



## 25. Ms. VASSALLO Anna

- Current Position: WT Council Member
- Gender: Female
- Date of Birth: March 17, 1958
- Nationality: Malta
- Language: Maltese, English, Italian

### A. Qualification & Experience in Taekwondo

I have dedicated many years to the development and promotion of Taekwondo, both locally and internationally. I currently hold leadership positions within World Taekwondo, the European Taekwondo Union, and the Commonwealth Taekwondo Union. I was the first female Council Member and later the first female Vice President of our continental body. My contributions were recognized with an induction into the World Taekwondo Hall of Fame for Outstanding Leadership. Under my guidance, Malta has hosted international competitions, joined global Taekwondo initiatives, and significantly raised the standard of the sport nationwide. My focus remains on fostering discipline, respect, and excellence across all levels of Taekwondo in Malta.

### B. Experience in Other Areas (Other Sports, Business or Professional)

Beyond my involvement in Taekwondo, I bring over 30 years of professional experience in the oil sector, where I worked in marketing and communications. This background has equipped me with strong strategic planning, leadership, and organizational skills, which I've successfully applied to the sports sector. I have a deep understanding of stakeholder engagement, event management, and sponsorship development. My experience in business has also helped me secure increased funding and build sustainable partnerships for the Malta Taekwondo Association. Additionally, I have been actively involved in various national sports initiatives, collaborating with the Maltese Olympic Committee and Ministry of Sport to promote youth engagement and long-term athlete development.

### C. Education

My educational background has provided a strong foundation for both my professional and sporting careers. I pursued studies in business and marketing, which played a key role in my success in the corporate sector and later in sports administration. Over the years, I have also taken part in various leadership and sports management courses, both locally and internationally, to continue developing my skills and stay up to date with best practices in governance, athlete development, and international sport relations.

### D. Vision for WT in next 4-years

**Leadership in Action: Elevating Taekwondo in Malta**  
When I was elected President of the Malta Taekwondo Association, my mission was clear: to put Malta on the global Taekwondo map. Through relentless dedication and strategic leadership, that

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vision is now a reality.

#### Achievements & Global Impact

Under my leadership, Malta has earned international recognition in the Taekwondo world. Our young athletes now regularly medal in competitions, and Malta is respected by global and national governing bodies. We've proudly hosted international events, elite camps, and introduced Kukkiwon Dan Gradings locally.

#### Inclusion & Growth

Joining the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation (THF) enabled us to support disadvantaged youth through sport. We've introduced Taekwondo in nine schools, including the University of Malta, and hold grassroots tournaments for all ages and skill levels.

#### Leadership & Recognition

I'm honored to have been elected to the World Taekwondo Council and to serve as Vice President of the European Taekwondo Union. In 2019, I became the first Maltese and first female continental Council Member, and was recently re-elected for another four-year term. I've also been inducted into the World Taekwondo Hall of Fame and appointed by the Maltese Olympic Committee to lead disciplinary boards.

#### Strategic Partnerships

We've forged key partnerships with the Chinese Federation and FITA, and secured funding through close collaboration with the Ministry of Sport and the Maltese Olympic Committee.

#### Professional Foundation

With 30+ years in marketing and a First Dan Black Belt, I lead with discipline, respect, and integrity. I champion equal opportunities for athletes from small nations and advocate for women in sport leadership.

#### Looking Ahead

We are now building Malta's first Olympic pathway in Taekwondo and expanding our programs nationwide. My vision remains clear: inclusive development, excellence, and global cooperation for a stronger future.

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