# NEWS LETTER

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### President's Message: Future of Woodball

By Mr Ming-Hui Weng, President of IWbF



Ming-Hui Weng, IWbF President

Woodball Sports was invented under many coincidences and developed by friends across borders. It was grown out of nothing to this new era. To accelerate the promotion of Woodball, it is essential to win the worldwide popularities to achieve the goal.

Resulting from ten years' hard work, among the members of IWbF, Woodball competitions have regularly organized not only internally but also internationally. Last year, the 1st World University Woodball Championship and the 1st World Cup Woodball Champonship were successfully conducted in Taipei and in 2006, the two international events will be held by Thailand and Malaysia. This year, Woodball has officially moved into the second decade and the International Woodball Federation has strength its power by having more colleagues on board to introduce Woodball Sports to more countries and regions. Simultaneously, it is the goal of our work to seek for regional leaders in order to promote Woodball in the neighborhood countries.



It certainly requires lots of work to be engaged in the large-scale sports events, such as the Asia Games and Olympics Games. However, to attract media's attention, we are meant to provide a better platform for professional players in the worldwide Championships such as Asia Cup, World Cup and World University Woodball Championships. In terms of that, in the forthcoming 10th Taiwan Open International Woodball Championship, the Organizing Committee provides cash prizes for award winners. Meanwhile, the President and Secretary General of each member countries were also invited to Taiwan for the 4th General Assembly to further discuss the future of Woodball.

### Asian Woodball Extravaganza 2005

By Mr Thomas Kok, President of AWbF

Since the introduction of Woodball in Asian countries, it was well received and gaining the popularity at different level. Let alone Chinese Taipei being the originated country undoubtedly above all, other countries like Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, China, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Macau and India are doing very well. I am proud of the progress and fine achievement. We anticipated Indonesia, Pakistan and Nepal would actively join the fast growing pace of Woodball development in short time to

For all the past Championships I have personally visited and even took part in the Competition. The recent 9th Malaysia Woodball Open Championship has demonstrated the high standard of playing skill by some of the outstanding players. In view of that, there are few important areas we should consider seriously to meet the standard of demand in International standard Championship. Firstly, the design of the Woodball Course ought to be challenging in accordance to standard required but should not be nasty against the skill of professional ability.

Secondly, the cash prize awards are the key factor to encourage participants as a future incentive direction for all Championships. Thirdly, to implement the proposed amended rules for the definition of Gate completion and OB affirmation.



We also realized that most of the Championships are being held at the end of the year starting from the month of August. It is very difficult to participate all of them. It is now become a choice of selection by the respective players.

Next year 2006, Malaysia was given the honor to host the 2nd World Woodball Cup in conjunction with the 9th Malaysia Woodball Open Championship schedule from 23rd to 28th August 2006 and Thailand was given the honor to host the 2nd World University Woodball Championship in conjunction with the 5th Thailand Woodbal Championship. Both of these are the major Woodball Championship of 2006. I would like to call upon all member countries to give full support to these two Championships.

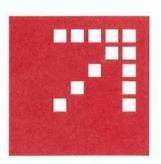


### Report on the 1st European Course for Woodball Coaches and Referees

#### By Mr Srecko Mavrek, President of EWbF

July 14 to 17, 2005. Graz, Austria

The 1st European Course for Woodball Coaches and Referees and the 3rd European Woodball Open Championship were held from July 14-17, 2005 in Graz, Austria. Organizers were International Scientific Society for Sports in Graz, European Woodball Federation and Institute for Sport Science of Karl-Franz-University Graz.



There were totally 20 participants from 8 countries (Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Estonia, Germany, Denmark and Bulgaria). Lecturers were Prof. Chen-Hsing Huang (Taiwan) and Srecko Mavrek – Lucky, M.Ed. (Croatia). After 16 hours of lectures (8 theoretical + 8 practical) and passed exam, Diploma of Woodball Coach and Referee at local level (valid for country of residence) is awarded to all participants.

Single and mixed doubles competition in totally 48 gates (4 rounds) were



played in attractive designed 12-gates woodball course.

