



The Philosophy of Wrestling

Dear friends,

wrestling comes from very-very far, thousands of years ago, and must go even further.

The IOC has made many efforts, in recent years, to promote equality, cooperation, friendship, coexistence and truce (ekecheiria).

Incidents of violence - small or large- are foreign actions to our sport stemming from a lack of culture and the absence of the above values.

We must highlight wrestling as a symbol of health, education, culture, peaceful, coexistence, equality, morality, not violence, not fanatic, friendship, cooperation, discipline, justice, not racism, good psychological and physical health, character shaping and much more, without however forgetting the medals and the honour of the winners. It is wrong to use sports and particularly wrestling for political goals.

Sports and wrestling by its nature does not produce violence. It is the people who practice sports that create violence.

Wrestling, as a living organism, must be renewing. Without renewal the disaster is coming. We have done a lot of efforts for the development of our sport after 2013. But, without values and principles and an understanding of the philosophy of our sport, renewal is nonsense.

Wrestling did not start as a defensive sport but by its nature means attack, victory, joy and satisfaction. And the attack brings victory, many points, spectator satisfaction, admiration and appreciation by IOC and the other athletic organizations, growth and progress.

We have to do everything we can in order to leave our sport better than we found it.

We should never forget that wrestling means civilization, culture, ethos and education.

