



## COMPETITION INFORMATION

[Schedules & Results](#) | 
 [Medals](#) | 
 [Athletes & Teams](#) | 
 **[Background](#)** | 
 [Records](#)

[Background](#) > 
 [Wushu](#)



### Wushu Tournament Beijing 2008 will be a gala event

Beijing, 14 August - A spectacular Wushu gala event is planned for Beijing 2008.

"The Wushu tournament will be treated as a gala event. Traditional Wushu will be combined with all the trappings of a modern sporting event to create an entertaining atmosphere. This should help raise the level of appreciation for Wushu," director of sport presentation for Wushu Tournament Beijing 2008, MA Zhongxuan (CHN), said.

Chinese Wushu has a very long history, but its packaging and presentation are far behind the times, which may affect its marketing potential and internationalization.

Cheerleaders will be a part of the Wushu Tournament Beijing 2008 to inject some excitement to the games.

"Wushu is in fact very attractive. Take Taolu for example, it is indeed a kind of performance itself. Our cheerleaders will further enhance this aspect," MA (CHN) said.

Since every movement of Wushu embodies specific attacking and defensive meaning, the beauty it reveals is different from that of gymnastics or dance. According to MA Zhongxuan (CHN), cheerleading performances will highlight the basic techniques of Wushu. The Wushu cheerleaders are all Wushu majors from Beijing Physical Education University.

The music chosen for the venue will lend the competition an operatic air. It will follow the competition schedule and is divided into prelude, opening, climax and closing, with each movement closely choreographed to match the competition's activities.

While athletes are warming up, spectators will be treated to a special four-and-half minute interactive programme.

"This will also show our hospitality to overseas spectators. This is our duty as hosts of the tournament."

Video presentations will combine traditional Chinese culture with modern competitive elements in an eye-catching display.

"Wushu is much more than a competitive sport, it plays a key role in Chinese culture. It is our nation's pride and treasure," MA (CHN) said.

The video presentation will provide spectators the opportunity to get to know more about the sport and the athletes. It begins with Wushu's impact on physical fitness, traditional medicine and the international film industry. This is followed by an introduction of the arena, apparatus, scoring criteria as well as the biographies, fighting techniques, training and daily life of key athletes.

"Popularising top competitions, creating super stars, attracting sport fans, these are things that contribute to the fast development of any sport," MA (CHN) said. "Wushu is no exception."

"It's great for us to hold this tournament during the Olympic Games. We will implement it professionally to show the glamour of Wushu to the people of the world, and do our bit in order to gain Wushu's entry into future Olympics."

ONS gyh/tc/rw

#### Latest News

- [Nadal ousts Djokovic in bid for gold \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Handball Day 6 Review: Germany's Olympic dream at risk \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Photos: Russia bounces back to crush Brazil's quarterfinal hopes \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Sailing Day 7 Preview: Packed schedule to feature Finn and Yngling gold \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Men's Volleyball Day 4 Preview: Three are in, four can clinch \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Table Tennis Day 4 Preview: Medals up for grabs in Team event \[2008-08-16\]](#)
- [Women's Volleyball Day 4 Review: Six teams look toward quarterfinals \[2008-08-16\]](#)

[More >>](#)

#### Photos



Photos: Russia bounces back to crush Brazil's quarterfinal hopes



Photos: Rafael Nadal enters Men's Tennis final



Photos: China women beat Mali to claim third victory

[More >>](#)



[Set as Homepage](#) | 
 [Sailing 2008](#) | 
 [Equestrian 2008](#) | 
 [Preliminary site](#) | 
 [BOBICO](#) | 
 [Site Map](#) | 
 [Contact](#) | 
 [FAQ](#) | 
 [RSS](#) | 
 [IPv6](#)

Copyright The Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad