

Prot. 05/2022

Statement of the WKSF Direction and Executive Committee

WKSF is very concern about conflict situation in Europe, with the armed invasion of Russia against Ukraine and supported by Republic of Belarus, the WKSF condemns the attack and would like to express the support to all Ukrainians suffering in this terrible moment.

The sport is one of the greatness of human being, how athletes overcome obstacles, the efforts to follow dreams, how do they overcome the nature elements, the water, the wind, some of them overcoming the fear or the Physics and the gravity, as all kettlebell lifters.

As an international organization, the WKSF has more than 60 members working together to promote our sport, but also the WKSF values. The equality has no borders and the respect from each nation, culture, religion or race is fundamental to step on a platform to receive the respect of each adversary and to overcome yourself to be able to hear the anthem of your country.

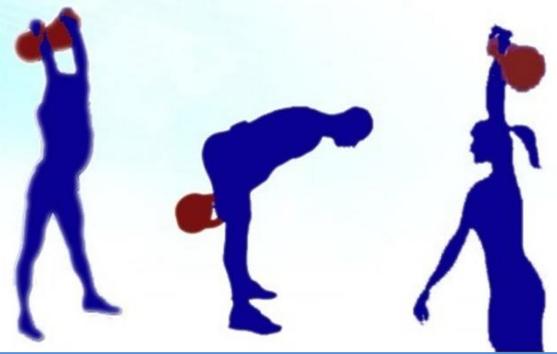
WKSF is a non-profit and non-political organization, was founded by athletes and coaches in democracy and in democracy all decision has been made by Direction Board, Executive Committee and by all Members on General Assemblies.

At this moment, the Direction Board requested and extraordinary meeting with Executive Committee with a 24h resolution to understand the sportive global organizations, our partners and the IOC.

WKSF has more than 60 members. However, some has the status of Federation, other Associations or Clubs, but we also support some nations that still working to create a legal club or an association. In Republic of Belarus our member is a Federation and in Russia our member is an individual person, with responsibility to promote and bring athletes as a national team but without any position to vote or contribute on members decisions every time is needed to raise the arm to vote.

After the explanation of situation, the WKSF proposed several sanctions to Russia and Republic of Belarus. During 24h the Executive Committee were able to analyse, think about, discuss and also free to make the decision.

All decisions at this moment are tough, not only to make but also to accept. All Kettlebell Sport community has friends all over the world, friends on platforms, as coaches or students and some are from Russia or Rep. of Belarus. One of main position of WKSF was to safeguard the respect of athletes and coaches of both countries knowing that all believe that a war is not a solution to have



a better and safety world. With that, the WKSF Direction Board and Executive Committee voted and accept to:

1. Suspend the membership of Republic of Belarus of to participate on any WKSF event, as Cups, Open Cups or Championships. Also, the Belarusian Federation of Kettlebell Lifting will be unable to represent the Rep. Belarus at any WKSF General Meeting and present any request to organize any event.
2. No representative of Russia is allowed to participate at any WKSF event or present a candidature to become an official WKSF Member.
3. The sanctions will last indefinitely and will be lifted as soon as WKSF Direction Board and Executive Committee voted for it.
4. Any athlete from Russia or Republic of Belarus wanting to participate at WKSF World Championship 2022 or WKSF European Championship 2022 can present an individual registration. None symbol or country denomination, can participate with a white t-shirt with the WKSF symbol and none flag of Russia or Rep. of Belarus will be hoisted during all events.

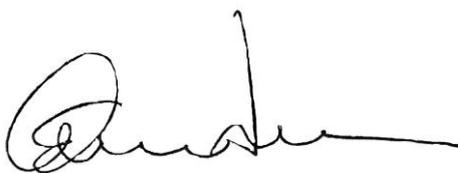
The WKSF Direction Board with Portugal Kettlebell Club, the organizer of WKSF World Championship 2022, decided to allow delegation of Ukraine or any athlete from Ukraine with our member of Ukraine permission, to participate at World Championship with free entry without paying the registration fee.

Also, the WKSF decided to contribute, changing the Anti-Doping revenues campaign from the partnership with WSL and Semi-Virtual Team Pairs World Championship 2022 to support Ukrainian refugees and Ukrainian people.

Also, WKSF brings some advices and guidance to all our official members, to:

1. Hosting events in Russia or the Republic of Belarus should be avoided by all WKSF Members until existing the WKSF sanctions.
2. Members should avoid any Kettlebell Sport events (virtual or presential) in Russia or Rep. Belarus until existing the WKSF sanctions.

Milan, Italy, 6 March 2022



Eduardo Fonseca
(WKSF Secretary General)



Oleh Ilika
(WKSF President)