO PRO champion from Serbia, Nenad Pagonis, offered his WAKO PRO belt on an auction to help raise money for the victims of the floods in Serbia in 2014. The belt was bought by an NBA basketball star Darko Miličić, who was so pleasantly surprised by the WAKO people he met on that occasion. So much that he started to practice kickboxing once he had finished his NBA career. A year afterwards, he asked the WAKO PRO headquarters for a professional fight.

On the press conference before the event, Nenad Pagonis was there to give him support with the words: "You bought my belt, now the time has come for you to earn yours!"

There are many examples of human acts when champions show readiness to help the disabled.

On the last European Championships in Maribor in October 2016, one of the organizers of this event, Tomaž Barada, a multiple WAKO European and World Champion, also offered his belt on an auction with the aim of helping children who need assistance in everyday life or the ones who live in poverty.

On the Final evening ceremony, Barada sold his belt to a big company in Slovenia, with the purpose of donating money. This event was used to increase visibility of the burning problem of the lack of support for children in their growth,



disabled children and young people who are missing out on their childhood because of the inappropriate equipment, and the lack of opportunities to be included in the community.

"I am sure that the belt is now in good hands", said Tomaž Barada after the handover. "I would like to thank the Slovenian Lottery greatly for helping to provide what is needed for children in Slovenia."

M.P.



PASSIONE E STILE  
PASSION AND STYLE

CRISTINA CARUSO



# SportAccord International Federation (IF) Forum 2016

Lausanne, 9-11 November 2016  
Royal Savoy Hotel

## WAKO AT SPORTACCORD IF FORUM

*Lausanne was a real epicenter of World's Sport from 9-11 November 2016, where Annual SportAccord International Federations (IF) Forum 2016 was held at the Royal Savoy Hotel.*

This was the 10th edition of an IF Forum held with the topic The Power of Sport to Drive World Health, which provided various platforms for International Federations to discuss key challenges and gain from the insights of major leaders and stakeholders from the sport and the industry.

This edition was a historic one with the IOC President Dr. Thomas Bach, Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti, the SportAccord Convention President and the ASOIF President (the Association of the Summer Olympic International Federations) and the SportAccord President Mr. Patrick Baumann opening the IF Forum, showing the unity between the IOC and SportAccord and SportAccord Convention.

Representatives and delegates from more than 180 International Sports Federations were present on the Forum.

The WAKO was represented by its President, Dr. Borislav Pelević, and the Vice President, Mr. Espen Lund, who is also the President of the WAKO Committee for International Relations.

### IOC APPLICATION

Undoubtedly, the most important meeting for the WAKO was with Mr. Mike Joyce, from the IOC Sports Department.

The process of the IOC recognition of the WAKO is ongoing.

For sure the WAKO has submitted a strong application. What is more, the WAKO is a big international federation compared to many of the IFs in the AIMS. We got confirmations from the



Peace and Sport President Mr. Joël Bouzou with WAKO President Borislav Pelević

ARISF President, Mr. Raffaele Chiulli, a supporter of the WAKO, that our application is in compliance with all the IOC standards.

### SPORTACCORD COMBAT GAMES

There was a meeting held with all the presidents and delegates of combat sports organizations concerning Combat Games.

It was decided that a new edition of Combat Games be held in March/April 2018. As of now we have two candidates to host Combat Games: Houston, Texas, the USA, and Almaty, Kazakhstan. All details will be defined on the next SportAccord meeting in Denmark, April 2017.

### MEETING WITH FISU

WAKO delegates had a meeting with Mr. Paulo Ferreira, the Director of the World University Championships, concerning the recognition process.

The situation is following: the FISU will finalize the process of application in January 2017. The WAKO will be sent the questionnaire and will have one month to submit the application. Then it will



be assessed. Hopefully, if everything goes as planned, the WAKO will sign an agreement with them on the next SportAccord Convention in Denmark in April.

Once the WAKO is recognized by the FISU it will get a patronage for the world or local championships including access to their network. Last but not least, the WAKO will be included in the combat sports cluster for the University Combat Games in 2020.

#### MEETING PEACE AND SPORT

WAKO delegates had an important meeting with the President of the International Organization PEACE AND SPORT Mr. Joël Bouzou.

PEACE AND SPORT is an organization under the patronage of the UN and the UNHCR.

The WAKO already has common activities with this organization in Jordan, where Dr. Basel helped, together with this organization, refugee camps. PEACE AND SPORT highly appreciates the efforts the WAKO has put helping the ones in need in Jordan.

#### ESPEN LUND'S MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL IN THE IOC

While Mr. Espen Lund was at the IOC Headquarter meeting his marketing colleagues he also had a constructive meeting with the Deputy Director General in the IOC, Mr. Pere Miro. They carried out productive one-hour talks in his office on various issues, especially about social inclusion.



**Mr. Nenad Lalović (left)**, member of the IOC and a member of the Executive Board of SportAccord, **Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti, President ASOIF** (Association of Summer Olympic International Federations) and WAKO President **Mr. Boriskav Pelević**



**Mr. Pere Miro**, Deputy Director General for Relations with the Olympic Movement and **Mr. Espen Lund**, WAKO Vice President

#### MEETING WITH MR. NENAD LALOVIĆ, A MEMBER OF THE IOC

Mr. Nenad Lalović is the President of the Wrestling International Federation, a member of the IOC and a member of the Executive Board of SportAccord. He is Serbian, so the WAKO President took this opportunity to have a meeting with his Serbian colleague and discuss the current issues in the International Sport. Mr. Lalović offered his full support on all the issues concerning the WAKO development.

#### TAFISA

It is important to mention that due to the negotiation between the TAFISA and the SportAccord (involving the IOC), the TAFISA will no longer going to organize Martial Art Games and will follow the Olympic Movement and not interfere with activities which create conflicts with dissident federations.

#### AIMS

Espen Lund also participated in the AIMS Council meeting on 9 November as an honorary member.

All in all, these were three fruitful and productive days in Lausanne for the WAKO.

*M.P.*



# SPORTDATA event technology

Software solution for  
all event management  
activities - SET online

SET-Online allows teams, clubs and event managers to enter, administrate and monitor registrations quickly and comfortably! SET Online offers you the chance to transact all event activities paperless.

Dear WAKO Members,

Please find notice about the official registration, drawing and ranking system for ALL THE WAKO Events, Worldwide.

From 1st January 2017 as advised to all the members in February 2016, going forward in 2017 all WAKO events must use Sportdata for its event management and drawing, i.e. its registration, drawing and ranking system. It is a fundamental component of our Health and Safety responsibility for our Athletes and our Sport and a key component of our worldwide integration strategy.



Please contact Sportdata directly on [www.sportdata.org](http://www.sportdata.org) for all system and registration requirements, you will find attached all the information in relation to the system capabilities and also the specially negotiated discounted WAKO member prices, which are very competitive.

Please pass this on to your event administrators and your refereeing committee and ensure that you and your national federation are fully compliant in 2017.

This is open scoring in all our disciplines.

It gives us a good opportunity to show openness, fair play and transparency.

It gives us a great opportunity to educate and correct the referees.

It dramatically reduces the speculations and manipulation when the on-spot results are exposed like this.

The judges do not see the result during the match.



## BESTFIGHTER WAKO WORLD CUP 2017

will be held on 16, 17, 18 JUNE at 105 Stadium - RIMINI



Last year many athletes and clubs were in trouble because the two prestigious World Cups of Budapest and Rimini were in very close dates and be able to plan the expenses for two trips in these years of crisis has been a great sacrifice for many of you.

"To solve this problem I worked hard in recent months to change the date of Bestfighter Wako World Cup in Rimini. It was difficult because I had to repeat all the work, you all know how much trouble we have to find the sports facilities, and while the first weekend in June, the 105 Stadium there was now assigned routine, change the date it was really difficult. I'm really happy to have done because now two big events of Budapest and Rimini are separated by three weeks and it will be easier for everyone to participate in both Wako World Cups", said Gianfranco Rizzi, the promoter.

The date for the Bestfighter WAKO WORLD CUP 2017 is fixed and we look forward to Rimini for another extraordinary edition of the prestigious tournament being held from 15 to 18 June 2017.



ONE MORE BIG STEP  
TOWARDS WAKO INTERNATIONAL  
RECOGNITION

# WAKO Became a Partner of "PEACE AND SPORT" Organization



The WAKO has achieved great success. Upon the invitation of the President of International Organization "Peace and Sport" **Mr. Joel Bouzou**, the WAKO President, **Mr. Borislav Pelevic**, arrived in Monaco on 24 November, 2016 to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which means equal membership of the WAKO in this international sports organization.

Founded in 2007, by a modern pentathlon Olympic medalist and World Champion, Mr. Joël Bouzou, **Peace and Sport** is a neutral and independent worldwide organization that is operational by using sport and its values as an effective instrument in promoting peace.

International organizations which are partners of **Peace and Sport** are **Council of Europe**, **UNESCO** (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), **UNOSDP** (United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace) and **EPAS** (Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport).

**Peace and Sport** work with the support of the Government of Monaco, Mairie de Monaco and the Tourist organization of Monaco.

Among 33 sports organizations which are members of **Peace and Sport**, the WAKO found its place as a 34th associated organization.

World Archery, IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations), BWF (Badminton World Federation), IFBB (International Federation of Body Building), AIBA (International Boxing Federation), FIDE (World Chess Federation), IFSC (International Federation of sport Climbing), IFAF (International Federation of American Football), FIE (International Fencing Federation), IFF (International Floorball Federation), World Rugby, International jujitsu federation, WKF (World Karate Federation), IFMA (International Federation for Muay Thai), ITF (International Taekwondo Federation) are some of the members of **Peace and Sport**.

On the press conference organized on this occasion, the MOU has been signed and the WAKO became a member with all credits. This was a great opportunity for the WAKO President to have meetings with



present representatives of many member organizations.

Mr. Joel Bouzou invited the WAKO President to The Fourth edition of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, 6 April 2017 and 10th Peace and Sport International Forum in Monaco from 6-8 December 2017. That will be a great opportunity for the WAKO to be introduced to all the ways of cooperation and contribution.



# WAKO European Championships

Greece Loutraki, 19th-27th November 2016

Disciplines: Point fighting, Kick light, Full contact, Musical Forms

# EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR 2016 (Second part)



Great Opening ceremony

From 19th till 27th November 2016 Greece hosted the second part of the European Kickboxing Championship for disciplines: Point fighting, Kick light, Musical forms and Full Contact. The six days saw lots of high-quality fighting, friendship, and fair play.

