



ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

YEAR: 2016

This document of Annual Report Activity of 2016 is made in relation to the Strategic Plan of IFMA. In the following parts are IFMA strategic objectives and activity reports from 2016.

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MUAYTHAI ENTERS AS PROUD MEMBER OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

Muaythai enters as Proud Member of the Olympic Movement

An International Federation Recognised by



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE



In partnership with



2016 MAJOR EVENTS

2016 Major Events

2016 IFMA World Championship, Jonkoping, Sweden

Date: 18 May – 28 May 2016

Asian Beach Games, Danang, Vietnam

Date: 24 September – 3 October 2016

2016 IFMA European Championship, Split, Croatia

Date: 22– 29 October 2016

2016 Youth World Championship, Bangkok, Thailand

Date: 27 August – 2 September 2016

2016 Cheongju World Martial Arts Masterships

Date: 02– 08 September 2016

IFMA'S STORY

IFMA's Story

The International Federation of Muaythai Associations (IFMA) began as a small federation with several enthusiastic countries, more than two decades ago. After the passage of the initial stages of its life and at the dawn of an exciting new century, IFMA had grown to 130 member countries worldwide with 5 continental federations, together existing under a single, unified regulatory body. IFMA accepts and recognises the mission and role of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). IFMA will always conform and respect the Olympic charter, adopting the code of ethics based on the principles of the IOC.



The fundamental principles of Olympism include the sustainable development of sport, the education of youth through sport and recognising the practice of sport as a basic human right. To that end, IFMA's mission is that every individual must have the opportunity to practice Muaythai free of discrimination of any kind be it racial, gender, sexual orientation, religious or political and IFMA will continue its work toward this right and freedom for all.

IFMA has established various commissions to oversee and develop on areas of social responsibility, universality, ethics, youth and education, prevention of competition manipulation and activities for all. The commissions liaise with stakeholders of the Olympic movement to ensure the adherence to the Olympic movement, code of ethics and function with transparency and good governance.

Muaythai through IFMA has come a long way since its first World Championships held in 1993 where a mere twenty countries participated. In the most recent World Championships the participation was overwhelming with contestants and dignitaries from 101 countries in attendance. Another significant progression in the globalisation of Muaythai took place at the 1995 South East Asian Games when, for the first time since the inception of IFMA, Muaythai was included as a sport in which both genders could compete while representing their country over various different divisions. Since then muaythai has been included in official sport programme of many other Continental multi-sport Games such as the Asian Beach Games and Indoor Asian Martial Art Games and as a demonstration sport in the Asian Games in 1998.

IFMA'S STORY

In 1995 the World Muaythai Council was set up by the Royal Thai Government Under Parliament Resolution to foster and promote all aspects of muaythai and to protect the cultural heritage of muaythai. In 1998, the WMC and IFMA signed an MOU to solely work with each other, with the WMC regulating professional muaythai and IFMA amateur muaythai. It was agreed that both organisations would have executive level representation and that the WMC and IFMA would not work with any other muaythai organisation. In 2014, His Majesty the King granted patronage to the World Muaythai Council.



1999 was a historic year for Asia as IFMA and Muaythai gained recognition by the Olympic Committee of Asia. After 8 world championships in South East Asia, 2003 saw the IFMA World Championship held in Kazakhstan with 78 countries participating. In 2006 history was made, as Muaythai became a full member of the World Sporting Community with its inclusion in GAISF. Thus, IFMA sits proudly alongside all other world-recognised international sport federations, as a recognised member of the world sporting family with unmatched access to knowledge sharing and resources via the SportAccord Convention.



IFMA'S STORY

2008 was another exciting year for Muaythai with the IFMA World Championships, which was a part of The Association for International Sport for All's (TAFISA) World Sport for All Games (Busan, Korea) under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). This raised the profile of Muaythai as an internationally recognised sport in particular through the activities of IFMA in promoting Muaythai as a medium for cultural exchange and to raise awareness of this aspect of the sport. IFMA values the importance of ensuring that muaythai, as a cultural heritage would be protected and would promote and foster all aspects of Muaythai regardless for health, fitness, self-defence or competition. IFMA's slogan is "Muaythai for Every Body" and to develop Muaythai as a way of life.



