

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT YOU READ THROUGH THIS E MAIL IN ITS ENTIRITY.

EVERY year we always look back at the previous year and try and create positive change which will improve, you and your student's experience. This is a fundamental part of the success of Irish Open as it continues to grow.

The participation this year was record breaking, Forms, 436. Full Contact, 159. Light Contact, 662 and an astounding Point Fighting 2,690 competitors, giving a grand total of 3947 competitors. We cannot go by without thanking all our volunteers and referees who give of their time freely supporting the event and the designated charity. This brings opportunity but also its own challenges.

Event Schedule

The schedule has changed, Below in Appendix 1, you can see the new schedule. **Weight Control and check in now takes Place on Thursday and Friday and will CLOSE on Friday at 3pm.** This is to allow us to do the draw sheets and schedule to make the event smoother and more informed for the fighters and coaches, we know this is a challenge but the reality is with 3,947 registrations from 35 countries in 2015, we must take this step to make the event more sustainable, enjoyable, less stressful for all positive developments.

Additional Divisions

Veteran Point Fighting

We have added more Point Veteran weight classes due to its continued growth.

We have also added Veterans for Women for the first time.

We have added a veteran points section + 50 years.

We have added Veterans Light contact.

Team Events:

We have added younger cadet teams (3 boy + 1 Girl) (€20participation we have changed the rules around grand Champion cash prize.0 Cash Prize) will take place Friday night

We have added older cadet teams (3 boy + 1 Girl) (€200 Cash Prize) will take place Friday night

Junior Full Contact

We have added all WAKO Weight Classes in Junior Full Contact for Boys and Girls. Will take place, Friday – Sat - Sunday)

Grand Champion

We have added Junior Grand Champion for Boys and Girls (€150 Cash Prize) Will take place Sunday

Grand Champion Cash Prizes:

To Encourage overall participation we have change the cash prize structure in 2016.

Male GC Winner + Division Winner €1,500

Male GC Winner ONLY €1,000

Female GC Winner + Division Winner €750

Female GC Winner ONLY €500

Junior Male GC Winner + Division Winner €300

Junior Male GC Winner ONLY €150

Junior Female GC Winner + Division Winner €300

Junior Female GC Winner ONLY €150

We have decided to do this to encourage our best fighters to fight their own divisions and give the up

and coming fighters the opportunity to compete against them and develop themselves competitively. IF you pull out of your weight class or individuals for any reason, you are automatically unable to compete in the grand champion divisions.

Hotel Booking:

We again remind you all that for the last three years citywest has been fully booked out by December, so we strongly advise you book your accommodation in the coming weeks. We have a discounted rate for a double room with two people inclusive of breakfast of €73.50, a highly discounted rate, just quote Irish Open rate to secure the discount. Go to www.citywesthotel.com for contact details and to book your accommodation.

Further Information

Comprehensive information can we found on our web site at www.irishopenonline.com

We are very proud of what the Irish Open has become over the last two decades, it is now the largest fighting tournament in the world today and it is important top point out that ALL profits raised from the Irish Open are donated to a children's charity the Irish Society for the prevention of cruelty to Children (www.ispcc.ie). Nobody on the organising committee or volunteer committee gets pad in any way.

I hope all the above is clear to you and if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate in contacting me at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully Yours,

Roy Baker,
Event Coordinator
Acting President WAKO
WAKO Europe First Vice President