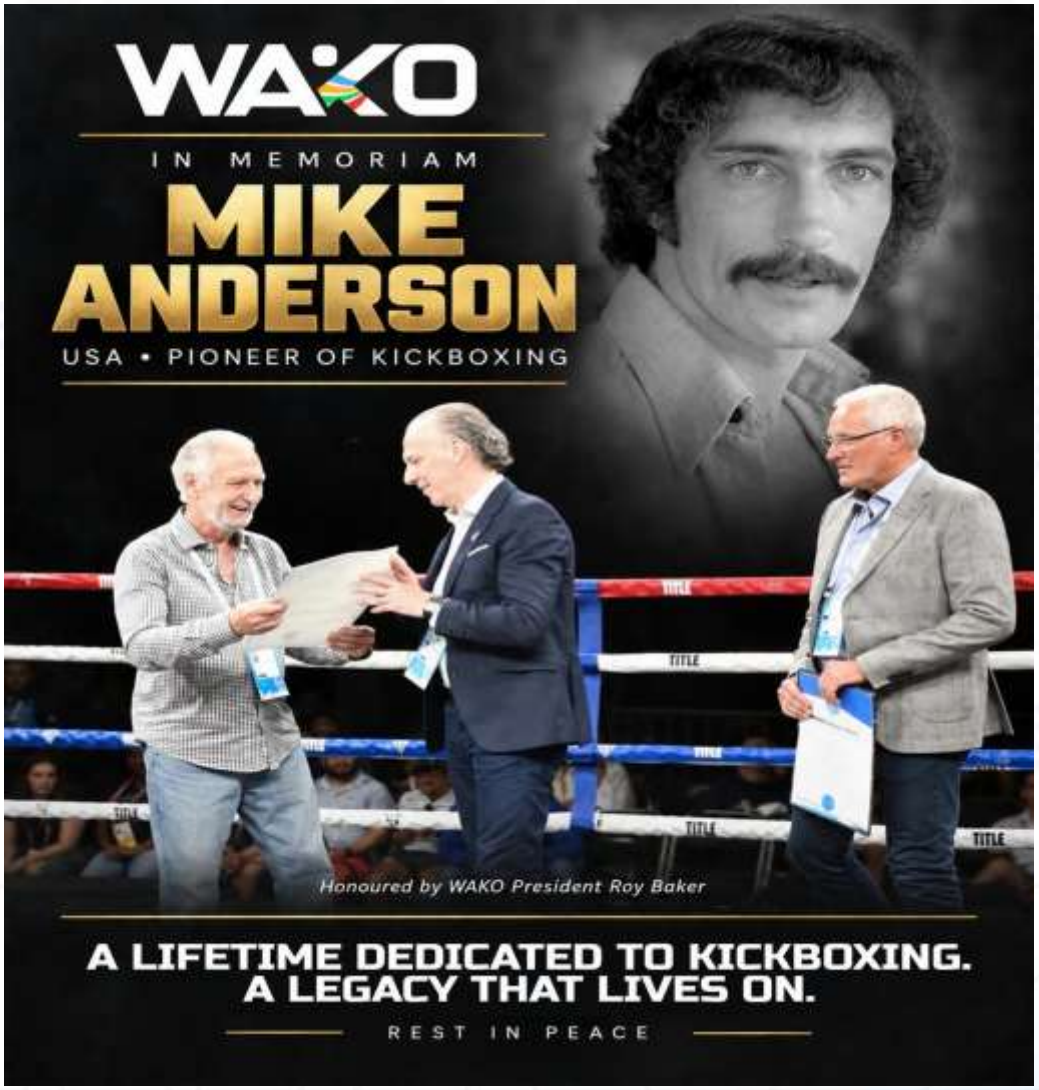
WAKO

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2026




WAKO
IN MEMORIAM
MIKE ANDERSON
USA • PIONEER OF KICKBOXING
Honoured by WAKO President Roy Baker
A LIFETIME DEDICATED TO KICKBOXING.
A LEGACY THAT LIVES ON.
REST IN PEACE

Presidents Introduction

Dear Presidents, Delegates, Colleagues, and Friends,

It is my great honor and privilege to welcome you to our 2026 WAKO General Assembly and to present this year's President's Report.

As we **reflect** on the progress we have made together, I am reminded that WAKO's greatest strength has never been found solely in medals, championships, statistics or one individual. **Our true strength lies in our unity, our shared vision, and our unwavering commitment to advancing the sport of kickboxing around the world.**

Over the past year, we have continued to build meaningful partnerships that strengthen our organization and **expand opportunities** for our athletes, officials, and member federations. **Strategic development** has remained a central priority, allowing us to increase our global footprint, enhance our governance structures, and further elevate the international standing of kickboxing in **multisport continental events.**







Presidents Introduction

Yet, as we **pursue growth**, we must remain conscious of our purpose. The landscape of international sport continues to **evolve rapidly**, presenting both opportunities and distractions. While **innovation and expansion are essential**, we must never lose sight of what brought us here. Our mission is the Sustainable development and growth of the Olympic sport of Kickboxing legendary basketball coach Phil Jackson once said: ***"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."***





These words perfectly capture the spirit of WAKO. Every federation contributes to the success of our organization, and our organization exists to support the success of every federation.

To all National Federation Presidents, I offer both my gratitude and my challenge.

Let us do more.
Let us be more.
Let us produce more.

Presidents Introduction

Let us invest more deeply in **athlete development, coach education, grassroots participation, governance excellence, gender equality, and the next generation of leaders.** Let us **embrace ambition** while remaining grounded in our values. Let us lead with optimism, determination, and courage.

The Sustainable future of kickboxing will not be built by circumstances. It will be built by the choices we make today. Every program we launch, every athlete we inspire, every partnership we create, and every federation we strengthen contributes to the legacy we leave for future generations.

I am **optimistic** about our **future** because I see the passion, commitment, and dedication that exists throughout our membership. Together, we have demonstrated that challenges can become opportunities and that shared vision can become shared success.
As we look ahead to the coming years, let us continue **to work together** with confidence, unity, and purpose. Let us **strengthen our partnerships**, support one another, and remain focused on what matters most: advancing the sport of kickboxing by creating opportunities for all who are part of our global community.







Presidents Introduction

Thank you for your dedication, your friendship, and your leadership.

Together, we are stronger. Together, Together, we will shape an even brighter future for kickboxing, for our athletes, coaches, referees and officials. I look forward to working with you all **in 2027 and beyond** and creating a sustainable and bright future for the sport we all love deepley

Yours in sport,

Roy Baker,
President WAKO
ARISF Board member
Sport Accord membership Commission member.





WAKO IF Board 2023-2027



Roy Baker
WAKO President



Espen Lund
1st VP and GS



Francesca Falsoni
Vice President



Paulo Zorello
Vice President



Salim Kayici
Vice President



Donato Milano
Vice President



Istvan Kiraly
Vice President

	Date	Venue
	20th March	Online
	19th June	Online
	18th July	Online
	18th Sept	Jesolo , ITA



Ali Khoori



Michaela Kovacova



Lucinda Edwards



Zsolt Moradi
Athletes Representative



Carlos Ramjanali



Tomaz Barada



Katarzyna Kociszewska



Dario Alvarado



Aslam Mahomed



Nikolaus Gstaettner
Treasurer

Thank you for your commitment – Dedication and Energy.

WAKO

IN MEMORIAM



ZIJAD ZIJO HALILOVIC



DIRK DECHANT



WOJCIECH KIERSTEIN



MIKE ANDERSON

FOREVER PART OF THE WAKO FAMILY

REST IN PEACE

Significant Appointments 26



IWGA Board Member



ARISF Board Member



WADA Athletes Commission



President Pan America Continent



President Africa Continent



President Asia Continent

2027 A unique year

Full Medaled Sport:





Full Medaled Sport





Full Medaled Sport: Point – K1



Pending Confirmation Letter
Demonstration Sport: Point – K1



Asia Activity and Meetings



HRH Abdulla
Chairman
Islamic Games



Thailand Minister of Sport



China Leadership



General
Secretary KAT



SEA Games



General Secretary Islamic Games



Mr.AdxamIlxamovich
Uzbekistan Minister of Sport

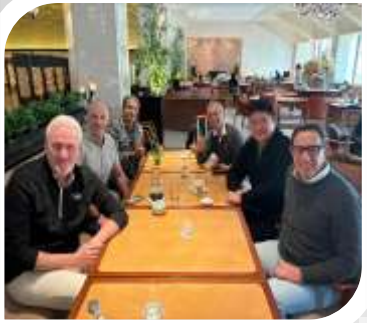


Thailand
Professional Event

Asia Activity and Meetings



KAT



K1 Japan



President Iraq



Thai President of Pro Muaythai & Boxing



Signing World Championship



General Secretary IFMA~



Asia Leaders Thailand



Donated Equipment Gaza



Korea Meeting

Oceania Activity and Meetings



New Web Site Created

www.kickboxingoceania.com/



New Web Site Created

www.kickboxingnz.com



Brisbane 2032 Games



Team Australia HWC 2026

Africa Activity and Meetings



Senegal
Dakar 2026



President African
Union of Sports



Chairman Dakar
2026



President NOC Senegal



African Continental
Championships



Egypt
African Games



Operations Director Dakar
2025

Africa Activity and Meetings








African Continental Championships 2026

WAKO Africa Seeding Investment (Empowering)

