



**2nd WAKO  
INDIAN  
OPEN  
INTERNATIONAL  
KICKBOXING TOURNAMENT**  
ALL EVENTS-ALL CATEGORIES

**02<sup>ND</sup> - 06<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022  
NEW DELHI**

**REDEFINING  
KICKBOXING  
SPORT IN INDIA**



Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports  
Government of India

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## REPORT ON 2ND WAKO INDIA OPEN INTERNATIONAL KICKBOXING TOURNAMENT FROM 2ND - 6TH NOVEMBER 2022, NEW DELHI



The “2nd Indian Open International Kickboxing Tournament” was organized by WAKO India Kickboxing Federation and took place from November 2-6, 2022, at the Talkatora Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

All of the team members arrived at the venue on the first day and completed the registration process, which was followed by the medical test and weighing-in. This procedure must be followed in order for the game to be transparent and fair. It's always enjoyable to watch the fired-up youths getting ready to win the competition and represent their team with pride.

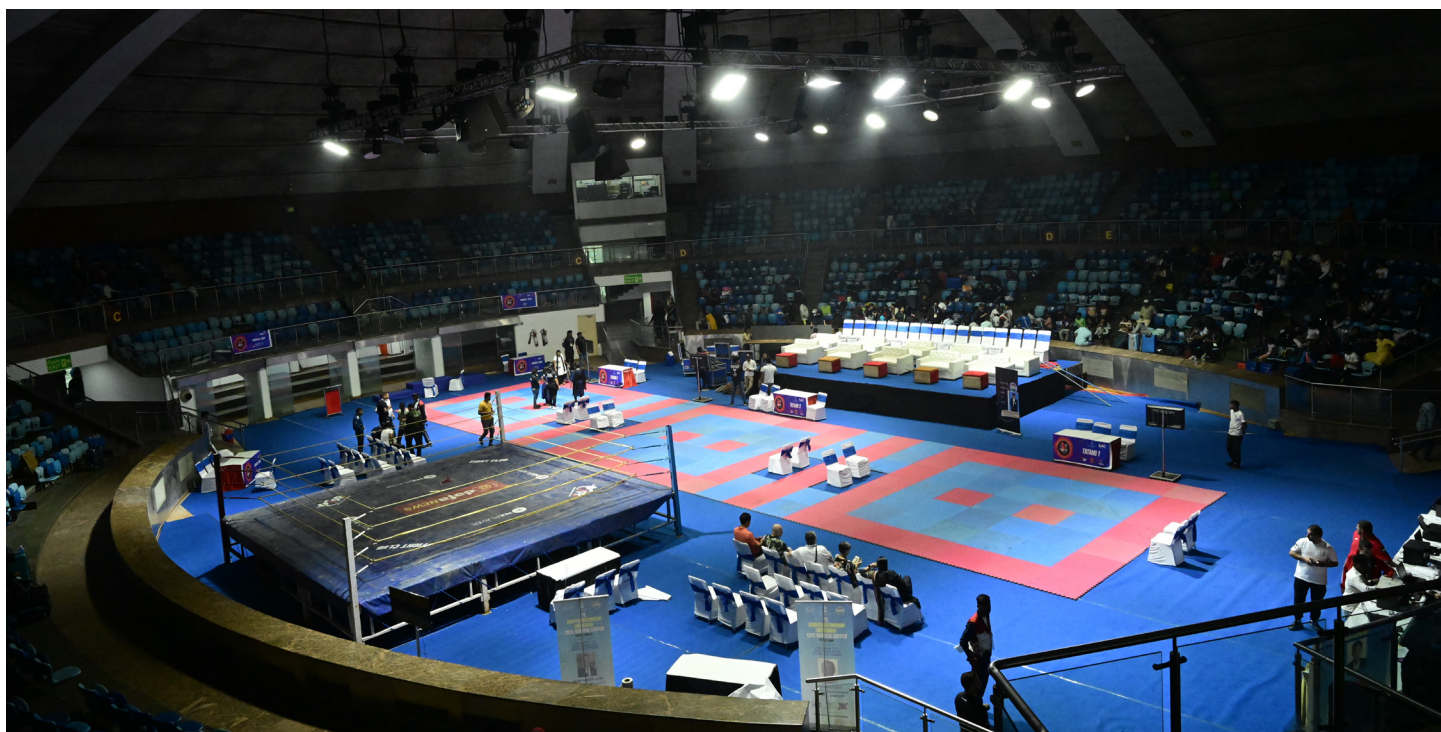
The location was fitted with 1 Ring 3 Tatami spaces. There were total 811 entries, 551 Players, 115 Referees, 46 Coaches and 16 officials from both India and abroad who participated in the event in total.







