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Report on the Activity of National Federations and the Continental Council for Wrestling Development in Europe in 2019

UWW-Europe Executive Commission Report

The subject of this Report are the data on the condition of Wrestling Olympic Styles (Freestyle, Greco-Roman and Female), as well as the activities performed in national federations' common interest. Non-Olympic Styles' development and results are reported by other auxiliary bodies of UWW President and Bureau.

In its Report for 2019 the Executive Commission gave the findings, conclusions and assessments on wrestling's condition in Europe. What was analyzed were the results reached on official UWW Championships, as well as in the activities performed in the interest of national federationsmembers of the Council. The purpose is to implement new approaches in common activity both in the present and in the following years.

I. Competitions held in Europe.

- 1. European Championships (LL, GR, LF) in 5 age categories:
 - > Senior- Bucharest, Romania
 - ➤ U-23- Novi Sad. Serbia
 - ➤ Junior- Pontevedra, Spain



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- ➤ Cadet- Faenza, Italy
- ➤ U-15- Krakow, Poland
- 2. Wrestling Tournaments (LL, GR, LF) within European Games in Minsk, Belarus
- 3. World Championships (LL, GR, LF) in 3 age categories:
 - ➤ U-23- Budapest, Hungary
 - ➤ Junior- Tallinn, Estonia
 - ➤ Cadet- Sofia, Bulgaria
- 4. Veterans World Championship (LL, GR) Tbilisi, Georgia
- 5. World Cup (LL) Yakutsk, Russia
- 6. Wrestling Tournaments (LL, GR, LF) and World School Combat Games Budapest, Hungary.
- 7. European Youth Olympic Festival (LL, GR, LF) Baku, Azerbaijan
- 8. International Tournaments (LL, GR, LF) in 5 age categories.

Twelve national federations hosted Continental and World Championships, including the World Cup (ROM, SRB, ESP, ITA, BUL, POL, BLR, HUN, EST, GEO, RUS, AZE). All of them provided very good conditions complying with UWW requirements. There were also 131 international tournaments LL-47, GR-47, LF-37. They were organized by 26 national federations (54% of UWW-Europe members). The tournaments were divided under age groups as follows: senior- 63, junior- 31, cadet- 28, U-15- 9.

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II. Participation in European Championships and European Games

In all three styles, the total of 2839 athletes from 42 countries took part. Representatives of ARM, AUT, AZE, BLR, BUL, CRO, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GBR, GEO, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, LTU, MDA, MKD, NOR, POL, ROM, RUS, SRB, SVK, TUR, UKR (58% of federations members of UWW-Europe) took part in 5 European Championships and European Games. BIH, IRL, ISL, LUX, MON, and MNE have no participation.

In the 6 European Championships including the European Games the participation was as follows: senior – 40 countries /515 participants/; European Games – 36 countries /247 participants/; U-23: 35 countries /371 participants/; junior – 37 countries /478 participants/; cadet - 37 countries /513 participants/; U-15: 29 countries /690 participants/. Participants' distribution by styles: LL-980; GR-1091; LF- 768.

The Executive Commission considers that specific measures are needed regarding national federations who face difficulties to participate in Continent's Championships. UWW Program for Regional Educational Development Tournaments/Competitions 2020-202, as well as UWW and our Continental Council's common Program for organization of a special course to acquire coach professional qualification will play a significant role to resolve this problem. The federations included into these programs will be stimulated by UWW and UWW-Europe.

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III. NF's Participation in World Championships

In the 5 World Championships (senior, U-23, junior, cadets, veterans) 39 national federations (81 % of UWW-Europe Members) took part with a total of 1533 athletes. 24 federations were present in all championships (ARM, AZE, BLR, BUL, CRO, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GEO, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, LAT, LTU, MDA, NOR, POL, ROM, RUS, SWE, TUR, UKR). 8 federations didn't take part in the World Championships (BIH, CHY, IRL, ISL, LUX, MLT, MNE, MON).

The participation in World Championships was: senior – 39 countries /420 participants/; U-23: 33 countries /331 participants/; junior – 33 countries /356 countries/; cadet – 30 countries /361 participants/; VET – 26 countries /65 participants/. European wrestlers have the following participation in the three Olympic styles: LL-538; GR-626; LF- 369.

The above data allow making the conclusion that Europe's wrestlers have the biggest participation share among participants in World Championships on Freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling. Our continent has less number of participants in female wrestling than Asia.

IV. Results

National federations' performance in European Championships is seen best in won medals distribution. The same criterion was used to assess the performance in World Championships, stating as well the qualification places for participation in the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Bulgarie, 1040 Sofia, 75, bld. "Vassil Levski"
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1. European Championships Results

Executive Commission has analyzed 4 age groups (senior, U-23, junior, cadets) results. The present format of school competitions (U-15) needs improvement aimed to stimulate the participation of a bigger number of national federations.

In the 4 European Championships, 33 federations won medals (27 in senior category, 21 in U-23, 21 in junior, 21 in cad). In medals distribution took part: for LL 21 countries; for GR - 20, and for LF - 19.