50 Complete Sets of equipment. Head, Gloves, Boots, Shins.



Sponsors: WAKO – Century – Top Ten

Received Material:

Central Region: (Cameroon) - Mohammadou Aziz
Southern Region: (Zimbabwe) - Tony Kamangira
Western Region: (Ivory Coast) - Parfait Dakrou

In transit:

Northern Region: (Egypt) - Mohamed Sobih-
Eastern Region (Madagascar) - Pierre

Pan America Activity and Meetings



LA 28 Sports Director



Peru Minister of Sport



Pan Am Board



Peru President NOC



Pan Am Dev Seminar



Pan Am Dev Seminar

2026 Pan Am Development Seminar









EVENT OVERVIEW

Five Days Event

234 Athletes

87 Coaches

58 Referees

Five days of development, growth and FUN



Europe Activity and Meetings



President IWGA



FISU MOU



IOC visit 1



President NOC Albania



President EOC



Turkish NOC



Barrada Seminar



Sportaccord

Europe Activity and Meetings



IOC visit 2



President EOC



President Azerbaijan NOC



President World Boxing



President Hungarian NOC



Armenia NOC

WAKO Re Branding

"Exciting and crisp"

"Clean Modern"

"A great evolution of brand"











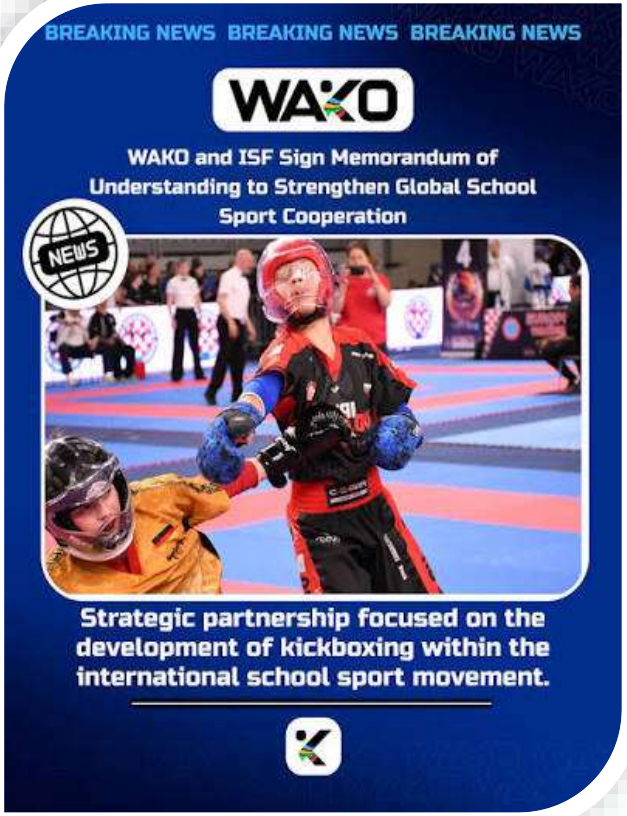


WAKO

SPORT ACCORD · ARISF · THE WORLD GAMES · world anti-doping agency · FISU · fair play · PEACE AND SPORT · FICS

Strategic Partnerships signed 2026





Labels C Class events

In 2027 Clothing Labels will not be Mandatory in C Class events



WAKO Pro







WAKO Pro Executive Steering Group

- Paulo Zorello
- Espen Lund
- Carlos Ramjanali
- Donato Milano
- Salim Kayaci
- Niki Gstattner
- Roy Baker

CISM 1st Military Challenge 2026



Date: 14 – 20 December 2026
Location:
Who can attend: Only CISM active member nations have the right to participate in the 1st CISM World Military Kickboxing Challenge.
How do I register:

Hotel: Kemer Viking Star Hotel

AIrport: Antalya

Disciplines: Full and Low Kick
Men : 54 kg, 57 kg, 60 kg, 63,5 kg, 67 kg, 71 kg, 75 kg, 81 kg, 86 kg, 91 kg
Women : 52 kg, 56 kg, 60 kg, 65 kg 70 kg

Delegation Configuration:
Number of participants Chief of Mission 1
Coach 2
Ad Libitum 1
WAKO Referee 1
Competitors:
Male athlete 20
Female athlete 10 Total: 35

Registration through your CISM Org

WAKO EDUCATION



Online Seminars

7 Global Online Educational Events:

1) February 2025 - Weight management:

2) March 2025 - Train Smart – Energy Systems of Kickboxing:

3) April 2025 - Sport psychology in combat sport:

4: May 2025 - Mental Toughness

5: July 2025 - Understanding Anti-Doping:

6: July 2025 – Concussion in Combat Sports:

7: July 2025 – Online Referee Seminar Parakickboxing:





















Dan Grades issued to date

By WAKO Grading Syllabus and Standard Committee
Chairman: Tomaz Barada

N.	Name and Surname	Country	Dan grade awarded	Place and Date
1	Juan Corrales	Argentina	7th black belt degree	Foz do Iguacu, 30/03/2026
2	Weichselbaumer Ralf	Austria	1st black belt degree	Salzburg, 26/07/2025
3	Peric Dobrica	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
4	Stoffle Daniela	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
5	Stritzl Alexander	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
6	Hajek Marcel	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
7	Sembera Manuel	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
8	Sembera Matthias	Austria	1st black belt degree	Wien, 21/02/2026
9	Grabner Patrick	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
10	Gritsch Rupert	Austria	2nd black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026

Dan Grades issued to date

Important:

National grading remains responsibility of the National Federations.

WAKO International Grading provides an additional international layer of recognition, credibility and value.

N.	Name and Surname	Country	Dan grade awarded	Place and Date
11	Glinik Martin	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
12	Kortschak Maria	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
13	Maier Gernot	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
14	Maier Nico	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
15	Vorauer Thomas	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
16	Wiesenhofer Michael	Austria	1st black belt degree	Schielleiten, 08/02/2026
17	Wilson Campos de Miranda Filho	Brazil	4th black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
18	Paulo Cesar Zorello	Brazil	8th black belt degree	Milan, 19/11/2025
19	Leandro Pinheiro Flauzina	Brazil	1st black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
20	Paulo Ricardo Gayer Pereira Da Costa	Brazil	2nd black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026

Dan Grades issued to date

FOCUS 2027: National Federation Engagement, International Grading Seminar & Workshops. The Committee's priority is to make participation simple, accessible and practical through direct communication, a simple application process, national and regional coordinators, implementation support and measurable objectives.

N.	Name and Surname	Country	Dan grade awarded	Place and Date
21	Jorge Antonio Cezário De Oliveira	Brazil	2nd black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
22	Joseph Thiago Borges Rodrigues Pereira	Brazil	1st black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
23	Carlos Alberto Raimundo Camargo	Brazil	1st black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
24	Leandro Mattei	Brazil	1st black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
25	Janne Laino	Brazil	1st black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
26	Delcio Pereira	Brazil	3rd black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
27	Gábor Juhász	Hungary	6th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
28	Zsolt Mórádi	Hungary	7th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
29	Krisztián Jaroszkievicz	Hungary	7th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
30	Zoltán Dancsó	Hungary	7th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026

Dan Grades issued to date

The programme and the tools are ready. The next step is implementation. Committee's objective is not to replace National Federation grading systems, but to connect them with WAKO International recognition.

N.	Name and Surname	Country	Dan grade awarded	Place and Date
31	Riccardo Bergamini	Italy	9th black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
32	Michael Lampert	Liechtenstein	4th black belt degree	Gamprin-Bendern, 17/10/2026
33	Peter Davida	Liechtenstein	3rd black belt degree	Gamprin-Bendern, 17/10/2026
34	Rainer Davida	Liechtenstein	2nd black belt degree	Gamprin-Bendern, 17/10/2026
35	Delano Müller	Namibia	2nd black belt degree	Milan, 13/03/2026
36	Piotr Maślanka	Poland	5th black belt degree	Warsaw, 21/01/2024
37	Radosław Laskowski	Poland	6th black belt degree	Warsaw, 21/01/2024
38	Leszek Jobs	Poland	4th black belt degree	Warsaw, 21/01/2024
39	Manuel Teixeira da Silva Pereira	Portugal	7th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026
40	Pedro Santos	Portugal	7th black belt degree	Jesolo, 20/09/2026

Safeguarding Committee

Throughout 2025, WAKO Safeguarding Officers received no written complaints and recorded no safeguarding-related incidents during WAKO competitions.