Furthermore, IFMA was praised by luminaries such as representatives from the IOC for its work with children from marginalised or disadvantaged backgrounds by promoting Muaythai as a route for development. IFMA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Peace and Sport Organisation (L'Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport) in December 2010. This understanding between the two organisations was seen as a great step forward in the quest to continue making a difference in the lives of children through exposure to the sport, its values, culture and the traditions that are the core of Muaythai. IFMA also works in close cooperation with UN Women and signed an MOU to cooperate on the campaign the End Violence against Women (EVAW).



IFMA'S STORY

IFMA's members are charged with the task of achieving recognition by their relevant national sport authorities and/or National Olympic Committees. IFMA assists its members toward WADA compliance at all times, and encourages its members to work and develop in areas of integrity and social responsibilities. To that end, IFMA aims at building up cooperation with recognised social institutions.



IFMA's cultural exchange program involving kids from over 60 countries received the highest accolades from private and public sector as well as IOC members. Such exchanges amongst others include Jamaica and Thailand where Thai children selected from the Muaythai Against Drugs program provided a demonstration alongside Jamaican children. This integration between the cultural exchange programs and the IFMA's activities combating social ills is an important element in our objectives and will be aided by the future of our partnership with Peace and Sport.

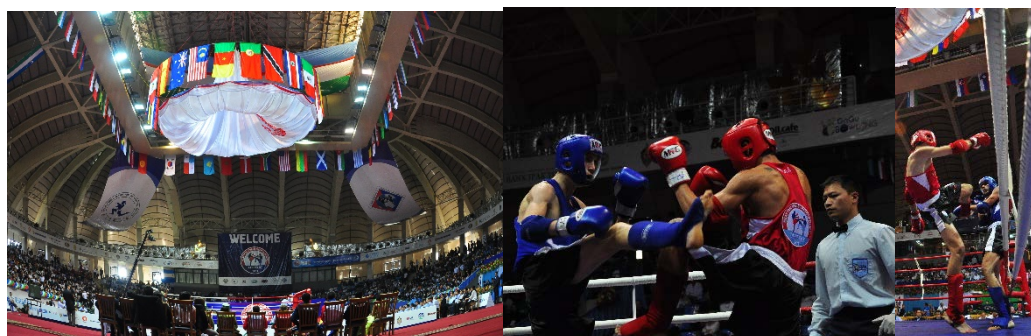


April 2012 marked the launch of IFMA's latest social project in cooperation with the Peace & Sport Organisation, entitled "Sport Is Your Gang"; a project utilising Muaythai to improve the lives of disadvantaged and marginalised youths. After only two years since its launching, Sport Is Your Gang was given the highest award for social campaigns in sport - 'Spirit of Sport', the annual award from SportAccord that marks the greatest impact sport makes for the youth.

IFMA'S STORY



2010 marked yet another major milestone for Muaythai and IFMA with the SportAccord Combat Games under patronage of the IOC, in Beijing. IFMA's Muaythai event received accolades from SportAccord and the Beijing Organising Committee for having the largest numbers of participants and spectators in attendance.



2011 saw the World Championship in Uzbekistan with 90 countries in attendance, which was praised as a festival of culture, friendship and sport.

In April 2012, IFMA marked the official launch of the 'Muaythai towards IOC' campaign at a special gala event in which IFMA lodged its Letter of Intent to apply for IOC recognition to IOC Member Dr CK Wu in the presence of the President of SportAccord, Mr Hein Verbruggen and World Games Association. At the same time, an application to be included in the International World Games Association was handed to Mr. Ron Froehlich, President of the International World Games Association.



IFMA'S STORY

2012 also saw the IFMA World Championship in St Petersburg, Russia with 92 countries participating and IFMA also receiving the honour of being the official test event for the 2013 World Combat Games.



The following year 2013 marked the inclusion of Muaythai and IFMA into the International World Games Association (IWGA) an IOC recognised organisation. The same year saw the 2nd edition of the World Combat games under patronage of the IOC and Muaythai had the highest viewership ratings for any non-Olympic sport. The same year, history was also made when the Muaythai television show 'The Challenger Muaythai' was nominated for an international Emmy with over 400 million viewers around the world.



IFMA'S STORY

2014 was a truly successful year for Muaythai, with its inclusion in the official sports program of the World Games only 1 year after being recognised. Muaythai also won the Spirit of Sport Award for their outstanding contribution to society. The World Championship was held in Malaysia and Muaythai broke the 100-country mark with 101 countries participating. Furthermore, Muaythai was officially included in the Asian Beach Games, and after being the demonstration sport in the Asian Games, is now fully included in the Asian Indoor and Martial Art Games and the journey continues. That same year, IFMA signed an MoU with UN Women to collaborate on the UN Secretary General's campaign UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls and to advocate for gender equality.



