

## WAKO world championship in Morocco & Hungary 2005

Our last world championships in Morocco (September 2005) and in Hungary (December 2005) can give everybody a clear picture of WAKO achievements today. We had 350 competitors in Agadir, representing 35 nations from 4 continents; For the first time ever, the event was under the high patronage of H.H. The King Mohammed VI. The event was televised live for 2 hours nationally.

In Szeged we had 750 competitors, representing 64 nations from the 5 continents. Here too we enjoyed a fabulous promotion with live TV coverage of 3 hours.



## WAKO activities 2006

This is a view of the activities produced in the name of WAKO yearly. Note that all tournaments organize their event with different disciplines. Every second year we organize World or European Championships. Junior and Cadets Championships are organized separately the year we have European Championships for Seniors.

Jan. 27.–29.	International Tournament, <i>Estonia Open 2006</i>	Tallinn, Estonia
Jan. 28.–29.	International Tournament, <i>2nd Golden Belt</i>	Moreno di Piave, Italy
Feb. 4.–5.	International Tournament, <i>Athens Challenge 2006</i>	Athens, Greece
Mar. 4.–5.	International Tournament, <i>Irish Open 2006</i>	Dublin, Ireland
Mar. 18.	International Tournament, <i>Austrian Classics 2006</i>	Worgl, Austria
Apr. 1.	International Tournament, <i>Bosna &amp; Hercegovina Open</i>	Bihac, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Apr. 8.	International Tournament, <i>German Open 2006</i>	Ebern/Nuernberg, Germany
Apr. 8.–9.	<i>WAKO World Cup</i>	Paris, France
Apr. 22.–23.	<i>3rd International Polish Cup</i>	Wegrow, Poland
May 6.	International Tournament, <i>Benkovac 2006</i>	Benkovac, Croatia
May 6.–7.	International Tournament, <i>Judgment Day</i>	Great Britain
May 19.–21.	<i>WAKO World Cup</i>	Budapest, Hungary
Jun. 2.–4.	<i>WAKO World Cup, 11th Bestfighter</i>	Terme Salsomaggiore, Italy
Sep. 16.–17.	International Tournament, <i>26th Flandres Open 2006</i>	Bevern, Belgium
Sep. 26.–Oct. 1.	<i>WAKO World championships for cadets and juniors</i>	Zadar, Croatia
Oct. 14.–15.	International Tournament, <i>4th Italia Open – Cup Flavio Galesi 2006</i>	Bergamo, Italia
Oct. 25.–29.	<i>WAKO European Championships</i>	Lisbon, Portugal
Nov. 4.	International Tournament, <i>23rd Slovenia Open 2006</i>	Zagorje ob Savi, Slovenia
Nov. 4.	International Tournament, <i>Tokol kup 2006</i>	Tokol/Budapest, Hungary
Nov. 21.–26.	<i>WAKO European Championships</i>	Skopje, Macedonia
Dec. 8.–10.	International Tournament, <i>10th Croatia Open 2006</i>	Kutina, Croatia
Dec. 9.	<i>PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS</i> (in all WAKO disciplines)	Sao Paulo, Brazil

## WAKO-pro activities 2006

More than 50 professional galas and PRO events are produced every year all over the world. The development of these activities can be found in our web site, together with the up-coming events and the results of the previous ones.



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## Fullcontact - Semicontact - Lightcontact Thaikick - Lowkick - Musical forms - Aerokick

### WAKO

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The world of WAKO

#### Africa

Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Isle Maurice, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunis, Uganda

#### America

Argentina, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Dominican, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Usa, Venezuela

#### Asia

Bangladesh, India, Iraq, Isl. Rep.iran, Isle Maurice, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kirgystan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Palestina, Philippines, Syria, Tajikistan, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, U.a.e., uzbekistan

#### Europe

Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia Herz., Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia And Mont., Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine

#### Oceania

Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand

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## WAKO history in brief

WAKO started its activity in Europe in 1976. The founder was Mr. Georg Bruckner from Berlin, who promoted the first ever world championships in semi and full contact karate (as it was called in those days) back in 1978 with 110 competitors representing 18 countries. WAKO immediately created the rules and regulations for the new fighting sports and acted, since the very beginning, as the authentic kickboxing federation in the world. From 1979 to 1981 world championships every year, since then every two years we introduced:

- Musical forms in 1985
- Light contact in 1987
- WAKO was officially re-founded in 1988
- We opened a WAKO-pro section in 1991
- We introduced low-kick in 1991
- We introduced Thai/kickboxing in 1997
- We introduced aero/kickboxing in 2001

Today WAKO counts on a market of kickboxers estimated to be around 1,800,000 participants and no less than 6,000 clubs around the globe. We promote, nationally and internationally, more than 1,000 amateur and professional events a year. These figures speak for themselves. Now recognized as the principal European and World Kickboxing Federation, today WAKO includes WAKO-pro which is growing steadily all over the world and organizes events that spread the word about our movement, attracting thousands of spectators to sports-arenas (and even football grounds!) Together with kind words from the press, WAKO-pro only started in 1991, and in a very short time has become the leading professional body in Europe, in Asia, in South America, in the Caribbean and the Middle-east.

