



2013



EWUF

NEWSLETTER

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Voice of the President

Dear Wushu Friends,

What a wonderful experience we shared in Bucharest at our 2nd European Traditional Wushu Championship. Congratulations to Petru Grindeanu, Chairman of the events Organizing Committee. Petru and his team did an extremely good job working closely with Gleb Muzrukov head of our Technical Committee, well done to both of them and their teams of officials and helpers.

A great event with some 714 participants from 24 countries. This represents twice the number of players and countries that took part in our 1st European Traditional Wushu Championship event in 2011.

The event was well organized and well managed. Our compliments to the tutors who ran the judges courses and too the participating judges. They executed their responsibilities very seriously. Not one appeal was made against the judging decisions. Well done judges.

Once again I am pleased to see the EWUF leading the way of Wushu development. Our Congress approved the formation of a new separate event for Taiji and internal arts to be held next year. We look forward to this event being a success and ask all our members to support it and take part.

Now we are preparing for the 15th European Wushu Championship scheduled for 2014, which will also be held in Bucharest. We are working on dates and details, which will be forwarded to our Members when finalized.

We have also agreed to run the 3rd European Traditional Championship in 2015 in Bulgaria and the 16th European Wushu Championships in 2016 in Bulgaria. This degree of forward planning will improve the logistics and preparations for the participants of our European events.

Our European Wushu Grading System team headed by Gleb Muzrukov have been busy producing duan grading materials for players and judges. Now we are pleased to announce that Congress has adopted the proposal that all coaches shall require the EWGS qualification, if

they are to represent their country as coaches at EWUF events. Coaches should start to prepare for this now. We shall also be adopting an EWUF Coaching Qualification.

We encourage all our Members to adopt the European Wushu Grading System. It helps us demonstrate to the IOC we are a unified and regulated controlled sport in Europe. So please contact the EWGS team on "ewufgrading@hotmail.com" and start introducing the system in your federation now.

Finally the new Non Profit Organisation for the EWUF has been approved by Congress and a company called EWUF Limited was established in readiness for Congress who accepted it. As a result of the decision of Congress EWUF Limited exists and trades as the European Wushu Federation.

Hope to see many of you at the World Wushu Championships in Kuala Lumpur in October/ November 2013.

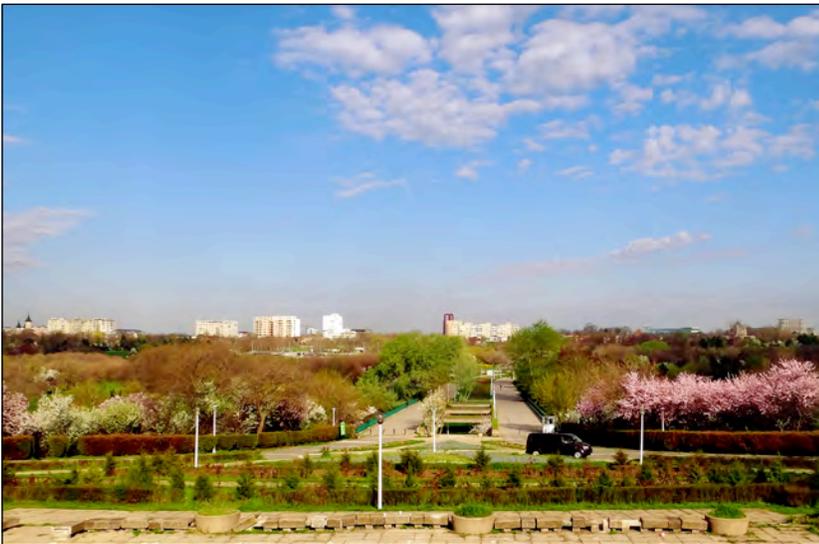
Kindest regards,

Raymond Smith
President

NEWSLETTER

Romanian spring 2013

The tremendous success of the 2d edition of EWUF Traditional Wushu Championships!



