



ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

YEAR: 2019

This document of Annual Report Activity of 2019 is made in relation to the Strategic Plan of IFMA. In the following parts are IFMA strategic objectives and activity reports from 2019.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Letter from the President, Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan	1
Letter from the Sport Director, Charissa Tynan	2
Muaythai a Proud Member of the Olympic Movement	4
2019 Major Events	5
Summary	6
Muaythai Disciplines	7
National Federations	10
IFMA Partners	11
IFMA Strategic Plan	12
IFMA Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC)	14
IFMA Executive Committee	15
IFMA Commissions	1
2019 Financial Statement	3
IFMA Gender Equalises Divisions for the World Games 2021	5
2019 Events	6
2019 Events: Arafura Games	9
2018 Events: World Martial Arts Masterships, Chungju-Korea	10
2019 Events: Youth World Championships	11
2019 Events: European Championships	13
2019 Events: South East Asian Games	14
2019 Events: Asian Championships	15
IFMA Joins the .SPORT Community	16
Muaythai Hits Millions of Views in Social Media	17
IFMA Re-Branding	18
Clean Sport	19
IFMA Athletes	20

TABLE OF CONTENTS

IFMA Athletes Forum	21
Social Development	22
2019 Bangkok Urban Youth Tournament	23
Consolidating Gender Equality	27
Education	28
Sustainability	29

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, DR. SAKCHYE TAPSUWAN

Letter from the President, Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan



It fills me with great pride to be the President of IFMA, which is more than just a sporting organisation. We are a family which stands firm, protecting and fostering the Olympic Values and the powerful spirit of Sport. Muaythai is more than just a sport, it has strong traditions and values that run deep within it.

If we want to preserve culture, we must continue to create it. The IFMA policies are in line with the Olympic Movement, fostering the talents of the youth, understanding and practicing Unity in Diversity and protecting the integrity of IFMA. The sport of Muaythai must continue to be our focus and at the same time, working with and for the youth to be part of upcoming generations that will carry the Muaythai torch into tomorrow. This must be our legacy as this torch has been passed down for hundreds of years and the future has just begun.

I would like to wholeheartedly thank every stakeholder in the IFMA family which has volunteered their time towards our united goals and the dreams of our youth. It has been another successful year and I must thank you for trust and for allowing me to lead this organisation with pride and hope for an even brighter future.

We also made history with the unification of the World Muaythai Council merging with IFMA which was an important step for IFMA, child safeguarding policies and the protection of the Muaythai Youth.

2019 has been a very busy year in the IFMA calendar with a fantastic Youth World Championship in Antalya, Turkey with our largest number yet, the Senior World Championships in Bangkok, the Arafura Games in Australia, the SEA Games in the Philippines, the World Masterships in Korea and with some fantastic continental championships in Abu Dhabi, Medellin, Minsk and Casa Blanca. I would like to thank each National Federation for their support and I look forward to continue to be a proud member of the Olympic Movement as an IOC Provisionally Recognised sport and federation.

LETTER FROM THE SPORT DIRECTOR, CHARISSA TYNAN

Letter from the Sport Director, Charissa Tynan



2019 has been another successful year for Muaythai with many important milestones. I would like to thank every National Federation, the IFMA Executive Board, Ad-Hoc Committee and certainly the IFMA international office for a successful 2019. Our biggest thanks must go to the athletes. We have witnessed so many achievements both on and off the field of play. Congratulations to all of you, the ones which have already booked their place in the 2021 World Games, the winners of the Youth and Senior World Championships and all other events.

Our youth development program continues to excel, and the numbers have again grown from 2018 and a big thanks must go to Antalya for an unforgettable experience for the IFMA Youth. Having the event facilities with beach front, once again, all in one place and fully in line with IFMA's sustainability initiatives.

We must also thank Australia and the city of Darwin for the Arafura Games 2019 in which Muaythai, thanks to our athletes, was once again one of the more popular sports. Also, congratulations to the Philippines for hosting a remarkably successful SEA Games and all organizers from the continental championships. IFMA believes in sport and education. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the annual world conferences both for youth and adults.

Also, thank you to IOC, WADA, ITA, UN Women and UNESCO who have all contributed to the conferences and workshops. We are proud to be recognized by the IOC and we will continue to promote and protect the Olympic Values.

I must also thank all our commissions and especially our intelligence task force. We will continue to have a zero tolerance for any cheating. We all had a highly successful year. The cooperation of all commissions to protect our athletes and certainly our clean athletes will continue to play an important role in our fight against doping.

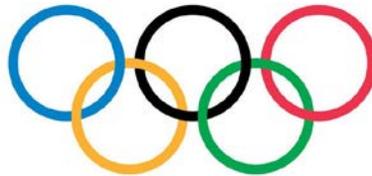
LETTER FROM THE SPORT DIRECTOR, CHARISSA TYNAN

We are all looking forward to 2020 with our World Championships in Abu Dhabi and our Youth World Championships in Malaysia. IFMA will continue our social responsibilities to promote inclusion and equality and Muaythai as an important tool towards social change.

