

# SAVATE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL SAVATE FEDERATION

Welcome to the FISav Newsletter - April 2026

In this edition, we report on Savate and Canne de Combat competitions and technical development initiatives in Africa, Asia and South America.

Savate continues to grow in both performance and professionalism. This edition highlights key events shaping the sport across continents.



## Asian Savate Championships 2026

The 2026 Asian Referee Seminar, followed by the Asian Savate Championships, will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 30<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Nine countries are expected to participate.



## European Youth Championships 2026

The Championships are for young athletes aged 15 - 17 years. Held at Terme Olimia, Podčetrtek, Slovenia, from 11th - 13th June, there will be a qualifying tournament, followed by finals.

# Developing Excellence in Officiating

## A Key Opportunity in Slovenia

The 2026 International Arbitrage Seminar will take place from 17–21 June at Terme Olimia in Slovenia, bringing together national Savate referees and judges for five days of intensive training at the Savate Summer Camp.

Led by Maja Odzic, the programme combines theoretical and practical sessions aimed at strengthening rule application, improving decision-making, and refining positioning and consistency in competition environments.

**FIGHT CLUB 300**

**REFEREE SEMINAR**

BY MAJA ODŽIĆ

17- 21 June 2026

**WHAT WE OFFER:**

- ✓ The seminar includes both theoretical and practical training sessions
- ✓ Comprehensive improvement of knowledge and confidence in decision-making
- ✓ Opportunity to obtain or renew an official referee license
- ✓ Access to professional educational materials and guidelines
- ✓ Networking and exchange of experience with other referees and members of the savate community
- ✓ Active contribution to the development of a more professional and fair competition environment

**SEMINAR OBJECTIVE:**

To train and improve the knowledge and skills of active and future savate boxing referees in accordance with international rules and standards. The seminar includes both theoretical and practical training and will conclude with an official referee exam for obtaining or renewing a referee license.

**JOIN THE SAVATE FAMILY!**

A central component of the seminar is the opportunity to sit the international arbitrage examination. Successful candidates gain access to the FISav international classification, confirming their ability to officiate at both national and international competitions. This certification also defines the roles and competition levels at which officials may serve, and opens the door to potential appointments at events organised by other national federations.



Beyond individual progression, the seminar represents a strategic investment for federations seeking to enhance the quality, credibility, and consistency of officiating. By developing highly trained officials aligned with international standards, the initiative contributes to fairness in competition and supports the continued growth of a unified global Savate community.

Booking information is available from Hrvoje Kisasondi : [hrvojekbk300@gmail.com](mailto:hrvojekbk300@gmail.com)

More information on the Referee Seminar from Maja Odzic : [savatevojvodina@gmail.com](mailto:savatevojvodina@gmail.com)



## Junior Canne de Combat Tournament in Dobřichovice

### Youth Development

The second Junior Canne de Combat Tournament in Dobřichovice, held in March 2026, brought together 21 participants, including 19 young athletes aged 6–14. Organised by Canne Club Prague in partnership with DoDo, the event featured individual and team bouts across three mixed divisions, promoting skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Participation has tripled since the inaugural edition (from 7 to 21 athletes), reflecting the rapid growth of youth engagement in canne de combat in the Czech Republic. With strong local support and increasing interest, the tournament is emerging as a key event for developing young talent in the discipline.

## International Savate training camp in Marrakech

### Development Africa

An international Savate training camp held in Marrakech brought together Moroccan coaches and future referees as part of preparations for the 2026 African Savate Championships.



Organised through collaboration between the international federation and Moroccan authorities led by Khalid El Kandili, the camp was directed by Mohamed Dehimi of PÔLE BOXE 77 – Melun Val de Seine.

Over several days, participants followed a structured programme combining technical and tactical training with dedicated referee-judge education, led by a high-level team including Issouf Kanouté. The camp also welcomed practitioners from other combat sports, supporting the adoption of Savate's rules and standards in a professional and engaging environment.

Designed as a key step toward the 2026 African Championships, the initiative strengthens both coaching and officiating capacity while contributing to the broader development of Savate across Africa. It also highlights the international role of PÔLE BOXE 77 in promoting expertise, values, and knowledge transfer within the global Savate community.

