



January 2025

**Re: Membership Applications to World Boxing**

Dear National Federation President and General Secretary, dear friends,

World Boxing has experienced tremendous growth as it has achieved several milestones on its pathway to IOC recognition. As of December 1, 2024, World Boxing is comprised of 60+ members. We successfully completed our second Congress in Colorado, USA, and passed several significant proposals that enhanced our governance, statutes, and competition rules.

This Congress came on the heels of World Boxing's first Under-19 World Championship, where over 180 boxers from 19 National Federations competed. Our competition calendar consists of World Boxing Cups and World Boxing Challenges across all continents, and we look forward to sharing this calendar with National Federations in January 2025. We continue to build out our Sport Department which is leveraging the best practices from the IOC's Paris Boxing Unit (PBU) to ensure integrity of our sport. We also continue to invest time and resources into enhancing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) solution to drive accountability and data in refereeing and judging.

On 2 April 2024, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) upheld the decision of the Session of the IOC (22 June 2023) to withdraw recognition of IBA. This was a significant moment as it made it absolutely clear that the International Boxing Association (IBA) is no longer part of the Olympic Movement and will never again be allowed to organize a boxing tournament at the Olympic Games and multi-sport competitions such as Asian Games and Pan-Am Games.

It was followed by a statement from the IOC ([HERE](#)) in which it expressed a desire to partner with a new International Federation that is committed to 'good governance, the integrity of competitions, transparency of finances and accounts, and autonomy' and has the support of National Federations. Shortly after this, the IOC held its first meeting with World Boxing ([DETAILED HERE](#)) on 6 May 2024 where leaders from the two organizations began discussions about the pathway to ensuring that boxing remains a part of the Olympic Games.

As recently as the December 5, 2024 IOC [Executive Board Press Conference](#), regarding boxing's inclusion in LA2028 programme, IOC President Bach mentioned: *"This is in the hands of the National Boxing Federations, whether they want to give their athletes the opportunity to win Olympic medals or not. It's very easy, and there we*

*see there are some moves with a number of Federations. We are watching this. When the time comes, then we have to make, like for any recognition, a provisional recognition of any International Federation. We have to make an assessment whether there is a federation, and in this moment, it looks like the only one it could be is World Boxing, whether they are meeting the criteria which we have for such a situation...to be very clear, it cannot be IBA. This story is over for all of the reasons, the governance, the ethical reasons, you know..."*

With its public comments and its subsequent decision to engage directly with World Boxing, the IOC has sent a clear and unambiguous message to all National Federations (and their National Olympic Committees) that if they want boxers from their country to have the life-changing opportunity to continue to compete at future Olympic Games then they must now support and seek to join World Boxing. This is the only path that will see our sport remain in the Olympic Games after Paris 2024 and National Federations must act now if they want boxing to have any chance of boxing still being part of the programme at Los Angeles 2028.

We continue to urge and invite all National Federations to seek to join our organisation, which will strengthen boxing's position for inclusion in the LA28 Olympic programme.

To begin the process of your National Federation joining World Boxing fill out the membership questionnaire and e-mail it back to [membership@worldboxing.org](mailto:membership@worldboxing.org), [simon.toulson@worldboxing.org](mailto:simon.toulson@worldboxing.org) and/or [mike.mcatee@worldboxing.org](mailto:mike.mcatee@worldboxing.org).

World Boxing understands that the decision to join World Boxing by a National Federation must adhere to proper governance in your territory.

World Boxing aims to put the interests of boxers first and ensure that boxing remains at the heart of the Olympic movement.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Toulson  
Secretary General  
WORLD BOXING