

SECOND WORLD GRAPPLING COMMITTEE MEETING IN CORSIER-SUR-VEVEY

mardi, 03 mars 2009



The second World Grappling Committee (WGC) annual meeting took place at the FILA headquarters in Corsier-sur-Vevey (SUI) on 28 February 2009. The members of the newly formed WGC were brought together by the FILA President to discuss and establish the standards that will guide the sport of Grappling and its organization for the next four years. Attended the meeting Mr. Raphael Martinetti (FILA President), Mr. Jean-François Court (WGC Coordinator), Mr. Jason Townsend (Head of Grappling Pan-America), Mr. Rafael Perlungher (Head of Grappling Europe), Mr. Lazaros Papadopoulos (Head of Grappling Oceania), Mr. Hideo Kamaga (Head of Grappling Asia), and Mr. Willem Putter (Head of Grappling Africa). Under the new WGC structure, the continental representatives will be responsible for supporting the growth and development of the sport in the countries within their respective continents, as well as promoting the organization of FILA sanctioned events and Continental Championships. Contact details of all Committee members are available on the FILA website under "Grappling".

After conducting an analysis of the first World Grappling Championship that took place in Lucerne (SUI) on 20-21 December 2008, the Committee decided to bring some modifications to the International Grappling Regulations. The following changes are in effect as of March 2009 and will remain in force until the end of 2012:

New weight classes for males: 60, 66, 74, 84, 96, 120 kg and Absolute (open weight category).

New weight classes for females: 55, 59, 63, 67 kg and Absolute (open weight category).

The referees will no longer be able to declare a technical submission ("catch") for senior competitions.

The duration of senior matches will be 5 minutes with 1 minute overtime.

The half guard restart position will no longer be used and half mount will no longer be considered a dominant position.

1 point will be awarded for takedowns (if there is top control for 3 seconds)

1 point will be awarded to disadvantaged grapplers who manage to go to neutral position (escape) or top position (sweep).

In overtime, the choice of position, either top or bottom, will be given to the grappler who received the most passivity infractions, and if there is a tie in this criterion, to the grappler who scored the lowest value of points. If no grappler can be decided between by these two criteria, the red grappler will choose the position.

Other minor changes were made and can be consulted by downloading the complete International Grappling Regulations at the [following link](#). The Regulations have also been translated into **Portuguese**. National Federations that would like to translate the Regulations into their language can contact the FILA secretariat.

Another major decision made during that meeting was to grant the second World Grappling Championship to the American Grappling Committee. More details will soon be released, but the Championship will most likely take place in Florida from 11 to 13 December 2009. The international grappling calendar will also soon be available on the **official FILA grappling website** that is currently under construction.