



UNITED WORLD  
WRESTLING

# ATHLETES COMMISSION ELECTION RESULTS

## INTRODUCTION

The 2025-2029 UWW Athletes' Commission Election was conducted during the Senior World Championships held in Zagreb, Croatia, from September 12 to 20, 2025. The Athletes' Commission plays a key role in representing the interests of wrestlers worldwide, ensuring their perspective is included in the governance and development of our sport.

This election brought together candidates from different continents and wrestling styles, reflecting the diversity of the global wrestling community. Despite the logistical challenges, athletes demonstrated their commitment by participating in the voting process, reaffirming the importance of athlete representation in United World Wrestling.

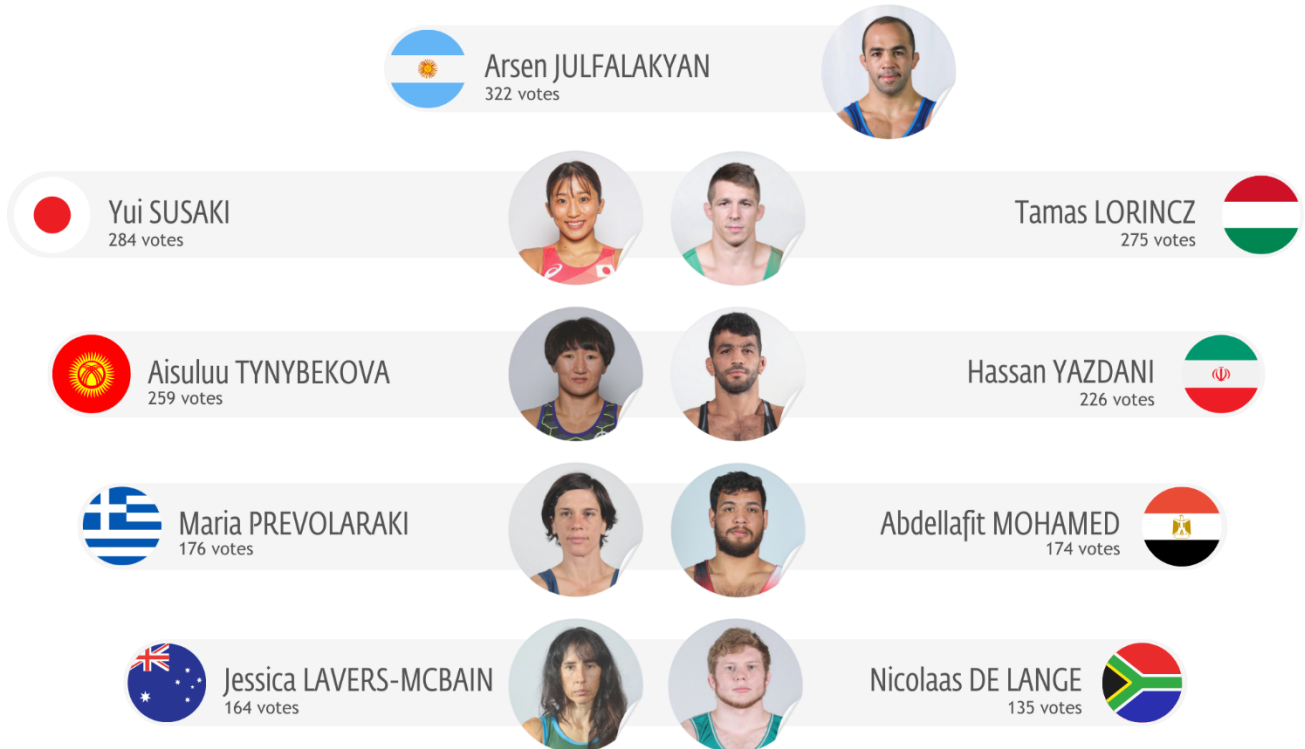


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# ATHLETES COMMISSION

## ELECTION RESULTS

### TOP 9 ELECTED MEMBERS (2025–2029)



### ELECTION OVERVIEW

The 2025-2029 UWW Athletes' Commission Election was conducted during the Senior World Championships in Zagreb, Croatia. A total of **14 candidates** stood for the election, representing a wide range of countries and wrestling styles.