At the WAKO World Championships in Abu Dhabi, the Safeguarding Committee conducted a seminar as part of the Coaches Conference, presenting key safeguarding policies and providing guidance on the prevention of harassment and abuse and the protection of athletes.
Safeguarding education was further supported through the presentation of relevant scientific and educational materials, including *Violence in Sport: Principles, Categories, and Examples* and *Ethics of Professional Touch*.





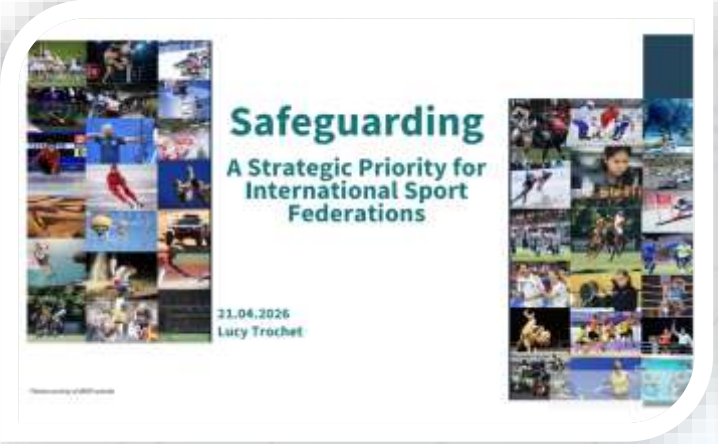
Safeguarding Committee

WAKO Safeguarding Officers actively involved in the EU-funded Erasmus+ SAFE COMBAT project, which aims to develop a certification system recognising combat sports clubs that meet defined safeguarding standards.

Throughout 2026, WAKO Safeguarding Officers have been participating in the ARISF Safeguarding Seminar for International Federations (IFs), strengthening their knowledge and capacity in safeguarding policies, prevention, and athlete protection.









Game Changers 2027



A new programme to be launched late 2026 with a start up in 2027.

5 male, 5 female

Athlete and Coach Corner

WAKO Athlete & Coach Corner at the **ADNEC Arena Abu Dhabi** **<u>from Monday 24th to Friday 28th November 2025</u>**, during the **WAKO Senior and Master World Championship.**

A success!!!









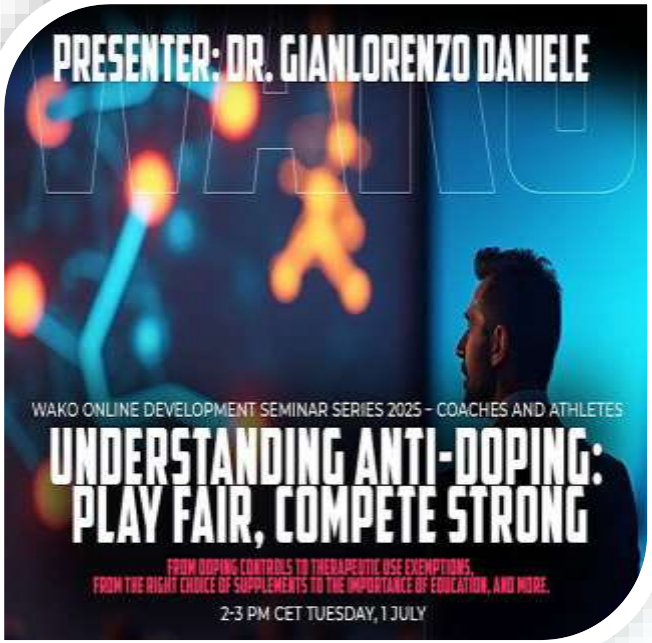
Anti-Doping

What was done\achieved

"Ordinary" Antidoping activity (In-Competition testing, Registered Testing Pool, TUE management, and more)
Intense Educational Campaign, especially focused on IWG
(Result: ZERO doping cases**)**
Development of the new WAKO Anti-Doping rules

What to be done/next focus

Increased control and collaboration with organizers of World Cups, in order to ensure consistent standards



Medical Committee Update

What was done/achieved

Updated WAKO Medical Rules – Proposal to update the current technical rules on the length of the medical time
Active surveillance on suspended athletes
Medical seminars for coaches (injury prevention – concussion)
Collaboration with Parakickboxing (Inclusive Kickboxing)

What to be done/next focus

Increased collaboration with other Committees
Increase compliance with medical rules within the World Cups, possibly with direct participation of the Medical Committee

MEDICAL COMMUNIT

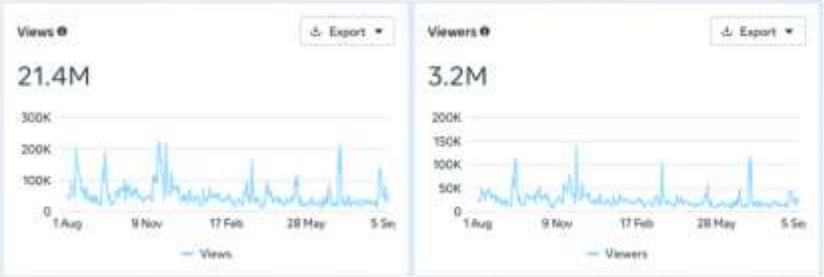

WAKO
STATISTICS AND OVERVIEW 2025

Media coverage (social media performance)

WAKO Facebook @Kickboxing
Followers growth:
2025: 110.622
2026: 125.739

Total views: 21,4 Million
Viewers: 3,2 Million

Facebook audience: 81% men, age 25-34/30%, 35-44/24%, -54/15%



Interactions: +70%
Link clicks: +53%
Page visits: +26%



Media coverage (social media performance)

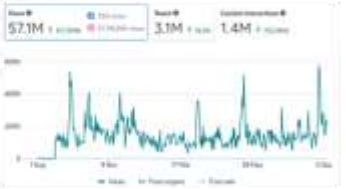
WAKO Instagram
@wako.kickboxing.official

Followers growth:
2025: 47.217
2026: 78.750

Total views:57,1 Million
Viewers: 3,1 Million (+16%)



Interactions: +702%
Link clicks: +3%
Page visits: +22%



Instagram audience: MEN 80%, AGE 18-24 20%, 25-34 30%, 35-44 15%



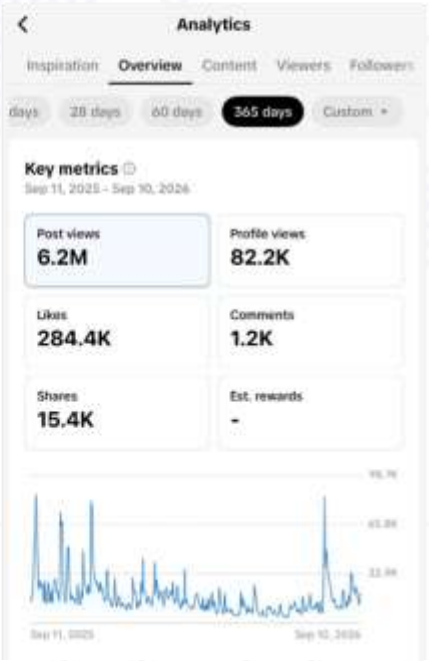
Media coverage (social media performance)

WAKO TikTok @wako.kickboxing

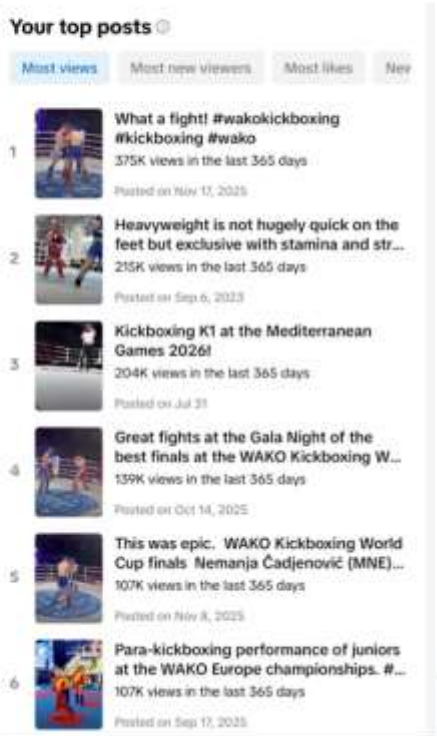
Followers growth:
2025: 57.843
2026: 66.836

Total views:6,2 Million

Viewers: 3,8 Million (+16%)







