



UNITED WORLD
WRESTLING
ASIA

ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from United World Wrestling President

Dear Friends,
Dear Wrestling Community of Asia,



First of all, please allow me to express my gratitude for your active cooperation and patience throughout the year, despite all challenges faced by global wrestling community. This year taught us to be more flexible and adjust ourselves to various scenarios.

Olympic Games have been postponed until 2021 and we should be ready to adjust our plan in accordance to any occurred situation. As of today, we were able to build a calendar plan for 2021, which includes continental championships and Olympic Games qualification tournaments. I would like to underline that our main priority for today is to ensure safety and well-being of athletes, coaches, referees and event organizers. United

World Wrestling proudly can state that Individual World Cup 2020 was staged on the highest possible level and we were able to apply new strategies to meet required sanitary standards. We will share gained knowledge and experience with continental councils to ensure quality of scheduled events.

Despite all challenges, the 2021 promise to be very successful and this will just be the beginning of an exciting Olympic year. There are many other events to look forward to, both on and off the field of play, where we will see various positive changes. United World Wrestling Asia plays a crucial role in the area of wrestling development and maintaining communication between concerned parties. This year proved high professionalism of continental team. It is worth to highlight that first council to organize virtual general assembly meeting in 2020 was Asia. I am confident that wrestling community will benefit a lot from strong leadership of United World Wrestling Asia. Several innovative projects will be implemented by the council in 2021, which will have a great impact on development and promotion of wrestling on the continent.

We must look into future with a hope... Hope in science, hope in medicine, and hope in our strong wrestling community. I would like to take this opportunity and wish everyone health and prosperity in the upcoming year. Only collaborative actions can bring us to greater results, so WE CAN WRESTLE AGAIN and we will.

Sincerely Yours,

Nenad Lalovic

United World Wrestling President
IOC Executive Member



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Message from United World Wrestling Asia President

Dear Colleagues,
Dear Friends in wrestling,

The year of 2020 was extremely challenging for the whole world, due to the unexpected global health crisis occurred around COVID-19 outbreak. All areas of our lives were impacted by the virus and sport was not an exception. We all know that Olympic Games 2020 have been postponed until 2021 and hopefully we will be able to celebrate this event in normal conditions. Majority of United World Wrestling international events were cancelled in 2020, while most of our athletes were forced either to pause training process or to adapt it to non-contact mode. However, I have a sincere hope that we will be able to restart all our activities soon and finally see each other.



Despite all those challenges and inability to travel, we were still able to perform some activities by adjusting to the new way of communication – VIRTUAL. Luckily, we were able to organize seniors Asian Championships 2020 in New Delhi, yet our younger generation lost the opportunity to compete this year and get international exposure. United World Wrestling Asia executive committee made a decision to cancel all international events in our continent until the end of this year in July. It was extremely tough decision, yet we had to prioritize health and well-being of athletes, coaches, referees and organizers. I am glad that majority of Asian wrestling federations perceived this decision in a positive way. Moreover, I would like to express my words of appreciation for your active communication throughout the year and participation at United World Wrestling Asia General Assembly meeting, which was organized online in August.

We look with a big hope in future, therefore, working on several important projects to benefit development of wrestling in Asia. Details of continental council work and activities described in this bulletin in brief. I encourage each of you to explore various opportunities, which will be available for Asian national wrestling federations from the beginning of 2021.

We will be able to overcome current challenges and continue effectively achieve our common goals. Let's move forward towards brighter future of Asian wrestling together.

Sincerely Yours,

Daulet Turlykhanov

United World Wrestling Asia President



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United World Wrestling Asia 2020

The year of 2020 supposed to bring a lot of excitement for sports fans and athletes' community accordingly. As we already know, that first qualification event for Tokyo Olympic Games in wrestling was organized in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan – Seniors World Wrestling Championships 2019. Top six wrestlers in each weight category earned spots for their respective National Olympic Committees.