# Ibrahim Konaté

## Personality of the Month

Ibrahim Konaté, two-time Savate World Champion (2011, 2017) and Savate Pro World Champion (2025), is recognised for his exceptional longevity and consistency at the highest level. A respected “champion in the shadows,” he now contributes to the global development of Savate as an ambassador, coach, and technical leader, while promoting strong values through youth initiatives and entrepreneurship.

In Savate Boxe Française, some champions seek the spotlight—others build a lasting legacy. This month, the Fédération Internationale de Savate honours a figure who has done both with consistency and humility.

Over more than two decades, Konaté has built an exceptional record. A multiple-time French and European champion in the early 2000s, he reached the world stage with a World Final in 2005 before becoming World Vice-Champion in 2009. He secured two World Championship titles—first representing France in 2011, then Mali in 2017—demonstrating both elite performance and international impact.

He later added an African Championship title (2018) and the Savate Pro World Belt (2025), confirming his enduring presence among the sport’s top athletes.

Known for his tactical intelligence, technical precision, and mental strength, Konaté has long been respected for prioritising performance over exposure.

Since 2019, he has played a key international role as an ambassador for the Fédération Internationale de Savate, contributing to the sport’s global growth. His work includes development missions in Central America, serving as National Coach of Mexico, technical leadership in Colombia, and President of the African Technical Commission. He also represents Mali on the FISav Board.

Beyond competition, he founded K Team in 2014 to support youth through sport, focusing on confidence, discipline, and self-expression. Through initiatives such as “Boxe avec les Maux,” he promotes Savate as a tool for education and empowerment.

More than a champion, Konaté embodies excellence, commitment, and transmission—an inspiring model for the future.





# Savate Expands in Colombia

## Development - Colombia

From 24–29 March 2026, Ibagué hosted a Savate development mission led by Miguel Bordera Pascual, combining grassroots outreach with coach and referee education.

Participants were introduced to Savate through community and municipal programmes, highlighting its value for inclusion and personal development. Training at Club Imperio de las Águilas focused on improving technical standards, while dedicated courses equipped new coaches and officials with essential skills in teaching, rules, and competition management.

The mission developed local expertise and reinforced the sport’s role as a tool for education, structure, and long-term growth.

# From Kakuma to Kathmandu

## Refugee Athletes

At the Asian Savate Championships in Nepal, Afghan refugee athlete Omidullah Alizada shared a powerful message on resilience and inclusion, reflecting his journey as a refugee athlete. Now based in the Kakuma Refugee Camp, he combines competition with coaching, using Savate to support youth development.

He presented his book *Ambassadors of Peace* to delegations and FISav representatives.

Participating in both the Championships and the Asian Referee Seminar, Alizada’s presence highlights the importance of inclusive pathways in Savate, and the sport’s role in providing purpose, opportunity, and connection for displaced communities.



# Upcoming events

## World Championships and Major events May - December 2026

World Canne de Combat Championships Prague, Czechia 17 – 19 July 2026

SavatePlus Online Competition Worldwide 15 July - 15 August 2026

World Savate Assaut Championships Boulogne-sur-Mer, France 9 - 12 September 2026

## Continental and Major Regional Championships 2026

Asian Championships Kathmandu, Nepal 30 Apr - 4 May 2026

African Championships Casablanca, Morocco October /November 2026

European Youth Championships Terme Olimia, Slovenia 11 - 14 June 2026

European Combat Championships Plovdiv, Bulgaria 24 - 27 September 2026

## World & Continental Cup, and Open Competitions

Top Sport Savate European Cup Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 1 - 3 May 2026

Tokyo Open Tokyo, Japan 10 May 2026

Top Sport Savate European Cup Genova, Italy 30 May 2026

Therme Open Terme Olimia, Slovenia 6 June 2026

London Open London, UK 4 July 2026

World Cup Canne de Combat Prague, Czechia 17 - 19 July 2026

Austria Belt, World Cup of Clubs Weiz, Austria 17 October 2026

Türkiye Savate Assaut & Combat Open Çankırı, Türkiye 12 - 15 November 2026

World Cup Dakar Dakar, Senegal 15 November 2026

## Closing Note

Across competitions, education, and federation development, Savate continues to advance as a modern, structured, and truly global sport. The International Savate Federation thanks all its members and partners for their ongoing dedication.

## Follow FISav

Stay updated with the latest news, events, and developments at:

<https://fisav.sport/>

<http://www.savate.sport/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FISavate>

<https://www.instagram.com/fisavate/>

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb7skYiJf05aCHDSY40v>