The time chosen by the organizing committee was just perfect! The park surrounding the competition site – "Sala Polyvalenta" was incredibly beautiful during this spring period with the trees in blossom, which gave the athletes the opportunity to enjoy warming up sessions outside. Another pleasant aspect was the absence of rain during the competition. All teams greatly appreciated perfectly organized meals and transportation, as well

as a high living standard in the bright new 4 star "RIN Grand Hotel". In addition to the excellent characteristics of the hotel and stadium they were located only a few blocks away from each other. This allowed those that wanted to return to the hotel outside of scheduled travel the ability to do so easily.

Definitely, the organization was just as good as in Estonia in 2011. Well done and thank you to the organizing committee!

The Dream Came True!

The dreams of the European traditional wushu community finally came true! The second edition of the European Traditional Wushu Championships held in Bucharest, Romania was a clear success. The event had a lot to contend with to match the success of the 1st edition in Tallinn, Estonia! An interesting point – the first event was attended by 320 athletes-members from 14 national teams, composed of wushu clubs and schools, the 2nd edition saw the participation of 713 athletes from 24 countries, nearly 100% increase.

This became possible because of dedicated teamwork by European Wushu Federation officers and commissions, with the full support of the local organizing committee headed by EWUF EB member Petru Grindeanu.

One of the most interesting points during the event noticed by nearly all was an incredible growth of skills in all featured competition events. Wushu people call this KUNG FU!



NEW ERA FOR EUROPEAN TAIJIQUAN

An important decision was announced at the annual EWUF Congress. The Technical Committee chairman Gleb Muzrukov announced that according to the strategy of the IWUF the EWUF shall organize next year the first-ever official European Taijiquan competition open for Taijiquan followers



from European wushu clubs. The format which is now being worked out shall consist of different events including the modern Taijiquan competition routines with degree of difficulty as defined by IWUF standard, as well as traditional taijiquan including Taiji-tuishou and Taiji weapons.



The EWUF Congress 2013

*The board stepped down to allow new elections
The elections of the Executive Council*



The annual Congress of the European Wushu Federation took place on the 10th of April in the conference room of "RIN Grand Hotel". It was attended by delegates from 25 EWUF member countries, plus 3 members being represented by proxy.

Many important issues were discussed including the creation of a new advisory body called the "EWUF Executive Council". The aim of this Council is to help improve the work of the federation. It will allow more people to be involved in the decision making process of the EWUF's strategy and tactics for our future development.

The new body is composed of 15 members (4 of them from the Executive Board) who were

unanimously elected by an open vote.

Congress discussed the situation of Mr Van Campenhout resigning from the post of the EWUF Secretary General. The EB suggested leaving the post vacant. A motion from the floor proposed elections should take place for the post. The reply from the EB was a big surprise to all delegates. The EB unanimously decided to stand down and resigned from office. This was a truly democratic way to allow full new elections. The delegate from Austria, Mr. Robert Eagle was elected to be the chairperson to conduct the work of managing the elections. The precedence for this had been set in Beijing in 1990. Nominations were requested and the members proposed to re-elect Raymond

Smith (UK) as the EWUF President. He was elected by the clear majority of votes by 25 votes for him with 2 voices against and 1 abstention. The outcome of voting for the 2 Vice Presidents turned out to be another surprise. While EWUF TC Chairman Mr. Gleb Muzrukov was elected by 26 votes for him with 1 against and 1 abstention, the election of the second Vice-President resulted in a contest between Mr. Petru Grindeanu from Romania and Mr. Henk Verschuur from the Netherlands. According to the EWUF Constitution the secret ballot method was used. The winner was Mr. Grindeanu as Vice President in charge of the Secretariat and Treasury. On the proposal of Gleb Muzrukov Henk Verschuur was elected to



The EWUF Congress 2013

the position of the 4th EB member in charge of membership and management issues.