This championship is the example of the big positive development within the WAKO organization as a whole and a great opportunity for all the participants to join in and be inspired to keep up the good work.

With 480 participants from 33 countries, the WAKO continues to prove how big an organization in Europe it really is. All the participants from the first part of the Championships held in Maribor, Slovenia, and from the second part in Greece combined comprise more than 1000 entries on the European Championships in 2016.

The opening ceremony was held on November 22. It started at 11 o'clock and was again a great showcase of strength, unity and dignity of the WAKO.



Europe WAKO Board of Directors

Point fighting men's ranking on these championships didn't bring any big surprises: category -84kg and -89 kg was superiorly reserved for Morady Zsolt (Hun) and Roman Brundl (Aut), two old champions, two rivals in the open category and great fighters.

German team had two first places in men division, Sarantoudis Timmy in -69kg and Kuschnir Anatoli -94kg. Italian Riccardo Albanese strongly holds the title in -79kg and Colla David in -63kg. The Hungarians are the best in the light and the heaviest categories: Jaroszkiewicz Krisztian was the best in +94kg and young Veres Roland earned the title of the best male fighter on the championships. The interesting thing is that Veres Roland was the best in kick-light and in -57kg category too!





**Point fighting team champion: Hungary**

**Point fighting team competition is all about adrenaline flow. That's for sure. This time, Hungarian team was the best and deserved the gold medal. The second place went to the WAKO Italian team and the third to Irish team.**

Besides the participation of great, confirmed champions and legends of the WAKO, fighters like Zsolt Moradi, Roman Brundl, McMenamy Robbie, Szabo Dorina, to name just a few, there were also newcomers who participated in the European Championships for the first time. This was certainly inspiring for all of them.

The hardest discipline and the category with tough competition was for sure Full contact men -71kg with the biggest number of registered participants.

In fierce competition the finals introduced two great fighters and a fantastic final fight: Konikov Iurii (Russian Kickboxing Federation) beat Hristo Hristov from Bulgaria. Another great fight was in -81kg full contact between Carrasco Montero Carlos Manuel (Spain) and a great Russian fighter, Nurmaganbetov Kayrat, who won the gold.

Three days of elimination fights were very well organized and everybody was excited about the finals.

In total, medals statistics is as follows:

Three best nations are:

1. Russia (19 gold, 8 silver, 6 bronze-total 33)
2. Hungary (9 gold, 5 silver, 2 bronze - total 16)
3. Italy ( 5 gold, 9 silver, 13 bronze - total 27)

It was a fantastic success for the Russians: out of 39 participants on the Championships, they brought home 33 medals, which is 84%.

In musical forms all gold medals went to Russian fighters. Russian anthem was played 8 times during the awarding ceremony thanks to these amazing athletes: Gavrilov Denis, Bagautdinov Linar, Derunov Vadim, Baev Ivan, Koptova Angelina, Samygina Anna (two gold in two divisions), and Belychenko Anastasia.

Europe got new Champions and they will go home inspired to train even harder, remembering the great event but more importantly looking forward to the positive future of the sport of kickboxing.



**Igor Kulbaev, most successful coach, Russia**

Georgian Cimpeanu, an Italian fighter, is an extraordinary athlete who has managed to unite good will and self-sacrifice. A 15- time Italian Champion, a 20- time winner of the Cup Best Fighter, a 6- time champion on the Austrian Classics, a World champion, junior and senior divisions in point fighting, light contact, kick light. He tried his luck on European Championships in Maribor, in light contact -



**Paulina Jarzmik best female fighter Poland**

**Polish female fighter Jarzmik Paulina tried her luck in two disciplines: in Kick light -60kg and in Point fighting - 60 kg. She was luckier in kick light in which she was better than Gremen Petra (Hungary)in the finals, but in point fighting, she was not able to defeat the new European champion Gullotti Luisa from Italy. Taking into account her participation on the first part of the Championships, where she was in Light contact -60kg and won gold medal, there is no doubt that she is one of the most successful athletes this year on the Europeans with three medals around her neck. Consequetely, she was awarded the best female fighter of the European Championships.**



Best referee (ring) Farigat Kasimov, Russia



Spain at the Opening ceremony



Interestingly, Turkey was the country with the most numerous team, 49 athletes, even more than the host country, Greece.



Roland Veres, the best male fighter with his trainer Istvan Kiraly



Musical forms are always the most popular discipline for the audience



69kg but lost in the finals against Gazivoda Nejc, 4 seconds before the end. As he posted on his Facebook profile, "I've licked my wounds just like a tiger after a fight, I'm back in the gym and I've done the hard work" preparing for a new chance, in kick light discipline, in Greece.

And minutes of his life came in the final fight in kick light -69kg against Demchuk Volodymir. The Georgian won the gold. "My life is amazing", he said. He will also be remembered with the published video sequence of his match against Radek Moravec, with an explosive spinning hook kick, which was very popular on the Internet ,





**Healthy and clean athletes are our goal:  
Medical Seminar**

comprising more than 50 000 views by kickboxing fans.

Medical Seminar for Athletes and Coaches was held on the Championships and was attended by over 130 participants. Some practical techniques of giving the first aid in the ring were presented. Our main priority is practice and teaching how to protect athletes. We need to make sure that we have clean and safe sport for everyone. The participants and presenters were very satisfied with the seminar. It was agreed that that knowledge has to be updated regularly with all the necessary innovative techniques of modern medicine.

The WAKO IF General Assembly 2016 was also held in Loutraki. Our main aim is to create a bright future for our sport and our Athletes and Entourage. All the participants showed great enthusiasm and unity towards future duties and work concerning the IOC recognition application and all the aspects of improvement of work within the WAKO.

The promoter of the Championships, the President of the WAKO Greece, Mr. Mike Triantafyllou has done a great job with his staff for realizing this event and he doesn't hide his happiness for bringing kickboxing Championships back to Greece.

"WAKO Europe is delighted to see continued evolution of the kickboxing sport worldwide.

The second part of the Europeans is the example of strength of the sport of kickboxing in Europe. We have over 1,000 participants in total taking part in the Championships 2016 in Europe. We successfully prepared fair, clean and empowering environment for all participants. It is great to see such a positive trend with 33% of female competitors and 67% of male competitors", said the President of WAKO Europe, Mr. Roy Baker.

*M.P.*



**Awarded participants at the Championships**

## European Championships 2016 Awards

### Tatami

**Best male fighter:** Roland Veres (Hungary)  
**Best female fighter:** Paulina Jarzmik (Poland)

### Ring

**Best male fighter:** Iurii Konikov (Russia)  
**Best female fighter:** Hanne Lauslehto (Finland)  
**Most ethical coach:** Elaine Small (Ireland)  
**Best referee - Tatami:** Oriano De Bei (Italy)  
**Best referee - Ring:** Farigat Kasymov (Russia)  
**Most successful coach:** Igor Kulbaev (Russia)



# 9° Pan-American Kickboxing Championship

Date: October 26 to 29, 2017  
Venue: Ibero Star Resort - Cancun, México

The PanAmerican Championships –  
Road to the IWGA  
World Games 2017

# MEXICO DID A GREAT JOB



*Referee Seminar*



The event was held in Cancun, Mexico, from October 26 to 29.

The PanAmerican Kickboxing Championship was the official qualifying opportunity which will define the eighteen vacancies to the 2017 World Games organized by the IWGA (International World Games Association) in July 2017, in Wroclaw, Poland.

It was the biggest PanAmerican Championship ever held. This was exactly the expectation of the WAKO PANAM, the supervisor and co-organizer, and the WAKO Mexico, the local organizer of the event including many more factors that were involved in it.



*Venue Ibero Star Resort was perfect for the competition*

*Chile and Mexico friendship*





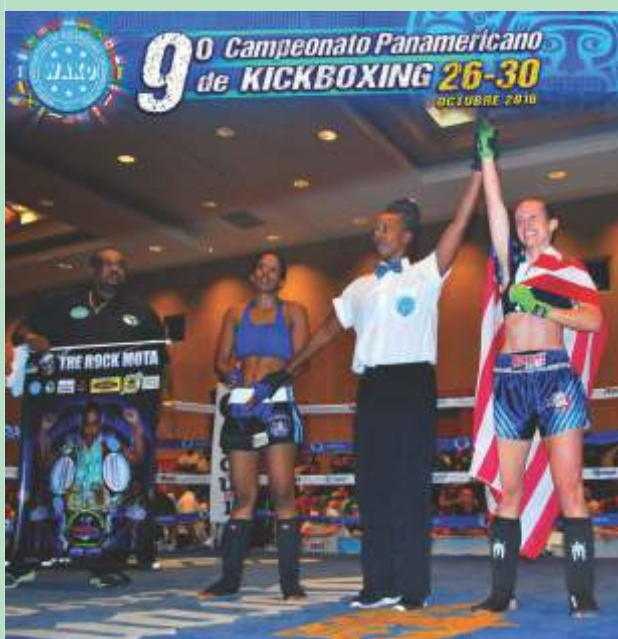
*Horst Prelog, WAKO Board Member and Rob Zbilski, WAKO Team USA President*



# Pan-American Kickboxing Championship

*WAKO Official Referee Bow can be on the neck and in the hair*





It was the first time since its first edition in 1994 that the event had been hosted in the central part of the continent. Cancun, the host city, is one of the most famous tourist destinations in the world. All these factors are the reason for having a record number of participant athletes and countries.

"For now, we have more than 700 athletes from 15 countries and we are sure that this number will rise. The tactic defined by the WAKO PANAM board is achieving great results. The decision to hold continental events in main tourist spots is a winning strategy used on the Olympic Games. In fact, we have adopted this winning strategy after a benchmark study of many of the great events in the world, including those organized by the IOC (the International Olympic Committee)", summed up the WAKO PAN AM President, Mr. Paulo Zorello.

The American continent has the right to 18 vacancies in 12 official categories at K1 Rules (8 for men and 4 for women) and expects to have a great team in Poland.

"Brazil, the USA, Argentina, Canada and, of course, our host, Mexico, are going to have their best fighters in the PanAmerican Championship. In addition, there are some new countries as well, like Costa Rica, which will attend the event with more than 100 participants" finalized the President.

M.P.

