



CONSTITUTION

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Introduction To The President

In February of 2020, I had the extraordinary honour of being made President of the WFMC organisation taking over from President Emeritus Isa Akkus.

This represents a highpoint in my own personal journey. It also represents the start of the next phase of that journey; one which I am incredibly excited to be taking my first few steps on as this next decade gets underway.

I'm Wayne Edwards. I've dedicated my life to martial arts and am forever grateful that I have been able to do so. Presently, I'm a 6th degree blackbelt, holding multiple belts across a number of martial arts disciplines. I have competed at world class levels as a British champion, World Champion and had the extraordinary honour of being the British Team Coach and GB President. I have been married for 11 years, have three children all of whom 2 are former World Champions and 1 is just 3 years old. In fact, our family motto is 'a family that kicks together, stays together.' To say that martial arts is a big part of my life would be like comparing it to oxygen or water!

From very ordinary beginnings, my wife Mandy and I built up a series of academies in the northwest of England where today, our main academy has over 250 regular students. I owned one of the leading security training businesses in the United Kingdom. Overall, my martial arts businesses make us one of the most successful schools in the country.

I am very proud of what we have achieved, with relatively little, since starting back in late 2001. My belief is the very things which I learnt over many years and that we now teach in the martial arts make creating success like this more likely. This is one of the basic tenets I want to bring to my presidency of the WFMC. I have a vision where we have a worldwide membership that teaches values and traits like loyalty, integrity, discipline, courtesy and courage alongside proven business systems which means that wherever you are in the world, building a life and thriving business founded on these basic principle that make up our 'way' will help WFMC members achieve their own success too. I want the leading multi-styled academies and martial arts centres across the world to be affiliated with WFMC. I want them to claim that their success is because they are part of our organisation. I want them to say that because they apply these methodologies which are universal, timeless and have been part of the martial arts for thousands of years, that this is how they achieved their success too.

I've been in the place, many years ago, when I had great student numbers, but it felt like I was running a gym. Collectively we didn't operate or present 'the way' of martial arts to the people we were teaching. I had financial success but not the awesome feeling of fulfilment that I knew was possible. Today, every one of the students we have joins us for the wider teaching of being developed into becoming a better human being and making the absolute best of their capabilities in every aspect of their lives. For me and for each student, the martial arts is the conduit. The fulfilment I get watching lives become enriched with physical vitality but also mental and emotional growth is a gift I cherish every day. I can say I have coached some incredible success stories changing lives through this approach to martial arts. The next part of my journey, I hope, is bringing that ethos to truly successful martial arts businesses across the globe under the incredible banner of the WFMC organisation. Every single member organisation playing their part in making the world a truly much better place... one blackbelt at a time.

Wayne Edwards

President WFMC World
March 2020

Article I: Name

The name of the Organisation shall be the World Fight Sport Martial Arts Council (hereafter known as the “WFMC” or the “Organisation”)

Article II: Mission

The mission/purpose of this Organisation shall be:

1. To bring Martial Arts for Families and individuals to every town, city and village around the World for the enjoyment of families as an activity and part of their routine as well as give them the opportunity to test their skills locally, nationally and internationally if they wish too;
2. To promote, organize and regulate sport martial arts events.
3. To provide a clear route and opportunity for professional fighters and professional instructors after a period of amateur competition.
4. To assist its Members in strengthening their position as national leaders in sport martial arts.
5. To develop specific services and facilities for its Members and provide them with assistance, training and support.
6. To increase the level of recognition of WFMC World Wide;
7. To approve, regulate and organise international championships, tournaments, contests between countries and large sporting events(World Championships, Continental Championships through the Continental Federations, World Cups, and open international tournaments) relating to fight sport martial arts;
8. To provide administrative and other appropriate support to its Members;
9. To coordinate and protect the common interest of its Members;
10. To promote youth development and education within its Members;
11. To collect, collate and circulate information to and among its Members regarding the fight sport martial arts;
12. To draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their adherence, application and enforcement among its Members;
13. To promote integrity, ethics and fair play and prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardize the integrity of the Sport;
14. To make all possible efforts to get all sport martial arts adopted by WFMC to be an accepted sport worldwide;
15. To organise the World Fight Sport Martial Arts Council in collaboration with the Members.