2015 started immediately with the good news of FISU giving patronage to the first ever IFMA Muaythai University World Cup and history was again made in April 2015 when FISU officially recognised IFMA and included muaythai into the FISU World University Championship programme. 2015 also saw the IFMA Royal World Cup in Bangkok with a new record of 120 participating countries. IFMA, from 2009 – 2016 was also one of the 23 members in the Alliance of Independent Recognised Members of Sport (AIMS), one of the four umbrella groups in SportAccord. Currently, IFMA General Secretary Stephan Fox serves as President of AIMS.



IFMA'S STORY



An important MoU was also signed with UNESCO towards continued youth development, gender sensitivity, intercultural dialogue and implementation of the Quality Physical Education (QPE) guidelines in the IFMA educational platform. The IGLA Education curriculum was also launched this year, formalising and standardising the grading and teaching of muaythai worldwide. The programme is aimed at protecting the cultural and traditional aspects of the sport. Another achievement in 2016 was

IFMA General Secretary Stephan Fox becoming Vice President of SportAccord.

To date, IFMA has organised 20 World Championships. IFMA prides itself on combining sport, education and cultural understanding. To that end, annual Congresses are held in major cities in cooperation with stakeholders from the Olympic Family.

IFMA'S STORY



On December 6th 2016, the IOC Executive Board granted provisional recognition to IFMA, which is a testament to the work done by IFMA and its member National Federations towards protecting and promoting the Olympic values. The recognition propels IFMA to move on from AIMS to become members of the Association of IOC Recognised Sport Federations (ARISF), joining all other IOC recognised sports that are not on the Olympic Games Programme. IFMA will continue to build on the 5 pillars of Muaythai that are: respect, honour, fair-play, excellence and tradition.

MUAYTHAI DISCIPLINES

Muaythai Disciplines

The foundations of muaythai is built on five important pillars; Tradition, Respect, Honour, Excellence & Fairplay. The different disciplines in muaythai are practiced for various reasons. It can be for fitness, self-defence, competition or as a cultural art form. Muaythai is in essence a way of life.

The disciplines in muaythai include:

Muaythai (Muay)

Muay Boran

Krabi Krabong

Muay Talay

Muay Fitness

Wai Kru

Muaythai, also known as Muay, Thai Boxing or Thai Kick-Boxing is the competition sport which is either competed at the professional level over 5 rounds of 3 minutes each, or by amateur rules over 3 rounds of 3 minutes each. It is known as the sport of eight limbs where practitioners utilise their fists, elbows, shins and knees. Amateur practitioners wear a head guard, elbow guards, shin guards and gloves whilst the professional use only the gloves. Under IFMA's auspices its professional wing the World Muaythai Council or WMC regulates and governs all professional rules and competitions internationally.

This discipline of **MUAYTHAI** is included into the official programme of many multi-sport games such as the World Games, the FISU World University Championship programme, Asian Beach Games, Asian Indoor & Martial Art Games, World Combat Games, SEA Games, TAFISA Games and many others.



MUAYTHAI DISCIPLINES

Muay Boran is the umbrella term for “Hand-to-Hand Combat” or self-defense in muaythai. In Thailand It is composed of five disciplines – Muay Chaiya, Muay Korat, Muay Lopburi, Muay Tahsauh and Muay Pala Sueksa (or Muay Panakorn). They can be identified by their different stances and techniques. Muay boran bouts were traditionally fought with rope bindings on the hands (Kad Chuek). Today, competitions are held as either demonstrations with very little contact or full contact.



Krabi Krabong is the weapon based discipline of muaythai. The system includes the main weapons; the curved sword (Krabi) and staff (Krabong).



MUAYTHAI DISCIPLINES

Muay Talay is a fun take on muaythai and is competed on the beach or over a body of water. Competitors compete whilst sitting on a beam using balance and strength, the victor being the opponent which remains on the pole.



Muay Aerobic (Muay Fitness) is a total work out programme which includes muaythai training tools such as pad work, bag work, circuit and body strength training. Fitness centres around the world use this unique high-calorie burning work out programme either in one to one personal training (PT) sessions or group circuit training sessions.