## From PanAmerica to Wroclaw!

Here is the list of fighters from PanAmerica who will participate on the IWGA World Games 2017 in Wroclaw.



### Female athletes:

Ashley Acord (USA),  
Asis Pamela (BRA),  
Martinez Aceves Melissa (MEX),  
Carnieto Vanessa (BRA),  
Young Kaitlin (USA)  
and Werner Juliana (BRA).

### Male athletes:

David Aceves Martinez (MEX),  
Jason Hinds (CAN),  
Bruno Gazani (BRA),  
Hernan Emmanuel Marciel (ARG),  
Wallace Lopes (BRA),  
Omari Boyd (USA),  
Leandro Cruz (BRA),  
Jerome Ward (USA),  
Willer Alves (BRA),  
Scott Bartlett (CAN),  
Guto Inocente (BRA),  
Ivan Galaz (CHI).



In total we will have 18 athletes from PanAm.

## MEDALS TABLE

MEDAL STATISTIC - COUNTRY				
CLASIFICACIÓN	PAIS	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
1	BRAZIL	67	45	34
2	MEXICO	53	47	43
3	ARGENTINA	36	31	41
4	CHILE	34	30	30
5	GUATEMALA	21	21	17
6	CANADA	9	10	14
7	ECUADOR	9	9	5
8	PUERTO RICO	5	8	8
9	UNITED STATES	5	5	4
10	COLOMBIA	4	7	18
11	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	2	3	5
12	JAMAICA	2	2	0
13	BOLIVIA	1	3	9
14	VENEZUELA	1	2	5
15	PARAGUAY	1	0	2
16	URUGUAY	0	0	2

*WAKO President Borislav Pelević and WAKO PAN AM President Paulo Zorello with new judges and referees after the seminar*



## CANCUN HAS BECOME PART OF HISTORY

PanAmerican Championships 2016 are over. One more fantastic championships, one big step forward in the development of the WAKO as a stable, big and perspective organization.

Continents have finished their activities for 2016. PanAmerica, as the biggest part of the WAKO, has had a significant championship in which athletes have qualified for The World Games 2017. Here, in Cancun, we have had a privilege to see some of the best performances.

The WAKO Mexico team was working very hard to organise a high-quality event worthy of our sport and justified the trust and responsibility given to Mr. Fernando Granados Leon, the President of the WAKO Mexico.

Before the Championships, Referee seminars for ring and tatami disciplines were held. Jan Frana was the chief referee for ring sports. He held a seminar for his colleagues: "A lot of hard work, precious experience for all of us, and I must say that referees and judges in PanAmerica are making huge progress.", were his words when the Championships were over. Gina Engelhardt was the chief referee for tatami sports. She held a seminar too and said that she completely agreed with Jan Frana when it comes to the quality of refereeing on the Championships.

The amazing opening ceremony was on Thursday, 27th October.

On the same day the WAKO PanAm Board meeting was held. 16 nations were registered on the Championships, with 871 entries in all seven WAKO disciplines.

## WAKO PanAm President Paulo Zorello visits the Paraguayan Olympic Committee (POC)



## NEW OFFICE FOR THE WAKO

The WAKO PANAM President, Mr. Paulo Zorello, visited the new headquarter facilities and the Training Center of the Paraguayan Olympic Committee.

Mr. Zorello made a tour and visited the office in the Center which will be the headquarter of the WAKO PANAM, and all the other facilities available: a hotel with a restaurant for 200 athletes, two sports gymnasiums, administrative facilities, training rooms, a medical department with anti-doping control, auditoriums, meeting rooms, parking space and all sort of sports equipment for practicing of all Olympic sports and the newly recognized kickboxing.

The Training Center of the POC due to open in May 2017.



# WAKO Africa qualifications for The World Games 2017

Rabat, Morocco,  
23rd - 25th December 2016



## FROM AFRICA TO WROCLAW

Qualifying Championships for The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland took place in Rabat, Morocco, from 23 to 25 December.

Thanks to the promoters Mr. El Hilali Abdelkarim, the President of WAKO Morocco, and Mr. Driss El Hilali, the WAKO IF Board member, and with help of Mr. Nasser Nassiri, the WAKO Vice President, WAKO Africa held its qualifications for The World Games next year.

A well-organised event showcased some great fights and thus attracted more than a 1000 spectators. The organizers had the honour to welcome three ambassadors of the participating countries and the WAKO President, Dr. Borislav Pelevic, as well.



Opening ceremony of the Championship

The WAKO President was a guest in the sport club owned by Driss El Hallili and his brother El Hilali Abdelkarim. The club has its own gym and all facilities, and it is only for young children. One of the trainers in the club is their sister Rashida, a former WAKO World Champion, now a WAKO coach.





Mr. Driss El Hilali, Mr. El Hilali Abdelkarim, Mr. Borislav Pelevic, Mr. Nasser Nasiri with judges and referees

Here is the list of gold and silver medal fighters. Only gold medals qualified for the World Games:

**1. men -63,5 kg**

Sailane Brah, Morocco, gold medal  
Fahdy Khaled, Tunisia, silver medal

**2. men -67 kg**

Settouti Youssef, Morocco, gold medal  
Khazami Chakib, Tunisia, silver medal

**3. men -71kg**

Quabissi Saad, Morocco, gold medal  
Sifi Merouane, Tunisia, silver medal

**4. men -75 kg**

Lazrak Mohamed, Morocco, gold medal  
Aberadi Mohamed, Egypt, silver medal

**5. men -81 kg**

Agathe Vejaye I, Mauricius, gold medal  
Merzak Soufiane, Morocco, silver medal

**6. men -86 kg**

Fallak Aziz, Morocco, gold medal  
Bouaziz Mehdi, Tunisia, silver medal

**7. men -91 kg**

Yacoubi Tawfik, Morocco, gold medal  
Arfaoui Badredine, Tunisia, silver medal

**8. men +91kg**

Darkaoui Med, Morocco, gold medal  
Achraf Mohamed, Egypt, silver medal

**1. female -52kg**

Ahlam Elghoul, Tunisia, gold medal  
Bourkadi Ilham, Morocco, silver medal

**2. female -56 kg**

Housni Halima, Tunisia, gold medal  
Raaoui Fatima, Morocco, silver medal

**3. female -60 kg**

Tabit Nabila, Morocco, gold medal  
Zaafouri Arij, Tunisia, silver medal

**4. female -65kg**

Naili Soukaina, Morocco, gold medal  
Sayeh Soukaina, Tunisia, silver medal



Important guests on the stage WAKO President receiving the host award



WAKO President visited the biggest kickboxing club for children in region

M.P.



# American K1 tournament

January 21, 2017, Hotel Holiday Inn, Wellington place, Janesville, WI

## THE BEST FIGHTERS FROM THE MIDWEST



WAKO USA team organized one more kickboxing event strengthening WAKO kickboxing presence and to build WAKO in the United States.

January 21st was reserved for K1 tournament for the best fighters from the Midwest who wants to approve their position in the WAKO USA K1 team.

Fights were under amateur and pro rules and the audience could enjoy the variety of one great sport in two ways to perform.

Promoter was Shayne Adams. WAKO Team USA Kickboxing sanctioned this amateur kickboxing event.

President Rob Zbilski said that, "American K1 Event was a great, well organized event to start off the New Year. WAKO Team USA Kickboxing continues to grow and develop K1 fighters all over the United States. This event had 12 amateur bouts, with 4 of the competitors fighting in the up and coming Glory Kickboxing event in Chicago, Illinois on February 24th, 2017. The next American K1 event is scheduled for April 2017. "

Three of the officials for this event are officials that have officiated at International Events. They were Rocky Troutman, Ron Hilton, and Tim Mzazurkiewicz and others were Lauren Dazzo, Chris Moore, Bill Henniger, Tom Henniger.



The results for the first event of the year, American K1, are as follows:

1. Ken Lyons won by TKO v. Eli Coffman
2. Chad Pearson won by decision v. Kyle Hurley
3. Monika Dorota won by decision v. Katelyn Ritchie
4. William Douglas won by decision v. Anthony Tuggle
5. Dan DeValle won by TKO v. Jared Schindler
6. Bobby Oldenburg won by decision v. Jake Weiss
7. Ryan Rutherford won by decision v. Salvador Nevarez
8. Sam Medina-Conchi won by decision v. Bill Byrd
9. Andrew Navickis won by decision v. Graham Smith
10. John Walker won by TKO v. Scott Walenski
11. Lee Parrish won by decision v. Jack McArron.

A.Z.

## SUCCESSFUL MEETINGS IN POLAND



**Mr. Borislav Pelevic and Mrs. Kate Kocziewska  
at Olympic Committee of Poland**



**Mr. Andrzej Palasz, Mrs. Irena Szewinska,  
Mr. Borislav Pelevic and Mrs. Kate Kocziewska**

On the initiative of Mrs. Kate Kocziewska, WAKO Board member and President of Polish Kickboxing Federation Mr. Andrzej Palasz, WAKO President Mr. Borislav Pelevic visited Polish Olympic Committee on 25th January 2017.

On the meeting with Mrs. Irena Szewinska, who is IOC member and Vice President of Polish Olympic Committee, and five times Olympic Champion in athletics (running), WAKO President introduced her

about IOC application which WAKO applied to the IOC in August 2016.

Mrs. Szewinska was very interested in the position of WAKO in International sport and was very thrilled about the number of WAKO members, and a number of WAKO international competitions.

She promised full support for WAKO and all necessary help WAKO needs in process of the IOC recognition and becoming the part of Olympic family.

Wako delegates also had a meeting with a representative of Polish Ministry of Sports Mr. Andrzej Banasiak who is responsible for combat sports in Poland.

This meeting was very successful too, and Mr. Banasiak was very satisfied that WAKO will participate in the World Games in Poland 2017.

*M.P.*

**Mrs Irena SZEWINSKA** was born to Polish parents in Leningrad in the Soviet Union. She first competed in the Olympic Games as an 18-year-old at the 1964 Tokyo Games. She finished second in the long jump and the 200m and ran the second leg for the Polish 4x100m relay team that scored an upset victory in final. Participated in five editions of the Games of the Olympiad: 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980. She is 10-times world record holder in 100m, 200m, 400m; 10 medals (5 gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze) in European Championships, 26-times Polish champion (100m, 200m, 400m, long jump); Athlete of the Year in Poland (1965, 1966, 1974, 1976); Athlete of the XX Century in Poland.