Article III: Membership

Eligibility

Membership eligibility shall be open to any person who wishes to further the interests of the WFMC. Each individual admitted to WFMC shall:

1. Be required to complete a membership application form;
2. Be bound by this constitution and By-laws of the WFMC;
3. Be liable to pay such fees and dues as may be determined by the organisation;
4. Be entitled to all privileges of membership as determined by the WFMC.

Code of Ethics for Members

Every WFMC member shall (at all times):

- a) Respect and adhere to the principles and guidelines of the WFMC;
- b) Display actions that are a credit to combat sports;
- c) Avoid any form of impropriety and appearance of impropriety; and Uphold and enforce all suspensions and revocations at all times.

Categories of Membership

1. National Affiliation
2. Club affiliations
3. Instructor and Coaches
4. Club Members
5. Event Promoters

Definition and Obligations of Active members

1. National Affiliation

National Affiliation Is a Licence taken on by an individual who will be that Countries Representative Presidents.

Obligations of Representative Presidents

The Country Representative Presidents of WFMC shall have the following obligations:

5. Not be a member or head of a similar sports fighting and martial arts organisation. Any intending member must relinquish any existing membership at any other similar sports fighting and martial arts organisation before being eligible to become a member of WFMC;
 - a) To comply with these Statutes as well as any and all regulations, directives and decisions enacted or issued by WFMC bodies at any time and to comply with the decisions of the board.
 - b) To pay annually, the applicable affiliation fees in connection with their respective membership status. Such fees shall be determined by the Board and shall be paid and received on the WFMC bank account no later than 31st March of each year. If the membership fee is not paid by that date, a surcharge as set by the Board will be applicable. If the payment is not made until December 31, a further surcharge as set by the Board of Directors will be applicable.
 - c) To have their executive bodies and disciplinary bodies democratically elected by their general assemblies;
 - d) To organize sport martial arts competitions;
 - e) To organize National Championships;
 - f) To organize National and Regional squad training;
 - g) To develop competitors for all Fight sport martial arts categories through training and recruitment of clubs;
 - h) To provide an assessment board for production of Black belts and equivalent senior grades;
 - i) To actively participate in WFMC activities, in particular in the WFMC World Championships;
 - j) To provide training for instructors, coaches, officials and all individuals who have active roles within the members' association;
 - k) To respect the international WFMC calendar and not to schedule international activities in conflict with events previously scheduled on the international WFMC calendar;
 - l) To notify WFMC, for approval by WFMC Board, of any modification in their statutes, regulations and directives or of the inclusion of any new discipline to their national program.

- m) Presidents must fully support fellow presidents when collaborating to provide a united front for the association and ensure that no conflict of interests exist. Failure to do this will result in arbitration by the board if there is seen to be a breach of loyalty between country representatives where a complaint has been made.

Rights of Representative Presidents

- a. To vote at the General Assembly at the World Championships on rule changes and association improvements;
- b. To propose items for consideration regarding the agenda of the General Assembly;
- c. To grow WFMC in their country to create opportunities for themselves and others in the form of events, training, shows, etc.
- d. To collect licensing, sanctioning certification and training fees to compensate and remunerate team members and to invest back into the association for growth purposes.
- e. To be informed of the activities and events of WFMC;
- f. To exercise any right of WFMC Members arising from this Statutes and/or regulations;
- g. To participate in any WFMC event in accordance with the applicable specific Competition Rules;
- h. To enjoy any further advantages and benefits provided to WFMC Members.

2. Club Affiliation

Clubs affiliated and approved by WFMC who regularly attend WFMC events, and also carry out regular belt testing or grading.

Obligations of Club Owners

Club Owners affiliated and approved by WFMC shall have the following obligations:

- a. To comply with these Statutes as well as any and all regulations, directives and decisions enacted or issued by WFMC bodies at any time and to comply with the decisions of the board.
- b. To pay each year the affiliation fees applicable in connection with their respective membership status.
- c. To provide multi-style opportunities for their members within their curriculum;
- d. To provide regularly grade or belt testing for their members and ensure their blackbelts or senior grades are assessed by a qualified WFMC panel approved by their country WFMC President representative;
- e. To actively participate in WFMC activities and events;
- f. To attend training and achieve accreditation such as instructor training, child protection, first aid, competition rules training and whatever is needed to maintain a high standard and keep up with legislation with in your country.

