



OPPORTUNITIES OF THAI BOXING CAMPS

by

Mr. Peraphan Rungsikulpiphat

A Final Report of the Three-Credit Course
CE 6998 Project

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Science
in Computer and Engineering Management
Assumption University

November 2002

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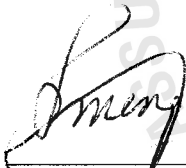
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The Graduate School of Assumption University has approved this final report of the three-credit course, CE 6998 PROJECT, submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Computer and Engineering Management.

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this project are to study and analyze the attitude of foreign Thai boxing students towards Thai boxing training at Sor.Vorapin Boxing gym, to determine which media is the most effective in promoting Thai boxing and to know what is the main reason and benefit of training Muay Thai. It provides details for entrepreneurs who want to open a Thai boxing gym. These people can know the right requirements to satisfy their students.

For this research, the researcher used random sampling consisting of 100 respondents who are foreign students at Sor.Vorapin gym. Questionnaire is the main instrument for this research. It was designed as a guideline for use in interviewing 100 respondents. The questionnaire consists of 5 parts : Personal data, evaluation of media exposure, attitude towards Muay Thai, satisfaction towards training and study benefit of Muay Thai. Data processing and analysis was done by using the SPSS/PC program. The data was interpreted in the form of graph and table and described in term of percentage (%), frequency and mean.

The researcher found that most students come from Europe, specifically from England. Word of mouth still is the best advertising for them to get to know Muay Thai. These students want to learn Muay Thai because they think it is a good exercise and they want to learn the real Muay Thai training in the original country. The most powerful weapon of Muay Thai which interests them most is the kick which is also the most difficult training for them. The most desired benefit from Muay Thai training is to make them strong and healthy.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

The human instinct of self defense is the same worldwide, but application of the art varies from culture to culture as well as from country to country. Thailand also has its own "art" of self defense, especially sword fighting of the Phutthaisuwan Camp, which was famous during the period when Ayuthya was the capital. The most prominent heritage for the present prosperity is "Muay Thai".

A uniqueness of Muay Thai is that all body parts such as the fists, elbows, knees, shins, legs, the back of the feet, head and even ankles and wrists can be effectively utilized to deliver a knock-out to opponent. (Hardy 1980)

Currently, Muay Thai or The Art of Thai Boxing, has attracted international attention or interest as can be seen in the large number of foreigners who have shown their interest and respect for this sport. Every day, at standard Thai boxing stadiums both Rajadumnern Boxing Stadium and Lumpinee Boxing Stadium, there are several hundreds of foreign audience who come to see the real Muay Thai fights. For most foreigners, when they think of Thailand they think of Thai Boxing as well.

Many foreigners come to Thailand for the purpose of learning how to do Thai boxing and they want to be trained with the real masters of Thai boxing at famous Thai boxing camps in Thailand. However, Muay Thai experts or masters have been invited by many countries to teach this great art of self defense. At the same time, boxers from many foreign countries are converging on Thailand to try their hand in Muay Thai. However, for all their achievement or high standards of skills, they take a back seat when compared with their Thai counterparts.

The reason we select the Sor. Vorapin Boxing Gym in our case study is because it is one of the most well known Thai boxing Gym in Thailand which was established 2 decades ago. It is located in Bangkok and very close to Khao San Road which is known as the center of foreign tourists. Sor.Vorapin Gym has a very good reputation in producing high quality boxers for both Thai and International boxing stages. There are more than 10 Thai boxing champions of the official boxing stadium in Thailand including World Champion I.B.F (International Boxing Federation) and W.B.O (World Boxing Organization). This reputation has attracted a lot of foreign Thai boxing students to come to Bangkok and take Muay Thai courses at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym.

1.2 Objectives

To investigate and study the Media Exposure Behavior of foreign Thai Boxing Students at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym. To know which media is the most effective and powerful in the exposure about Muay Thai and Sor.Vorapin Gym.

To study the attitude of foreign Thai Boxing students toward Thai Boxing about how they feel about Muay Thai and how easy or hard it is in.

To study the satisfaction of foreign Thai Boxing students toward learning Muay Thai at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym.

To study the benefits (physical and mental) of Thai Boxing toward foreign Thai Boxing students.

1.3 Importance of the Study

To know what are the effective channels to reach the target group.

To know the attitude of foreign Thai boxing students toward Thai boxing.

To improve the instruction, instructors, technique of Thai boxing, boxing equipment, safety and environment of the gym.

To benefit for further study and promote Thai boxing to the world in the future.

1.4 Statements of the Problem

The researcher will investigate the following statements of the problem:

- (1) What is the major media or channel that makes foreign Thai Boxing students know Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym?
- (2) What is the main purpose of training in Thai Boxing?
- (3) What is the most satisfied down to least satisfied towards learning Muay Thai at Sor.Vorapin Gym?
- (4) What is the Thai Boxing weapon that foreign Thai Boxing students are most interested in?

1.5 Research Methodology

- (1) "Data Collection"

- (a) Population

For sample population collection, there are altogether 130 persons who are students of Sor.Vorapin Gym. They are varied in countries, age, education and occupation and they come to be trained in Thai boxing, International boxing and there are people who come to use only the fitness facilities during the period (15 April - 15 August 2002)

- (b) Sampling: In order to take samples, the researcher will use only male foreign Thai Boxing students at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym.

- (2) "Implementation" means how to manage the data that is collected in the first step.

Questionnaire : The researcher classifies the type of questionnaire that is used to gather ideas and concepts of these students. The researcher uses

closed-end or structured questionnaire because it is the best way to classify foreign students' answers. The reader chooses the questions so as to be the easiest for readers to answer.

- (3) "Data Analysis" means the researcher analyzes all the data that is taken from implementation step so that the reader knows what these students expect from Sor.Vorapin gym. The way to analyze all the data is by using the software program SPSS/PC so that the results will be correct.

1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study

- (1) Target Group: Foreign Thai Boxing Students at Sor.Vorapin Gym.
- (2) Sex: Male
- (3) Age: 17 - 35 years (The previous record of Sor.Vorapin Camp shown that 95% of foreign Thai Boxing Students were in this range of age)
- (4) Location: Sor.Vorapin Gym (13 Trok Kasab, Jakkapong Rd. Panakorn Bangkok, 10200 Thailand)

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 What Is Muay Thai ?

MuayThai is known to be over two thousand years old. Originating from the warrior systems Krabi Krabong literally translated means "long and short weapons", the warrior using the short weapons represents the monkey and the warrior using the long weapons, the giant. This system of monkey fighting the giant is also seen in MuayThai but is not as apparent as in Krabi Krabong. MuayThai evolved when a warrior was disarmed and had to use the body's natural weapons, hands, knees, elbows and feet, adopting the same principles as Krabi Krabong. In the early days, boxers fought without gloves using only hemp rope to bind their fists. One of the most famous fighters of this era was His Majesty PRA CHAO SUUA (King White Tiger). This renowned royal boxer traveled his country incognito, boxing at country fairs against local champions. After receiving his purse for the fight, he would disappear from the village without his identity ever being discovered. It is PRA CHAO SUUA who is credited as the founder of modern day Muay Thai, through his study and development of the unarmed system, honing and sharpening the skills and techniques.

In the 1930s the Thai people, proud of their fighting heritage, developed a formal structure for Muay Thai, whilst preserving the rituals of the Wai KrulRam Muay and retaining the traditional music which accompanied every bout. Boxing gloves were to be worn, weight divisions were introduced and rules and regulations were formulated in order to govern and promote Thailand's National Treasure — Muay Thai. The first professional stadium, dedicated solely to Muay Thai was built on Rajadamern Avenue, Bangkok - the renowned Rajademern Stadium. Shortly after, a second stadium, Lumpini

opened its doors, giving fight fans the chance to see Live Thai Boxing seven days a week. Now there are five stadiums in Bangkok alone, a testimony to the popularity of this fascinating sport. Many foreigners having witnessed Thai Boxing for the first time wanted to know more about the art and began to promote Muay Thai in their own countries. Sadly, some unscrupulous people saw the art purely as a commercially viable prospect and began to use the name of Thai Boxing to promote a more inferior sport, corrupting the rules and totally neglecting the culture and rituals of the art. Muay Thai is many things turned into one. Namely, self-defense, sport, science, and art. It has, over the years, enriched our physical and moral well-being, as well as are fame, honor, and wealth. In the past, Thai boxers were often under the patronage of the kings. Some boxers even rose to become the ruling monarchs of the land. Skillful boxers of the bygone era were often recruited to be some kind of the king's "special soldiers" acting as the bodyguards of the kings. The name of Muay Thai itself has traveled far and wide, causing fear in the hearts of opponents. It has proved itself against various forms of martial arts such as Karate, Judo, Kung Fu, Jujitsu, Wrestling, or indigenous boxing of other countries. Muay Thai has demonstrated to the world its effectiveness. Many martial arts, have now, incorporated Muay Thai techniques into their systems. Muay Thai is full of colorful and effective techniques. Advanced training in weapons is available, but not necessary for most. There are many benefits to training in Muay Thai aside from the obvious self-defense application.. As your physical strength, coordination, and stamina develop, you will also notice improvements in your determination, patience, and self-control. The goal of Muay Thai training is the development of the whole self. (Muay Thai Magazine, 1998)

2.2 The Benefits That a Person Would Receive from Training in Muay Thai

(1) Physical Benefits:

Before any competition or training, one should warm up lightly or get massaged. The massage of the muscles improve blood circulation. The training speeds up the body's metabolism and burns off fat. Eventually, you will notice a decrease in fat, an increase in muscle, and an overall improved sense of well being.

Regular training will build up your stamina and put your body in good shape. You should be able to withstand being hit by various weapons of the opponent. Your pain tolerance should be higher. The body will get used to arduous routines and becomes stronger as a result. The constant training and drilling in Muay Thai techniques will allow your mind and body to instantly and effectively react to your opponent's attacks. As Muay Thai requires movement of every part of the body, the practitioner **will** be very fit and strong. Good health would lead to better resistance to illness or diseases. If the body is in good shape, you will not suffer from any illness.

(2) Mental Benefits: Courage, Determination, and Self-Confidence

Regular exercises are very important in Muay Thai. The body will be driven to the limit of exhaustion. If you do not have stamina and determination, you will certainly give up, so it is necessary to train the mind to be tough. In Muay Thai or any kind of profession, a good player in the game must have supreme self-confidence that completes various maneuvers and sufficient single-mindedness to make timely and sudden decisions. This quick thinking is crucial to a hand to hand combat like Muay Thai. To be a top class Muay

Thai fighter, one will have to undergo training to instill self-confidence and ability to make decisive decisions. Muay Thai is a self-defense that is full of tactics, tricks, and techniques. Training in Muay Thai means learning all the tactics to defeat the opponent and the ways to counter your opponent's maneuvers. A Muay Thai practitioner must have enough wisdom in using the techniques and tricks, supported by a fair degree of intelligence.