MUAYTHAI A PROUD MEMBER OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

Muaythai a Proud Member of the Olympic Movement

An International Federation Recognised by



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE



In partnership with



2019 MAJOR EVENTS

2019 Major Events

Arafura Games, Darwin-Australia
April 26th-May 4th

Senior World Championships, Bangkok-Thailand
July 19th-July 29th

World Martial Arts Masterships, Chungju-Korea
August 30th-September 6th

Youth World Championships, Antalya-Turkey
September 28th-October 6th

European Championships, Minsk-Belarus
November 4th-November 10th

SEA Games, Philippines
November 30th-December 11th

Asian Championships, Abu Dhabi-United Arab Emirates
December 14th-December 20th

SUMMARY

Summary

2019 was a year when three biennial events took place in which muaythai was included; The Arafura Games, The World Martial Arts Masterships and SEA Games were added to IFMA calendar alongside IFMA's regular championship events. The 2019 event calendar has truly been one of the busiest for IFMA.



IFMA's annual events took Muaythai athletes to Thailand for the Senior World Championships, to Belarus for the European Championships, Turkey for the Youth World Championships and to United Arab Emirates for the Asian Championships.

History was made at the 2019 IFMA General Assembly with the World Muaythai Council merging with IFMA and the re-branding of IFMA changing from the International Federation of Muaythai Amateur to the International Federation of Muaythai Associations.

IFMA's objective is to continue to give opportunities to athletes in regions to be able to be part of bigger events and have milestones to strive towards at their national competitions.

IFMA will continue to strive for excellence in all aspects, to develop Muaythai in every country in the world and by 2020, to have at least 160 member federations.

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.

NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

National Federations

In 2019, IFMA's General Assembly ratified the Executive Committee's approval of seven (7) new full members into the IFMA Family. The IFMA Administration continues to assist and work with a many more applicant federations to establish and fulfil the various aspects of the criteria that must be fulfilled before the applications can be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

- Colombia
- Honduras
- Kosovo
- Nepal
- North Macedonia
- Palestine
- Uruguay



IFMA PARTNERS

IFMA Partners

At the end of 2018, IFMA licensed three (3) equipment companies namely FBT, Wesing and MTG. The executive board made the decision to approve two (2) more partners to join in 2019 and Dragon was confirmed as the newest IFMA partner supplying the competition gear for the participants of the Youth World Muaythai Championships.

Safety of the athletes is the primary concern for IFMA therefore partnering with the equipment manufacturers providing high quality and safe competition equipment is the main priority for IFMA.



IFMA Strategic Plan

IFMA practices a strategic outlook, to ensure a focused approach to realising our mission and vision. IFMA understands that success comes in little steps, as much as we teach our athletes to win, we must show grace in defeat and victory, IFMA understands that we must set the goals realistically, in a proper time frame and that in the end the journey is as important as the destination; the sport, the organisation and most importantly the practitioners will benefit from continually striving for excellence.



IFMA's vision is to continue to be the world leader in Muaythai, having already achieved the IOC provisional recognition and priding itself to be a full member of the world leading sport organisations such as GAISF, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), IWGA, FISU, TAFISA, and being compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code. IFMA aims to spread the sport of Muaythai throughout the world, maintaining its traditional integrity and ensuring a uniform set of rules, working mutually for the sport and the athletes. These strategic goals give meaning and purpose to the IF's pursuits.

The history of the art of Muaythai, which is the backbone of the sport, has provided IFMA with a rich cultural heritage, which has become indivisible from the practice of the sport itself. Growing from a base of culture, the practice of Muaythai promotes cultural exchange at an international level. The values inherent to the practise of the sport are also universal values, which make it an easy sport to adopt and identify with.

Broadening the reach and appeal of Muaythai is one of the keystones of the IF's development plan, as the potential of grassroots engaged in Muaythai is a rich resource which will ensure the continued future success and growth of the sport.

IFMA STRATEGIC PLAN

IFMA seeks to encourage and develop the practice of Muaythai in the following aspects:

- as a cultural art form
- as a competition ring sport
- as a fitness and health programme - as a self-defence tool

These different aspects of Muaythai make the sport accessible to all ages and genders, further taking into account mobility limitations and impairments, which some practitioners may have. IFMA's motto and mission statement can be summarised as: "Muaythai for every body."

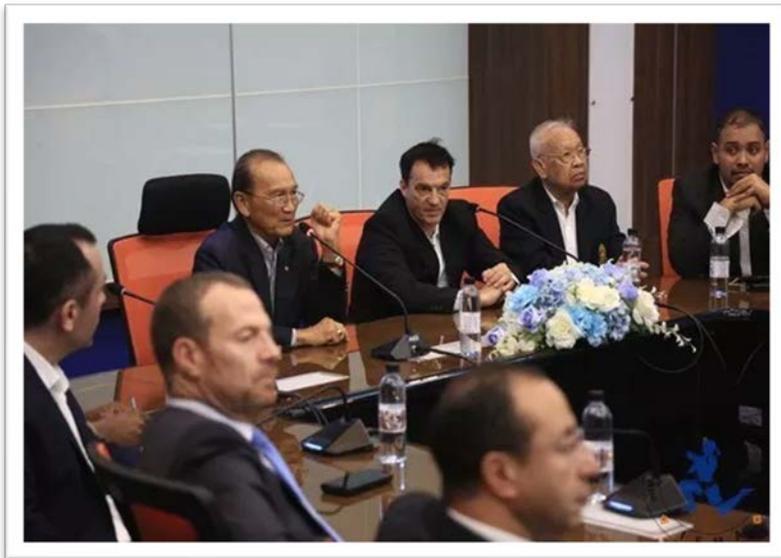
The IF strives to deliver high level competitive and promotional opportunities to the widest range of stakeholders possible. It is committed to transparency and integrity, providing a strong and supportive administrative service and maintaining financial stability.

