



ISTVÁN KOVÁCS

Istvan "Koko" Kovacs

Career facts: <https://boxrec.com/en/proboxer/7490>

Born: 17.08.1970

Nickname: Koko

Clubs:

EVIG SE, VASAS SC, TSC Boxring Berlin, BC Flensburg, Universum Boks-Promotion

Trainers:

Zoltan Wallenhofer, Gyula Bodis, Imre Szanto, Fritz Sdunek

Career:

As amateur 297 fights: 282 wins, 1 draw, 14 defeats

1996 – Atlanta Olympic Gold medalist

1993 – Barcelona Olympic Bronze medalist

1991, 1997 – Two times Amateur World Champion

1991, 1996 – Two times Amateur European Champion

1993 – Amateur European Championship Bronze medalist

1990 – World Cup silver medalist

1994 – World Cup bronze medalist

1988 – Junior European Champion

1989-1992 & 1994-1996 – Seven times Hungarian Champion

As professional 23 bouts: 22 wins, 1 defeat

1999 - WBC International Champion

2000 – EBU European Champion

2001 – WBO World Champion

Awards:

- Young sportman of the year – third place (1988)
- Excellent young Sportsman of the year (1988)
- Boxer of the year in Hungary (1990-1991, 1994 -1997) six times
- Sportsman of the year - Hungary (1991, 1996) two times
- Sportsman of the year – Hungary Second place (1997)
- Bronze Cross of Merit of the Republic of Hungary (1992)
- Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary (1996)
- The World's best amateur boxer (1997)
- Golden Placket by the President of Hungary (1999)
- Boxer of the year by EBU (2000)
- Grand Cross of Merit of the Republic of Hungary (2002)
- Hungarian Olympic Committee Fair Play lifetime award (2015)

Additional information:

- First Hungarian Amateur World Champion.
- First Hungarian Professional World Champion.
- The only Hungarian boxer who collected all titles in professional and amateur boxing.
- 23 times Marathon finisher (New York, Vienna, Madrid, Barcelona, Athens, Berlin, Rome, Budapest, Moscow, Sevilla, St. Tropez and Paris)
- 6 times Ironman finisher (2015-2020 Nagyatád)

Studies:

- Ihász Dániel High School (1984-1988)
- Bachelor of Arts in Business Studies - IBS, International Business School (2005)
- Sports Manager Degree - University of Physical Education of Hungary (2012)
- Coaching Degree - University of Physical Education of Hungary (2020)

Languages:

B1 English business (LCCI 2005), German Advanced level, Hungarian fluent

Business & Public Activities:

- 2002-2010 Owner of Boxutca restaurant
- 2010-present Owner of LaPampa Argentinian Stakehouse
- 2002-present WBO official
- 2004-present WBO European Vice President
- 2004-present Goodwill Ambassador at the Hungarian Interchurch Aid
- 2004-2008 Member of the Hungarian Ski Association
- 2005-present Professional box officials degree – USA license
- 2007-2013 President of honor of the Hungarian Boxing Association
- 2008-2013 President of the professional committee of the Hungarian Boxing Association
- 2008-present Member of the Hungarian Olympic Committee
- 2012 Leader of the preparation committee for the London Olympics
- 2010-2019 Member of the Board for Civil Services advisory board
- 2011-2014 Member of the advisory board for Erzsebet camp (sports camp for Hungarian children), coordinator for sport theme activities
- 2017-present Member of the Supervisor Board at the Hungarian Olympic Committee
- 2018-2021 Member of the IOC Olympic Boxing Task Force
- 2021-2022 AIBA – IBA Secretary General
- 2024 President of the Hungarian Boxing Association

Media Career:

- 2002-2006 RTL Klub - commercial TV channel
- 2006-2014 SportKlub – sports TV channel
- 2008-2015 Láncíd radio
- 2014-2019 Ozon Network – commercial TV channel
- 2014-2020 Presztizs Sport magazine
- 2015-2020 M4 Sport – sports channel