(3) Social Benefit:

The proper maintenance of health will compliment the martial tactics acquired. In normal circumstances, a Muay Thai practitioner will be indoctrinated on the subject of discipline, respect for the rules of the school, and obedience to the instructor. This will lead to the possession of good manners, good spirit, honesty, sense of justice, self-confidence and ability to stay away from drugs. (www.lannamuaythai.com 2002)

2.3 The History of Muay Thai Is the History of the Thai People

When the Burmese army sacked and razed Ayuddhaya to the ground, the archives of Thai history were lost. With them, much of the early history of MuayThai also went. The little we do know, comes from the writings of the Burmese, Cambodian, early European visitors and some of the chronicles of the Lanna Kingdom - Chiangmai. What all sources agree on, is that MuayThai began as a close combat battlefield fighting skill. More deadly than the weapons it replaced.As to where MuayThai came from, its evolution, the sources aren't clear and often contradict each other. But there are two main theories.

One says that centuries ago, a tribe called Tai Mung or Tai Muang Kingdom settled down in a fertile land on both sides of Huang Ho River and Yangsi River in Szechwan, Hupeh, Anhwei and Kiangsi, south of China, before the Buddhist era.

The Tai people made numerous fights with their enemies and invaders, using different parts of the body as weapons before B.E. 300. In that period, the Tai people were invaded and they migrated to the south as they were impoverished and attacked by savage local people. The instinct to survive in such situation encouraged the tribe to develop a fierce and tough defense using every part of the body to fight person to person without formal style. The heart of the fight was to defend themselves.

Later the people of the Tai Mung Kingdom gathered and set up an independent kingdom on the south of the Mekong River in B.E. 1400. The defense was further developed in a systematic way with a formal style and textbook for instructing the descendents from generation to generation of the tactics, strategies and style of the self-defensive art. The art of Muay Thai did not therefore emerge accidentally but it was originated out of the instinct to survive from the wars and the instinct of a free nation. For over 2,000 years, the art of fighting with fists, feet, knees, and elbows has been developed from time to time by the intelligence of the Thai ancestors. Muay Thai is therefore the description and identity of the nation which cannot be named otherwise except "Muay Thai" (World Muay Thai Magazine 2000).

The second theory contends that the Thai people were already settled in Thailand and developed Muay Thai as a means of self defense against invasion. (www.wmc-ifma.com 2002) Whichever account is correct, what is indisputable is that Muay Thai was an essential part of Thai culture from its very beginnings. What is known is that Muay Thai was an essential part of Thai culture right from its dawn. And in Thailand, it's the sport of kings. In olden days, national issues were decided by Muay Thai contests. The first great upsurge of interest in Muay Thai as a sport as well as a battlefield skill,

was under King Naresuan in 1584, a time known as the Ayuddhaya period. During this period, every soldier trained in Muay Thai and could use it, as the King himself did. Slowly Muay Thai moved away from its root in the 'Chupasart' and new fighting techniques were evolving. The change in the art was to continue under another fighting King - Prachao Sua — the Tiger King. He loved Muay Thai so much that he often fought incognito in village contests, beating the local champions. During the reign of the Tiger King the nation was at peace. The King, to keep the army busy, ordered it to train in Muay Thai. The interest in the sport was already high but now it took off yet again. Thai Boxing became the favorite sport and pastime of the people, the army and the King. Historical sources show that people from all walks of life flocked to training camps. Rich, poor, young and old all wanted some of the action. Every village staged its prize fights and had its champions. Every bout became a betting contest as well as a contest of local pride. The betting tradition has remained with the sport and today large sums are wagered on the outcome of fights.

Thai boxing has always been popular but like most sports, there have been times when it was more in fashion. In the reign of King Rama V, many Muay Thai matches were Royal Command fights. These boxers were rewarded with military titles from the King. Today the titles, like Muen Muay Mee Chue from Chaiya or Muen Muay Man Mudh from Lopburi are virtually untranslatable. They mean something comparable to Major of Boxing. At the time they were much prized and respected titles.

The Rama V period was another golden age for Muay Thai. Boxing camps were set up, talent scouts - at Royal Command - recruited potential boxers from up country. Match makers began to make the great matches which were fought for big prizes and honor. This thrilled the people then as much as the main bouts do today at the Bangkok boxing stadiums. The matches then were not fought in a ring as we know it today - for

Muay Thai that is a recent innovation. Any available space of the right size was used, a courtyard, a village clearing. It wasn't till the reign of King Rama VI that the standard ring surrounded by ropes came into use, as did time keeping by the clock. Before this period, time keeping was done by floating a pierced coconut shell on a boat of water. When the coconut piece sank, a drum signaled the end of the round.

Muay Thai has always been a sport for the people as well as a military fighting skill. In all its golden ages, the people have trained and practiced the sport whether they were King or commoner. It was a part of the school curriculum right up to the 1920's when it was withdrawn because it was felt that the injury rate was too high. The people however, continued to study it in gyms and clubs just as they do today. For centuries the army fostered Muay Thai. Soldiers have trained and used the techniques for as long as there has been an army in Thailand. For the military it has always been the close combat fighting skill, the martial art of the battlefield. When a Thai soldier fights hand to hand he uses Muay Thai. But then so does every Thai person, male or female. Watching it, learning it, copying it is a part of Thai childhood. It always has been. The people have always followed the sport and have been instrumental in moving it from the battlefield to the ring. They have been as much a part of making it a sport as have the Kings. One of the prime movers in transforming the sport was the Tiger King, who not only influenced fighting styles but also the equipment.

During the reign of the Tiger King, the hands and forearms began being bound with strips of horse hair. This was to serve a dual purpose - protect the fighter and inflict more damage on the opponent. Later, these were replaced by hemp ropes or starched strips of cotton. For particular challenge matches and with the fighters' agreement, ground glass was mixed with glue and spread on the strips. The changes that the sport has undergone have been changes to equipment used rather than radical change. For example, Thai

fighters have always worn groin guards. A kick or knee to the groin was a legal move up until the 1930's. In the early days, the protection was made from tree bark or sea shells held in place with a piece of cloth tied between the legs and around the waist. The groin guard later became a triangular shaped pillow, red or blue, tied around the waist with a through strap between the legs. The pillow went, after a boxer on a trip to Malaysia saw a groin box. He came back with the idea, which is close to the original idea of the sea shell and since then, Muay Thai fighters have used them.

The 1930's saw the most radical change in the sport. It was then that it was codified and today's rules and regulations were introduced. Rope bindings of the arms and hands were abandoned and gloves took their place. This innovation was also in response to the growing success of Thai Boxers in international boxing. Along with the introduction of gloves, came weight classes based on the international boxing divisions. These and other innovations - such as the introduction of five rounds — substantially altered the fighting techniques that the boxers used causing some of them to disappear. Before the introduction of weight classes, a fighter could and did fight all corners regardless of size and weight differences. However, the introduction of the weight classes meant that the fighters were more evenly matched and instead of there being one champion, there became one for each weight class.

Most Muay Thai fighters belong to the lighter weight classes. Seventy percent of all fighters belong to the fly and bantam weight divisions. There are welterweight and middleweight fights but they are not seen that often and the heavier categories seldom fight. The establishment of stadiums, instead of makeshift rings and courtyards, began during the reign of Rama VII before the Second World War. During the war, they gradually disappeared but mushroomed again soon afterwards - Muay Thai had not lost any of it's appeal. The boxers from up-country once again headed toward fame and

fortune in Bangkok. The glory could be found at stadiums like Rajdamnern and Lumpinee. Later, they fought in full colour fury on television. Thailand's Channel 7 started broadcasting the fights in colour over 20 years ago. Today all four Thai television stations broadcast free to millions of Muay Thai fans throughout Thailand - four nights a week. The battle art has evolved into a popular sport. Ruled, codified and now with five three minute rounds, each with a two minute recovery period between rounds. Those old timers around today who fought before the second world war, lament the changes brought about by the standardization of the sport. The three minute round and weight classes has, they say, changed the sport as they remembered it. "We had to fight all comers," one recalls. "Had to know all the tricks of the trade. We used strikes and techniques these fighters haven't even been taught. We didn't have these breaks and instead fought 'till one of us dropped. "They are also right. MuayThai has changed across the years. Changed and evolved from a battlefield close quarters killing ground technique based on a fighting tradition passed on from generation to generation up to the present time. But despite the changes of history, Muay Thai has lost none of its exotic appeal and even mystique. Muay Thai is still the fighting art to beat. The fighting art that defeats all challenges from Kung Fu, Karate, Taekwando and the latest kick boxing fashions. They have all come to Thailand, not just once but many times and from many places to test themselves.

Muay Thai has lost none of its appeal in Thailand. The television fight broadcasts rate among the Kingdom's most popular programs. In the provinces, villages cluster around any available TV to watch. In the city, people disappear from the streets while Thailand is watching Muay Thai. Thai Boxing is also becoming increasingly popular outside of Thailand. It has its enthusiasts and practitioners in the Americas, Australia, Japan, Europe, as well as in many other countries from around the world. The illustrious

history of Muay Thai will continue as it receives greater recognition and gains in international popularity.

It's not uncommon for foreign visitors to Bangkok to come across a group of Thais crowding around television sets at night watching the latest boxing match. Thai boxing, or Muay Thai, attracts the most attention of the Thai people. Visiting to Bangkok will not be completed if you do not see at least one of the Thai boxing matches which are regularly televised and attending the live event is a thing not to be missed. Thai boxing is almost universally regarded as today's most exciting ring sport. It is considered by many to be the most violent martial art compared with Japanese Karate, Korean Taekwondo, and Chinese Kang Fu, (Muay Thai: The Art of Siamese / Hardy S.)