World health crisis, related to a massive outbreak of COVID-19 virus, had a significant impact on the sports world. We are not going to talk about medical issues here, but it is important to highlight that virus started to spread around the world right in the beginning of 2020. Humanity witnessed massive economical destruction, which was conditioned by strict quarantine governmental measures. At some point, there was almost any possibility to travel between countries, and sometimes even between regions or cities in several countries. Obviously, such measures had a substantial impact on sports activities and events, which could not be organized in majority of cases. Moreover, most of the national sports federations had to stop training activities, due to the governmental sanitary restrictions. Therefore, athletes around the world had to adapt their training process and to stay at home. Wrestling, as a combat sport, requires sparring activities and special training conditions in order to stay fit and most importantly to keep technical skills level at appropriate level. However, majority of wrestlers were not able to train in wrestling facilities and use sparring partners. That means that preparation for the Olympic Games qualification tournaments was officially stopped for many athletes.

Nevertheless, seniors' Asian championships were organized in New Delhi, India. Islamic Republic of Iran dominated this in this event in Greco-Roman and freestyle wrestling. Five continental gold medals in Greco-Roman wrestling out of ten went back to Iran, along with one silver and three bronzes. Other five champions represented India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, and Uzbekistan. In freestyle wrestling, Iranians were less productive and grabbed only two gold, two silver and 4 bronze medals, yet still made it to the top in teams ranking. Japan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan also produced two champions each,



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but had less medals of other quality. Not surprisingly, Japanese female team reached top ranking among Asian teams in 2020 by winning five gold and 3 silver medals. Indian women wrestling team and Kazakhstan team won equal number of medals – eight. However, probably with a support of local fans Indian women reached top of the podium three times in comparison to Kazakhstan double gold performance.

Since Chinese authorities declined to deliver the event in Xi'an, United World Wrestling Asia began to seek for a host replacement among Asian national wrestling federations. As we know, Asia was severely impacted by COVID-19, there was even a proposal to organize Asian qualifier somewhere in Europe, but eventually it did not happen. United World Wrestling Asia President Turlykhanov encouraged all Asian federations to assess the chance to host such important event and replacement was found shortly – Kyrgyzstan. Originally there were several countries, who expressed their deep interest to host Asian qualifier – Korea and Mongolia, but at that moment there was absolutely no possibility to organize the event in their respective countries due to the governmental health authorities' restrictions. Immediate actions were taken by UWW Asia President and after a dialogue with Kyrgyzstan government and United World Wrestling, new host for Asian qualification tournament had been approved by all parties.

That was a challenging time for everyone, especially for athletes taking part in preparation process. Uncertain situation made national federations doubt whether or not the event will eventually take place. Rapid spread of the virus among Asian countries forced Kyrgyz authorities to cancel all international sports events, and wrestling qualifier was one of them. This meant that wrestlers on the continent went on athletic break in a full uncertainty in regard to further actions. United World Wrestling hoped for a better scenario along with the rest of wrestling community. Asia looked to the





Pan-Americas, which successfully delivered their continental qualification event in Ottawa, Canada. That was only one continent, which allowed wrestlers to compete prior to the full global quarantine.

In March 2020, International Olympic Committee made a tough decision and postponed organization of Olympic Games in Tokyo for one year. Without any doubts, such verdict had an impact on the whole sports community around the world. International Federations came out of dark and started to reschedule qualification events and other tournaments. This task was challenged by uncertainty, since the virus has not been overcome, while majority of the countries were on the strict quarantine without an opportunity to train and travel. Sometimes such restrictions touched athletes even internally at national level. Wrestling facilities were closed and interregional travel was restricted. Right after the IOC made its decision, it was decided by United World Wrestling to postpone all international wrestling events until July 2020. This decision touched all official championships among various age groups. In case of Asia, there were three Asian championships scheduled for 2020. U15 supposed to be organized in Taichung, Chinese Taipei, but organization of this event was fully prohibited by United World Wrestling to protect health of young wrestlers. Cadets continental championships were allocated to Thailand for June 2020, and Juniors event to Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan for July. At that moment it was unclear whether these two federations would be able to organize championships, even if they would be postponed. Moreover, there was a big doubt that other Asian national federations will be able to travel to compete. Asian continental council had to respond immediately, and President Turlykhanov decided to bring all UWW Asia executive committee members together in order to discuss existing challenges and to make rational decision.

On July 1st 2020, United World Wrestling Asia executive committee meeting was held in online format, during which all seven members were present. After long conversation and evaluation of health situation on the continent, executive members decided to recommend cancellation of all international events in Asia in 2020. Without any doubts it was very tough decision, since the main aim of continental



federation is to promote and develop wrestling, and without any competition activity it is almost impossible. However, more powerful arguments were put on the table – health and well-being of athletes, coaches, referees and tournament organizers.

