

WOMEN'S BOXING STRIVING
FOR THE OLYMPIC DREAM



International
Boxing Association

This was Beijing 2008 ...



... now we're aiming for London 2012



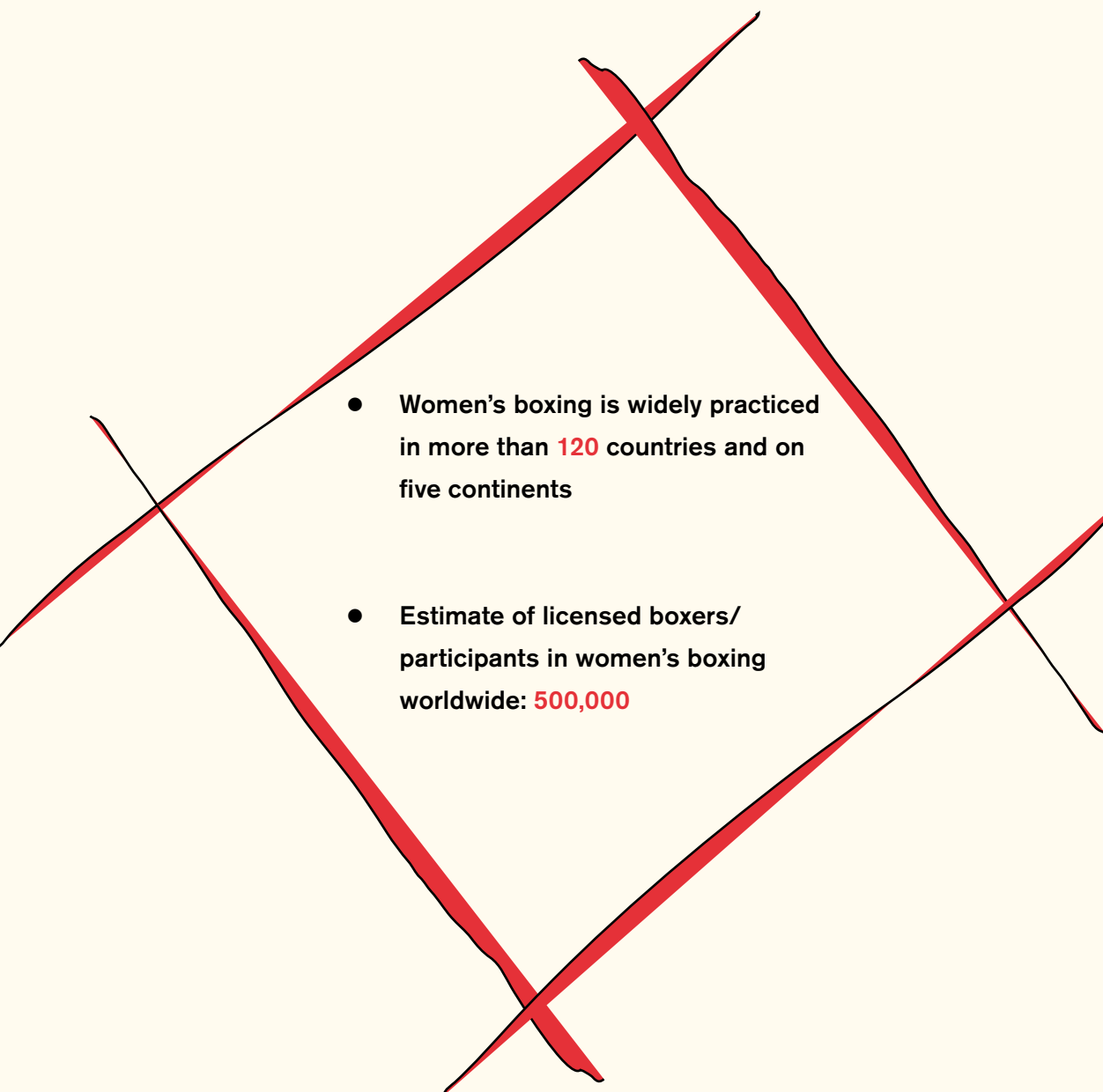
“Women’s boxing has been gripped by a huge wave of popularity in recent years, accentuating the great commitment, expertise and passion demonstrated by female boxers around the world. It is the aim of AIBA to see these athletes rewarded with the opportunity to demonstrate their class and skill by competing at the highest level – the Olympic Games. It is the pinnacle in sport and women’s boxing deserves nothing less.”