# Balkan Open 2016

Tešanj, 07th May 2016, Bosnia and Herzegovina

# BALKAN LOVES KICKBOXING



*Defile of the participating countries*

The last edition of traditional tournament Balkan Open in Bosnia and Herzegovina fulfilled expectations. We had full sports hall and many good fights.

This time there was a number of entries 455 and number of competitors 330, clubs 82, all from 12 countries.

The competition was held on 4 tatamis and 1 ring. Event was covered by Municipality of Tešanj and with special guests attending: Minister of sport and Minister of economy of



*WAKO BiH Board of directors meeting*

On the last WAKO IF Board meeting held in Loutraki, Greece 27th November 2016 it was decided that World Championships 2019 in ring disciplines: K1, low kick, and light contact should be organized in Bosnia and Herzegovina, town Sarajevo. This will be the first time we have World Championships in Bosnia. Important to mention that Sarajevo has very good facilities and experience in organizing international sports events knowing that Winter Olympics 1984 was hosted there. Board of directors of Kickboxing association of Bosnia and Herzegovina was very satisfied with the decision and had already held a meeting where many decisions about this issue were decided. On the General Assembly on 29th January will be finalized the frame of the organization of the Championships, all in the purpose that Bosnia wants to be one of the best organizers of WAKO Championships.



Zenica - Doboј Canton, Mayor town of Tešanj, President Kickboxing Federation Ukraine Olga Pavlenko, President Kickboxing Federation Croatian Tomislav Bilandžić, member of the Sports Committee of Ukraine Anna Zahyrova and vice president WAKO Kickboxing Balkan Union Alija Ogrić.

Fighters from Ukraine, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, Slovenia, Hungary,



*Young fighters are proving the quality*

Croatian, Serbia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Bosnia and Herzegovina spent a very nice sporting day in Tešanj.

The best team in the ring disciplines was Sv.Georgije, B.Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina and tatami discipline the team Metex05-Controll Sportclub, Hungary.

Judges made a very god job.

M.P.

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# Report from Diamond Cup

Anapa, Russia

21st-26th September 2016

# FIGHTS FOR THE DIAMOND SHINE



In Anapa, Russia, in a modern sports complex the annual World Cup Diamond/ the WAKO kickboxing took place.

This year the event hosted more than 1000 athletes from 28 countries from all around the world. There were teams which come every year: India, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Armenia, Ukraina, Belarus, Kirgystan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Tunisia, Abhaziya etc, as well as some new teams: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mauritius, South Africa, which have presented beautiful fights.

Gala finals night took place on September 25- the best finals of the WCD-2016 where the winners received the highest award – a gold sign embellished with a real diamond!

### The best gala fights:

Two girls in the light - contact crossed their fists: Kolosheina Valeria from Russia and Saili Kanhat from India. The Russian girl was stronger and better.

In the second fight, Ekaterina Lukinyikh, (Russia) was better than Dalakyan Lilit (Armenia).

In full-contact fight -67 kg between Vitaliy Cherney, Russia, and Maksat Usip, Kazakhstan, the Russian athlete was stronger.

Low kick fight between two Russian fighters: Lazaridi Nikolay and Mafedzov Azamat was great and Azamat won.

In the final fight again there were two Russians. The victory went to Yuriy Konikov. Shamil Khezha was satisfied with the second place this time.

In a difficult fight the fighter from South Africa Buys Francois missed out on a medal, losing from Mustafa Sharifov, Russia.

Again, the Russian, Kumykov Islam, was stronger than the Kazakh, Aidyn Abdrakhmanov.

Another fantastic fight was between two beautiful girls, Olga Kochetkova, Russia, and Bašić Merima, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Merima was better and received the highest award – a diamond.



The Kazakh fighter, Konstantin Kupriyanov was better than Sassad Majidi from Iraq.

World Cup champion Shamil Gadzhimusayev (Russia) won Orynbai Aldar (Kazakhstan).

The fighter from Mauritius Bauluck Fabrice Michel deserved the diamond celebrating in the fight against Shandar Ivanenko from Ukraine.

Another fighter from Mauritius, Agathe Veejaye, lost the fight against the Russian fighter, Revuckiy Vladislav.

A spectacular fight of K-1 between two strong Russian fighters, Artem Khomich and



Satrutdin Vakhidov raised the audience on its feet. Vakhidov was better.

At the end of the evening, in the last fight, Goncharov Evgenii won against Husimov Ahmed.

M.P.



# manus

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## Datsi Datsiev

- Honored Master of Sports, a six-time Champion of Russia, a World Champion, a two-time European Champion in kickboxing, K-1.



# A WOLF IN THE RING

He is a qualified fighter for The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, gaining a gold medal - 75kg on the European Championships in Maribor 2016.



### 1. Can you, please, introduce yourself:

I am 27 years old. I live in Russia, in Saratov city. I do sports. The main thing in my life is kickboxing, and I also enjoy football, paintball, swimming.

### 2. How and when did you start kickboxing?

I have been doing kickboxing since 2008.

### 3. What are your biggest achievements in kickboxing?

My biggest achievements are when I became a six-time Russian Champion, a World Champion, and a two-time European Champion. In the final fight on the European Championships K1 in Maribor in weight up to 75 kg, I defeated the representative of Bulgaria, Sergey Aleksandrov. That was one of the hardest fights I had had in my career. There are no weak opponents on the Europeans. We were fighting for the qualifications on the prestigious The World Games. There in Wroclaw, I expect a high level of organization, tough fights and above all, an attractive show for the audience all around the world.



The governor of Saratov region, Valery Radayev, honoured Datsi Datsiev with the award Master of Sports Russia kickboxing on January 12, 2017 and his coach Rasul Dalgatov was honoured with the award Coach of Russia.

In sports, you always have to move forward. I see myself as a pro fighter in the future. Last year I signed a contract with ACB promotional company and it can change the course of my sports career. It is a prestigious company, a league which holds very serious tournaments.

### 4. What is your main discipline in kickboxing?

K1.

### 5. Is it easier to be in an amateur or a professional league?

In an amateur since you never know who you will meet next time in the ring, you must be ready for any opponent. Injuries are more often in the preparation time and during the Championships. In the professional league, your opponent is known a few months earlier, you have time to inspect his way of fighting, to study his technique, favorite techniques, basic kicks, etc. You are more focused on the person and preparation program is way different. But, remember that your opponent is studying you at the same time and in the same way.

Nevertheless, you should never underestimate your opponent. Whoever it is.

But, the feeling you have at the beginning of your amateur athlete career when you have the joy of victory running through your veins, can't be replaced with anything else.

### 6. What were the most difficult things in your career?

When I lost the Championship of Russia, I didn't qualify for the World Cup. At that period of my life, I was supported by relatives and my coach. Another sportsman, who went to the World Championship was defeated. But suspension from the championship did not break me. I began to work harder and achieved goals. The following year, I took part in the competition of the Russian Championship and left no chance to the rivals. I won and passed the selection for the European Championship, where in 2014 I was the first. After that, on the





Datsiev Datsi Askhabalievich was born 13th September 1988 in the Republic of Dagestan. Education-Saratov State University Volga Institute of Management, an economist. He conducts sport workshops in schools, city events and sport clubs. His trainer is the honorable coach of Russia, Rasul Dalgatov. In spare time he tries to be socially aware, especially when it comes to children and youth. Married, loves historical movies, go karting, football, paintball.

international scene, I did not lose a fight. Since then I have been the captain of the Russian team.

**7. How do you train? Can you describe a typical day, please?**

I have light jogging or swimming at 6 o'clock in the morning, I alternate running with swimming. At 11 a.m. - a morning workout at the gym, which includes sparring, working in pairs, practising techniques which help me be prepared for fights. During the evening training at 5 p.m. I have a cross for 5 km and then training with a personal trainer.

When I am preparing for the Championship I have a hard schedule of the day. Three times a day I workout at the gym, and in addition I go swimming and running. I haven't got enough time for anything else except for sleeping at night.

**8. Is your family happy about your success in kickboxing?**

My family, my parents, my wife fully support me throughout my wins and defeats. They are always with me. But they always worry about me, especially when I'm in the ring. They are afraid of injuries. The female part of my family cannot bear to see my injuries and try to force me to stop. But the male part of my family push me to move forward. My family is my main pillar. My family is my main support. It is a great feeling when you come home as a winner.

**9. Are there any differences between training kickboxing in Russia and in the rest of Europe?**

Of course, there are some differences. Russia is a big, multinational country. It's difficult to determine the abilities of fighters from the whole country. That's why in Russia it is said that to win the championship of Russia it is harder than the World Championship. Russia has many regions, and each region sends their best fighters to competitions. In each weight category, there are 4 fights at least. As you can see, there is a very strong competition. Everyone wants to prove that he is number one in Russia. In my opinion, kickboxing schools in Russia are of high quality and it's proven in championships. Senior coaches of the Russian national team have achieved great results, not only in coaching, but each of them has perfect results as athletes. Kickboxing is very popular in Russia and, accordingly, is highly developed.

**10. Russia is No.1. in the world in our sport. What is your recipe for success?**

My recipe - to defeat, to move forward and achieve goals despite the pain. This is the only way, there is no other. It is important to have stability, perseverance, willpower. Your environment is really important. It is only among strong personalities that you become strong. In the future, if it is possible, I would like to open a children's sports school, to train children, to teach them what I have learned. I want to promote sport and a healthy lifestyle. Children are our future, our next



generation, and they must be healthy! They are the most appreciative audience. Sport teaches children self-control, discipline, sense of purpose and will to win. Most of all, children learn to respect.

Lifetime is precious. If you do the thing you love, you will always find time to do it. No excuses. So sport must be a part of children's lives.

You cannot imagine how many people write to me on email, social networks: Datsi, where do you train? Can we have lessons of kickboxing with you? I would like to develop sports in Saratov, all types of martial arts.

M.P.



## Golden Glove 2017 Europe Cup

21.01 - 22.01.2017. Zoppas Arena, Viale Dello Sport, 2, Conegliano, Treviso, Italy  
Disciplines: Point fighting, light contact, kick light  
Younger cadets, older cadets, juniors, seniors, male and female

# WHERE THE CHAMPIONS RISE



2017 Edition of Golden Glove European Cup brought much joy for the participants and for the promoters.

The beginning of the year started very well for the WAKO and one more competition has been successfully finished.