IFMA HONOURS THE PASSED

IFMA Honours the Passed

The Royal World Cup 2015 was an outstanding event with the record number of participating teams, strong support of the Minister of Tourism of Sport of Thailand and attendance of distinguished guests from IOC, FISU, IWGA, AIMS and many other VIPs who gave a special status to this event.

The Muaythai Award Gala Night was indeed one of the glittering highlights of the event where over 3000 people including embassies of participating countries gathered to share the glory of the teams and athletes who came to Thailand to promote the image of their countries on the highest level.

The night gave tribute to the teams, coaches, athletes, host cities, television shows and social initiatives who have contributed to muaythai nation- and worldwide.

Tradition has always been one of the pillars of muaythai and a special award was given posthumously to one of the pioneers of muaythai in Europe and one of the first athletes proving to the world that muaythai is truly an international sport – Ramon Dekker.

The Muaythai Organisation of the Netherlands were honoured to receive a symbolic mongkol for Ramon Dekker which has been honored in a very special and emotional moment of the gala for the contribution he has made to the sport and art.



Shortly before the New Year, the MON Secretary General, Duran Ebren kept his promise bringing home the mongkol to the members of his family.

IFMA always remembers and honours its heroes and no matter how much time may pass, the memory of outstanding athletes will live on in the new generations of athletes whom will hear from their coaches and teachers the stories of such legends as the great Ramon Dekker.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASEAN REGIONAL FEDERATION

Establishment of the ASEAN Regional Federation

A special FAMA meeting took place in Bangkok with the formation of the ASEAN Muaythai Federation, a regional association under IFMA and FAMA, like many others such as the West Asian Muaythai Federation. IFMA President, Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan welcomed all the delegates in Bangkok for this important meeting.

The President of FAMA, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Mr. Karim Massimov was represented by Mr. Farhat Amankulov at the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mervyn Tan, President of Singapore Muaythai Association and FAMA General Secretary. Only Southeast Asian federations which are recognised by their NOCs have been invited and all have been sent by their NOC namely, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand all joined hands. The main subject was the formation and also the cooperation of all the countries.



SOCIAL IMPACT: SPORT IS YOUR GANG MEXICO REACHES FOUR FIGURES

Social Impact: Sport Is Your Gang Mexico Reaches Four Figures

Elisa Salinas, the IFMA Executive Board member has built Sport Is Your Gang in Mexico in 12 different states and over 1000 kids are now enrolled in this IFMA initiative which won the 2014 Spirit of Sport Award. Using the power of sport to make a difference to take kids from the street, give them a belonging in the sport family and at the same time show them that sport can open doors to many possibilities.



Many of these kids are street kids or came from a low social background. Sport Is Your Gang gives them a safe place under close supervision not just to exercise but to communicate. Sport Is Your Gang works closely together with many other government groups to try to integrate these kids into the school system where they can have access to proper education, medical assistance, and also social workers which study the backgrounds of the kids.

Elisa Salinas says she must thank all the volunteers of the Mexican Muaythai Federation, the partner social institutions and the smiles on the kids' faces which encourage us to work even harder. Many South American countries follow the steps of Ms. Salinas and while some countries like Peru already fully adopted the good practice from Mexico, others begin to implement the experience and see the new beginning of the Muaythai movement.

INCLUSION IN THE SEA GAMES

Inclusion in the SEA Games

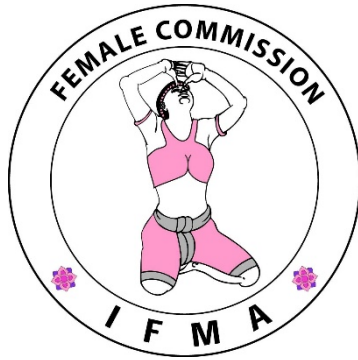


It was a truly historical day for our South East Asian member federations, as muaythai (muay) has been officially included into the SEA Games for the 2017 edition in Kuala Lumpur. Tan Sri Tunku Imran Tuanku Jaafar, President of the Olympic Council of Malaysia has announced the final 38 sports with the final 4 being judo, triathlon, fencing as the 3 Olympic sports and muaythai (muay) as the 4th and only non-Olympic sport to be added into the final 4 spots.



