



PRESS RELEASE

TAFISA CONGRESS APPROVES WMAGC WMAGC VOTED IN AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF TAFISA

October 9, 2007 Victoria, B.C. Canada - The World Martial Arts Games Committee (WMAGC) is pleased to announce that they have received unanimous support in becoming an active member of the leading authority on Sport for All - TAFISA. The decision came at the 20th TAFISA World Congress Annual Meeting held in Buenos Aires, Argentina September 30, 2007. During the same congress, WMAGC Chairman Ken Marchtaler was selected as the North American Director for the newly formed Pan American Sport for All Association regional body of TAFISA. As a result of these recognitions, the WMAGC has adopted the motto "Martial Art Sport for All" to reflect their continuing support and development of Sport for All (SFA) within the martial arts community.

The 20th TAFISA World Congress was attended by over 150 delegates from 47 nations, and took place under the theme of "Sport for All: Meeting the Challenges of Building Social Capital". Guest speakers included Mr. Daniel Scioli, Vice President of Argentina, Dr. Timothy Armstrong, WHO, Mr. Jianzhong Feng, Vice President, Chinese Olympic Committee and Mrs. Azalina Othman Riad, Malaysian Minister of Sport. The event was successful at uniting the focus of the growing Sport for All worldwide movement.

"There is no doubt that our association with TAFISA has lifted our international profile and will help us continue our promotion and development of Martial Arts Sport for All throughout the international community", says Ken Marchtaler, WMAGC Chairman, "Being recognized by an organization such as TAFISA, is like a dream come true for many of our members. The practice of martial arts is very wide-spread and provides everything from health benefits needed to help combat chronic diseases that kill more than 35,000,000 people each year, to opportunities that allow elite martial art athletes to compete on the world stage. Our desire to provide martial art sport opportunities for all ages and all levels of skill makes our association with TAFISA, a perfect fit!"

TAFISA was founded in 1969 and incorporated in 1991, and with more than 180 Sport for All members, from over 100 countries, is considered the leading authority on Sport for All (SFA) throughout the world. They are a recognized International Olympic Committee (IOC) Multi-Sport Organisation. Their head office is located in Frankfurt, Germany. More information on TAFISA is located at www.tafisa.de.

The World Martial Arts Games Committee (WMAGC) is a non-profit society formed in August 2005. It is the supreme authority of the World Martial Arts Games Movement. Its role is to promote top-level sport as well as sport for all in accordance with the World Martial Arts Games Charter. It ensures the regular celebration of the World Martial Arts Games and strongly encourages appropriate sports ethics and the protection of athletes. The WMAGC is an active member of TAFISA, an IOC recognized Multi-Sport Organisation.

Further information about the World Martial Arts Games Committee and the 2008 World Martial Arts Games can be obtained by visiting the WMAG website at www.worldmartialartsgames.com.

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