WORLD ASSOCIATION OF KICKBOXING ORGANIZATIONS PULSE WAKO SPORT AUNATION NEORMATION TOPTH

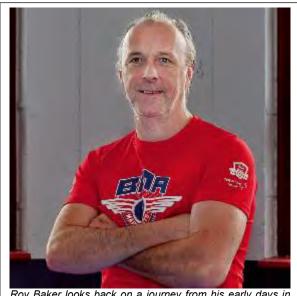




Echo Sport Replay: Baker on steering kickboxing towards Olympic heights

March 26, 2021

By Stephen Leonard



Roy Baker looks back on a journey from his early days in Ballyfermot to becoming President of Kickboxing Ireland and World governing body WAKO Photo by Paddy Barrett

GROWING up on Clifden Road in Ballyfermot from the 1960s to the '80s, **Roy Baker** was a quiet and reserved child enjoying life with family and friends in a close-knit community.

Yet over the following years the borders of his small world would be rolled right back as he became Director of Transformation at SSE Airtricity and rose through the ranks of his beloved sport, kickboxing, to eventually spearhead its drive towards inclusion in the Summer Olympics programme.

Indeed today Roy Baker is President of both Kickboxing Ireland and the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO) which caters for some five and half million members across the globe.

The founder of the world's biggest annual kickboxing tournament, the Irish Open, he and his team have played a huge part in seeing the sport garner official recognition from both the International Olympic Committee and more recently the Olympic Federation of Ireland as kickboxing continues its pursuit of inclusion among the 30 plus sports that make up the Summer Games.

A combination of his father's social activism and the confidence he, himself, gained in combat as a multi-European and World champion kickboxer, would see the timidity Baker experienced as a child replaced by a resilience and competitiveness that was to prove essential in him effectively taking control and setting the course for his sport both here in Ireland and across the world.

"In the mid 70's, early 80's Ireland was a tough place to live" recalled Baker. "I remember our dad struggling, I remember us sharing our clothes, sharing our toys, and people don't get that now.

"I was one of those quiet kids in the back of the schoolroom in Ballyfermot always being bullied and stuff. I can remember having my head bounced off a school table.

"It was literally survival in that time in the late 70's early 80's when the economy in Ireland was destroyed.

"But Ballyfermot was a great place to live. The level of community that was in Ballyfermot, I don't see anymore.

"Community really was community. The roads stuck together. I grew up on Clifden Road and I knew every single person on my road. It really was a very tight community.

"My dad. Dave Baker, was an extraordinary man. He was very much involved with social justice. He was President of the Ballyfermot Community Association for more than 25 years and was very much a social activist. He fought the fight for Ballyfermot until his dying day.

"I've always been a very independent individual and I like to have control of my own destiny, so I always wanted to do something in an individual sport. I tried all the team sports and I didn't really enjoy them.

"The only other sport I really loved was table tennis. I played for Dublin and internationally in table tennis, but really the sport that grabbed me by the neck was kickboxing.

Roy Baker in high-flying action

"It was just something that gave me more confidence, I liked the people in the sport and I

developed relationships with people back in the '80s that I still have today. Like 99.9 percent of my life and my friends are from kickboxing.

"So I did karate for quite a number of years and then I started my kickboxing journey in Tallaght would you believe.

"It was in Old Bawn. There was a kickboxing club there, Silver Dragon with Head Coach, Terry Kinsella.

"A friend of mine, Gerry Whelan, was doing kickboxing with Terry at the Tallaght club and I was saying 'I want to try that. That looks really different.'

"So I went there and stayed there for about three years and then I moved to a club in Palmerstown, Bushido Martial Arts under Eddie Ince.

"I really enjoyed that club, their discipline, their style, the way they did things and I stayed with that club my whole life.

"When I went to Palmerstown I just found a coach who I connected with and who had a lot of confidence in me and he made me secretary of Kickboxing Ireland back in 1989 and then I became secretary of the Irish Martial Arts Commission and I've been Vice President of that (IMAC) for 25 plus years. That covers all the arts.

"I became President of KBI for a while, I stepped back for a while and I'm now back to being President.

"But Eddie was the President of Kickboxing Ireland back then and he took me under his wing and I started competing.

"My first international competition was around 1982 and my first WAKO medal was at the 1985 Europeans and I competed right up to 2002 when I got my last gold and I retired and decided I wanted to focus on sports politics and promoting events.

"Throughout my life, what's been a blessing and a nightmare is that I'm highly competitive. When I won, I wanted to win two, when I won two I wanted to win four, when I won four, I wanted to win more than anybody else had ever won.

"I've been like that my whole life. The grass is always greener on the other side.

"I'm 56 this week and I've always wanted to evolve. Like I read at least two books a week. I've just a feckin brain that just never stops.

"I wake up at ten to five every morning and I'm out running and then I get on to my desk at half six in the morning and I'm on it until whatever time.

"Everybody doesn't love Roy Baker and I get that and it was the same when I was a competitor, but I've never wasted any of my energy on trying to impact somebody else.

"I've always believed that the only way to continue using my energy is to continue to build.

"I don't want to break anybody down. I don't want to break down a competition federation or another competitor.

"I always want to focus on me building and developing and developing those around me to get better.

"Some people I find in life, they want to be something, but they don't get how hard it is to get there and they try, what I call 'chopping the tree down' rather than trying to grow with the tree.

"As an athlete, I wasn't naturally gifted like some people are, but, my God, did I have a work ethic. I was just always that way.

"Back when I was competing there were two big bodies, there was WAKO and IAKSA and I won four European and five World titles.

"During that time I started up the Irish Open back in the early nineties because I was fed up travelling. Me, Bobby O'Neill from Wexford, Nicola Corbett from Palmerstown, Sallie McArdle from Dundalk and a few others had to travel everywhere to competition.

"So we started up this tournament in the Leixlip Community Centre and we got two English teams to come over and that was great.



"From Leixlip we moved out to UCD and then we moved it to the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght. But it got to a point that we outgrew the Arena also.

"Luckily I got to know the manager in Citywest through my job and we moved there about 10 or 11 years ago and that allowed us to grow to where it is today.

"But I didn't want this tournament to be about money, it was about bringing athletes to Ireland for something we could all be proud of.

"So we decided to adopt a charity, the ISPCC. So all the profits from the Irish Open go to the ISPCC and and we've given them about €150,000 over the years.



"It's amazing that, we in Ireland, we've build the biggest kickboxing tournament there has ever been on the planet bar none. We have to limit the number of competitors at 4000.

"Back in the 90s there were the two world bodies and they were very much level, but around 1997 I decided that I wanted to go the WAKO way because the federation, in my opinion, was better, it had more democracy and their level was getting higher and higher.

"I think there's a place in the world for people fighting at different levels, but the absolute top level in the world for kickboxing is WAKO.

"It has got Olympic recognition, we're in the World Games, the Combat Games and we're in the European Olympic Games in 2023.

"It was the one I wanted to spend my life building, but never did I think I'd become President of it. That was just too high.

"It was funny how I became involved in WAKO at that level. It was kind of a mistake.

"I went to a tournament once in about 2001/02. I think it was in Zagreb. The entire tournament had fallen down because they had gotten far too many people. So the whole organising committee had fallen over.

"I saw the chaos and I just went 'Stop!' And the President then, Ennio Falsoni, allowed me to step in and we got through it. I just got in when I shouldn't have. I don't think I'd seen an opportunity, I'd just seen a need.

"So I did that and then he asked me to join the organising committee of WAKO.

"About four years later I got elected on to the WAKO board. I was the first Irish person to ever sit on that board.

"So when I got in, I started to take more and more responsibility and I was needed more and more and then I became the President of WAKO Europe.



Ballyfermot man Roy Baker is, today, Director of Transformation at SSE Airtricity and spearheading world kickboxing's drive towards a place on the Olympic Games programme

"Then the same thing happened again. I was needed a little bit more and a little bit more and then I was elected Vice President of WAKO back in 2016.

"Sadly in October 2018, just before we got Olympic recognition, my good friend Borislav Pelevic, who was President, died

"I wasn't ready for being President. I didn't really want to be President because I'm still a bit young and I've so much to do in my job and life and with my children and Kickboxing Ireland.

"I'm sitting there thinking 'President? Five and a half million members. A huge amount of work to do.'

"But a lot of people came to me and they said 'It has to be you Roy. Borislav is gone and you have to step forward.'

"There was a need for someone who could keep everything together, so I was elected on the 2nd of February 2019.

"There were three people who went for the job and I got 97 percent of the votes.

"So it's an elected position. Who knows, in 2023 they might want somebody new and that's life.

"It was a bit scary for me, because I'm a lad from Ballyfermot and I've become the President of a World Olympic body.

"It's not an easy job. I'm always dealing with difficult situations where there's political disruption and political interference by governments.

"So it's not all glitzy. It's all about dealing with problems, but that's the job. I declutter and I create solutions.

"And I think our sport has improved with the new executive which I picked, but we still have a long way to go.

"We got IOC recognition in November 2018 and that was the biggest step. There's only 37 Olympic sports in the world and we got into the family.

"In 2023 kickboxing will be included as a demonstration sport in the European Olympic Games and we have high hopes for lots of competitors in Ireland.

"The likes of Jodie Browne in Tallaght, she's unbelievable. She's just got skills that are scary. We've got some really strong girls across all ages in Ireland at the moment.

"So I have very high expectations of kickboxing being a very successful sport in the European Games.

"It's our first time in the European Games and they'll assess you, they assess your organisation skills, the level of the athletes and the type of media that you attract.

"We were in the World Games for the first time in 2017. Those Games are just under the Olympics. We were a demonstration sport then and we're now a full sport in those Games.

"I'm blessed. I'm very lucky because I'm leading a sport at a time when we seem to be achieving extraordinary things.

"And it's not just me. It's the team I have around me. I'm just the captain of the ship, but I've got so many people supporting me. It's extraordinary.

"Now what we really need to do is to get into all these Continental Games, then move into the Junior Olympic Games and then move into the Summer Olympics. That's still a long journey and the only way we'd make that journey very quickly is if one of the host nations put us as one of the five introductory sports.

"After we got IOC recognition in 2018 it took about two years to get recognition from the Olympic Federation of Ireland. It's hard to get recognition because there's a pie there and everybody wants to get a piece of the pie.

"And the Olympic Federation of Ireland is really professional, they're a great body and they rightly focused on the Summer Games and the Winter Games because they are assessed by the medals that they get. We're not in the Summer Games yet, but that's my focus.

"We're delighted to be a part of it. We're the first non-Summer and Winter Games sport to be in the Olympic Federation of Ireland because we pushed it, we said 'We're entitled to be in it.'

"And I'm delighted to say Sarah Keane and the other sports in the OFI voted us in on the 8th of December. It was a great moment for our sport.

"In KBI, we've had extraordinary growth. We've amazing people, we're all volunteers, none of us paid, but we've really grown as a federation, and we've really focused on our athletes.

"We're not focused on the short wins, we're focused on the long-term sustainable goals of a sport that has a future.

"We're focused on the 'now' but we're more focused on the 'tomorrow' because I have to make sure that our children have that long-term player/athlete development profile that allows them to be in the sport for a long time, like me. I'm still teaching. I'm teaching in Bushido Martial Arts Academy Leixlip for about the past 34 years.

"When I was growing up, Ireland was a nobody in kickboxing and we had no influence whatsoever. We were very disorganised and there wasn't that many competitors.

"There was myself, Nicola Corbett, Bobby O'Neill, John White and Sallie McArdle. We would have been the top competitors that paved the way for everybody else.

"Now Ireland is consistently in the top five in the world and there's no other Olympic sport that's at that level.

"But I will tell you this, us getting Olympic recognition has been very good for WAKO and kickboxing worldwide, but not good for Ireland.

"Because I'm President of WAKO, I see the significant funding that many countries have received because they became an Olympic sport.

"But in Ireland, that meant diddly-squat and there's no question we're falling behind now. Other countries have gotten millions, but we get zero from the government.

"So when we got Olympic recognition, we had to fight to get into the Olympic Federation of Ireland and we don't get any extra funding from Sport Ireland even though we've become an Olympic-recognised sport.

"Now Covid has impacted the sport world wide, but prior to Covid I challenged Sport Ireland, I challenged John Treacy, saying 'We are being impacted now from a lack of investment, because our competitors, who we've always beaten, are now shifting. Their athletes are getting funding, they're getting more access to specialists and I can see that severely impacting us unless we do something about it.'

"We have exceptional clubs, exceptional coaches in Ireland and we really are batting above our average, but in Ireland, we really don't invest in sport like other countries do.

"And the past year has been the most difficult period in the history of any sport.

"But in many countries they have continued to focus on the improvement and development of sport during Covid because they recognise the fundamental need for people to stay active.

"I'm disappointed with the way Ireland has gone in that respect.

"You look at other countries who have said 'No, we have to keep sport open. Sport is a huge part of the physical and mental well-being of the nation.'

"Kids have got more addicted to Facebook, to the X Box, Playstation and we now have to pry them away from those disruptive activities into productive activities. That's going to be hard.

"Really the difficulty you have with kids is it's a different world today. There are more dangers, more opportunities and much more risks. Kids can go off-kilter and probably the biggest thing I'm worried about is kids' inability to deal with conflict and failure.

"And that's where I think kickboxing and combat sports really help, because they teach people that you will get knocked down, you will get a bloody nose, but learn to stand up, learn to step forward. You have to have struggle in life to make it interesting.

"Kickboxing has given me the resilience I have today to do what I do, there's no question. The two most influential things on Roy Baker is, Number One his dad and Number Two, kickboxing.

"I mean you wouldn't believe how timid I was. But now I can stand up in front of 20,000 people and talk. A lot of that inner-confidence I have, I got through kickboxing.



Roy Baker and his team have led kickboxing to new heights
Photo by Paddy Barrett

"But I'm 56 this week and you have to be careful because you have to keep a balance.

"I've got two kids. Roy's 19, Danielle's 23. They're the love of my life and they complete me more than anything. Sport is my passion, but what I live for is my kids.

"Like 70 percent of what I do during the day, I don't get paid for. But I like to see stuff being built and accomplished.

"I'm not special. I've made loads of mistakes, but I learn from those mistakes and move on. I just do things to the best of my ability and I try to be the best person I can be with the skillsets that God has given me."



WORLD ASSOCIATION OF KICKBOXING ORGANIZATIONS

TO ALL THE WAKO MEMBERS

BY E-MAIL

Monza, 30th March, 2021

RE: April 6th, International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

Dear Presidents and General Secretaries.

As the April 6th is approaching and this is not only a date but is a symbol of the worldwide Peace&Sport organization campaign dedicated to establish and promote peace through sport #April6, we kindly ask all of you to give your contribution.

WAKO has become a mobilizing partner of the #April6 2021 of Peace&Sport organization and proudly joins this action, which in this edition has the highlight:

"Beside every White Card there is a story".

What can you do?

- Ask your champions to take a photo with White Card, tell us a short story why they love Kickboxing and share their story in social media and register in www.april6.org.
- Publish relevant information about this campaign in your Social media by SHARING AND REPOSTING the posts from WAKO Facebook, WAKO Instagram and WAKO Twitter during all seven days of activism (31st March-6th April).
- Mobilize your members to publish #WhiteCard pictures (selfie with white peace of paper raised in the hand) on their Social media combined with interesting life stories and communities which have been positively impacted by our sport of kickboxing.
- Register your story on dedicated <u>www.april6.org</u> platform along with #WhiteCard picture of the participant telling the story.
- · Be sure in all content to use hashtags: #WhiteCard #PeaceandSport

We look forward to learning more about how your members will celebrate April 6th!

Best regards,

Roy Baker WAKO President

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Do you know what is the meaning of the #WhiteCard campaign?

White Card in your hand is the symbol of your commitment to peace through sport worldwide, your demonstration of the support of global unity, solidarity, dialog and cooperation.

April 6 is the day when global sport community shows the strength of good will to foster the transmission of structuring values and illuminating the path to more inclusive and peaceful societies.

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, April 6, is celebrated each year through numerous initiatives and campaigns carried out by the actors of the Sport for Development and Peace (SDP) movement.

As the proud mobililisation partner for 2021 edition of the founder of this movement, Peace and Sport organization, WAKO will have seven days of activism raising awareness about this initiative. Stay tuned, there is more to come in the next days!



On behalf of World Association of Kickboxing Organizations WAKO and all of its members and Executive Board I would like to congratulate Mr. Thomas Bach on his re-election as President of the IOC.

Mr Bach has shown great leadership and great resilience during the Covid pandemic, ensuring the Olympic family can continue to operate and function in the interest of the athletes.

We in the sport of kickboxing are looking forward to our continued evolution as a member of the Olympic family of sport.