The 2015-2020 Strategic Plan can be found at the IFMA website: www.ifmamuythai.org

IFMA AD-HOC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (AHMC)

IFMA Ad-Hoc Management Committee (AHMC)

The AHMC, has the general responsibility for the management of the IFMA affairs. The AHMC consists of between 9-13 (nine – thirteen) members selected from members within the Executive Committee by the Executive Committee. A representative of the Athletes Commission shall also be selected to sit as a committee member of the AHMC.



IFMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

IFMA Executive Committee

Honorary President

H.E. General Pichitr Kullavanijaya

President

Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan

General Secretary

Mr. Stephan Fox

Treasurer

Mr. Kajorn Prowsri

Vice Presidents

H.E. Karim Massimov (Kazakhstan)

Mr. Yeo Kyu Tae (Korea)

Ms. Sue Glassey (New Zealand)

Ms. Ana Vital Melo (Portugal)

Mr. Gennadiy Trukhanov (Ukraine)

Mr. Driss El Hilali (Morocco)

Ms. Elisa Salinas (Mexico)

Mr. Rafal Szlachta (Poland)

Executive Committee Members

Ana Vital Melo (POR)

Charissa Tynan (THA)

Dato Shahnaz Azmi (MAS)

Davide Carlot (Italy)

Detlef Turnau (Germany)

Dmitry Putilin (RUS)

Erdogan Aydin (TUR)

Gustavo Luna (Spain)

Halil Durna (Turkey)

Janice Lyn (CAN)

Kasra Ashami (SWE)

Lazslo Szabo (HUN)

Pearl Managuelod (Philippines)

Mervyn Tan (Singapore)

Michael Corley (USA)

Nadir Allouache (FRA)

Patrick Van Acker (BEL)

Petr Ottich (Czech Republic)

Rafal Szlachta (POL)

Rodrigo Jorquera (Peru)

Sami Kiblawi (Lebanon)

Sham Seetaram (Mauritius)

Tareq Almhairi (UAE)

Abby Nelson (AUS)

IFMA COMMISSIONS

IFMA Commissions

IFMA has created various commissions of expertise and some of the following commissions have a permanent seat in the IFMA Executive board:

TECHNICAL & RULES COMMISSION

Chairperson: Dmitry Putilin (RUS)

REFEREEING & JUDGING COMMISSION

Chairperson: Somchai Sripiw (THA)

MEDICAL COMMISSION

Chairperson: Dr. Erdogan Aydin (TUR)

FINANCE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Sham Seetaram (MRI)

SPORT AND ACTIVE SOCIETY COMMISSION

Chairperson: Panida Ottesen (DEN)

YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairperson: Elisa Salinas (MEX)

FEMALE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Sue Glassey (NZL)

ETHICS COMMISSION

Chairperson: Caroline Baxter Tresise (Project Officer, UNESCO Paris)

PRESS & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

Chairperson: Niamh Griffin (IRL)

BUSINESS COMMISSION

Chairperson: Rolf Hess (SUI)

LEGAL COMMISSION

Chairperson: Mervyn Tan (SIN)

ATHLETES COMMISSION

Chairperson: Janice Lyn (CAN)

IFMA COMMISSIONS

ENTOURAGE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Michael Corley (USA)

MUAYTHAI EDUCATION COMMISSION

Chairperson: Dato' Muhd. Shahnaz Azmi (MAS)

2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2019 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 2019

REVENUE	2019	2018
	\$ USD	\$ USD
Membership Fees	129,600.00	123,100.00
Sponsorship/Donations	412,000.00	386,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	18,500.00	14,600.00
Advertising & TV Rights	396,000.00	374,000.00
Licensing and Event Income	482,000.00	390,000.00
Merchandising Revenue	86,400.00	69,400.00
Equipment Approval Fees	60,000.00	50,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	1,584,500.00	1,407,100.00

EXPENSES	2019	2018
	\$ USD	\$ USD
Administration		
IFMA Staff Salary	192,800.00	162,400.00
Office Operating Expenses	196,400.00	162,600.00
New office renovations	0.00	22,600.00
Communication Expenses	42,600.00	34,700.00
	431,800.00	382,300.00
IFMA Meetings	92,600.00	71,400.00
Travel Expenses	42,600.00	58,600.00