With 18 nations participating with more than 900 entries, this was more than a good opportunity to check positions in the draw.

As usual, the toughest competition was in point fighting seniors men -69 kg with 19 athletes in the draw.

This can also be said for the point fighting Grand champion men league in which there were 21 athletes registered.

An amazing new format of Grand champion, made of selected fighters by the promoters, was called COMBAT ZONE. Each fighter was wearing a special t-shirt with a number and each "clash" was the

first technique. Roland Veres was the winner for KZ men and Martina Rossi was the winner for KZ women.

Italian TEAM BARRUS and TEAM POINT FIGHTING dominated in tag team male competition -74 and +74 defeating the strong TEAM KIRALY.

Hungarian champion Veres Roland approved the title of the best fighter title on European Championships in Greece. He ultimately keeps the best position in point fighting -57kg. Moreover, in the next weight category, a young Hungarian fighter took the chance and proved that he was the best in -63kg. It was such a furious start! Congratulations!

British fighter Everill Elijah brought home the gold medal in point fighting-69kg.

Kiraly team kickboxing academy's fighter Laszlo Gombos was the best in -74kg.

Italy had a good reason for celebration since Giuseppe Angelino won the first place in point fighting -79 kg.

Moradi Zsolt is not giving up yet, so he won the title Golden Glove WAKO champion in -84 kg and -89 kg point fighting.

In female division Great Britain dominates Italy 3:2 when we talk about first places:

Constanco Alessia PF -50 kg, Domenica Angelino - 60kg, Deborah De Vita +65 kg from Italy won first places. Aston Cook PF - 55kg and Upfold Gemma -65 kg represented the best of Great Britain in the tournament.

"Here we are... Golden Glove has just finished. This year we had almost 900 entries, 82 teams, 18 nations...big numbers for this WAKO EUROPE CUP!! We want to thank all teams, coaches, fighters, referees, staff and main sponsor TOP TEN for giving us the possibility to hold this event. There are already some news for the next year such as ring disciplines we are planning and for sure second edition of KOMBAT ZONE, which was enjoyable for all fighters.", were the words of the promoters Luca Terrin and Raffaele Di Paolo.



"Golden Glove Cup has prepared a total prize money of 8,000 Euro and a sponsorship given by global brand TOP TEN which has provided free to all winners a pair of gloves up to the style. Entries and software used have been based on SPORTDATA and its staff composed by Alex and Jhon Engelhardt that allowed to display in real time on the web: boards, achievements, awards and live streaming. This technology truly represents the future in the sport for kickboxing."

According to the promoters Terrin and Di Paolo, the best fighters of the tournament were:

- BANNISTER DALE men LC
- PRVULJ JOVANA women LC
- PAVEL ZAMATYN men KL
- MARTINKOVA TEREZA women KL
- ROLAND VERES men PF
- BALOH TINA women PF



# GOLDEN GLOVE

## POINT FIGHTING GRAND CHAMPION MALE finished in the following order:

1. Moradi Zsolt, Kiralyteam Kickboxing Academy, Hungary
2. Guffani Davide, KBA A.S.D., Italy
3. Jaroszkiewicz Krisztian, Kiralyteam Kickboxing Academy, Hungary
3. Schiaffini Alessandro, HMD Italia, Italy

## FEMALE:

1. Baloh Tina, Pon Do Kwan Zagorje, Slovenia
2. Upfold Gwemma, Team Bristol, UK
3. Rossi Martina, HMD Italia, Italy
3. Constanco Alessia, ASD Team, Italy

M.P.

# WAKO Calendar 2017



WAKO Ranking	Date From	Date to	Name	Country	Venue
<b>January</b>					
B	21	22	Golden Glove (WAKO European Cup)	Italy	Conegliano (TV)
<b>February</b>					
B	4	5	Athens Challenge 2017	Greece	Olympic Tae Kwon Do Arena
B	10	12	Karlovac Open (WAKO European Cup)	Croatia	SPORT HALL "MLADOST"
C	18	18	Grand Prix BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sport hall ILIDŽA
C	24	26	Slovak Open 2017-Memorial of Ladislav "Doky" Tóth	Slovakia	
<b>March</b>					
A	3	5	Irish Open International (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Ireland	Citywest Conference Centre
C	17	19	German Open 2017	Germany	SPORT HALL "SVN SPORTPARK"
WAKO PANAM	21	27	WAKO PANAM International Seminar (LC, LK, K-1)	Brasil	WAKO PANAM Training Center
C	24	26	Latvia Open 2017	Latvia	Sport Hall of Hanzas School
<b>April</b>					
B	1	2	Point Fighting Cup 2017	Italy	Pala Borsani
C	6	9	Turkish Open 2017	Turkey	WOW KREMLIN PALAS ANTALYA
C	8	8	Bihac Open 2017	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sports hall "Luke" Bihac
B	7	8	Yokoso Dutch Open 2017	The Netherlands	SPORT HALL ZUID
A	20	23	The Austrian Classics (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Austria	Olympic hall - Innsbruck
<b>May</b>					
C	6	6	Balkan Open 2017	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sport hall Tešanj
C	6	6	KHB International Masters	Austria	Sports and Gym Hall Bluebox
A	18	21	Hungary World Cup (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Hungary	MOM Sport Complex
C	27	27	ASVO Junior Challenge 2017	Austria	NMS Sporthalle, Wulkalände 4, A-7210 Mattersburg
C	27	27	Alpe Adria Open 2017 (PF, LC, KL, LK)	Croatia	SPORT CENTRE "MATE PARLOV"
<b>June</b>					
A	16	18	Bestfighter (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Italy	105 Stadium
C	17	18	International Czech Championship	Czech Republic	Arena Sparta Podvinny mlyn, Kovanecka 27
<b>July</b>					
WAKO PANAM	24	25	2nd Bolivarian Championship	Ecuador	Coliseo del Centro Agrícola, Av.29 de Mayo y Tulcan
IWGA	24	28	World Games (K-1 rules)	Poland	TBC
<b>August</b>					
<b>September</b>					
WAKO	2	10	WAKO Cadets & Juniors European Championships (All disciplines)	Macedonia	Sporthall "BORIS TRAJKOVSKI"
A	20	24	Diamond World Cup (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Russia	Sporthall LOK "Vityaz"
B	27	30	WAKO K1 European Cup 2017	Czech Republic	Hotel Step sport centrum, Malletova 1141
WAKO PANAM	28	1st Oct	CAC Open - Central American and Caribbean Region Championship	Trinidad and Tobago	SHAW PARK COMPLEX
<b>October</b>					
B	7	8	Flanders International Kickboxing Cup	Belgium	Sporthal "De Meerminnen"
C	13	14	Czech-Open for Tatami Sports	Czech Rep.	Arena Sparta Prague Hall
C	13	14	Scandinavian Open 2017	Norway	Bjolsenhallen
WAKO	20	29	WAKO Senior World Championships (K1 Rules - Low Kick - Light Contact)	Brasil	Centro Panamericano de Judo, Av. Praia de Copacabana, 1764 - Ipitanga, Lauro de Freitas, Bahia
<b>November</b>					
C	4	4	34st Slovenia Open 2017	Slovenia	City Sport Hall Zagorje
WAKO	17	26	WAKO Senior World Championships (Point Fighting - Full contact - Kick Light - Musical Forms)	Hungary	TBC
WAKO PANAM	23	26	10th South American Championships	Uruguay	Conrad Resort and Casino
<b>December</b>					
C	8	10	Vilnius Open Championship	Lithuania	TBC

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Venice		Luca Terrin	luopecente@hotmail.com	+39414174712
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Tim Mazurkiewicz, Pan American Director of Officiating at WAKO Kickboxing, Ring Sport Official's Committee Board Member at WAKO Team USA Kickboxing



# THE HEART FULL OF LOVE FOR KICKBOXING

The impressionable smiling face cannot be missed on the WAKO Championships. It seems that he is a friend with everyone. That's Tim, the man with the camera. Passionate with taking moments of his life in photos. WAKO and WAKO PRO judge. An American who loves to spend his time traveling the world as an Ambassador of Sport.

→ **1. Who is Tim in kickboxing?**

Tim Mazurkiewicz, the Head of officials for WAKOUSA, North America and Pan America for WAKO IF. I am international A class official, WAKOPRO Official and a Board Member of the WAKO IF Ring Sports Committee.



→ **2. Did you ever tasted the sport with the gloves on?**

A little bit: I was in the sport as a competitor some time of my life, 20 + years and I was Golden Glove Boxing Champion, Tough Man Champion, 10x USA Kickboxing Champion, Kickboxing World champion, Heavyweight representative of TEAM USA when Rob Zbilski was our coach, and now he is the President of WAKO USA. He was taking us to travel and fight overseas then, I took some time off from the sport to raise my family and develop my business. I am back involved in the USA trying to help to develop our sport... Myself, I was a Full contact fighter so still I enjoy full contact fighting the most

→ **3. Which was harder to do: to be a competitor, a fighter or now to be a judge?**

I think the second one, to be a judge. There are so many differences between different cities, countries and language barriers. There is also the political side of our work as well so, it is hard for a lot of people to collectively stay neutral. I remember an occasion when I was approached by a coach before one World championship fight and was attempted to be bribed \$5,000 Euros to help ensure his son a victory. For me it was an easy decision to turn this down and make the right choice. We have to make the right choice for the future of our sport.

→ **4. What are the main challenges now for referees and judges in kickboxing?**

The biggest challenge for us stateside is getting new judges more opportunities of experience. Rob Zbilski is doing a great job with growing kickboxing in the USA and more opportunities are opening up daily for them.

Strong organization has to take care about the professional league of judges and referees. I wanted to start an officials ranking system in the USA. So as I am developing our officials, we can rank them and they can get opportunities to travel to international competitions

based on their professionalism, knowledge of the rules and activity. This platform will give the new officials the goal to strike for and also be able to selectively bring the top officials from our country... now if we can implement worldwide, where each of the countries of WAKO has the official ranking system where we can go through, and the officials can be ranked by the same criteria. That will bring the officiating level up to the highest level that it needs to be. Another hurdle is that a lot of countries do not have the finances to be able to send their officials to the championships. People have to take a time from work to come on the competition.

→ **5. What can you say about your WAKO PRO judging career?**

It has been amazing. It allows me to travel the World and have a front row seat to see the best kickboxing fighters in the world. It has been my honor to be selected as one of the best in the World.

