

## **Report on the Activity of the Continental Council for Wrestling Development in Europe 2020**

### **UWW Europe Executive Commission Report**

This report is very different from the reports of the past. The year 2020 was marked by the Covid-19 pandemic and the great loss by the death of our president Tzeno Tzenov on May 31, 2020.

Due to the pandemic, only one European Championship could be held in the calendar year 2020. It was in Rome/ITA. The European Championships for women and men was held from February 10 to 16, 2020. All other European Championships unfortunately had to be cancelled.

A first entry into the 2020 competition was in December 2020 (12. to 18.12.2020) with the Individual World Cup in Belgrade. This competition took place in a bubble and brought us good results with regard to the 2021 competition calendar and especially for the proper execution of the Olympic qualification tournaments in Budapest (Europe) and Sofia (World) with a 1-year delay.

The last meeting of the members of the UWW Europe Council under the leadership of Tzeno Tzenov also took place at the European title competitions of women and men in Rome/ITA. The next meeting could only take place on the sidelines of the world qualification tournament in Sofia/BUL under the leadership of the acting president Theodoros Hamakos. Here it was mainly about the preparation of the 2021 Congress in Dortmund.

#### **I. Competitions that took place in Europe.**

##### **1. European Championships (FS, GR, WW) in 1 age group:**

➤ women and men - Rome, Italy.

##### **2. Individual World Cup (FS, GR, WW) in 1 age group:**

➤ women and men - Belgrade, Serbia.

##### **3. International Tournaments (FS, GR, WW) in 3 age groups:**

Two national federations (ITA and SRB) from Europe appeared as 2020 organizers. They both offered very good conditions that met the requirements of UWW.

Only 14 international tournaments (there were 131 in 2019) FS-5, GR-5, WW-4 took place due to the pandemic. They were organized by 8 national federations.

Were organized with absolute success, their various tournaments in the first four months of 2021 and our operation began, applying all medical protocols, in November 2020 with the organization of tournaments in Poland, Croatia and Russia.

## II. Participation in the European Championship 2020

In all three styles, a total of 498 athletes (2019 = 515) from 38 countries (2019 = 40) participated. Representatives from ALB, ARM, AUT, AZE, BIH, BLR, BUL, CRO, CZE, DEN, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GBR, GEO, GER, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, KOS, LAT, LTU, MDA, MKD, NED, NOR, POL, ROU, RUS, SLO, SMR, SRB, SUI, SVK, TUR and UKR (82% of federations members of UWW-Europe) participated in the European Championship. 8 countries (BEL, CYP, ISL, IRL, LUX, MLT, MON, MNE) did not provide any participants.

The distribution of participants by style: FS 181, GR 190, WW 127.

The Executive Commission considers that specific measures are needed regarding national federations who face difficulties to participate in the Continental Championships. It is essential to address this problem in the new term and to look for solutions to allow these countries to participate as well. This is where the UWW Development Department in particular can be supportive.

## III. Participation in the Individual World Cup in December 2020

29 national federations from Europe (ALB, ARM, AZE, BEL, BLR, BUL, CRO, CZE, ESP, EST, FRA, GBR, GER, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, LAT, MDA, MKD, POL, POR, ROU, RUS, SRB, SUI, SVK, TUR, UKR) with a total of 358 athletes (FS-141, GR-132, WW-85) participated. Some countries from Europe did not get permission from their governments to make this trip.

## IV. Results

The performance of national federations at European Championships is best shown in the distribution of medals won.

### 1. Results of the European Championship 2020

At the European Championships in Rome, wrestlers from 22 nations out of 38 participating nations won the 120 medals. The distribution was as follows: RUS (22), AZE (13), UKR (13), TUR (9), BLR (8), GEO (8), GER (7), BUL (6), ARM (5), ITA (4), ROU (4), SWE (4), NOR (3), HUN (3), POL (2), MDA (2), LTU (2), NED (1), SMR (1), SUI (1), SRB (1), SVK (1).

### 2. Results Individual World Cup 2020

The dominance of the European participants could be seen in the Nations Ranking. In all three styles, the 18 top-6 placings were occupied 17 x by European countries.

#### IV. International transfer of wrestlers

Due to the coronavirus, almost no league competitions took place in Europe. The German Bundesliga started with a reduced number of clubs and then had to stop the season after a few match days due to the pandemic. Due to entry restrictions, only a few foreign wrestlers were put in.

Thus, there were only 79 transfers in 2020 (2019 = 241). Foreign wrestlers had permission to compete for clubs in Germany (74) and in France (5).

In the list of transfers there are wrestlers from 23 countries (20 from Europe, 3 from Asia). Their distribution was as follows:

MDA (13), ROU (9), TUR (8), HUN (7), POL (5), FRA (4), BUL (3), GEO (3), ITA (3), IRI (3), BLR (2), LTU (2), UKR (2), AFG (1), AZE (1), CRO (1), ESP (1), EST (1), GBR (1), KAZ (1), MKD (1), RUS (1), SVK (1).

#### VII. The activity of the Executive Commission

The main task of the Commission was to coordinate and guide the efforts of the national federations in the fulfillment of the UWW program, with the aim of improving communication, information exchange and efficient cooperation among all auxiliary bodies of the UWW President, the Bureau and the Executive Commission.

As stated at the beginning of this report, last year was a whole new situation for everyone involved due to the pandemic. This was made more difficult by the loss of our President Tzeno Tzenov.

The Executive Commission believes that there are good opportunities to optimize the activities of UWW-Europe. But in order to take advantage of them, we need to modernize the objectives and the particular forms of joint activity of the present kind.

On behalf of its members, the 48 national federations, the Executive Commission of UWW-Europe thanks its UWW President and IOC EB Member Nenad Lalovic, the members of the UWW Bureau and the UWW staff for their support and help throughout the activity of our Continental Council.

The tasks set in the Rome Congress for 2020, such as

- Efficient support to the federations that have difficulties in their activities;
- Modernization of the competition events, taking into account the possibilities of the federations;
- Qualification of coaches, judges and administrative staff;
- Attracting local sponsors for projects of common interest;

could not be initiated or implemented due to the pandemic. These tasks will have to be dealt with by the new Council to be elected.