

## **JULIA FELTON**

I am honoured to be able to stand for the IBA Board of Directors. Throughout my life I have developed a range of skills which, I believe will be of assistance to IBA and its National Federations. I hold degrees in accounting and law; I have worked for 40 years in accounting, audit and program management positions. I have managed large government funding programs ensuring effective use of available resources and developing strong working relationships with stakeholders.

I have volunteered in boxing since 2003. I'm currently a Director on the Board of Boxing Australia (since 2011), I have also had the privilege of being on the IBA Women's Committee since December 2010. My goal is to drive the growth and development of boxing across the world; with seeing Women's boxing receive the acceptance and recognition it deserves as a particular passion of mine.

Should I be elected to the IBA Board of Directors, I would work to have the IOC remove the suspension of IBA and ensure boxing is included in the 2028 Olympics. Boxing is a great sport and provides so many benefits to its participants such as good health, self-respect, self-confidence, self-discipline, but most of all they get a sense of belonging to a family. It is critical to ensure the safety and welfare of the athletes, assist them to transition out of competition into other roles within boxing and set goals for their professional careers. An integral part of developing athletes is the development of other key roles i.e.; Referees, Judges, ITOs, Doctors, Coaches and Administrators at all levels. It is important to increase the numbers in these roles and provide them with the best education, training and opportunities so they can perform at the highest level with honesty and integrity.

Through my professional career, I have developed strong communication skills and can develop strong relationships with all stakeholders. I also have experience in writing Policies and guidelines.

I'm now semi-retired, with more time to dedicate to boxing. I have three adult children, and ten grandchildren, they keep me busy. I first became involved in boxing when my son was 14, struggling to find his way. I was a single mother and found it hard to guide him on my own. A friend suggested getting him into boxing, and he was hooked immediately. Boxing really helped him find his way and improved our relationship. The growth, confidence and direction it gave my son is what I love the most about boxing. Everyone is welcomed like family, and I get to watch young people achieve their goals and dreams.

I just love being involved with boxing, and being a part of its growth into the future. Recent rule changes, such as allowing beards and having a competition uniform that enables Muslim women to respect their religion while competing has opened the door to many more athletes.

It would be an honour and I promise to work for the benefit of all involved in this great sport.