WAKO President, Roy Baker



WAKO CALENDAR 2021 - CORRECTIONS















WAKO CALENDAR 2021 Revision / edition 24-03-2021								
April 2021								
Α	8	11	6 th International Turkish Open (WAKO European Cup)	Turkey				
В	24	25	Point Fighting Cup 2021	Italy				
Cancelled	30	2 May	Slovak Open	Slovakia				
May 2021								
В	14	16	Serbia Open	Serbia				
С	21	26	International Kickboxing Tournament - Uzbekistan Open 2021	Uzbekistan				
В	28	30	Karlovac Open (WAKO European Cup)	Croatia				
June 2021	June 2021							
С	4	6	Latvia Open	Latvia				
WAKO World Cup	10	13	25 th Bestfighter 2021 (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Italy				
July 2021								
WAKO World Cup	1	4	The Austrian Classics 2021 (WAKO World Cup) (Official WAKO Referee Worlds/Europeans)	Austria				
Cancelled	23	27	5th European Universities Games 2021	Serbia				
August 2021								
С	3	6	2nd International Jordan Open	Jordan				
В	19	21	AmeriKick Internationals	USA				
Postponed	TBD	TBD	WAKO Cadets & Juniors European Championships (All disciplines)	TBD				

Provisionally CONFIRMED TOURNAMENTS 2021

8th - 11th April 2021: 6th TURKISH OPEN (WAKO European Cup), Antalya, Turkey

24th - 25th April 2021: **POINT FIGHTING CUP**, Castellanza, Italy

30th April - 2nd May 2021: **SLOVAK OPEN 2021**, Bratislava, Slovakia **CANCELLED**

14th - 16th May 2021: SERBIAN OPEN 2021 (WAKO European Cup), Belgrade Serbia

21st - 26th May 2021: **UZBEKISTAN OPEN 2021,** Tashkent, Uzbekistan

28th - 30th May 2021: KARLOVAC OPEN 2021 (WAKO European Cup), Karlovac, Croatia

June 2021: WAKO IF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR NFs, Singapore

4th - 6th June 2021: **LATVIA OPEN 2021**, Riga, Latvia

10th - 13th June 2021: **BESTFIGHTER (WAKO World Cup)**, Rimini, Italy

1st - 4th July 2021: THE AUSTRIAN CLASSICS (WAKO World Cup), Innsbruck, Austria 23rd - 27th July 2021: EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY GAMES, Belgrade, Serbia CANCELLED

3rd - 6th August 2021: **2nd JORDAN OPEN 2021**, Amman, Jordan

19th - 21st August 2021: AMERIKICK INTRERNATIONALS, Atlantic City, USA
POSTPONED - TBD: WAKO CADETS & JUNIORS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

10th - 19th September 2021: 5th ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES, Konya, Turkey

16th - 19th September 2021: HUNGARIAN WORLD CUP (WAKO World Cup), Budapest, Hungary

21st - 26th September 2021: RUSSIAN OPEN 2021 (WAKO World Cup), Moscow, Russia

26th – 27th September 2021: **FLANDERS INTERNATIONAL KICKBOXING CUP**, Beveren, Belgium

1st - 2nd October 2021 SCANDINAVIAN OPEN, Oslo, Norway 15th - 17th October 2021 SILVER GRIFFIN CUP, Rezekne, Latvia

16th - 17th October 2021 BRISTOL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Bristol, United Kingdom

22nd - 23rd October 2021 SLOVENIA OPEN, Zagorje ob Savi, Slovenia

POSTPONED - TBD: WAKO SENIOR & MASTER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, 18th - 21st November 2021 SPAIN INTERNATIONAL OPEN, Benidorm, Spain

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2022	Cadets & Juniors WC (All disciplines) in Belgrade; Serbia

2022 Senior EC (All disciplines) in Antalya, Turkey;

2023 Cadets & Juniors EC (All Disciplines), Izmir, Turkey;

2023 Senior WC (All Disciplines), Dublin, Ireland

2023 June 21.-July 2. EUROPEAN GAMES, Krakow, Poland

2023 July 17.-20. EUSA Combat Games, Zagreb Croatia

2024 Cadets & Juniors WC (All disciplines) in Hungary

2024 EUSA Games, Hungary

2024 Senior EC (All disciplines), Athens, Greece

THE WORLD GAMES - 2022.

7th - 17th July 2022: **WORLD GAMES**, Birmingham (Alabama), USA

All information about THE WORLD GAMES 2022 - www.twg2022.com

The World Games

Kickboxing super star, world champion in K1 Milana Bjelogrlic, will Takeover on March 23 on Instagram page of The World Games and show us the part of her proffesional life as kickboxer and pianist. Stay tuned, join Instagram tomorrow and spend a day with Milana!



WAKO Seminars







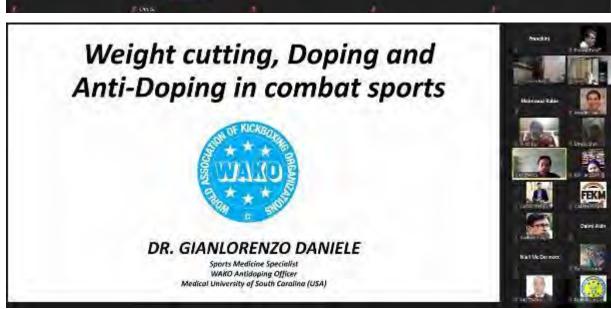












WAKO Committee's Activities

WAKO Women in Sport Committee Campaign #HerWinOurWin

Transforming sport for the benefit of every woman and girl



Read the story about **Marijana Pelevic**, WAKO Women in Sport representative, a woman who is changing the face of our sport

1. When did kickboxing appear in your life?

M.P.: After finishing my studies at the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Education and Psychology, I started to work in the small office which was publishing Martial arts magazine. Symbolically, that **8**th **March 1988** was the day when my involvement in this sport started. My true love for kickboxing appeared from the love of my life, my husband Borislav, who was the pioneer of this sport and from 2015-2018 a president of WAKO. With him I have passed the whole road from the early years back to 1988 till now in the development of the WAKO kickboxing. We travelled together all around the world, going to the tournaments and gaining many friends from sport.

2. How does the development of kickboxing look like in your country?

M.P.: Development of the new sport in former Yugoslavia and Serbia wasn't easy, but it appears that the mentality of our people completely have understood and adopted the essence of dynamic martial sport with kick and punches, and accepted it with joy. The first tournaments, competitions, profi galas were extremely popular, it was always the lack of the seats in the sport halls, our athletes were heroes. Our job was to shape and direct that huge positive energy to create a well organized sport association and now, I see we have succeeded. Kickboxing in Serbia today is a sport with most trophies among non olympic sports, has the government support and is the sport for which the government has the special interest in. We are involved in schools, in the police and army forces as well. We have several projects with the Ministry of youth, the most popular is "Kick the bullies out of schools". We also participated in a public project to stand up for stopping violence against women in families, where we were distributing t-shirts to martial sports champions with the quote on it: " If you want to slap your wife, try first with me"

3. What do you feel about kickboxing?

M.P.: I really love kickboxing. It can be trained at recreational and competitive level, as the tool to improve overall health and to learn self-defence. Kickboxing has seven disciplines, like the Swedish table for all interested to train: pick what you like to train. I have four children and the second daughter is training kickboxing as the recreation and is a national judge. My son who is 18 was engaged as the volunteer at WAKO

athlete corner during the World Championships in Antalya, and at International Kickboxing Day was doing a live interview with the President Roy Baker on Instagram. My other daughter, who is a lawyer, is helping me with Bylaws and documents in Serbian kickboxing federation where I am employed. As you see, everybody in the family has some voluntary duties in kickboxing.

4. Tell us about your engagement in WAKO Women in sport Committee.

M.P.: When I was proposed for the member of the WAKO Women in Sport committee 2016, it was an honor for me. We immediately created a fantastic team of energetic, educated and dedicated women who really wanted to make a change. Until now, we clearly positioned the woman in our organization, created the set of the Bylaws which defines the equality principles in all fields in the organizations, created several humanitarian actions with funds raising for the projects concerning researches in medicine (breast cancer), initiated several projects such as Her win our win, Generation equality, Save the nature, WAKO for climate, etc, all with the main goal to promote sustainable sport and successful and strong women from our sport. Especially, we promote projects directed towards young girls and their involvement in sport. Of course, we take care about women issues during the championships and we are now recognized as the valuable partner of the WAKO promoters. Finally, we have organized The First WAKO Women Conference 2017 and we are planning to organize the second one. We already have much interest in the male side in WAKO for the participation, and that is something that we are very much happy about.

5. What is your role in kickboxing organization?

M.P.: I have already said that I am employed in Serbian Kickboxing Federation, as the administration officer, PR and Social Media officer. But, at the same time I work in the world organization WAKO as the Social media manager and a photographer, on a voluntary basis. I am also involved as a member of the Organizing committee in the preparations of the tournaments in my country and in the WAKO. I pretty much enjoy my work, so whenever I travel at the WAKO Championships, when they ask me "Is this a business or pleasure trip?" I answer "Both". As a cancer survivor, I have learned that I have to appreciate every moment in life, to give the best of myself in every work but always putting family and friends first.

6. The main goal of the WAKO Women in Sport Committee?

M.P.: The main goal in WAKO Kickboxing organization, WAKO Women in sport Committee as well as my national federation, is to empower and uplift more women and girls to engage in sport as competitors and officials. From many people's perspective the access to sport today is something that we take for granted, but it is not so. You can't imagine what stories we heard from various women and what boundaries women all around the world have to overleap to take part and stay in sport. There are still systematic barriers that keep women out of the sport. We are really tired of the patriarchy and the traditional gender roles. It is time for the equal future.

On the occasion of 8th March, we inspire the world of kickboxing with the stories about many successful women who can be an inspiration for the future generations.

Let me share with you several facts from today's sport environment:

- following his recent election as the President of the Football Federation Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Azizi Khadem pledged to support women's football in his country.
- The World Games Birmingham 2022 Board made a significant positive change in appointing the new members from various minority background striving for equality.
- At least 11 women are set to be added to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics Board following comments from the new Board female president Seiko Hashimoto that 40% of the Board should be female.

On the 8th March, we are celebrating contribution of the women on whose shoulders we stand: Theresa Malkiel, Clara Zetkin, Rosa Luxenburg, Sylvia Pankhurst, Eleonore Roosevelt, Malala Yousafzai and many more. Leaders, changemakers, educators, caretakers, peacekeepers. Thanks to their courage & persistence, we have come this far.

Marijana Pelevic

WAKO Women in Sport Committee representative

WAKO Women in Sport Committee

Gender equality in technical officiating in sport with the accent on judging, was the topic of today's IOC Gender equality webinar series on which, among more than 300 participants, WAKO Women in Sport Committee members have participated in.

Very fruitful lecturing and examples of good practice from the International Surfing Federation and World Taekwondo Federation about equality and equity in technical officiating and leadership in sport federations, put this subject at the high priority list of the world sport.

Using ROLE-models and ambassadors are the safest ways to show it is possible women to improve and get advance in their carrier.

It was also stressed that diverse ethnic background of the women referees which gives continental variety is crucial for harmonized development.

The question has developed from:

- Why don't we have more women in technical officiating in sport,
- to:
- Why don't we have more women among the best judges officiating in the worlds sport?

The question has been opened

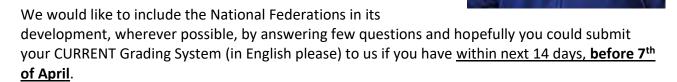


Dear Presidents and coaches,

I hope you and your family are healthy in this difficult time!

At request of the President and WAKO Board of Directors, the WAKO Coaches Committee is working on developing and introducing a new **Belt Graduation System** for WAKO.

This system is optional at present but is highly recommended and suggested to bring in fully and will be discussed at a future General Assembly.





- 1. Do you have a current grading system in place?
- 2. If so, could you forward a copy of your grading syllabus to coach@wako.sport in English?
- 3. What do you consider the key skills to be developed within a syllabus?
- 4. What do you consider to be the key stages in progression?
- 5. What time frames do you have in place for progressing from grade to grade, e.g., how many years to achieve blackbelt?

Drawing from existing best practice, we can then develop a standardized, cohesive syllabus, ensuring continuity and progression within the sport and will provide an essential source of income.

One which encourages our students to work towards common goals representing the very best within WAKO.

Consulting our colleagues will mean we can draw from the many talented and skilled practitioners and instructors, taking from the very best, to develop an approve system we are all in agreement with and rightly proud of. And one, of course, which will truly reflect the ethos of all the disciplines of our sport.

Best regards,

Daimi Akin WAKO IF Coaches Committee Chairman +47 905 18 861 coach@wako.sport

WAKO Athlete Corner App – 1st phase of Go Live!

The first edition of the Athlete Corner App, the digital version of WAKO's learn and share program, has gone LIVE. Firstly I am happy to announce that we have got a unique domain called wakoathletecorner.digital. Therefore, please follow the link https://wakoathletecorner.digital/ and create your own profile.

Those who have had the old link and already created a profile, you don't need to do anything since it just forwards you to the new domain. As you can see you have three main sections;

- Information to you information packages from various committees to be further developed.
- **Sign-off modules** antidoping, integrity, referees etc to be further developed. When ready we will at a later stage make all sign-off modules mandatory for our staff and athletes.
- Registration for seminars we will use all registration for online seminars via this app.

The app is connected to SportData and therefore it is not a unique app format, but a part of seminar modules program. Despite this structure we do have a lot of possibilities to structure information and educative modules.

Please see attached screenshots.

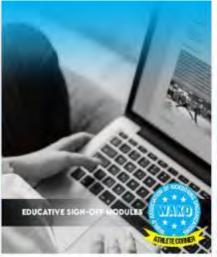
Note; for the antidoping sign-off module. If you fail to answer correctly all of the questions, you need to start over again. When finished successfully the participant will receive a congratulation message and you'll get a personal online certificate from WAKO. You simply take a screenshot and then finished (see attached example of certificate).

Note that we will develop this App going forward with more information from various committees. It is also worthwhile to mention that we have sent a demo version with a unique log in also to the IOC Sports Department and we are in dialogue if they more actively can contribute in communication related to the IOC Athlete 365.











Information to you

EDUCATIVE SIGN-OFF MODILES

EDUCATIVE SIGNOFF MODULES

REGISTRATION FOR SEMINARS
SEMINARS

















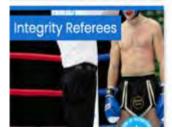
















2021 CODE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

LINK TO PROMO VIDEO

WADA developed the Code Implementation Support Program (CISP) to help World Anti-Doping Code (Code) Signatories prepare for implementation of the <u>2021 Code and International Standards</u> (<u>Standards</u>) that come into effect on 1 January 2021.

CISP RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON ADEL

The following types of CISP resources are available on the Agency's Anti-Doping eLearning platform
(ADEL):

- Factsheets
- Checklists
- Presentations
- Pre-recorded webinars
- Video tutorials

These resources are focused on understanding the main changes and what Signatories can do to implement the 2021 Code and Standards.

LIVE WEBINAR SERIES

To further assist Signatories implement the 2021 Code and International Standards, in addition to the CISP resources that are available on ADEL, WADA will hold a series of live webinars, hosted by WADA staff and external experts. The 2021 CISP webinars will be held directly from the ADEL platform.

Date / Time	Session Title	Speakers	Webinar Series & Target audience	To register
1 Apr 09:00 EDT/ 13:00 GMT	Results Management under the 2021 International Standard for Results Management (in French)	Sameh Elray, Manager, WADA Africa Office (Moderator) Tharinda Puth, Manager, Legal Affairs, WADA	African Series For Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) and members of Disciplinary/ Appeal Panels from African countries	To register, please send your information (name, country, job title) to sameh.elray@wada-ama.org as soon as possible.
13 Apr 09:00 EDT/ 13:00 GMT	Applicable Sanctions in Results Management	Sameh Elray, Manager, WADA Africa Office (Moderator) Tharinda Puth, Manager, Legal Affairs, WADA	African Series For ADOs and members of Disciplinary/ Appeal Panels from African countries	To register, please send your information (name, country, job title) to sameh.elray@wada-ama.org as soon as possible.
15 Apr 09:00 EDT/ 13:00 GMT	Applicable Sanctions in Results Management (in French)	Sameh Elray, Manager, WADA Africa Office (Moderator) Tharinda Puth, Manager, Legal Affairs, WADA	African Series For ADOs and members of Disciplinary/ Appeal Panels from African countries	To register, please send your information (name, country, job title) to sameh.elray@wada-ama.org as soon as possible.
22 Apr 00:00 EDT	WADA 2021 Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Virtual Symposium: Part I Note: Please see WADA communication of 24 March for Program information	Katia Alloun, TUE Manager, WADA (Moderator) Yoko Dozono, Medical Manager, WADA (Moderator) Prof. David Gerrard, WADA TUE Expert Advisory Group Chair Dr. Peter Harcourt, Medical Director, Australian Football League Dr. James Kissick, Sports Medicine Physician, Canadian Medical Protective Association Dr. Katja Mjøsund, Specialist in Sports and Exercise Medicine, Paavo Nurmi Centre, Sports & Exercise Medicine, University of Turku, Finland Dr. Alan Vernec, Medical Director, WADA	<i>N/A</i> For TUE physicians and ADO managers	<u>Register here</u>

23 Apr 00:00 EDT	WADA 2021 Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Virtual Symposium: Part II Note: Please see WADA communication of 24 March for Program information	 Katia Alloun, TUE Manager, WADA (Moderator) Yoko Dozono, Medical Manager, WADA (Moderator) Dr. Simon Kemp, Sports Physician, Parkside Hospital, United Kingdom Prof. David Gerrard, WADA TUE Expert Advisory Group Chair Liz Riley, General Counsel, International Paralympic Committee Dr. Ola Rønsen, Chief Medical Officer & Head of Global Health Aker Solutions, Aker Solutions, Norway Dr. Susan White, Sports and Exercise Physician, Australian Sports Drug Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Alan Vernec, Medical Director, WADA 	<i>N/A</i> For TUE physicians and ADO managers	Register here
29 Apr 04:00 EDT/ 09:00 CET	Anti-doping regional workshop for National Anti- Doping Organizations (NADOs) and Law Enforcement	 Mathieu Holz, Senior Investigator, Intelligence and Investigations, WADA Sébastien Gaillard, Criminal Intelligence Officer, INTERPOL General Secretariat 	N/A For anti-doping experts from NADOs and Law Enforcement from Eastern European countries	Registration via invitation only
30 Apr 11:00 EDT	Introduction to WADA and anti- doping for athletes (in Spanish)	 Adriana Escobar, Member, WADA Athlete Committee Francisco Leon, Senior Manager, Program Development and NADO/RADO relations, WADA María José Pesce, Director, Latin America Office. WADA 	Athlete Series For Spanish-speaking athletes	<u>Register here</u>
30 de abril 11:00 ET	Introducción a la Agencia Mundial Antidopaje (AMA) y el antidopaje para deportistas	 Adriana Escobar, miembro del Comité de Atletas de la AMA María José Pesce, Directora, América Latina, AMA Francisco Leon, Gerente Senior, Desarrollo de Programas y Relaciones NADO / RADO, AMA 	Serie para deportistas Para deportistas hispanos	<u>Inscribirse</u>

The problem of abuse of Diuretics in Kickboxing - Part 1

The use of diuretics represents nowadays one of the most significative Doping-related issues in sport, and especially in combat sports where athletes compete in different weight categories. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that everyone in the sport community, including coaches, trainers, and federation officers, are aware of the problem and would be therefore ready to contrast it.