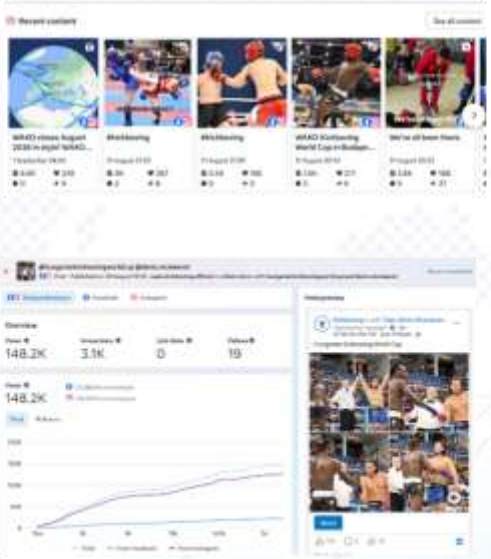
Media coverage (social media performance)

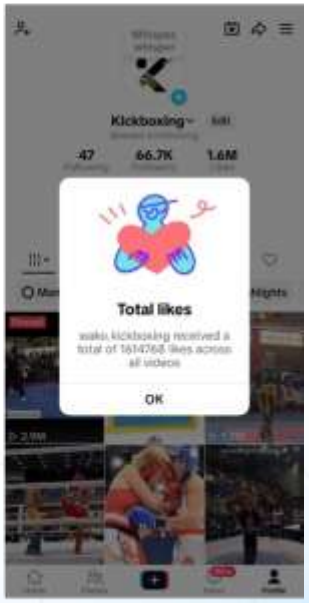
WAKO YouTube @WAKOKickboxing

Subscribers growth:
2025: 64.400
2026: 69K
Total views: 728,6K
Growth of followers: +9%
The most popular content:

	Садржај	Просечно трајање гледања	Прегледи
1	Bahram Rajabzadeh v Roman Shcherbatiuk World Games 2022 14. 7. 2022.	3:24 (36,8%)	31.373
2	WAKO European Youth Championships Opening Ceremony 2025 14. 9. 2025.	3:39 (4,4%)	11.307
3	Anto Siric v Bahram Rajabzadeh +91kg Final World Games 2022 15. 7. 2022.	3:34 (40,1%)	10.372
4	Andrej Kedves v Magomed Makhamaev 71kg K1 WAKO World Championsh... 11. 5. 2025.	3:23 (34,4%)	10.020

TOTAL VIEWS ACCROSS PLATFORMS
85.428.000





Event Statistics

446 Events.
207 International . 240 National.

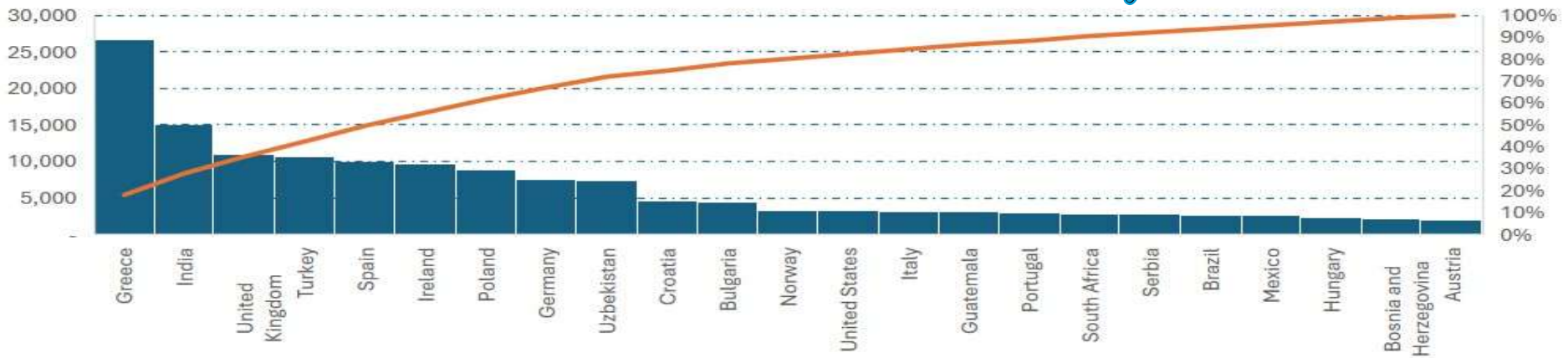
#	Country
1	Germany
2	Spain
3	Poland
4	Croatia
5	Austria
6	Serbia
7	India
8	Ireland
9	Hungary
10	England



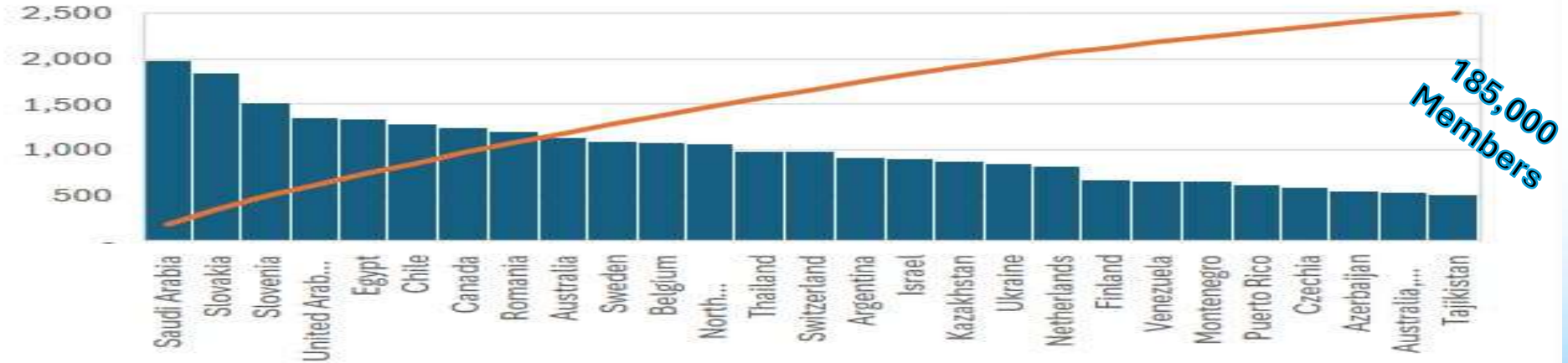


Top ten countries = 60%

Large Membership



Medium Membership



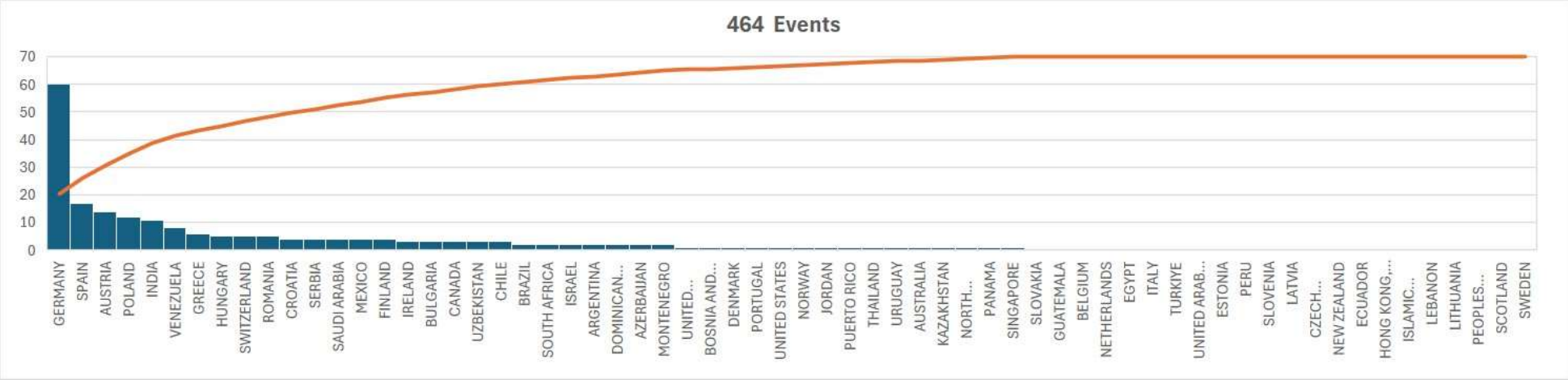
185,000 Members


Small Membership
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
-
Latvia
Russia
Jordan
Lithuania
Estonia
Denmark
Kyrgyzstan
Moldova,...
Ecuador
France
Chinese Taipei
Algeria
Peru
Dominican...
Kuwait
South Korea
Hong Kong
Palestine
Morocco
Kosovo
Sierra Leone
Kuwait, United...
Belarus
Iraq
Paraguay
Belgium, France
Armenia