## About WAKO kickboxing

WAKO has gone through a long history so far, and it is logical that it has changed a lot since it moved its first steps among different existing Martial Arts.

WAKO organizes regularly international seminars for its referees and judges where all WAKO member countries can send their best people to train and refresh their refereeing skill and ability. Main goal of WAKO is to create uniformity in judging and refereeing. We have normally International Referee Committee's leaders who run the international seminars. They teach theory and practice and then they examine all candidates and decide who will be on duty during our Championships. In the end, some leaders give all international referees a licence which expires every two years. In that way, all referees and judges wishing to stay on duty have to train and to be present at our Championships.

The International Referee Committee, during our tournaments, appoints a chief referee in every fighting area. He is responsible to select the 3 or 4 referees needed in each single match.

To improve our sport, we have always been asking to both competitors and safety producers to increase their level: competitors train more scientifically and are capable of incredible performances. Safety producers are increasing the quality of their products and of their sport-wears. Our competitors use colourful uniforms and safeties that combined with their beautiful techniques, create a very exciting sport.

Mass Media in general and TV in particular are more and more interested in WAKO and WAKO-PRO activity. All WAKO competitors are AMATEURS, but we use the best we have (the best 4 in each weight division and style) to let them play with EUROPEAN and WORLD TITLES in the WAKO-PROMOTIONAL section of WAKO. This activity is improving all over the world and many private and public TVs advertise our events and their contents.

WAKO is aware of the fact that many countries do not have enough financial resources to improve the technical level of their fighters through international activity. So we send at our own expenses the best coaches here and there to increase the WAKO kickboxing knowledge. We have recently sent coaches to Jordan and Syria, for example. Or we invite, at our own expenses, leaders from different countries to visit our HQ and our best gym so to show them how to teach kickboxing and how to run gyms.

On occasion of our last World Championships in Szeged (Hungary), since Syria Kickboxing Federation is in a bad financial situation but it was willing to come, we have paid all expenses for the team. WAKO uses part of its funds coming from its members for the poorest countries. That's our sense of solidarity.

## WAKO kickboxing disciplines

We have adapted disciplines that give opportunities for our members to develop with the training and activity that attracts them. We think it's important that we can administer and coordinate all these activities in the same organizations, to develop and learn and to give our members maximum offers. Not to say this is important to increase the number of women in our sport.

**Ring sports Men & Women:**      **Tatami sports Men & Women:**

- Fullcontact
- Lowkick
- Thai/kickboxing
- Semicontact
- Lightcontact
- Musical Forms
- Aerokickboxing



## Officially recognized countries

These are the 51 countries that are officially recognized in their countries by sport authorities.

### Europe

Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Belarus, Bosnia And Herzegovina, Cyprus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldavia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine

### Africa

Algeria, Gabon, Morocco, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia.

### Asia

Irak, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestina, Syria, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

### America

Argentina, Cuba, Peru, Chile.

### Oceania

New Zealand

## Development of WAKO kickboxing

These are the main assets in our international development of WAKO kickboxing.

**Anti-doping** – We have accepted the WADA Code and adopted the official Anti-Doping rules. We are now officially affiliated to WADA. We will use this opportunity to affect this in all our work and to focus even more on fair play.

**Health and security** – That distinguishes all our work: upgrading rules, using only the best possible safeties in our tournaments, best equipment, informing fighters and coaches

about weight reduction problems and nutrition methods.

**Democratization** – We are constantly trying to better our communication, involving people and being cooperative to everybody. That also means we focus on the functioning of committees, working methods and functional rules and regulations.

**Women development** – That is important, by giving women the same offers and conditions as men. We are focusing also in including women in the development of our sport.

**Youth development** – We have and still want to develop activities for juniors and cadets. This is an important issue for WAKO and distinguishes both activities and rules. Today WAKO organizes World Championships for Juniors and Cadets.

**Referees** – Referees and judges are the key to fair play. We have built up an education program to make sure that they maximize their work.

**Profile** – Making our sport more professional by creating interesting products. Building up marketing possibilities and media potential.

**Kickboxing as a sport** – We are trying to solve the political problems of kickboxing all over the world.

**National development and implementation of kickboxing** – that means helping national federations in building up expertise in all our disciplines, development in general and by creating amateur and professional activities.

## Success

Is built up by promoting good activities with high quality fighters and carried out by loyal members and honest and hard work. Loyalty is a consequence of democratization by involving and including our members and their skills.