Besides events calendar for 2020, UWW Asia executives discussed various topics related to further actions and development programs for future. Communication with Asian national wrestling federations was prioritized, and it was decided to organize United World Wrestling Asia General Assembly meeting in online format to notify affiliated members about most recent updates. Tentatively, general assembly was scheduled for the first weeks of August 2020. In result, this meeting was organized on August 13th, and was attended by 27 national federations' representatives, United World Wrestling President Mr. Lalovic, United World Wrestling staff members and UWW Asia executives respectively. The first continental council to deliver such event virtually was Asia, and this fact was highlighted by Mr. Nenad Lalovic.

Since the whole world stopped, all activities had to be adjusted. Most of the sports organizations were forced either to cancel or to postpone major events delivery. As it was mentioned above, United World Wrestling Asia decided to preserve health of athletes by cancelling all continental events, and that was the main question for discussion during the virtual UWW Asia General Assembly 2020. This decision was met positively by national wrestling federations' executives, since most of the governmental sports or health authorities banned participation at international events, while some of them restricted travelling abroad. On top of that, during the discussion it was found that some national wrestling federations were forced to stop training activities, due to the progressive outbreak. There is no doubt, that athletes were not properly prepared for such tournaments. Besides physical unreadiness of athletes, there was a mental aspect, which had a negative impact on psychological condition of wrestlers. Moreover, since continental qualification tournament was not organized as planned,



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wrestlers and national federations did not have a clarity about future plans and actions that must be taken in order to achieve best results and qualify for the Olympic Games in Tokyo 2021.

Daulet Turlykhanov (United World Wrestling Asia President) performed following tasks during 2020.

- Inspection visit (Chonburi, Thailand) – Cadets Asian Championships 2020
- Inspection visit (Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan) – Juniors Asian Championships 2020
- Inspection visit (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) – Asian OG Qualifier [host replacement]
- Seniors Asian Championships 2020 (New Delhi, India)
- Organization of UWW Asia Awards Ceremony 2019 online
- Organization of UWW Asia Executive Committee online meeting
- Organization of UWW Asia General Assembly online meeting
- Attended several United World Wrestling Bureau online meetings

Events calendar for 2020/2021/2022

As it was mentioned in previous section of the document, most of the Asian wrestling championships and major events scheduled for 2020 were canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Only seniors' continental championships were organized in New Delhi, India. U-15, cadets and juniors' events did not take place along with Asian Olympic Games qualification tournament, which supposed to be organized in Xi'an, China in March 2020 and later in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Due to the global health situation and governmental restrictive measures both candidates had to annul their bids. It is worth to mention, that only Pan-American continent successfully organized qualification events for its respective affiliated members. All other continents postponed tournaments until 2021 (Europe, Africa and Oceania, Asia). Therefore, Olympic licenses for Asian wrestlers will be distributed in March 2021.

Calendar for continental wrestling championships 2021 in Asia was formed, which includes main events for main age groups: cadets, juniors, seniors + OG Qualification tournament. Even though the dates and places were confirmed, United World Wrestling still has to monitor the situation related to COVID-



19 and make rational decisions in accordance with actual situation. United World Wrestling Asia looks towards 2021 with a big hope in order to reactivate organization of competition activity in full.

1. **Asian OG Qualification** Tournament: Almaty, Kazakhstan (9-11 April)
2. **Seniors** Asia Championships: Almaty, Kazakhstan (12-17 April)
3. **Cadets** Asian Championships: New Delhi, India (24-27 June, 2021)
4. **Juniors** Asian Championships: Bangkok, Thailand (6-11 July, 2021)

IMPORTANT: United World Wrestling Asia experiencing difficulties to allocate potential hosting countries for continental events, especially for seniors' events. In order to plan competition calendar, it is required to identify organizers at least 2 years in advance. At this moment there are no candidates for organization of continental events in 2022. Therefore, United World Wrestling Asia encourages all affiliated members to consider placing a bid for 2022 and 2023 in the nearest future. More information about bidding process can be found at United World Wrestling official website: <https://unitedworldwrestling.org/host-cities/bidding-process>

U15 & U23 Asian Championships- Perspectives

United World Wrestling Asia organized first ever U15 and U23 continental championships in 2019, which were hosted by Chinese Taipei and Mongolia respectively. These age groups are extremely important for the development of sustainable athletes' pathway, so continental Asian wrestling council will continue support organization of such events. U15 age category provides an opportunity for young wrestlers to get international exposure, which ensures smooth transition into cadets age group. On the other hand, U23 events give a hope for juniors' wrestlers to remain competitive at seniors' level before they cut physical and technical preparation gaps.

