



## **IBA Athletes Committee meeting**

**8th June, 2022, 14:00 CET – Zoom**

### **Attendees**

Chair – Lovlina Borgohain	Umar Kremlev
Vice Chair – Shiva Thapa	István Kovács
Member – Thabiso Selby Dlamini	Marko Petric
Member – Bel Ahbib Oumayma	Anastassiya Dlala
Member – Abner Teixeira	Anna Utkina
Member – Oleksandr Khyzhniak	Claude Ramoni
Member – Irma Testa	Yury Zaytsev
Member – Ato Faogali	Adarsh Subramanian
Member – Caitlin Parker	

### **1. Welcome remarks of the IBA President – Mr. Umar Kremlev**

The IBA President welcomed the newly elected committee highlighting an extreme importance of athletes' participation in boxing development saying it is crucial for IBA. Mr. Kremlev asked the committee members to actively promote their ideas emphasizing that direct communication with athletes and coaches is the most important thing.

Ukrainian member of the Athletes' Committee Oleksandr Khizhnyak agreed with President and added that this is not mere rhetoric because IBA really supports us and shows this support with real actions aimed at taking into account the voices of athletes around the world.

### **2. Welcome remarks of the IBA Secretary General – Mr. István Kovács**

The IBA Secretary General added that it is one of IBA's key priorities to ensure that the voices of the athletes are always heard, especially when new programs and policies are being considered. Mr. Kovács pointed out that athletes are the main reason why IBA exists and promotes boxing worldwide. He also noted that IBA would incorporate all the valuable insight that IBA had received so far before submitting the new event calendar and ranking system to the IBA Board of Directors.





### **3. Introduction of newly elected IBA Athletes Committee members**

The committee members welcomed each other and made a short introduction of themselves by agreeing unanimously that this is a great honor to represent athletes from all over the world protecting their rights and conveying their ideas to IBA.

### **4. Roll call**

The quorum needed for the elections was reached. All the committee members were present.

### **5. Election of a committee representative for the IBA Board of Directors**

Four male committee members expressed their willingness before the meeting to run for the elections to the position in the IBA Board of Directors: Shiva Thapa (India), Thabiso Selby Dlamini (Eswatini), Abner Teixeira (Brazil), Oleksandr Khyzhniak (Ukraine).

After three rounds only two candidates with the highest number of votes were left for the final voting. Abner Teixeira (Brazil) was chosen as second committee representative to the IBA Board of Directors by getting 6 votes against 3 votes given to Oleksandr Khyzhniak (Ukraine).

### **6. Competitions Calendar discussion led by IBA Head of Sport – Marko Petric**

IBA Head of Sport presented the draft of Competitions Calendar for Paris 2024 qualification. Mr. Petric explained the calendar in details asking committee members to share their opinions and concerns. The committee raised the question if Australia and New Zealand would have an opportunity to participate in Pacific Games and this was confirmed by IBA Sport Department. The committee also expressed a concern about the impact that already qualified boxers could make while competing with other athletes. Mr. Petric confirmed that those athletes who are already qualified would have right to participate in the competitions but would not be able to collect points. Mr. Petric also noted that a special attention was paid to box-off periods between competitions to give more time for preparation and recovery in case of injuries.

### **7. Olympic Ranking System discussion**

The question about the number of boxers per continent in qualification system was also addressed, and the committee was informed that this would depend on the ranking but IBA had ensured continental quota representation at the phase 3 (March 2023) which requires one boxer from each continent in a category. It was noted that there are also limits on the numbers of competitions that each boxer can participate in, however, it is secure that each one will be able to attend sufficient competitions to get enough points.





Mr. Petric emphasized that the athletes qualified at women's or men's world championships would probably attend less events since they would get more points than those who would win World Boxing Tour competition. It was noted that ranking – allocated quotas per category – would go first and then continental representation should be taken into account.

IBA Sport Department also highlighted the need to limit political aspect through organizing separate competition for those athletes who will have a tie during qualification process. Thus, only for those who have to compete for the spot a separate Last-chance tournament will be organized at the end of qualification process.

The committee agreed that this new system is a fair way to be qualified and that they are excited to participate in the proposed tournaments. Mr. Petric thanked the committee members for their comments saying that various qualification systems from other sports had been analysed while preparing the system for boxing to be sure IBA would create a fair system based on good practices. He also asked the committee to feel free to share their opinions on every concern pointing out that every issue would be addressed accordingly.

#### **8. Closing remarks by IBA Head Office**

The IBA staff thanked the committee members for a fruitful meeting and active involvement of each member in the discussion. The committee was informed that the Competitions Calendar and Olympic Ranking System would be discussed with the Competitions Committee and the final versions of the documents would be forwarded to the IBA Board of Directors for their ultimate consideration.