- g. To respect the WFMC calendar and not to schedule activities in conflict with events previously scheduled on the international WFMC calendar;

Rights of Club Owners

- a. To have club grades and belt levels recognised by the association;
- b. To propose items for consideration to their relevant WFMC national committee;
- c. To have access to training and curriculums needed to prepare and compete in fight sport; martial arts competitions and or just practice;
- d. To have access to WFMC Branding material for marketing, networks and innovations;
- e. To collect licensing, certification and training fees to compensate themselves and remunerate team members and to grow their schools and academies;
- f. To be informed of the activities and events of WFMC;
- g. To exercise any right of WFMC Members arising from this Statutes and/or regulations;
- h. To participate in any WFMC event in accordance with the applicable specific Competition Rules;
- i. To enjoy any further advantages and benefits provided to WFMC Members.

3. Instructor and Coaches

Affiliated WFMC instructors who are involved in continued Development training and produce students who regularly belt test.

Obligations of Instructors and Coaches

Instructors and Coaches approved by WFMC shall have the following obligations:

- a. To comply with these Statutes as well as any and all regulations, directives and decisions enacted or issued by WFMC bodies at any time and to comply with the decisions of the board;
- b. To pay each year's licence fee;
- c. To keep updating skills and provide a continued development portfolio from the previous year to the skills committee within your country;
- d. To assist in regular grading or belt test of members;
- e. To ensure compliance with the national legislation on being an instructor in their country and make sure they have ample insurance cover to teach;
- f. To attend training and achieve accreditation such as instructor training when required, child protection, first aid, competition rules training and whatever is needed to maintain a high standard and keep up with legislation with in your country;
- g. to respect the WFMC calendar and not to schedule international activities in conflict with events previously scheduled on the international WFMC calendar.

Rights of Instructors and Coaches

- a. To have club grades and belt levels recognised by the WFMC;
- b. To propose items for consideration to their relevant WFMC national committee;

- c. To have international recognition and ratification of grades as well as an avenue for progression;
- d. To enjoy any further advantages and benefits provided to WFMC Members.

4. Club Members

Membership of individuals who train at WFMC affiliated clubs

Obligations of a Club Member

- a. To comply with these Statutes as well as any and all regulations, directives and decisions enacted or issued by WFMC bodies at any time and to comply with the decisions of the board.
- b. To pay each year's licence fee.
- c. To regularly belt test or grade in accordance with your club rules.
- d. To work towards achieving a competency as soon as possible so as to start playing the game.
- e. To act in an appropriate way within your club and events conducive with a family friendly environment.

Rights of a Club Member

- a. To have grades and belt levels internationally recognised;
- b. to have peace of mind of quality of martial arts training
- c. to have access to local, national and international competition
- d. to enjoy any further advantages and benefits provided to WFMC Members.

5. Event Promoters

Persons involved in producing one or more events each year.

Obligations of an Event Promoter

Event Promoters approved by WFMC shall have the following obligations:

- a. To comply with these Statutes as well as any and all regulations, directives and decisions enacted or issued by WFMC bodies at any time and to comply with the decisions of the board;
- b. To pay sanction fees applicable in connection with their event before running their event;
- c. Must ensure competitors have a WFMC sports book which is up to date;
- d. To ensure athletes are equally matched within reason depending on the event whether it being a controlled gala fight night or tournament were abilities are varied due to the nature of such an event.
- e. To provide qualified referees for its events and ensure all officials are aware of the rules and procedures of a WFMC event;

- f. To attend competition rules training and whatever is needed to maintain a high standard and keep up with legislation within your country.
- g. To ensure events are safe with relevant Medical, security and other staff members are available.;
- h. To ensure a fair system of judging and handle protests in a sincere manor within the guidelines of WFMC;
- i. Must use WFMC approved Certs, Medals, Trophies and Belts.