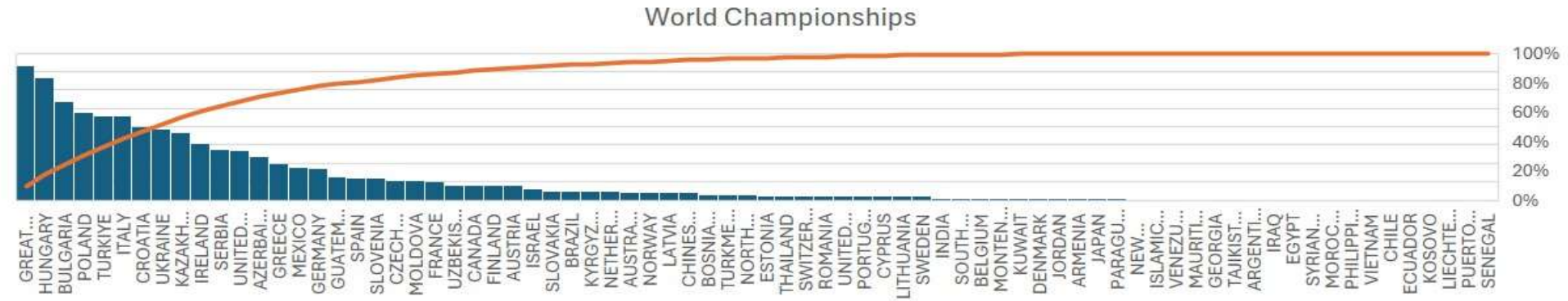

XS Membership
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
-
Vietnam
Namibia
El Salvador
Bosnia and...
China
Indonesia
Singapore
Lebanon
Croatia, United...
Georgia
Panama
Ecuador,...
Zimbabwe
Albania
Uruguay
Liechtenstein
Senegal
Nepal
Lao People's...
Japan
Malaysia
Bahrain
Colombia
Sudan
Honduras

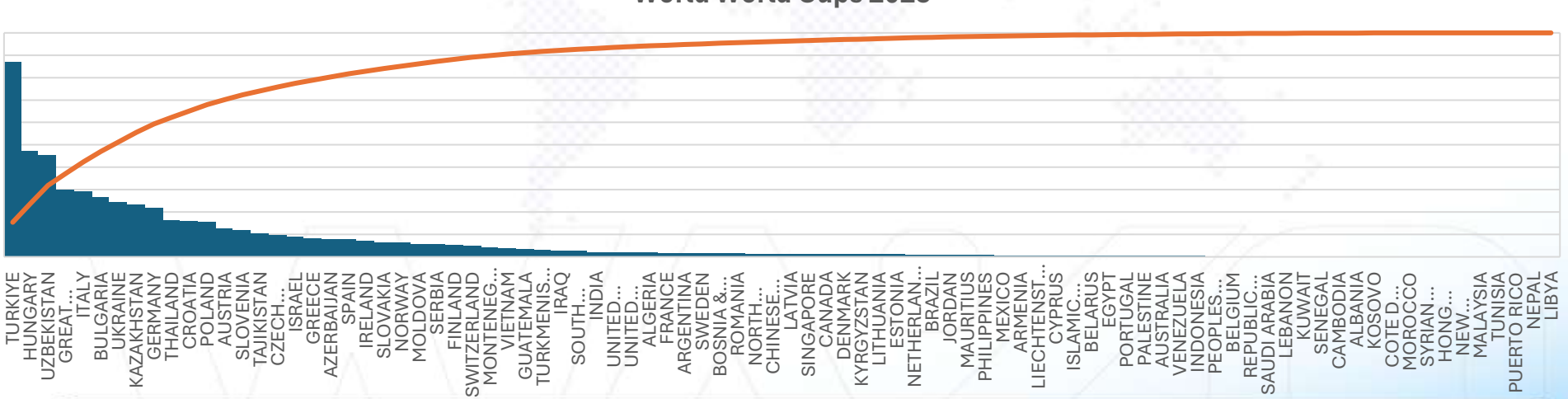
Events 2026

2641 Clubs



WAKO 2025 Medal Ranking (Worlds & World Cups)

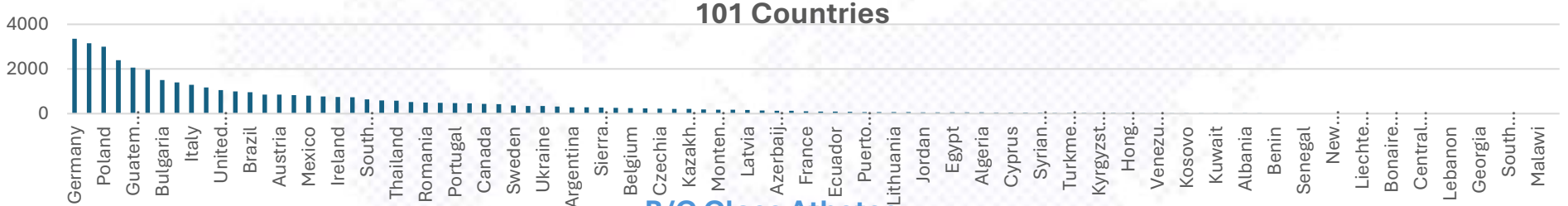




Athletes (9th Sep)

225,843 Elite Athletes

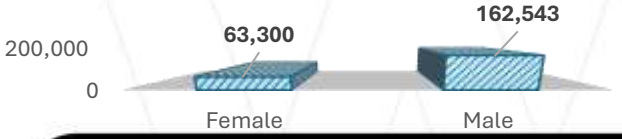
Elite A Class Athletes
41.341 Athletes
101 Countries



B/C Class Athetes
185,542
127 Countries



GENDER BREAKDOWN ELITE



28% Female 72% Male


WAKO
WAKO National Federation
LEADERSHIP
ORDEM E PROGRESSO


BENIN
Federation Beninoise de Kick-Boxing et Disciplines Associees (FBKB-DA)
President
Mr. Narcisse Justin Soglo
JAPAN
Japan Kickboxing League Organizations
President
Mr. Kazuyoshi Ishii
GUINEA CONAKRY
Federation Guineene de Kick Boxing (FGKB)
President
Mr. Aribot Aboubacar
BONAIRE
Bonaire Kickboxing Federation
President
Mr. Peter Silberie
WELCOME
NEW WAKO MEMBERS

Newley Elected President

ALGERIA - Mr. Ali AMARA
President of the Federation Algerienne de Full Contact Kickboxing et DA

BULGARIA – Mr. Mario Ivanov
President of the Bulgarian Confederation of Kickboxing and MT

CHINESE TAIPEI - Mr. Yang Ching-Chin
President of the Chinese Taipei Kickboxing Association

HUNGARY – Mr. Gabor Juhasz
President of the Hungarian Kickboxing Federation

MOROCCO - Mr. Khalid El Quandili
President of the Royal Moroccan Federation

NEW ZEALAND – Ms. Leonie Rosin
President of the WAKO New Zealand

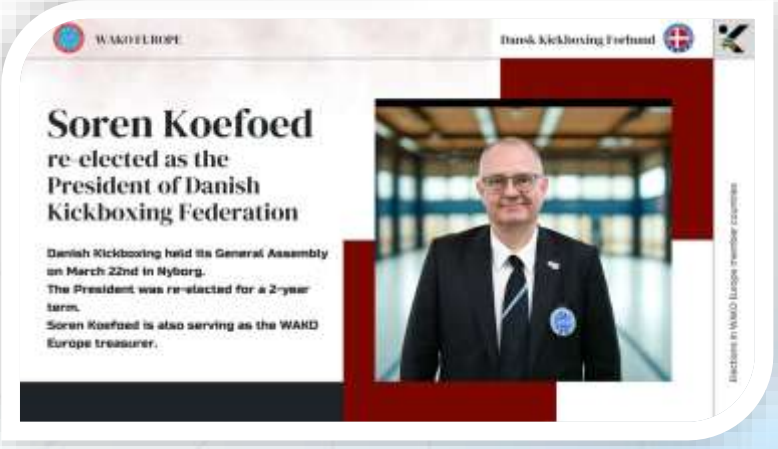
NORWAY – Mr. Roger Ramstad
President of the Norwegian Kickboxing Federation

PORTUGAL – Mr. José Augusto Pina Correia
President of the FNKDA – Combat Sports Federation

REPUBLIC OF KOREA - Mr. Kim Hyounyoung
President of the Korean Kickboxing Association (WAKO KOREA)

TURKMENISTAN - Mr. Shohrat Hallyyev
President of the Turkmenistan Kickboxing Federation