But what are diuretics exactly? Diuretics are drugs that are used to increase the rate of urine flow, and therefore they facilitate and increase the excretion of water and minerals (which are called electrolytes, being sodium the most relevant). Accordingly, these drugs are commonly used by physicians in daily clinical practice, whenever a condition or a disease would create the necessity to adjust the volume and composition of body fluids, and in particular to eliminate the excess of fluids from tissues. Examples of situations that could require prescription of a diuretic by a physician, include hypertension, heart failures, kidney diseases, lung conditions (such as pulmonary edema), and others. There are several different kinds of diuretics: these molecules can be classified in different ways, and one of them is based on the exact site of action in the kidney (and, more in detail, in the nephron which is the functional unit of the kidney). Therefore, we will have different classes like carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, loop diuretics, thiazide diuretics, sodium channel inhibitors, all with different characteristics and peculiarities.

But why are diuretics being used (and abused) in sport, out of clinical recommendations? There are essentially two reasons. First one is that, by increasing water excretion, they can facilitate a rapid weight loss (It can be useful to remind that water represents up to 60-65% of the adult human body). Accordingly, diuretics can be disgracefully included in weight cutting strategies, in order to allow the fighter to compete in a weight category much lower than his normal and natural weight.

The second reasons is that, by increasing urine dilution, diuretics can potentially reduce the urine concentration of other prohibited substances, and therefore interfere with their detection at antidoping tests (which are frequently performed on urines samples). This is the reason why diuretics are part of the category of Masking Agents (together with plasma expanders and other substances with similar effects.

For these reasons, which will be explained more in the detail, all Diuretics are prohibited in Sports by the WADA's World Antidoping Code, at all times (in and out of competition). Intentional use of Diuretics is configured as an Antidoping Rule Violation and would therefore lead to all the related consequences, which obviously include Disqualification.

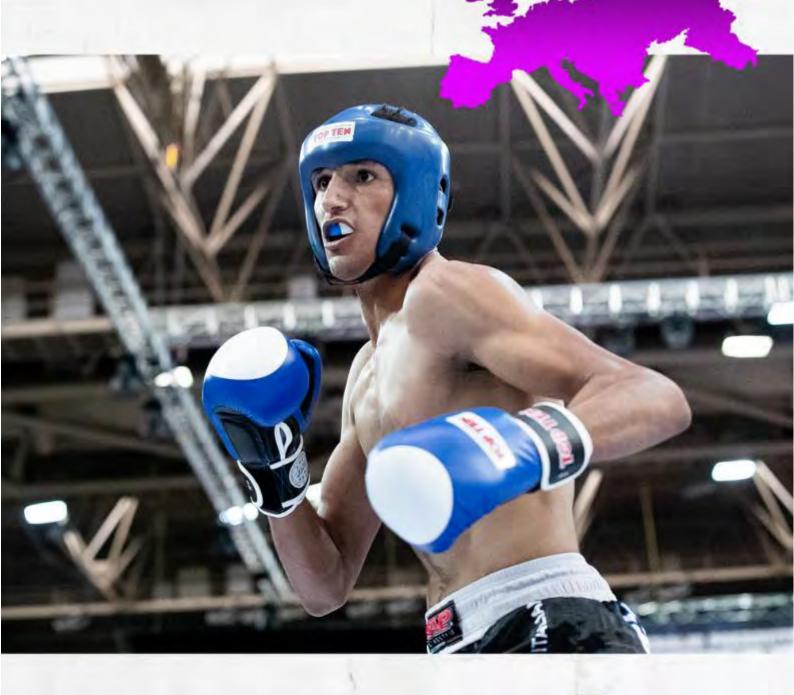
To be continued...

Dr. **Gianlorenzo Daniele** - Italy Member of WAKO Medical, Health and Antidoping Committee WAKO Antidoping Officer



WAKO EUROPE

ACTIVITES MARCH 2021



WAKO Europe Board meeting

WAKO Europe Board Meeting - March 27th, 2020 at 12:00 noon (Budapest time) - On line

- 1. Appointment of the Chairman and secretary of the meeting
- 2. Approval of the Board meeting Agenda
- 3. Approval of the previous Minutes of the last WAKO Europe Board meeting held by Zoom platform on August 22nd, 2020
- 4. WAKO Children, Cadets and Juniors European Championships 2021
- 5. AOE



Letter to all WAKO Europe federations presidents:





Activities of WAKO Europe members





Azerbaijan

On March 4 2021 the 4rd stage of Referee Webinars organized by WAKO AZERBAIJAN (Azerbaijan Kickboxing Federation) has already ended!

At the opening of the seminar, the 1th Vice President of the Azerbaijan Kickboxing Federation Ehram Majidov welcomed the participants and shared his wishes and recommendations

In the webinar with more than 40 participants, WAKO International referee Aydin Agabayov gave information about penalties, warnings and other information related to the rules of the Ring's central referees and side judges.





Bulgaria

March 6

Annual award of the Bulgarian Confederation of Kickboxing and Muay Thai for 2020:

Ring:

- 1. SK Shumen Fortress;
- 2. SK Boil Varna;
- 3. SK Tangra Svilengrad;

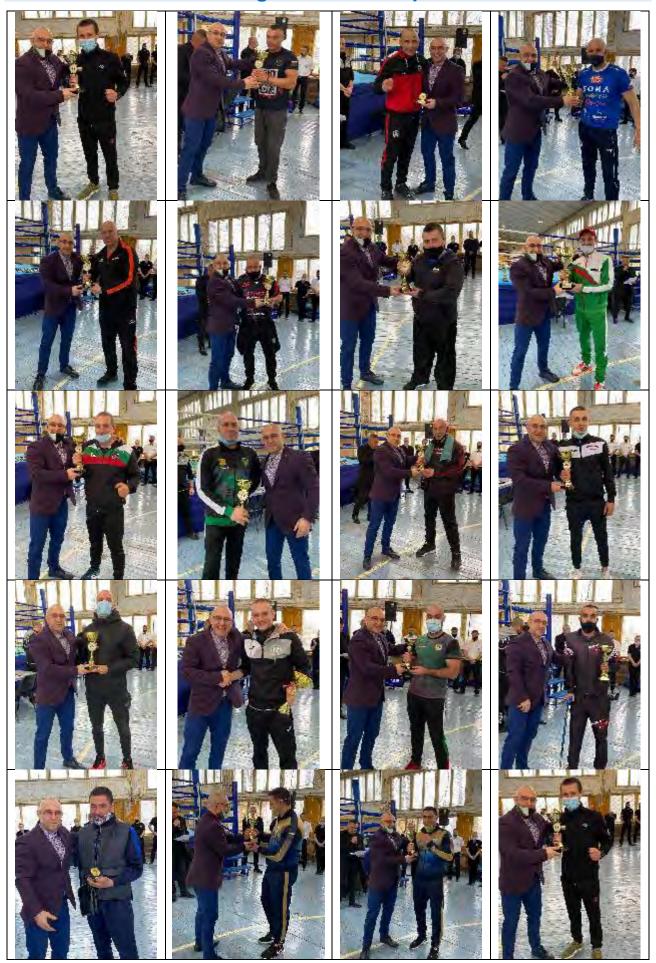
Tatami:

- 1. SK Star Team Sofia;
- 2. SK Masaru Sofia;
- 3. SK Radulov Sofia;

MUAY THAI:

- 1. SK Teres Plovdiv
- 2. SC Argus Varna
- 3. SK TIM Varna

Bulgaria - Photo report from annual award

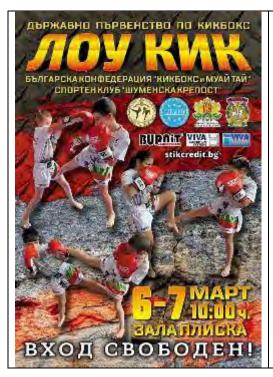


Bulgaria

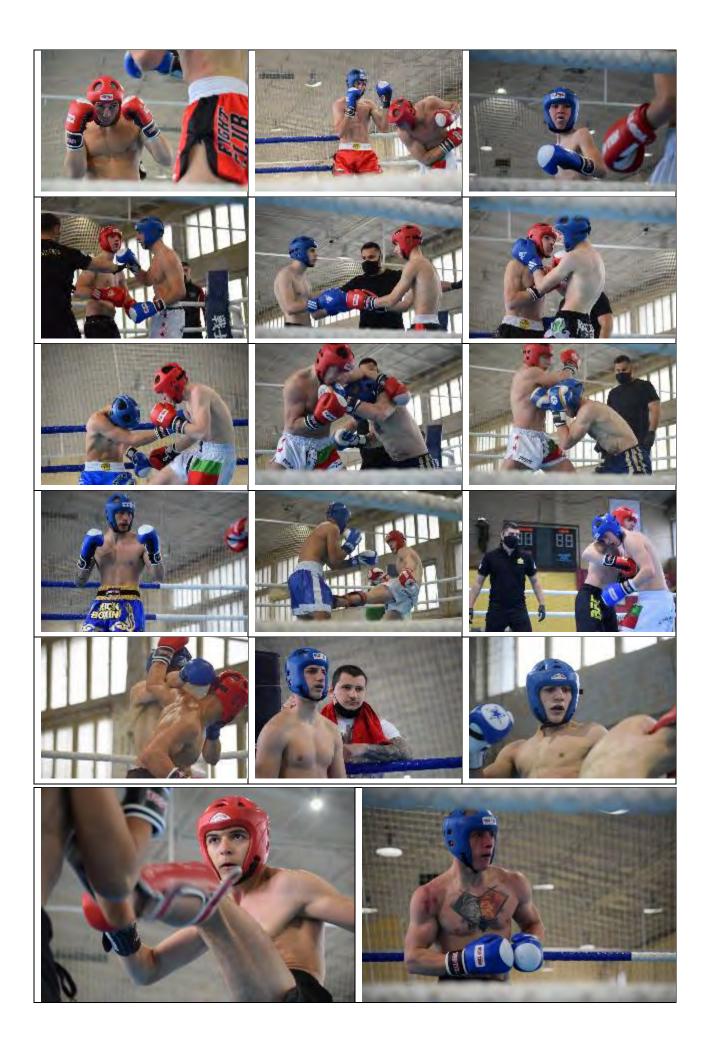
March 6 - 7. 2021.

National Bulgarian Championships in low kick - all age categories













Bulgaria

We have planned the clubs that participate in the DP in the city. Kozloduy to receive them personally from Chairman Galin Dimov and fellow member of the ESC Georgi Vachev, and to the other colleagues we will send them by courier or take them directly from the office of the Bulgarian Confederation of Kickboxing and Muay Thai.

One small part of the Champions of SK "SHUMENSKA KREPOST" has earned their place in Bulgaria's national kickboxing team! Dressed with the new acquisitions from Flair

Next Bulgarian activities





A real kickboxing show awaits martial arts fans in April. The Bulgarian Confederation of Kickboxing and Muay Thai (BKKMT) has prepared another show, combining in the best way the spectacular ring styles "Fullcontact" and "K-1".

The competition, organized by SC Spartak Pazardzhik 2014 will be held in the period April 23-25.



Bulgaria

On March 28, the **kickboxers from SC Beroe - Stara Zagora** joined a charity outdoor training.

The noble initiative brings together a number of sports clubs in the city, whose members want to help 9-year-old Romina, who suffers from severe cancer.



Croatia

Croatian Federaion held coach and referee seminars.

February 27 - seminars for coaches March 6 - seminar for expirienced referees March 7 - seminar for judges - beginners

LINK TO VIDEO SEMINARS

(Croatian language)





Looking back at 2020

ČSFU managed to take place several events in 2020 despite the covid measures - here is a short sample.

Thank you all for your cooperation and we believe that we will start it together again - as soon as possible -.

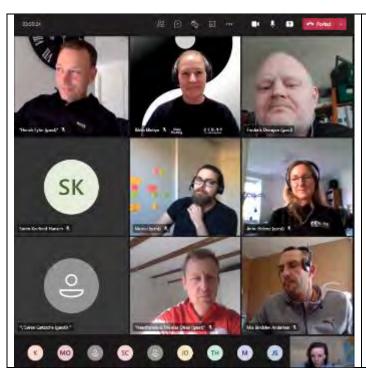
Hold on and keep our favor Czech Kickboxing Team

Event of 2020-ČSFU

- SCM Youth Sports Center
- Sparring not only representation
- > Slovak Open 2020
- > Irish Open 2020
- Representative camp PF, LC, KL Orlické Mountains
- > Training of coaches II. KICKBOX classes
- Representative camp VZ DUKLA Harrachov
- CHAMPIONSHIP Czech Republic 2020
- National kickboxing cup
- ➤ LIKOST kickboxing league K-1 2020
- ➤ WAKO K-1 WORLD GRAND PRIX 2020

LINK TO VIDEO

- Educational seminars for Czech coaches
- postponed to May 2021



Denmark

On Sunday 21.03., DKF held this year's Board of Representatives meeting, this time online.

A total of seven clubs participated in a positive dialogue and discussion about kickboxing challenges and opportunities, as well as future bylaws.

The minutes from the meeting can soon be read on the website under club login.

Denmark

WAKO Denmark declared the best for 2019 and handed out awards to the most deserving.

Katrine Rúd Mannemar Pedersen receives two honorary certificates: 1. For her performance at WAKO World Championships 2019 in Bosnia. 2. For her performance at WAKO World Championships 2019 in Turkey



Mikkel Schlottmann receives a certificate of honor from DKF, for his performance at the WAKO World Cup 2019 in Bosnia



Nicolai Koefoed named Male Junior of the Year Fighting 2019 in DKF



Danny Stuhr receives a certificate of honor from DKF for his performance at the WAKO World Cup 2019 in Bosnia



Nina Von Druschke Hetmar named Female Fighter of the Year 2019 in DKF



Amalie Sofie Tobar Pedersen named Female Junior of the Year Fighting 2019 in DKF



Jan Larsen receives a certificate of honor from DKF, for his performance at the WAKO World Cup 2019 in Turkey



Jakob Nymand named Judge of the Year 2019 in DKF

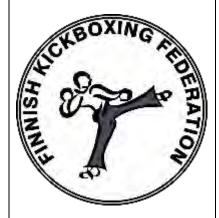


Nickolaj Vinogradov Christensen

- Appointed as Male of the Year 2019 and receiver of Honor for his performance at the WAKO World Cup 2019 in Turkey



Finland



March 31

A VIRTUAL EVENT ON THE ORGANIZATION OF CORONA-ERA EXERCISES

The Finnish Kickboxing Association organizes a virtual discussion for member clubs about the experiences of organizing Korona-time exercises. The discussion event, especially for instructors and coaches, is intended to share experiences in organizing Corona-era exercises. For example, has your club used virtual events (e.g. Facebook, Google Meet, Zoom) to organize Corona time exercises? The coaches had opportunities to share experiences and hear the experiences and thoughts of others on the subject.





LINK TO VIDEO "KIDS FIGHT"

France

Due to the global pandemic, clubs within the French federation organise their courses outside. Stadiums, local parks, parking, ..., are used each day by the members according to the weather. It is the alternative option suggested for our athletes until gymnasiums open. For now on, contacts are forbidden. Doing so, the focus is on cardio, shadow boxing and reviewing the basics.

While some structures are closed and the curfew is still on across the country, the federation has filmed several videos to entertain its members. The plot is the following: children interviewing children on their dreams, their training, or their fave athletes. Those 4 minutes videos are available on our YouTube channel and our Facebook page. Kindness and determination are present, enjoy our Kids Fight's programme!







Germany

Germany's kickboxers training together, part 6

On Saturday, March 6., 2021 we start at Fit and Fun Kornwestheim. Coach **Lazaros Emmanouilidis** and his national team fighter **Sandro Peters** will do their best at pointfighting.

In the second hour, the trip to Lünen to Tan Gun will take place, here you can look forward to the youth and junior national coach in the light contact Brahim Triqui.



On Sunday, 7. 3. **international Tatami training** with Hungary's national coach **Peter Puravecz** and WAKO world champion **Kristina Skripnichenko** from Ukraine, 2 top-class lecturers.

Many German athletes as well as new clubs and young members found their way into Zoom training. Kristina started with valuable training tips, great kicks and hand-foot combinations. At the end there was a short Tabatha Circle, which made everyone sweat powerful.

National coach **Marco Pultke** eliminated any difficulty of understanding by targeted translation. Then it came Peter's turn. He brought his whole national team to training right away. This was about tricking kicks and spectacular hand combinations. A successful afternoon. (Text:M.Pultke)







Germany's kickboxers training together, part 7

Saturday, 13.03.2021 we started in Berlin with our federal coach **Karsten Rüger** with the discipline Kick Light at 16:00 pm.