→ **6. How is kickboxing doing now in America?**

Our First North American Championships were great, in coalition with UFC Fight Week, so it was in a very large venue. They were very impressed with our professionalism, our tournament was in true WAKO Championship form. Our championships in July host the west coast and east coast regional qualifiers. There people can qualify to come to the National championships. We hold our National championships at the tournament as the team qualifier for the Pan American championships as well. We returned in 2016 in coalition once again with the UFC, this time with the help of **Raymond Daniels** and **Jarrett Lieker** we added Tatami, creating an amazing event! We are excited about the continued growth of WAKO kickboxing in the USA.

→ **7. How can you motivate fighters in the USA to stay in WAKO amateur kickboxing, to sacrifice great time of their lives for true medals and valuable titles, to resist to instant offers like: become a World champion in two months, what is popular nowadays?**

As we expose through our media more of what WAKO is, the only TRUE World Kickboxing Championships. When real fighters see this level of competition they know instantly that the other titles are basically meaningless. I would give up all of my Title Belts for one WAKO World Championship.

→ **8. Do Americans love tatami disciplines and are they popular in the USA?**

Yes, Americans love Tatami. But with all the different organizations within the USA, the people are diversely spread out.

Appointing **Raymond Daniels** as to the Head of Tatami, has definitely helped grow WAKO with in the USA.

→ **9. Will you judge on The World Games in Wroclaw this year? What are your expectations about that event?**

I am excited and honored to be selected as one of the Best Officials in the world for this momentous occasion. I am excited to be part of history! This is a true testament to the progression of our sport and that the Olympics will be soon to come for WAKO.

I am of Polish decent, so I am very excited to bring my family for the event to meet my many relatives for the first time.

→ **10. What can you say about your private life? You have a big family?**

I am 44 years old and married almost 20 years to my beautiful wife Angie. I have five children, aging from 21, 16, 12, 8 and 5. They are in many different sports: from American football, soccer, basketball, wrestling, baseball and jujutsu. My youngest two say they would like to do kickboxing when they grow up. I coach many of my children's sports teams, own a construction company and am involved in local politics. I am very much active, don't you think?

→ **11. How do you judge the millennium generation? Do they have the chances that we had when we were growing?**

The future generation has many more opportunities than we did. By the touch of a button they have so much



knowledge at their access. Now only if they use that positively, and do not let the ease of access create lazy habits, will they succeed. I have big expectations as they are our future world leaders and sport brings people together as one. The World Games and Olympics are tremendous life goals to strive for...

→ **12. You enjoy traveling to Russia and we see that many Russians are your friends. How do you feel about your last trip to Russia on 2016 Moscow Russia WAKOPRO K-1 World Title?**

It was an incredible event, thank you again to Vadim Ukraintsev for bringing me to your most beautiful country. I had the opportunity to meet **Stephen Segal**, an American famous actor, as he sat next to me ringside. The WAKO PRO K-1 Title bout was again in typical WAKO form, AMAZING! The bouts were held at the Russian Olympic Stadium. It is hard to explain in one paragraph the event they organized. I can only classify it as World Class. I was impressed to the highest level. Now if only our governments could get along so well...

→ **13. You truly enjoy being the part of the WAKO?**

I would like to finish by saying it is truly my honor to be involved with such great people from around the World that share the love of Kickboxing as I do. I look forward to our continued growth of our sport as we push to achieve our ultimate goal of becoming an Olympic Sport.

M.P.





# The 14th Athens Challenge Tournament

took place 04 -05 February 2017 at the Olympic Wrestling Arena in Ano Liossia

# 14th CHALLENGE FOR THE BEST



Organized in association with WAKO and the PAN-HELLENIC FEDERATION OF KICKBOXING "POK", Athens Challenge Tournament is without a doubt the biggest Kick Boxing event in Greece.

Athens Challenge Tournament is one of the top 5 Kick Boxing events across Europe where each year athletes compete in Kick Boxing disciplines: Point Fighting, Light Contact, Kick Light, Low Kick, forms hard style, soft style, weapons and in Self-defense.

This edition 2017 brought over 1220 European athletes from 12 countries such as Austria,

Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, Georgia who were competing in 2151 entries. Only Greece had more than 1400 entries. The second in entries was Italy ( 271) and Bulgaria (137).

Over 27 international referees from across Europe travel to Athens each year for the needs of Athens Challenge Tournament where along with 28 Greek referees they guarantee another successful event. The competition was going on 11 tatami areas and on one ring for low kick.

The main sponsor of the 14th Athens Challenge Tournament was **VODAFONE** and sponsors were **Zaros, Dole, Kayak** and **Loukakos**.

Medical sponsor was Iatriko hospital.

An interesting fact is that in category Point fighting kids 8-10 years had the numerous entries:



84, from 23 clubs and category kick light kids 8-10 years had 45 entries from 16 clubs.

Light contact in the category of that age had 36 entries from 14 clubs. These were the largest categories from all at the tournament.

Among seniors, the largest category was Point fighting seniors male -69kg where we had 18 competitors and the best was **Scherbakov Viacheslav** from CSKA Moscow, Russia.



Sean Veira, Elijiah Everil with British team



**The best countries are:**

1. Greece
2. Italy
3. Bulgaria
4. United Kingdom
5. Hungary

**The best five clubs are:**

1. HMD Italia
2. Ikaros Greece
3. Ikken Bulgaria
4. Kiralyteam Hungary
5. Choy Lee Fut Greece.



In Open male, there were 29 competitors in really tough concurrence.

Female open had 20 girls hungry for glory, and the best was **Nagy Henrietta** from Kiraly Team Hungary.

The finals in Team male seniors was the best performance on the tournament, where two teams: **Ikaros** from Greece (Adamis, Galanopoulou, Soueref, Zagaris) and **Kiraly team** from Hungary (Gombos, Jaroszkiewicz, Morady, Nagy) demonstrated the battle of titans, with perfect techniques, the speed with much of adrenalin.



M.P.



**National Kickboxing championship**  
 15th to 19th January 2017  
 Talkatora Stadium New Delhi, India



# MASS COMPETITION WON THE PRIZE



**Crowded with adrenalin:  
 sport hall full of people**



**Congratulations to Rahul from Faridabad District,  
 Gold Medal in National Kickboxing Championship in Delhi**



**Hundreds of spectators were cheering their fans**



**Kerala team ready for the championship**

WAKO India Cadet & Junior National Kickboxing Championship-2016-17 and Federation Cup Senior National took place at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi held from 15-19 January 2017.

WAKO India President C.A. Tamboli and Mr. Harsh Dahiya organized such a wonderful event.

On the Championships there we had 30 Teams with around 1800 participants all over India, along with 200 official's, 150 Coaches and managers and a several thousands of spectators which visited four days of this event.

Rajasthan Kickboxing Association Teams has won 3 GOLD Medals, 5 SILVER Medals and 8 BRONZE Medals and won 18th place in all medals table.

Kickboxing Association of Chhattisgarh Teams won 12 GOLD Medals, 6 SILVER Medals and 18 BRONZE Medals and took 7th position on the medals table.

Kerala got 6 gold 8 silver & 11 bronze medals.

Haryana Kickboxing Association Teams won 20 GOLD Medals, 16 SILVER Medals and 18 BRONZE Medals and took 3rd position on the medals table.

Congratulations to all athletes and officials.

And special thanks to Rajasthan kickboxing association and general secretary Shihan Anil Kalyan for giving WAKO possibility to have this great championship.

M.P.



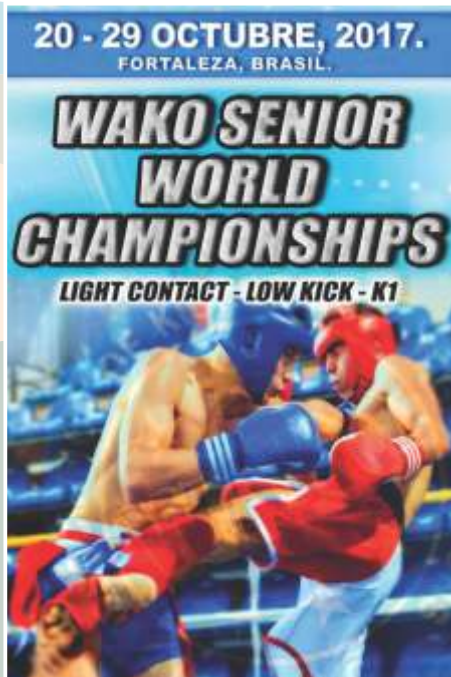
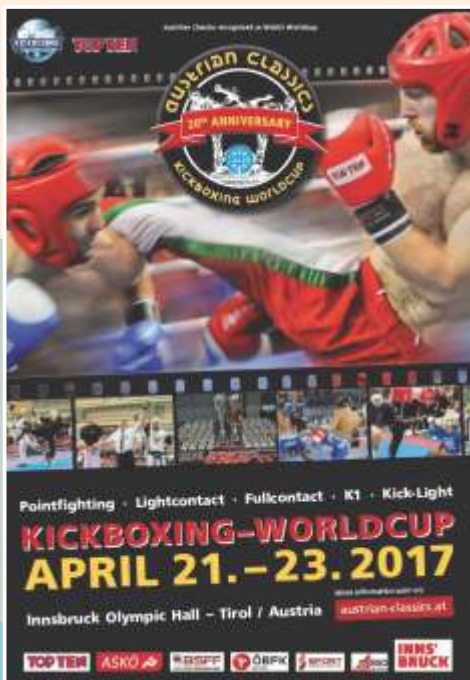
With Sanjeev Kumar Jangra Dehradun Shihan Anil Kalyan Montu Das Chandpasha Tamboli and Wasim Ahmad



National medalists at Kickboxing national championships 2017 Talkatora stadium Delhi



Chhattisgarh kickboxing team





## WAKO Arab Kickboxing General Assembly MEETING FOR THE FUTURE

WAKO Arab Kickboxing association successfully held its General Assembly in Tunisia 7th November 2016.

