

Mr. Raf Bernaers
Secretary for the VI
European Kendo Championships
Koning Albertstraat, 113
B - 2548 LINT

Dear Friend,

I beg you pardon for troubles caused by our absence during 6th EKC. There were many reasons and in order to explain it, I am to describe our complicated situation as Polish kendokas.

In Poland kendo is a new kind of sport and it is not well-known. There were only several persons who started to practice kendo 11 years ago. That group was growing up and now, there are about 300 kendokas in Poland. All of us was practicing kendo in a private way, and we had to cover all costs connected with it. With regard to that specific situation, we had no possibility of travelling abroad because our Polish currency is not exchangeable. Besides, we had a lot of troubles with getting permission to go abroad, because we were treated as private persons, as tourists. And that is why, we had participate neither in EKC, nor IKC or other competitions up to now.

This complicated situation persisted till 1984, when our section got an acceptance of Polish Government and kendo become an official discipline of sport in Poland. It is connected with possibility of increasing and development of kendo in our country.

But unfortunately it was too late for us and we could not overcome all organizational and institutional difficulties /i.e. money, passports, visas etc./ bonded with our planned participation in championships. We were to prepare our departure to Brussels in a private way, as tourists, still: we did not get money, passports and visas in time.

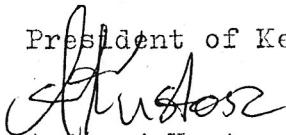
So I would like to apologize to you for embarrassment. Now, I hope, the situation will be quite different because Polish Sport Authorities promised to subsidize our activity. With regard to that, we would like to make the following suggestion for all Kendo Federations and all Kendo Sections. We would like and we could invite and cover main part of the costs connected with stay of our foreign friends in Poland in exchange for the same in their countries.

I know that is a complicated and non-typical situation but if it is possible, consider our suggestion and answer please.

hoping for meeting
with best regards

your sincerely

President of Kendo Committee


Andrzej Kustos