Exposure of Muay Thai's Information

People get information about Muay Thai from many channels. A lot of books and magazines around the world have been published about varied stories about Muay Thai and Thai boxers in Thailand. Most people watch Thai boxing match on television and come to know about Muay Thai from posters around their cities. Many of them get Muay Thai information from their tour agencies before they come to Thailand and some of them from their tour agencies in Thailand. However, word of mouth seems to be the most powerful in promoting Thai Boxing in other countries by whoever knows anything about Thai boxing and who has unforgettable memory about Muay Thai. At present, the media which seems to be the most effective in the exposure of Thai boxing is the internet channel. Everyone can find ways to reach the Thai boxing story by travelling in the internet world. There are plenty of information for those who are interested in Thai Boxing such as, history of Muay Thai, Life story of Thai boxers, Thai boxing training, Thai boxing fighting, Thai Boxing technique, Thai boxing equipment and accessories,

Thai boxing programs and schedules, the results of fighting, news about Thai boxing, etc. The following are some popular Thai boxing web sites around the world.

www.iamtf.org - International Amateur Muay Thai Federation

www.wmtc.nu - World Muay Council

www.muaythaionline.net — The best Muay Thai portal of the world

www.tel.hr/hs-tajboks — Croatia

www.hanuman.cz - Czech Republic

www.sorrachan-thai.subnet.dk — Denmark

www.muaythai.co.uk — England

www.mtbd.de — Germany

www.muaythai.it — Italia

www.muaythai.co.kr — Korea

welcome.to/atbap — Philippines

www.rtbfru — Russia

www.scottishmuaythaicouncil.co.uk — Scotland

www.ukmtfmuaythai.co.uk — Scotland

members.es.tripod.de/muaythaiab/asociacion.htm — Spain

www.laithai.nu/eng/english.asp — Sweden

www.thaiboxen.ch — Switzerland

www.muaythai.org.ua — Ukraine

www.usmta.com — Usa

www.muaythaimayhem.com - American Club

www.mikemiles.com- Canada

www.canadianmuaythai.com — Canada

www.thundercats.subnet.dk - Danish club

ukmuaythai.com — England

members.tripod.co.uk/thaiboxer - English club

www.fightingfitgym.co.uk - English club

www.zen.co.uk/home/page/apc/new - English club

www.badcompany.co.uk - English club

www.thaiboxing.bizland.com - English club

www.thaimaa.net - Information of Thailand in Finnish only

www.angelfire.com/biz/soksoda - Los Angeles, Usa

www.uzinagaz.com - Muay Thai game

members.tripod.co.uk/artofmuaythai - Muay Thai made of macro media flash

www.muaythai.com - Muay Thai portal

www.thaiboxings.com — Thailand (Sor.Vorapin Gym)

www.muaythaionline.net - Muay Thai portal

members.aol.com/Thaiboxing2000 - Muay Thai site by Mr. Pop Praditbatuga

[www.scoot.co.uk/scottish muay thai](http://www.scoot.co.uk/scottish_muay_thai) — Scotland

www.muaythai.co.th/ - Songchai Promotion - Mr Songchai Ratanasuban

www.muaythaitour.com — Stadiums

wwwv.adam.hu/--daniel/thai.htm - Story about Ram Muay

come.to/vongtale - Swedish club

www.muaythaicenter.com - Tourist camp in Bangkok

www.oceaniamuaythai.com

www.mikemiles.com - Canada

Other Countries' Interest in Muay Thai.

Muay Thai is very popular not only in Thailand but also in other countries around the world. The following is the evidence of how our Muay Thai is becoming very popular throughout the world.

Fifty member countries from the net total 109 member countries of International Federation of Muay Thai Amateur (IFMA) had been selected to prove their efficiency in the Muay Thai Amateur Championships World Cup 2002, which Thailand was host during 19-25 July 2002 in honor of the 50th Birthday Anniversary of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn. The participants from 50 strong Muay Thai countries with a grand total 474 persons came to compete in the Muay Thai Amateur Championships World Cup 2002 at MCC HALL The Mall Department Store. This celebration is a proof that Muay Thai has been accepted worldwide and will be developed to its full potential at the world stage both in the field of sports and physical education including martial arts and self-defense. Moreover, participating countries in this Muay Thai World Cup 2002 will become our good partners in an effort to push Muay Thai to the Asian Game and the Olympic Games in the near future. (WMTC Newsletter 2002)

Ms. Neer (An officer of I.A.M.T.F 2002) revealed that there are more than 10,000 Muay Thai gyms around the world while some are small and some are big and famous. One of the most famous gyms is Master Toddy'Gym. One of the most popular Muay Thai masters is Master Toddy, who opened the first Muay Thai school in England. The school gained notoriety as the trainer began to produce world champions. Students from as far as 200 miles away would drive just to attend one of Master Toddy's Muay Thai classes. In England, Master Toddy ultimately became known as the "Father of Muay Thai." His fighters were distinguished champions, and his promotions were always very

well-organized and professional. Even today, over a decade since he relocated to Las Vegas, Master Toddy is still known as the number-one Muay Thai trainer and promoter in America, being the first to air a live TV promotion from there back to Thailand. Master Toddy said one example of Muay Thai's quick growth is in organizational affiliate growth. In April 1997, there were 26 countries affiliated with the WMTTC, but by August of 1998 that number reached 54 countries, and reached 109 countries in 2002.

A new Muay Thai gym 2002 designed by Master Toddy's champion training team, with a new 6,000 square-foot facility promises to be the largest, most prestigious, state-of-the-art Muay Thai school in the city of Las Vegas. You can find the new address on our schools page. Here are just a few of the upcoming features of this unique gym.(<http://www.mastertoddy.com/new/news> 2002)

Kru Mike Miles (3 times Professional Muay Thai World Champion) a very famous foreign Muay Thai master and gym owner in Canada revealed about his gym that "I have altogether 6 Muay Thai gyms in Canada, the facility has over 10,000 sq. ft. on a wood sprung floor and is unquestionably Calgary's best equipped Martial Arts gym. The equipment list includes a complete workout area of Apex weight lifting and free weight equipment, Wavemaster floor bags, running treadmills, Lifecycles, Lifestep machines, mats (1000sq. ft.), wallbars, 26 heavy bags (weighing from 50 to 450 lbs.), speedballs, top and bottom bags (crazy balls), a legal size boxing ring, dozens of pairs of various types of focus mitts, kicking shields, and Thai pads, clean showers and lockers." I liked the fact that MuayThai had been proving itself on the battlefield and in the ring for a long time. By contrast, American Full Contact was a very new sport with the rules still evolving. I want to continue learning all aspects of MuayThai until the day I die. My goal is to see MuayThai make the Olympics. There is a lot of

misleading information out there and all I can say is the fact that IFMA is the only organisation that has the support of the Olympic Committee of Thailand. The AMTAT and FAMA (all organisations under the umbrella of IFMA) are responsible in getting MuayThai involved with the Asian Games. The Asian games are a step closer to the Olympic Games. Since competition in the Olympics is my goal, I want to have my athletes able to compete. Because I host so many events, I have been criticized by one organization as being 'professional'! Olympic competition is my goal so I can train athletes to represent Canada, and this is viewed as 'professional'. This does not wash.(<http://www.btinternet.com/~sandy.holt/ukmta/frames.htm>)

Stephan Fox the International Co-ordinator for the World Muaythai Council revealed his opinion about Muay Thai boxers in many strong nations that " In the Oceanic region, Australia and New Zealand are very strong. In Asian region, certainly Thailand, Japan and Korea are coming up strong. Then you have the Asian-European countries like Kazakhstan which are very strong. We just had the Asian championships in Kazakhstan which had been unbelievable. Their fighters are so strong it is frightening. In Europe you certainly have France and Holland. Finland and Russia are also strong. England is coming up. South Africa and Morocco are getting stronger. Canada has some very talented boys. If we look at the world titles, the amateur world titles which we staged last year in Thailand was very interesting to see that France actually won with Thailand coming second. Then it was close after that between Australia, Ukraine and Belarussia." He also expressed his attitude about Muay Thai situation that" I am very happy to see the sport grow and to see the quality of the sport moving forward. A lot of people say Muay Thai is decreasing but I think it is very much increasing in quality. It is increasing because East meets West. We have the traditional Thai technique but we have the rest of the world with different training methods, proper

nutritional work, and beautiful gyms. So the fighters are getting stronger and stronger. If you look at fighters from especially Russian countries - Kazastahn, Uzebkeistan, Ukraine, Russia, Belarussia, and Czek Republik are very strong. These people there have proper knee and elbow techniques and the Thais now really have to worry about their martial art because a lot of countries will be taking over slowly. (Stephen Fox 2002)

In Korea, Muay Thai is also increasingly popular. Kim Hyan Ou said that he was born in Pusan on January 11, 1970. He entered the sports circle by learning Tae-kwondo before he started studying Muay Thai by videotapes 8 years ago. He has never been to Thailand but has attended 18 professional Muay Thai events in Seoul before this fight. Kim Hyan Ou said "I have never been afraid of the weapons of Muay Thai Gym," after the match. He could hardly walk by himself due to his injury by being kicked at the legs. "From now on, I will learn more about how to be a good Muay Thai boxer." Kim Hyan Ou is the owner of a rather big Muay Thai Gym that provides Muay Thai courses to 50 children and youth from the total 300 Muay Thai trainees in Pusan where there are up to 5 Muay Thai Gyms. (Muay Thai Magazine 1999)

In Japan, Mr. Ihara, who is the owner of the biggest Muay Thai gym in Japan revealed his vision about Muay Thai situation that Muay Thai within the next 4 to 5 years will become one of the most talked about sport in the whole of Japan. And to support Mr. Ihara's vision, he had just invested a large amount of his income to establish a Muay Thai training gym equipped with a standard sized boxing ring with all the extras. It is situated on Daikanyama Road in Tokyo. The purpose of the gym is to train and prepare those who want to pursue their career in the canvas ring. The facility can hold up to 500 spectators. It is equipped with the latest technology for satellite link-up so that people all over the world can watch all his tournaments. Presently there are

about 150 students enrolled in the gym and out of this group of trainees there are 3 different class weight Japanese Champions. Both males and females, young or old can enroll for training and the cost is at 10,000 Yen (US\$ 90) per month. (Ihara 2000).

Irish Thai boxer NiamhGriffin (The World Muay Thai Council officer and Muay Thai Professional boxer) said "Before training and fighting I had been working as an English teacher but not really enjoying it. Muay Thai is much more fun," I come to training and think about my favorite sport all day long, "Her mornings are spent at the boxing council. Afternoons are for fitness and fisticuffs at the Sor Vorapin Gym (<http://www.thaiboxings.com/www.thaiboxings.com>).

2.4 Background of Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym.

Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym was established on December 5, 1979 by a young couple who loved Thai Boxing very much and had a dream to start a small gym of their own one day. After years of dedication by Mr. Surapol and Ms. Vorapin, Sor Vorapin Gym was born. This explains how Sor.Vorapin got its name. The Sor. Vorapin name came from the first names of the couple ("Sor" is from Mr. Surapol and "Vorapin" is from Ms. Vorapin). Sor.Vorapin is professionally recognized in training for both Thai-boxing as well as international-boxing. Sor.Vorapin Gym has trained not only several Thai-boxing champions of the official stadium in Thailand but also World boxing champion of I.B.F. (International Boxing Federation) and W.B.O. (World Boxing Organization), such as Rajasak Sor.Vorapin (3 Champion belts of Rajadumnern Stadium), Kriengkai Sor.Vorapin (2 Champion belts of Rajadumnern Stadium and 1 Champion belt of Lumpinee Stadium) Sanpetch Sor.Vorapin, Phises Vor.Surapol, Rattanapol Sor.Vorapin (World Champion I.B.F 105 Lbs), Rattanachai Sor.Vorapin

(Champion W.B.O). Sor.Vorapin Gym particularly specializes in providing courses of Thai-boxing (Muay Thai) to foreigners using our own systematic approach. There are skilled coaches and trainers who directly supervise the training at every single step to ensure the quality of our students. Over 1,500 foreign student enrollment annually confirms our popularity and commitment to the best quality. Besides, **Sor.Vorapin** often gains competitions in several international bouts and famous matches in other countries such as U.S.A, Japan, China, France, Philippines, Korea, Australia, Indonesia, etc.

Sor. Vorapin Gyms' Location

At present, Sor.Vorapin has training camps at 2 locations with the same highest quality to conveniently serve foreign Thai boxing students. Students can simply select any of the camps that best suits their needs.