Due to the pandemic, United World Wrestling rejected organization of U15 tournaments globally, even though Chinese Taipei was officially assigned as a host for U15 continental event in 2020. U23 Asian



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Championships have not been scheduled for this year, because of the global health crisis and unavailability of hosting country. United World Wrestling Asia will continue to monitor the situation in 2021 to check a possibility to organize U15 and U23 Asian championships.

CALL FOR ACTION: Asian National Wrestling Federations, which are interested to host one of the above-mentioned events, are encouraged to send an email to UWW Asia President to express an interest.



Qualification process for Olympic Games 2020 (Tokyo, Japan)

1st PHASE – World Wrestling Championships 2019 (Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan)

The first six highest placed athletes in each of the 18 Olympic weight categories at the 2019 Senior World Championships qualified one (1) quota place for their NOC for the 2020 Olympic Games. In total 108 athletes qualified their respective NOC's for the Olympic Games in Tokyo during 2019 World Wrestling Championships. 42[out of 108] wrestlers qualified their countries across three wrestling styles in Nur-Sultan (39%).

Asian licenses:





Greco-Roman	Women Wrestling	Freestyle
60 kg – 4 (KAZ, UZB, JPN, IRI)	50 kg – 2 (CHN, KAZ)	57 kg – 3 (IND, IRI, KAZ)
67 kg – 0	53 kg – 4 (CHN, JPN, IND, PRK)	65 kg – 4 (IND, JPN, KAZ, MGL)
77 kg – 3 (IRI, KAZ, UZB)	57 kg – 2 (CHN, JPN)	74 kg – 2 (JPN, KAZ)
87 kg – 2 (KGZ, UZB)	62 kg – 3 (JPN, KGZ, PRK)	86 kg – 2 (IND, IRI)
97 kg – 0	68 kg – 2 (JPN, MGL)	97 kg – 1 (KAZ)
130 kg – 1 (IRI)	76 kg – 3 (CHN, JPN, KAZ)	125 kg – 2 (IRI, SYR)

2nd PHASE – Asian Olympic Games Qualification Tournament 2021 (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Asian Olympic Games Qualification tournament, which is planned to be organized in Almaty, Kazakhstan in April 2021. The two (2) highest placed athletes at each Continental Qualification tournament in each of the 18 Olympic weight categories will qualify one (1) quota place each for their NOC for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. For the Asian Continental Qualification tournament, in case the Host Country (JPN) does not obtain at least one (1) man and one (1) woman qualification place the highest ranked Japanese athlete per gender across the weight categories will obtain the quota place reducing the qualification places to 34 for Asia.

**Due to the Corona Virus situation and the traveling restrictions applied by National authorities of event hosts, UWW decided to allow the teams of CHN, PRK and TKM to compete in the Asian Qualifier without having competed in the 2020 Senior Asian Championships.*

3rd PHASE – World Olympic Games Qualification Tournament 2021 (Sofia, Bulgaria)



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Athletes who qualified quota places for their NOC at the 2019 Senior World Championships and the 2020 and 2021 Continental Qualification tournaments will not have the right to take part in this 3rd qualification phase. The NOCs/NFs will not be able to send other athletes in the weight categories in which they have already qualified a quota place. All the other NOCs/NFs of all the continents may participate in this 3rd phase. The two (2) highest placed athletes in each of the 18 Olympic weight categories will qualify one (1) quota place each for their NOC for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

OG Seeding

Based on the results of:

- 2019 Senior World Championships (Nur-Sultan, KAZ)
- 2020 Ranking Series Matteo Pellicone (Roma, ITA)
- 2020 Senior Continental Championships (Roma, Alger, New Delhi, Ottawa)

Remaining events:

- 2021 Senior Asian Championships only for China, North Korea and Turkmenistan
- 2021 Ranking Series Poland Open (Warsaw, POL)

Coach Traveler

Due to the diverse technical level among Asian National Wrestling Federations, United World Wrestling Asia was forced to seek innovative solutions for progressive development of wrestling on the continent. Therefore, it was decided to develop a new knowledge-sharing mechanism, which will allow elite national wrestling federations to share technical expertise with less developed nations with a support of United World Wrestling Asia. This program will be fully supervised and financed by continental council, with its main purpose to ensure effective knowledge sharing mechanisms through coaches' exchange program between national wrestling federations of Asia. It was proposed to establish several scenarios, which will provide flexibility to national federations based on their needs.