The first place in male single competition was taken by Prof. Vello Hein (Estonia) with the result 216, while the first place in female single competition is taken by his wife Mrs. Helle Hein with fantastic and the best single result at the Championship - 210. Prof Vello Hein also achieved the best result in the round of 12 gates - 47 in the third round. The winners in men and women single competition are awarded with the medals while mixed doubles winners are awarded with Diplomas. Player Tomislav Matisic (Croatia) is awarded with Diploma for "Gate in one" (45 meters gate).

#### USA Team at 2004 1st World University Woodball Championship

By Mike Li, Team Leader of USA Team







The US team was established in June 2004. Mr. Lin volunteered to be the start up trainer of this team. Mike Li served as the trainer and team leader. Mr. Lin is a well experienced woodball player who has been helping the International Woodball Federation promote woodball in different countries. Between June and September, the team had three months of practice with a few intensive training courses, see the training schedule. In addition to Eugene Jiang, all other players only had three months of experience with woodball.

Regardless of its lack of team experience, the US woodball team of 2004 had pretty good performance. In addition to the male's third place winner, the team also won the fifth place as a male team. The US team was ahead of the Japanese team, which had a long history of playing woodball. This fact encouraged the US student players very much. Andrew Kibler's picture was on the sports section headline of the most popular sports news paper in Taiwan, Minsheng News.

The team met Dr. Killian, the president of FISU, the Federation of International University Sports. Dr. Killian was impressed about the attendance of the US team. He was even more impressed about the results the US team achieved.

USA TEAM AT 2004 1ST WORLD UNIVERSITY WOODBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



# The Bulgaria Concept and Strategy for Woodball Promotion in Europe

By

Prof. Anelia Klisarova, Ph.D., MD – Rector of the University of Medicine – Varna, Vice-President of the Bulgarian Woodball Federation

Georgi Karov - Member of the Executive Council of the Bulgarian Woodball

Federation, General Representative of the President of the Bulgarian Woodball Federation

Dobromir Apostolov - Member of the Executive Council of the Bulgarian Woodball Federation

Our organizational design work in the field of Woodball started in the beginning of year 2003 simultaneously with establishing the contact with the esteemed IWbF. During this period we accumulated lots of practical experience, and we are glad that our concepts appeared to be absolutely feasible, and that any objectives which we put for realization were successfully achieved. As short report:

#### As short report:

**1.**Bulgarian Woodball Federation was established, inaugurated and registered on 31.05.2005

2.We together with IWbF held in July 2005 Eastern European Woodball Seminar in Varna, Bulgaria, where the outlines of our future strategy and cooperation with the IWbF were fixed.

**3.**The BWbF applied before FISU to hold the World Students Woodball Championship in Varna in 2008, and the preparations are well in progress, including the very important negotiations with the Varna and Bulgarian local and national authorities, significant amount of land to be granted, where huge sports complex to be built in order to house the event and to serve as woodball operational and strategic center for the Western Hemisphere of the globe.

**4.**Under the technical advice and help of the BWbF, the National Woodball Federation of Turkey is almost complete as registration, as well as the work for such procedures to be started is well in progress regarding Macedonia, Nigeria and Iran.

**5.**ALL Bulgarian universities are invited to become members of the BWbF.

**6.**In University of Medicine – Varna woodball is already official sports discipline.

**7.**All branch organizations of the Bulgarian tourism business are now investigated and negotiated in order we to arrange the best way in just one step to turn the woodball into object of special interest of the vacation industry sports and animation aspects.

**8.**The goal to hold Woodball Tournament in Antarctica is dressed in detailed preliminary plan.



Of course there are many other objectives achieved in our strategy, but the most important thing I that these practical effects are result of our promotion concept, consisting of several simple rules:

#### I.The "Existing Networks" principle:

The Universities because they are self-reliant and self-governing entities are most appropriate initial target for woodball promotion. The best way is to work directly onto the organization which unifies them, namely in Bulgaria the Council of the Rectors in Bulgaria, which has very high authority and spares us from the necessity to negotiate and to convince each of the universities administration.