Rights of event promoters

- a. To have access to WFMC Branding material for marketing, networks and innovations;
- b. To have competitors listed in WFMC ratings tables;
- c. To access to our approved belts, medals, trophies and awards
- d. To have access to a network of competitors;
- e. To enjoy any further advantages and benefits provided to WFMC Members.

6. Application Procedure for Members

Country President Representatives

1. Country Representatives wishing to be admitted as Members of WFMC must pay the relevant application fee, which in the event of acceptance of the application will be applied as the first year's membership fee.
2. The application shall include the following mandatory information/documentation of the applicant (if not in English, to be provided with an English certified translation) to be provided to the Administrative Office:
 - a. A copy of the statutes, regulations and directives of the applicant.
 - b. A chart of the applicant's Organisational structure (including staff), with detailed explanations regarding the composition of its governing bodies, and a list of all its members;
 - c. Information as to the recognition of the relevant applicant by body or organisation of the relevant country;
 - d. Information regarding their fight Sport activities and relevant events organized by the applicant in the last two years;
 - e. A copy of the audited financial statements of the last two years.
 - f. Declaration to accept, recognize and always comply with WFMC Statutes and WFMC regulations, as well as all directives and decisions, as adopted or resolved by the Board of directors;
 - g. Declaration to accept that any disputes have to be exclusively solved in accordance with WFMC Statutes;
 - h. Any other document relevant in connection with the application and required by the Board of Directors.

3. The Board of Directors may issue from time to time other rules or guidelines in connection with the requirements for admission to (which, in any event, cannot derogate to the provisions of these Statutes), specifying the criteria for admission.
4. The payment of the application fee shall be in the form of a bank check or bank transfer and of such amount as specified by WFMC. This payment must be effectively received before the admission procedure proceeds.
5. The decision of the Board regarding the admission shall be communicated in writing to the applicant by the President.
6. The admission is subject to subsequent ratification by the General Assembly.
7. The admission (ratified by the General Assembly) of a new Member shall be communicated to the Members and, for this purpose, notably published on the WFMC website.

Clubs

Clubs wishing to apply to be members of WFMC shall:

1. Submit an application which shall include proof of current grades/belt level and or instructor qualifications;
2. Provide a resume;
3. Complete a new member questionnaire;
4. Pay a non-refundable administration fee to process application;
5. Provide a declaration to accept, recognize and always comply with WFMC Statutes and WFMC regulations, as well as all directives and decisions, as adopted or resolved by the Board of directors;
6. Provide declaration to accept that any disputes have to be exclusively solved in accordance with WFMC Statutes and by the board;
7. Provide risk assessment for present training facilities.

The decision of the national Board regarding the admission shall be communicated in writing to the applicant by the Country President.

Instructors and Coaches

Instructors and Coaches wishing to apply to be members of WFMC shall:

1. Provide proof of current grades/belt level and or instructor qualifications;
2. Provide Resume;
3. Complete a new member questionnaire;
4. Pay a non-refundable administration fee to process application;
5. Provide a declaration to accept, recognize and always comply with WFMC statutes and WFMC regulations, as well as all directives and decisions, as adopted or resolved by the Board of directors;

6. Provide declaration to accept that any disputes have to be exclusively solved in accordance with WFMC Statutes and by the board;
7. The decision of the national Board regarding the admission shall be communicated in writing to the applicant by the Country President.

Club Members

Persons wishing to apply to be Club Members shall:

1. Provide proof of current grades;
2. Pay a licence fee to their instructor;
3. Complete and sign an online or physical membership form;
4. The decision of the club owner regarding the admission shall be communicated in appropriate fashion;
5. Club owners will not admit members who are not in compliance with the statutes of WFMC

Event Promoters

Persons wishing to apply to be Event Promoters shall:

1. Provide past experience in their application;
2. List of officials who would be working the event who have WFMC official training;
3. Provide a robust risk assessment of venue and event;
4. Fill in an application questionnaire and pay anon-refundable admin fee;
5. Pay a sanction fee that will include insurance cover if applicable for your area;
6. Provide proof that all legislation requirements have been adhered to;
7. Provide plan of competition and how it will be run and managed;
8. Provide a declaration to accept, recognize and always comply with WFMC statutes and WFMC regulations, as well as all directives and decisions, as adopted or resolved by the Board;
9. Provide declaration to accept that any disputes have to be exclusively solved in accordance with WFMC Statutes and by the board;
10. The decision of the national Board regarding the admission shall be communicated in writing to the applicant by the Country President.

