

Press Release

SJM Fully Supports The 5th Greater Bay Area Martial Arts Scholar Championship and The 1st Asia Pacific Chinese Wushu Cultural Festival

*Record-Breaking Participation Marks a Successful Conclusion,
Passing Down the Spirit of Martial Arts Across Generations and
Promoting Macau's "Tourism + Health" Development*

(Macau, 16 March 2025) Exclusively title-sponsored by SJM Resorts, S.A. ("SJM"), co-organised by the Hong Kong Tai Chi Youth Charitable Foundation and the Macao Institute of Traditional Chinese Martial Arts, and supported by Macao Government Tourism Office, Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR Government, Sports Bureau of Macao SAR Government, Health Bureau of Macao SAR Government and Home and Youth Affairs Bureau of Hong Kong SAR Government, "The 5th Greater Bay Area Martial Arts Scholar Championship and The 1st Asia Pacific Chinese Wushu Cultural Festival" was successfully held at the Macau Tower from 15 to 16 March, setting a new participation record. SJM aims to establish a sustainable platform for martial arts cultural exchange among Greater Bay Area youth through this health-oriented sports extravaganza, further boosting Macau's burgeoning "Tourism + Health" industry. This year's Asia-Pacific expansion significantly enhanced the international profile of Chinese martial arts, attracting numerous local residents and tourists to Macau.

Attending guests included: Ms. Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of Macao Government Tourism Office; Mr. Luís Gomes, President of the Sports Bureau of Macao SAR Government; Mr. Zhu Wei, Level 4 Researcher of Department of Publicity and Culture of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR; Mr. Chan Iok Wai, Head of Department of Students of the Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR Government; Ms. Sio Hao Iok, Senior Technical Officer of Disease Prevention and Control of the Health Bureau of the Macao SAR Government; Ms. Maisy Ho, Director of SJM and Co-Chairman of the Organising Committee; Ms. Cally Kwong, Honorary Chairman of the Organising Committee, Ms. Ginny Man, Co-Chairman of the Organising Committee; Ms. Li Fai, Chairperson of Hong Kong Tai Chi Youth Charitable Foundation, former Tai Chi World Champion and Co-Executive Chairman of the Organising Committee; and Mr. Derio Chan, Co-Executive Chairman of the Organising Committee. Also present were Mr. Raymond Chau, Ms. Sabrina Chan and Ms. Joy Chan, Honorary President of the Organising Committee.

This year's event drew a record-breaking number of participants, with nearly 500 athletes competing from across the 9+2 cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, as well as the Asia-Pacific region (including Japan, Singapore, and Malaysia). Following two days of intense competition, Macau Wushu General Association earned the prestigious "Martial Arts Scholar" title, while teams from Norte e sol Macau, China Hong Kong Wushu Team and Zhaoqing Sanda Kung Fu Association secured second, third and fourth places, respectively.

Ms. Daisy Ho, Managing Director of SJM and Chairman of the Organising Committee, said, “The event’s resounding success stemmed from the seamless collaboration between the organising and support teams in Hong Kong and Macau. Making its debut in Macau, the competition vividly captured the spirit of the ‘Fitness for All, Healthy China’ initiative. Elite martial artists displayed their talents, sparking mutual learning and exchange. Thoughtfully curated activities enriched the competition, blending health and wellness events with visits to Macau’s UNESCO World Heritage sites. This created a unique ‘Tourism + Health’ experience, reinforcing Macau’s status as a ‘World Centre of Tourism and Leisure.’”

Ms. Li Fai, Chairperson of Hong Kong Tai Chi Youth Charitable Foundation and Executive Co-Chairperson of the event’s Organising Committee, said, “This event delivers a transformative experience, going beyond traditional martial arts competitions by incorporating health practices like Baduanjin and Tai Chi. It allows participants to discover the joy and wellness benefits of integrating martial arts into their daily lives. Many first-time attendees—locals and tourists alike—reported feeling relaxed and rejuvenated afterward, highlighting martial arts’ powerful role in modern health and well-being.” She added, “More than a vibrant competition, this event is a cultural legacy that bridges generations and regions. It inspires young people to explore the depths of martial arts and embrace its charm with enthusiasm. By blending Macau’s rich cultural heritage with its tourism appeal, it nurtures both physical and mental well-being, fulfilling the vision behind its creation.”

Renowned Masters Share Health Techniques; Cultural Tourism Blends with Wellness

At the event, top masters such as Zhu Tian Cai (China’s 9th Grade Wushu Instructor), Fu Qing Quan (China’s 8th Grade Wushu Instructor) and Liu Zhenling (China’s 8th Grade Wushu Instructor) imparted their profound knowledge of Tai Chi, inspiring participants to boost their physical vitality. Joining them were Li Fai, former Tai Chi World Champion, Yamanaka Mieko, President of the Japan Manual Therapy Practitioners Association Federation, and Huang Jian Gang (China’s 8th Grade Wushu Instructor), who shared valuable health-enhancing techniques, integrated with martial arts, at the Grand Lisboa Palace Resort Macau. They demonstrated how to effortlessly weave Tai Chi into daily life, guiding attendees towards a healthier lifestyle. Additionally, the event unveiled the “Macau Cultural and Health City Walk” map, leading participants through UNESCO World Heritage Sites like the Ruins of St. Paul’s and A-Ma Temple. This unique experience allowed them to improve their fitness while experiencing the rich tapestry of Macau’s unique blend of Chinese and Western heritage.

Platform for Youth Exchange and Chinese Culture Heritage

The event brought together a dynamic combination of martial arts competitions, demonstrations, wellness workshops, health seminars, and cultural tourism promotions, drawing young martial arts enthusiasts from Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China, Japan, Malaysia, and beyond. Participants immersed themselves in the rich heritage of Chinese martial arts culture, passing down its resilience and spirit to the next generation.

Looking Ahead: Building a New Chapter in Martial Arts

Embracing the philosophy of preserving and promoting traditional Chinese culture, SJM has been a steadfast supporter of martial arts by hosting and supporting championships in Macau, facilitating talent exchange and interaction and nurturing the next generation of martial arts stars. This year's event seamlessly combined health and wellness with cultural tourism, reinforcing martial arts as a cornerstone of a healthy lifestyle while paving new pathways for its development, contributing to the growth of Macau's "Tourism + Health" industry.



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Athletes competing from across the 9+2 cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, as well as the Asia-Pacific region



Ms. Li Fai, Chairperson of Hong Kong Tai Chi Youth Charitable Foundation, former Tai Chi World Champion and Co-Executive Chairman of the Organising Committee demonstrated at the event



Yamanaka Mieko, President of the Japan Manual Therapy Practitioners Association Federation shared valuable health-enhancing techniques at the Grand Lisboa Palace Resort Macau.

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