FEMALE DEVELOPMENT

Female Development



2016 was a year for IFMA to make further important steps in ensuring that sport is accessible to everyone. IFMA was part of many events focused on female empowerment and used its champions as a model to follow.

The Afghanistan Muaythai Federation once again organised the Afghanistan Female Muaythai Championship in the Afghan capital city of Kabul to continue to promote gender equality as part of IFMA Right for all participation in sport.

Female athletes from all over the country arrived in Kabul to compete for the right to represent Afghanistan at the upcoming IFMA World Championships in Sweden.



FEMALE DEVELOPMENT

In Portugal one of the IFMA executive board members for many years Ms. Ana Vital Melo who is also one of the 8 female presidents in the IFMA National Federations and an important IFMA ExCo member.

Ana is heavily involved in IFMA UN Women campaign and is an active participant in many national government and sporting projects.

Muaythai in Portugal under Ana's presidency is fully recognized by the NOC and Sports Ministry. This year Ana was invited to the NOC Portugal for a conference dedicated to an increasingly important role of women in the sports industry.

Italian Muaythai Federation (FIMT) in cooperation with the Martinetti Caluso Institute hosted a regular muaythai workshop showcasing muaythai as the total body workout and realistic female self defense.

One of the most active IFMA members in Europe under the presidency of Mr. Davide Carlot FIMT hosted this important workshop which coincided with the upcoming International Women's Day. Originally only 80 spots have been given to the various institutions but in the end more than 100 girls participated in the project.



In Morocco An IFMA World Champion which has qualified for the 2017 World Games has received the highest honour from His Majesty King Mohammed the 7th of Morocco. Maryam El Moubarik won the gold medal at the IFMA World Championships and became the first Arabic girl qualifying for the 2017 World Games, making the entire country proud when his Majesty honoured her with a national order of merit.

IFMA GETS A SEAT ON THE SPORTACCORD BOARD

IFMA Gets a Seat on the SportAccord Board



It is no doubt fantastic news for IFMA, the credibility it brings, but more so a true testament to the tireless work of our General Secretary in the world of sport and recognition of his continued efforts for the development of sport and always placing the good of the athlete first.

In his capacity of the President of AIMS Mr. Fox took the seat of the SportAccord Vice President.

Mr. P. Baumann, FIBA Secretary General, (ASOIF)

Ms. K. Caithness, WCF President, (AIOWF)

Ms. M. Casado, ITU President, (ASOIF)

Mr. R. Chiulli, UIM President (ARISF)

Mr. S. Fox, IFMA Secretary General (AIMS)

Mr. R. Fraccari, WBSC President (ARISF)

Mr. G.F. Kasper, FIS President, (AIOWF)

Mr. N. Lalovic, UWW President, (ASOIF)

Mr. J. Perurena, IWGA President, (Associate Members)

2013 - Successfully building educational and school programmes

IFMA SIGNS MOU WITH UNESCO

IFMA Signs MoU with UNESCO



For over twenty years IFMA has used the power of sport, to contribute to communities. Alone we can only do so much; united we can achieve so much more.

To that end, important partnerships have been formed with organisations like Peace & Sport, Generations for Peace, UNWomen and now, also with UNESCO.

One of the concepts IFMA has followed for over 10 years is transforming impoverished areas through sport, constructing public sport complexes with free access for all, enhancing inclusive and sustainable urbanization.

Solid initiatives have already been launched and developed in countries like Mexico, Thailand, Peru and South Africa just to name just a few. The IFMA Sport Is Your Gang Project is implemented in over fifty countries around the world and won the Spirit of Sport award in 2014.

UNESCO and IFMA agreed to the cooperation in recognition of sport's potential to contribute to development and peace. The cooperation will aim to foster intercultural dialogue through muaythai, promote physical literacy and create inclusive communities through the transformation of impoverished areas. IFMA, like UNESCO promotes physical education and sport as a fundamental human right.

UNESCO Spokesperson for Social and Human Rights Dr. Sue Vize attended the IFMA Youth World Championships and was particularly impressed on the cultural exchange programmes initiated by IFMA for its young participants, and on IFMA's capacity to organise and more importantly to deliver large scale programmes on cultural understanding, unity in diversity, with a focus on the youth. IFMA will continue to work with the youth on all level and use the sport of Muaythai to transform lives of the kids all over the world.

