

# European Muaythai Federation Newsletter April 2015



Email: [emfoffice@euromuaythai.eu](mailto:emfoffice@euromuaythai.eu)

Skype: [emf\\_office](#)

Tel: +48 784 975 999

Web: [www.euromuaythai.eu](http://www.euromuaythai.eu)

<https://www.facebook.com/euromuaythai>

# AGENDA

---



New President of Swedish Muaythai	3
Greece Promoting Muaythai for Everybody	4
Slovenian Muaythai Federation Shows Their Support for Peace and Sport	5
Swiss Muaythai Federation Presents SIYG to UN	7
Stephan Fox Elected as President of AIMS	8
Muaythai Enters FISU	9
IFMA World Championships 2016 Sweden	10
The World Games 2017 Meeting	11
2018 World Combat Games Meeting	12
Muaythai Mania 8: Hungary vs Lithuania	13
First faculty of muaythai in sports high school in Poland	15
World Games 2017 Partners Meeting in Wroclaw	16
Muaythai at the SportAccord Convention	17
IFMA Reaches Top 10 in the World	18

---



## NEW PRESIDENT OF SWEDISH MUAYTHAI



**Pernilla Johansson** needs no introduction in the world of female Muaythai. She made her way up through the ranks from the Swedish, to the

Nordic, to IFMA and WMC World Champion. After her impressive career and outstanding accomplishments in the ring, Pernilla continued her journey in the sport at the **Swedish Muaythai Federation** and began work in her social involvement through Frysbox. She also became the Chairwoman of the IFMA Youth Commission, and was the winner of the 2014 Spirit of Muaythai award for her outstanding contribution to Muaythai and the community. Following in the footsteps of female presidents like New Zealand, Kirgizstan, USA, and Portugal, another woman has taken the helm of a National Federation. On behalf of the remaining 129 member federations, **we would like to congratulate** Pernilla on her

election, and we are looking forward to work with her, not only in the youth commission, but also as the president of the Swedish Muaythai Federation.





## GREECE PROMOTING MUAYTHAI TO EVERYBODY

Muaythai is rapidly gaining popularity around the world. Ever since the recognition of Muaythai by SportAccord, The International World Games Association (IWGA), the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), and other world sport bodies, Muaythai has been garnering more and more attention as the sport continues on the path towards highest sporting recognition.



The Panhellenic Muaythai Federation (PMF), held a special event in Athens, Greece, for kids and adults. The event was a friendly meeting for all interested stakeholders from young children to athletes in their prime to older adults were able to witness and experience the sport and cultural art form that is Muaythai. Participants were able to see that **Muaythai is for everybody**, regardless of whether it is practised for fitness, self defence, or competitive sport, the safety of its athletes comes first. PMF did an excellent job of emphasising that youth are our future as the young future Muaythai athletes participated in the event. After the event, everyone came away with a positive impression of Muaythai and its five pillars,



respect, honour, tradition, excellence and fair play, which are can be applied to every day life as well.

Congratulations to the **Panhellenic Muaythai Federation** and IFMA will continue to encourage its members to promote and foster the sport and cultural art form of Muaythai!





## SPORT AND PEACE IN SLOVENIA

Our mission is to nurture and **promote muaythai** as traditional martial arts and to promote a positive attitude to movement and a healthy lifestyle. We try to achieve our aims with programs for different age groups (children, youth, women, veterans), to whom we offer regular training under the guidance of qualified

personal trainers. In this way we take care of them physically, help create self-esteem, a positive life orientation and healthy lifestyle. We also remind them of the consequences of negative factors, such as doping and other drugs. With combining sport, culture and education we try to create a way of life

based on respect, universal fundamental ethical principles and good role models. We stand for values such as wisdom, dignity, respect, perseverance, courage, concentration, prudence, responsibility, self-esteem, commitment to comply with ethics, honor and human dignity, volunteering.