Right afterwards, the trip to Oldenburg, where at 17:00 o'clock the president of WAKO Bremen **Stefan Doersch** taught in the forms.





Germany

Germany's kickboxers training together, part 8 - 20 Mar 2021

Next Saturday, March 20., we started with the discipline Pointfighting, with the Hamburg state coach **Frank Feuer** and active support of **Nele Feuer** at 16:00 pm.

Directly afterwards, the journey towards cologne to NRW national coach **Ali Yalcin** with his master student **Sila Roderburg** and discipline K1 at 17:15 pm.





Germany's kickboxers training together, part 9 - 27 Mar 2021

UPDATE: Unfortunately, we have to postpone the pointfighting training with Sven and Kiara until April 24. th. Mesut Celik will take over at short notice, here's a big thanks to Lübeck. (The credentials remain the same!)

On these training we're off to Rheinland-Pfalz for Sven and Kiara Mager, who will train us for one hour, from 16:00-17:00 pm in Pointfighting.

Right afterwards, at 17:15 the trip to Hessen will go to the Falcon Fighter team Schwalm-Eder. Your coach Andreas Riem will lead a training session in light contact.



Greece

We continue dynamically together with our member clubs to rebuild the federation, based on the development, upgrading and expertise of the sports and sports sectors we grow.

Within a very difficult sports environment for athletes, coaches and clubs, but hopefully we will soon overcome this whole negative and difficult situation, we should not and the Olympic-recognized sport committee along with the so important and dynamic sports sectors that cultivating, getting left behind.

The next day needs to find us sports, legal, psychological and educatively ready to

continue the quality growth of recent years that brought us to the six-pack of sports worldwide. Happy and responsibly announce our next school of coaches in our federation, thanking everyone who helped for it. You will soon have detailed information on everything.

Thank you so much for the trust and love you have shown us over the years.

Mike Triantafillou

Virtual Kickboxing for Young Minds (Update) Mentorship That Started a New Tournament

If it wasn't for the COVID-19 lockdown on industries and sporting facilities nationwide and the structured routine of a young autisic boy that enjoys the sport of kickboxing, the Cimac Superleague Virtual Open Tournament may never have been considered let alone become the history making event that it was. But hey, what a rip roaring success! Wow!

£1,265.00 was raised for the Young Minds Charity by the first ever Cimac Superleague virtual kickboxing tournament with 36 individual divisions contested by 90 competitors.

Article written by Andrea Arnold.

Participants set up their computers, laptops, tablets and phones, checked their wifis and cleared spaces in their bedrooms, kitchens, living rooms, workspaces, garages, gardens and patios in preparation for their events, where they could show their skills off to the judges of the World Association Kickboxing Organisation (WAKO).



The funds raised by Cimac Superleague's Virtual Kickboxing Tournament presented in this cheque for £1265.00.

Left to right; Nigel Baxter, Linda Baxter, Neville Wray, Elizabeth Ferioli-Brown, Sean Veira, Sharon Gill

Picture by: Cimac Superleague (superleaguevirtualopen.com)

The international judges, all of whom volunteered, were brought together through the magic of technology to assess the talents of the competitors and what a talent show it was.

Organiser Neville Wray (Vice)

Organiser Neville Wray (Vice President and Head Coach of

WAKO GB) conceived the idea for the tournament after realising that one of the young pupils at his martial arts club was no longer taking part in the lessons after they went online when lockdown put a stop to the regular weekly sessions. Which was strange because Gregory was always early and he liked to stand right at the front of the class, but in the online classes he just sat at the back of his room and wouldn't take part at all. When Neville asked his parents what was wrong they replied that Gregory was autistic and could not cope with change, and that he needed to be in front of Neville, in the class, and that he was missing his regular lesson badly. This made Neville realise just how much many young people were being affected by COVID and the added stress the pandemic was causing, so how could he inject some positivity into a very negative situation?

He decided to organise a virtual kickboxing tournament which would give young people something to train for, keep their minds occupied and get them looking forward to tournament activity, as well as helping other young people with their mental challenges through the Young Minds Charity. In his own words Neville said, 'When I decided to put this event on, it took me a while to decide how it was going to work.



Judges, contestants and audience readying themselves for the first ever virtual kickboxing open Picture by: Cimac Superleague (superleaguevirtualopen.com)

A few things came into my thoughts, COVID, isolation, anxiety, stress, but most of all young people. Hence why I chose the Young Minds Charity to support, because one of their mottos is fighting for young people's mental health, which is fitting due to us being from a combat sport background and the isolation that so many of us have felt at not being able to practice our sport.'

A win win situation.

To start with he enlisted the support of Sean Veira, (WAKO GB coach, former world champion) and Sharon Gill M.B.E. (WAKO GB coach, current world champion) for this first event and organised categories for all age groups from under nine year olds to over 18 year olds to include shadow fighting, kickboxing combinations, kicking drills as well footwork drills and blitzes.

The tournament took place over two consecutive Sundays in February, finishing with all the finals on the second Sunday along with some spectacular demonstrations by some world champions, who will probably be participating in the Olympic games, as WAKO are due to be included as a demonstration sport in 2024.

The judges made themselves ready and Ian Watkins from Sportdata kindly gave his time to record all the results on the Sportdata website as the match ups were being decided which helped the event to run really smoothly. Liz Ferioli-Brown managed the technology, making sure all the contestants who were waiting in the green room were in the right place at the right time and Linda Baxter as presenter did a stalwart job of organising the draws. She was calm and clear and kept the whole event running like clockwork.

Peter Edwards (President of WAKO GB) and Sean kept an informed and enthusiastic commentary going all day long, with a little help from friends, guest commentators, like Gordon Mitchell, Adrian Bedlow and Kevin Brewerton (zooming in all the way from America)

The poster that was used to advertise the first ever virtual kickboxing tournament Picture by: Cimac Superleague (superleaguevirtualopen.com)





Adam takes first place in his category
Picture by: Cimac Superleague (superleaguevirtualopen.com)

The standard of the competitors was truly great and very exciting, so there were many split decisions. Everyone was 'on it like sonic' and it made judging a very difficult but ultra rewarding job. And to think no one has been able to have any fight training for months. Time and time again the judges were amazed at the fitness and sharpness of the techniques demonstrated. All the comments they made when giving their decisions were very positive and everyone took away helpful

advice to improve their skills for the next event. The atmosphere was brilliant — I didn't know that Zoom could be that exciting.

After an appearance by Mr Romeo

Deša WAKO IF (Technical Director, International Federation), who said how impressed he was by the smooth running of the event and the standard of those competing, there were some amazing guest appearances by three great points fighters, Timmy Sarantoudis in Germany, Jack Felton in America and Elijah Everill in the UK, finishing with the judges giving their verdicts on the fighters of the day.

Many amazing people gave their expertise and time behind the scenes, giving their support to make this very special charity event happen, and of course none of this could have happened without the incredible support of the participants, their parents, their families and their friends.

When Gregory could not perform his training in front of his mentor, his mentor came up with an inspiring idea, and the virtual kickboxing open championship was born.

Picture by: Cimac Superleague (superleaguevirtualopen.com)

The whole tournament was so well done, ran so smoothly and was so cool that my comment here can only be justified by some of the people involved as everyone enjoyed it so much and they put it so well:

Jacey Cashman (judge): Set up and looking forward to being a part of Nev Wray's charity virtual event.

May the force be with everyone.

Sean Veira: It was great working with coach Nev Wray and the team on the Cimac Superleague Virtual Charity Open.

Elizabeth Ferioli-Brown (official): All the competitors competed with such great passion and were stars of the show. It was amazing to be part of such a great team and being part of the event, with all the judges giving up their time and having to judge between such a high class of competitors, their jobs were far from easy. I want to shout it out as much as possible just how impressed I was with all that took part, not only did all the organisers, competitors, judges, backstage team, front stage, parents, spectators, guests of honour have a fantastic day, but all the money made at the event went to Young Minds Charity

Lynette Harvey (parent): Huge well done to Nev Wray and everyone else involved in the Cimac Virtual tournament in aid of Young Minds mental health charity...such a deserving cause where vital funds are much needed in order to provide the necessary resources and support to our youngsters.





These are some of the talented faces affected by the nation ban on active sport due to COVID-19 lockdown. Picture by: Gordon Mitchell

Adrian Bedlow (judge): Great event.

Paige Stedman (competitor): Thank you for organising it. It was very fun!

Geoff Aldridge (judge): So proud to have played a part in the judging of the Cimac Virtual tournament today. Great opportunity for the kids to compete again and money raised for Young Minds! And the competitors themselves - just wow! The standard was truly phenomenal

Paul Francis (coach): Great day spent watching Hayden compete in the Cimac Superleague Virtual Open.

Thank you to Nev Wray & team for a well run event!.

Lucy Gascoigne (parent): Great to see everyone's faces again! Well done all of Kode Red.

Gurjit Gallon (judge): What an event. An amazing job from the organisers & the competitors were going all out showcasing what they have been working on quietly, during this whole time...I can't wait for the next one.

Young Minds were delighted with the money raised by the Cimac Superleague Virtual Tournament and they had this to say:

'For more than 25 years Young Minds has been leading the fight for children and young people's mental health. In that time, we have played an important role in bringing about many positive changes. The Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic is the biggest health crisis for generations and it has had a devastating impact. As a result, young people's mental health is in the public and political spotlight like never before—during 2020 we did everything we could to support their emotional wellbeing and we just couldn't do this without our amazing supporters which is why we are so grateful to the Cimac Superleague and their sponsored virtual kickboxing championship and to WAKO GB.'

Julia Garden, Young Minds.



Arenas like this are what tournament competitors are used to, and that is what the virtual open tournament has tried to emulate in their own spaces.

Picture by: Gordon Mitchell

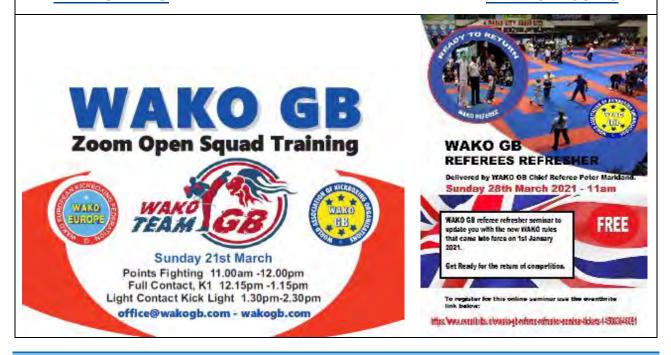
Thankfully, the lockdown seems to be easing at this time but it's still early days. We don't know yet when we will all be able to enjoy the atmosphere and excitement of normal times, maybe later this year if we're lucky. In the meantime the next virtual tournament is planned for the 18th and 25th April, which, going by how much this one was enjoyed, is definitely something to look forward to. We will be able to interact with fellow martial artists again, if only on screen, and continue to support another charitable organisation with their mission, Well Child, the national charity for sick children.

And finally last words from Neville 'We would like to thank each and every one of you for the tremendous commitment and support by taking part in the event.'

You can see all the competition results produced by SportData at the address given in the links below.

LINK TO VIDEO

LINK TO RESULTS



Great Britain



Monday 29th March sees the end of the stay at home restriction. People will be able to meet in groups of 6 for exercise and recreation.

Kickboxing clubs can run classes in larger numbers as an organised sport. This means the session must be coach led and must follow COVID Secure guidelines & operating protocols documented in the Kickboxing Return to Play Action Plan which was submitted to DCMS and Sport England just prior to Christmas. The document can be downloaded from our website on this **LINK**

- Under the combat sports framework under 18's are at phase 2 meaning pad work and sparring is allowed. Adults are at phase 1 and so only pad work is allowed.
- All training for under 18's and Adults must be outdoors expect for under 18's that are in a formal education or wraparound childcare setting.
- After school clubs can be run indoors but do not confuse this with running an after school class at your gym. When the government talk about after school clubs, they mean activities run by the school and generally at the school where school rules on year group bubbling, social distancing and masks will apply.
- Whilst social distancing measures will be relaxed for sparring or pad work activities, clubs should look to minimise risk by implementing social distancing whenever possible e.g. warm ups, stretching, line work and and other activities that do not require close contact.
- Normal social gathering and distancing rules will apply before and after each session.
- Hygiene protocols must be followed. This will mean the use of hand sanitiser at the start and end of each session. Cleaning and sanitising of pads and protective equipment between sessions. See return to play guidelines for more details.
- Track and trace protocols will still apply i.e. attendance recorded and reporting in accordance to NHS guidelines in the event of a positive case.

Gordon Mitchell

WAKO GB Lead Safeguarding & National COVID Officer

LINK TO GUIDANCE

COVID19 Guidance for kickboxing activity in ENGLAND







From 29 Merch the rule son social contract will change. People will not be required to stay at home, and will be permitted to meet autdoors in groups of up to 5 people, or as a group of two households, for exercise or repression.

Outdoor sports for adulte and children is permitted in larger numbers provided it is a formally organised coach led session that follows the CGVID Secure guidance defined in the Raturn to Play Kickboxing Action Plan.

NUMBERS

Organised sport and supervised children's sport and physical activity can take place outdoors in any number.

People should maintain the rules on social contact before and after sporting activity is. This means under 18's will be allowed to do pad work, and spar; ule of 6 or two households applys before and after training sessions.

Social interaction before and in separate and distinct groups consisting of up to 6 people or two households.

Personal trainers or coaches are exempt from the legal gathering timits for work purposes

Wash hands

wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

Make space

Wash bands

Wash pands regularly

Cover face

Wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

Make space

Ireland

WAKO IRELAND STILL KICKING STRONG DURING PANDEMIC

Since january 2021, Kickboxing Ireland has started various online initiatives to help keep the sport of kickboxing active in Ireland, but also to help try keep coaches and students engaged with each other and the governing body.

On-line development courses:

These courses are all FREE of charge to members of Kickboxing Ireland.

Courses introduced:

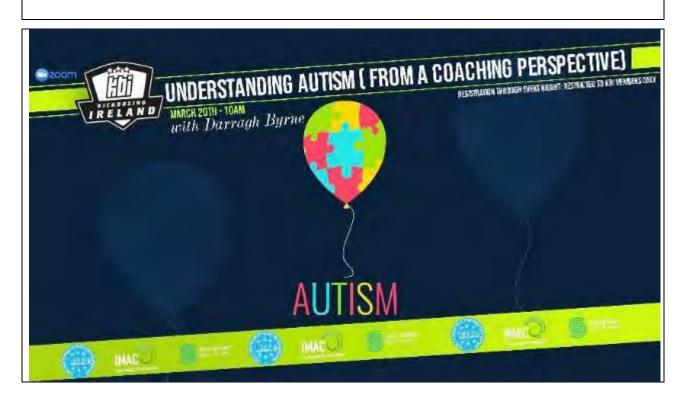
- *Sport Psychology for Combat Sports*
- *Sport Capital and Equipment Seminar*
- *Weight Cutting in Kickboxing*
- *Safeguarding Level 1*
- *Safeguarding Level 2*



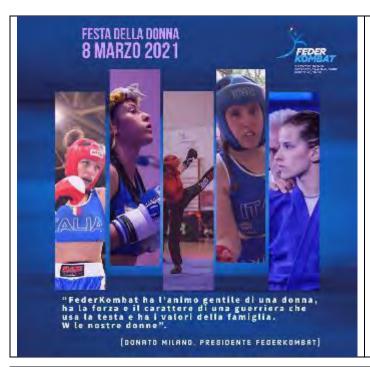
In addition, KBI have now rolled out a series of FREE workshops delivered by the KBI national coaching team:

- *Ring Sports by Jim Upton*
- *Light Contact & Kick Light by Des Leonard*
- *Point Fighting by Elaine Small*
- *Forms by Eamon Lawlor*

Kickboxing Ireland is also aware that many clubs in Ireland are finding it extremely difficult to cover overheads in their clubhouses/dojos/halls. KBI, along with the Irish Martial Arts Commission (IMAC), have applied and successfully received various small grants from Sport Ireland to help clubs that are in difficulties.







IT'S WOMEN'S DAY today March 8, like every day

"FederKombat has the kind soul of a woman, has the strength and character of a warrior who uses her head and has family values. Wour women"

(Donato Milano, FederKombat President)



THE COMMISSION EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS ESTABILISHED

It will be the new listening point inside FederKombat, the soul able to support those who suffer gender discrimination and allow all female athletes (but also athletes), of any age, to be able to have the strength to sue private life situations that undermine their serenity.

At the indication of the federal president Donato Milano, the Equal Opportunity Commission was estabilished, coordinated by the federal advisors Monica Cruccu, Barbara Plazzoli and Luisa Gullotti, together with Samantha Bardelli (Shoot Boxing), Nikole Marangoni (Savate), Elen Merelli (Sambo), Giulia Glouchtchenko (National Referees Commission) and Chiara Iacono Manno (Muay Thai) members of the Consultation, as well as Prof. Lucio Stella at the head of the Different Abili Commission that is about to be born and Barbara Falsoni, Events manager of Federkombat.

"Without the base we can't have the height - explained President Donato Milano - and FederKombat must not be experienced by members only as the institution that organizes sporting activities throughout Italy but also and above all as a safe place to find someone they can trust, able to listen and take charge of the problems of our movement. This is why the Equal Opportunities Commission is established"

"Federkombat - explains the executive of the Commission Equal Opportunity - has a special soul and the Equal Opportunity Commission focuses on the experiences and emotions that life puts on the path of each of us. Our athletes and athletes can count on our contribution, without any gender discrimination, with tact and with the joy of making our cards smile again".