IFMA RECEIVES IOC RECOGNITION

IFMA Receives IOC Recognition



Muaythai is a martial art and combat sport with over 1,000 years of tradition, but December 6th 2016 will shape the next 1,000 years, as muaythai was granted provisional recognition by the IOC Executive Board. In an official letter to IFMA President Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan, the IOC congratulated IFMA “on its achievements in the development of the federation and the sport”

IFMA President Dr Tapsuwan was overjoyed by the news which was the culmination of the work over many years by the IFMA to foster, develop and promote the Olympic values through the five pillars of muaythai: Honour, Respect, Fair Play, Tradition, and Excellence.

IFMA Sport Director Charissa Tynan stated “We lodged our intent to apply for the IOC recognition on April 3rd 2012 at a special gala event, handing over the letter of intent to IOC member CK Wu and former SportAccord President Hein Verbruggen along with our application to be included into the International World Games Association (IWGA) which was handed over to IWGA former President Ron Froelich. We received recognition by the IWGA in 2013 and in 2014 were official included as an official medal sport in the World Games. That was already a glorious moment for IFMA and our athletes. The journey continued in 2015 when IFMA gained recognition by FISU and were included into the FISU World University Championships. IFMA then continued on this trajectory to fulfil the important criteria set by the IOC to be a recognised international federation; and today we must thank the IOC for their trust and we promise that we shall continue to develop and build the sport following the Olympic values and principles. Our athletes now stand proud under the Five rings while at the same time understand the responsibility that follows.”

IFMA RECEIVES IOC RECOGNITION



IFMA General Secretary Stephan Fox noted “a lifelong dream of so many has finally been achieved. IFMA is a unique family. From the top to the bottom, from the bottom to the top, our muaythai anthem says it all. We are one. This is the achievement of all; the hard working National Federations which volunteer their time, our Executive Board whom have served with passion for so many years, our technical officials whom ensure that Fair Play is observed on all levels; our educators and coaches whom continually develop the sport and athletes. All of us have one goal. To protect, guide, pave the way and at the same time listen to our most important asset: our Athletes, our Youth. They will carry the Olympic values, the values of our sport both in and out of the field of play to a time when we are all but dust and memories.”

IFMA would like to thank ARISF for evaluating our application in such a professional manner and welcoming us into the family of IOC recognised IFs. We would like to thank all our fellow AIMS members and pledge our continued support for the AIMS family. Finally, we would like to thank the IOC Sports Department for their utmost professionalism and guidance; and the IOC Executive Board members led by its President Dr. Bach for the trust and belief that IFMA has deserved IOC recognition and that IFMA will be a valuable addition to the IOC family.

2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2016 Financial Statement

IFMA is a non-profit organisation with the mission and vision of promoting and fostering all aspects of muaythai whilst building a better world through the power of sport. IFMA ensures the credibility of the organisation, its values and missions and publishes the financial reports as IFMA strongly believes in transparency.

The financial reporting which is done on a yearly basis, is presented by the finance commission. A report is provided by external auditors and presented to the general assembly. After approval, it is published on the website.

INCOME STATEMENT 2016

REVENUE	2016 \$ USD	2015 \$ USD
Membership Fees	108,500.00	107,000.00
Sponsorship/Donations	414,000.00	394,500.00
Miscellaneous Income	5,900.00	640.00
Advertising & TV Rights	316,000.00	309,400.00
Licensing and Event Income	315,000.00	286,470.00
Merchandising Revenue	62,600.00	69,720.00
Equipment Approval Fees	0.00	53,678.00
TOTAL REVENUE	1,222,000.00	1,221,408.00

EXPENSES	2016 \$ USD	2015 \$ USD
Administration		
IFMA Staff Salary	162,000.00	139,810.00
Office Operating Expenses	124,800.00	116,470.00
Communication Expenses	30,600.00	31,480.00
	317,400.00	287,760.00
IFMA Meetings	79,600.00	86,400.00
Travel Expenses	71,600.00	44,700.00
Anti-Doping Development	92,400.00	69,200.00
Development & Activity Expenses		

2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Annual SportAccord Expenses	52,600.00	53,046.00
SportAccord World Combat Games	0.00	0.00
International Games Support	96,800.00	85,290.00
Event Expenses	149,000.00	142,600.00
Promotional Materials	12,600.00	19,400.00
Marketing Expenses	22,600.00	29,500.00
TV Production Expenses	92,400.00	174,880.00
Youth development	112,500.00	92,800.00
IFMA Associate Organisation Membership	7,100.00	6,900.00
	545,600.00	604,416.00
Charitable Projects	95,000.00	82,400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,201,600.00	1,174,876.00
PROFIT	20,400.00	46,532.00