Celebrating the International **Day of PEACE and SPORT**, at 6 April 2015 there was a **FREE TRAINING FOR ALL** in the Scorpion gym. Top athletes Scorpion gym was available for presentations and assist in training, to all those who wished to get acquainted with the old traditional art, which is based on five pillars: - Honor - Respect - Tradition - Fair play - Assertiveness.





The **Slovenian Muaythai Federation** joined in the world-wide Peace and Sport international 2015 **#WhiteCard campaign**, Play Your Peace. The federation also organized a day of free training for youth at the local Scorpion Gym, after which all the participants raised a white card or “blanc carton,” in support of the global movement for peace around the world.



Muaythai has been in close partnership with Peace and Sport since 2011 and the IFMA social initiative, **Sport is Your Gang**, has been in active support for peace in local communities around the world, working in conjunction with Peace and Sport.



Seminar with Australian Champion **Nathan Corbett** 11x World Champion in muaythai and member of Slovenian Muaythai National team **Mirko Vorkapić**, organized by **SCORPION GYM** and **SLOVENIAN MUAYTHAI FEDERATION** from Novo mesto - Slovenia and the world

organization IFMA, they invited all young people to join them in the seminar: inspiration, motivation, strategies, techniques and fair play. With the aim of promoting peace and development of the sport in the world, muaythai ambassador **Nathan Corbett** and **Mirko Vorkapić**, passed their knowledge and experience on to young people.





## SWISS MUAYTHAI FEDERATION PRESENTS SIYG TO UN



After their recent launch of IFMA's Sport Is Your Gang social initiative, the Swiss Muaythai Federation had the opportunity to present and talk about the world-wide initiative at the UN headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

IFMA's social initiative, **Sport Is Your Gang**, has been in active support for peace in local communities around the world, working in close partnership with Peace and Sport since 2011; since then, due to the active work by IFMA

and our National Federations around the world, the social initiative was awarded the Spirit of Sport award by SportAccord in 2014.

**Swiss Muaythai Federation's** Sport Is Your Gang initiative representative, **Mr Carl Emery**, was able to present the initiative before an audience of youth from all over the world at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

The participants were able to learn how Muaythai is making a difference around the world through utilizing the power of sport and the Sport Is Your Gang social initiative to leave a positive impact in local communities. Sport Is Your Gang not only gives youth around the world an outlet to train and exercise their bodies,

but to train their minds as well as they grow to learn the 5 pillars of Muaythai, respect, honour, tradition, fair play and excellence, which are not only applicable to the cultural art form and sport, but also applicable to every day life.

A big thank you goes out to Mr Carl Emery and the Swiss Muaythai Federation for using sport to make a positive change to society.





## STEPHAN FOX ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF AIMS

**The Alliance of Independent Members of SportAccord** (AIMS), one of the partner groups of **SportAccord Convention** representing 23 Non-Olympic recognised sports in SportAccord held its General Assembly at the SAC 2015 with the main agenda of electing a **President Mr. Stephan Fox** emerged victorious and is not only the new president of AIMS but also a SportAccord Council Member.

The new president revealed the importance of working with National federations to promote AIMS sports at the grassroots level and to highlight ethical and cultural issues. Fox warned of the need to protect member federations as a means of supporting all the athletes especially against

rival groups and he will work closely together with SportAccord, IWGA, FISU and the IOC to ensure success.



Fox stated that, "Task forces will be established to combine the expertise we have in different fields. We will divide

the work to multiply the success". The General Assembly commenced with a warm welcome from SportAccord President Marius Vizer and Kit McConnell, the IOC Sports Director. Fox also said, "we must use all the facilitates and contacts that SportAccord has to offer and we will also cooperate with the IOC so that sports that deserve to get recognition work closely together to make sure they have fulfilled the criteria to be IOC recognised."

We would like to congratulate IFMA General Secretary and pledges its support to the 22 other international sporting federations to work together for the benefit of sport and work toward the betterment of society.





## MUAYTHAI ENTERS FISU

On the **22nd of April**, at the SportAccord Convention and Business Summit, Muaythai signed the official contract with FISU for full recognition. The official contract was signed with FISU President, Mr Claude-Louis Gallien and IFMA President, Dr Sakchye Tapsuwan in front of over 200 representatives from the Olympic Family, SportAccord and World Games.