WAKO CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP

AFRICA



Mohamed Shref
LIBYA



Anita de Klerk
NAMIBIA



Arnold Yusuf
Sengbe Pieh
SIERRA LEONE



Jean-François
Arnaud Vacher
MAURITIUS



Narcisse Justin Soglo
BENIN



Aslam Mahomed
SOUTH AFRICA



Mohamed Sobih
EGYPT



Anis Jaffali
TUNIS



Khalid El
Quandili
MOROCCO











WAKO CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP

ASIA



Nasser Nassiri
IRAN



Abdul Rahman El Rayess
LEBANON



Aleksandr Voinov
KYRGYZSTAN



Jason Lim Boon Kheng
SINGAPORE



Moh'd Aref Omar Jariri Hesan
JORDAN



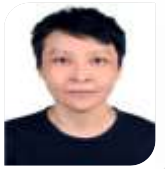
Pai Leeke
THAILAND



H.E. Abdullah Saeed Al Neyadi
UAE



Mr. Kim Hyounyoung
REP.OF KOREA



Yang Ching-Chin
CHINESE TAIPEI



Asadjon Khodjaev
UZBEKISTAN



Kazuyoshi Ishii
JAPAN



Santosh Kr Agrawal
INDIA



Samir Athamna
PALESTINE



Saria Aljazairi
SYRIA



Qasslm kadim al_wassiti
IRAQ



Abdulaziz AlfadaghK
KUWAIT



Kim Viktor
KAZAKHSTAN



Mostafizur Rahman
BANGLADESH



H.E. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Towayan
SAUDI ARABIA



Yuen Yuk Kwong
HONG KONG



Vu Duc Thinh
VIETNAM



WAKO CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP

EUROPE



Giovanni De Paolis
SWITZERLAND



Dejan Mitrovski
NORTH MACEDONIA



Hakan Ozen
SWEDEN



De Block Marc
BELGIUM



Andrius Danilaitis
LITHUANIA



Fatmir Makolli
KOSOVO



Jesus Eguia
SPAIN



Kozlov Sergei
ESTONIA



Mavrommatis P. Antonios
GREECE



Grzegorz Wrzesień
POLAND



Georgina Engelhardt-Aué
NETHERLANDS



Peter Edwards
GREAT BRITAIN



Nikolaus Gstättner
AUSTRIA



Tomislav Bilandžić
CROATIA



SørenKofoed-Hansen
DENMARK



Vladimir Sitar
SLOVENIA



Gabor Juhasz
HUNGARY



Mihaljevic Branko
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Riccardo Bergamini
ITALY



Duško Basrak
SERBIA

WAKO CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP

EUROPE



Darya Strutinska
LATVIA



Mario Ivanov
BULGARIA



Hani
Sakas



Jiri Mulac
CZECH



Petteri
Maunu



Salim Kayici
TURKEY



Arbis Vjerdha
ALBANIA



José Augusto Pina
Correia



Ivan Strugar
MONTENEGRO



Gocha Javakhia
GEORGIA



Roy Baker
IRELAND



Orkhan Aliyev
AZERBAIJAN



Jozef Kolozsy
SLOVAKYA



Roger Ramstad
NORWAY



Claude Pouget
MONACO



Yuri Karaev
BELARUS



WAKO CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP

PAN AM



Juan Corrales
ARGENTINA



Fernando
Granados
MEXICO



Dagoberto
Lockward
DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC



Carlos Betancourt
EL SALVADOR



Albert
Camacho
PUERTO RICO



Peter Silberie
BONAIRE



Muzammal
Nawaz
CANADA



Yariela Mendoza
PANAMA



Andres Garcia Gandara
GUATEMALA



Dario Alvarado
VENEZUELA



Rob Zbilski
USA



Jorge Luis Jarrin Bermudez
ECUADOR



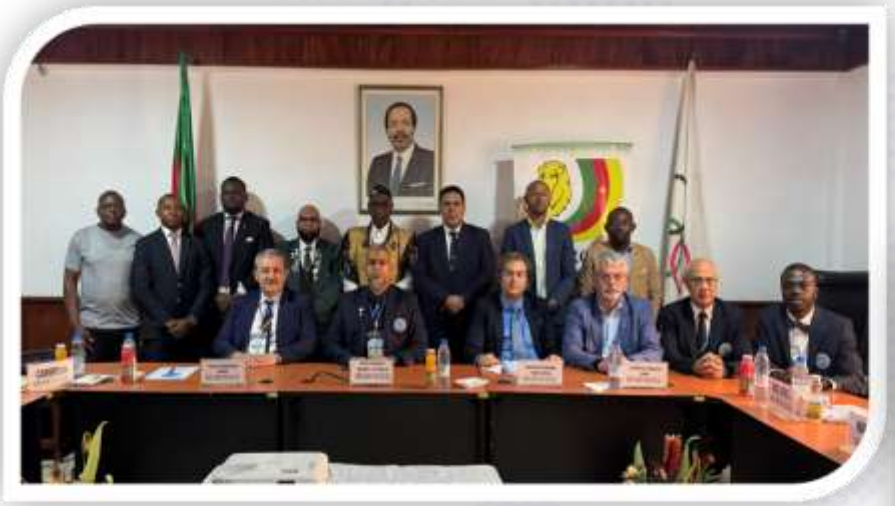
Paulo Zorello
BRAZIL






WAKO
CONTINENTAL REPORTS

AFRICA Continental Report





AFRICA Continental Report

The WAKO Africa Elective Congress was held on 24 June 2026 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, during the African Championships which ran from 21 to 27 June. The championships brought together 15 countries and 133 participants across all modes of WAKO kickboxing, both in tatami and ring. During the Congress, which was held at the Cameroon Olympic Committee, Aslam Mahomed was re-elected as President of WAKO Africa / African Kickboxing Confederation.

Looking ahead at 2027, a major milestone is participation in the African Games in Cairo, Egypt as a medal sport from August to September 2027. We are preparing to compete in both Tatami - point fighting and Ring - K1, marking a significant step forward for our federation on the continental stage.



Aslam Mahomed
President WAKO Africa

Asia Continental Report



Road to the South Asian Games under President Nassiri's Leadership





2nd Cross-Strait Cities Kickboxing Invitation Tournement Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Macau, China and Philippines





Continental Report (Events)

KICKBOXING COMPETITION OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES "SEA GAMES"

One of the most prestigious Games recognized by International Olympic Games (IOC) and SEGF

Kickboxing Approval Entry Date : October 2018

- First Edition Kickboxing : 30th SEA Games Philippines 2019,
- Second Edition Kickboxing: 31st SEA Games Vietnam 2021, held in 2022,
- Third Edition Kickboxing : 32nd SEA Games Cambodia 2023,
- Fourth Edition Kickboxing : 33rd SEA Games Thailand 2023,





Kickboxing Competition of the 33rd Southeast Asian Games Thailand 2025,



Asia Continental Report



ASIAN KICKBOXING CONFEDERATION

CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026
(SENIOR & MASTER DIVISIONS)

WORLD COMBAT GAMES 2027 - QUALIFICATIONS

WELCOME TO CAMBODIA

Dear Members,

I am pleased to invite you and your delegation to the Asian Championships 2026, Senior & Master Divisions, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from 12–21 December 2026.

The event will be hosted with the Cambodia Kickboxing Federation under H.E. Mr. Heng Sokkhiam, with full support from national sports authorities and several clubs and weight categories will serve as qualifiers for the 2027 World Combat Games in cooperation with WAKO IF. Top referees and judges will ensure fair and smooth competition.

Phnom Penh's facilities and vibrant atmosphere will enrich the Championships always leave a lasting impression, and you will also have time to explore Cambodia's beautiful provinces and cultural heritage. At the conclusion of the Championships, we are delighted to announce that a special surprise awaits all participants, a gesture of appreciation for your dedication and spirit.

I look forward to welcoming you to this prestigious competition, joined by WAKO IF President Roy Baker.

Nasser Nassiri
President
Asian Kickboxing Confederation (WAKO ASIA)

Dear members of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation and WAKO,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Asian Kickboxing Championships in Cambodia, a vibrant host nation where energy, culture, and passion come together.

This championships celebrates the continued strength and rapid growth of kickboxing across Asia, bringing together our region's finest athletes for a week of world-class competition, determination, and sporting spirit. Cambodia's warm hospitality, rich heritage, and enthusiastic sporting community will provide a memorable setting for athletes, coaches, officials, and supporters from across the continent.

As competitors pursue the prestigious title of Asian Champion and, where applicable, the opportunity to qualify for the 2027 Combat Games, we look forward to an unforgettable celebration of excellence, unity, and the future of our sport. We are stronger together.

Roy Baker
President
World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO)

Dear Members of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation,

On behalf of the Cambodia Kickboxing Federation, myself and its executives, I warmly welcome all participants, athletes, coaches, officials, and guests of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation.

We are honored to host the Asian Kickboxing Championships 2026, Senior & Master Divisions, featuring Full-Contact, Low Kick, K1, Point Fighting, Light-Contact, Kick-Light, and Creative Forms. It is a privilege to welcome you to the Kingdom of Cambodia and to our vibrant capital, Phnom Penh, one of Southeast Asia's most attractive and welcoming cities.

We sincerely thank the Asian Kickboxing Confederation for the trust placed in us. This recognition highlights Cambodia's growing role as an important sports and cultural center in our continent, especially within Southeast Asia.

I wish you good luck, great success, and a truly enjoyable stay. We look forward to welcoming you in Phnom Penh.

