

2024 World Boxing Congress

Minutes

**Sunday 3 November 2024 – In person and online
2pm Colorado Springs, USA**

1. Welcome

World Boxing President, Boris van der Vorst welcomed everyone to the 2024 World Boxing Congress, both in person and online and thanked the USA Boxing for hosting the U19 World Championships and the World Boxing Congress.

Tyson Lee, President USA Boxing also welcomed everyone from around the world stating that boxing brings together all walks of life and that together we can make a difference. World Boxing continues the journey to keep the Olympic dream alive for young boxers. USA Boxing was honoured to welcome everyone to Colorado Springs.

2. President Speech

One year ago World Boxing made the foundation with 28 countries and we are grateful for the bravery and trust these Federations made towards World Boxing. We are now nearly double that number which is a remarkable achievement. I speak to boxers around the world who are dedicated to the sport and want the Olympic dream. Boxing is still at risk but we have a chance of success with a credible pathway to stay in the Olympic Games in LA28.

In recent weeks we have gained the trust of organisations where we will be responsible for running boxing at the Commonwealth Games, Combat Games and Military Games. We have formal engagement with the IOC and are being evaluated on our performance as an International Federation. Our progress over the past year would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our National Federations, board members, and executive team.

We have launched the Olympic Commission under Gennady Golovkin with the task of facilitating more National Federation members and opening additional revenue streams for World Boxing. At continental level, work has started on forming Continental Confederations with diverse and inclusive members to enrich our governance structure.

World Boxing has held high level competitions in the last year in USA, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Czech Republic, Netherlands and Mongolia. For 2025 there is a robust calendar of events and we recently announced the 2025 World Championships host as Liverpool, England.

Thank you to the World Boxing staff, the Executive Board for their dedication and hard work on behalf of World Boxing. Thank you to Mike McAtee and USA Boxing for their work as they are one of the main building blocks of World Boxing. World Boxing is paving the way for Olympic boxing, be proud! There is much left to achieve and we need to have a co-ordinated effort as we look forward to a successful year ahead together.

3. Roll Call of participants

24 of the original National Federation members were present at the roll call at the start of the Congress.

4. Approval of Congress Agenda

No new items were raised so the Congress Agenda was approved.

5. Approval of minutes from the Inaugural Congress 2023

The minutes from the 2023 Inaugural Congress were unanimously approved.

6. Approval of new Full Members to World Boxing

The Congress unanimously approved 18 new members to increase from 28 to 46 members. The number of National Federations who were present and could vote after the approval of the new members increased to 39 for the Congress.

7. Discussion and approval of World Boxing Statutes changes

The principle of one vote, one country as a rule was approved by the Congress (79 votes in favour, 3 not in favour, 1 abstain).

The principle of holding the World Boxing Congress yearly was approved by the Congress (81 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 0 abstain).

The Congress agreed to give the authority for the Executive Board to amend the wording of the Statutes until 18 December 2024 in order to finalise the document (78 votes in favour, 2 not in favour, 2 abstain).

8. Report by Secretary General

The Secretary General gave an update on the progress of World Boxing in relation to the Strategic Plan 2025-2028 and the five pillars of activities. There were no questions raised at the end of the presentation.

9. Report by Sport and Competition Committee Chair

The Chair thanked the Committee members for their work in completing the recent U19 World Boxing Championships. The competition rule changes were important to approve so that the sport could continue to develop and be managed correctly. The Sport and Competition Committee was committed to ensuring more competitions in 2025 to 2027 for National Federations.

Report by Medical and Anti-doping Committee Chair

The Chair thanked his Committee members and highlighted that the Medical Committee had launched a Training Physicians module for World Boxing which the first group of participants had passed recently in Pueblo, USA.

10. Report by Finance and Audit Committee Chair

Finance needed further development for World Boxing. The growth of the Sport Department and additional events required more investment. For 2025 it was important to identify investment and sponsor opportunities. Expenses and costs were kept to a minimum the last year.

11. 2024 Financial Report

12. Provisional 2025 Financial Budget

The Congress approved the 2024 Financial Report and the provisional 2025 Financial Budget (74 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 0 abstain).

13. Approval of Financial Auditors

Fidurev SA, from Assens, Switzerland was approved as the financial auditors for World Boxing.

14. Discussion and approval of Competition Rules changes

There were five main proposals for changes to the Competition Rules.

The Congress agreed to remove the limitation of number of boxers in Oceania competitions (67 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 6 abstain).

The Congress agreed ranking transfer when boxers changed weight category (69 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 2 abstain).

The Congress approved the new 10 weight categories for each gender (73 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 1 abstain).

The Congress approved the refinement and clarification of the scoring criteria for boxing (71 votes in favour, 3 not in favour, 0 abstain).

The Congress approved the removal of the RandJ Observer (64 votes in favour, 5 not in favour, 4 abstain).

15. Proposal to approve new members starting from 4 November 2024

The Congress unanimously voted (73 votes in favour, 0 not in favour, 0 abstain) an additional nine (9) new members to World Boxing starting 4th November 2024. The total number of members for World Boxing increased to 55.

16. Proposal for the next Congress

The date and location of the next Congress would be announced by the World Boxing Executive Board in the near future.

17. Any other business

Singapore – Would World Boxing publish fully audited accounts? Yes, this would be sent to all NFs and published early 2025 when the first full year of formal accounts were produced.

Philippines – Recommended to consider bout review process for competitions. World Boxing was assessing various types of scoring and review options to increase validity and fairness of the bouts.

Gennady Golovkin – “Thank you everyone for your input today, I am honoured to be here. It is important time for boxing. I have huge experience in Olympic style boxing and we will work to keep it in the Olympic Games.”

Boris van der Vorst – “Thank you for your support to World Boxing and real teamwork. This Congress is a significant milestone in IOC recognition and our battle to keep boxing in the Olympic Games. Thank you to USA Boxing for hosting the Congress. Thank you to the 55 member federations for your trust in us and our common goal of keeping boxing at the Olympic Games.”

The Congress was officially closed.