



## **ETU Announces New Committee Appointments**

### **Strengthening leadership, expertise, and governance across European Taekwondo**

The European Taekwondo Union (ETU) is pleased to announce the appointment of its new committees, marking an important step in strengthening the organisation's governance, technical development, and strategic direction across Europe.

The appointments follow a comprehensive selection process led by the Ad Hoc Nominations Committee, chaired by Dr Said Khelwatty, and conducted in accordance with ETU Statutes and governance principles.

### **A robust and transparent appointment process**

The call for applications attracted strong interest from across the European Taekwondo community, demonstrating the commitment of many individuals to support the future development of the sport.

Each application was carefully reviewed through a structured process which included:

- Assessment of candidates' experience, qualifications, and expertise
- Review of submitted CVs and supporting information
- Consideration of suitability for the specific remit of each committee
- Evaluation of balance, diversity, and overall committee composition
- Consultation with Member National Associations (MNAs), where appropriate

Following this detailed review, the Nominations Committee submitted its recommendations to the ETU President for final approval.

### **Appointments made on merit and suitability**

All appointments have been approved by the ETU President based on the recommendations of the Nominations Committee, ensuring that selections are rooted in merit, capability, and the needs of each committee.



**ETU President Sakis Pragalos** said:

“The level of interest and quality of applications received has been exceptionally high, which reflects the strength and commitment of the European Taekwondo community.

I would like to thank the Ad Hoc Nominations Committee, for conducting a thorough and transparent process. The appointments reflect a careful balance of expertise, experience, and representation, and I am confident that the new committees will play an important role in supporting the continued growth of Taekwondo in Europe.”

## **A process built on fairness and credibility**

The Nominations Committee worked with a clear objective: to ensure that committee positions are filled by individuals who can make meaningful contributions, uphold governance standards, and support the strategic priorities of the ETU.

**Dr Said Khelwatty**, Chair of the Ad Hoc Nominations Committee, added:

“Our priority was to ensure a fair, objective, and evidence-based process. Every application was reviewed carefully, with full consideration given to experience, expertise, and alignment with the responsibilities of each committee.

The quality of applications made this a highly competitive process, and we are confident that the final recommendations reflect both excellence and balance. I would like to thank all applicants for their interest and willingness to serve European Taekwondo.”

## **Looking ahead**

The newly appointed committees will play a key role in shaping major areas of the ETU’s work, including:

- Competitions and Games
- Refereeing and technical standards
- Education and development
- Athlete support and representation
- Inclusion and growth initiatives
- Governance and strategic planning



By bringing together experienced and committed individuals from across Europe, the ETU is confident that its committees will help drive continued progress and success for the sport.

The ETU extends its sincere thanks to every applicant who expressed an interest in serving on its committees. The high calibre of candidates made the process both challenging and encouraging, highlighting the depth of talent and dedication within the European Taekwondo family.

**1. Membership Committee**

Norbert Welu – Chair (LUX)  
Samir Saric – Vice Chair (BIH)  
Tina Michelle Tanrikulu (TUR)  
Andrey Georgiev (BUL)

**2. Development Committee**

Martin Fleming – Chair (IRE)  
Holtjon Orhani – Vice Chair (ALB)  
Peter Adamsons (GBR)  
Cumhur Donmez (TUR)

**3. Taekwondo For All**

Constantin Apostol – Chair (ROM)  
Luc Sougné – Vice Chair (BEL)  
Mirela Mujović (BIH)  
Irena Grodanovska (MKD)  
Tamara Pradegan (CRO)

**4. Technical Committee** (*To be constituted from the Chairs of the following committees*)

Games,  
Referee,  
Poomsae,  
Para Taekwondo,  
Medical  
Education  
Athletes  
Coaches

**5. Athletes Committee**

Bianca Cook – Chair (GBR)  
Nikita Glasnovic – Vice Chair (CRO)  
Grammatiki Christidou (GRE)  
Mehmet Kani Polat (TUR)



Reshmie Oogink (NED)  
Zakia Khudadadi (FRA)