Dr Tapsuwan stated, "Exchanging sport, education and culture is an important platform of the Olympic movement and FISU has done such outstanding work since 1949, we truly thank them for their trust, we will not disappoint and will continue to use the power of sport to make

a positive contribution to society.

Mr Gallien welcomed **Muaythai into the FISU** family and again highlighted that sport has a unique power and that Muaythai and IFMA has greatly established itself using the power of sport for the good of society. We now have a fantastic platform to exchange education, culture and sport and FISU is looking forward with great anticipation for combined success.

Special **awards** and presentations were also given to Mr Eric Santrond and Mr Oleg Matytsin from Russia for their outstanding contribution. Another important day for Muaythai where history has been made!





# IFMA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016 SWEDEN



The beautiful sport loving country of **Sweden** will host the **IFMA WC 2016** from **19 to 29 of May in Jönköping**.

After St. Petersburg 2013, Malaysia 2014, and Bangkok 2015 the event will move back to Europe into one of the most beautiful countries.

The final contract has been signed between IFMA President Dr. Sakchye Tapsuwan, and the representative of the Organising Committee Daniel Norrgard, in front of a packed

press conference with representative of IFMA partners such as FISU, SportAccord, UN Women and so many others.

We are delighted for Sweden to win the bid and we have no doubt that Sweden with their love for sport and live will host an outstanding event.

Congratulation Sweden! Here we come!





# THE WORLD GAMES 2017 MEETING



The annual **World Games Meeting** was held during the SportAccord Convention in **Sochi Russia** where the world of sport came together to meet as one. Muaythai was represented at the worldwide sport meeting by IFMA President, Dr Sakchye Tapsuwan who was able to contribute to the meeting on behalf of the Muaythai community.

IFMA General Secretary, Stephan Fox, and IFMA Sport Director, Charissa Tynan, were also present at the important meeting to represent Muaythai. Along with the IFMA representatives, the Director General of the Department of Physical Education of Thailand, Dr Patanachart Kridiborworn, was also present at the meeting on invitation of IFMA.

Many important decisions were made, the presentation on The

World Games 2017, in which **Muaythai is one of the official sports in the program**. The final approval of the AGM on The World Games 2021 in Birmingham, Alabama was also decided upon at the meeting.

Muaythai is a proud member of the IWGA, and as the IOC says that they will create even more cooperation with the world games, it means exciting times ahead for all sports in the games.



## 2018 WORLD COMBAT GAMES MEETING

The President of the **Olympic Committee of Peru**, Mr José Quiñones González, chaired the first meeting for the upcoming **2018 World Combat Games**, together with SportAccord President, Mr Marius L. Vizer. The 2018 World Combat Games will be held in Lima, Peru, and the SportAccord Convention was the perfect location to hold a meeting where representatives from the various world combat sports would be able to attend. Representatives from the 16 Olympic and non-Olympic martial arts and combat sports were present at the meeting to discuss and plan for the upcoming World Combat Games.

The **16 sports** which will be represented at this highly anticipated multi-sport event

are: aikido, boxing, fencing, judo, ju-jitsu, karate, kendo, kickboxing, **muaythai**, sambo, savate, sumo, taekwondo, weightlifting (a new addition), wrestling and wushu.



Muaythai is a proud and one of the founding members of the World Combat Games, with the first edition held in Beijing, the second in St Petersburg, and

now in Lima Peru. IFMA President, Dr Sakchye Tapsuwan stated that the WCG is important in the Muaythai calendar, as is the exchange of culture, history and sport. Having the event in Peru, in which we have a very strong and structured Federation involved in social projects, and with IFMA's most decorated female fighter coming from Peru, we are looking forward to the event.

The world is looking forward to the upcoming 2018 World Combat Games in **Lima, Peru**, and athletes from all the respective martial arts and combat sports have begun preparations for the honour of representing their country, flag, and sport in the games.