In Bucharest (senior), Russia had the best result. Its representatives won the total of 21medals (8 gold, 4 silver, 9 bronze). It was followed by Turkey – 15 (6-2-7), Azerbaijan – 13 (4-2-7), Ukraine – 10 (5-2-3), Georgia – 9 (-4-5). Federations distributed 56.25% of the medals. 10 federations had champions (20.83%).

The countries having champions on European Games (Minsk) are: Russia – 7, Azerbaijan and Belarus – 3 each, Ukraine – 2, Armenia, Latvia and Sweden – 1 each. Besides, in medals distribution Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Serbia, Romania, Estonia and San Marino took part.

The Championship in Novi Sad (U-23) distributed the medals between: Russia – 25, Turkey – 18, Georgia and Ukraine – 13 each, Romania – 7, Belarus and Hungary – 6 each, Bulgaria – 5, Azerbaijan – 4, Armenia – 3, France, Moldova, Poland – 2 each, Croatia, Finland, Great Britain,

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Germany, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden – 1 each. Champions had Russia – 11, Georgia – 5, Ukraine – 3, Belarus, Hungary, Turkey – 2 each, Armenia, Finland, Germany, Moldova, Netherlands – 1 each.

Russia has the top ranking in all three styles on Junior Championship (Pontevedra) with 24 medals (9 gold – 6 silver – 9 bronze). It was followed by: UKR-13(1-4-8), HUN-11 (4-3-4), GEO- 9 (4-14), TUR-9 (3-4-2), BLR-9 (2-2-5), ARM-8 (2-2-4), MDA-8 (1-3-4), AZE-6 (2-2-2), POL-4 (1—4), ROM-4 (--2-2), SWE- 2 (1—1) ,GER and ITA 2 (--1-1) each; BUL and CRO 2 (---2) each.

The total number of medals (120) on Cadets Championship (Faenza) was distributed between RUS - 26, AZE-15, TUR UKR 11, GEO- 10, BLR-9, ARM -8, BUL, ROM and ITA – 4 each, GER and SWE – 3 each, POL- 2, BEL, CRO, DEN, EST, FRA. HUN, MKD, NOR, SUI –1 each. Gold medals were won by: RUS- 13, AZE-4, UKR-3, GEO- 2, ARM, BUL, GER, HUN, ITA, MDA, MKD, ROM – 1 each.

Summarized, the above data allow making the conclusion that there is a serious competition on our continent's wrestling championships. More than 78,5% of participating national federations take part in medals distribution.

2. World Championships Results



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The Report will not take into consideration the medals distributed on Veterans World Championship (Tbilisi). Its format is not comparable with the rest 4 championships (senior, U-23, junior, cadets). There 23 federations from Europe have won a total of 243 medals (53 gold, 69 silver, 121 bronze). This is more than 50% of the total number of medals.

What the federations won in Nur-Sultan (senior) were 62 medals (17 gold, 19 silver, 26 bronze), distributed between 17 European countries: RUS- 19 (9-5-5), GEO-6 (4—2), AZE- 6 (1-3-2), TUR and UKR – 4 each (1-2-1), HUN – 4 (1-1-2), GER – 4 (---4), SWE- 3 (--2-1) ARM and BUL – 2 each (--1-1), SRB – 2 (--2), SVK – 1 (--1,4), EST, MKD, SUI – 1 each (--1). Champion's titles in LL were obtained by RUS – 5 and GEO – 2; in GR: RUS and GEO – 2 each, HUN, TUR UKR – 1 each, in LF: RUS – 2 and SWE – 1.

Europe's representatives won 58 (53.7%) out of the 108 qualification places distributed for the Olympic Games in Tokyo. The places were obtained by 22 countries. In Freestyle 12 countries took 18 quotas: RUS-5, GEO and TUR-2, UKR, HUN, SRB, AZE, POL, ITA, MKD, SMR SUI - 1. In GR – 13 countries got 23 quotas: RUS and GER-3, GEO, TUR, UKR, HUN, SRB, ARM – 2 each. In LF 13 countries took 17 quotas: UKR, POL, GER, SWE-2, HUN, AZE, BLR, EST, DEN, BUL, GRE, MDA, ROM-1. These results allow the prognosis of an imposing participation of European federations in the Olympic Tournament.

In U-23 Championship 11 national federations won 57 medals (14 gold, 18 silver, 25 bronze). They were distributed as follows: RUS-14 (6-6-2), UKR-

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10 (2-1-7), AZE-8, GEO-7, TUR-6, BLR-5, ARM MDA-2, CRO, FIN, ROM-1.

On Youth (Tallinn) 13 federations from Europe received 66 medals. RUS won 21 medals (6 gold – 7 silver – 8 bronze) in all three styles. TUR and UKR have 8 each, 5 went to AZE; GEO, HUN and MDA won 4 medals each; BLR and POL won 3 each, ARM and GER 2 each, and BUL and ITA – 1 each.