The following people became members of the new EWUF Executive Council (EC): Paulo Araujo from Portugal, Oleg Chukanov from Ukraine, Roland Czerni from Germany, Nikolai Tychko from Belorussia, Alexander Frenkel from Israel, Azer Hassansoy from Azerbaijan, Kyastutis Kudzmanas from Lithuania, Manoil Manev from Bulgaria, Christian Pfannhauser from Austria, Priit Korve from Estonia and Roman Vlasenko from Latvia.

The venue for holding the next championship became vacant after the resignation of Mr Van Campenhout from Belgium. The delegates voted for Bucharest to be the championship host city again in 2014. The right to host the events in 2015 and 2016 was won by the Bulgarian city of Stara Zagora after a close contest with Budapest. The Bulgarian city won by 6 votes after a very good presentation by Manoil

Manev the Bulgarian Wushu Federation Vice President. Budapest was given the option to host the First EWUF Taijiquan event.

Another important decision adopted by the Congress was an amendment to the Constitution allowing EWUF officers and EC members to be elected on a personal basis, provided they have worked for the EWUF for at least 20 years. General Giuseppe Falconi from Italy was elected as a non-voting Honorary member of the EWUF EC.

The delegates expressed a deep concern about serious discrepancies found in the EWUF accounts during the period when Mr Patrick Van Campenhout from Belgium was responsible for managing the accounts. Mr Verschuur gave a report on an internal audit, which had been carried out.

Mr Urs Krebs – the current IWUF Treasurer and Swiss delegate at the Congress informed the delegates that the IWUF has

discovered the same situation with the IWUF accounts during the period that Mr Van Campenhout was the IWUF Treasurer.

Following this discussion the Congress voted to carry out an in depth audit of the accounts for the period in question.

To ensure the smooth running of the EWUF financial activities, the decision was unanimously adopted to move the accounts to the UK. Equally important it was agreed to close the Belgium NPO, which was created to manage the activities of the EWUF and replace it with an international NPO in the UK. The EWUF President Raymond Smith was given the authority to proceed with the registration formalities.

The delegates also voted to support the bid of Romania as a candidate to open and run the European Wushu Academy in Bucharest.





TAIJIQUAN TOMORROW

Shall the ancient art become an independent competition sport?



Master Liang Qianjin practicing Chenshi Taijiquan in Tiantan Garden (Beijing)

A few months ago some rumours were circulated about a project to separate Taijiquan categories in world competition events from other wushu categories, in order to make a separate Taijiquan World Championship. In fact in the past, the Chinese Wushu Association organized many dedicated Taijiquan events with great success. The same has been seen

in Europe, with the French Wushu Federation organizing "Europa Taichi" to promote this beautiful Art. What are the "pro" and "cons" of such a project? First of all, Taijiquan is quite different in dynamics from other wushu events: it emphasizes a soft, graceful style of performing routines, with the accent being put on the use of "internal force" (劲 – jing or jin), instead of using

physical force - 力 (li) as in styles like changquan (长拳) and nanquan (南拳). This particular point makes it rather difficult for judges to maintain the same level of scoring in the so-called "hard-style" routines and Taijiquan performance. Another point is that music is allowed now only in Taijiquan competition making it slightly different from other events from the spectator's point of view.



Shall the ancient art become an independent competition sport?



European Taijiquan champion Sonia Grindeanu performs a Taijishan (fan) routine.

