

Kickboxing: New Generation Strikes 10-Medal Haul in Maiden Debut



The 4-strong team comprising of veteran athlete Nazri and 3 debutants achieved 3 golds, 6 silvers and 1 bronze at the Flanders International Cup in Belgium

Singapore, 27 September 2023 – A new generation of Kickboxers emerged alongside veteran athlete, Nazri Sutari, with an impressive 10-medal haul split across a team of four. The Kickboxing Federation of Singapore (KFS) saw the birth of its' first female Kickboxing Forms athlete, Valencia Yip, bag her first two silver medals in her Senior events – Creative Forms (CF) and Creative Forms with Weapons (CFW) in the first day of competition.

Veteran athlete Nazri secured two golds and two silvers in his Senior events, for athletes aged 19 to 40. In the Junior divisions, for athletes aged 18 and below, youth athlete Abraham Oh attained his first gold and one silver, whilst his compatriot Alexavier Koh earned one silver and one bronze. The medal haul culminates from a year-long effort to build the next generation of athletes for the federation.

The Flanders Cup, held from 22 to 24 September in Belgium, is an international tournament classified as a “Kickboxing World Series”, which saw more than 300 athletes across 20 nations vying for the top spot. The athletes' remarkable results contributed to Singapore's top 10 ranking, beating European powerhouse countries such as Hungary and Argentina.

Valencia Yip, recalling her experience, shares, *“It was really nerve-wrecking initially because it was my first time competing on the international stage. I just kept running through the routine and visualizing to get me focused on what I needed to do. After I performed my routine and was announced second in both my divisions, I was so happy that I nearly cried.”*

On his first 2 gold medals, Nazri shares, *“It's literally a 4-year journey. I started the sport when I was 29, so the learning curve was much sharper compared to some of these athletes who started at 5 years old. Words cannot express how happy I feel right now. It's really a dream come true. This achievement really spurs me as I head towards the last stage of my season, which is the World Championship in November.”*

Youth athlete Abraham recounts his debut experience, *“Competing here in Europe feels so surreal. The standard of competition is unlike anywhere else. The athletes here are so highly skilled, it's unbelievable. I'm truly grateful to my family, coaches and the federation for supporting me on this journey.”*

Kickboxing compatriot Alexavier shares, *“I've been training in the sport for about a year now, so my mindset wasn't focused on winning medals but enjoying the process of training and competing. So for me to win these medals, it was a very pleasant surprise.”*

Both Alexavier and Abraham are jointly the first Singaporean Junior medalists for the republic.

President of KFS, Jason Lim shares, *“I am incredibly amazed at the results from the team. They've put in a lot of work, training up to 7 days a week. The younger athletes are juggling school, training and part-time work to make this trip work. I'd like to thank our foreign coach Brian Beck for coaching the athletes and fine tuning their techniques. It's not a one-man effort but a team effort. I'm very proud of the team and wish them greater success.”*

Valencia, Alexavier and Abraham will be competing in the Italian World Cup from 27 September to 1 October while Nazri will head to Serbia for a 7-week training camp. All 4 athletes will converge in November for the biennial WAKO Kickboxing World Championships in Albufeira, Portugal.

Medal Tally

G	S	B	Total
3	6	1	10 Medals

Team Results

S/N	Athlete	Division	Gender	Event	Result
1	Nazri Sutari	Senior	Men	69kg Light Contact	Gold
				69kg Kick Light	Gold
				74kg Light Contact	Silver
				74kg Kick Light	Silver
2	Valencia Yip	Senior	Female	Creative Forms	Silver
				Creative Forms with Weapons	Silver
3	Abraham Oh	Junior	Men	63kg Kick Light	Gold
				63kg Light Contact	Silver
4	Alexavier Koh	Junior	Men	63kg Kick Light	Silver
				63kg Light Contact	Bronze

Total

10 Medals

KICKBOXING FEDERATION OF SINGAPORE



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About Kickboxing Federation of Singapore

Kickboxing Federation of Singapore (KFS) is the appointed national representative of the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO) – the world’s sole governing body for the sport.



KFS is the governing body for the sport of Kickboxing in Singapore and is recognized as a National Sports Association (NSA) by Sport Singapore (Sports) – the Sport Ministry in Singapore.

In addition, KFS is a recognised member of Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC).

KFS’s SNOC membership can be found on their official directory:

<http://www.singaporeolympics.com/members/>

Mission

To be the beacon for Kickboxing in Singapore, promoting it as a wholesome sport for ALL and nurturing those with the attributes for “competitive Kickboxing” to realise their maximum potential.

Vision

- To become one of the leading nations in the sport; at SEA Games, Asian Games and World Level.
- To develop, groom and nurture talent; and to consistently compete and perform at the highest levels across the national squad, and all major international championships.
- To become a regional hub for Kickboxing in South East Asia.

Objective

We aim to develop the sport of Kickboxing in Singapore by providing:

- Kickboxing as a Sport and/or Fitness activity to everybody regardless of age, gender and race.
- Competition opportunities at National, South-East Asia, Asian and International Levels.
- An avenue to reach out to at-risk youths.

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