Warm regards,

H.E. Mr. Heng Sokkhiam
President, Cambodia Kickboxing Federation

WAKO ARISF





WAKO SPORT ACCORD ARISF THE WORLD GAMES world anti-doping agency FISU fair play PEACE AND SPORT FICS

Europe Continental Report

WAKO EUROPE

1. WAKO Europe held its Ordinary Electoral General Assembly in Jesolo, Italy, on September 14th, 2025, when Espen Lund (NOR) was elected as the new President, with new elected Board of directors members.



2. New appointed professional service providers:
- Sport director **Ilija Salerno**
- Administration service **Barbara Falsoni**
- Media and PR service

Marijana Pelevic



Europe Continental Report

3. WAKO Europe President Espen Lund visited Albania in January 2026 and met with NOC Albania Secretary General Gerti Shima and Mr. Endrit Hoxha, Vice Minister of Sport in Albania.



4. WAKO Europe organized the SAFE COMBAT project team TPM3 conference in Skopje, North Macedonia, welcoming 12 participants from six partner organisations, alongside four online participants.



Europe Continental Report

7. WAKO Europe participates at the European University Combat Sports Championships 2026 will take place in Tirana, Albania, from 12 to 17 September 2026.



8. WAKO Europe Senior, Master, Para&Inclusive Chamionships 2026.



Senior, Master and Para/Inclusive European Championships will take place in Skopje, North Macedonia, from 6th to 15th November 2026

Pan AM Continental Report

* Bolivarian Games Ayacucho Perú 2025.

* 1st international Championship Beach Kickboxing Venezuela 2025

*Panamerican Championship Cadets and Juniors Guatemala 2025

* Centroamericanos Games Guatemala 2025



* Seminars Técnicals and referees WAKO Panam y WAKO IF Brasil 2026

* Panamerican Championship Seniors Chile 2026.

* Southamerican Championship Cadets and juniors Chile 2026



Pan AM Continental Report

* Progrees with on Cism and 1st Mlltary Kickboxing Championship Antalya 2026

* Progress with FISU America and the Inclusion in the next events from 2027

* Participation in 2 general assemblies of ACODEPA in México and Perú

* Inclusion Bolivarians youger Games Caracas 2027.

* Possible inclusión how demo sport in the Panamerican 2027

* Many capacitations in matter of:

-Antidoping
-Sportdata
-Rsportz
- Referees WAKO IF
- Referees WAKO Pro
-Sport Psychology
-Performance y manager in sport







WAKO Mediterranean Federation



Kickboxing featured as a demonstration sport at the Mediterranean Games held in Taranto, Italy, from 31st July to 2nd August 2026.

N.10 participating countries: Croatia, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Montenegro, Portugal, Spain, Turkiye.



Five men's and five women's weight categories were involved on the ring in K-1 style with participation of high level athletes.

It was the very first appearance of kickboxing at the Mediterranean Games.

The event attracted great interest, WAKO was represented by a large number of officials such as WAKO Vice Presidents, Board Members, WAKO 1st VP and Secretary General Espen Lund, WAKO Mediterranean President Salim Kayici, WAKO Mediterranean Secretary General Tümay Ünal, and National Federation Presidents of the participating countries, such as Jesus Eguia (Spain) and Riccardo Bergamini (Italy), in the above picture.

WAKO

ATHLETES' COMMITTEE



WAKO Athletes' Committee: Delivered in 2026

WADA AC Elections | High-level Sportdiplomatic Representation
- WAKO AC managed to secure a WAKO-nominated WADA AC Member
- Last year: WAKO AC managed to secure a WAKO-nominated IWGA AC Member

Athletes Development
- Informing WAKO Athletes about relevant news & information in collaboration with the Media Committe
- Organized 2 development seminars by expert lecturers as the Online Development Seminar Series (September&December)

Participation at IOC Athlete Representatives and WADA Events
- Participation at briefings & video conference meetings of the IOC's Global Network of ACs
- Participation at WADA briefings and webinars

"Fighters Supporting Fighters"
- Contributing in organizing the WAKO Athlete Corner
- Contributing in the WAKO Rules Review process by direct feedback from Athletes



WAKO

FUTURE FOCUS



Future Focus

1. **IOC recognised Multi Sport Events 2027**
    1. European Games
    2. African Games
    3. Pan American Games
    4. ISF Games
2. **Development Committee 2027 (Growth)**
3. **Gamechangers Program**
4. **Calander (Baseline)**
5. **Development Seminars**
    1. Europe (Spain)
    2. Asia (Indonesia)
    3. Africa (TBC)
    4. Pan America (Panam)
    5. Oceania





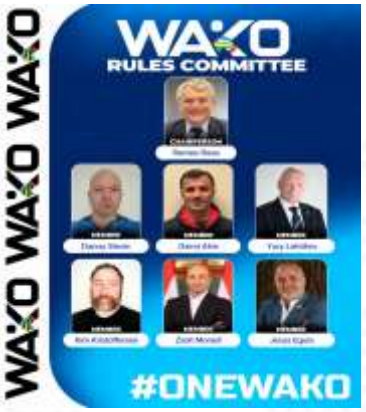
Appendix

WAKO COMMITTEE

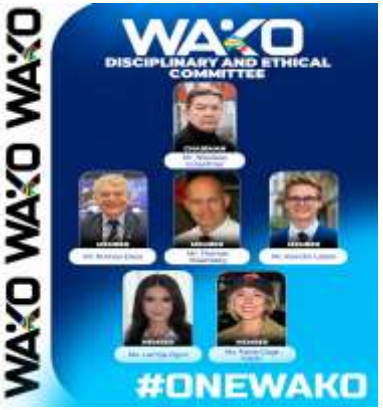


WAKO Committees

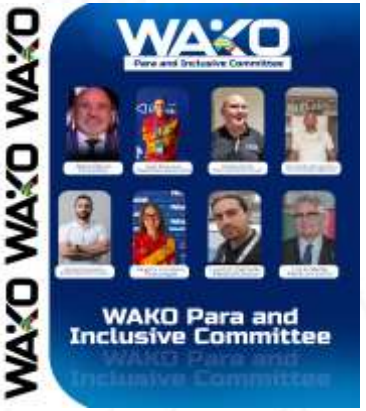




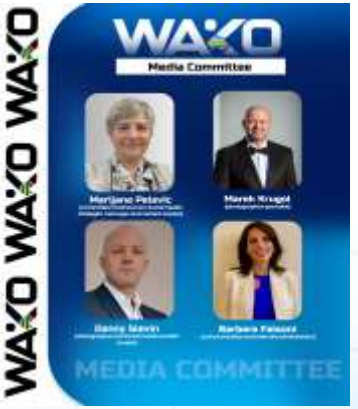




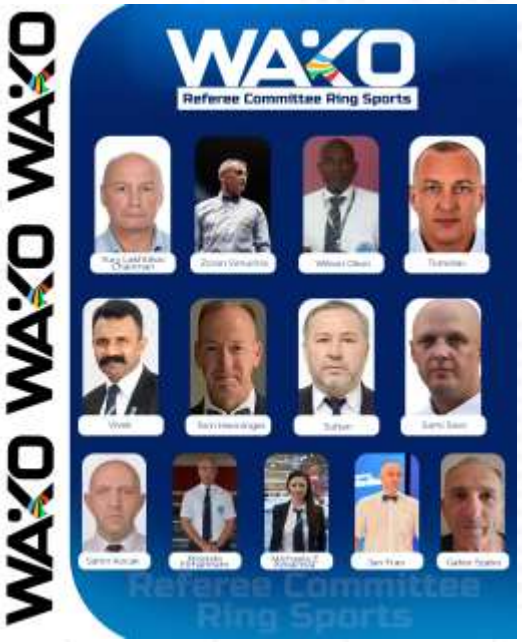




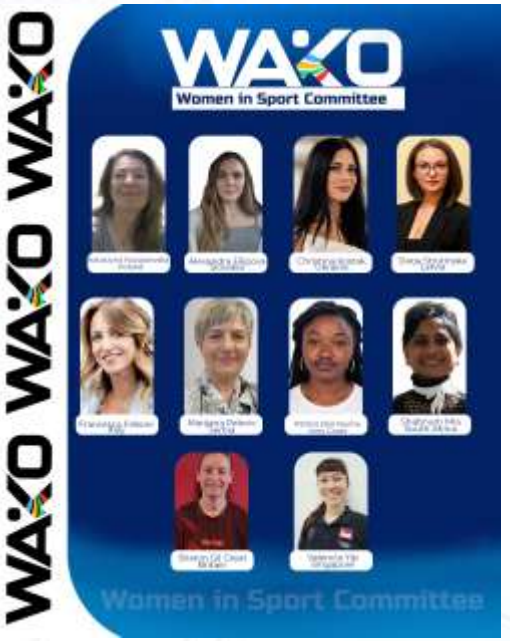




WAKO Committees







WAKO OFFICIALS



Tatami (Refereeing Report)