2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Anti-Doping Development	159,600.00	124,400.00
Development & Activity Expenses		
Annual SportAccord Expenses	52,600.00	65,400.00
International Games Support	159,800.00	126,400.00
Event Expenses	264,800.00	212,400.00
Promotional Materials	6,400.00	8,400.00
Marketing Expenses	12,600.00	17,200.00
TV Production Expenses	112,800.00	78,600.00
Youth development	169,500.00	148,000.00
IFMA Associate Organisation Membership	8,900.00	7,100.00
	787,400.00	663,500.00
Charitable Projects		86,400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,514,000.00	1,386,600.00
PROFIT	70,500.00	20,500.00

IFMA GENDER EQUALISES DIVISIONS FOR THE WORLD GAMES 2021

IFMA Gender Equalises Divisions for the World Games 2021

At the Executive Meeting in Bangkok, IFMA announced the weight divisions for the World Games 2021, Birmingham where the world's top Muaythai athletes will be featured at the second biggest multisport event after the Olympic Games.

IFMA is proud to announce that gender parity will be achieved for the event by confirming and equal number of male and female divisions (6 female and 6 male) for Muaythai at the 2021 edition adding 2 divisions to the women's divisions.



2019 EVENTS

2019 Events

2019 was a year when three biennial events took place in which muaythai was included; The Arafura Games, The World Martial Arts Masterships and SEA Games were added to IFMA calendar alongside IFMA's regular championship events. The 2019 event calendar has truly been one of the busiest for IFMA.

The 2019 Arafura Games have truly become an important event in IFMA calendar. In 2019 it had a special meaning for IFMA athletes, with its value as the first event to award qualification points for the 2021 World Games.



The city of Chungju, Korea has been making a tremendous effort in preparation for the 2019 Chungju World Martial Arts Masterships where Korea hosted 22 martial arts with Muaythai represented by IFMA athletes from around the world.



The Youth World Muaythai Championships 2019 broke the attendance record with over 1000 participants arriving to the Antalya and filling the event hotel to the bursting point.

2019 EVENTS



The Opening Ceremony saw teams from five continents marching in to celebrate the beginning of another historical competition in the country where east meets west.

Minsk Palace of Sport again became the venue for the Muaythai European Championships 2019.



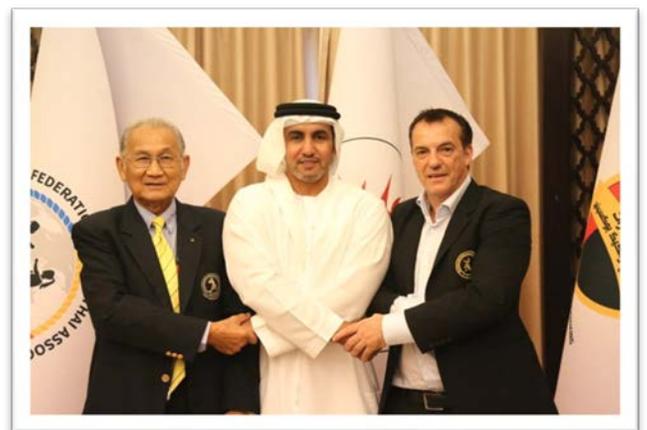
Minsk has truly become the European capital of Olympic sports in 2019. The Belarus capital has been a host to many sports events including World Muaythai Championships 2017 which was the first events since Muaythai was granted the Olympic recognition.

2019 EVENTS

The 2019 SEA Games saw muaythai's musical forms disciplines of Wai Kru and Mai Muay debut on the official competition programme. The Technical & Rules Commission has made steps forward to develop the scoring and judging criteria to establish clear rules and regulations to preserve these cultural and traditional aspects of the sport.



IFMA concluded the event calendar with a bang at the 2019 Asian Championships hosted in the United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi held an exceptional event. Congratulations must go to the UAE Muaythai Federation under chairmanship of H.E. Abdullah Saeed Amer Al Neyadi and Executive Director Mr. Tareq Mohamed Al Mehairi.



2019 EVENTS: ARAFURA GAMES

2019 Events: Arafura Games

Date: 26 April - 04 May 2019

City: Darwin

Nation: Australia

Organisers: Darwin Local organising committee

Frequency: Biennial



IFMA was praised for not only coming with such large delegations, but also for ensuring the geographical spread having countries like Czech Republic, Hungary, Ukraine, France represented only in Muaythai.

Muaythai is one of the only two non-Olympic sports in the games which shows the popularity of Muaythai in Australia and around the world. Full house of the Darwin Convention Center has been a clear evidence of that.

It was the first multisport event IFMA used its online scoring system delivering the online experience to the audience throughout the world which could follow live scoring, results and archives of the Muaythai competition in the Games.

The gold medalists got the qualification points towards the World Games and will represent their countries in Birmingham in 2021.

2018 EVENTS: WORLD MARTIAL ARTS MASTERSHIPS, CHUNGJU-KOREA

2018 Events: World Martial Arts Masterships, Chungju-Korea

Date: 30 August – 06 September 2019

City: Chungju

Nation: Korea

Organisers: Chungju Local organising committee

Frequency: Biennial



The highest sport authorities of Korea patronized the event including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Korean Sports & Olympics, Korea Sports Promotion Foundation, Korea Tourism Organization, and Korean National Commission for UNESCO and many others expressed their support to the 2019 Chungju World Martial Arts Masterships. Muaythai Athletes from over 30 countries participated in the recent World Martial Arts Masterships in Chungju, Korea, home to Honorary Chairman of the World Masterships and the 8th UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon.

