



24.0 Policy on International Affiliation

24.0 World Governing Body

The Worldwide Sports Aikido federation (WSAF) was established to promote the worldwide spread of competitive sports Aikido. Its original aims as set down by the founding members including:

- Australia
- Georgia
- Japan
- Russian Federation
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

24.1 Background

The WSAF is registered in Switzerland as a **not for profit “Verein”** a community interest company. Competitions are open to all Aikidoka and groups irrespective of association; affiliation or the style of Aikido practiced.

The WSAF shall be **inclusive, democratic, and international** with equal international representation as a core principle.

All national sport aikido associations (“Associations”) based in a country which is a member of the United Nations, and which is responsible for the organisation and implementation of sport aikido-related matters in the country, shall have the right to seek membership in the WSAF Congress. Generally speaking, each country shall have up to three WSAF Congress representatives so as to provide as much as reasonably possible geographical and proportional representation to its Sport Aikido practitioners. Subject to the preceding two sentences, each country shall be free to determine for itself the process by which its three Congress representatives are to be selected and appointed as well as the process by which they may be recalled and replaced. However, if any dispute arises as to the legitimacy or identity of a country’s representatives, the WSAF Executive Committee may arbitrate.

24.2 WSAF Objectives

- To provide unified international tournaments and world championships in which all competitors are free to participate regardless of lineage or affiliation.
- To develop and maintain internationally agreed competition rules for both randori and embu.
- To promote fair competition through independent and well informed judges, referees and officials.
- To promote drugs free sport to provide an environment where competitors have the confidence to compete using only their natural sporting ability.
- To ensure the financial sustainability of International Aikido competition.
- To ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of competitors.



- To only recognize Nation States as identified by the United Nations as members of WSAF.
- To promote and market the concept and practice of competitive Aikido.
- To provide an effective and efficient management structure to aid the development of Sport Aikido.
- To achieve Olympic recognition.

WSAF believe that equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure that it becomes equally accessible to all members of society, whatever their age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality or socio-economic status.

The WSAF will promote efforts to develop Sport Aikido clubs and organizations in non-member nations. The WSAF will where practicable assist them in becoming self-sufficient and self-determining entities capable of applying to the WSAF to have their respective nations become members of the WSAF.

The BAA, being a founder member of WSAF will work to strengthen international cooperation through the aims and objectives established.

Further details can be found on the WSAF Website <http://www.wsafaikido.org>

24.3 Technical Affiliation

The BAA is not affiliated to any one particular international group for the purposes of technical development or grading.

The BAA retains the right to self-determination with regards grading regulations and standards by maintaining the ability to “grade” its own members and those of its international associates.

For technical development the Association maintains its independence and right to invite senior Aikidoka to coach on its behalf from any international organisation it deems would benefit the membership.

24.4 Associations and Affiliations

From time to time the BAA may associate or affiliate with international groups that it deems suitable and compatible with its aims and objectives and is of benefit to the organisation and its membership.