Country	A	B	C
Italia	15	7	26
Bulgaria	9	2	10
Germany	8	2	2
Croatia	8	2	2
Hungary	8	3	9
Slovakia	7	3	2
Slovenia	7	3	1
Greece	6	2	5
Poland	4	1	5
Belgium	4	1	2
Ukraine	4	2	6

Country	A	B	C
Austria	3	3	2
Norway	3	3	15
Ireland	2		5
GB	2	1	4
Spain	2	3	5
Canada	2		3
BIH	2	3	5
ALGERIA	2	1	11
USA	1	1	
Turkey	1	4	5
Sweden	1		3

Country	A	B	C
Suitzerland	1	1	2
Serbia	1	2	
Nederland	1		1
Moldova	1	1	2
Macedonia	1	1	6
Guatemala	1		
France	1		
Czeckia	1	1	4
Venezuela			3
Uzbekistan		1	1

Active referees in 2026

Tatami (Refereeing Report)

Country	A	B	C
UAE		1	3
Tunisia		1	1
Tjadikistan		3	8
Thailand		1	18
Syria			3
South Africa			1
Singapore			2
Romania			1
Puerto Rico			1
Portugal			1

Country	A	B	C
Paraguay			5
Palestine			1
Nepal			1
Montenegro		1	
Mexico		1	1
Lebanon		1	
Latvia			2
Kirgizistan			1
Kazakstan			5
Jordan		1	10
Israel			1

Country	A	B	C
Iraq		2	3
India		2	1
Estland			1
Egypt			5
Ecuador		1	4
Denmark			4
Cyprus			2
Chile			16
Brazil			9
Azerbadjan			2
Argentina		1	

Active referees in 2026

Tatami/Ring Events Report

Ring

Event	Partici-pants ring	Entries total	Numbe r of rings	Number of Referees
WC ITA	408	3868	4	51
WC THA	215	980	2	22
WC TUR	872	2979	5	65
WC HUN	677	3605*	4	47
WChamp JR	608	1859	4	57
WC UZB	?	?	4	40

*Including open

Tatami

Event	Entries tatami	Entries total	Tatamis	Referees
IWC	3417	3868	8	67
ThWC	749	980	4	35
TWC	2055	2979	80	9
HWC	2896	3605*	15	120
JNR	1251	1859	8	75
UWC	?	?	8	75

* incl open

Tatami/Ring Events Report

Ring

In 2026 we have already completed 4 of our 5 World Cups, with one more still to come later this year.

The Junior World Championships in Jesolo are approaching at the end of September, followed by the Senior European Championships in North Macedonia later this autumn.

During the year, we will have several new and upgraded A, B and C class referees joining our international referee structure.

Our main focus continues to be maintaining a high standard at major events while developing the next generation of international ring officials.

Tatami

In 2026 we have so far already done 4 of 5 World Cups, all with raising numbers compaired to earlier years*
The Juniors are just a couple of weeks away, we are finished planning, and ready to start with it as well.

The feedback from all promotors have been excellent!
Which I take as a confirmation on that the job we are doing at the events are as – or above expectations.

We still have some way to og regarding all aspects of tatami management and training of referees.
But we have had 5 new A licenced this year, and big numbers of C-licenced, which is according to our strategy – to get more international referees at starting level, and advance them cearfully.

A collaboration with ring, has really been successfull in the scandinavian countries, and the system is almost ready to roll it out to other regions.

* HWC was a little lower due to change of dates, but in total the numbers looks like its still growing.

Tatami/Ring Events Report

Ring

Our Development Seminars have shown us that there is a lot of potential around the world, together with a strong motivation to learn and develop in refereeing.

This gives us a very positive foundation for the future and confirms the importance of continuing referee education in all regions.

We have also given the green light to a new E-learning system. We have high expectations for it and believe it can make referee education more accessible and consistent worldwide.

The next step is to combine education, practical experience and continuous evaluation into an even stronger international referee system.

Tatami



There are new tatami commitees in both PanAm and Africa.
We are really looking forward to start collaborating with them.

Our new Referee Management System, is in its final stage, and will be rolled out.
This will enable us to have better controll of all sides of referee management, in and outside of tournaments.

The Kickboxing-Hub is comfirmed, and will be an important part of our further development.

Next year will be important on all levels, and we have started to prepare for that.

Ring Sport

Country	A	B	C	Total
.Algeria		2	4	6
.Argentiina			1	1
.Austria	1			1
.Australia			1	1
.Azerbaijan	3	3		6
.Belarus	1			1
.Belgium			1	1
.Bosnia&Herzegovina	2		1	3
.Brazil		2	10	12
.Bulgaria	4	2	2	8
.Canada	1			1
.Chile			5	5
.China		1	5	6
.Croatia	1			1

Country	A	B	C	Total
.Czechia	2			2
.Denmark			11	11
.Dominican Republic			4	4
.Ecuador			1	1
.Egypt	1	3	6	10
.El Salvador			1	1
.Estonia	3	2		5
.Finland	3		1	4
.France		2	2	4
.Germany	1			1
.Great Britain	1		1	2
.Greece	4	1		5
.Guatemala			2	2
.Honduras			1	1

Country	A	B	C	Total
.Hungary	2	1	2	5
.India	2	1	2	5
.Ireland	1			1
.Iraq			3	3
.Israel	3	2	13	18
.Italy	1	3	2	6
.Japan			1	1
.Jordan		1	4	5
.Kazakhstan	4		2	6
.Korea	1			1
.Kosovo			1	1
.Kyrgyzstan		2	1	3
.Latvia	1	1		2
.Lebanon		1	1	2

Ring Sport

Country	A	B	C	Total
.Libya			3	3
.Lithuania	1	2		3
.Mauritius		1	1	2
.Mexico			1	1
.Moldova	2		3	5
.Montenegro			1	1
.Morocco	1			1
.New Zealand		1		1
.Nicaragua			1	1
.Norway	2		6	8
.Palestine	1		2	3
.Panama			1	1
.Poland	5	1		6
.Portugal		1		1

Country	A	B	C	Total
.Saudi Arabia		1	6	7
.Senegal			2	2
.Serbia	2			2
.Slovakia	2		1	3
.Slovenia	1			1
.South Africa			8	8
.Spain	2			2
.Switzerland	1			1
.Syria		1		1
.Thailand	1	5	20	26
.Tunisia		1		1
.Turkiye	5	6	39	50
.Ukraine	3		1	4
.United Arab Emirates		4	10	14

Country	A	B	C	Total
.USA	2	1	1	4
.Uzbekistan	2	2	6	10
.Venezuela			2	2
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Seeding Events 2026



January 2026								
WAKO Europe B Class	Q	23	25	EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CUP Athens Challenge Open	Greece	2363	263	32
March 2026								
WAKO A Class	Q	10	15	WAKO WORLD CUP Italian Kickboxing World Cup	Italy	3868	425	43
WAKO Panamerica B Class	Q	28	29	PANAMERICAN CONTINENTAL CUP 1/2 Brazil Open - Tatami sports	Brazil	95	7	7
April 2026								
WAKO A Class	Q	7	12	WAKO WORLD CUP 2nd Thai Open WAKO World Cup	Thailand	980	44	30
WAKO Europe B Class	Q	30	May 3	EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL CUP Varaždin Open Kickboxing Cup	Croatia	2795	299	31
May 2026								
WAKO A Class	Q	13	17	WAKO WORLD CUP 11th Turkish Open World Cup	Türkiye	2979	97	43
June 2026								
WAKO Africa A Class	Q	21	27	AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP African Championships 2026	Cameroon	122		11
July 2026								
POSTPONED	Q	3	5	PANAMERICAN CONTINENTAL CUP 2/2 Brazil Open - Ring Sports	Brazil			
August 2026								
WAKO Panamerica A Class	Q	12	16	PANAMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS Seniors and masters	Chile	420		16
WAKO Panamerica B Class	Q	12	16	SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS PANAMERICAN YOUTH CONTINENTAL CUP	Chile	261		9
WAKO A Class	Q	27	30	WAKO WORLD CUP 31st Hungarian Kickboxing World Cup	Hungary	3012		47
September 2026								
WAKO A Class	Q	18	27	WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS for Children, Cadets and Juniors	Italy	3822		78
October 2026								
WAKO Panamerica B Class	Q	10	12	PANAMERICAN CONTINENTAL CUP 2/2 Brazil Open - Ring Sports	Brazil			
WAKO A Class	Q	13	18	WAKO WORLD CUP Uzbekistan World Cup	Uzbekistan			
November 2026								
WAKO Europe A Class	Q	6	15	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS for Seniors and Masters	North Macedonia			
December 2026								
WAKO Africa B Class	Q	2	7	AFRICAN CONTINENTAL CUP International Kickboxing Egypt Open	Egypt			
WAKO ASIA A Class	Q	12	21	ASIAN KICKBOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS for Seniors and Masters	Cambodia			