Sor.Vorapin 1 (Trok Kasap Branch)

Located at: 13 Trok Kasap, Jakkapong Rd. Panakorn, BKK Thailand 10200

Sor.Vorapin 2 (Taling Chun Branch)

Located at: 37/15 Moo. 10 Soi Siriwat Suanpak Rd. Talingchun Bangkok 10170

Muay Thai Training in the Past

From a long history of Thailand in building up our country, we have experienced innumerable wars in which our ancestors had to fight person to person with the invaders. It is noticeable that fighting methods of Asian people in the past were focused on personal ability rather than weapon whereas westerners concentrated on the capability of weapons. Self-defensive arts of Asian people have therefore been developed to outdo the Europeans. Especially, almost all of the Thai Kings in history including all warriors had to practice person-to person fighting arts and Muay Thai is one of the arts that made use of bare hands efficiently and fantastically.

Khet Sirryaphai, regarded as a "renowned Muay Thai trainer", often talked to his students while he was living that the plays of Thai children were the basis of Muay Thai practice, ranging from tiptoe (walking on one's toes), tiger across line stream (an attempt to run across a hindrance), etc. These plays are activities which encourage children to exercise and move every part of their bodies. It is in line with the meaning Khet gave on Muay Thai that Muay Thai is an art of fighting from head to feet, both in front and at the back." Besides, Muay Thai is also a martial art that is a fight by arms and wrestling making use of every part of the body as both defensive and offensive tools against opponents. Muay Thai is therefore far beyond the martial art. In studying Muay Thai seriously, you have to know weak points of the body while understanding and learning to master all major weapons. The major techniques or widely called "the nine weapons" consist of 9 effective weapons including 1 head, 2 fists, 2 elbows, 2 knees and 2 feet. Besides, there are other parts of the body that are regarded as weapons in fighting such as 2 shoulders, forearms, and bottom.

It is not so easy to master all major and accessory weapons of Muay Thai. It requires a step-by-step practice and perseverance. However, even with all these techniques, the art of Muay Thai has not yet been achieved because you have to learn its essential principle of defense and attack. The first principle is self-defense, how to defend oneself from being hurt or to avoid the attack of the opponent, no matter it is fist, foot, elbow, knee or others. When having a chance, the second principle will be applied to stop and defeat the opponent efficiently by using head, fists, elbows, knees and kicks. In turning the chance from defending to attacking, there are also techniques of body movement from inside, outside, retreat or approach.

Basic Requirements

- (1) Room to shadowbox (a small garage floor).
- (2) A strong point to hang a punch/kick bag from.
- (3) Places to run, hills, beaches, quiet roads, or the local sports track.
- (4) Punch Bag (1.2m rags filled)
- (5) Speed Ball and/or Punching Ball
- (6) Sit Up Bench
- (7) Chin Up Bar (For arm and stomach exercises and stomach conditioning)
- (8) Old Truck Tire (for bouncing on to build calf muscles and develop balance)
- (9) Ring (in an ideal world and only necessary when planning to fight regularly)
- (10) Mouth Guard
- (11) Hand Wraps
- (12) Boxing Shorts
- (13) Groin Guard
- (14) Good Training Shoes
- (15) Skipping Rope
- (16) Bag Gloves
- (17) Sparring Gloves
- (18) Shin Guards
- (19) Focus Mitts
- (20) Kick Pads
- (21) Stomach Pad or Belly Protector
- (22) Mouth Guard and Groin Protection-Optional

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Data Collection

This research studies and analyzes the attitude of foreign Thai boxing students at Sor.Vorapin Boxing gym. About 100 people who are the students of Sor.Vorapin Gym in Bangkok are interviewed with a designed questionnaire. The details of data collection are as follows:

(a) Population

For sample population collection, there are altogether 130 persons who are students of Sor.Vorapin Gym. They vary in country, age, education and occupation. So, the population is composed of people of different ages, and countries including Thai people, who come to be trained in Thai boxing, International boxing and people who come to use only our fitness facilities during the study period (15 April - 15 August 2002)

(b) Sample

From the total population of 130 persons, the researcher selected only 100 persons to be precise to the target group. The researcher selected only foreign Thai Boxing male students and the age is up to 15 years old.

(c) Questionnaire

The designed questionnaire shown in Appendix B is the instrument for this research. It was designed to ask 100 foreign Thai Boxing students at Sor.Vorapin gym in Bangkok The questionnaire used 7 multiple choices and 24 scale ranking questions

and 1 closed end question. The questionnaire includes 32 questions.

There are 5 parts: The first part is personal data, which consists of 4 questions with multiple choices or closed-end questions. The second part is the question of media or channel exposure, which consists of 2 multiple choices. The third part is the evaluation of attitude and expectation of foreign Thai Boxing students towards Thai boxing training, which consists of 11 ranking scale questions. The fourth part is the evaluation of students' satisfaction with training in Thai Boxing at Sor.Vorapin gym which consists of 9 ranking scale questions and 1 multiple choice. The fifth part is the evaluation of the advantages of Thai Boxing training, which consists of 4 ranking scale questions.

3.2 Implementation and Procedure

The researcher asked permission from the owner of Sor.Vorapin Boxing gym to distribute the designed questionnaires to all the foreign Thai Boxing students of Sor.Vorapin Gym. After getting permission, the researcher distributed the questionnaires to the foreign Thai Boxing students who finished their training on that day. It took about 5-10 minutes to finish the questionnaire for each person. The data-collecting step took about 4-5 months during April — August 2002. The details of the questionnaire served as an interview checklist and respondents were asked to answer the questions, as shown in Appendix B.

3.3 Data Analysis

This research obtains the results for each question by using SPSS/PC program. After getting the answer, the following methods were used to analyze each question:

- (a) Percentage is the way to determine how many respondents answer each

question in the form of percentage (%) so that researcher can easily analyze each question.

- (b) Frequency is the way to determine how many respondents answer each Question in the form of the number of respondents who answer each question.
- (c) Mean is the method used in ranking each question in order to get all the average of the respondent who ranks each question, Mean is defined as the arithmetic average (Crask, Fox and Stout 1995). Data analysis will be used to analyze the data as shown in the following chapter.



IV. SYSTEM EVALUATION

4.1 Overview

This chapter describes the analysis of the results and discussion of the finding for this study, which mainly focused on the respondents' opinion towards Muay Thai training at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym. The data collection is separated into 2 categories.

- (1) Collecting data by tallying each answer of multiple choice questions.
- (2) Collecting data by analyzing the answers to the ranking scale questions.

4.2 Analysis of Results

This questionnaire has 5 parts:

- (1) General information
- (2) Evaluation of foreign Muay Thai training students toward media exposure
- (3) Evaluation of foreign Muay Thai training students' attitude
- (4) Evaluation of Muay Thai training satisfaction
- (5) Evaluation of Muay Thai training advantage

After distributing this questionnaire to the students of Sor.Vorapin gym, the data gathered from 100 respondents is described in the following subsection.

4.2.1 General Data

This part of the questionnaire consists of multiple choice questions that ask about the background of the respondents which consists of nationality, age, marital status, occupation, and education.

Table 4.1. Personal Data of Respondents: Nationality, Age, Marital Status, Occupation, Education.

	Topic	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Nationality		
	Europe	48	48%
	Asia	37	37%
	Australia	6	6%
	America	9	9%
	Total	100	100%
2.	Age		
	15-20 years	2	2%
	21-25 years	42	42%
	26-30 years	35	35%
	31 years up	21	21%
	Total	100	100%
3.	Marital Status		
	Married	92	92%
	Single	8	8%
	Total	100	100%
4.	Occupation		
	Student	25	25%
	Employee	41	41%
	State officer	5	5%
	Business owner	14	14%
	Non-Employment	15	15%
	Total	100	100%
5.	Education		
	Primary School	5	5%
	High School	37	37%
	Bachelor Degree	44	44%
	Master Degree	14	14%
	Total	100	100%

(1) Nationality: Table 4.1 shows that most of the students of Sor.Vorapin gym come from Europe continent. From the survey of 100 respondents, who studied Muay Thai, there are 48 respondents who come from Europe continent (48%), 37 respondents from Asia continent (37 %), 6 respondents from Australia continent (6%) and 9 respondents from America continent (9%).

- (2) Age: Table 4.1 shows that the majority of respondents are in the range of age between 21-25 years old comprising 42 respondents (42%). The range of age between 15-20 years old comprising 2 respondents (2%). The range of age between 26-30 years old comprising 35 respondents (35%) and older than 31 years old comprising 21 respondents (21%). From the result, it shows that most of the students are aged between 21-25 years old and the second are 26-30 years old.
- (3) Marital Status: Table 4.1 shows that most of the students of Sor.Vorapin gym are single which comprises 92 respondents (92%). There are 8 respondents (8%) who are married and no one is divorced.
- (4) Occupation: Table 4.1 shows that the majority of respondents are employees, which comprises 41 respondents (41%). There are 25 respondents (25%) who are students. There are 15 respondents (15%) who are non-employees. There are 14 respondents (14%) who are business owners and there are only 5 respondents (5%) who work in Government sector.
- (5) Education: Table 4.1 shows that the highest education the majority respondents have Bachelor degree, which comprises 44 respondents (44%). There are 37 respondents (37%) who finished high school, 14 respondents (14%) who finished master degree and 5 respondents (5%) who finished primary school.

4.2.2 The evaluation of foreign Muay Thai training students toward media exposure. This part of the questionnaire consists of multiple choice questions from which the respondents can select more than one answer. The details are presented in graphic and tabulation form as follows:

Para / Question 1

How do you know Muay Thai ? (more than 1 answer is allowed)

- (a) Book/Magazine
- (b) TV
- (c) Word of Mouth
- (d) Internet / Web Site
- (e) Walk in
- (f) Poster/Billboard
- (g) Tour Agency
- (h) Other

Table 4.2. Channels of Muay Thai Exposure.

How do you know Muay Thai?	Frequency	Percent
(a)	51	25.6
(b)	44	22.1
(c)	55	27.6
(d)	16	8.0
(e)	18	9.0
(f)	6	3.0
(g)	2	1.0
(h)	7	3.5
Total	199	100.0

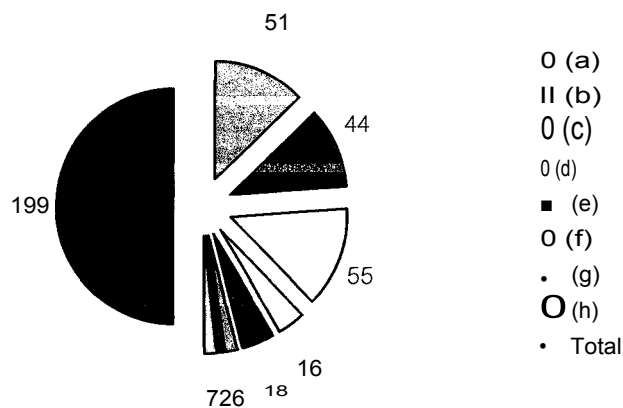


Figure 4.1. Channels of Muay Thai Exposure.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the media that regarding Muay Thai, it shows that most respondents know Muay Thai from word of mouth (27.6%) 55 respondents, the second is from books and magazines 25.6% (51 respondents), the third is from TV. 22.1% (44 respondents), the fourth is from walk into the gym 9% (18 respondents), the fifth is from Internet / web site 8% (16 respondents), the sixth is from others 3.5% (7 respondents), the seventh is from poster / bill board 3% (6 respondents) and the last one is from tour agency 1% (2 respondents).

