



12th of
May 2017

Open Letter to the Fédération Internationale de
Gymnastique in response to encroachment and
misappropriation of Parkour

President Morinari Watanabe
Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique
Avenue de la Gare 12A
Case postale 630
1001 Lausanne
Switzerland

To President Morinari Watanabe

We are writing to you as the Australian Parkour Association, operating as the peak body for Parkour in Australia, and on behalf of our members across Australia.

We are writing to express our objection to the recent encroachment and misappropriation of our practice by the Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) via '*development of a related FIG discipline*' based on Parkour, as detailed in their [press release](#) dated 24th February 2017, Lausanne (Sui), FIG Office.

Furthermore, we reject [the assertions of FIG Secretary General](#), André Gueisbuhler, regarding the history of Parkour as inaccurate and ill-informed. We support the stance taken by [Parkour UK](#), [Fédération de Parkour \(FPK\)](#), and the [New Zealand Parkour Association](#) and demonstrably reject the Secretary General's notion that our community is not organised in our development of Parkour.

It is our duty to look after the rights and interests of our members across Australia and ensure that our practice is not misappropriated by FIG internationally and/or nationally by any of FIG's National Federation members. As such, we assert the independence of Parkour as a characteristically unique, culturally distinct and sovereign practice for which FIG is neither presently representative, nor does it have grounds to claim representation, of the international Parkour community.

We support the call to invite other national Parkour communities to issue letters of support for this position and invite collaboration across the international Parkour community to ensure the protection and integrity of the practice.

Our discipline is our own.

Regards,

President of the Australian Parkour Association,
Eliot Duffy

On behalf of the national committee of the Australian Parkour Association and its members.