Other such system is the network of Tourist Business organizations on national and worldwide level. The Vacation industry I also intrinsically interested in sports. Very few sports are so suitable for touristic purposes as the woodball obviously is.

The most valuable network for woodball promotion utilization is FISU, where it appeared the Bulgarian WbF to have very strong positions.

#### II.The "Self-reliance" principle:

The same way as in the football and other well established sports never the players and the non-profit organizations, deal with the management of the particular sport, but only professional top quality managers, the same way we from scratch should align the ever growing NGO woodball structure with commercial companies which to run the business. Such way we achieve symbiosis between the profit and non-profit parts.

#### III. The "From-top-to-the-bottom" approach

The attempts to attract the attention of the real business to the woodball in Europe and elsewhere is doomed until the big business entities doesn't have legal entity, namely EWbF to deal with. This approach was implemented in smaller scale in Bulgaria – we first registered the BWbF, and then invite the educational and tourist business in it, and this approach thus marking significant success, should be implemented in continental and world scale.

We need European Woodball Fedration registered first, and then this NGO to lead the proliferation and promotion policy on the continent.

We think that the NGO legislature in Bulgaria is one of the best in the world, and so insist the EWbF to be registered here in BG immediately, for which we already made the invitation to all pioneers of the game in Europe.



## Report on the 10th Taiwan Open International Woodball Championship 2005

The 10th Taiwan Open International Woodball Champion-ship 2005 was successfully conducted in Hualien Winery from 17th to 20th November 2005. The participating countries were Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Republic of Buryatia, Mongolia, Nepal, Jordan, Bulgaria and Chinese Taipei, which made 13 teams in total. Besides that, the Organising Committee was very delighted to invite 6 Assessors of International University Sports Federation to take part in the abovementioned Championship. They are from Turkey, Spain, Poland, Mongolia, Serbia, and Greece. Not only to share their professional knowledge but also to witness how Woodball sport is developed nowadays.

The Organising Committee offered Cash Prize up to 15,000 USD for award winners so as to encourage professional players and to increase the competition atmosphere. Resulting from the competitive performances, Mr Yeow-Gim Ng from Singapore won the first place in Men's Singles event, while Ms Hsin-I Tseng won the first place in Women's Singles. They are awarded Medal, certificate and 3,000USD cash bonus. In Team Competition, Malaysia Team has won the Champion in Men's Team while Chinese Taipei A Team and Chinese Taipei D Team were the 2nd and 3rd place in Men's Team. As for Women's Team, Chinese Taipei Team was the big winner who have won the first, second and third place.







In the Final Competition, the players made all their efforts to play the game, which made the event even more competitive. In the Preliminary Competition, Mr Yeow-Gim Ng was once in the third place, however, he made an excellent performance in the final and won the first place eventually. In Women's Singles event, due to some controversy, the game was postponed for the Referee meeting. The argument was soon solved after the meeting and the second and third place were awarded to Ms Shu-Chen Shen and Ms Jen-Fen Lee Wu. Besides that, Mr His-Nan Huang from Chinese Taipei team and Ms Kai-Kian Tang from Singapore have won the Gate-in-One award and 200 USD cash bonus.



By the International Section, Chinese Taipei Woodball Association

To experience the nature scenery of Hualien, the Organising Committee decided to hold the Championship in Hualien Winery. On the way from Taipei to Hualien on the train, the passengers were amazed by the beauty of east coast of Taiwan. From Hualien Railway Station to Chinatrust Hotel and from Chinatrust Hotel to Hualien Wineray, the championship flags displayed along the streets have drawn peoples' attentions and made the event a famous one in Hualien. Day after the Championship, the Organising Committee arranged the players to visit the Taroko National Park to end the pleasant trip in Hualien.

Apart from the Cash Prize, the Organising Committee, together with the Hualien Winery produced Commemoration Wine of the 10th Taiwan Open International Woodball Championship for each participant to commemorate the championship.