Part2 / Question 2

How do you know Sor.Vorapin Gym ? (more than 1 answer is allowed)

- (a) Book/Magazine
- (b) TV
- (c) Word of Mouth
- (d) Internet / Web Site
- (e) Walk in
- (I) Poster/Billboard

- (g) Tour Agency
- (h) Other

Table 4.3. Channels of Sor.Vorapin Gym Exposure.

How do you know Sor.Vorapin gym?	Frequency	Percent
(a)	32	24.2
(b)	2	1.5
(c)	47	35.6
(d)	7	5.3
(e)	33	25.0
(l)	3	2.3
(g)	3	2.3
(h)	5	3.8
Total	132	100.0

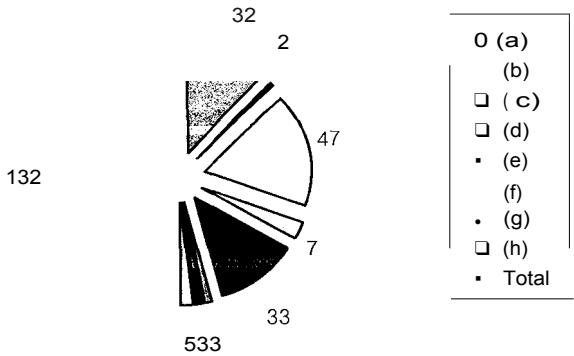


Figure 4.2. Channels of Sor..Vorapin Gym Exposure.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the media regarding Sor.Vorapin Gym, it shows that most respondents know Sor.Vorapin Gym from word of mouth (35.6%) 47 respondents, the second is from walk into the gym 25.0% (33 respondents), the third is from books and magazines 24.2% (32 respondents), the fourth is from Internet / web site 5.3% (7 respondents), the fifth is from others 3.8% (5 respondents),the sixth is from poster / bill board 2.3% (3 respondents) and tour agency 2.3% (3 respondents) and the last one is from T.V. 1.5% (2 respondents).

Part 3 / Question 1

Please mark your answer in the blank provided which is the closest to your opinion.

- (1) Muay Thai is not too difficult for training
- (2) Muay Thai is suitable only for men
- (3) Muay Thai is the best martial art of the world.
- (4) Elbows should be allowed in Muay Thai competition
- (5) Muay Thai in your country is increasingly popular.

Table 4.4. Attitude of Foreign Students toward Muay Thai.

	Least Agree		Less Agree		Fair		Much Agree		Most Agree
	Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy
(1)	10	10.0	14	14.0	32	32.0	21	21.0	23
(2)	52	52.0	25	25.0	14	14.0	5	5.0	4
(3)	1	1.0	9	9.0	32	32.0	22	22.0	36
(4)	2	2.0	5	5.0	28	28.0	14	14.0	51
(5)	1	1.0	10	10.0	34	34.0	29	29.0	26

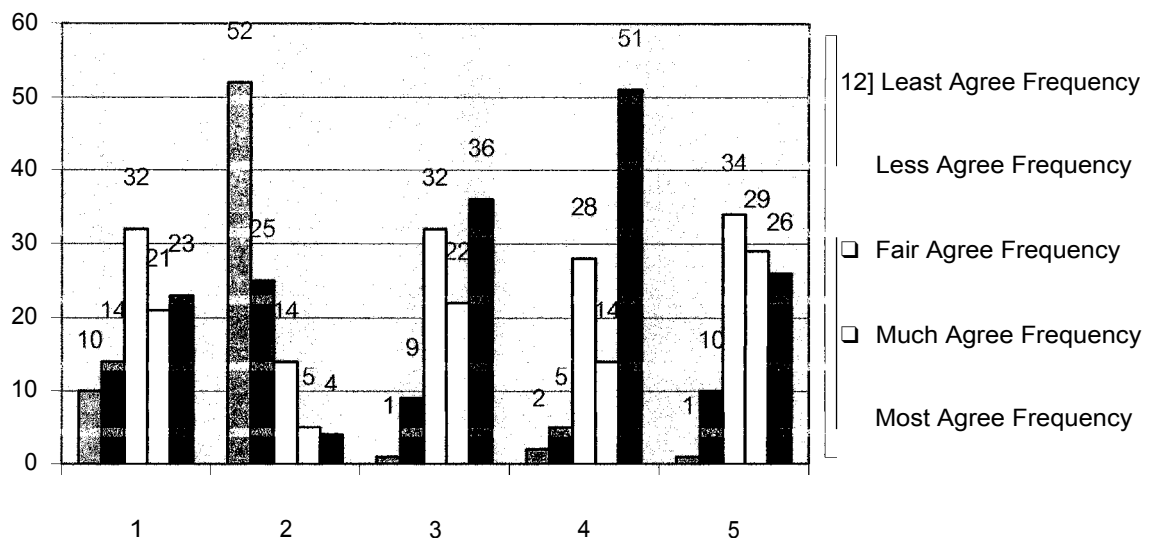


Figure 4.3. Attitude of Foreign Students toward Muay Thai.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the attitude that Muay Thai is not too difficult for training, there are 23 respondents who answer most agree. There are 21 respondents who answer much agree. There are 32 respondents who answer fair. There are 14 respondents who answer less agree and there are 10 respondents who answer least agree. From the table it can be said that the number of respondents who answer agree is equal to the respondents who answer most agree plus much agree answer. That is 21 plus 23 respondents, therefore 44 respondents are respondents who answer agree while respondents who answer not agree are 10 plus 14 which is equal to 24. It can be concluded that most respondents think that Muay Thai is not too difficult for training

From the interview with 100 respondents about the attitude that Muay Thai is suitable only for men, there are only 4 respondents who answer most agree. There are 5 respondents who answer much agree. There are 14 respondents who answer fair. There are 25 respondents who answer less agree and there are 52 respondents who answer least agree. Therefore, respondents who answer agree are equal to 9 respondents while

respondents who answer not agree are equal to 77 respondents. It can be concluded that most respondents think that Muay Thai is not suitable only for men.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the attitude that Muay Thai is the best martial art of the world, there are 36 respondents who answer most agree. There are 22 respondents who answer much agree. There are 32 respondents who answer fair. There are 9 respondents who answer less agree and there is only 1 respondent who answer least agree. Therefore, respondents who answer agree are equal to 58 respondents while respondents who answer not agree are equal to 10 respondents. It can be concluded that most respondents think that Muay Thai is the best martial art of the world.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the attitude that the elbows should be allowed in Muay Thai competition or not, there are 51 respondents who answer most agree. There are 14 respondents who answer much agree. There are 28 respondents who answer fair. There are 5 respondents who answer less agree and there are only 2 respondents who answer least agree. Therefore, respondents who answer agree are equal to 65 respondents while respondents who answer not agree are equal to 7 respondents. It can be concluded that most respondents think that elbows should be allowed in Muay Thai competition.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the attitude that Muay Thai in your country is increasingly popular or not, there are 26 respondents who answer most agree. There are 29 respondents who answer much agree. There are 34 respondents who answer fair. There are 10 respondents who answer less agree and there is only 1 respondent who answers least agree. Therefore, respondents who answer agree are equal to 55 respondents while respondents who answer not agree are equal to 11 respondents.

It can be concluded that most respondents think that Muay Thai in their countries is increasingly popular.

Part 3 / Question 2

Please mark your answer in the blank space provided which is the closest to your opinion about expectation from Muay Thai training.

- (1) To exercise
- (2) To get a real Muay Thai training
- (3) To be a Thai boxing professional
- (4) To learn Thai culture
- (5) To lose weight
- (6) To apply as self defense

Table 4.5. Expectation of Foreign Muay Thai Students toward the Training.

	Least expected	Less expected	Fair expected	Much expected	Most expected	Mean
(1)	0(0%)	0(0%)	11(11%)	35(35%)	54(54%)	4.43
(2)	1(1%)	4(4%)	15(15%)	25(25%)	55(55%)	4.29
(3)	26(26%)	30(30%)	14(14%)	16(16%)	14(14%)	2.62
(4)	4(4%)	7(7%)	36(36%)	31(31%)	22(22%)	3.6
(5)	12(12%)	11(11%)	26(26%)	27(27%)	24(24%)	3.4
(6)	2(2%)	8(8%)	34(34%)	35(35%)	21(21%)	3.65

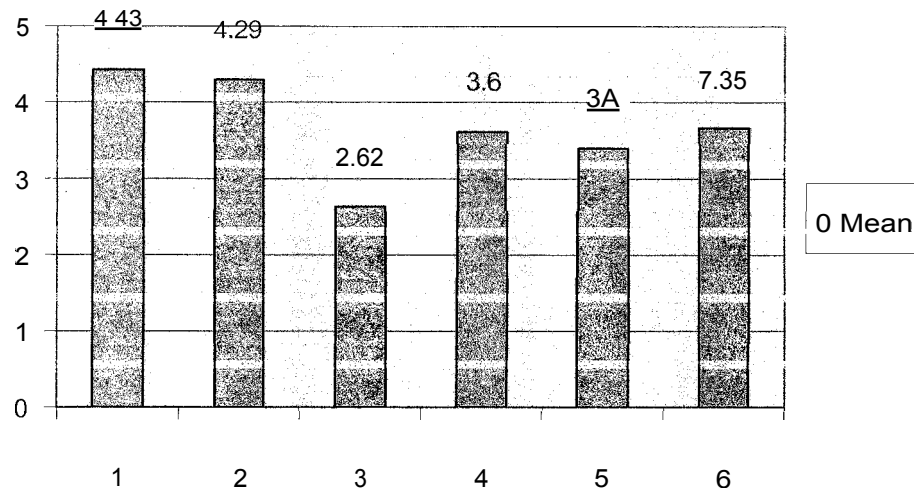


Figure 4.4. Expectation of Foreign Muay Thai Students toward the Training.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the criterion that foreign Thai boxing students expect from Muay Thai training at Sor. Vorapin gym, it shows that the majority of respondents expect the training for exercise. There are 54 respondents who answer most expected. The second criterion expectation is to get a real Muay Thai training which comprises 55 respondents who answer most expected. The third criterion is to apply as self defense which comprises 35 respondents who answer much expected. The fourth criterion is to learn Thai culture which comprises 36 respondents who answer fair expected. The fifth criterion is to lose weight which comprises 27 respondents who answer much expected. The last criterion is to be a Thai boxing professional which comprises 30 respondents who answer less expected.

Part 4 / Question 1

Please mark your answer in the blank provided which is the closest to your opinion.

- (1) Your satisfaction towards learning Muay Thai technique from our trainers.
- (2) The adequacy of our boxing equipment
- (3) Training Fee 300 Baht/Session

- (4) Your satisfaction towards the class mates.
- (5) Your safety during the training
- (6) Location of the gym.

Table 4.6. Level of Satisfaction of Muay Thai Students.

