

Igenev Rauan

KAZ

Candidate to the positions of:

- World Boxing Vice President
  - World Boxing Executive Board Member
  - World Boxing Sport & Competition Committee Chair
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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

- Bachelor's degree in Finance, International Academy of Business (2011)
- Master of Science in International Business, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen (2014)
- International Master Programme in Olympic Studies, German Sport University Cologne (2027)
- Professional background combines international business education with senior public administration experience in sport, including service as Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Sport of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and direct governance experience as Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation.

## List any governance or board training.

- Member of the Legal Council of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan, providing ongoing exposure to Olympic movement governance frameworks and legal-regulatory practice
- Practical governance training gained through direct oversight of federation strategy, financial planning, and international compliance as Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation, applying good governance principles in line with World Boxing standards

## List any professional memberships or licences.

- Member of the Legal Council of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Executive Director, Kazakhstan Boxing Federation

## Explain how your background will help you in this role.

I have worked on both sides of sport policy - shaping it as Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Sport, where I helped coordinate Kazakhstan's participation in Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018, and then implementing it directly as Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation. In that role, I built a development strategy that gave us real depth in every weight category - enough boxers prepared and financed to compete on several fronts internationally at once, rather than fielding a single team and hoping for the best. We strengthened our media presence, delivered a successful World Boxing Cup Astana 2025, and secured the right to host the 2027 World Boxing Championships. This blend of policy-level thinking and hands-on delivery is exactly what I'd bring to the Executive Committee and the Sports and Competition Committee

# 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

Executive Director, Kazakhstan Boxing Federation. Took over a federation with no real direction and rebuilt it - new strategy, secured financing, and strong benches in every weight category across both our men's and women's teams, so we're never limited to a single lineup when international opportunities arise. Also grew our media presence and deepened engagement with World Boxing and Asian Boxing.

## Your experience in sport

Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Sport of the Republic of Kazakhstan (2018-2019).  
Overseeing national sport policy and coordinating Kazakhstan's participation in Olympic Games, including Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018.  
Director of the Department of Educational, Scientific Activities, and International Cooperation, Nur-Sultan (2019-2021).  
Member of the Legal Council of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

## Your knowledge of international sport.

I have seen Olympic-level coordination from the government side, through Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018, and I now work with World Boxing and Asian Boxing directly as head of a national federation - on competition, development, and governance matters. We also run regular joint training camps with teams from Asia and Europe, which keeps me close to how other federations actually operate day to day.

**Your experience at events**

I led the Organising Committee for the World Boxing Cup Astana 2025, delivering a successful international competition. Regularly organises international training camps bringing together International teams, and works with sponsors to finance these joint programmes.

**Explain how this experience helps you in this role.**

My combined experience spanning national sport policy, Olympic Games coordination, federation governance, and hands-on event delivery gives me a practical, well-rounded understanding of what boxing needs at the international level. Having led the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation's turnaround - from strategy and financing to athlete pipeline development and successful delivery of the World Boxing Cup Astana 2025 - I understand both the operational and strategic challenges facing national federations. This, combined with strong working relationships across World Boxing and Asian Boxing, positions me to contribute meaningfully to the Executive Committee and to the Sports and Competition Committee's work on competition standards, athlete development, and international cooperation.

**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 ability to contribute to this.

**List your board or committee roles including with World Boxing**

- Executive Director, Kazakhstan Boxing Federation (since February 2024)
- Member of the Legal Council of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Active participant in World Boxing and Asian Boxing initiatives on behalf of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation

**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

Legal and compliance

Communications

Technology and digital transformation

International sport diplomacy and Olympic movement affairs - building international and inter-federation cooperation to advance athlete development and competition standards.

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

**Governance example 1**

Issue: On taking office in February 2024, the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation lacked a coherent development strategy, stable financing, or a structured athlete pipeline.

Role: Executive Director, responsible for turning the federation's direction around.

Action: Personally led the design of a new strategic development plan aligned with good governance principles, secured new sources of financing, and established a structured selection and preparation

system to ensure consistent international representation across weight categories.

Result: The federation now sends 4-5 boxers per weight category to international competitions on a regular basis, has a functioning media segment, and has significantly raised its international standing, culminating in Kazakhstan being awarded the right to host the World Boxing Championships 2027.

## Governance example 2

Issue: Kazakhstan needed to prove it could organise and govern a major international competition to the standard World Boxing expects.

Role: Chair of the Organising Committee, World Boxing Cup Astana 2025.

Action: Directed planning and delivery - coordinating financing, logistics, and stakeholder relations across multiple parties, and making the calls needed to keep everything on track and within budget.

Result: The event was delivered successfully and on budget, with no major incidents - proof that our federation could run a competition to international standard, not just compete in one.