FEDERKOMBAT & SURROUNDINGS - 25.03.21 Live on our Facebook page, "Federkombat and surrounding area" the new federation insights format on the current themes of our movement

On March 25, at 21 we talked about "Gender equality in sport as in life"

Intervening: Donato Milano (FederKombat President), Lucio Stella (federal advisor), Luisa Gullotti, Barbara Plazzoli and Monica Cruccu (federal advisor and equal opportunity commission.



Italy

FEDERKOMBAT & SURROUNDINGS - 30.03.21 Live on our facebook page and YouTube channel "Federkombat and surroundings" the new federal in-depth format on the topical issues of our movement

On March 30 at 21:00 we talked about "Kickboxing 3.0"

Speakers: Donato Milano (President FederKombat), Riccardo Bergamini (Deputy Vice President and manager of the Sport da Ring sector), Massimo Casula (President of CR Sardegna and manager of the Sports sector at Tatami)





Latvia

"KICKBOXER 2021"

 online competition for kids





February summary in Polski Związek Kickboxingu

Kickboxing competition in Poznan, Warsaw, Krakow, Jaworzno, Wołowie...

Several hundred kickboxers from around the country, from children through cadets, juniors to seniors, participated in a Kickboxing competition in many parts of Poland, in February in Poznan, Warsaw, Krakow, Jaworznie, Wołow. Under the patronage of the Polish Kickboxing Federation, our sport and

healthy lifestyle was promoted. At the same time, it was preparations for the upcoming Polish Championships in the ring and on the mat in all age categories.

In accordance with the existing sanitary regulations, the sporting atmosphere was fought. in. in. in the 56th edition of Warszawska Granda, Poznań competition "Rympał na Fyrtlu 9", Jaworznicka Kickboxing League, Cup of Mayor of the Wołw Commune in Dolnym Śląsku, or the League of K-1 Battle of Warriors in Krakow. Lots of emotions during jammed dueling in the national Kickboxing arenas. And this is only the beginning of 2021 and soon a series of championship competitions organized by GDP, clubs and cities.

The increasingly higher sports and organizational bar is suspended by creators and ideas of individual Kickboxing events. Karol Łada organizer of Warsaw Granda, who won the Polish Kickboxing Federation's "Heros 2019" award as the "Organizer of the Year" category, emphasized that this time Granda 56 turned out to be exceptionally because of the fights in two rings at the same time. This is the first league event like this. - For more than 250 participants registered, we managed to match 84 duels, which is the record of this event, although it lasted equal to 8 hours. Only viewers are missing to full happiness - Karol Lada summed up.



A total of 80 fights took place - Kickboxings from all over Poland competed, from cities and towns like Ostrołęka, Biała Podlaska, Ełk, Łomża, Ostrów Wielkopolski, Binczarowa, Płock and many, many more.

In our articles on PZKB we regularly introduce clubs, coaches, and competitors. The 9th edition of the "Rympal on Fyrtlu" competition was also a great success, which was created by Rafał Gabrysiak, inspired by Karol Lada. A summary of the February competition in the capital of Wielkopolski leaves no doubt...

- What did the last edition of the league look like? (...) Record in many ways. We had 160 contestants and paired 56 fights from it, of which 47 duels took place. This is a very good result given the stringent conditions that we follow when creating couples. We always choose players according to four criteria: age, weight, training experience and the number of fights fought. This way of steaming heavily limits the number of fights. As for the event itself, it turned out very well, and what makes it happy, better and better clubs are coming to the league. On this edition we could see the struggles of players from clubs like Hunter Gym Bydgoszcz, Legia Warszawa and "LEGION" GŁOGÓW.

Jaworznicka Kickboxing League took place in Primary School No. 19 in Jaworzno, Silesia. The organizers are Fighting Jaworzno (Marcin Sobieski) and Wojownik Jaworzno (Damian Krzywoń). Under the patronage of PZKB there was competition in kick light discipline from younger cadets to seniors. The Beskid Dragon from Bielsko-Biała won the team classification, 2nd place the Centre for Sports and Recreation AGATSU Biedzin, and KSW Sokon Jarosław was placed on the 3th place. A total of 101 Kickboxers from 17 clubs started.

There was no shortage of medalists among the winners of the Polish Championships and even the European Championships. Czech Kickboxings from Karvina also won medals in the competition in Jaworzno.

Last Saturday, the Mayor's Cup of Wołow Commune was held in Dolnym Śląsku. There were struggles in two disciplines in the local Hall of Sports and Recreation, i.e. special techniques m. in. in. kick at height and soft (foam stick fights) for children aged 8-13 and also kick light up to 10. years old. Children who did not exceed five fights in different disciplines could participate in the competition. Thus, starting the tournament was kickboxing first steps.

- Big event behind us! The best club of the WKB Champion tournament and the cup and title of the best soft player for Kiara Koltun and the best player Kick Light Damiana Pi iętonia. We would like to thank everyone who helped us prepare and conduct such a big sporting event during this difficult time, because without your help we would not have been able to do it ourselves - Leszek Koltun (WKB Champion Vol óww) informed.

A great event held on the same day was also organized by Szopa Fight Team (Agnieszka Kurska, Rafał Szopa) Krakowska League K-1 Battle of Warriors in KS Korona Hall. Juniors and seniors took part in K1 fights. As noted in the announcement, 213 players have registered for the inaugural competition.

The organizer of the series Rafał Szopa announces the organization of six galas a year. The last final will feature the best kickboxers in the league. There will also be professional fights, ending with the fight for the Polish professional Championship in K1.

- The event was held under the patronage of the Polish Kickboxing Federation. It will also be a great form of promotion of discipline, because in 2023 there will be European Games in Krakow, where kickboxing will be an Olympic discipline - Rafał Szopa told Interia portal. As noted, despite the pandemic, attendance among the kickboxers surprised the organizers. There were so many willing to fight, that... we had to get an extra ring.

The "Battle of Warriors League" is designed to promote both kickboxing and a healthy active lifestyle, one more goal. It is organized under the theme "Kickboxing against addictions".

And in March, another Kickboxing tournaments on the map of our country, m. in. West Lands Championships in full contact discipline in Włoszakowicach (organizer Polonia 1912 Leszno), III Świętwi Święttokrzyski Low kick & kick light Kickboxing Tournament in Skarżysku-Kamiennej (UKS Relaks), Pomeranian Voivodeship Championships in the Wejherowa (DFN Federation, Pomeranian OZK, Duet Club), Piaseczno Open (Sports Club X Fight Piaseczno), Rympal on Fyrtl (Sports Club Pretorium Poznań), Warsaw Granda (Karol Lada), Polish Championship K-1 pro / am in Nowej Soli (Makowski Fighting Championship / PZKB) and Polish Cup of Polish Army and Uniform Services in Kalisz (PZKB).





Warszawska Granda -cyclical league K-1 Rules 56th edition of Warsaw Granda of 21 February. it turned out to be another one, which in several ways has broken past editions. While we're all used to the organizational order in Legia Fight Club, we were met for the first time in which we were forced to set up a second ring. This was the first of its kind in Granda's over 5-year history, and also the first in Poland. Because there was never a need to set up two rings at a league event.

A record number of entries in the number of 256 names came for edition #56: cadets, juniors and seniors. In general, there were 80 fights and the duration of the event closed in 8 hours.

The event was conducted in accordance with the existing sanitary regime and safety protocol of the GDP. Viewers couldn't enter the facility.

The next League will take place on March.

LINK TO GALLERY 1)
LINK TO GALLERY 2)
LINK TO GALLERY 3)







Poland

Liga K1 Battle of Warriors 27 March 2021 Krakow

According to Radio ESKA

-"It was a real kickboxing celebration. On Saturday, the K1 Battle of Warriors competition took place in Krakow's Korony hall, and the kickboxing league began, the grand final of which was planned for December. Despite the pandemic, attendance among the players surprised the organizers. There were so many willing to fight that... we had to get an extra ring "









On March 6 at the headquarters of the KKS Sporty Walki Poznań club started the **instructor course in kickboxing** - a 30 person group of candidates participated in it to obtain the official title of sport instructor in kickboxing.



On March 6th at COS OPO Spała the K-1 Rules Senior Training of Polski Związek Kickboxingu began. Trainings are led by coaches: Zbigniew Prych; Witold Kostka and Łukasz Rambalski.



The instructor course at KKS Sporty Walki Poznań is setting the pace. On March 6, after the lectures the first specialist classes in the sportt hall took place.



On March 13, was held the III Świętokrzyski Turniej Kickboxingu in Skarżysku-Kamiennej.

273 kickboxers from 40 clubs joined the competition - it's a good time to check the shape before this year's Polish Championships. The competition was held in two sports halls, due to the limit of participants, according to the GDP safety protocol developed during the pandemic.



From 26 to 28.03.2021 in Piotrkowie
Trybunalskim the Full Contact National Team
Camp took place. 29 kickboxers and coaches
Radoslaw Laskowski, Krzysztof Toma and
Radoslaw Radomski participated in the
training camp.





Poland

102 players and players from 22 clubs competed in yesterday's Full Contact kickboxing Championship in Włoszakowicach.

The best male kickboxer of the tournament: Oskar Dąbrowski-Klub sportowy "Prosna" Kalisz

The best female kickboxer of the tournament: Eve Kauch-Armia Polkowice

Best clubs:

- 1. Klub sportowy "Prosna" Kalisz
- 2. LZS CORRECTION OF Siedlikas
- 3. KS Dragon sekcja Gorzów Wielkopolski

In parallel with kickboxing championship, a boxing tournament was held by Wielkopolski Związek Bokserski and 80 players participated in it - the best player of the boxing tournament was chosen by multiple Polish Full Contact Champion Jakub Pokusa from KKS Sporty Walki Poznań

The competition was organized in accordance with the PZKB safety protocol developed during the pandemic.

On March 15 in Krakow, the **instructor course in kickboxing** ended by PZKB. The maximum number of 30 people registered for the course - the course completed positively by 29 students (pictured) - we CONGRATULATE everyone. Thank you to Tom Mamulski for another efficient course.

For the first time, the courses were enriched with a panel of safety and problems of the border of personal space trained by a police psychologist and also a panel of training with people with disabilities.

This is the first completed of this year's PZKB instructor courses. The second course is currently underway in Poznan and the planned two more in Krakow and Poznan will start soon. So the PZKB training ranks will grow this half-year by 120 kickboxing instructors

We would like to remind you that the only courses recognised by the relationship in kickboxing are courses organized or co-organized by PZKB - the relationship also recognizes pre-deregulation courses organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Sports - all other courses of various "European" schools, etc., require verification, which has a different course depending, among others, on from the course program. After verification, PZKB issues a new card.





Poland

March 20 - A tournament for children and cadets **PIASECZNO OPEN** is underway in Piaseczno - -320 competitors. The competition is held in accordance with the regulations in force and in accordance with the PZKB safety protocol developed during the pandemic.

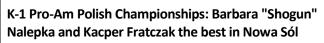
In the photo, President of PZKB Piotr Siegoczyński, organizer Marcin Paluba and referee Tomasz Baldyga.







MISTRZOSTWA POLSKI KI RULES PRO AM **GALA FINALOWA MFC**



Poland

With a very good cast and taking into account all sanitary recommendations during the epidemic, the Polish K-1 Pro-Am Kickboxing Championship was held in Nowa Sól. The titles of the best female and male competitor were awarded to the gold medalists Barbara Nalepka (-52 kg) and Kacper Fratczak (-86 kg). This is the first tournament of this rank this year under

the aegis of the Polish Kickboxing Association.

There were 12 decisive fights at the prestigious final gala, and the winners received championship belts and financial prizes. The best will also receive contracts for professional fights during the MFC Makowski Fighting Championship in 2021. The organizer of the competition was the team of Tomasz Makowski - MFC Makowski Fighting Championship, co-organizers were Miasto Nowa Sól and MOSiR Nowa Sól. The competition was held under the patronage of PZKB.











Another **KICKBOXER WEEKEND** March 19-21. is behind us - nearly 800 kickboxers competed in total

- Pomerania Championship-340 starters
- Piaseczno Open-320 starters
- Warszawska Granda K-1 Rules-120 starters

The competition in Luzina and Piaseczna due to the limit of people in the room was divided into 3 parts. We stringently followed the GDP safety protocol developed during the pandemic.

The final exam of the instructor course was held in Poznan, which successfully passed 32 coaches.

In the photo, one of several dozen sets of medals from Piaseczna for the best players in individual weight and age categories. THANK YOU tournament organizers: Thomas Biernacki, Marcin Paluba and Karol Łada for exemplary preparation and safe conduct of events.

Next Polish Tournaments







LINK TO VIDEO REPORT

On March 17, 2021, the Russian Olympic Committee hosted an extraordinary conference on the election of the President of the Russian Kickboxing Federation. The conference was attended by 50 delegates from the different regions of our country. The delegates elected **Batu Sergeyevich Khasikov** as the President of Russian Kickboxing Federation by unanimous decision of the quorum.

Baysultanov Odes Khasaevich, Deputy Minister of Sports of the Russian Federation, attended the conference as a guest of honor. Odes Khasayevich noted in his speech, that the conference was held on a high-level within a legal framework and was completely legitimate. Furthermore, Odes Khasayevich congratulated Batu Sergeevich on his victory in the Russian kickboxing federation presidential election and wished him all the success in his new position.



RUSSIAN STATE INFORMATIVE AGENCY REPORTED:

MOSCOW, March 17. / TASS /.

The head of the Republic of Kalmykia, Batu Khasikov, was elected president of the Russian Kickboxing Federation. This was reported to TASS in the federation.

The elections took place at an extraordinary conference of the federation.

Hasikov is a multiple professional kickboxing champion. Since March 2019, he was appointed Acting Head of Kalmykia, in September of the same year he won the elections for the head of the republic.

On behalf of the WAKO World Kickboxing Association and WAKO IF Board, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Batu Sergeyevich Khasikov on his election as the President of the Kickboxing Federation of Russia. The Russian Kickboxing Federation is one of the strongest in the world and on this occasion I express my hope that the success of Russian kickboxers will continue under the leadership of the new President Mr. Batu Khasikov.

I am looking forward to the continuation of the very successful cooperation I had with the previous president, and now the honorary president of the Russian Kickboxing Federation, Mr. Vadim Ukraintsev.

Roy Baker - WAKO President





The Southern Federal District Championship in kickboxing and the New Generation Kickboxing Festival was held in the city. Simferopol March 11-14, 2021

Championship of the Southern Federal District disciplines:

Low-kick, Light contact, Pointfighting, Forms

Festival New Generation disciplines: K1, Low-kick, Full contact, Light contact, Pointfighting

The total number of participants: 461 athlete from the Southern Federal District.

The honorary guests of the grand opening were:

- Minister of Sports of the Republic of Crimea Olga Torubarova;
- First Deputy Minister of Sports of the Republic of Kazakhstan Gnizdylo Segey Alexandrovich;
- General Director of the GBU of the Republic of Kazak "CSP SC" Spirny Alexander Vasilyevich
- Head of Sports Department of Administration city Vladimir Vladimirovich Simferopol





Kickboxing Championship of Siberian Federal District

in disciplines: K1 and full contact was held from March 4 to 7, 2021

On March 6-7 in Vladivostok held a Cup of Primorsky Krai in kickboxing in discipline light contact, full contact and K1.

Olympic Sports Complex hosted the first spring kickboxing competitions. On March 6 and 7 in Vladivostok there was a Cup of Primorsky Krai in the sections of light and full contact, as well as K1. There were many participants - more than 130 people, and this shows the popularity of this sport in the region says the president of the PC kickboxing federation.















Dear women! I cordially congratulate you on the International Women's Day!

Thanks to you, our lives are filled with bright colors, special meaning, it is you who give us, men, inspiration and harmony!

Today we rush to congratulate you on the holiday and want to wish you health, family well-being, kindness and great happiness!

Sincerely, Vadim Ukraintsev





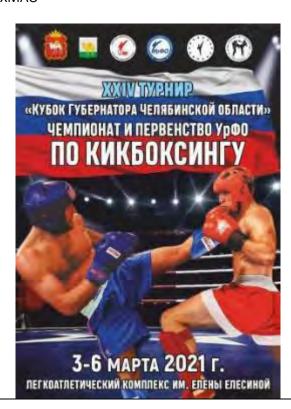


On March 3-6 in Chelyabinsk, the Championship of the Ural Federal District in kickboxing in full contact and K1 sections were held, as well as the annual All-Russian competitions for the Cup of the Governor of the Chelyabinsk region in kickboxing were held.

About 650 athletes from Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk, Kurgan, Tyumen regions, XMAO, YANAO and Perm Krai took part in the tournaments.

Best clubs / teams as follows:

- 1. Chelyabinsk region.
- 2. Sverdlovsk region
- 3. XMAO





On March 12-14, the Championship of the Sverdlovsk region in kickboxing in "light contact"' and "pontfighting" was held.



The Championship of St. Petersburg in kickboxing in K1 disciplines and light contact was held on March 13-14 in the Kalininsky district.



On March 19, Istra was held the Championship of the Central Election Region (men, women) in disciplines: low-kick, pontfitghting and lightcontact







From March 4 to 7, the championship of the Siberian federal district in disciplines was held at the Omsk region budget institution "Sports School Omsk Cycling Academy" Omsk region: K1 and full contact.

The tournament was attended by more than 320 participants representing Altai Krai, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Tyva Republic, Khakassia, the Republic of Altai, Kemerovo region, Novosibirsk region, Irkutsk region, Omsk and Tomsk region.

The competition was held in a friendly atmosphere. At the grand opening of the Championship and Championship of the SFO among honorary guests attended veterans of special units, parents of the dead military.

