

Saheed Ali Takleef

IRQ

Candidate to the position of World Boxing Executive Board Member

Candidature nomination form - sections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

Section 5 –Qualifications and professional background

This section asks about your qualifications and professional background.

Your answers will help Members assess your knowledge, skills and experience and how they support your

ability to perform this role.

List your relevant qualifications

Qualifications and Professional Background Mr. Ali Takleef Shaheed has extensive professional experience in boxing, sports administration, governance and financial management. He is a former Asian and Arab boxing champion and previously served as an international boxing referee. He later held the position of Treasurer of the Iraqi Boxing Federation, where he gained practical experience in budgeting, financial oversight and institutional administration.

List any governance or board training.

He subsequently served as President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation for two consecutive terms, overseeing the Federation's administrative, financial, technical and competition-related activities. He was also elected as a member of Asian Boxing, representing the West Asia region.

List any professional memberships or licences.

His combined experience as an athlete, referee, financial officer, federation president and regional representative has provided him with a comprehensive understanding of boxing governance, competition management, strategic planning and international sports relations. This background enables him to contribute effectively to the work and decision-making of the World Boxing Executive Board.

Section 6 –Boxing and sport experience

This section asks about your experience in boxing and insport. Your answers will help Members assess your knowledge of the sport and how your experience supports your ability to contribute to WorldBoxing.

Your experience in boxing

I have extensive lifelong experience in boxing as an athlete, international referee, financial administrator and sports leader. I competed at a high level and achieved the titles of Asian Boxing Champion and Arab Boxing Champion. After my competitive career, I served as an international boxing referee, which gave me practical knowledge of technical rules, officiating standards, athlete safety and competition management.

I later served as Treasurer of the Iraqi Boxing Federation, with responsibilities related to financial administration, budgeting and institutional oversight. I subsequently became President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation and have served for two terms, leading its administrative, financial, technical and sporting activities. I was also elected as a member of Asian Boxing, representing the West Asia region.

Your experience in sport

My sports experience has been primarily focused on boxing, where I have served in several different capacities: athlete, international referee, Treasurer, Federation President and regional representative. These roles have provided me with practical experience in sports leadership, administration, governance, financial oversight, national-team development, competitions and international relations.

As President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation, I have worked with athletes, coaches, referees, administrators, clubs, governmental institutions, the Iraqi National Olympic Committee and international boxing organisations.

Your knowledge of international sport.

I have strong practical knowledge of international sport through my experience as an international boxing referee, President of a National Federation and elected member of Asian Boxing representing West Asia.

I understand the importance of international technical regulations, good governance, athlete protection, integrity, anti-doping, fair competition and cooperation between National Federations, Continental Associations and international sports organisations.

My experience has also given me an understanding of the different sporting, administrative and financial circumstances faced by National Federations, particularly in developing regions.

Your experience at events

I have participated in national, regional and international boxing events in different roles. As an athlete, I competed at Asian and Arab levels. As an international referee, I was involved in the technical conduct and officiating of boxing competitions.

As President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation, I have overseen and supported the organisation of national championships, the preparation of national teams and Iraq’s participation in international competitions. My responsibilities have included administrative supervision, delegation management, coordination with organisers, compliance with competition requirements and representation of the Iraqi Boxing Federation.

Explain how this experience helps you in this role.

My experience enables me to assess boxing matters from several perspectives: athlete, referee, administrator, financial officer, National Federation President and regional representative.

This broad background will help me contribute practical and balanced views to the World Boxing Executive Board. I understand the technical needs of the sport, the responsibilities of National Federations, the importance of sound financial management and the need for transparent and accountable governance.

I can also contribute the perspective of Iraq, West Asia and developing boxing nations while acting

Section 7 –Governance experience and capability

Good governance is important to ensure that World Boxing is well managed, makes sound decisions and acts in the best interests of the sport.The questions below help show your experience and abilityto contribute to this.

List your board or committee roles including with World Boxing

President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation.
Elected member of Asian Boxing, representing the West Asia region.
Member of the Executive Board of the Iraqi Boxing Federation in my capacity as President.
I do not currently hold a position within World Boxing.

Areas of knowledge or expertise (tick as many as apply or None)

Strategic planning

Governance

Finance and budgeting

Policy development

Stakeholder engagement

Risk management

Operations

Communications

Give examples of your governance work if applicable, including a difficult decision you have had to deal with:

Governance example 1

One important governance responsibility during my presidency has been setting priorities for the Iraqi Boxing Federation while balancing sporting needs, financial capacity and the requirements of national and international competitions.

My role was to review the available information, consult the Executive Board and relevant technical officials, assess the financial and organisational implications and guide the Board towards a documented decision.

I focused on ensuring that decisions were made collectively, transparently and in accordance with the Federation’s regulations. This approach allowed the Federation to continue organising national competitions, supporting national teams and fulfilling its international obligations within the resources available.

Governance example 2

Another important governance responsibility has involved representing Iraqi boxing at the Asian level while also considering the wider interests of the West Asia region.

My role has been to communicate the concerns and priorities of National Federations, participate constructively in discussions and support decisions that promote fair opportunities, regional development and stronger international cooperation.

I have sought to separate national interests from my wider regional responsibilities and to consider each matter objectively. This experience strengthened my ability to work with different stakeholders, manage competing priorities and support decisions based on the long-term interests of the sport.

Governance vs Operations

Governance is the responsibility of setting strategy, establishing policies, providing oversight, managing risk and ensuring that an organisation acts lawfully, ethically and in its best interests. A Board should define direction, approve major decisions, monitor performance and hold management accountable.