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On November 3, the “5th International Kickboxing Referee Seminar” took place. All of the Tournament Referees who attended the seminar, deemed as “Technical Training Seminar,” learned the Kickboxing rules, techniques, and procedures for awarding points during ring fights. Mr. Yury Lakhtikov (Estonia), Chairman of the Referees Committee, Ring Sports, WAKO (IF), was the seminar’s featured speaker and presented to all the referees on the kickboxing rules and techniques. He spoke about topics such as Minimum Suspension Periods after KO, Prohibited Techniques in Ring Sports disciplines, Minus Point Criteria, Warnings and Minus Points, Disqualification Process, Legal Techniques in Low-kick and Target Area, and Decision Making Process, which are all related to refereeing kickboxing matches. Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman of Referee Committee, Ring Sports, WAKO (India), was present.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mr. Brian Beck, Chairman of the Referee Committee for Tatami Sports WAKO (IF), was unable to obtain a visa in time, so Ms. Seema Saini, a member of the WAKO Referee Committee, took over to lead the seminar. Mr. Kartik Dakota, Chairman of Referee Committee, Tatami Sports, WAKO (India), was present.







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Poets and athletes collaborated to colour the evening with their words during the opening ceremony of “WAKO 2nd Indian Open International Kickboxing Tournament”. All of the guests, including Mr. Jitender Yadav, IAS Private Secretary to the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India; Mr. Romeo Desa (Croatia), Chairman of the WAKO Technical Committee; Shri Mahesh Bansal, Sr Executive Director-NBCC India Ltd.; Mr. Yuri Lakhtikov (Estonia), Chairman-Referee Committee of WAKO (Ring Sports); Mr Aybek Narmetov President of the Uzbekistan Kickboxing Federation; Mr. Jongming Kim, President of the Korea Kickboxing Federation; Mr. Hisham Shaheer Falah Head of Delegation – Jordan Team; Mr. Issa Mohamed Abbu Nassar (Jordan) Member of the Coaching Committee WAKO; Mr. Odil Boykuziev Team Manager-Uzbekistan Kickboxing Federation; Dr. Rajiv Tyagi Pro-Chancellor of Venkateswara University (Amroha, UP), Shri Vijay Choudhary Chief General Manager-NBCC India Ltd., International poets, Shri Dinesh Raghuvanshi, Shri Shambhu Shikhar, Shri Chetan Charchit were present and graced the occasion.

The programme began with the auspicious lighting of the lamp in order to emphasize the significance of Indian traditions. Mr. Santosh Kumar Agarwal, President of the WAKO India Kickboxing Federation, also gave a welcome speech to all of the participants, visitors, and spectators in attendance. The players demonstrated the game live to the audience in order to demonstrate kickboxing and self-defense techniques. Additionally, a number of cultural performances were planned to enhance the event’s beauty. International Referee Mr. Vivek AS, an A-grade Referee WAKO, Mr. Suresh Babu, a National coach, and Ms. Sanchi Keena, an international athlete, all took an oath to uphold the tournament’s fairness.

Offering ‘National Kickboxing Day’ T-shirts to all the VIPs on the occasion of “National Kickboxing Day,” which is celebrated annually on July 2nd, is a way to welcome the day for the budding kickboxing fans in India. Shambhu Shikhar, Chetan Charchit, and Dinesh Raghuvanshi were the program’s main attraction as they amused the audience with funny satire and poetry.