Non Active members may result in changes made as the goal of WFMC is to have a high interaction of active members to keep the association standard and growth.

Article IV: Officers

World President

National President

Category Directors

Coaching Heads

Officials

Administration Director

Board of Directors

Article V: Duties of Officers

World President

The World President chairs the World assembly and is responsible for and exercises the high management of WFMC by the Administrative Office. The President will approve appointments of international representatives and ensure the statues of WFMC are upheld.

National President

1. The National President chairs the National Assembly and the Board of Directors and is responsible for and exercises the high management of WFMC; oversees and the day today running of WFMC in their country.
2. The President will approve appointments of members and ensure the statues of WFMC are upheld. Members include Category directors, coaches for various Disciplines and administrative offices. National Officers should include.

Category Directors

1. Producing an adequate number of fully trained officials to officiate national and International events
2. To create and improve on best practice.
3. In charge of appointed category, events and responsible for safety of competitors;
4. They shall be responsible for appointing coaches within their category on the approval of the National President.
5. Policing the rules and ensuring all officials are versed in the rules so as to officiate their sections
6. Sourcing and appointing of certified officials

Examples of category directors are:

Overall heads

- Tatami Director
- Ring sports Director

Individual Category Heads examples

- MMA and Submission Grappling Director
- Muay Thai Director
- Semi Contact Director
- Light contact Director
- Traditional Karate Director
- ITF rules Director
- etc

Officials

1. Work in conjunction with the Category directors
2. Responsible for the smooth running of a category or event. Officials can either be volunteers, external hired help or internal officials. All officials regardless of how they are sourced an officially must be fully trained and capable to carry out their duties.
3. It is the aim of WFMC to have subsistent amount of licenced fully trained officials to cover all their event. If an official is not a licenced active member of WFMC they will be viewed as external.

Coaching Heads

Coaching heads are responsible for:

1. Providing regular training opportunities for members to get together and further their skills. Opportunities include squad training, seminars.
2. Providing support and assistance on curriculum in coaching field;
3. Carrying out instructor training in accordance with WFMC system of training;
4. Adding their stamp to the development of the curriculum;
5. All coaches will have to complete a coaching agreement in accordance with the laws of their Country.
6. Coaching heads are responsible for appointing regional coaches with the approval of the national president;
7. To provide assistance to WFMC clubs with assistance in developing their curriculum so as to meet the associations vision of producing multi discipline Clubs;
8. It is the responsibility of the coaches to set their fee with participants of their courses and training sessions and participants must book through a designated online system of WFMC and all participants must have a valid WFMC licence or sports book.

Administration Director

Administration Director is responsible for:

1. Ensuring that meetings are effectively organized;
2. Giving notice of meetings to members;
3. Taking minutes of meetings;
4. Maintaining effectively, records and administration of the WFMC;
5. Communication and Correspondence.
6. Processing membership applications
7. Ensuring the complaint procedure is being upheld
8. To be the face and point of communication for WFMC

Board of Directors

1. The Individual National affairs of the WFMC shall be conducted by the Board of Directors which shall consist of the National President, the Administration director and the appointed category Directors.
2. All board members must be members of the WFMC.
3. The board will be responsible for formulating and adopting new policies, codes of conduct and rules affecting the organisation of the WFMC.
4. The board shall have the powers to appoint advisers, committees and shall also be responsible for the disciplinary hearings of members who violate the constitution of the WFMC and its codes of conduct.
5. The board of director meetings shall be convened by the respective national administrator and be held at least 3 times yearly.

Article VI: Meetings

World Assembly

The World Assembly meetings of this Organisation shall be held in the country where the World Championships is being held on the day before the weigh in.

A proxy can attend for a country president representative but they must not be representing another country and must be from the country they represent or may be a long-term resident of such country. A letter giving the proxy the President's vote must be sent at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the meeting to ensure admittance to the World meeting.

National Meetings

National Meetings are important to have and is a requirement of all representatives so as to lay down the vision and work towards meeting objectives. National meetings should be held January of each year and minutes submitted to the World Head office.