	Least Satisfied	Less Satisfied	Moderate Satisfied	Much Satisfied	Most Satisfied	Mean
(1)	0(0%)	3(3%)	10(10%)	35(35%)	52(52%)	4.36
(2)	0(0%)	4(4%)	19(19%)	38(38%)	39(39%)	4.12
(3)	4(4%)	13(13%)	39(39%)	23(23%)	21(21%)	3.44
(4)	1(1%)	1(1%)	14(14%)	39(39%)	45(45%)	4.26
(5)	0(0%)	3(3%)	17(17%)	33(33%)	47(47%)	4.24
(6)	0(0%)	3(3%)	9(9%)	24(24%)	64(64%)	4.49

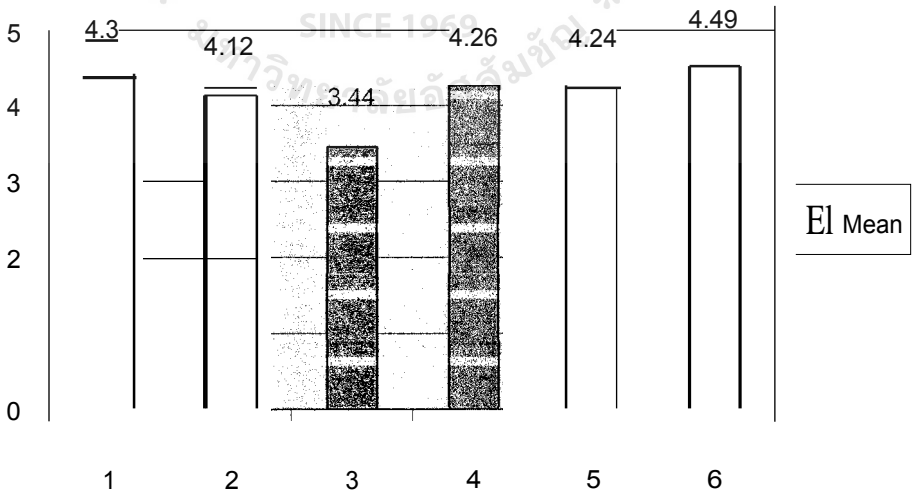


Figure 4.5. Level of Satisfaction of Muay Thai Students.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the criterion that foreign Thai boxing students' satisfaction of Muay Thai training at Sor. Vorapin gym, it shows that the majority of the respondents are satisfied with the Gym location. There are 64 respondents who answer most satisfied. The second criterion satisfaction is the satisfaction towards learning Muay Thai Technique from the trainers which comprises 52 respondents who answer most satisfied. The third criterion is the satisfaction towards class mates which comprises 45 respondents who answer most satisfied. The fourth criterion is the satisfaction towards safety during training which comprises 47 respondents who answer most satisfied. The last criterion is the satisfaction towards training fee which comprises 39 respondents who answer moderate satisfied.

Part 4 / Question 2

Which is the most convenient time for you to train ?

- (1) 7.30 - 10.30 AM
- (2) 12.00 - 3.00 PM
- (3) 3.00 - 6.00 PM *
- (4) 6.00 - 9.00 PM

Table 4.7. Most Convenient Time for the Training of Students.

Time	Frequency	Percent
(1)	25	25.0
(2)	9	9.0
(3)	52	52.0
(4)	14	14.0
Total	100	100.0

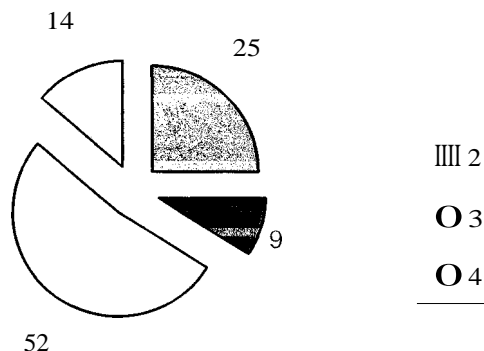


Figure 4.6. Most Convenient Time for the Training of Students.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the time which is the most convenient for training, it shows that 52% (52 respondents) answer that the time between 3.00-6.00 PM is the most convenient time for training. The second convenient time for training is the time between 7.30-10.30 AM. which comprises 25 % (25 respondents). The third convenient time for training is the time between 6.00-9.00 PM which comprises 14% (14 respondents) and the fourth convenient time for training is the time between 12.00-3.00 PM. which comprises 9% (9 respondents).

Part 4 / Question 3

Please rank the level of Muay weapon in which you are interested.

(4 is most interested, 3 is much, 2 is fair, 1 is least interested)

- (1) Punch
- (2) Elbow
- (3) Kick
- (4) Knee

Table 4.8. Interesting of Students toward Muay Thai Weapons.

	Least Interested	Fair interested	Much Interested	Most Interested	Total
(1)	52(52%)	20(20%)	16(16%)	12(12%)	100(100%)
(2)	25(25%)	33(33%)	24(24%)	18(18%)	100(100%)
(3)	5(5%)	22(22%)	24(24%)	49(49%)	100(100%)
(4)	18(18%)	25(25%)	36(36%)	21(21%)	100(100%)
Total	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	

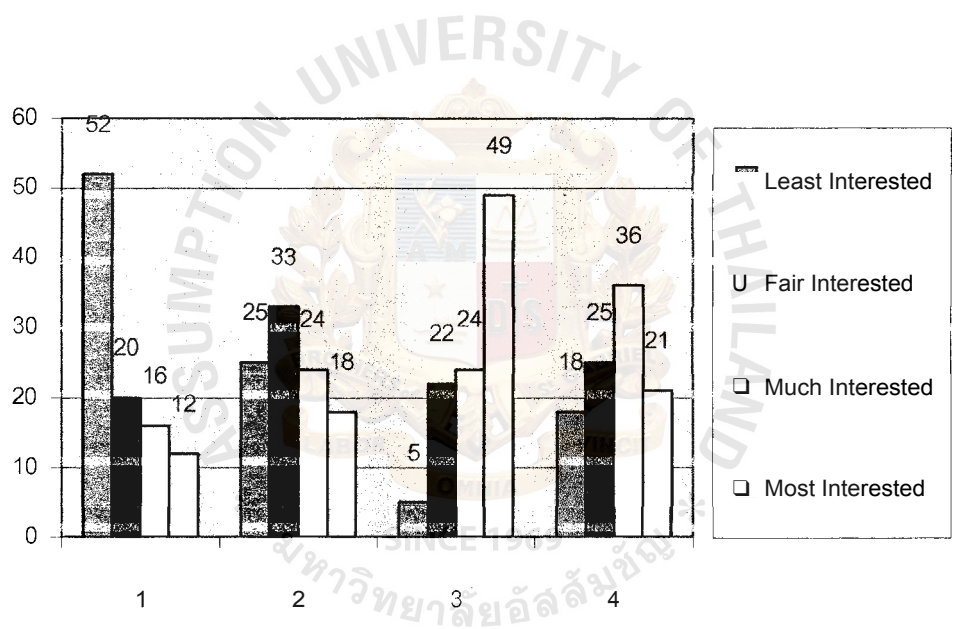


Figure 4.7. Interesting of Students toward Muay Thai Weapons.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the level of Muay Thai weapons which are interested by the respondents, it shows that 12 respondents answer punch is the most interested, 16 respondents answer punch is much interested, 20 respondents answer punch is fair interested and 52 respondents answer punch is the least interested. As to the elbow, it shows that 18 respondents answer elbow is the most interested, 24

respondents answer elbow is much interested, 33 respondents answer elbow is fair interested and 25 respondents answer elbow is the least interested. As to the kick, it shows that 49 respondents answer kick is the most interested, 24 respondents answer kick is much interested, 22 respondents answer kick is fair interested and 5 respondents answer kick is the least interested. As to the knee, it shows that 21 respondents answer knee is the most interested, 36 respondents answer knee is much interested, 25 respondents answer knee is fair interested and 18 respondents answer knee is the least interested. From the table it can be said that the majority of respondents who answer that the most interested in Muay Thai weapons is kick, which comprises 49 respondents. The second interested weapons of Muay Thai is knee, which comprises 21 respondents. The third interested weapons of Muay Thai is elbow, which comprises 18 respondents and the fourth interested weapons of Muay Thai is punch, which comprises 12 respondents.

Part 4 / Question 4

Please rank the level of Muay weapon that you think is the most powerful to least powerful. (4 is most powerful, 3 is much, 2 is fair, 1 is least powerful)

- (1) Punch
- (2) Elbow
- (3) Kick
- (4) Knee

Table 4.9. Students' Attitude toward the Power of Muay Thai' Weapons.

	Least powerful	Fair powerful	Much powerful	Most powerful	Total
(1)	48(48%)	18(18%)	16(16%)	18(18%)	100(100%)
(2)	23(23%)	33(33%)	17(17%)	27(27%)	100(100%)
(3)	13(13%)	18(18%)	38(38%)	31(31%)	100(100%)
(4)	16(16%)	31(31%)	29(29%)	24(24%)	100(100%)
Total	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	

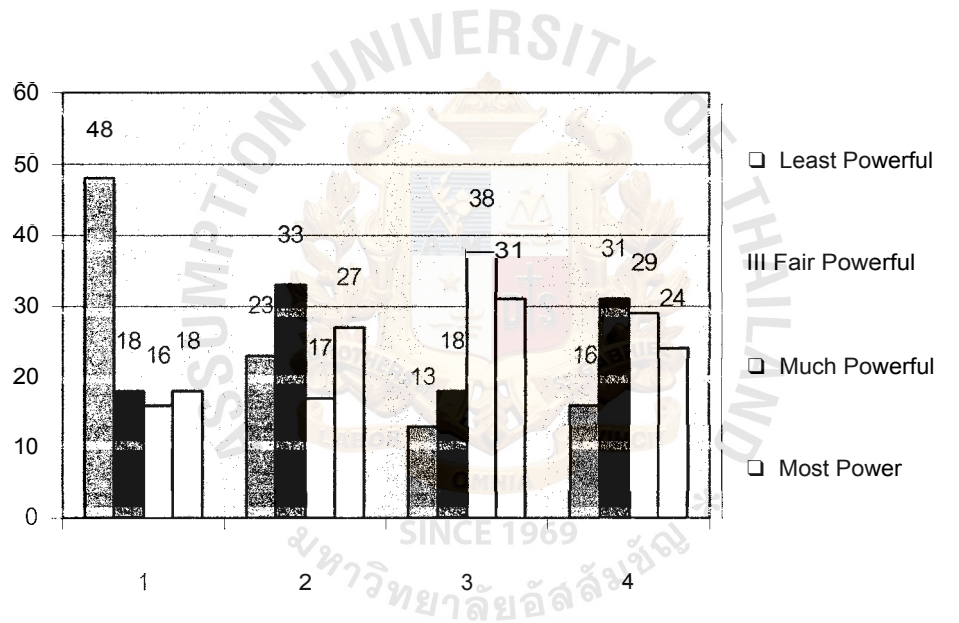


Figure 4.8. Students' Attitude toward the Power of Muay Thai' Weapons.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the level of Muay Thai weapons which are powerful, it shows that 18 respondents answer punch is the most powerful, 16 respondents answer punch is much powerful, 18 respondents answer punch is fair powerful and 48 respondents answer punch is the least powerful. As to the elbow, it shows that 27 respondents answer elbow is the most powerful, 17 respondents answer elbow is much powerful, 33 respondents answer elbow is fair powerful and 23

respondents answer elbow is the least powerful. As to the kick, it shows that 31 respondents answer kick is the most powerful, 38 respondents answer kick is much powerful, 18 respondents answer kick is fair powerful and 13 respondents answer kick is the least powerful. As to the knee, it shows that 24 respondents answer knee is the most powerful, 29 respondents answer knee is much powerful, 31 respondents answer knee is fair powerful and 16 respondents answer knee is the least powerful. From the table, it can be said that the majority of respondents who answer that the most powerful weapon of Muay Thai is kick, which comprises 31 respondents. The second powerful weapon of Muay Thai is elbow, which comprises 27 respondents. The third powerful weapon of Muay Thai is knee, which comprises 24 respondents and the fourth powerful weapon of Muay Thai is punch, which comprises 18 respondents.