Muaythai contested in the following weight divisions:

Men: 54kg, 57kg, 63.5kg, 67kg, 71kg, 75kg, 81kg,

Women: 51kg, 54kg, 60kg

Additionally, athletes from Canada, Greece, Turkey, USA, Saudi Arabia and Korea presented a donation on behalf of all the muaythai athletes of the Masterships of \$5000 USD which was the money collected from the uniform costs for the Chungju Masterships to the CEO of United Through Sports, Ms. Julia Govinden.



Taylor McClatchie from Canada stated that she was proud to stand on behalf of the athletes and giving back plays such an important part in muaythai where the athletes stand in unity regardless of race or religion to support the youth in need.

UTS CEO, Julia Govinden, who received the donation, stated that the World Masterships is another fantastic example of how sport can build bridges and how the athletes of the world stand united.

The athletes found it fitting to present this donation in the name of sport, unity and peace in Mr. Ban Ki-moon's hometown and at an event under his organization.

2019 EVENTS: YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2019 Events: Youth World Championships

Date: 28 September – 06 October 2019

City: Antalya

Nation: Turkey

Organisers: Antalya Local organising committee / IFMA

Frequency: Annual



Over the 5 competition days the young Muaythai talents competed for the medals and awards.

The opening ceremony saw all the colours of rich Turkish culture and again united the youth of the world under the values of Honour, Respect, Tradition, Fair Play, Excellence.

The official Muaythai disciplines Muay Talay, Wai Kru and Muay Boran were contested among the below and above 14 years divisions to highlight the deep history of the sport, and give so many Muaythai practitioners a feeling of international competition besides the combat Muaythai.

IFMA have gone much further than holding a sports competition. IFMA tournaments are a combination of competition, education, social inclusion, conferences and much more.

The Kervansaray amphitheater turned into the venue of the important conference for all participants of the Youth World Muaythai Championships 2019 with speakers from the International Testing Agency (ITA) Olya Abasolo, IFMA Athletes Commission Janice Lyn, CEO of the United Through Sports Julia Govinden and many more.



2019 EVENTS: YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Muay Talay tournament have truly become an integral part of each Youth World Muaythai Championships and medals for the Muaythai On Water are treated with the importance of the main competition.

This year the amazing swimming pool of the Kervansaray hotel turned into the field of play for the 5th Muay Talay competition and saw more than 100 participants registering with many that arrived to Antalya to only take part in the beach side of Muaythai.



2019 EVENTS: EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2019 Events: European Championships

Date: 04 November – 11 November 2019

City: Minsk

Nation: Belarus

Organisers: Minsk Local organising committee / IFMA

Frequency: Annual



The Minsk Palace of Sport again became the venue for the Muaythai European Championships 2019.

Minsk has truly become the European capital of Olympic sports in 2019. The Belarus capital has been a host to many sports events including World Muaythai Championships 2017 which was the first event since Muaythai was granted the Olympic recognition.

This year Minsk again invited elite athletes becoming the host of the European Championships 2019. The event has been approved by the City Council of Minsk and the Ministry of Sport with the Deputy Minister Mr. Alexander Baraulya sending a letter to the Chairman of the Belarus Muaythai Federation General Yuriy Karaev expressing full support in the organisation of the event.

One of the Minsk central sports stages the Palace of Sport was announced to be the official venue for the European Championships bringing Muaythai in the heart of the city. Last year the crowd filled it to the bursting point and the cheer could be heard far beyond the Svislach river which runs past the Palace of Sport.

2019 EVENTS: SOUTH EAST ASIAN GAMES

2019 Events: South East Asian Games

Date: 30 November – 11 December 2019

City: Manila

Nation: Philippines

Organisers: Manila Local organising committee / IFMA

Frequency: Biennial



The biennial multisport event was held in the beautiful Philippines. Muaythai was one of the most outstanding sports at the 29th edition held in Subic, Philippines.

IFMA President Dr Sakchye Tapsuwan stated that the SEA Games is an important regional event, and the Philippines Muaythai Federation under the leadership of General Managualod became one of Asia's leading federations.

Muaythai competition of the SEA Games became one of the most viewed event online as the live streaming had hundreds of thousands of viewers on the IFMA Facebook page.

2019 EVENTS: ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2019 Events: Asian Championships

Date: 16 December – 22 December 2019

City: Abu Dhabi

Nation: United Arab Emirates

Organisers: UAE Local organising committee / IFMA

Frequency: Annual



بطولة آسيا للمواي تاي 2019
ASIAN MUAYTHAI
CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

DECEMBER 16, 2019

رجال – سيدات



The magical city of Abu Dhabi opened its doors this December for Asian countries as the Asian Muaythai Championships 2019 concluded the very busy year for IFMA. It will truly be a great ending of 2019 as the United Arab Emirates Muaythai Federation proved to be a great host for Muaythai competitions.