Operations are the day-to-day activities used to implement the strategy and decisions approved by the Board. These activities are normally carried out by management, staff and operational committees.

As an Executive Board Member, I would focus on strategy, oversight and collective decision-making rather than interfering in routine management. I would study the available information, listen to other members, declare any conflict of interest and make independent decisions in the best interests of World Boxing.

Describe what you think this role involves:

The role of an Executive Board Member involves contributing to the strategic direction, governance and oversight of World Boxing. The main responsibilities include reviewing policies, financial and sporting matters, monitoring risks and performance and ensuring compliance with the Statutes, Code of Ethics and applicable regulations.

At meetings, I would prepare carefully, review all documents, ask relevant questions, contribute practical experience and vote independently in the best interests of World Boxing.

I would work respectfully and constructively with the President, other Board Members, committee chairs, management and Member Federations. I would support collective decisions once properly adopted.

When dealing with difficult decisions, I would consider the facts, rules, financial and sporting consequences and the interests of athletes and Member Federations. I would declare any conflict of interest and would not participate where required.

Section 8 –Motivation for nomination

This section asks why you are seeking this role and what you would bring to World Boxing. Your answers will help Members assess your motivation, judgement and ability to contribute to the leadership of World Boxing.

Why do you want this role?

I am seeking election to the World Boxing Executive Board because I want to contribute my experience to the continued development, stability and international growth of boxing.

My career has allowed me to understand the sport from the perspectives of an athlete, international referee, financial administrator, National Federation President and elected Asian Boxing representative. I believe this combination of experience can provide practical value to the Executive Board.

I also want to ensure that the experiences and challenges of National Federations from West Asia and developing boxing nations are understood within the international decision-making process. However, if elected, I will act independently and in the best interests of World Boxing as a whole, rather than representing only one Federation or region.

I support transparent governance, athlete-centred development, fair opportunities for Member Federations and strong cooperation between World Boxing, Continental Associations and national bodies.

What will you contribute?

I will contribute extensive practical boxing experience, regional knowledge and a strong understanding of National Federation administration.

My background includes success as an Asian and Arab champion, service as an international referee, financial experience as Treasurer of the Iraqi Boxing Federation and leadership experience as President of the Federation for two terms. I was also elected to Asian Boxing as a representative of West Asia.

This experience will allow me to contribute to discussions involving competitions, technical development, finance, governance, athlete pathways and the needs of Member Federations.

I will bring a constructive and cooperative approach to the Executive Board. I will review matters carefully, listen to different views, ask appropriate questions and make independent decisions based on the Statutes, evidence and the best interests of World Boxing.

I will also support stronger communication and cooperation with Member Federations, particularly those that require greater technical, organisational and institutional support.

What experience or judgement do you bring

I bring experience developed across several levels of boxing. As a former athlete and international referee, I understand competition, technical standards, fairness and athlete safety. As a former Treasurer, I understand the importance of budgeting, financial control and responsible use of resources.

As President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation for two terms, I have been responsible for leadership, institutional decision-making, administration, competitions, national teams and international relations. As an elected member of Asian Boxing representing West Asia, I have also gained experience in regional cooperation and working with Federations that have different needs and resources.

My judgement is based on listening carefully, examining the available facts, consulting relevant expertise and considering both immediate and long-term consequences. I understand that an Executive Board Member must act independently, manage conflicts of interest and place the interests of World Boxing above personal, national or regional interests.

Section 9 –Candidate statement

This is your principal statement in support of your campaign for election. This will be published as you write it. It will not be edited. You are responsible for its content. If you have used AI tools or other external assistance in preparing this statement, you must disclose this so that Members can make an informed assessment of your candidature. Failure to disclose the use of AI tools, or presenting AI-generated content as your own, may constitute a breach of the World Boxing Code of Ethics and may result in action being taken under the World Boxing Rules and Policies.

Candidate statement

I am honoured to present my candidature for election as a Member of the World Boxing Executive Board.

Boxing has been a central part of my life. I began as an athlete and achieved the titles of Asian Boxing Champion and Arab Boxing Champion. I later served as an international boxing referee, which strengthened my understanding of technical standards, fairness, athlete safety and the responsibilities associated with international competition.

My career then progressed into sports administration. I served as Treasurer of the Iraqi Boxing Federation, where I gained experience in financial administration, budgeting and institutional oversight. I subsequently became President of the Iraqi Boxing Federation and have served for two terms, leading its administrative, financial, technical and sporting activities.

I was also elected as a member of Asian Boxing, representing the West Asia region. This role has given me a wider understanding of the opportunities and challenges faced by National Federations across our region.

I believe World Boxing requires strong governance, transparent decision-making, financial responsibility and effective cooperation with its Member Federations. It must continue to place athletes, sporting integrity and the sustainable international development of boxing at the centre of its work.

If elected, I will act independently and in the best interests of World Boxing. I will bring the practical perspective of an athlete, referee, financial administrator, Federation President and regional representative. I will listen carefully to Members, work constructively with my colleagues and contribute to decisions based on evidence, fairness and the applicable rules.

I will support the continued development of competitions, athlete pathways, technical officials and National Federations. I will also advocate for fair opportunities and appropriate institutional support for developing boxing nations, while recognising my duty to serve the entire international boxing community.

I respectfully ask the Members of World Boxing to consider my experience, commitment and readiness to serve.

AI Assistance Disclosure: This statement was prepared with drafting assistance from an artificial intelligence tool due to time constraints. The final statement was reviewed, amended and approved by the candidate.