2016 EVENTS: SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2016 Events: Senior World Championships

Date: 18 May – 28 May 2016

City: Jonkopping

Nation: Sweden

Organisers: IFMA/ Jonkopping 2016 local organising committee

Frequency: Annual



With the population of Sweden being over 9 million citizens IFMA can boast that every 5th Swedish citizen watched the World Championships on TV. This was the official statistics announced by the partnering TV Channel making muaythai one of the most watched sport events in Sweden. The semi final and final days have set the record with over 2 million people watching.

Ever since SportAccord World Combat Games 2013 in Sankt Petersburg, Russia, where muaythai was the most watched sport among non-Olympic sports with 23 million viewers, and only the third viewed from all sports including Olympic in the official programme, muaythai continues its positive momentum in gaining followers on the spectatorship stands, television and internet.

Sweden, being one of the leaders in digital progress gave millions of viewers a possibility to enjoy the World Championships on TV, and for many others internet streaming was organised which let them share the moment of glory of the world champions 2016.

This has also been a fantastic promotion for the 2017 World Games in Wroclaw as this event was another official qualifier with further qualifying events being held in Vietnam, Croatia, Peru, Morocco, Kazan to select the best of the best to promote the 2017 World Games.

2016 EVENTS: EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2016 Events: European Championships

Date: 22 – 29 October 2016

City: Split

Nation: Croatia

Organisers: IFMA/ Split 2016 local organising committee

Frequency: Annual



Split was the host city for the 2016 IFMA European Championships which also served as the European Qualifier for the 2017 World Games scheduled to be held in Wroclaw Poland in July.

2016 European EMF-IFMA Muaythai Championships, was held in one of the most historical and beautiful cities in Europe, Split, under the patronage of NOC and Sports Ministry of Croatia, just received the highest honour. The President of the country, Ms Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic gave her patronage to the event.

Gold medalists in eight male divisions (54,67,63.5,67,71,75,81,91 KG) and 3 female divisions (51,54,60 KG) joined the already qualified athletes from the 2015 Royal World Cup and 2016 IFMA World Championships to enter the final pool of 88 athletes competing at the 2017 World Games with a total of 11 divisions each with 8 athletes each.

2016 EVENTS: YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2016 Events: Youth World Championships

Date: 24 August – 1 September 2016

City: Bangkok

Nation: Thailand

Organisers: IFMA/ Pattaya 2018 local organising committee
/DPE & MOTS

Frequency: Bi-Annual



Teams from 60 countries are arriving in Bangkok this week for the IFMA Youth championships confirmed by the world governing body IFMA.

The championships start tomorrow with the young athletes and their support arriving in the Thai capital this week. Up to 1,000 people are expected altogether. Many countries including Canada, Belgium and Australia arrived early to take advantage of the training opportunities in the city, Thailand being the home of Muaythai.

Many of the children took a few hours off to visit local schools and swap gifts and songs. Some really moving moments took place, crossing the language barriers with ease.

Athletes from the five continents travelled to schools around the city bringing cultural gifts.

The New Zealand team did a traditional Haka dance to the delight of the Thai students. And in return one group of Thai musicians demonstrated how to play traditional instruments including the gamelan used at Muaythai shows.

After previous editions, in Turkey, Uzbekistan, Russia, Malaysia, it was Bangkok's turn to host the Youth Conference as part of the Youth World Championship 2016.

The theme was Youth, Education and the Future of Sport. The ball room at the Ambassador Hotel was packed to capacity with 800 athletes and officials from all 5 continents listening to presentations.