From 16 to 22 December Abu Dhabi hosted Elite Men's and Women's divisions which gave 100% top Muaythai demonstrations for all spectators at the stadium and viewers on TV.

United Arab Emirates took over the Asian Muaythai relay from Macau which hosted the Asian Muaythai Championships in 2018.

According to the post event survey, the overall perception of the event including all the activities and conferences was very good. Over 94% rated the event as good or very good and no one rated the event as poor. Participants were most happy with: hotel, venue, organisation, location, food and hospitality.



IFMA JOINS THE .SPORT COMMUNITY

IFMA Joins the .SPORT Community

IFMA is a one of 95 GAISF full members joining the world of recognised sports in 2006. This achievement marked opportunities Muaythai athletes have never had before; Muaythai has been featured at the SportAccord Combat Games, World Games, Asian Games, Indoor and Martial Arts Games and many more multi-sport games where IFMA athletes could shine and reveal the art and sport of Muaythai.



.SPORT initiative is a community-based internet extension brought by GAISF and is only available to legitimate bodies which are members of GAISF.

In the crowded and complex world of the internet, the use of .sport gives a greater degree of distinctiveness, visibility and searchability and, because of the criteria applied by GAISF, confers approval and membership of, and commitment to, the sport community.

- Acceptance and trust – .sport underscores membership of the global sports eco-system
- Authenticity – Resulting from fair scrutiny of applicants
- Visibility – value of .sport on search engines

IFMA is truly proud to join the .sport community and support the integrity of the sports movement, rules of fair play and respect to the GAISF members.

MUAYTHAI HITS MILLIONS OF VIEWS IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Muaythai Hits Millions of Views in Social Media

The popularity of Muaythai is clearly seen in the IFMA social media with a lot of content from around the world going viral in Facebook and Instagram.

IFMA champions from Lebanon, Russia, Great Britain and more get millions of views and widely discussed in comments.

Thousands of people share their admiration by the Muaythai youth and support the champions via the network.



IFMA RE-BRANDING

IFMA Re-Branding

History has been made in the city of Bangkok when over 100 IFMA National Federations came together to rebrand IFMA in a historical unification. IFMA will now be known as the International Federation of Muaythai Associations.

Since the Royal Thai Government established the World Muaythai Council (WMC) in 1995, the WMC aligned solely with IFMA towards highest sporting recognition. This recognition was achieved in December of 2016 when IFMA was granted recognition by the International Olympic Committee. Since then all steps have been taken to ensure this merger was nurtured and upheld.



Many VIPs gathered in the heart of Bangkok for this prestigious moment where the event welcomed many speakers including; Governor of the Sport Authority of Thailand, Dr. Gongsak Yomandee, IOC member Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, IOC Recognised IFs & Organisations Senior Manager Andrew Hofer, President of World Taekwondo Dr Chungwon Choue, General Hemarath Khamnil, Mr Pimol Srivikorn and Olya Abasolo. The keynote speaker was given by Dr Amir Kfir who delivered a powerful presentation focusing on Sport Is Your Gang and his work world-wide towards conflict resolution.

The new IFMA logo incorporates IFMA's stance towards Gender Equality where the original logo displayed a male athlete. The new logo has been adapted to include a female athlete and show IFMA's dedicated principle towards the promotion of gender equality.

IFMA President Dr Sakchye Tapsuan stated "As a Thai he is proud of IFMA's recognition and continued growth in the world of sports also working towards providing a strong foundation and opportunity for the athletes to grow."

IFMA General Secretary who is also GAISF Vice President stated "In 1995 there were 32 federations who were present at the IFMA and WMC inauguration. Today IFMA boasts 132 federations working together to place sport at the service of humankind."

Muaythai maybe 1,000 years old, but the future has just begun.

Clean Sport

IFMA took fight with doping on a new level in 2019 holding conferences at each IFMA event and attending WADA events around the world.

In 2019 IFMA included doping awareness meetings, athletes conferences with speakers from WADA and medical commission meetings with the emphasis on doping. It starts bearing fruits as more athletes take charge of their diet and supplements and staying updated with the latest WADA prohibited lists.

One of the highlights of the World Championships 2019 has been the result of the doping tests made at the event with 0 positive results produced at the event. The Doping Control Authority of Thailand reported last week that all the athletes who participated and taken for tests were fully doping free.

In Lausanne, Switzerland; March 15th, 2019 – The stakeholders of world anti-doping community gathered in Lausanne, Switzerland to discuss the progress in protection of clean sport. Our very own Myriame Djedidi, from France, represented our Athletes' Commission and Zhuldyz Baimagambet, our IFMA Lausanne branch manager were present to give a full report of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Symposium.



IFMA Athletes

The Athletes are the heart and soul of IFMA's work and the IFMA Athletes Commission has a permanent seat in the IFMA Executive Board. The current chairperson of the IFMA Athletes' Commission is Janice Lyn from Canada. The Athletes have involvement in all IFMA decision making processes. The Executive Board fully ensures the athletes are supported in their sporting and non-sporting careers.