Article VII: Quorum

The minimum number of members of this Organisation needed to conduct business shall be at least 2 officers and 5 general members.

Article VII: Limited Liability

All representatives of the WFMC are separate entities who are given the licence to use the WFMC brand. Any business carried out with a WFMC licensed club, organisation or National federation is between the client and that group.

It is the responsibility of the promoter, club owners and instructors to have the correct insurances and comply with their national regulations when carrying out their activities and events.

It is advised that if possible national associations tie in an insurance with their membership options.

Article VIII: Appointment of Officers

Appointment of National Representative Presidents

Officers are appointed through application in the case of national Presidents and accepted by the World President. Applications must be submitted to the World Head Quarters.

Appointment of National and Local Officers

Countries National officers is usually appointed by their president however as national associations grow an officer will be expected to be appointed by election at their national assembly.

Article IX: Removal of Officers

An officer can be removed by the President who will approach the directors for a general consensus or vote. In extreme circumstances an officer may be removed by the president without consulting the board. However, the removed officer has the right to appeal to the board.

Extreme circumstances could be in the case of a serious conflict of interest, criminal activity that will bring the association into repute or anything else serious enough to distance the association from the actions of the officer.

Resignations

All officers are required to resign in writing with a months' notice to allow a transition period

Non-compete or solicitation

On resigning a position or being removed from office an officer will be bound to an agreement to not solicit present members in an attempt to move to a rival association, group, organisation or company. Any such breach may result in a claim for damages

Article X: Opportunities

Paid staff

From time to time WFMC will employ or hire contractors to work at events or carry out various jobs which in return for payment. These individuals can be external non-members of WFMC and Internal members of WFMC. External staff are still required to be fully trained. Courses are regularly held for officials and other position needed for the smooth running of the association

Team Coaches

WFMC coaches are highly motivated individuals willing to do seminars to get other clubs up and running on new programs in their school. Coaches are viewed as self-employed and work along with the association. To apply to be a WFMC coach apply in writing to the head office with your proposal and resume.

Run Your Own Club or become affiliated

Self-employed, budding instructors and school owners are welcome to join the WFMC but please go through our constitution to see if you're a right fit for the association. Loyalty is a core belief of the association and if you are not willing to fully commit, we are not the right fit and are looking for progressive, positive individuals who want to be part of a Worldwide family friendly multi-style, competitive association.

Article XI: International Relations between Countries

National Team and Jurisdictions

WFMC Representative presidents cannot set up affiliated clubs in other countries under their licence or umbrella. This affiliation is a conflict of interest as residence of a country who want to be associated with WFMC will have to contact there local WFMC representative. It is also expected residents who qualify for the World championships travel with their local national team under a dual representation without question. There should not be a need to have separate associates in other countries under the WFMC banner and any attempt to set subsets of affiliates will be deemed a conflict of interest to the spirit and vision of WFMC which is about the integration and bringing together of people from all walks of life. WFMC will not promote separation of people in sport.

Relations between Countries

Negative Politics should never affect relations among WFMC heads. In the interest of sport external polices should be left out of sport. Country presidents should respect each other's wishes and help each other to grow their associations, clubs and memberships. Any in action or actions taken that cause a negative effect on another country heads memberships or association will be looked down upon and may result in a disciplinary action taken as Loyalty is the core characteristic and engine that fuels the growth of WFMC. All complaints must be made in righting concerning this to WFMC World Head Quarters.

Article XII: Constitution and Amendments

This constitution will not be valid until signed by the founder and current President and World Secretary. Constitution amendments should be proposed a minimum of 2 weeks before the World assembly were they may be discussed. Depending on the number of proposals they will be debated at the World meeting and voted on. It is reminded that all proposals will have to be in line with the purpose and vision of the organisation. The president will take the items voted on and after looking at the feasibility and affordability will decide under legal advisement if the changes can be made. The President has the power to Vito any proposals but the founder and active ex-presidents will have the right to act on the assembly's behalf to push amendments through.

The aim of the constitution is to be an unshakable foundation to layout the guidelines to produce the world's premier single platform for all combat sports in a family friendly environment.