On Cadets Championship (Sofia) 14 federations distributed 58 medals: 18 LL, 27-GR, LF-13. The biggest number went to RUS – 14 medals (6 gold, 6 silver, 6 bronze). It was followed by UKR-8 (1-1-6), AZE-7 (3-2-2), TUR- 6 (--1-6), ARM had 5, BLR, GEO – 4 each, HUN, MDA and SWE – 2 each, EST, BUL, FRA, ROM – 1. Champion's titles were won by RUS-6, AZE-3, BLR, UKR-1.

Executive Commission has good grounds to make the conclusion that federations from Europe play decisive role in strengthening wrestling's positions in the world.

V. Activity of UWW's Training Center in Sofia

In the Center, 357 athletes from 26 countries conducted training and a mixed group from Africa. Wrestlers from 13 countries had training in Greco-Roman wrestling; from 15 countries in Freestyle wrestling; from 14 countries in Female wrestling. In August, in Sofia, More than Medals Seminar was held. All trainings took the total of 187 training days. Athletes



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from: ITA, ALG, ROM, CHN, RSA, ESP, ARG, MEX, GER, IND, MKD, KOS, ALB, JPN, TUN were trained in Freestyle. Wrestlers from: USA, ITA, ALG, INA, ROM, CHN, GUA, RSA, ESP, ARG, EGY, SRB, TUN were trained in Greco-Roman wrestling. In Female wrestling athletes from RUS, AZE, MAR, MEX, CHN, ARG, TUN, ALG, GRB, NOR, TUR, EST, and a mixed group from Africa were trained. The time was distributed as follows: Freestyle - 160 training days; Greco-Roman – 75 days; Female Wrestling - 108 days.

Training sessions took place in 6 training facilities (Sofia, Belmeken, Teteven, Samokov, Varna, Blagoevgrad).

Center activity's content will be enriched in 2020: a special course will start for professional coach qualification. Its function will be regulated by a common program of UWW, UWW-Europe and Bulgaria's National Sports Academy. The participants in the course will be approved and registered by UWW-Europe Executive Commission. Full information about the course is published on UWW, UWW-Europe web site.

IV. International Transfer of Wrestlers

The trend of decreasing the number of registered transfers has been stopped in 2019. The number of wrestlers' transfers was 241 (in 2018 - 215). Foreign wrestlers have received permissions to compete for clubs in Germany -217; Austria -17; France -6 and Sweden -1.



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In the list of transferred there are wrestlers from 32 countries (28 from Europe, 2 from Asia, 2 from America). Their distribution is as follows: HUN-29, POL-25, ROM-23, BUL-22, TUR-21, GEO-21, MDA-18, RUS-14, CZA-LIT-7, UKR ARM-6, CRO-4, ITA, GRE, FRA, DEN AFG-3, SWE, ESP, SVK, SRB, MKD, IRA, FIN, EST, BLR, AZE – 2, VEN, NOR, LAT, CUB-1.

The Executive Commission believes that more measures are needed to improve transfers' organization. Final termination of DRL problem in Germany is necessary. In its verdict the Court should take into consideration that in this league's clubs there are more than 100 foreign athletes who have not observed the procedure ordered by UWW Regulation. They have violated the UWW Statute and Rules which challenges their right to compete. On the other hand a number of national federations result to be financially harmed (they didn't receive the due funds for the transfers of their wrestlers). This delicate issue should be relevantly resolved by UWW Bureau specialized bodies.

VII. Executive Commission's Activity

The main task of the Commission was to coordinate and direct national federations' efforts in UWW Program fulfillment aiming the improvement of communication, information exchange and efficient interaction all auxiliary bodies of UWW President, Bureau and Executive Commission.

Good cooperation has been reached with Technical Assistance, Sports and Administration Department, with Technical, Scientific and Legal

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Commissions. Members of Executive Commission took part in the realization of common events under UWW Programs. Commission assisted a number of federations within the limits of its possibilities.

Interaction style between Commission's members has been improved. Two meetings and two working sessions have been held. The organizers of all European Championships have been supported. The quality of information of mutual interest has been improved. International Transfers Register as well as information and documents exchange with national federations were on the necessary level.

The Commission considers it was its failure that there was no effect out of Referees Commission's work. It would be fair to report though that UWW Referees Commission did not show any wish to take advantage of Continental Commission's possibilities. The Executive Commission did not insist strongly enough to activate this body aimed to assist UWW Commission.

In the fourth year of its mandate, the Executive Commission suggests it would be correct to enlarge its activity scope and supported by UWW continental bodies will look for precise and adequate forms to:

- ➤ Efficiently assist the federations facing difficulties in their activity;
- ➤ Modernize competition events having in view the possibilities of different federations;
- > Qualify of coaches, judges and administrative staff;
- ➤ Attract local sponsors for projects of mutual interest;



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Executive Commission believes there are good possibilities to optimize UWW-Europe activity. But to be able to use them we need to modernize the goals and particular forms of contemporary type common activity.

On behalf of its members: 48 national federations, UWW-Europe Executive Commission thanks its President Nenad Lalovich, members of the Bureau and UWW auxiliary bodies for their support and assistance in overall activity of our Continental Council. Commission declares its ambition to continue working as a loyal pro-active mechanism for the realization of the goals: strengthen and widen wrestling's positions in Europe and in the international sport movement.

UWW-Europe Executive Commission

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