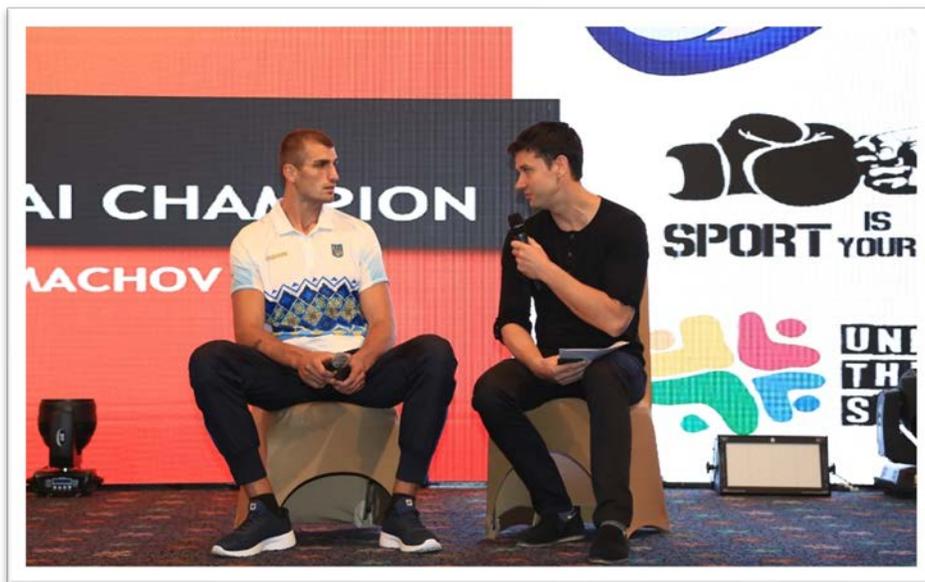


IFMA ATHLETES FORUM

IFMA Athletes Forum

The 2019 IFMA Athletes forum was held in Bangkok and the Youth Athletes' Forum in Antalya.

Both events saw a record number of participants and ever more athletes sharing their experience and their stories about the way to the top, motivation, clean sport and much more. IFMA is proud that Muaythai athletes continue to grow into true role models for the youth.



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Social Development



IFMA continues to develop social projects with a goal to construct public sport complexes with free access for all, enhancing inclusive and sustainable urbanisation in the city of Bangkok. Its target is youth from impoverished areas of Bangkok, who have no access to any sporting facilities, with challenged backgrounds, and who run the risk of turning to a deviant, self and civic destructive lifestyle.

The project is in cooperation and partnership with the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority (BMA) and UNESCO.

The facilities include muaythai, badminton, sepak takraw, basketball and volleyball, allowing kids from challenged backgrounds to practice sports in a free and safe environment.

Over 300 kids joined the opening and today continue to benefit from the sports facilities openly available for them.

team came together with the Thai children showcasing bravery, and that just as importantly, when the world unites for the right reasons anything is possible. These Thai children came together to inspire others and the event was appropriately named “kids help kids” where the team delivered a message of hope and strength to the youth of Argentina. The two children from the incentive program demonstrated a beautiful and dynamic Muaythai performance for the audience of youth and all the sporting delegates present.

2019 BANGKOK URBAN YOUTH TOURNAMENT

2019 Bangkok Urban Youth Tournament



In an often divided world, sport is an important connection that unites people across and within societies promoting unity in diversity. There are countless examples of the unifying strength of sport. The Olympic values focus on friendship, respect and excellence combined with the Paralympic values of determination, inspiration, courage and equality. The objective of the Olympic movement is to contribute to building a more peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport and practice without discrimination of any kind.

Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic movement believed that sport contributed to the harmonious and well balanced development of the body, personality and the mind.

The interaction between sport, education and culture is encouraged by the Olympic movement to promote Olympism, Olympic ideals, reinforce cooperation with educational bodies and with projects focused on the youth.



2019 BANGKOK URBAN YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Alliances are crucial and this is what was established at the 2018 SportAccord Convention in

Bangkok with the formation of United Through Sports (UTS) and the many supporters. The IOC, AIMS, GAISF, RTP, UNESCO, UN Women, Generation for Peace, Peace and Sport, WADA and Royal Thai Government were amongst those endorsing the initiative. One of the key persons behind UTS is GAISF Vice President and AIMS President, Mr Stephan Fox. The inauguration of the Bangkok Sports Festival and the legacy it left behind for Thailand, particularly, for the ones in need is ongoing. Such that when the convention ended, there was

the establishment of many projects and sports facilities have been constructed for youth from challenged backgrounds.



The Bangkok Urban Youth Tournament is a continuation of the legacy with alliances inspired by the festival where organisations including UTS, RTP, IFMA and others have joined together with

the support of Xtreme Sport to kick off a 5 month multi-sport and friendship event. The entire tournament will host futsal, 3X3 basketball, traditional Muaythai, sepaktakraw and badminton in a tournament format of mixed teams coming from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds.