# MUAYTHAI MANIA8 : HUNGARY VS LITHUANIA



A successful event in Szentendre Hungary. A kids' demo fights opened the sold out gala, then 5 Pro-Amateur fights between the representatives of **Hungary and Lithuania**. A main bout was a WMC professional fight between two Hungarian fighters.

The Szentendre Military Academy hosted the event, that was supported by the local mayor's office, To-Ken security as main sponsor, Sport Klub

as television partner. The Embassy of Lithuania and the ambassador herself attended the event, supporting the Lithuanian team.

The **first bout** was a female fight in 61.24kg, between Kovács Alexandra (Hungary) and Vaida Masiokaite (Lithuania). Both ladies fought in aggressive manners, and until the last second it was an open question. Finally, the winner was Alexandra from Hungary by a split decision of the judges.

The **second fight** between the local Kisfalvi Milán (Hungary) and Ovidijus Jurginas (Lithuania) in 82.55 kg. The Lithuanian fighter had his professional debut, but he was a tough opponent until the end of the bout. 3:0 by points the winner was Hungary.

The **third bout** between the 2014 Hungarian amateur muaythai champion Bereczki Dominik and the 2014 the junior silver medalist of the IFMA Muaythai World Championship 2014, Martynas Jasiunas, 72.58 kg. A very technical, interesting fight, where both athletes showed excellent muaythai skills. The judges' decision was for Martynas. Hungary vs Lithuania now 2:1!

The **toughest battle of the event** was shown by Bakacs Dezső (Hungary) and Ernestas Dapkus (Lithuania) in 76.2 kg. Both fighters attacked as lions, reminding us of the hardest title bouts in the elite thai stadiums. The winner of this bout by unanimous decision was Ernestas Dapkus from Lithuania.





After their first four bouts the result is 2:2, so the stake was higher, and came the deciding fight between two heavyweight athletes, Lapusnyik László (Hungary) and Mantas Rimdeika (Lithuania). Mantas promised in his tv-interview that he will start very hard, striving to knock out his opponent from the very first second. The audience understood that this was no joke from his side. The fight ended after a hard hand combination in the first round by TKO. Hungary vs Lithuania 2:3.



On behalf of the organisers once again thanks for the Lithuanian team to take this long road and showing great fights. The fight-back is about to take place in Vilnius approximately at the end of 2015, we look forward!

There was **one more bout** to watch, the main bout of the event, a WMC professional fight in 66,68kg. The local favourite Albrecht Péter (Szentendre VSE), 2014 Hungarian amateur champion against Radics Róbert (Simon Gym), also two-times Hungarian muaythai champion, winner of international K-1 tournaments. Albrecht this time couldn't handle the taller opponent, however tried hard to use his strong clinch. Robert was successfully using his longer techniques throughout the



fight, and scoring in a relaxed manner. Unanimous decision, winner was Radics.

As the bottom line, we can say that these events get better and better, and the audience starts to appreciate the art of muaythai. The **growing number of athletes** wishing to participate in our tournaments as well as the growing interest of the public and the sponsors look promising! Keep up the good work!



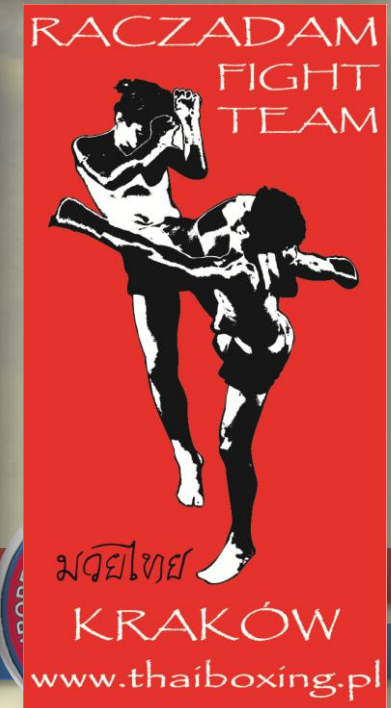


# FIRST FACULTY OF MUAYTHAI IN SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL IN POLAND



The first specialised **muaythai faculty in Poland** will start already in this year 2015/2016. Trainings for children and youth are devoid of any elements of aggression and children gain excellent physical fitness, improve ability to concentrate. One of the most important elements of training muaythai is **Whai Khru** which can be translated as a sign of respect to elders (coach, parents, peers,