The event was held under the leadership of the President of the Omsk Federation S. O. Sapunov, as well as FC Siberia represented by V. N Grigoryev.



On March 12, the kickboxing championship was held in Khabarovsk Krai in full contact discipline.





On March 13-14, the Championship of the Northen-Wesd Federal Region in disciplines light contact, pontfiting and forms was held.







On March 22-25, Irkutsk hosted the Championship of the Siberian Federal District in kickboxing in full contact with low-kick, light contact and pontfitting.

The Martial Arts Center ended the Championship and Championship of the Northwestern Federal District of Russia in kickboxing.

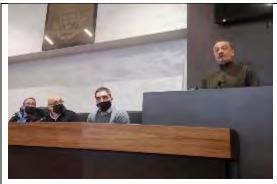
The competition was held in light contact, pontfiting and forms.

At the grand opening of the competition, the opening words said: Honored coach of Russia, Vice President of the kickboxing Federation of Russia, Director of the Martial Arts Center Yuri Filimonov and Deputy Chief Referee of the competition, coach of the Russian youth kickboxing team Roman Chizhov.





On March 24-27 in Khabarovsk was held Championship of DFO in kickboxing in the discipline full-contact





Serbia

The new president of the Kickboxing Association of Serbia is Miodrag Jotic!

At the assembly held today 6.3. in Kraljevo, a new president was elected for the next four years.

Miodrag Jotic is pioneer of kickboxing, champion in kickboxing and savate, coach and former national coach of the Serbian national team. He is member of WAKO Coach Committee. Mr. Jotic is author of book "KICK BOXING - basic coaching manual"



On behalf of the WAKO World Kickboxing Association and WAKO IF Board, I would like to congratulate Mr. Miodrag Jotic on his election as the President of the Serbian Kickboxing Federation. The Serbian Kickboxing Federation is one of the strongest WAKO federation in the ring disciplines and on this occasion I express my hope that the success of Serbian kickboxers will continue under the leadership of the new President Mr. Miodrag Jotic.

I am looking forward to the continuation of the very successful cooperation I had with the previous presidents of the Serbian Federation, deceased Mr. Borislav Pelevic and Srdjan Bugarcic.

Roy Baker - WAKO President

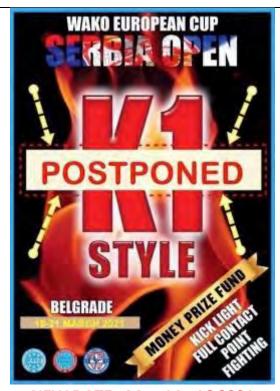


Serbia

Next weekend, April 3-4, 2021. in Obrenovac will be held the Serbian Kickboxing Championship, discipline K1, for all ages.

Next kickboxing tournaments in Serbia





NEW DATE - May 14 - 16 2021



Slovakia

Dear friends, unfortunately due to bad Covid-19 situation, we have to cancel SlovakOpen 2021!

Thank You for understanding and hope to see ALL of You soon in 2022 traditionally in February!





March 8 is International Women's Day, from the Spanish Kickboxing Federation and Muaythai we want to wish a happy day to all of them.

The fight for equality is a fight of ALL.

In our sports disciplines they are part of our present and future



More than 120 participants in the presentation of the Director of the Women and Kickboxing Commission, Yolanda Aguilar

Presentation took place on March 20 globally, we talked about women and Kickboxing



This March 27th at 10:30 h, an Online Seminar was

"Children's arbitration = Education in Values"

Lecturers:

Mrs. Hebe Annovelli - psychologist Mr. Juan Hose Roig - sport school responsible



March 25 2021

FEKM, WAKO and Rsportz on-line meeting Preparation for WAKO Sport ID regsitration of Spanish Kickboxing and Muay Thai Federaion

Next Spanish activity

This summer, for the second consecutive year, Kickboxing summer camp "tatami sport" is celebrated. Very limited seating!!,... COVID test to all athletes to create a "bubble" that allows us to enjoy our sport with maximum safety. 8 training sessions, physical conditioning, technical work, strategies in competition, nutrition talks, psychology,....

In addition, we will feature Selena Barrientos, Manuel Garcia and Kevin Koffi, three heavyweights from the FEKM national team and three great competitors / champions who will share their experience, training systems, techniques and tactics. With the support of FEKM and FAKM and sponsored by Last Round and Top Ten Spain.







Switzerland

National team training

Pointfighting national team training took place on Saturday 27. March in Wohlen in compliance with current corona measures.

The referees were allowed to taste the air of the scene again, as well.

We can't wait for tournaments to happen again





Lots of activities in preparation for the competition season and enabling the work of the national kickboxing federation

We visited

We visited Şanlıurfa Youth and Sports Provincial Director Mr. Halil EREN in his office. We had a consultation on Kick Boxing. We visited our mayor of Haliliye District of Şanlıurfa, Mr. Mehmet CANPOLAT in his office.

We visited Şanlıurfa Metropolitan Mayor Mr. Zeynel Abidin WHITE.









We visited our General Commander of the Gendarme, Mr. General Arif ÇETİNIN in his office. Mr. Prof, Vice President and Dean of Gendarme and Coast Guard Academy. Dr. İssmail DEMİRRCİOĞLU, Commander of Foçaa Gendarme Command School and Training Center, Mr. Tu ğgeneral Vedat ÇOLAK, Member of Federation Board Mr. U ğur SEZER and our General Secretary Harun DEMİRR also accompanied us.



We visited our General Director of Police Mr. Mehmet AKTA § in his office. Mr. Prof, Vice President and Dean of Gendarme and Coast Guard Academy. Dr. İssmail DEM İRRCİOĞLU, our Federation Board Member Mr. U ğur SEZER and our General Secretary Harun DEM İRR also accompanied us. We informed our Chief of Police about Kick Boxing and discussed our upcoming activities.

We visited our Ak Party Şanlıurfa Provincial President Mr. Abdurrahman KıRİKÇI in his office. We have visited the head of Interpol Office of the General Directorate of Police, Mr. Lütfi ÇEK in his office. Our Head of Office signed the books "Interpol in Unknown Directions" and "Komiser Yitit" written by him himself.

We visited Adana Youth and Sports Provincial Director Mr. Muzaffer ÇINTIMAR in his office







Faculty Dean of Gendarme and Coast Guard Academy, Mr. Prof. Dr. Together with İssmail DEMİRRCİOĞLU and our Secretary-General Harun DEM İRR, we visited the Provincial Director of Youth and Sports of Izmir, Mr. Murat ESKCIİ.



We signed Kick Boxing Protocol with Fo çaa Gendarme Command School and Training Center Commander Mr. Tu ğgenral Vedat ÇOLAK, Faculty Dean of Gendarme and Coast Guard Academy. Dr. İssmail DEMİRRCİOĞLU accompanied us.



Foça Gendarme Command School and Training Center Commander Mr. Tuğeneral Vedat ÇOLAK, we inspected the Training Center where our Hero Commandos met.



Visited us

Captain Murat Eren, the Chairman of the Gendarme Special Asylum Residency (JÖAK) Sports Board and our National Team Coach also visited Gendarme Force Coach Lieutenant Gendarme GöNENÇ.



Ankara province National Athlete and National Team Coach Ömer TEK ÇE and Kick Boxer Veteran Recep VAR YYENLI visited us.



Our Konya Provincial
Representative and National
Team Coach Mehmet GÜLÜ and
Professional Kick Boxer
Muhammed HARUN from
Holland visited us.



Our Kocaeli Provincial Representative, National Team Coach and International Referees Özzcan MARMER visited us



Celestial Lion from İzmir, Av. Tolga ÇELEN and Hunting. They came to visit us at Furkan ULDAğ.



Our national athlete and trainer of Istanbul province Hasan NEY \$ visited us.



Our National Team Coach and Ring Sports Coordinator Abdulhaya ALAN and our Coach Adem CEYLAN visited us



Our National Team Coaches from Trabzon and Samsun provinces Osman KuŞu and Özzgür ARLI visited us.



Ankara province national team coach Halil İbrahim Akdo ğanan and our national sportsman Esma Nur Yılmazlmaz visited us.



Our National Team Coaches from Bursa Serdar ÇAKIROĞLU, Fatih A ŞAN and our Coaches Mahmut KARAMAN, Sertaç SAĞIR and Recep TÜRRKCAN visited us.



Our Yozgat province National Team Coach and Bozok University Lecturer Metin GÜMÜAY visited us.



Ankara province coach Özgür ŞAŞMAZ, Yücel BAL and their athletes Y ıldıld rayray ADIGÜZEL visited us.



Kick Boxing National Athletes and National Team Coaches Hasan Fahri ŞEN, Cemal DA ŞTAN and Sefa YET Ş visited us.



Our national team coach Abdullah Kele ş, our national athlete and our national team coach Hatice Kele ş, our national athlete Ekrem Pehlivan and our coach Mustafa Tuncel visited us.



Isparta Provincial Representative and National Team Coach Ali GÜLLSEVER and National Team Coach Bülent ÇETİNN visited us.



Seminars









Together with our provincial director of Ankara Youth and Sports, Mr. Mustafa ÇELİK, we visited our 2nd Tier Kick Boxing Coach Course in Ankara. We also gifted flowers to our Women's Coaches in memory of Inter-national Women's Day.

March 17

We visited our ongoing Kick Boxing 1st Level Assistant Trainer Course in Ankara. I wish success to our trainees in their coaching lives.



For those who failed in the Coaching Basic Training Program, the applications for the placement will be made between March 22-29, 2021 Applications will be made through the Sports Information System module via e-state.





We visited our ongoing Kick Boxing 3rd Level Senior Trainer and 4th Level Head Coach Course in Ankara.

We visited our Kick Boxing 5. nd Level Technical Director Course in Osmaniye. The 5th level of Technical Director is the highest level of coaching in the official. I wish success to our coaches who participated in the course.





Ukraine

Open Championship of the city of Kiev 2021 in kickboxing WAKO was held 12-14 March!

On the competition participated kickboxers of all disciplines, regardless of age, gender and weight. The competition was held in the sports complex of Kyiv National University

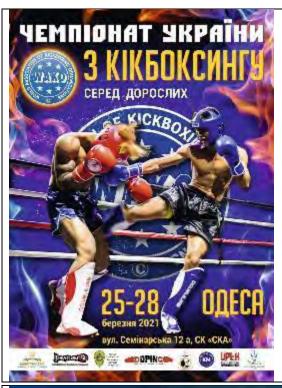


Lutsk, 13-14 March Open Championship of Volyn region 2021 in kickboxing WAKO

Venue Volyn Boxing Club Olympic Reserve (st. Revival, 22 A)







A lot of kickboxing WAKO and Black Sea Region - our expectations from the Ukrainian Championship 2021. Why exactly?! Because the qualifying start of the year among adults is accepted by Odessa

Already from 25 to 28 March at the Army Sports Club decided the fate of the CHU awards and candidates for the CHS-2021.

Kickboxers tried to test themselves and fight for getting to the ranks of the national team from all over the country.



Championship of Kharkiv region kickboxing WAKO 20.03.2021 took place.

470 athletes from 33 clubs in Kharkiv and Kharkiv region took part in the competition, teams from Zaporizhzhya, Kherson and Dnipropetrovsk regions also took part









WAKO kickboxing in all parts of the country

In the photo: participants of the first kickboxing of the WAKO Palanskoí hroma community in the Uman district in Cherkasy region.

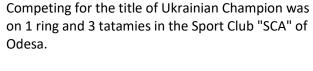




Volyn Championship - took place!
Eight teams and 86 participants.
The winners in the team standings were the team of DYUSSH-2 (Lutsk), the second place in the KDYUSSH named after Kondratovich (Kovel), on the third - SK "Udar" from Lyubeshov.



2021– from Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th March the WAKO Ukrainian Open Kickboxing Championships for Seniors and All-Ukrainian open tournament for Cadets and Juniors was held at Sport Club "SCA", in Odesa (Ukraine).





339 entries from fighters of 18 to 40 age, coming from 18 regions of Ukraine and Moldova Republic for Seniors Championship and 366 entries from fighters of 10 to 18 age, coming from 15 regions of Ukraine and Moldova Republic for all-Ukrainian tournament.



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all sanitary principles were followed. Acting under all precautions measures, with strict social distancing, the first massive kickboxing competitions in our country has finished with success.

LINK TO PHOTO REPORT

WAKO PAN AMERICA ACTIVITES MARCH 2021



WAKO Panamerica

Being a woman means seeing the world with sweetness, it's admiring the beauty of life with romanticism.

It's wishing for the undesirable.

It is to seek the impossible.

Being a woman means living as many times as it takes the same life.

It's fighting for what's lost and still, if you feel winners.

It's living yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Being a woman means trailing hard paths in no time and finishing the conquest flag. It's knowing how to be superman when the sun rises and turns into Cinderella when the night comes.

Someone who deserves respect and admiration simply for being a Woman!

* Happy Women's Day!*



















WAKO Panamerica

Great activity of WAKO Panamerica's members during March 2021

- March 01, 2021 Final Constitution of Republic Dominicana Kickboxing Federation. WAKO RD DO
- March 05, 2021 webinar trauma injuries and their rehabilitation to kickboxing. Medical Commission of WAKO VENEZUELA VE
- 3) March 08, 2021 FEKM Participation on ordinary sesión SINADE. México MX
- 4) March 10, 2021 Marzo Kickboxing Workshop Colombia. WAKO Colombia co
- 5) March 11, 2021 Official Certification WAKO Canadá ca
- 6) March 15, 2021 planning workshop kick light and light contact WAKO Puerto Rico PR
- 7) March 16, 2021 Special training National team from Mexico. psychological test and evaluation. WAKO México MX
- 8) March 20, 2021 Legacy Fight Night K1 Style. reprogrammed. WAKO Venezuela vE
- 9) March 28, 2021 Building kickboixing British Columbia WAKO Canadá cA
- 10) March 27, 2021 update of coaches and athletes New rules 2021. Wako Venezuela VE

Brasil



Launch of the Official Shirt of the Brazilian Kickboxing Championship, another one of the awards sponsored by ENEL, and the State Government of Rio (SEELJE), for the champion and runner-up of each modality! Check it out!

The Brazilian Kickboxing Championship, the grand sporting event of CBKB (Brazilian Kickboxing Confederation), is Brazil's biggest and strongest amateur Kickboxing event and will be held in Rio de Janeiro from June 03 to 06, bringing lots of news and benefits to the registered athletes, due to the sponsorship of ENEL and the State Government of Rio de Janeiro, through the Secretariat of Sport, Leisure and Youth (SEELJE).

Among the news is the Official Shirt of the event that champions and runners-up will be able to sport.

The shirt, which brings a modern and bold designer, will be part of the award of the champions, who already dream of the belt, another of the innovations of the championship in Rio de Janeiro, which will be carried out by the FKBERJ (Federation of Kickboxing of the State of Rio de January). And among the news and benefits, in addition to Belt and Official Shirt awards, are the live broadcast, of selected fights, on the official channel of FKBERJ and partner channels, presentation of athletes with Down Syndrome and hearing impairment and the free lunch and dinner supply for the signed up athletes.

Entrance door for athletes to be inserted into major international events, the 30th Brazilian Adult Kickboxing Championship and the 24th Sub 17, will be the opportunity for many athletes who are part of social projects and will have the Opportunity to participate in a competition nationwide for the first time, thanks to the work inclusiveness and stimuli being offered by sponsors.

We thank ENEL and the State Government of Rio de Janeiro through the Secretariat of Sport, Leisure and Youth (SEELJE) for their support for our sport.

Together we are much stronger



Paulo Zorello National Cup 2020

Unfortunately, the Covid 19 numbers continue to worsen and CBKB should continue to think firstly about the safety of its members and as a result of this worsening pandemic, we will have to postpone the event.

We know that our affiliates are very much looking forward to the calendar and normalcy at events. Make sure that CBKB will be attentive and closely monitor all the facts regarding the moment we live and when we hold, it will be a safe event for all. This is the time to continue to preserve health and stay safe is key.

The Paulo Zorello National Cup is confirmed to happen in our country's capital, Brasilia, probably in July, but the date will still be confirmed.

Stay safe and connected. Oss - Paul Zorello, President





Since the beginning of the pandemic we have had the suspension of several national and international events, this measure has been taken aimed at the safety of all.

With this, WAKO has adopted competitions in virtual format in ways modalities through a platform called Sportdata. Events happen to seek to add points and see who are the best at the end of the season.

The World Series brings together athletes from all over the world, thus officially validating the achievement as a world title of the Kickboxing entity.

In these competitions, athletes compete in the modalities of Forms presentations, with or without music, with or without weapons and also can

encompass jumping, pitches and even traditional movements.

In recent events, Brazil has been one of the main highlights of the World Series - WAKO competitions.

The top 3 names are

Marcos Junior Gentleman - LOL

Leonardo Passion - RI

Danielle Dutra - RJ

In two competitions Brazil has already occupied the highest podium seat among nations, a historic fact.

Virtual competitions further increase the level of competitions dispute in ways, because since competition is done in the form of a video, the athlete can record as many times as he deems necessary until he attains his best performance, plus the judge can evaluate the movements several and several times, so the goal here is who comes closest to perfection of movements.

In the coming days Marcos and Danielle will be contesting another round of the World Series - WAKO that will be organized by Switzerland, both will go in search of another world title to count points on the platform's Ranking and close the year 2021 as number 1 of the world.

Deputy Julio Cesar Ribeiro was elected first vice president of the Sports Committee.

The Federal Chamber elected members of the Sports Commission last week and Mr Julio Cesar was elected first vice president. The Deputy has, throughout his mandates, excelled in several sectors, but mainly with regard to development and support for physical activity and sport, notably the Martial Arts, a sector that has received very special attention.