On July 1st 2020 United World Wrestling Asia Executive Committee approved initiation of Coach Traveler program internally. Official proposal about program implementation was announced during United World Wrestling Asia General Assembly and was supported by participating representatives from Asian National Wrestling Federations.

Currently, Asian Wrestling Council includes 40 national wrestling federations, which are different from each other based on several criteria, including the level of their performance on the continental and world level, and such difference can be explained by following factors:

1. Financial foundation;
2. Technical knowledge and skills in wrestling;
3. Governmental support for sports;
4. Popularity of wrestling at national / regional level;
5. Wrestling national traditions;
6. Other factors.

Concept: expert with a high technical expertise level will be integrated into developing national federation for thirty days to work with local wrestling community on the field. Receiving national federation will be able to select appropriate integration strategy in accordance with specific needs.

Aims and objectives:

- Improve technical capacity of developing Asian wrestling federations
- Increase organizational capacity of developing national wrestling federations in Asia
- Promote wrestling in Asia through cooperation with TV channels
- Strengthen friendly relations between Asian countries

United World Wrestling Asia will supervise all activities related to this program: application process; preparation of experts; program development in accordance with request; media support; program



evaluation and adjustment; financial support. All activities related to “Coach Traveler” program will be filmed for promotional purposes.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Asian national wrestling federations will be able to apply for Coach Traveler program by completing online application form, which will be reviewed by UWW Asia staff members. Official document, containing Coach Traveler program conditions will be sent to Asian national wrestling federations in electronic format before 8th of January 2021. United World Wrestling Asia will activate Coach Traveler program in February 2021.

Evolution of Wrestling in Asia

Wrestling in Asia has a long history, which begins from ancient times. Majority of Asian ethnical groups on our continent has their own national wrestling styles, which differ from each other. Evolvement of Olympic wrestling style in Asia has also a history, which should be captured and transferred to future generations. Luckily, Asian Amateur Wrestling Association preserved all organizational documents from 1986, yet there is a big piece of missing information. Therefore, United World Wrestling Asia decided to recover and systemize information from various sources in order to create a book, describing



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important moments of evolution of wrestling in Asia. Currently several staff members collect and analyze information, which will be used for content creation of “Evolution of Wrestling in Asia” book.

FACT: Asian Amateur Wrestling Council archive was digitalized (over 6 000 pages) and currently being analyzed by book editors to create a content for book.

United World Wrestling Asia Executive Committee anonymously approved this project during recent executives meeting. At this stage around 60% of the content has been written, but UWW Asia encourages all affiliated members to contribute to this project by sending any relevant materials, which can be used for this book. Until today, only 17 national wrestling federations sent an information about history of their respective organization with media files. However, majority of federations ignored request from United World Wrestling Asia.

CALL FOR ACTION: those national federations, who have not sent materials for “Evolution of Wrestling in Asia” book, United World Wrestling Asia encourages to send materials as soon as possible.