Dr. Ching-Kuo Wu

AIBA President



China's Guan Xiao Feng in action in the 46kg division at the AIBA Women's World Championships Ningbo City 2008

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- Women's boxing is widely practiced in more than **120** countries and on five continents
 - Estimate of licensed boxers/ participants in women's boxing worldwide: **500,000**





AIBA Women's World Championships:

- Women's World Championships in boxing have been organized five times and the number of countries and participants has grown steadily to number 218 boxers from 39 countries at the AIBA Women's World Championships Ningbo City 2008.

- 2001 Scranton, USA:
124 boxers/31 countries
- 2002 Antalya, Turkey:
185 boxers/31 countries
- 2005 Podolsk, Russia:
139 boxers/30 countries
- 2006 New Delhi, India:
174 boxers/33 countries
- 2008 Ningbo City, China:
218 boxers/39 countries
- 2010 Bridgetown, Barbados



**Continental Women's Boxing
Championships have been held 18
times as follows:**

- Africa - 1
- Americas - 4
- Asia - 4
- Oceania - 3 (together with men's event)
- Europe - 6
 - 2001, France:
78 boxers/14 countries
 - 2003, Hungary:
117 boxers/21 countries
 - 2004, Italy:
116 boxers/16 countries
 - 2005, Norway:
100 boxers/18 countries
 - 2006, Poland:
126 boxers/22 countries
 - 2007, Denmark:
137 boxers/26 countries





Number of countries with organized women's boxing programs:

- Europe - 40
- Americas - 34
- Asia - 22
- Africa - 17
- Oceania - 8



The most successful women's boxer in the world. India's Mary Kom has won four AIBA Women's 46kg World Championship titles and a silver medal

- AIBA is submitting a proposal to include women's boxing in the Olympic Games ultimately to give the numerous female athletes who train, practice and compete conscientiously, hoping that one day they will get the chance to compete on the biggest sporting stage in the world – the Olympic Games.
- Having been a demonstration sport in the 1904 Olympic Games, women's boxing is now seeking inclusion in the Olympic program, pointing to the great opportunity to combine men's and women's events – not only for athletes but for officials as well – with minimal changes to the current structure.
- AIBA, the International Boxing Association, has joined female boxers around the world to support the inclusion of women's boxing in the 2012 Olympic Games in London.



- The number of participating countries has increased considerably ever since women first competed at a national level in 1988.
- AIBA accepted women's boxing into its program in 1994 and the AIBA Women's Commission was put in place four years later.





- Now, with world championships every two years, continental championships yearly/bi-annually, women's boxing is an integral part of AIBA, with public and media interest increasing annually.
- AIBA makes this request to add women's boxing to the Olympic program to support the promotion of the Olympic Movement and its goals and values of gender equality. AIBA is supporting its athletes around the world by demonstrating that boxing is not only a sport with a long Olympic history, but also a sport that evolves and grows stronger with time across the women's movement at all levels.



Ingrid Egner (NOR)

- Boxing has one of the richest histories in sport. Having first been practiced back in 3000 BC, boxing was one of the first sports to be included in the modern Olympic Games.
- It has now grown to be one of the core sports in the Olympic program with a great tradition and ardent following. With world championships for elite men and women, youth and junior athletes, world cup and team events, it is one of the Olympic sports with the biggest international participation rates.
- To compete at the Olympic Games is the goal of every sportsman and sportswoman; however, at present, it is unattainable for the thousands of female boxers who currently practice the sport of boxing.





- Part of boxing's incredible development in recent years has also been the increase in popularity of women's boxing.
- Women's boxing promotes the sport for everyone.
- There are many benefits to gain by including women's boxing in the 2012 Olympic Games: When female boxers are included in the Olympic Games, media exposure, sponsorship opportunities, fan appeal and worldwide presence at the Olympic Games will increase and, more importantly, the values of gender equity within the IOC are advanced.
- In regard to the costs of staging this event, the Organizing Committee will not have to factor in major extra expenses since AIBA can hold the women's competition within the men's program without the addition of extra officials and/or venues.

- Boxing was the only sport in the 2004 and 2008 Olympic Games which did not include female competitors.
- The addition of women's boxing means a truly universal Olympic Games.
- There are few times of greatness to witness in one's life. This is a time of greatness that AIBA hopes can be created together, joining with the IOC, and doing the right thing for the right reasons.
- It is with great pleasure that AIBA advocates for the inclusion of women's boxing events in the 2012 Olympic Games because women's Olympic boxing is a vote for the future.





Medical safety checks after each bout are compulsory in both women's and men's boxing

By the Chairman of the AIBA Medical Commission

Charles F. Butler M.D. Ph. D.