Following decisions are taken:

- Election of the Executive Committee:

President: Dr. Basel Al Shaer – Jordan  
1st Vice-President: Mr. Abed Alkareem Alhilali – Morocco  
2nd Vice-President: Mr. Qassim Al Wasity – Iraq  
Board Member: Mr. Mohammed Zedany – Palestine  
Board Member: Mr. Alwaly Mahfooz – Algeria  
Board Member: Mr. Ali Duri – Tunisia  
Board Member: Mr. Abed Alazeez Alfadag – Kuwait  
Board Member: Mr. Mohamad Al Zarouq – Libya

The main priorities of the Arab Federation are:

- Confirmation of the support and the good relationship with WAKO IF  
- Develop a program of activities of the Federation 2017.



- The formation of technical and Administrative assistants Committees

- Connection and relationship with the Arab National Olympic Committees to support the activities of kick boxing



## Social and activity program in the refugee camps in Jordan WAKO support to Refugee Program in Jordan

WAKO Jordan was very active in promoting kickboxing sport and activity integration of in local program in existing camps for refugees.

President of Jordan Kickboxing Federation, Dr. Basel Alshaer is cooperating with Mrs. Iris Vlachoutsicos, International relations & field program director for Peace and Sport, The federation to contribute with people, equipment and even caravans.

Meetings between P&S and WAKO have taken place in Amman, Jordan.

Equipment was awarded by WAKO and its partners Adidas and Top Ten.

After meetings, Peace & Sport was present at an International tournament in Jordan. President of WAKO Iraq and President of WAKO Morocco were also present at the event to honor the cooperation. The last day of the event, young Prince of Jordan was giving the awards, also to Mrs Vlachoutsicos. WAKO President, Dr. Borislav Pelevic addressed in respect expressing his deep gratitude to Dr. Basel Ashaer for his leadership in this important project.





# Kick boxers in audience with Spanish Royal Family



**WITH THE KING FELIPE VI**

On 22nd of November 2017 FEK athletes (WAKO Spain), Ana Muñoz and Carlos Carrasco were invited to the Royal Palace of Pardo by the Spanish Royal Family.

The majesties congratulated them for their success: winning the medals on the World Junior and European Senior WAKO Championships 2016.

At the audience they were together with the most popular athletes in Spain: Olympic gold medalist Ruth Beitia and the soccer player of Barcelona Andres Iniesta, who were also honored for their successes during the last year in sports. This confirms a great work done by FEK in the last period. WAKO was honored with the recognition by the highest Spanish institution, what is, without a doubt, a big success for Kickboxing.



**With King Huan Carlos I**



**WITH THE SOCCER  
PLAYER ANDRES INIESTA**

*Jesús Eguía*  
FEK PRESIDENT



## IMPORTANT EVENTS FROM WAKO EVENT CALENDAR 2017.

# BUSY YEAR FOR THE WAKO



By the present we would like to remind all the WAKO members of the following events for next year:

Wroclaw (Poland), 24 – 28 July 2017:

IWGA World Games (K-1 rules)

Skopje (Macedonia), 2 – 10 September 2017:

WAKO Cadets/Juniors European Championships (All Disciplines)

Fortaleza (Brazil), 21 – 29 October, 2017:

WAKO Senior World Championships (K-1, Low Kick, Light Contact)

Budapest (Hungary), 18 - 26 November, 2017:

WAKO Senior World Championships (Point Fighting, Full Contact, Kick Light, Musical Forms)

Punta del Este (Uruguay), 23 – 26 November, 2017:

10º South American Kickboxing Championships (All Disciplines)

Each WAKO national member team qualified for the participation on The World Games must pay for its own travel and accommodation expenses since there is no

financial contribution from the IWGA (like we had on the Combat Games). The WAKO will timely provide all the necessary information concerning the prices of accommodation and the general schedule.

The WAKO (IF) will afterwards specify the financial contribution for our own Organizing Committee and for referees/judges selected for The World Games.

All the WAKO national federations which have fighters qualified for the World Games will be officially informed on time.

We want to stress the importance of participation on The World Games 2017 as part of our road towards the Olympic recognition, so by using this information we want once again to warn all the WAKO members to plan the costs and schedule for this event on time.

M.P.

### IOC President invited on Opening ceremony in Wroclaw



IOC President Dr. Thomas Bach will be present on The World Games Opening Ceremony in Wroclaw on 20th July 2017.

He will also attend several sports events during his stay.

"We want to prove that our sports are on the same level as those on the Olympic programme," said IWGA President Jose Perurena.

Last year the IOC and the IWGA signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which underlined closer cooperation between the parties. The Memorandum stated: "the IOC recognises the importance of The World Games as a multi-sport

event" and "The IOC will provide its expertise when needed and maintain its cooperation with the IWGA through its Sports Department, and will help to promote the IWGA's activities within the Olympic Movement."

It will not be the first time that Dr. Bach attends an Opening Ceremony of The World Games. He was also present at the opening of The World Games 2013 in Cali/Colombia, together with Jacques Rogge, his predecessor in office. Thomas Bach was Vice President of the IOC at that time.



# QUALIFIED ATHLETES FROM EUROPE, PANAM, AFRICA and ASIA

These are the results from the World Games qualification from European Championships (Maribor, Slovenia, 22/30.10.2016.) first, second and two third places, Pan American Championships (Cancun, Mexico, 25/30.10.2016.) first place in following male categories – 63.5, -67, -75, -81 and female categories -60, -65 and first and second

place in following male categories -71, -86, -91, +91 and female categories -52, -56), African Championships (Rabat, Morocco, 23rd - 25th December 2016), first place in all categories and Asian Championships (Korea, Cheongju, WMAM 2016 and Pune, India).

## MALE:

### -63.5 kg

1. Aleksandar Kononov (SRB)
2. Muhamet Deskaj (CRO)
3. Orfan Sananzade (UKR)
4. Yury Zhukouski (BLR)
5. David Aceves Martinez (MEX)
6. Sailane Brah (Morocco)
7. Aleksei Fedoseev (KGZ)
8. Iraj Moradi (IRI)

### -67 kg:

1. Slobodan Mijajlovic (SRB)
2. Vladislav Ukrainets (RUS)
3. Burak Eymur (TUR)
4. Yurii Peretiatchko (UKR)
5. Jason Hinds (CAN)
6. Settouti Youssef (Morocco)
7. Erik Voinov (KGZ)
8. Hamid Amni (IRI)

### -71 kg:

1. Bogdan Shumarov (BUL)
2. Vitalii Dubina (UKR)
3. Ilya Usachec (RUS)
4. Ali Cakir (TUR)
5. Bruno Gazani (BRA)
6. Hernan Emmanuel Maciel (ARG)
7. Quabissi Saad (Morocco)
8. Hamad Ali Khalaf (JOR)

### -75 kg:

1. Datsi Datsiev (RUS)
2. Sergey Alexandrov (BUL)
3. Ljubo Jalovi (SRB)
4. Yauhen Lasheuski (BLR)
5. Wallace Lopes (BRA)
6. Lazrak Mohamed (Morocco)
6. Hyunho Kil (KOR)
7. Soleimandarabi Khoshkalam (IRI)

### -81 kg:

1. Aleksandar Menkovic (SRB)
2. Aleksandr Dmitrenko (RUS)
3. Dzimitry Baranau (BLR)
4. Arkadiusz Kaszuba (POL)
5. Omari Boyd (USA)
6. Agathe Vejaye I (Mauricius)
7. Mohammed Thulfiqar Kadhim (IRQ)
8. Ali Khanjari (IRI)

### -86 kg:

1. Dawid Kasperski (POL)
2. Vitalii Korchak (UKR)
3. Roman Piatnica (RUS)
4. Adrian Gologan (MDA)
5. Leandro Cruz (BRA)
6. Jerome Ward (USA)
7. Fallak Aziz (Morocco)
8. Omid Nosrati (IRI)

### -91 kg:

1. Mateusz Pluta (POL)
2. Igor Darmeskhin (RUS)
3. Petr Kares (CZE)
4. Pavel Voronin (MDA)
5. Willer Alves (BRA)
6. Scott Bartlett (CAN)
7. Yacoubi Tawfik (Morocco)
8. Askat Zhantursynov (KAZ)

### +91 kg:

1. Piotr Ramankevich (BLR)
2. Ante Verunica (CRO)
3. Sasa Polugic (SRB)
4. Roman Holovatiuk (UKR)
5. Guto Inocente (BRA)
6. Ivan Galaz (CHI)
7. Darkaoui Med (Morocco)
8. Yersultan bekenov (KAZ)

## FEMALE:

### -52 kg:

1. Monika Chochilikova (SVK)
2. Myra Winkelmann (AUT)
3. Monika Markowska (GB)
4. Anna Poskrebysheva (RUS)
5. Ashley Acord (USA)
6. Ahlam Elghoul (Tunisia)
7. Zuhro Kholova (TJK)
8. Tam Si Long (MAC)

### -56 kg:

1. Malgorzata Dymus (POL)
2. Sandra Maskova (CZE)
3. Veronika Petrikova (SVK)
4. Christin Fiedler (AUT)
5. Pamela Assis (BRA)
6. Housni Halima (Tunisia)
7. Fatemah Alizadehsharaf (IRI)
8. Heejung Kim (KOR)

### -60 kg:

1. Tatiana Ponomareva (RUS)
2. Zina Djelassi (SWE)
3. Natalia Martiukhina (UKR)
4. Lucia Cmarova (SVK)
5. Melissa Aceves Martinez (MEX)
6. Vanessa Carnieto (BRA)
7. Tabit Nabila (Morocco)
8. Shara Khamzina (KAZ)

### -65 kg:

1. Cristina Caruso (ITA)
2. Roza Gumienka (POL)
3. Sarel De Jong (NED)
4. Veronika Cmarova (SVK)
5. Kaitlin Young (USA)
6. Juliana Werner (BRA)
7. Naili Soukaina (Morocco)
8. Subin Kwon (KOR)



# E- learning in the WAKO Integrity e-learning

In the process of incorporating and standardizing activities with International sports organizations where WAKO has membership, one of the tools in the modern environment for educating members is having the Integrity e-learning modules. WAKO accepted all international rules and regulations which arranges the sports environment in all levels.

Integrity policy means understanding all unethical behavior that can be related to sports.

In order to ensure Fair Play in sport WAKO outline guidelines in order to inform, prevent and react towards unethical behavior. This is a complex situation, but we all have to stay opened for all information needed to be protected from suspicious behavior. Match-fixing violates the pillar of Fair Play in sport and to act clean is something that WAKO needs to build as a part of the culture, and prevention of possible challenges never ends.