Part 4 / Question 5

Please rank the level of Muay weapon that you think is the most difficult to least difficult. (4 is most difficult, 3 is much, 2 is fair, 1 is least difficult)

- (5) Punch
- (6) Elbow
- (7) Kick
- (8) Knee

Table 4.10. Students' Attitude Toward the Difficulty of Muay Thai Weapons.

	Least difficult	Fair difficult	Much difficult	Most difficult	Total
(1)	68(68%)	14(14%)	8(8%)	10(10%)	100(100%)
(2)	16(16%)	40(40%)	28(28%)	16(16%)	100(100%)
(3)	4(4%)	27(27%)	23(23%)	46(46%)	100(100%)
(4)	12(12%)	19(19%)	41(41%)	28(28%)	100(100%)
Total	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	100(100%)	

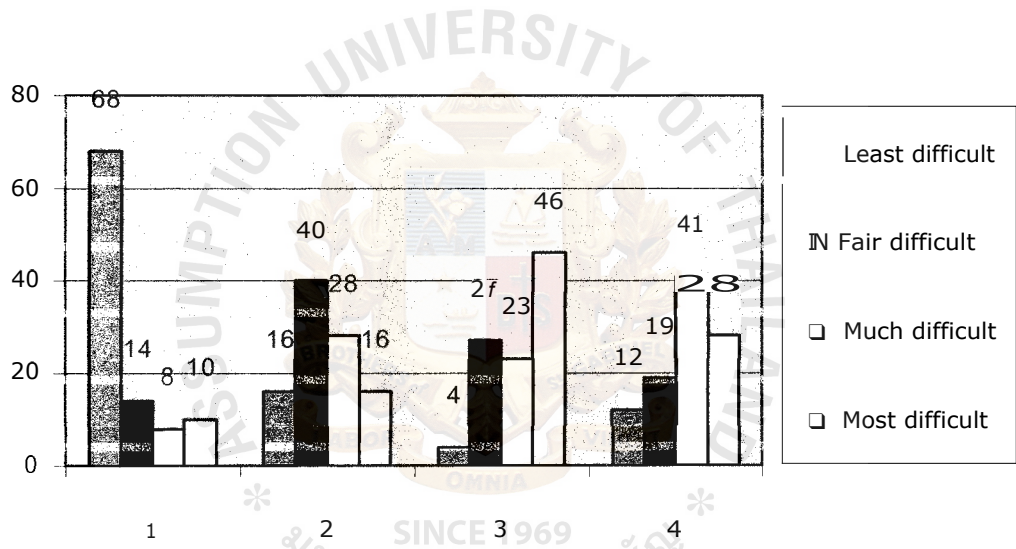


Figure 4.9. Students' Attitude Toward the Difficulty of Muay Thai Weapons.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the difficulty level of Muay Thai, it shows that 10 respondents answer punch is the most difficult, 8 respondents answer punch is much difficult, 14 respondents answer punch is fair difficult and 68 respondents answer punch is the least difficult. As to the elbow, it shows that 16 respondents answer elbow is the most difficult, 28 respondents answer elbow is much difficult, 40 respondents answer elbow is fair difficult and 16 respondents answer elbow is the least difficult. As to the kick, it shows that 46 respondents answer kick is the most

difficult, 23 respondents answer kick is much difficult, 27 respondents answer kick is fair difficult and 4 respondents answer kick is the least difficult. As to the knee, it shows that 28 respondents answer knee is the most difficult, 41 respondents answer knee is much difficult, 19 respondents answer knee is fair difficult and 12 respondents answer knee is the least difficult. From the table, it can be said that the majority of respondents who answer that the most difficult weapon of Muay Thai is kick, which comprises 46 respondents. The second difficult weapon of Muay Thai is knee, which comprises 28 respondents. The third difficult weapon of Muay Thai is elbow, which comprises 16 respondents and the fourth difficult weapon of Muay Thai is punch, which comprises 10 respondents.

Part 5 / Question 1

Please mark your answer in the blank space provided which is the closest to your opinion.

- (1) Knowledge of Muay Thai can be used as self defense.
- (2) Muay Thai training makes you have more self confidence.
- (3) Muay Thai training can help you release tension.
- (4) Muay Thai training makes you strong and healthy.

Table 4.11.. Benefits from Muay Thai Training.

	Most agree	Much agree	Moderate agree	Less agree	Least agree	Mean
(1)	61(61%)	30(30%)	9(9%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	4.52
(2)	58(58%)	30(30%)	12(12%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	4.46
(3)	58(58%)	29(29%)	13(13%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	4.45
(4)	79(79%)	16(16%)	5(5%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	4.74

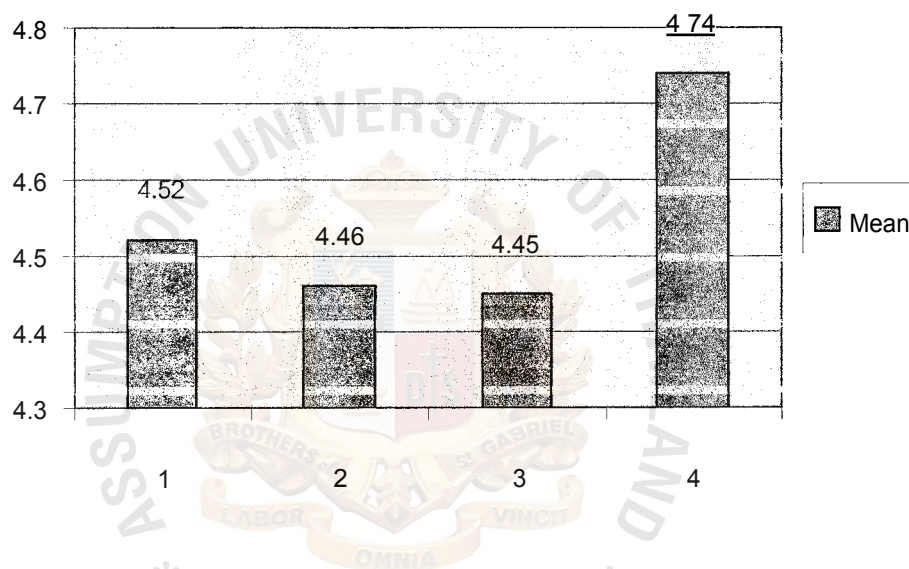


Figure 4.10. Benefits from Muay Thai Training.

From the interview with 100 respondents about the benefit of Muay Thai training at Sor. Vorapin gym, it shows that the majority of respondents think that the major benefit of Muay Thai training is that it makes the respondents strong and healthy. There are 79 respondents who answer most agree. The second criterion benefit is the knowledge of Muay Thai can be used as self defense which comprises 61 respondents who answer most agree. The third criterion benefit is Muay Thai training makes the respondents have more self confident which comprises 58 respondents who answer most

agree. The fourth criterion benefit is Muay Thai can help the respondents release tension which comprises 58 respondents who answer most agree.



V. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS AND ANSWER TO THE STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

5.1 Discussion of Findings

After the survey and analysis, the researcher finds that most of the respondents (48%) are foreign Muay Thai students from Europe who are aged between 21-25 years old and (92%) single. These students are (41%) employees with a Bachelor's degree which comprising 44%. Most respondents (27.6%) got to know Muay Thai from word of mouth while (25.6%) got to know Muay Thai from books and magazines and (22.1%) from television. Most respondents (47%) got to know Sor.Vorapin gym from word of mouth while (33%) got to know Sor.Vorapin gym from walk in and (32%) from books and magazines. Most respondents agree that Muay Thai is not too difficult for training but do not agree that Muay Thai is suitable only for men. Most respondents agree that Muay Thai is the best martial art of the world and elbows should be allowed in Muay Thai competition and Muay Thai is increasingly popular in their point of view. It means that word of mouth has the most influence in knowing about Muay Thai and Sor.Vorapin gym; therefore we should maintain that about Muay Thai in their point of view and increase other channels of advertising media in order to increase their awareness.

The main reason that respondents take training in Muay Thai is to exercise. The second reason is they want to get to know the real Muay Thai and the third reason is they want to apply Muay Thai as self defense. It means that the respondents are very concerned about exercise and think that Muay Thai is a good way for them to exercise. They expect to get to know the real Muay Thai and at the same time, it can be a kind of self defense as well.

Most respondents are satisfied with the gym location because it is located in the centre of Bangkok and it is easy to find and come to the gym. The second satisfaction is knowledge of Muay Thai technique from trainers while the fifth and sixth satisfactions are the adequacy of boxing equipment and the training fee respectively. It can be expressed that the gym owner should consider providing more boxing equipment at the gym and reconsider about the training fee. Most respondents think that the time during 3.00-6.00 is the best time for training. Muay Thai weapon which the respondents think is the most interesting, most powerful and most difficult is the kick because it is the main weapon of Muay Thai which is very powerful but very difficult for foreign students because they are not familiar with the method of Thai kick before.

Most respondents think that Muay Thai training makes them strong and healthy. The second reason is they think that knowledge of Muay Thai can be applied as self defense.

5.2 Answers to Statements of the Problem

Referring to the statements of the problem at the beginning of this project, the answers are as follows:

- (1) What is the major media or channel that makes foreign Thai Boxing students know Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym?

From the questionnaire, most respondents (47%) answered that they know Sor.Vorapin gym from word of mouth. The second is walk in (33%) because the location of the gym is located near tourist place (Khaosan Road) and the gym is a passageway of these foreigners to Khaosan Road. The third is from books or magazines (32%) because the gym catches a lot of attention from foreigners, many of books and magazines have published articles about the gym including Lonely Planet guidebook.

- (2) What is the purpose of training Thai Boxing?

From the questionnaire, the main purpose of Muay Thai training of foreign Muay Thai training students at Sor.Vorapin gym is to exercise. The second expectation is they want to get to know a real Muay Thai training. The third expectation is they want to apply Muay Thai as self defense. It means that the respondents concern very much to exercise and think that Muay Thai is a good way for them to exercise. They expect to get to know the real Muay Thai training and at the same time, because it can be a kind of their self defense as well. The fourth is to learn Thai culture. The fifth is to lose weight. The last priority of their purpose is being a Thai Boxing professional.