Thailand's IOC member and President of the Thailand Badminton Association, Khunying

Patama Leeswadtrakul will be patron of the event. Khunying has personally contributed to the UTS social fundraising campaign and stated, "This initiative is inspiring with over 80 teams participating. As an IOC member and being Thai, I am proud this event reflects the Olympic values." GAISF Vice President Mr Fox reflected, "We must continue to work together for our youth, every child should have an opportunity to play

2019 BANGKOK URBAN YOUTH TOURNAMENT

in whatever form possible. This will be achieved at this event and giving these children a playground in a safe surrounding showcases what can be achieved if we work as one.”



In February 2019, the SportAccord Managing Director Nis Hatt travelled to Bangkok to participate in the extension of the Sport Is Your Gang project in which children played futsal, Muaythai, sepak takraw and badminton participated. Mr. Hatt said: “It was truly humbling to watch the kids in action and the enthusiasm from coaches and parents alike bringing their kids to the facilities in the early morning hours to show and teach them that sport can make a lasting difference in their life. Mr. Hatt went on to say: It was also special to have the opportunity to visit the newly developed educational center with facilities for children with special needs and different abilities. It is amazing to think that the center is set to open its doors in just two weeks from now and to see the legacy of SportAccord 2018 coming to fruition a mere 10 months after it concluded”.



In addition, Mr. Hatt went on to say: “A heartfelt thanks must be given to Stephan Fox, President, AIMS, Vice President, GAISF and Secretary General of the Bangkok based International Federation Muaythai Amateur (IFMA) and Julia Govinden, CEO, United Through Sports who have dedicated themselves to this cause and will continue the momentum at SportAccord 2019 in the Gold Coast, Australia (5-10 May 2019)”.

2019 BANGKOK URBAN YOUTH TOURNAMENT



The next stage of the legacy left behind from the SportAccord Sports Festival 2018 was the opening of the United Through Sports Educational Center in which disadvantaged children have the opportunity to freely participate in sports and health activities. Julia Govinden shared her views on the event stating: “The sporting world has demonstrated clearly the impact of unity. Being able to leave behind accessible and free education and sporting opportunities for the children of Bangkok and to have made the visit to the Tak and Mae La Province Camps distributing sporting goods was a crucial goal of the festival, to give back. We are now working towards the next festival where our focus will be inclusivity for all with an aim to once again leave a legacy behind for the youth of the Gold Coast.”

GAISF Vice-President Stephan Fox said: “The GAISF and SportAccord family incorporate over 100 International sporting federations and organisations. The SportAccord Convention brings together the leaders in sport and using the power of sport towards social change is key for all sport organisations. The Bangkok edition of the SportAccord Convention has shown that sport stands united and this is why United Through Sports was created. While Thailand still benefits from the convention the focus is on Australia”.

CONSOLIDATING GENDER EQUALITY

Consolidating Gender Equality

The achievement of the 2018 World Championships when the male and female ratio of participating athletes became equal IFMA set a task to keep the momentum and use the power of sport to give opportunity to women from all over the world to do sports.

The remarkable achievement of 2019 was the increased number of gold medals won by women within the national federations, showcasing the growth and development of women in sport. As testament to this milestone, we saw that 50% of the gold medals won by the Russian team were earned by the women.



Education

2019 was a big year for IFMA Education Commission.

The seminars and courses took were held all over the world and members of Education Commission and IFMA certified instructors had a tight schedule of travels among the IFMA member federations.

IFMA put a strong emphasis on bringing Muaythai under the universal rules giving a task to the IFMA Technical Commission to ensure clear interpretation of all the Rules and Regulations.

It has later become a task of the IFMA Technical Commission to hold a seminar in national federations and at all IFMA international events to make sure that the all Muaythai stakeholders are updated for the upcoming Muaythai competitions.

IFMA is proud to use Muaythai education as a catalyst for the equal access to sport for males and females and 2019 marked an important achievement as the first combined seminar was held in Saudi Arabia.



Sustainability

Starting from its foundation IFMA promotes the conservation, recycling and donation at all its events.



IFMA Sustainability Policy is compliant with its 5 Pillars:

Honour traditions and good practices of the local organisers

Respect the environment Muaythai events are taking place.

Tradition – support environmental, cultural and social existence

Fair Play – use local, donate excess, purchase fair trade.

Excellence – offer improvements where possible and leave the site in a better state as we found it.

Sustainability has many sides for IFMA and at each event Muaythai finds way to contribute to places and people around IFMA events making campaigns on cleaning beaches of Antalya, donating food to slums of Bangkok, building compost in the rural areas of Malaysian island Langkawi and the list can go on an on of the benefactors positively affected by Muaythai.

IFMA has important pillars with youth one of the most important along with sustainability as we believe in our responsibility that they go hand in hand.

SUSTAINABILITY

This is why sustainability is very much part of all our strategy and planning. Starting with event organisation it is our main priority that we use at continental or world events only facilities where either everything is in walking distance or in the same facility.

IFMA includes sustainability in its day-to-day operation and that includes IFMA HQ. At every international event sustainability workshops are held for the leaders of national federations to exchange ideas, give awards for best practices and also get closely with UNESCO and UNEP.

In all events and all doings IFMA includes UN2030 Agenda for sustainable development, and we have a commission which focuses on social development through sport. They work closely with our sport for all gender education youth and social responsibility commissions.