Any official, athlete or direct participant in the kickboxing community found to be committing offenses which are considered as unethical behavior, faces the possibility of disqualification, disciplinary action, legal action and investigation.

WAKO E-Learning modules considers all aspects of : How to Prevent Match-fixing, Betting and Manipulation from destroying your career or others career. This is a short program, but it may be the most important time you spend to guard your career. Match fixing and manipulation is a growing problem in sports.

The pilot integrity program is launched and anybody can find it on the WAKO web site. From now on, it is

considered as mandatory to all national athletes, referees, coaches and officials.

By viewing this program everybody will gain information to keep him/herself safe and protect your sport from corruption. You will learn about the behavior everybody must adopt towards sports betting and about the dangers of match-fixing to sport career, reputation and even life.

Most of all, you will learn and be introduced to the challenge related to manipulation and how certain behavior can and will change the outcome of a match.

It is expected you will take about 45 minutes to go through the program. At the end, everybody must answer some questions in order to obtain WAKO Integrity Certificate for which WAKO will send all who passed the test .



**IF YOU ARE EVER APPROACHED AND OFFERED ANY KIND OF INCENTIVE THAT WILL COMMIT UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR, WHISTLE (Talk with Officials)!**



## WHAT IS CONSIDERED AS MANIPULATION, MATCH FIXING OR ILLEGAL BETTING IN SPORT?

- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder in team engages in all ways in betting or gambling when his/her sport or event or team is in competition.
- When an athlete doesn't perform in accordance of his/her best abilities on competition in exchange for money, gift or other way of compensation or reward.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder in team instructs or enables another party to bet or gamble on a sport event or competition to which he/she is personally involved.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder ensures that the sport event will take place, and for that he/she receives money or gift compensation.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder receives money or gift or any kind of compensation in the contest which is obvious that brings the sport or athlete into disrepute.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder uses any kind of "inside

information" which can be used for abusing the rules of Fair Play and for that receives money/gift/reward.

- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder does not provide relevant information to the competent sport authority regarding any approach, invitation or engagement in incidents that would take to illegal match fixing and betting.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder doesn't cooperate in the investigations carried out by the International organization or other Governmental authorities concerning manipulations in sport.
- When an athlete, official or other stakeholder knowingly assists, covers up or induces and supports other parties to commit any of listed offences.

**ALL PERSONS INVOLVED IN SPORT HAS TO UNDERSTAND THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF ITS POSITION IN SPORT ORGANIZATION**

## HOW TO LEARN TO PREVENT YOUR CAREER AND OTHERS CAREER IN SPORT

1. Enter the project programme
2. Go through the models step by step
3. Read and understand them, learn about the behavior you must adopt towards dangers of match fixing, illegal sports betting and all ways of manipulations in sport
4. Answer the questionnaire to prove that you understand the material
5. After successfully passing through questionnaire, you will get certificate online, and later get the Diploma.



## Struggle against match fixing, sport betting and drug abuse in sports

# EDUCATION AGAINST MANIPULATIONS IN SPORT

According to the new WAKO By-laws, from this year WAKO requires this procedure as mandatory for everybody involved in World and Continental Championships.

This means that all members of national team, international referees and officials of National Federations has to fill in the questionnaire that can be found on the official WAKO web site.

Education is very important for all of us, in order to work effectively against Match Fixing, Sports Betting, Manipulation and raise awareness about Integrity on many levels of our organization.

In organized sports, Match fixing occurs as a match is played to a completely or partially pre-determined result, violating the rules of the game and often the law. In Match fixing the winner and loser are decided in advance by agreement of the competitors or related people.

In addition to the match fixing that is committed by players, coaches and/or team officials, it is not unheard of to have results manipulated by corrupt referees.

Since 2004, separate scandals have erupted in prominent sports leagues in Portugal, Germany (Bundes league scandal), Brazil (Brazilian football match-fixing scandal) and the United States (Tim Donaghy scandal), all

of which concerned referees who fixed matches for gamblers. Many sports journalists have speculated that in leagues with high player salaries, it is far more likely for a referee to become corrupt since their pay in such competitions is usually much less than that of the players.

Sports betting is the activity of predicting sports results and placing a wager on the outcome. Sports bettors place their wagers either legally, through a bookmaker/sports book, or illegally through privately run enterprises referred to as "bookies". Wage brokers both legal and illegal make a profit by taking a percentage of all money bet. Sports betting has resulted in a number of scandals in sport, even in many European countries bookmaking (the profession of accepting sports wagers) is regulated but not criminalized.

Sports betting and match fixing in many occasions goes hand by hand.

To raise awareness about the fact that Match fixing, illegal sport betting and manipulation in sport are destroying the sport and people involved in it, it is crucially important for the society to preventively learn about all methods that can pull in the person in to illegal activities.

The Singapore businessman Dan Tan has been arrested 2015 on suspicion of coordinating a global football match-fixing syndicate.

Tan was jailed after Italian prosecutors accused him of being the mastermind of a global crime syndicate that made millions of dollars betting on rigged Italian matches and other games across the world. He stood behind dozens of fixed matches in Italy's top three divisions and leading a fixing ring stretching as far as South America that was allegedly in operation for more than 10 years.

He is also being tried in absentia by a Hungarian court for allegedly manipulating 32 games in Hungary, Italy and Finland.

We've had match-fixing in cricket, professional wrestling, football, basketball, and snooker, corruption in football, and doping in cycling, rugby, baseball and athletics.

Now it's the turn of tennis – and back to fixing matches. Why would people who have worked so hard to reach such heights risk everything for a fast buck?

The money involved is not insignificant, of course. According to the Buzz feed - BBC report, players were offered \$50,000 or more per fix.

Novak Djoković says he once turned down \$200,000 to lose a match early in his career.

However, for a lesser player whose career is waning, the offer of a five- or six-figure sum, possibly repeated several times a year, would look much more tempting: a nice earner before hanging up your racket.

So, if the financial incentive to cheat could be attractive for some, what about the risks?

Taking drugs: for example, why US athlete Marion Jones resorted to steroids very early in her career when most experts agree she could have won Olympic medals without them.

When she was interviewed on the Oprah Winfrey Show, after spending six months in prison for lying under oath about using performance-enhancing drugs, she tearfully persisted with a claim that her coach had originally told her the tablets were flaxseed oil.

Betting: Betting may be legal, but perhaps it's time to ask if it is bound to corrode the integrity of sport itself.

*(parts of the text taken from "The Guardian")*






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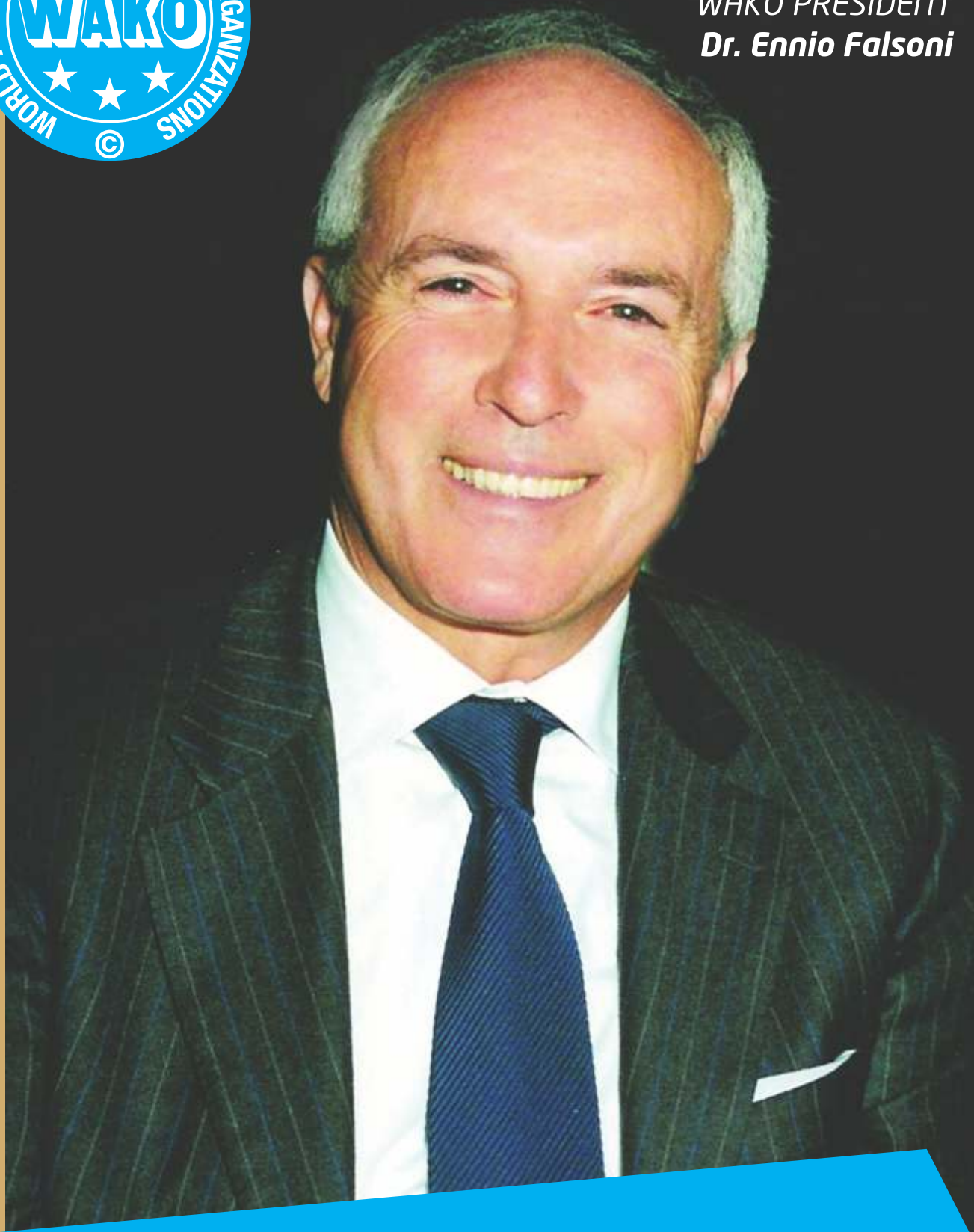
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*Honorary  
WAKO PRESIDENT  
Dr. Ennio Falsoni*



*Dear Ennio,  
we are waiting for You*

# TOP TEN

## YOU CAN'T BEAT TRADITION



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