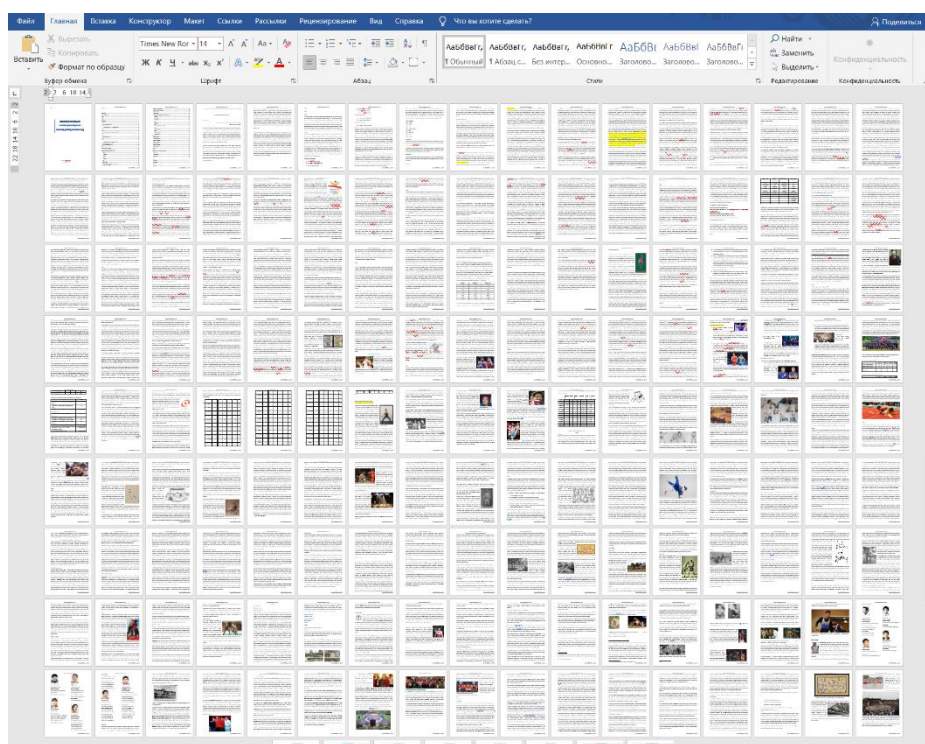


Figure 1 Manuscript as of today



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UWW Asia Awards 2019 - 2020

One of the main aims of the United World Wrestling Asia is to promote wrestling at the continental level by using various strategies. Therefore, at the beginning of 2019 it was proposed to establish an annual prize fund for best wrestlers, coaches and the most active national wrestling federation in Asia. This proposal was anonymously approved by executive committee and by general assembly delegates in Xi'an, China (2019). Specific guidelines for the contest were developed in order to identify winners in each nomination. UWW Asia staff members carefully analyzed performance of each Asian wrestler/team and national federation to calculate points in accordance with previously approved provisions.

Originally it was planned to distribute awards for 2019 winners during UWW Asia General Assembly 2020, which was supposed to be organized in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan on the occasion of Juniors Asian Championships. However, due to the cancelation of the event it was decided to distribute the awards to contest winners in online format. LIVE awards ceremony took place on August 12th and was televised through official UWW Asia Instagram account [@uww.asia]. During this online event UWW Asia President Mr. Daulet Turlykhanov distributed awards among all contest winners. Each winner was awarded by a financial prize in the amount of \$3,000 USD and also received electronic UWW Asia certificates of recognition. Due to the cancellation of major events in 2020, it was





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not possible to assess performance of wrestlers throughout the year, and therefore, UWW Asia will restart information collection in 2021.

Following individuals were nominated as a contest winners in 2019 and awarded by continental council virtually in August 2020:

Best wrestlers of Asia in 2019



1. Best Greco-Roman wrestler of Asia – **Shinobu Ota** (Japan)

According to the results of the year, Shinobu Ota scored 90 points. He won the World Championship in Nur Sultan, and ranking series tournaments in Zagreb (Croatia) and in Minsk (Belarus) at 63 kg weight category. Honorary second and third place in Asian ranking were taken by wrestlers from South Korea Ryu Han Su and Kim Hyeon Woo.

2. Best Freestyle Wrestler of Asia – **Nurkozha Kaipanov** (Kazakhstan)

To reveal the winner of the nomination “Best freestyle wrestler of the Year” was very difficult. Two wrestlers in this nomination scored an equal number of points (90). Nurkozha Kaipanov (70 kg) from Kazakhstan and Alireza Karimimachiani (92 kg) from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Both wrestlers won Asian Championship and ranking series in Sassari (Italy). Also, they became owners of silver medal in World Championship. To objectively identify the best wrestler, the following



criteria were taken into consideration: victory in other important events and the quantity of participants in the weight category at the World Championships.

If Alireza Karimimachiani won the World Club Championship 2019, Nurkozha Kaipanov won the silver medal of the World Military Games in Xi'an (China). In 92 weight category in the World Championships (Nur-Sultan) participated 18 athletes, while 30 wrestlers participated in 70 kg. This factor has become crucial in identifying the best freestyle wrestler. As a result, in the nomination "Best freestyle wrestler of the Year" won the young wrestler from Kazakhstan Nurkozha Kaipanov. The second place was taken by Alireza Karimi, and the third place belonged to two-time world medalist Bajrang Punia from India, who scored 80 points.