With this new position, surely, the sector will be even better represented.











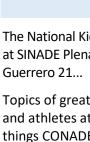


Ecuador

Ecuadorian Kick Boxing
Federation (FEKB) and its
President Anestoy Zambrano
has been working since its
creation to organize the sport
kick boxing and to unify all the
clubs and schools in the
country.

During the month of January 2021, the organization counts aligned 70 clubs and schools from 4 regions and a total number of 1443 kick boxers.

FEKB will hold the first National Championship this year called the Pacific Cup from March 26 to 28, which will serve as a selective for South American and world events



The National KickBoxing Federation, Presented at SINADE Plenary Session, Zihuatanejo,

Mexico

Topics of great interest for sport development and athletes at the National Level, come great things CONADE promises...

Success is the sum of everyone's effort!!!









March 7



MASTER CLASS DE KICK BOXING

CON EL MASTER RICARDO MARTÍNEZ Y SUPER MELY MARTÍNEZ

















March 12

Training and psychological assessment, with part of the National Team members of KICKBOXING for their two TATAMI and RING modalities, by our Federation Psychologist and National Kickboxing National Select Diana and her technical body.

Today this afternoon from Mexico City in one of the schools affiliated with the State Association of Kickboxing Mexico City, ProK



WAKO Mexico continues to publish informative and educational flyers.

















Gender equity means that the needs, preferences and interests of women and men are equally taken into account. Gender equity is a concept composed of multiple factors, hence the possibility of using sport as a tool to combat lagging behind and the difficulties that inequity generates for the development of countries.

"We, is stronger than me."

During 2021, WAKO Mexico accepted a number of new members - a school of martial arts and sports. WAKO Mexico, WAKO Panamerica and WAKO IF all want a cordial welcome to the big WAKO family.







The State Kickboxing Association Chiapas, A.C. invites you to participate in the "Training Course for Combat Modalities in Kickboxing".

Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th March,



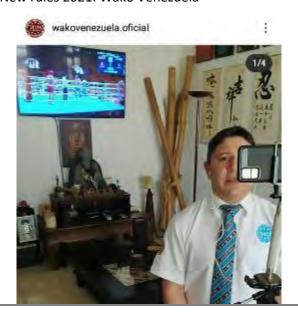
Puerto Rico

March 15, 2021 planning workshop kick light and light contact WAKO Puerto Rico



Venezuela

March 27, 2021 update of coaches and athletes New rules 2021. Wako Venezuela





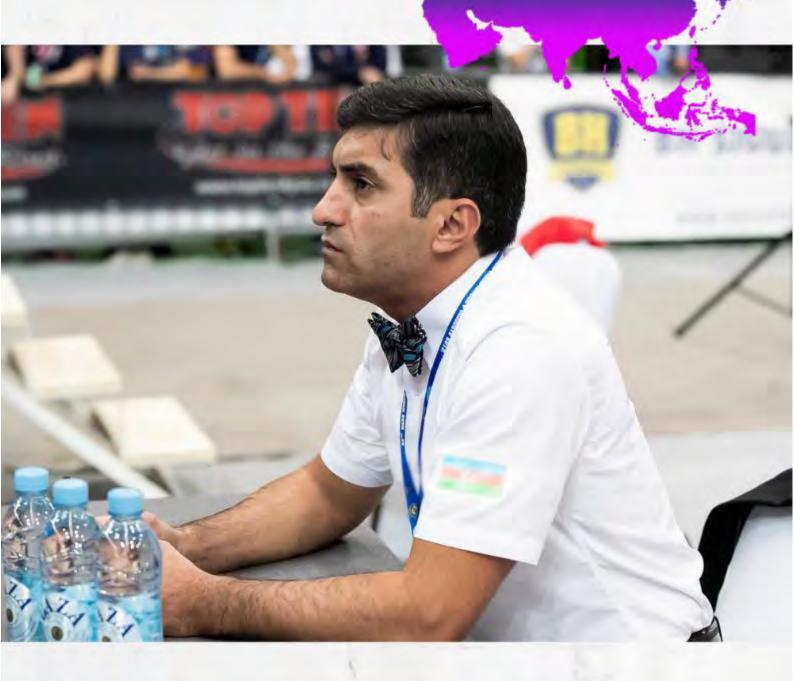


United States of America

WAKO USA officially announced that the **AmeriKick Internationals** in Atlantic City will move its date to August 19-21, 2021.



WAKO ASIA ACTIVITES MARCH 2021





Armenia

On March 19, a meeting was held at the National Kick Boxing Federation, where it was announced that on April 3, there will be a championship of the Strongest Armenian Clubs.

Chinese Taipei







India

Monthly Activity Report – March 2021 Activity Dated – 03.03.2021

It was a privilege for WAKO India to meet Dr. Dinesh Kumar Agrawal, Vice Chancellor of J. C. Bose University of Science & Technology, YMCA, Faridabad (A Haryana State Government & Accredited A-Grade NAAC University) & Shri Sunil Kumar Garg, Registrar of the University.

President, Mr. Santosh K Agrawal was obliged to be a part of university's officials today's schedule. Mr. Agrawal was well attended by the university officials and they had a long discussion about the future plans of Kickboxing in India and where WAKO India is heading to in the near future. Discussions like holding up the State & Nationals events at YMCA were also made.

Finally the Memorandum of understanding was signed between the J. C. Bose University of Science & Technology, YMCA, Faridabad & Haryana Kickboxing Association (WAKO India Haryana Unit) for Self Defense Training Program (SDTP) & Physical Fitness towards Skill development & Women Empowerment.





<u>Activity Dated - 05.03.2021</u>

WAKO India - Tripura Kickboxing Association organized National Cadet Corps Self Defense Training Camp jointly with National Cadet Corps (NCC).



And the same of th

Activity Dated - 06.03.2021

Self Defense & Kickboxing Session" conducted by "Siddharth's Fitness Club team" which was organised by "JCI Baroda Metropolitan team" at Shree Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Manjalpur.





Activity Dated - 06 & 07 March 2021

Successfully concluded the WAKO India National Referee Seminar- 6th to 7th March 2021 Organised By All Uttar Pradesh Kickboxing Association.





Activity Dated - 06 & 07 March 2021

Successfully concluded the 'WAKO India South Zone Open Kickboxing Training Camp' held from 6th to 7th March 2021 at Delhi Public School, Nacharam, Hyedrabad. Organised By Telangana Kickboxing Association.







<u> Activity Dated – 08.03.2021</u>

Successfully concluded the Self Defense Awareness Program on the occasion of "International Women's Day" held at Fighting FIT Planet, Sector-49, Faridabad. Organised by Faridabad District Kickboxing Association & Haryana Kickboxing Association.



<u>Activity Dated – 08.03.2021</u>

Successfully concluded the Self Defense Awareness Program on the occasion of "International Women's Day" Organised By WAKO India Tamilnadu Unit.





<u>Activity Dated - 08.03.2021</u>

Successfully concluded the Self Defense Awareness Program on the occasion of "International Women's Day" Organised By WAKO India Uttarpradesh Unit.





<u>Activity Dated – 09.03.2021</u>

Successfully Concluded Sangrur Distt. Kickboxing Championship 2021. Organised By Sangrur Distt. Association.







Activity Dated - 09.03.2021

Successfully Concluded Sri Muktsar Sahib Distt. Kickboxing Championship 2021. Organised By Sri Muktsar Sahib Kickboxing Association.



Activity Dated - 14.03.2021



Successfully concluded the felicitation program to awarded Belt Grade promotion held at Indian National Kickboxing Academy, NH-3, NIT Faridabad.



Activity Dated - 13 & 14 March 2021



Successfully Concluded 17th Punjab State Senior Kickboxing Championship 2021. Organised By WAKO India Punjab Kickboxing Association.



Activity Dated - 17.03.2021



Successfully concluded the Self Defense Awareness Program on the occasion of "International Women's Day" Organised By Kickboxing Association Jammu & Kashmir WAKO India Unit.







Activity Dated – 17.03.2021

WAKO India President Mr. Santosh K Agrawal
Visited'Siddarth Fitness Club, Vadodra Gujarat. Mr.
Santosh K Agrawal has been felicitated by
Kickboxing Association of Gujarat.
Mr. Agrawal conveyed his blessings and Good
wishes to all the Player & Official, President of
WAKO India Gujarat Mr. Siddhartha Bhaleghare&
General Secretary Mr. JayendraKothi were



Activity Dated - 20-21 March 2021

Successfully concluded the Women's Self Defense Workshop 20-21 March 2021 Under guideline by Amateur Kickboxing Association of Odisha, Organized by Sundargarh District Kickboxing Association.





Activity Dated - 22 March 2021

Kick Boxing Association Jammu and Kashmir honouring Corporator Gourav Anil Chopra and Commissioner Jmc Jammu Avny lavasa ji.





<u>Activity Dated - 23.03.2021</u>

Successfully conducted "Referee Committee Meeting" and also did Discussion for upcoming District Kickboxing Championship at Vadodara, Gujarat. Redefining, Expanding and improvising Kickboxing sport in WAKO India Gujarat Unit.









Activity Dated - 23-24 March 2021

Successfully concluded the Women's Self Defense Workshop 23-24 March 2021 under the guidance of WAKO India Kickboxing Odisha Unit.





<u> Activity Dated – 27.03.2021</u>

Successfully concluded Kickboxing Training Camp organized by Sriganga Nagar Kickboxing Association under the guidance of Rajasthan Kickboxing Organisation.







<u>Activity Dated - 27.03.2021</u>

Holi Festival Celebration at Indian National Kickboxing Academy Faridabad, Haryana



WAKO India has also conducting Board Meeting

Dated 24th March 2021.



India

WAKO India have also conducted 3 General Meeting of WAKO India State / UT Affiliate Member in this Month on 05-12-19 March, 2021 The agenda was current situation of WAKO India and How to Grow and Development of Kickboxing Sport in India.

HINDUSTAN

वाईएमसीए की छात्राएं आत्मरक्षा के गुर सीखेंगी

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WAKO India News Clipping - March 2021

The felicitation program to awarded Belt Grade promotion held at Indian National Kickboxing Academy, NH-3, NIT Faridabad.

SPORTS

"One day women self defence and physical fitness programme "



JAMMU,MAR 17

Rickhoxing association 76% (RAJK), conducted "One day women self-defence and physical fitness programme "at Indoor statilium, bhagwati nagar jamanu on 17th March 2021 with "NO REGISTRA TIONON Foc. As many 100 girls and women participated in this event from different corner of the jaminu. Rickbooking association jakij jammu division joint serviciny Mr. Infan (sher e Rashmar awazded) and state technical director Mr denish podha were conducted this programme. Ms. jagprost Kaur fomale coach bas given demonstration kinkboxing sportsalongwith group. Sahil sambyal women

self defence trainer has deliver (be technique of self-defence

Self deterror trainer Mr Naresh Chander take theoretical and practical session for women self defence & kickboxing association general sected ary mr Athistock Jan applauded the effects of the office history and congretulated them for successfully completing this mega event Municipal commissioner Januau Ms Avny Lavasa IAS grace the closing ceremony as chief guest and Mr Gorav chopts accompanied her asguest of borour. They congratulate all the participants and praise the kickboxing association and enhanteming their selfices efforts.

The Self Defense Awareness Program on the occasion of "International Women's Day"
Organised By Kickboxing Association Jammu & Kashmir WAKO India Unit.





WAKO India National Kickboxing Referee/Technical Seminar - 23-26 April 2021







MESSAGES



I amighac that also State Affiliates are vary local to disvelop, train and produce a well of any Reference not only for that State but also for the Haplon with the height four our Seminars. Lam are this fand of initiatives will not only produce Reference of Interpolational Standard but, also inflation the participation will of WWIG INDIA Reference in major WANO India Chemploration.

E is ac ricke that this time #Sidbooming Sports Association Mahamahins is heating this WAHD India hoppins! #Sidbooming Referee Seminal Tatanni & Bing Seotial stating 23-26, April 2001. I am salve that this sectioning WAHCD Institutional Richbooming Service Seminary will be a milestone and will be say improved the educational long of oral Reference.

I wish all and boal and good lock to all the participants I extend my sincers and warm excepting to all participants but to together make this Somener of world close repute.

FACULTY REFEREES









MD. SURYAFRAKASH MUNDARGT SERINTA PROPINS (SOUTH, MARCO)



MS-SEEMA SAIM TRALEGIA FROMMO, TATANTA SOURCE, MONADINESSE







TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TIME	PROGRAMME
25/04/2021	friday	10.00 - 10.00	Arrived of Clauses, O'Michelle, Porticipants & Registration
		19.00 14.00	Lunch Book
		W-00 - 17:00	Introduction & Opening Ceremony
		mas Jons	P Scorp on of Seminar
		20,00 - 20,00	Oiner
24,04/202	Setuicky	0730-0830	Breakfast
		09.00 - 13.00	2" Session of Seminar
		B00 16.00	Lunch Bress
		18/00 - 15:00	3" Seption of Serretor
		20.00 - 21.00	Dirion
35/04/0021	Sunday	0730 - 0830	Dreakfest.
		09.00 - 03.90	4" Session of Seminar
		15:30 - 14:30	Lunch Bresit
		1630-1730	Averd a Cooling Ceremony
		20.00 - 2000	Director
26/04/2001	Hances	60.00 - 7.00	Departure of delegations:



Passingstri was diveloped by the faculty during the facult high as a current linear diveloped the substriktion of Lord John Chisson in the 1800s. Passingshi was developed as a retrement place because it remained pleasant







HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEMINAR

In preparation of National materials Championships, WWO India Micklesting Population orga-vations (Octoberny Related Seminar) across the country from time to time, to make ourse that put-and pertained of the schools are at their box. Sizes are the most and soul of our sport abilities. Exit important that we device with their every year to ensure that they are also, consider and had received that gare refrested.

This time also, we will have the provide to goes without saying that the class norm as well at position toping will further stippen the selfs of all the participants or leach it less that of an intermetal Perfector

The singue Highlights of the Sentinis Would be or follows:

- Physics of the control of the contro
- 2. High-and training ensuring qualification for National & International Licer Varior is and all found education & Fearling, moless each participant of gible for WWKS India
- Diploma Semina-sugments leaders his skills and empowers each participant to be future perfessional
- Report was not light a term.

 It is not contributed that the control dataques and techniques and in our property control.

- Be to participant should be trained with guested bioques and perturpass which will directe common overcommentations in proceeding which are go and stay proceed in the competitive environment.

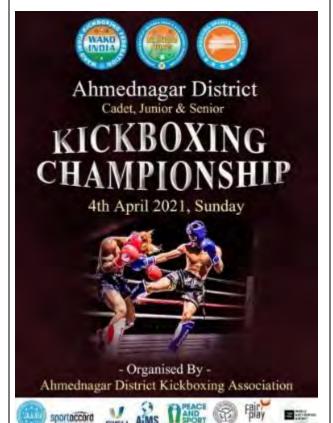
 Someon we shall win have bestoomly style another rules to be regal sharing a numerous.

 Me Doords are despecially which deads participant in creation and acknowledge that power in the cognets as Tentrue.

 Do yl despite regarder definitive Sentials along each periodipant gate an opportunity to retreat, requirement and minings with pachyother and, this finding of another formed of Verbook indiantity. Gening regional enter look as the periodic principal enter it will be made and with a Processing deficient in the periodic principal princip
- B. Witters commission to evaluate the knowledge confidence level of each participant
- 14. Annihmatic Cofficiation with more Prodution to successful policitaria.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A WORLD CLASS REFEREES IN KICKBOXING!

Ahmednagar Distt. Kickboxing Championship 4th April 2021



India

WAKO India Upcoming Event Poster



Chennai Distt. Kickboxing Championship 11th April 2021



All Maharashtra State Kickboxing Championship 2021



Kanchipuram Distt. Kickboxing Championship 11th April 2021



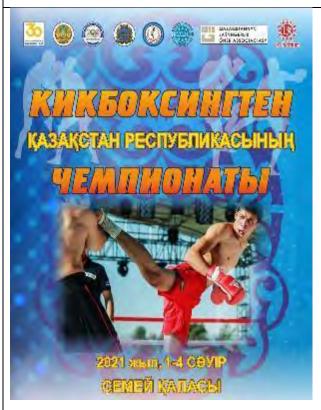
Kazakhstan

A Kazakhstan national kickboxing championship among juniors (2005-2006) took place in Pavlodar.

It was attended by athletes from Nur Sultan and Almaty, as well as Atyrau, Pavlodar, Kostanay, Aktobe and Karaganda regions.

The competition, named in honor of internationalclass master of sports Sayan Zhakupov, was organized in full contact and low kick disciplines..





KAZAKHSTAN KICKBOXING CHAMPIONSHIP

On April 1-4, Semipalatinsk will receive the championship of the Republic of Kazakhstan among adults.

The men's and women's national championship will be held on K1, low-kick and full-contact disciplines.









March 7

Today evening, a ceremony for the closing of the previous sports season of 2019/2020 was held.

During the distribution of salves to the committee's referees and cups for champions of the league, where the results of the league points are as follows:

"Best Fights" first place

"Kuwait Shogen team" in second place

"Moses team" in third place

In the name of the chairman and members of the Kuwaiti Kickboxing Federation, we congratulate everyone with our wishes to meet you next season in good and safe.

With our special thanks to Mr. Qatiba Al-Hassan - Director of Aktaf Institute for sponsoring the 2019/2020 season







Kyrgyzstan

We are glad to inform our members that Asian Kickboxing Confederation is preparing the first ever Asian Kickboxing training center.