2016 EVENTS: CHEONGJU WORLD MARTIAL ARTS MASTERSHIPS

2016 Events: Cheongju World Martial Arts Masterships

Date: 02 August – 10 August 2018

City: Bangkok

Nation: Thailand

Organisers: IFMA/ Bangkok 2018 local organising committee
/ National Federation of Muaythai Thailand

Frequency: Annual



2019 CHUNGJU WORLD MARTIAL ARTS MASTERSHIPS

Muaythai was one of the most popular sports during the World Martial Arts Masterships held in the beautiful city of Cheong Ju. 17 combat sports participated in this amazing event and the Cheong Ju Olympic Memorial Civic Centre was packed for the entire competition as team Korea demonstrated why they are one of the leading National Federations in Asia, fully recognised by the NOC of Korea

President Yeo said that he is proud of the three gold medals Korea won on the final day as Thailand sent outstanding athletes. Candice Mitchell from Canada showed again why female Muaythai in Canada is going from strong to stronger by winning the gold medal. Two male highlight bouts were at 67 kg with Kazakh athlete Nikolay Sammusev beating the Thai champion in an outstanding performance, and in the 81 kg division the big match Korea vs USA, the big hitters which put the stadium on fire when the Korean champion won.

2016 EVENTS: ASIAN BEACH GAMES

2016 Events: Asian Beach Games

Date: 24 September – 03 October 2016

City: Danang

Nation: Vietnam

Organisers: Olympic Council of Asia

Frequency: Quadrennial



The medals were spread between 18 countries, a success on its own with history being made with Singapore, Jordan, Hong Kong, India, Lebanon winning gold on this historical day.

IFMA and the Muaythai athletes received the highest honour when the IOC President made a personal visit to the IFMA event at the 5th Asian Beach Games in Da Nang Vietnam. President Bach had shown support for the IFMA championships with a personalised message at the Royal World Cup, but it was the first time that an IOC president sat ringside at any Muaythai competition, experiencing the traditions and atmosphere Muaythai has as a martial art and combat sport.

2016 EVENTS: IFMA WORLD CUP

2016 Events: IFMA World Cup

Date: 20– 27 November 2016

City: Kazan

Nation: Russia

Organisers: IFMA / Kazan 2019 Local Organising Committee

Frequency: Biennial



Athletes from 35 countries have been invited to participate in the next round of World Games qualifiers for Muaythai. 280 athletes will compete in 11 weight divisions over 4 days of intense competition to book their spot for the 2017 World Games.

Gold medalists in eight male divisions (54,67,63.5,67,71,75,81,91 KG) and 3 female divisions (51,54,60 KG) will join the already qualified athletes from the 2015 Royal World Cup, 2016 IFMA World Championships and 2016 European Championships to enter the final pool of 88 athletes competing at the 2017 World Games where there will be a total of 11 divisions each with 8 athletes each.

IFMA Sport Director Charissa Tynan stated “This event will give the runner-ups from the World Championships and Continental Championships another chance to qualify for this elite event!”

Dr. Erdogan, IFMA Executive Board member and Chair of IFMA Medical Commission stated “Extreme measures have been taken to ensure that doping controls are up to standard. To that end, we have engaged Clearidium a leading Anti-Doping test provider based in Denmark to handle sample collection and delivery to a WADA accredited Laboratory for the event.”

Kazan has hosted some amazing events in the last years like the 2013 Universiade and 2015 FINA World Championships among many others.

A full day was scheduled for the IFMA family to participate with the children in various discussions and to learn more about the re-socialising activities and sport projects that exist for the kids. The team was warmly welcomed by Ms. Olga Ivanovna Pavlova, a member of Russian Parliament and outstanding former athlete. The team, accompanied with President of the Muaythai Federation of the Republic of Tatarstan Mr. Robert Khaliullin and his trainee – Eduard Shigin, were taken on a tour of the history of Raifa that dates back

2016 EVENTS: IFMA WORLD CUP

to 1933 and the objectives of the special programmes. The educational programme includes basic professional education, secondary education and supplementary education; with teachers and staff that perform medical, social and psychological rehabilitation of deviant children. Special craft and skill programmes ensure the alumni graduate with a working trade. The team also visited basketball and volleyball matches held in the framework of School Spartakiad Games.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Recognition of National Federations

The application for membership in the National Olympic Committee was placed on Friday the 30th of September by the Executive Board of the Muaythai Association of Finland. The application was accepted and approved in the Olympic Committee's Annual General Meeting on the 26th of November. This is indeed a wonderful achievement and success due to the great efforts of the Association under the leadership of its President Antti Naakka.

Finland's National Olympic committee is a part of the International Olympic committee and is actively engaged in following the IOC's principles and World Anti-Doping Agency's anti-doping laws and regulations.

The organisation is engaged in promoting equal possibilities for women to compete in sports and also to be involved in the decision making; promoting sport ethics, fighting against doping and match fixing.