3. Best Female Wrestler of Asia – **Ningning Rong** (China)

Ningning Rong won the silver medal at the World Champ, won the Asian Championship and the ranking tournament in Bulgaria and put ninety points into her "account". The second and third places in Asia took the first World Champions in the history of own countries, Aisulu Tynybekova from Kyrgyzstan (85 points) and Yong Mi Pak (80 points) from North Korea. Both athletes were named as the best in the nomination "History makers" by United World Wrestling.

Best coaches of Asia in 2019



- Best Greco-Roman wrestling coach of Asia – **Mohammad Bana** (Iran)



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Under strict supervision of Bana Iranian Greco-Roman wrestlers won three bronze medals and respectively obtained three Olympic licenses at the World Championships. In addition, performance at Asian championships was also considered - four gold and three bronze medals were gained by Iranian Greco-Roman wrestlers in Xi'an, China.

- Best Freestyle wrestling coach of Asia – **Gholamreza Mohammadi** (Iran)

Gholamreza is a well-known wrestler in the past (four-time medalist of the World Cup), and nowadays he serves as a head coach of the Iranian freestyle wrestling team. This year, his team dominated at the Asian Championship by winning seven gold and three bronze medals.

- Best Female wrestling coach of Asia – **Hideo Sasayama** (Japan)

At the World Championships 2019, which was held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, the Japanese women's wrestling team won one gold, three silver and two bronze medals. Results of Asian championship among females talk a lot about quality of Japanese female wrestlers: four gold, five silver and one bronze medal.

Kazakhstan wrestling federation was recognized as the winner in the nomination "The most active national wrestling federation of Asia in 2019". The most important achievement of Kazakhstan can be considered organization of the Seniors World Wrestling Championships, which was held in Nur-Sultan. National federation proved its competence in the field of event management by delivering high level event for global wrestling community. In addition, Kazakhstan hosted Asian championship among cadets earlier in 2019, which were followed by a series of development programs for Asian wrestlers and coaches – More than Medals. Kazakhstan is also well-known all over the world for its international tournaments, which are being organized annually among various age groups and styles of wrestling.

Initiative to organize such contest received very positive feedback from athletes and national federations as a great way to promote wrestling in Asia. On top of that, such contest motivates athletes to train and perform better in various tournaments organized in Asia and in the world. Besides financial award, without any doubts, athletes will be striving to receive such honorable recognition as a best



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athlete on the continent. United World Wrestling Asia claimed that this contest will be organized annually. Without any doubts, this initiative will boost participation rate and performance quality among Asian wrestlers at continental and world levels.



UWW Asia Internship 2021

The main aim of the project is to increase organizational effectiveness and provide opportunities for young leaders in the field of sports management to apply their knowledge in practical setting at United World Wrestling Asia office. This initiative was conditioned by consistently growing workload, which require immediate attention. From the beginning of 2021, United World Wrestling Asia will activate Coach Traveler program, therefore, main task of an intern[-s] will be to coordinate the program and perform general administrative duties.



United World Wrestling Asia officially announced about internship opportunity on the official website and social media platforms on December 8th, 2020 (full text below). Asian national wrestling federations are encouraged to share this information within wrestling community of their respective countries.



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Purpose of Internship

The internship program offers a vehicle of learning on international sports management and development through involvement in our various projects. United World Wrestling Asia is an auxiliary body of International Wrestling Federation (UWW) and operates in 40 Asian countries. Interns enjoy substantial opportunities for active involvement across many levels the United World Wrestling Asia operations.

Scope

The scope of the internship is directly related to the person's experience and interests. Interns develop personal and professional skills, which are reviewed on a regular basis to facilitate skill- building, and undertake specific projects, including:

- Support in overall programs delivery planned for 2021
- Contributing to UWW Asia knowledge bank through active involvement in data analysis
- Support content creation for enhancement of the UWW Asia website
- Communication with national and regional sports organizations to support programs implementation and reporting back to UWW Asia on opportunities for collaboration
- Assist with administrative tasks related to the management of the program including travel arrangements, setting up meetings etc.
- Assist with the preparations for UWW Asia General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings.

