



Since 1980

PERSILAT

PERSEKUTUAN PENCAK SILAT ANTARABANGSA
INTERNATIONAL PENCAK SILAT FEDERATION

Jakarta, 24 July 2019

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**To: Presidents of PERSILAT Affiliate Member Associations/Federations Worldwide,
Stakeholders and Lovers of Pencak Silat Worldwide.**

Subject: Pencak Silat Goes to the Olympics 2032

Salam Pencak Silat.

I am pleased to inform you that after successfully hosting the 2018 Asian Games, the government of Indonesia has submitted a bid to host the Olympics in 2032^{1 2 3 4}. As you are likely aware, hosting the Olympics is a gigantic undertaking. To even be considered a viable candidate, a country must invest heavily in infrastructure and front billions of dollars. The fact that this is public, means Indonesia is serious.

As the origin country of competitive Pencak Silat, there is a huge expectation from the government for our sport to be included in the 2032 Olympics. The case for Pencak Silat is even more compelling when you consider that our lovely sport was the biggest contributor (45%!) of Indonesia's total gold medal count.

To support Pencak Silat Goes to the Olympics 2032 initiative, PERSILAT as an International Federation (IF) currently is undergoing restructuring in parallel with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) requirements. Additionally, an IF also needs sufficient numbers of National Federations (NF) or National Associations (NA). At least as many as 70 NA/NFs across five (5) continents should be formally recognized as members of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) for each of their respective countries.

Expanding the breadth of Pencak Silat and registering NA/NFs with the many NOCs worldwide is a hard task. To accomplish this, PERSILAT needs to restructure the existing NA/NFs who are not growing or who have grown complacent. For instance, over the past decade one of our NA allowed the number of active perguruan/styles to decrease from dozens to only a handful. On a different continent, one NF became stagnant, with participation centered in only a single geography. After restructuring by PERSILAT, now members of the NA has returned to more than a dozen and the membership of the aforementioned NF has grown rapidly to cover more than half of the country.

¹ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/olympics/2019/02/19/indonesia-makes-2032-olympics-bid-official/39078957/>

² <https://www.bbc.com/sport/olympics/45381299>

³ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-olympics-2032-indonesia-idUSKCN1Q80BQ>

⁴ <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/19/indonesia-submits-formal-bid-to-host-the-2032-olympics.html>

With Pencak Silat Goes to the Olympics 2032, we have a long 13 year journey ahead of us! To accomplish this we have much to do. Fortunately, PERSILAT has strong leadership in our Executive Chairman Mr. Benny Gautama Sumarsono - who reports directly to President PERSILAT Mr. Prabowo Subianto - who is out in front leading this long journey. Equally important, we are blessed to have you, the members from around the world who work tirelessly out of love and respect for Pencak Silat.

From this, there is opportunity for OLYMPIANS to be born from Pencak Silat, and they just might come from your own country.

Do not be too quick to judge that Pencak Silat Goes to the Olympics is unachievable. Together with PERSILAT as the only International Federation of Pencak Silat in the world, let's develop Pencak Silat and let's work together to create a vast, solid network of national Pencak Silat federations and associations around the world.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teddy Suratmadji', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Teddy Suratmadji
Secretary General