#### List of Candidates:

- Arsen JULFALAKYAN (Argentina)
- Yui SUSAKI (Japan)
- Tamas LORINCZ (Hungary)
- Aisuluu TYNBYBEKOVA (Kyrgyzstan)
- Hassan YAZDANI (Iran)
- Maria PREVOLARAKI (Greece)
- Abdellatif Mohamed Ahmed MOHAMED (Egypt)
- Jessica LAVERS-MCBAIN (Australia)
- Nicolaas DE LANGE (South Africa)
- Anthony WESLEY (Cabo Verde)
- Elmira SYZDYKOVA (Kazakhstan)
- Artur ALEKSANYAN (Armenia)
- Bilyana DUDOVA (Bulgaria)
- Iryna KOLIADENKO (Ukraine)

The voting process was open to all accredited athletes, with **376 participants** casting **378 ballots**.

# ATHLETES COMMISSION

## ELECTION RESULTS

### DIVERSITY AND LOGISTICS

The election underscored both the geographic and disciplinary diversity of the wrestling community, with candidates from freestyle (FS), Greco-Roman (GR), and women's wrestling (WW). Direct engagement with athletes was essential to secure meaningful participation and ensure the success of the voting process.

To further promote awareness, signs with the QR code were displayed inside the back-of-house (BOH) area, as well as in the training and warm-up zones. The process also counted on the collaboration of the UWW IT Department, which provided the dedicated software used to ensure a smooth, transparent, and efficient election.

### CLARIFICATION ON PARTICIPANTS AND VOTES

The final dashboard showed a total of **376 accredited participants** and **378 votes recorded**. This apparent discrepancy is explained by the way the voting system operates. Once a participant enters the platform and passes the authentication step, they are counted as part of the process. However, each athlete is free to decide whether to cast a vote or not. For example, Participant ID 325 accessed the system, completed authentication, but chose not to vote – which is their right. In such cases, the system still registers the authentication, but no ballot is issued. This explains why the number of votes and participants may not fully align, without affecting the transparency or legitimacy of the election.

### CHALLENGES DURING THE PROCESS

The election process faced several operational and logistical challenges that required constant adaptation. Motivating athletes to vote proved to be one of the main difficulties, since most of them were fully focused on their competitions and reluctant to dedicate time to the election. The warm-up area, where the voting station was initially located, turned out to be ineffective: athletes were concentrated on their preparation routines and the lack of televisions prevented athletes from following matches while waiting, which further reduced their interest in staying in that space.

Another recurrent issue was the instability of the voting booth setup. The station consisting of a simple table, chairs, and promotional banners—was sometimes removed by venue staff whenever it was left unattended, creating interruptions in the continuity of the voting process and requiring repeated reinstallation. This unpredictability made it challenging to maintain a consistent and visible voting presence.

Given these obstacles, the team adapted by shifting towards a more direct and proactive strategy. Instead of waiting for athletes to approach, staff members carried tablets into different zones, actively inviting wrestlers to cast their votes. This approach proved to be the most effective method, as only a very small number of athletes came forward voluntarily. Direct engagement proved essential to ensuring meaningful participation.

# ATHLETES' COMMISSION

## ELECTION RESULTS

## CONCLUSION

The 2025 Athletes' Commission Election in Zagreb successfully concluded with the election of nine members from a diverse pool of 14 candidates. The process highlighted both the global reach of wrestling and the athletes' commitment to representation, as nearly 400 participants took part in the vote.

Despite the logistical challenges encountered—including difficulties in motivating athletes, the limitations of the warm-up and training areas, and the need to constantly adapt the voting setup—the election was carried out in a transparent and legitimate manner. Direct engagement through tablets, promotional efforts in key areas of the venue, and the support of the UWW IT Department were instrumental in securing meaningful participation.

The newly elected members now carry the responsibility of amplifying the voice of wrestlers worldwide, strengthening the role of the Athletes' Commission, and contributing to the continuous development of the sport within United World Wrestling.



*Report by:*

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