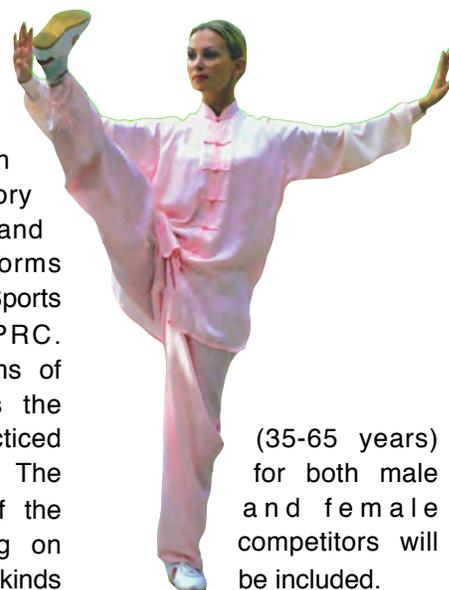
Taiji (太极) is an ancient Chinese philosophical category meaning "the Absolute or Supreme Ultimate", the source of all things according to some interpretations of Chinese mythology. Taijiquan is a form of Martial Art using Taoist principles created either by the legendary Taoist monk Zhang Sanfeng or by the Henan Wushu master Chen Wanting. With the Chenshi Taijiquan (陈氏太极拳) being recognized as an original style, the most practiced today is the Yangshi Taijiquan (杨氏太极拳), created by the famous master Yang Luchan after learning the original Chenshi in the village of Chenjiagou in Henan province of China. The Taijiquan of Yang Luchan has a more "soft" character with slower and slightly different movements than in the original Chenshi Taijiquan.

Taijiquan is very rich in content and has its own group of weapons such as Taijijian (太极剑), Taijidao (太极刀) and Taiji fan (太极扇). Of course Taijiquan has got its unique taiji-tuishou (太极推手 – pushing hands) competition, which is quite different from wushu-sanda. The richness seen in Taijiquan's well known five major traditional schools (Chen, Yang, Wu, Wu (Hao) and Sun), has been unharnessed with more and more styles now becoming popular among European Taiji followers, such as:

Lishi Taijiquan, Zhaobao Taijiquan and Wudang Zhang Sanfeng Taijiquan.

Apart from traditional styles of Taijiquan routines the compulsory competition routines and simplified Taijiquan forms created in 1956 by the Sports Committee of the PRC. Among those, "24 forms of simplified Taijiquan" is the most known and practiced Taijiquan routine today. The Technical Committee of the EWUF is now working on standards for these new kinds of dedicated Taijiquan

competition routines, which will include several groups. The first one shall be "modern" optional routines different from other events with difficulty movements. This group shall have 2 major subdivisions Taijiquan and Taijijian. The 2nd group, so far the biggest one, will be composed of all the traditional Taijiquan styles. The 3rd group shall be composed of styles like 24 forms, 48 forms and 37 forms referred to as simplified Taijiquan forms. These are recently created by living masters and are very popular in Europe. All known Taiji weapons shall be in the 4th group, with Taiji-tuishou being made a separate competition in the frame of the event. In order to popularize Taijiquan in Europe, a senior age group



(35-65 years) for both male and female competitors will be included.

Baltic News:

The creation of Baltic Wushu Federation under EWUF



The Baltic Wushu Federation founders Priit Korve (Estonia), Kestutis Kudzmanas (Lithuania), Gleb Muzrukov (Russia) and Roman Vlasenko (Latvia).

During the busy days of European traditional Wushu competition another important event took place in Bucharest, Romania. The presidents of 4 Baltic sea region Wushu federations (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Russia) created a new regional wushu organisation with an aim of helping the development of wushu in Baltic countries. With the agreement of the EWUF EC a "Baltic Wushu federation" was created, composed today of 4 countries. The new federation is open to new membership applications from baltic region countries. The president of russian wushu federation and EWUF vice-president Gleb Muzrukov was elected as president and Priit Korve (President of Estonian wushu federation) and Kestutis Kudzmanas (President of Lithuanian wushu federation) became vice-presidents. Roman Vlasenko (President of Latvian wushu federation) was elected as Secretary General. The Constitution and working structure of Baltic Wushu federation is conform to EWUF and IWUF constitutions and structures and to the Olympic Charter. The first big event of this new organisation shall be the Baltic Wushu Cup planned to be in December 2013 in Tallinn, Estonia in conjunction with invitation tournament organized by Estonian Wushu Federation.



The official emblem of Baltic Wushu Federation.