teachers). This element is inextricably linked with the training muaythai. The idea of creating a sport class with such specialties met with strong support from the **Polish Muaythai Federation**, which will include the auspices of the newly formed class and engage in supervision, promotion and further development of this project.



## WORLD GAMES 2017 PARTNERS MEETING IN WROCLAW

On **29th of April** in Wroclaw there was once again meeting regarding World Games 2017. The Agenda of the meeting was about promoting activity, new media, communication and PR during the event. General Secretary of European Muaythai Federation **Rafal Szlachta** has visited this event. There was a great meeting with all the representatives of participating in World Games 2017 non Olympic sports from Poland. The event was dedicated to the topic of how to promote each of this sport in Poland. Mr. Szlachta speaks to everybody about how to promote muaythai in Poland. The first **promoting muaythai** activity in Poland in 2015 is beginning from Gala Poland VS





# MUAYTHAI AT SPORTACCORD CONVENTION



Muaythai was again one of the main attractions at the 2015 Sport Convention from the 19th to the 24th of April. IFMA's exhibition booth at the convention had over **1500 visitors** over the **3 days**, and over **1000 information packages** promoting Muaythai as a cultural art form, self-defense, fitness, and competition sport were given out to delegates and representatives from the world of sport. IFMA had a very busy booth during the convention, with dignitaries and VIPs from world of sport, the IOC, SportAccord, Olympic Council of Asia, FISU, The World Games, and so many representatives of international federations came to visit the **IFMA booth**, which has become a yearly institution at the SportAccord Convention.





## IFMA REACHES TOP 10 IN THE WORLD

The inaugural **SportBusiness Ultimate Sports Federation and Association Award** was high on the agenda at the Sport and Business Convention in Sochi, Russia. A twelve-month detailed analysis and consultation with expert judges was conducted on a total of thirty International Federations and Associations which made the original cut for the prestigious title, which was eventually narrowed down to the top 10.

The **10 finalists** for the SportBusiness Ultimate Sports Federation and Association Award was published and Muaythai is filled with joy as it is one of the top 10. The top 10 lists included FEI (Equestrianism), FIBA (Basketball), FIH (Hockey), FIS (Skiing), the ICC (Cricket), **IFMA (Muaythai)**,

IJF (Judo), the IOC (Olympics), IPC (Paralympics), and ITTF (Table Tennis).

IFMA General Secretary, Mr Stephan Fox, who also recently won the election for presidency of AIMS, stated that this is truly an honour for Muaythai to be the only non-Olympic sport place in the same group as the IOC for example. This truly shows the recognition IFMA has as the world recognized federation for the sport of Muaythai, and the respect and popularity Muaythai has in the sporting world.

IFMA will continue to promote Muaythai as a way of life. The emphasis is on cultural, educational, and sporting exchange, with the heart of it all, regardless if you practice it for fitness, health, competition,

self defence, or fun, being essentially the love for a better life.

IFMA would like to thank the judging committee for the honour, as well as all the hardworking stakeholders; to all the athletes, coaches, officials, administrators, national federations, fans and so on, thank for being a part of an over **1000 year old journey**.

Muaythai truly stands out as the only martial art which has been nominated for an international Emmy, the only non-Olympic sport winning the Spirit of Sport Award, and now, is one of the only non-Olympic martial arts recognized in the top Ultimate Sports Federations list by SportsBusiness.





## European Muaythai Federation

[www.euromuaythai.eu/](http://www.euromuaythai.eu/)  
[www.facebook.com/euromuaythai](https://www.facebook.com/euromuaythai)  
[vk.com/euromuaythai](https://vk.com/euromuaythai)