



EWUF EB OFFICIAL STATEMENT

As a part of the EWUF's policy to help potential and active elite wushu athletes affected by the deliberate restrictions and the lack of activity of their respective country's national wushu federations, the Executive Board (EB) of the European Wushu Federation (EWUF) created a team of **Independent European Wushu Athletes (IEWA) for the participation in the European Wushu Championships 2016 (including EWUF Taijiquan & Neijiaquan championships)**. It will be treated at the European Wushu Championships like all the other teams of the European Wushu Federation.

The EWUF EB also approved the criteria surrounding Team Independent European Wushu Athletes (IEWA).

- The name of the team will be Team Independent European Wushu Athletes (IEWA);
- The team IEWA will be exceptionally created for the 2016 European Wushu Championships (including Taijiquan and Neijiaquan Championships);
- The team IEWA will be housed like all the other teams;
- A team IEWA entourage will be appointed by the EWUF to meet all the required technical needs of the athletes, including: Team leader, coaches and doctor (as per official quotas);
- The team uniforms will be provided by the EWUF;
- For all official representations of the team (including possible medal ceremonies), the EWUF flag will be raised and the EU Anthem will be played;
- The team will march behind the EWUF flag before host team Russia at the Opening Ceremony;
- An adequate insurance policy will be contracted;
- A proper doping control process will be introduced; and
- EWUF's Olympic Solidarity program will compensate a part of expenses for the team.

In order to allow sufficient time to consolidate all the necessary information about the candidates to the team IEWA, the EB decided today, the 28th of March 2016, to open the call for candidatures. Those wushu athletes willing to join the team IEWA must fill and send the application forms within a space of 1 week, starting from the 28th of March and ending by the 6th of April (inclusive). After that limit no more application shall be accepted.

By welcoming the team of Independent European Wushu Athletes to the European Wushu Championships 2016, the EWUF wants to send a strong message of support to all athletes on European Continent suffering from artificial restrictions in their country.

The life of an athlete is Sport and Competition, and, by adopting this decision the EWUF wants to enforce the Fundamental Principles of the Olympism exposed in the Olympic Charter:

"The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play".