## Governance vs Operations

Governance is about setting direction, policy, and standards, and ensuring the organisation acts with integrity and accountability - it is the "what" and "why." Operations is about implementing that direction day-to-day - the "how." As a board or committee member, my role is to contribute to strategy, oversee that decisions serve the best interests of the sport, and hold management accountable, without stepping into operational execution. I make decisions collaboratively, drawing on evidence and stakeholder input, and act transparently and with integrity, particularly where interests may conflict.

## Describe what you think this role involves:

Main responsibilities: Contributing to strategic direction of the Sports and Competition Committee and the Executive Committee; ensuring competition rules, athlete development, and governance standards serve the best interests of boxing globally; representing the interests of Members fairly.

At meetings: Coming prepared, contributing informed and constructive input, asking rigorous questions, and participating actively in decision-making rather than deferring silently.

Working with other members: Collaborating openly, respecting diverse regional perspectives, building consensus while being willing to raise difficult issues when necessary.

Difficult decisions: Basing decisions on evidence and the long-term interests of the sport, consulting relevant stakeholders, being transparent about the reasoning, and being accountable for the outcome.

## 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 took over the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation in February 2024 when it had no clear strategy, no stable funding, and no consistent pathway for athletes. Since then, we've rebuilt it from the ground up - a new development strategy, secured financing, and a system that now sends 4-5 boxers per weight to compete across several international competitions. That experience taught me what good governance actually looks like in practice, not just on paper: transparency, accountability, and a genuine commitment to athletes first. I want to bring that same discipline to World Boxing, at a moment when the organisation needs steady, capable hands to keep building trust and structure across the sport.

### What will you contribute?

I bring a track record of building things that work - not just plans, but results people can see. In under two

years we turned around a struggling federation, delivered a successful World Boxing Cup Astana 2025, and secured the World Boxing Championships 2027 for Kazakhstan. I also bring strong, active relationships across federations, built through regular joint training camps and sponsor partnerships. To World Boxing, I'd bring the same practical, athlete-centred approach: sound financial judgement, a bias toward action, and a genuine belief in continuous institutional growth rather than standing still.

### **What experience or judgement do you bring**

My judgement comes from having sat on both sides of the table - as a government advisor shaping national sport policy, and as an executive responsible for turning strategy into results on the ground. As Advisor to the Minister, I saw how decisions at government level ripple down to athletes and federations. As Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation, I've had to make those decisions myself, under real pressure, with real accountability for the outcome. That combination - policy-level perspective plus operational experience - is what shapes how I'd approach governance at World Boxing: grounded, transparent, and always focused on what actually helps the sport grow.

## **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**

My name is Rauan Igenev. I'm standing for election as Vice President, Executive Committee, and Chair of the Sports and Competition Committee of World Boxing.

I've spent my career at the point where sport policy meets real-world delivery. As Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Sport of the Republic of Kazakhstan, I helped shape national sport policy and coordinated our country's participation in the Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Games - an early view of how decisions at the top land on athletes and federations.

In February 2024, I took over as Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation. It had no real strategy, no stable financing, and no structured way to develop athletes. We started from very little. Since then, we've built a full development strategy, secured sustainable financing, and put in place a system that maintains 4-5 boxers per weight category across our men's and women's teams, giving us the depth to compete across several international competitions. We've grown our media presence, deepened cooperation with World Boxing and Asian Boxing, and run regular joint training camps with international teams. I was proud to chair the Organising Committee for the World Boxing Cup Astana 2025, and equally proud that Kazakhstan secured the right to host the World Boxing Championships 2027.

I'm also a Member of the Legal Council of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan, giving me exposure to Olympic movement governance.

I'm standing because World Boxing is at an important stage in its development, and I want to bring what I've learned - building strategy from nothing, being transparent, securing sustainable funding, and following through with real accountability - to help it grow stronger. I see these three roles as one mission, not three separate jobs.

As Chair of the Sports and Competition Committee, my priority would be protecting what matters most - fair, transparent competition, and real opportunities for every athlete to rise, regardless of federation or resources. I know what it takes to build that from nothing, because that is what we did in Kazakhstan. As Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee, I would stand behind our President and Members as a partner - showing up prepared, telling the truth even when inconvenient, and bringing the same discipline that turned our federation around: sound judgement, real accountability, and decisions made in the open.

I have seen what boxing gives a young athlete who has nothing else - dignity, discipline, a reason to believe in themselves. I have seen a federation rebuilt from almost nothing into something people are proud of. That is why I am standing here, asking for your trust.

If elected, I will treat this not as three positions, but as one promise - to this sport, and to every athlete counting on us to get it right.

I'd be honoured to serve World Boxing's Members, and I ask for your support.

Rauan Igenev

Prepared with the assistance of AI language tools based on my own experience and input.