- Since the first women's bout on 1 November 1993, AIBA has more than 15 years of data showing women's Olympic style boxing is safer than men's.
- The overall incidence of orthopedic injuries in women boxers is extremely low, hand injuries are rare and lower extremity injuries are almost nonexistent.
- In boxing which only allows arm blows, women suffer injury and concussion less commonly than men.
- Many scientific studies have shown that athletes who participate in Olympic style boxing are no more likely to have chronic mental impairment than athletes who do not box.
- Trauma to the breast has never been associated with increased cancer risk in any sport. No more than an arm bruise, or other soft tissue bruise would be associated with cancer. This is supported by all known data in all published studies.
- Young women who are pregnant may not box. All female athletes must sign a declaration of non pregnancy before being allowed to compete.



- The safety of women's boxing and of all Olympic style boxing may be attributed in great part to AIBA's safety policies and medical regulations.
- All boxers must have a complete medical examination annually recorded in their "Record Book" which is carried with them at all times. Without this book, they may not compete.
- Each boxer is examined by a physician before every bout for any problem that might make that make a boxer "unfit" to compete. Every pre-bout exam is recorded in the record book.
- Each bout in which the athlete competes is recorded in the book along with outcome and any injury which the athlete may have incurred. After each bout, the boxers are again examined by a physician to determine whether any injury was suffered in competition. Again, this exam is recorded in the athlete's book.
- All Olympic style boxers wear protective head gear which is constantly being redesigned to offer more protection.
- All must wear approved gloves which contain energy absorbing packing. These gloves are made utilizing the latest open and closed cell energy absorbing materials.
- All must wear "gum shields" to protect from dental injury. All male boxers must wear groin protection (optional for women).
- A physician is present at ringside to observe the competition, signal for the cessation of competition for any visible health concern, and provide first aid to any injured boxer.

Women's Boxing is a safe contact sport. The AIBA Women's World Championships Ningbo City 2008 was a competition consisting of 207 bouts. No boxer suffered loss of consciousness. AIBA defines "concussion" very strictly as anyone who receives strong blows to the head from the padded glove. Even with AIBA's strict criteria, the concussion rate was 0.0096 ---less than 1%. There were no hand injuries, no lacerations, two nosebleeds, and two minor facial bruises.

Olympic style boxing ranks high among all sports for safety. A study in Australia compared medical costs of all sports related injuries over a twenty year time period with the following results:

Sport	Cases	Amount in \$A
Rugby League	208	5,862,236
Rugby Union	39	1,665,620
Motor-cycling	22	564,565
Cricket	22	121,797
Soccer	17	355,493
Australian Rules	12	128,244
Pony Riding	6	52,138
Polo	5	217,585
Touch Football	4	152,325
Boxing	0	0

Source: 14th Annual Report 1997-98. NSW Sporting Injuries Committee, Sydney 1998





Format of competition

The competition will be held through elimination with a knockout system. For all categories, progressive rounds will be held with the loser of each bout automatically being eliminated. This will continue until two boxers are left to box for the gold medal round. Two bronze medals will be awarded to the losers of the semifinals in each weight category.





Women's Boxing will be incorporated into the men's program and no additional arrangements will be necessary to accommodate women's and men's boxing schedules.

AIBA proposes to reduce **40** boxers from the current men's quota of 286 for a women's boxing program as follows:

- Women's Quota: **40** boxers
- Five weight categories:
 - 47kg
 - 53kg
 - 60kg
 - 69kg
 - 75kg
- Eight boxers per weight category

* *No additional quota request to IOC required*



- No additional International Technical Officials will be required.
- Venue and facilities can be used by both male and female boxing competitions.
- This is a great incentive to have male and female officials officiating in the men's and women's events.



- Women require the same equipment as men such as boxing gloves, headguards, and handwraps. Only an increased number of men's equipment is required.
- 20% of additional boxing equipment will be provided by AIBA.



- **Proposed Competition Format**
 - **40 women's quota (35 bouts)**

	Preliminaries	QF	QF	QF	QF/SF	Rest Day
Day	1st – 8th day	9th day	10th day	11th day	12th day	13th day
Afternoon Session	1st Session for Men only	8 bouts for Women	8 bouts for Women	4 bouts for Women	10 bouts for Semifinals	REST DAY
Evening Session	2 nd Session for Men only	Session for Men only	Session for Men only	Session for Men only	Session for Men only	

- **Proposed Competition Format (continued)**

	SF	F	F
Day	14th day	15th day	16th day
Afternoon Session	1st Session for Men's Semifinals	3 bouts for Women's Finals	2 bouts for Women's Finals
Evening Session	2 nd Session for Men's Semifinals	5 bouts for Men Finals	6 bouts for Men Finals





2008 AIBA Women's Boxer of the Year and two-times 60kg world champion Katie Taylor (IRL)

***“We hope our Olympic dream
will come true with your support”***

Katie Taylor (IRL)

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