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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Team USA Kickboxing Returns with Bronze Medal from World Combat Games in Russia

ST. LOUIS, MO - After qualifying in the Pan American games in Brazil in 2012, two athletes; Jose Mariscal from Chicago, IL, and Gabrielle Labbee from Collinsville, IL, represented Team USA in Kickboxing in the World Combat Games this past week in St. Petersburg, Russia. Labbee participated in the Women's Low Kick 52 kg and Mariscal represented the USA in the Men's Full Contact 71kg competition taking Bronze in his division.

"It was a first for KICK International™ on many fronts. Not only the first time Kickboxing was invited as a sport at the World Combat Games, but the first opportunity for the USA to participate and we were very excited to have returned with a medal." said Charles Post, Team USA Coach.

SportAccord World Combat Games is an international sporting event which promotes values of self-control, determination and technical mastery, the Martial Arts and Combat Sports integrate elements of culture, wisdom, friendship to create an elite sports competition - the Art of Combat. This year, the games featured over 1,300 of world's best athletes in 15 Martial Arts and Combat Sports including: Aikido, Boxing, Fencing, Judo, Jujitsu, Karate, Kendo, Kickboxing, Muaythai, Sambo, Savate, Sumo, Taekwondo, Wrestling, and Wushu.

KICK International™ is dedicated to the administration, promotion, development, and unification of amateur kickboxing and mixed martial arts sports in the United States. Headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, *KICK International™* is a 501c3 national sanctioning body that sponsors a host of programs developing the sport and its athletes at the local, regional and national levels. In addition, they participate and sponsor national and international dual competitions and coordinate teams for international events. KICK is the national governing body in the USA as designated by the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO) which is the exclusive world governing body approved under the General Assembly of International Sports Federations (GAISF) moving the sport to Olympic recognition.

For more information, visit www.KICKInternational.org or contact their Press Representative, Julie Eudy, directly at 636-379-1750 x 702.

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