**6. Coaches Committee**

Dragan Jovic – Chair (SRB)  
Markus Kohlöffel – Vice Chair (GER)  
Erik Van Der Weijden (NED)  
Farzad Zolghadri (BUL)  
Francisca Catalina Ríos Rojas (ESP)  
Ivanov Vadim (RUS)  
Haby Niaré (FRA)

**7. Education & Applied Science Com**

Said Khelwatty – Chair (GBR)  
Renata Volarić – Vice Chair (CRO)  
Dimitar Mihaylov (BUL)  
Elif Aybüke Yılmaz (TUR)  
Keivan Shariatmadar (BEL)

**8. Safeguarding & Integrity**

Tunde Szarka – Chair (HUN)  
Vardan Ghahramanyan – Vice Chair (ARM)  
Clare Marshall (GBR)  
Karen Zammit Southernwood (MLT)  
Taufique Ahmad Rana (NOR)

**9. Finance Committee**

Gerd Kohlhofer – Chair (GER)  
Fred Buitenhuis – Vice Chair (NED)  
Petr Štefl (CZE)

**10. Games Committee**

Ali Sagirkaya – Chair (TUR)  
Leo Kapri – Vice Chair (ALB)  
Marijan Mario Glasnovic (CRO)  
Vedran Cubela (BIH)  
Volkova Mariia (RUS)  
Wojciech Pyzel (POL)



#### **11. Medical Committee**

Ioannis Theodorakis – Chair (GRE)  
Mikahil Bayar-Tutuncuoglu – Vice Chair (FRA)  
Danijel Bursac (CRO)  
Luka Boban (GER)  
Paloma Sampayo Nisa (ESP)  
Prashant Komdeur (NED)

#### **12. Para Taekwondo Committee**

Mohammed Argoubi – Chair (NED)  
Angelo Davalli – Vice Chair (ITA)  
Aleksandar Golovic (SRB)  
Bohdana Kotiash (UKR)  
David Coupar (DEN)  
Nadezhda Petrova (RUS)  
Russell Watkinson (GBR)

#### **13. Poomsae Committee**

Mustapha Moutarazak - Chair (NED)  
Gemma Biescas Rue – Vice Chair (GBR)  
Anastasios Koukouletas (GRE)  
Baris Tosun (TUR)  
Pietro Fugazza (ITA)

#### **14. Poomsae Referee Committee**

Nuri Shirali – Chair (GER)  
Nesime Altun – Vice Chair (TUR)  
Carolina Barros Clark (GBR)  
Pablo Garcia Vazquez (ESP)  
Paulo Jorge Bandeira Alegria Martins (POR)  
Viktor Romancuk (CRO)

#### **15. Referee Committee**

Mohammed Argoubi – Co-Chair (NED)  
Kostas Kaloudis – Co-Chair (GRE)  
Brugnano Bruno – Vice Chair (ITA)  
Ana Luisa López Boluda (ESP)  
Aygul Abdullayeva (AZE)  
Iliya Dimitrov (BUL)  
Jelena Marot (CRO)  
Mergin Krasniqi (SWI)



#### **16. Juridical Committee**

Michael Lehner – Chair (GER)  
Richard Hallsall – Vice Chair (IMN)  
Maria Bravo (ESP)  
Vasiliki Dimitropoulou (GRE)  
Ali Can Soylu (TUR)

#### **17. TV & Media**

John Cullen – Chair (SCO)  
Aysel Sultanova – Vice Chair (AZE)  
Leon Glasnovic (CRO)  
Petar Vidakovic (SRB)  
Vladimer Gogaladze (GEO)  
Michael McKenzie (GBR)

#### **18. Institutional Relations**

Miklos Antal Patakfalvy – Chair (HUN)  
Alexander Minev – Vice Chair (BUL)  
Michael Mouroutsos (GRE)  
Pascal Gentil (FRA)  
Yuliana Filippova (RUS)

#### **19. Culture & Heritage**

Zsolt Krisztian Marton – Chair (HUN)  
Hassan Sadeghi – Vice Chair (BEL)  
Antonietta Santaniello (ITA)  
Evangelos Theodorou (GRE)  
Kambiz Ramzan Ali (GBR)