In order to inspire the joyful atmosphere and to release the intension of the competition, the Organising Committee arranged a serious of programs for the Welcome Party as well as the Farewell Party. The Aboriginal Dance performed in the Welcome Party certainly drew all guests' attention and won lots of compliment. The Farewell Party was conducted in Cosmos hotel and each team was invited to make a performance for all players. Lots of players were dressed in their traditional outfit such as Korean and Japanese players. The Korean team has performed two pieces of traditional folk dances followed by the Malaysian folk song, which gave the touch of the holiday moods. The party continued till very late night. The Malaysia and Japan teams left very early in the next morning to catch up their return flights. For the rest of the players, the Organising Committee has arranged the daytour in Taipei, which started from the visit to the Woodball Course of the Grand Garden, followed by the visit to His-Tien Temple to experience the custom of Asian religion. The trip was ended in 101 building, the highest building in the world and the hot tourist visiting point in Taipei.

Playing Woodball will make people healthier and happier. Woodball sport was originally invented in the Asia Region and developed ever since the past ten years. We hope that Woodball, together with Football and Baseball would become three mainstream sports in the world.



### Yearly Schedule of International Woodball Events 2006

Date	Event	Venue	Host
28 February - 5 March	5th Thailand Woodball Open Championship	Chieng Mai, Thailand	Thailand Woodball Association
2 April	Hong Kong Woodball Invitation Competition 2006	Woodball Course, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology	Hong Kong Woodball Association
Middle of April	Ningbo (To be confirmed)	Ningbo, China	To be confirmed
23-29 June	Woodball International Summer Training Camp Mongolia 2006	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Mongolian Woodball Federation
5-7 July	3rd General Assembly of European Woodball Federation	Tartu, Estonia	European Woodball Federation
4-7 August	4th European Woodball Open Championship & 2nd European Course for Woodball Coaches and Referees	Tartu, Estonia	European Woodball Federation
18-23 August	7th Woodball Association Cup International Open Championship 2006	National Government Park, Singapore	Woodball Association (Singapore)
23-28 August	2nd World Cup Woodball Championship & 10th Malaysia Woodball Open Championship	Bentong, Pahang Darul Makmur, Malaysia	Malaysia Woodball Association
24-27 August	International Woodball Referee Workshop 2006	Bentong, Pahang Darul Makmur, Malaysia	International Woodball Federation
24-26 August	Provisional Meeting of International Woodball Federation 2006	Bentong, Pahang Darul Makmur, Malaysia	International Woodball Federation
24-29 September	2nd World University Woodball Championship	Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand Woodball Association
21-22 October	5th Japan Open International Woodball Championship	Azum Sport Park, Fukushima, Japan	Fukushima Woodball Association
October	3rd Korean Open International Woodball Championship 2006	To be confirmed	Korea Woodball Federation
16-21 November	11th Taiwan Open International Woodball Championship 2006	Taiwan	Chinese Taipei Woodball Association
17-21 November	International Woodball Coach Workshop 2006	Taiwan	International Woodball Federation

#### Photo Gallery

Prof. Shulchi Araya, President of Japan Woodball Federation, took his shot in the 4th Japan Open International Woodball Championship



Group Photo: Presidents of Inemational Woodball Federations in the 4th General Assembly of IWbF, Hualien, Taiwan

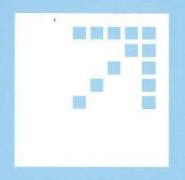




Player took a full swing in the 4th Japan Open International Woodball Championiship 9-13 Sep. 2005, Osaka, Japan



Player got a goal successfull in the 9th Malaysia Woodball Open Championship 2005 21-26 Sep. 2005, Berjaya Tioman Beach, Golf & Spa Resort, Malaysia



Opening Ceremony of the 9th Malaysia Woodball Open Championship 2005,21-26 Sep. 2005, Berjaya Tioman Beach, Golf & Spa Resort, Malaysia



Mr. Ming-Hui Weng, President of IWbF, togehter with players in the Belling Woodball Invitation Championship 2005, 14 May 2005, Beljing, China



Player tried to finish the gate in the Preliminary Competition of the 4th Asian University Woodball Championship 2005 1-5 Sep. 2005, Terelj National Park, Mongolia



Woodball delegations from various countries stood in line in the 4th Asian Cup Woodball Championship, 19-24 Aug. 2005, Singapore

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