General Secretary of the WAKO India Kickboxing Federation, Shri Sanjay Yadav, delivered the formal vote of thanks. The WAKO India team concluded by giving mementos to all of the distinguished guests and thanking them.







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The Chief Guest, Shri Jitender Yadav, IAS, stated during the Opening Ceremony that it was an honor for him to be invited to such a significant event. I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Santosh K. Agarwal, President of WAKO India, for all of his efforts in raising the profile of kickboxing. The Ministry fully supports the sport of kickboxing, and we will soon include it in the Khelo India programme.

We plead all participants to play with passion and good sportsmanship; only then will the #AbIndiaKhelegaKickboxing spirit materialize. To promote kickboxing sport broadly, we are reaching out in an official manner and in unconventional ways. I want to thank everyone once more for making the event a success.







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Mr. Romeo Desa, Technical Director for WAKO, stated, "I am delighted to be here for this event." I would like to express my gratitude for the hospitality and my congratulations to Mr. Santosh, President of WAKO India, for successfully organizing such a significant event. It's a crucial occasion for WAKO India and WAKO (IF). We are now very close to taking part in the Olympics. Karate has been practiced in India for many years, and now kickboxing has been added to the Indian bloodline. India has a large and talented pool of kickboxers competing at all levels and putting on outstanding performances. I'll say that kickboxing is a very safe sport, but it must be practiced consistently and properly to understand its technical aspects. Create training camps like the ones that were held in September of last year, which had a significant impact. I would recommend that players develop their technical skills and fundamental strength. I have observed players with the best technical ability, which is really pleasing to see. I'll say it again: Develop good technical skills and fundamental strength in order to survive round 3.







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Mr. Santosh Kumar Agrawal, President of WAKO INDIA Kickboxing Federation stated during his speech at Opening Ceremony, "I welcome and thank all the honorable dignitaries who are present here and gracing the occasion, I would like to specially thank our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Anurag Thakur and our Chief Guest Mr. Jitender Yadav, IAS Private Secretary to the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India for their progressive sport policies and continuous support for the development of Kickboxing Sport. Lastly I would like to welcome all the athletes, referees, coaches and officials and urge them to play with true spirit of sportsmanship".







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“#AbIndiaKhelegKickboxing” was the loud rallying cry used to start the third day. The Tatami Sports competitors engaged in thrilling and passionate battles during the qualification round.

The tournament's qualification rounds were divided into four zones: Ring 1, Tatami 1, Tatami 2, and Tatami 3. The qualifications featured 200 fights in total, including 61 fights on Tatami 1, 80 fights on Tatami 2, 40 fights on Tatami 3, and 19 ring fights.

The tournament was participated by both men and women with great enthusiasm. The women's section saw a total of 55 fights, while the men's section saw 145 fights.







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All the athletes learned about doping in sports at a NADA, National Anti-Doping Agency, Delhi seminar at the event by Col. Dr. Abhay Garg. Doping implies that a player only becomes well-known and everyone's favourite when he has a successful career. This is the shortcut method that some athletes prefer to use to quickly advance in their careers. He motivated the players to advance on the basis of their diligence and hard work by talking to them and asking questions about doping to every player seated in the stadium. Ahead of the competition, several matches in various categories were held, and the winners were declared.







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Ms. Ritika Singh, a renowned Indian actress and former kickboxer, expressed her gratitude, joy, and happiness at the competition. Ritika Singh is also the WAKO India Kickboxing Federation's brand ambassador. She urged all of his young kickboxers to continue their training and hard work.

She remarked, "I feel like I'm back home," as soon as she arrived. She concluded by saying, "Never Give Up Your Training," as she described her life's journey.

She has always given her training a lot of attention, from Karate to Kickboxing to acting in movies and even now. She credited her parents for her upbringing and her success, saying they had been there for him at every turn. From the beginning of her primary education, his mother encouraged her to participate in extracurricular activities. Ritika's father, Mohan Singh, who is also her coach and mentor, has always stood by her and pushed her to put in her best effort. She thanked WAKO India for holding the competition and sent her best wishes to all the competitors for a successful future.