Other responsibilities

- Support the functions of the UWW Asia in various areas.
- Help with administration and logistics at various levels.
- Assist with projects as identified by the manager

Education; language and IT competences

- Bachelor or equivalent qualification in a related subject area (Sports Management, Olympic Studies, etc)
- Advanced knowledge of English; knowledge of the other language is an asset.
- Project management experience.
- Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook).

Please submit your CV and cover letter to apply for internship position within United World Wrestling Asia to a.vorontsov@uww.asia before 08/01/2021. UWW Asia will contact successful applicants for interview arrangement.



Social Media report

Instagram

Number of followers

United World Wrestling Asia official Instagram account had 1 700 followers on January 1st 2020. As of today, the number exceeds 47 000, which means that UWW Asia was able to gain 30 000 new active followers. Due to the unavailability of international wrestling events, we were not able to gain follower in desired progression. Nevertheless, United World Wrestling Asia does not use any paid promotions, while still demonstrates tremendous increase.

Throughout the year of 2020, there were 649 posts published in Instagram and 464 stories. On average, these numbers bring us to minimum 3 posts per day

Posts/Stories general reach

The most significant reach was achieved through post about Shinobu Ota: 217 064 views



Each third video published on UWW Asia Instagramm account was recognized as INTRESTING. This is due to the fact that we carefully choose interesting moments in wrestling, which will attract attention of wrestling fans.

The largest Story coverage of: 10,200 views (publication about the assistance of the UWW

Asia President to unprivileged families during the pandemic)



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The biggest coverage of the IGTV (video over one minute): 72 100 views (OG 2016 quarter final match between Kim Hen Wu and Roman Vlasov)

Each IGTV video gains over 40 000 views, which can be considered as a high number for the account with 47 000 followers. When publishing long videos with a duration over one minute, we choose only the most interesting, principled matches, in which wrestlers show either the will to win, or score a lot of points, or lost by a referee's mistake.

The most commented/liked posts

The most commented post: contest – singlet of 2-times Asian Champions Daniyar Kaisanov (512 comments). Post collected the most likes: Shinobu Ota throws (9254 likes)

Live:

United World Wrestling Asia official Instagram account went live 9 times. 8 time during seniors Asian Championships 2020. The most viewers were attracted during live show at Asian Championships in New Delhi, India: 1516 viewers watched simultaneously.

Facebook

Number of followers

United World Wrestling Asia official Facebook page had only 400 followers on January 1st 2020. Currently, there are 2163 like on the page, which means that over 17000 fans were added on Facebook. UWW Asia Facebook page is less successful in comparison to Instagram and has slower progression, since any targeted promotion has not been used. Since several Asian countries do not use Facebook as a primary social media source, we experience lower popularity on this platform.

Posts/Stories general reach



UNITED WORLD WRESTLING ASIA

The volume of work done by UWW Asia on Facebook is similar to Instagram. Throughout the year of 2020, there were 649 posts published in Instagram and 464 stories. On average, these numbers bring us to minimum 3 posts per day

The biggest reach was achieved through publications about Mongolian wrestlers. Ganzorig Mandarhan: total reach 239 681; 1658 likes; 1000 reposts; 51 comments

Altantsetseg Batsetseg: total reach 226 000; 1400 likes; 117 reposts, 37 comments

Summary

United World Wrestling Asia, as an auxiliary body of International Wrestling Federation, strives to achieve excellence in the field of development and promotion of wrestling in Asia. However, it is worth to mention, that this goal can be achieved only through collaborative actions with all affiliated members. During last year, it was concluded that communication plays essential role in achieving mutual goals. Therefore, United World Wrestling Asia encourages all its members to adjust communication strategy, especially with continental council and headquarters of the United World Wrestling.

Currently we are living in uncertain times and have to be ready to adjust ourselves to any unexpected situation very quickly. That being said, United World Wrestling Asia encourages all wrestling federations to monitor news and updates provided by United World Wrestling and Asian Continental Council through official communication channels: websites, emails, circular letter, and social media platforms. Without any doubts, there will be several changes in the calendar at the beginning of the year, so we need to be ready to react quickly to those changes.

United World Wrestling Asia wishes each of you the best of luck in the upcoming Olympic year!

END OF THE BULLETIN