A bilateral agreement is in preparation between the parties involved for periodic use of the training center.

The training center which is complete new build center had the capacity of approximately 100-120 persons.

The center is located at region of Issyk Kul at 250 km from capital city of Bishkek.

The training center is adequate place for training in middle of maintain and famous lack of Issyk Kul with altitude of 1900 meters.

The center has 4 stars full equipments room and 2 and 3 bed rooms individual house/villa.

The center offer full facility such as sauna, indoor swimming pool, olympic boxing ring, boxing bags and all other training equipments, restaurant, bar, relaxing area and special divertissement area.

Mr. **Nasser Nassiri**, the President of Asian Kickboxing Confederation visited the center together with Mr. **Alexander Voinov**, the Vice President of Asian Kckboxing Confederation.

Mr. Nassiri declared that center will be at disposal of Asian Kickboxing Confederation and under direct supervision of Mr Voinov.

The full program of training is under preparation and offer to our members and their athlthes perfect environment for preparation of their competition.

Mr. Voinov declared. we are going to offer specific training program such a physical and technical preparation. Our trainers men and women will be in place together with other staffs look on the athletes training condition.

Mr. Voinov added: We will going to offer to our members the unique experience of preparation with specific program which we will prepare in advance for each team.

The center will also offer the possibility of holding the conference and seminar.

Kyrgyzstan

March 31 - Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Re-starting of Kickboxing competition activities in Kyrgyz Republic

After the recent publication of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation guideline related to restart of the Kickboxing activities, one of the most anticipated sporting events took place last weekend in Bishkek, the capital city of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Kickboxing Championships of the Kyrgyz Republic in Low-Kick style took place where more than 100 elite athletes took part with respect of restricted sanitary protocol in place to fight against COVID-19. The event was reported by national journalists with reference to the President of Kyrgyz Kickboxing Federation Mr. **Alexander Voinov**.

The Event took place on March 27-28, 2021 at the school "Gazprom Kyrgyzstan" with the participation elite athletes from national teams and clubs from all regions across the Country. Competitions were held in 12 weight categories among men and 6 weight categories among women.

The Official Opening Ceremony of the Event was attended by World and European Kickboxing Champions from the Russian Federation.

The Kickboxing Championship of the Kyrgyz Republic was held at a high organizational level. The prize-winners of the Event were awarded medals, diplomas and valuable prizes.

Mr. Alexander Voinov, the President of the Kyrgyzstan Kickboxing Federation and Vice President of Asian Kickboxing Confederation declared: It is good for our athletes to re-start the competition activities as they need to have the national competition and get ready for international activities. This competition was one the stage of selection of athletes who will be enter to the camp soon for preparation of national Kickboxing team which will be take part in Asian Championships end of the year and early next year in Kickboxing competition of the 6th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2021 Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games (Bangkok–Chonburi 2021), added Mr. Voinov.











FOINT REWARD TATAMIRULES Kick to head **Copyright by Sport Sport Sport Sport Sport Sport Sport







Singapore

The Kickboxing Federation of Singapore continues to publish educational flyers in the field of the new WAKO Rules.













CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Valencia Yip

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Singapore

Kickboxing Federation of Singapore thanks WAKO Kickboxing for all the support rendered in the development of Kickboxing in Singapore.

WAKO Kickboxing has also raised the standing of Kickboxing and Kickboxing Federation of Singapore in Singapore and across the world.

It was a privilege for Secretary of Kickboxing Federation of Singapore, Miss. Valencia Yip to share with WAKO Kickboxing her experience through the Olympic IOC Young Leaders Application Programme.

Kickboxing Federation of Singapore thanks WAKO Kickboxing for honouring Miss. Valencia Yip for her good work done in Singapore, in the Region and around the World.

This is an affirmation that WAKO Kickboxing recognises the potential Singapore has in contributing to the greater development of Kickboxing around the world.

Read more about Miss. Valencia Yip's sharing here:

LINK TO ARTICLE











The Syrian General Sports Federation and the Syrian Olympic Committee organized a celebration on the occasion of the 50th Golden Jubilee of the founding of the General Sports Federation.

President of the Syrian Olympic Committee, Mr. Firas Mualla, invited Dr. Basil Al-Shaer, a member of the International Federation WAKO, whose also President of the Arab Kickboxing Federation, to attend the celebration.

On the sidelines of the celebration a meeting was held between the president The Syrian Olympic Committee, Mr Firas Mualla, Dr. Basil Al-Shaer, and Mr Muhammad Khrais, President of the Syrian Kickboxing Federation, and in the presence of the members of the Executive board of the Olympic Committee, and they discussion was held about the development of kickboxing in Syria in particular and in the Arab countries in general,

An open championship was arranged for Arab clubs in Damascus in May / 2021.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Firas presented the plaque of the Syrian Olympic Committee to Dr. Basil Al-Shaer for his efforts in developing kickboxing.











Once again in action.

Vietnam getting ready for another wonderful experience.

Vietnam Kickboxing Cup 2021 in Binh Dinh Vietnam . Binh Dinh - the coastal city in central part of Vietnam - seen as the land of Vietnamese Martial Arts .

The opening ceremony with 29 kickboxing Teams , and about 261 athletes from 29 provinces across the country.

The Vietnam Kickboxing Association has been founded back in 2009 with initiative of Mr. Nasser Nassiri, the President of Asian Kickboxing Confederation at the occasion of 2009 Vietnam Indoor Games which were held in November 2009.

The Vietnam Kickboxing Association representing Vietnam Olympic Committee took part in Kickboxing competition of 30th SEA Games Philipinnes in December 2019 and gained 4 Gold medals standing in the first place of ranking in Kickboxing competition.

We wish the Vietnam Kickboxing Association and their members a successful 2021.

WAKO OCEANIA

ACTIVITES MARCH 2021



WAKO Perth Open on March 21.

It was a big day with over 20 gyms coming together and competing in various disciplines.
All competitors gained experience and had the opportunity to put their skills and training to practice.

Australia



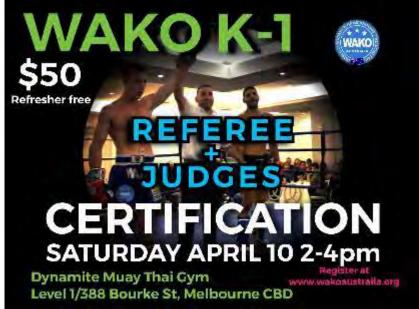
















WAKO AFRICA ACTIVITES MARCH 2021



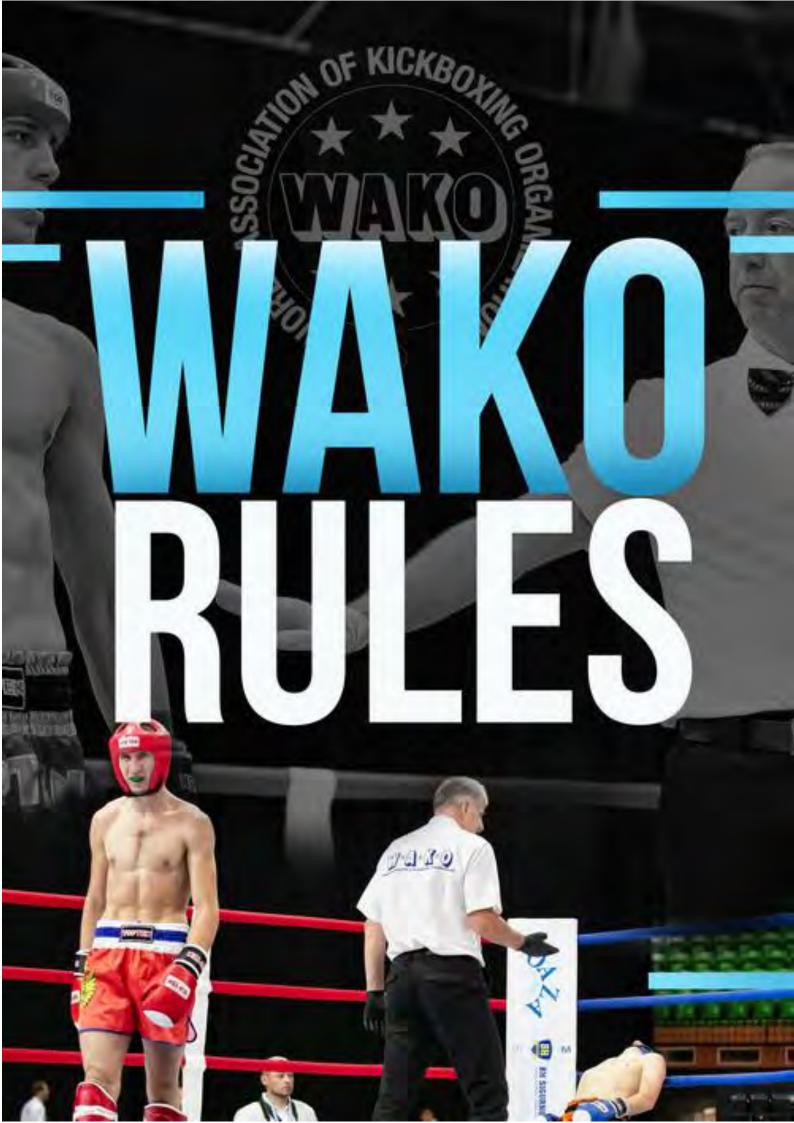


8,000 Athletes for Edo 2020 Festival- Minister The much-postponed Edo National Sports Festival will go ahead as planned from April 2nd- 14th with 8,000 athletes taking part, Minister of Youth and sports Development **Chief Sunday Dare** has assured.

Speaking in Benin on Friday after undergoing a tour of facilities and a meeting with Edo State Governor **Godwin Obaseki**, **Chief Dare** Said" On April 2nd, 2021, the camp for the Edo Festival would be opened, on April 6th the official opening of the Festival by **Mr President** would take place. But beyond that, we are also working closely with the **PTF**, **NCDC** and others to ensure that the necessary support we need in terms of vaccination of athletes, test kits will be available. We are also toning down the number of athletes that would be participating from 14,000 to 8,000. I must thank the Governor and his Deputy Governor for taking the lead on this"

On accommodation of athletes, he said" We have been able to get the University of Benin to host our athletes. There are still some works to be done here which may not be in the radar, but everything is on track I can tell you with certainty that the Edo National Sports Festival will hold. After meeting with the Governor, **His Excellence Godwin Obaseki**, his Deputy **Comrade Philip Shuaibu**, we are reassured that we are on track to host a successful National Sports Festival. All obstacles have been cleared; we are ready for a great festival. The event is coming at the most auspicious time when we are preparing for the Olympics. This is our local Olympics and we shall make the most of it. The President has given his nod for the Festival to take place, there's no going back"

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18	Golf	CF	٠						_						Benin Club, GRA	
19	Gymnastics	GY					//								Gymarelics Hall (Upper), Sam Ogbernudia Stadium	
10	Handball	нв		. 1				-					9.		University of Benin, Sports Complex (Tennis. Court), Ugbowo	
21	Hockey	HY													St Maria Gorreti College, Dumez Road	
22	Judo	JD							- 10		10.5				Indoor Hall, University of Benin, Ugbowo	
23	Karate	KT													Gymansfics Hall (Lower), Sam Ogbernudia Sladium	
24	Kickboxing	KB							- 8					-	Sports Hall. Sam Oglaemudia Stacium	
15	Kokowa	KK.													Oba Akenzua Gullural Centre, Airport Roa	
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63	Cames Villages Close	11/	£	A			0 (1)	DOT	7-19-			11	- 3		University of Senin, Halls of Residence	



NEW WAKO RULES - WHAT'S NEW

This is a new section in the WAKO Newsletter.

As you know, the WAKO Board has accepted the new WAKO rules and they have been published on the official website. They take effect on January 1st 2021. There is a lot of news, and in this column, we will present you the news and give you a comment and explanations.

Age categories

Introduction and explanation

As we explained in the last issue of the new way of determining age categories, here we repeat the overview of categories for 2021.

The same overview will be in each WAKO Calendar, at the end of the list of activities during the year.

From the new WAKO Rules

Article 2.1.1.2. Age categories

Kickboxers are divided in age and weight categories which are defined in Ring General Rules and Tatami General Rules.

Age is determined by the year of birth.

WAKO Age Categories in 2021

Tatami disciplines:

_ 00000 070 0_		
Children	(CH) * (boys and girls 7, 8, 9 years)	- born 2012, 2013, 2014
Younger cade	ets (YC) * (boys and girls 10, 11,12 years)	- born 2009, 2010, 2011
Older cadets	(OC) * (boys and girls 13, 14, 15 years)	- born 2006, 2007, 2008
Juniors	(J) ** (men and women 16, 17, 18 years)	- born 2003, 2004, 2005
Seniors	(S) (men and women 19 - 40 years)	- born 1981 - 2002
Masters	(V) (men adn women 41 - 55 years)	- born 1966 - 1980

Clarifications:

- * CH, YC, OC can participate only in their age categories
- ** J can participate in senior categories

Ring disciplines:

Younger juniors	(YJ) (men and women 15, 16 years)	- born 2005, 2006
Older juniors (OJ)	(men and women 17, 18 * years)	- born 2003, 2004
Seniors	(S) (men and women 19 - 40 years)	- born 1981 - 2002

Clarifications:

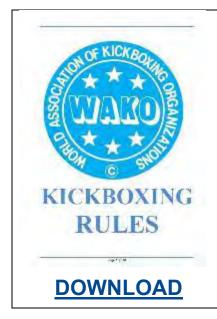
* Older juniors 18 years old (born 2003) can participate in senior categories)

LINK TO THE NEW WAKO RULES

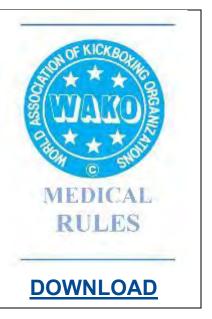
New WAKO Rules

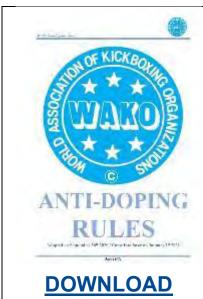
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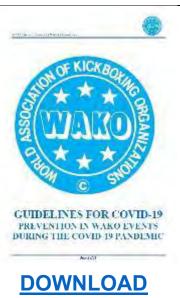
We invite all members to visit the official WAKO website and download all new rules and all new forms that are valid and in force from January 1st 2021.













THE SAD NEWS



Brazil

The FKBERJ and CBKB publicly announce the death of their Black Belt, **Marcio 'Burgão' Nunes**, due to complications of COVID 19. It was the first Brazilian black belt death due to Covid complications.

Burgão, amateur athlete, professional athlete and CBKB referee, was a very active member, a teacher, a friend esteemed by all and a constant figure in all the official national and international events held in Brazil in the last years, who will certainly be missed, but will leave a legacy due to his dedication to the sport.

Both entities, state and national, wish the most sincere condolences to the family and take this opportunity to ask all of us to keep safe and, more than that, to understand the terrible moment we are living and not only to adopt all the safety measures in the prevention and containment of the pandemic, but also to encourage their families, friends, and the entire Kickboxing community to do the same.

The more we become aware and mobilize, the safer we will face this crisis and the faster we will overcome it.

Capitulino Gomes
1st vice president

Mexico

Paulo Zorello

President



Dear Community

We regret to communicate the sensitive passing of Mr. **JOSE LUIS MOSCA** (R.I.P.).

Mr. Mosca was a prominent Chilean Competitor, Actor and Coach of Kickboxing - Full Contact, who over the past decades dedicated to directing his CIAMM academy in Mexico and dictating art seminars we are passionate about.

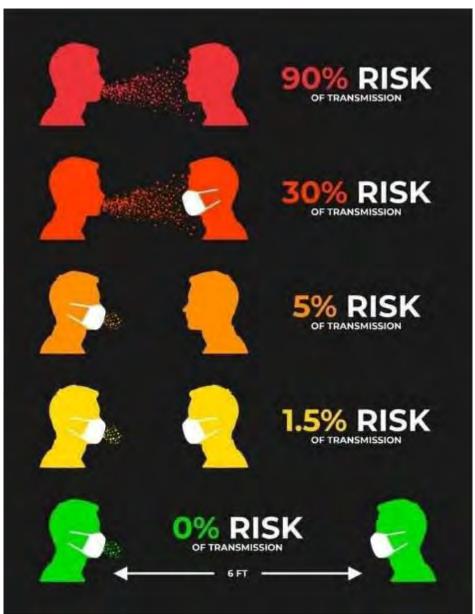
We do not hesitate to mention that Chilean kickboxing has lost a great and remembered reference to this sport.

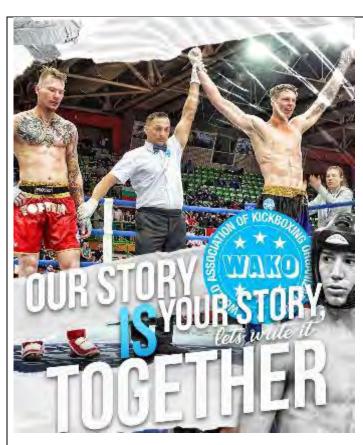


Spain

Daniel Rasilla, one of the pioneering coaches of Kickboxing in Spain, has passed away, our condolences to his family and students







To all recipients of this Newsletter

Please forward this newsletter to all members of your federation.

All news and short reports with pictures and posters of your sports activities sent to:

Marijana Pelevic

- WAKO Media Officer:

marijana.pelevic@wako.sport

Romeo Desa

- WAKO Technical Director: technical.director@wako.sport

If you want to receive Newsletter in your inbox – please, send us your e-mail address.