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On November 5th, at the “Pro Fights” of the “2nd Indian Open International Kickboxing Tournament” at the “Talkatora Stadium” in Delhi, kickboxers from India, South Korea, Jordan, and Uzbekistan took home a special prize of 1400 Euros.

Pro fights had 4 rounds and included two matches between men and women. Mr. Pasupulolla Prabhu Kumar from Telangana and Saleh Muhye from Jordan squared off in the -63 weight division, and Prabhu quickly and skillfully defeated Saleh.







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The second fight featured Ms. Tanisha from Haryana and Ms. Shivani Satish Rajhance from Maharashtra in the -63 weight division. Tanisha defeated Shivani in a combat that was both aggressive and exciting.

The third matchup pitted Yumnam Thoisan Singh of India against Ishan Das of India in the -56 weight class. Yumnam prevailed over Ishan after a challenging and protracted contest.

The fourth fight featured Ali Hassan from Jordan and Sumit Grewal from India in the -81 weight division. Ali defeated Sumit in a combat that was both aggressive and exciting.

The fifth matchup was between Ms. Im Yugyeong from Korea and Ms. Shruti from India in the -48 weight division. Im Yugyeong won by defeating Shruti with shrewd punches and powerful kicks.

During the events following Special Guests were present and graced the occasions:

1. Shri Anand M Sharan, IAS, Chairman – WAKO India & Additional Chief Secretary – Govt. of Haryana.
2. Dr. Sonal Goyal, IAS, Resident Commissioner, Tripura Govt.
3. Mr. Manchak Ipper, IPS, Dy. Commissioner of Police – Maharashtra
4. Shri Lokesh Sinhal, Sr Advocate General – Govt. of Haryana
5. Shri Muralidhar, National Convener-Seema Jagran Manch RSS
6. Shri Avneesh Dhariwal, Judicial Magistrate – Allahabad High Court, UP.







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Shri Anand M Sharan, IAS, Chairman – WAKO India & Additional Chief Secretary – Govt. of Haryana congratulated WAKO INDIA and Mr. Santosh Kumar Agrawal for organizing an event of such a huge scale. He also expressed his happiness after seeing the talented young kickboxers showing extraordinary gameplay in the ring. He further exclaimed, “I am proud to see the journey Kickboxing Sport has covered”.







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The competition, according to Shri Muralidhar, was enhanced by the energy and agility of all the kickboxers, team members, and spectators.

In an attempt to shed some light on the tournament's success, he claimed that it had helped to demonstrate national unity and that kickboxers from every state in India had attended, which had made him incredibly happy and proud. Additionally, he stated that visitors from various foreign nations have also arrived and are admiring the beauty, culture, and customs of our India, which is a matter of great pride for India.



By joining the competition, Dr. Sonal Goyal IAS expressed her happiness and thanked WAKO India for organising it. She claimed that since India hosts so many successful kickboxing competitions and kickboxing is now officially recognised as an Olympic sport, our nation should be extremely proud of this. She continued, "Sports are a way of personality development in a person's lifestyle."







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Mr. Santosh K. Agarwal had earlier welcomed all of the distinguished guests by presenting them with bouquets, mementos and souvenirs.

We would like to thank our Medical & Health Partners:

Accord Superspeciality Hospitals, QRG Hospital, Sir Ganga Ram Hospitals, RML Hospitals, Apollo Spectra Hospitals for their continuous medical support in the event.

And lastly, we would like to thank the Local Administration for their support which was necessary for the smooth functioning of the event.

WAKO INDIA Kickboxing Federation once again Thanks everyone for making this event a great success.







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\*International Title Friendship Belt \* presented by Mr Aybek Narmetov and Mr. Odil Boykuziev, President and Team Manager of the Uzbekistan Kickboxing Federation to Mr. Santosh Kumar Agrawal, President of WAKO INDIA Kickboxing Federation.







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# Thank You



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