- (3) What is the most satisfied down to least satisfied towards learning Muay Thai at Sor.Vorapin Gym?

From the questionnaire, most respondents select the gym's location as their most satisfied because the gym is easy to find and access to the gym. The second satisfaction is knowledge of Muay Thai technique from trainers that because the Sor.Vorapin's trainers are mostly the former Muay Thai champion, therefore they can teach all of Muay Thai technique as indeed professional. The third is satisfaction towards their class mates. The fourth is satisfaction towards their safety during training. The fifth and sixth satisfaction are the adequacy of boxing equipment and the training fee respectively. It can be expressed that the gym owner should consider to provide more boxing equipment at the gym and reconsider again about the price.

- (4) What is the Thai Boxing weapon that foreign Thai Boxing students are interested most?

From the questionnaire, the Muay Thai weapon which the respondents

are most interested in is the kick(49%). The kick is the main weapon and highlight of Muay Thai which is very attractive with power but it is very difficult for foreign students because they are not familiar with the method of Thai kick before. The second most interested in is the knee (21%) because the knee is totally different from other martial arts and it is very powerful and effective if the users use it correctly.

Are there different attitude towards Muay Thai between students from Europe against Asia?

- (1) Muay Thai is not too difficult to training
- (2) Muay Thai in your country is increasing popular
- (3) Satisfaction towards learning Muay Thai technique
- (4) Satisfaction towards training fee 300 Bahti Session

The reason that why we select only the students from Europe and Asia because the result of research shown that the majority of foreign Thai boxing students are from Europe and Asia (48% and 37%) respectively which (1 means least agree / satisfied, 2 is less, 3 is fair, 4 is much and 5 is most agree / satisfied)

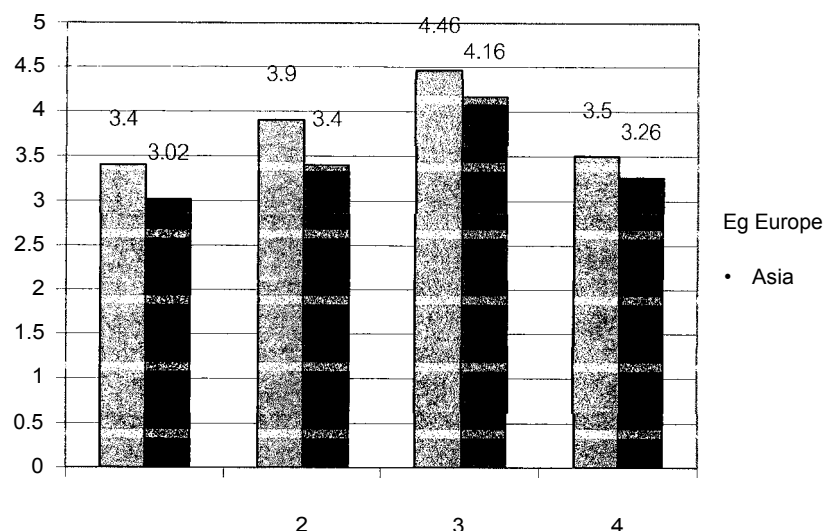


Figure 5.1. The Different Attitude between Europe and Asia.

From the interview with respondents from Europe and Asia about their attitude towards "Muay Thai is not too difficult to training" It shows that the students from Europe has more agree than the Asia by mean 3.4 : 3.02 respectively. The result of interview about "Muay Thai in your country is increasing popular" It shows that students from Europe has more agree than the Asia by mean 3.9: 3.4 respectively. The investigation of students about their satisfaction towards learning Muay thai technique. Is shows that students from Europe has more satisfied than the Asia by mean 4.46: 4.16 respectively. The satisfaction towards training fee 300 Bahts / session. It shows that students from Europe has more satisfied than the Asia by mean 3.5: 3.2 respectively.

It shows that students from Europe has more agree than the Asia by mean 3.9: 3.4 respectively. The investigation of students about their satisfaction towards learning Muay thai technique. Is shows that students from Europe has more satisfied than the Asia by mean 4.46: 4.16 respectively. The satisfaction towards training fee 300 Baht / session. It shows that students from Europe has

more satisfied than the Asia by mean 3.5: 3.2 respectively.

(6) How is different attitude of Europe and Asia towards expectation of Muay Thai training ⁹

- (1) To exercise
- (2) To get real Muay Thai training
- (3) To be professional
- (4) To learn Thai culture
- (5) To lose weight
- (6) To apply as self defense

The reason that why we select only the students from Europe and Asia because the result of research shown that the majority of foreign Thai boxing students are from Europe and Asia (48 % and 37%) respectively which (1 means least agree / satisfied, 2 is less, 3 is fair, 4 is much and 5 is most agree / satisfied)

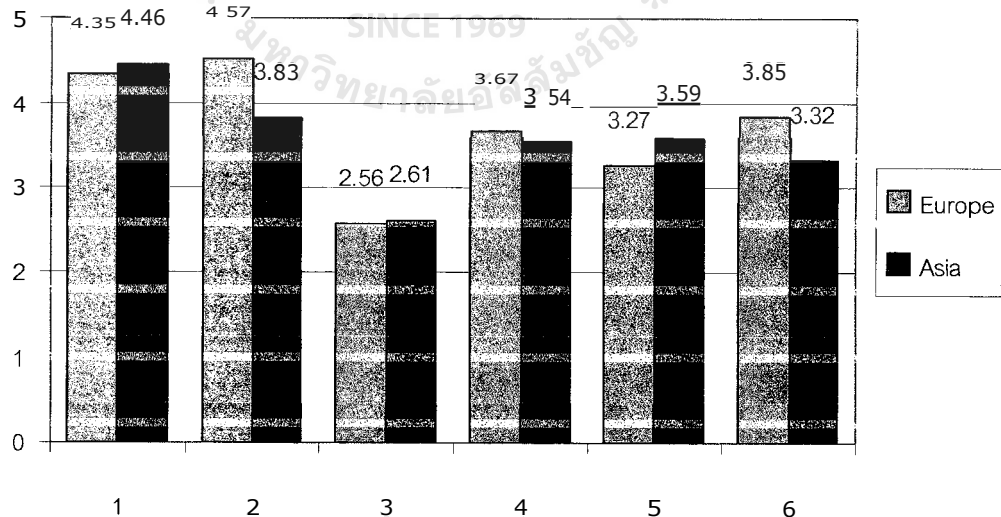


Figure 5.2. The Different Training Expectation between Europe and Asia.

From the interview with respondents from Europe and Asia about their Training expectation towards Muay Thai. It shows that the students from Europe has expected their training for exercise less than the Asia by mean 4.35: 4.46 respectively. European expected their training to get real Muay Thai training more than Asian by mean 4.52 : 3.83 respectively. European expected their training to be real a professional less than Asian by mean 2.56 : 2.61 respectively. European expected their training to learning Thai culture more than Asian by mean 3.67 : 3.54 respectively. European expected their training to losing weight less than Asian by mean 3.27: 3.59 respectively and European expected their training to applying as self defense more than Asian by mean 3.85: 3.32 respectively.



VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Research Summary

This research is a study on "The attitude of foreign Thai Boxing students toward the study of Thai boxing at Sor.Vorapin boxing camp" The researcher designed a questionnaire used as a guideline to interview 100 respondents who are Muay Thai students of Sor.Vorapin gym.

After the survey and analysis, the researcher found that most foreign students come from Europe and Asia. Most of them know Muay Thai and Sor. Vorapin gym from the word of mouth approach. They think that Muay Thai is not difficult to learn. Therefore women are suitable to learn it too. Most of them think that Muay Thai in their countries is becoming increasingly popular. They are concerned about exercise activity and think that Muay Thai is a good way to do exercise and at the same time they can get benefit from applying it as self defense. They are very satisfied with the location of the gym because it is easy to find and access. They are also very satisfied with Muay Thai technique from trainers while the satisfaction of adequacy of boxing equipment is not too much. Absolutely, most foreign Muay Thai students chose the kick as their most interested Muay Thai weapon and think that it is the most powerful but in their opinion the kick is also the most difficult for them to practice. The best benefit from Muay Thai training in their opinion is that it makes them strong and healthy and the second is Muay Thai can be used as self defense.

6.2 Applied Benefits of the Research

(1) Thai Boxing Gym

This research will be benefit to Thai boxing gyms in order to improve their gyms and know how to satisfy the right requirement of their customers and someone who wants to establish a new Thai boxing Gym, they can use all kind of information in this research for tracking the way to satisfy customers.

(2) Franchise

Thai Boxing gym is being popular in many countries. However, everyone knows that Thailand is the original place for Thai boxing. Students still want to learn Muay Thai with a famous gym in Thailand. Therefore, some famous gyms have other branches or franchise in other countries. The entrepreneur can use information in this research to understand customer' requirement correctly.

(3) Selling Boxing Equipment

Every Thai boxing gym in the world usually use boxing equipment which produced in Thailand because they have trusted in quality of equipment and affordable price. Boxing equipment is necessary for Thai boxing training For example, if we have many branches abroad. It means that we can sell Thai boxing equipment to their gyms or even other gyms.

(4) Overseas Fight

Whenever there are many gyms in that country, therefore there are a lot of Thai boxing students. Many competition programs will be taken place to proof their abilities. A lot of Thai boxers were sent to

several countries each month to proof those students in grand competition with high purse for boxers.

(5) Thai boxing Training CD.

This research has a lot of useful information about the training. Therefore, we know about the basic requirement for training and the way to train beginner up to advance. In the future, we can produce Thai boxing training CD for selling to everyone who wants to learn Muay Thai even they are just beginner or advance level. Even they will stay in another part of the world but we can use the same Thai boxing training scheme

6.3 Further Recommendations

From the analysis and research, the researcher found many obstacles in doing this research.

- (1) Some foreign Muay Thai students can not do the questionnaire because they can not understand English language such as some people who come from France, Holland, Switzerland or Japan. Therefore, a lot of students of Sor. Vorapin gym denied to do the questionnaire.
- (2) Since there are not much researchers who do research about Muay Thai, it is difficult for the researcher to get guidelines and to search for information in doing the research.

As Recommendations for the Next Research.

- (1) This research is done only at Sor.Vorapin gym which is located In Bangkok area, so it does not include foreign Muay Thai

students from other gyms and other provinces in Thailand. In order to know the exact idea of all foreign students, the researcher would like the next researcher to do more research on other gyms and other parts of Thailand as well.

- (2) In order to get more correct and understanding from respondents when they do the questionnaire, the researcher suggests that the next researcher should translate the questionnaire into other languages such as French, German, Dutch, and Japanese.





APPENDIX A

LIST OF MUAY THAI TRAINING SCHOOL

The following is a list of Muaythai schools around the world.

Muay Thai Schools

Argentina

ACROPOLIS GYM (Muay Thai Federation)
2620 Peron Ave., San Fernando (1646)
Buenos Aires.
Attn: Guido Astengo or Leonard Loro
Tel: 744-6200

Australia

Australian Muay Thai Association,
P.O.Box 122,Deeway.Sydney.NSW 2096
Attn: Lucy Sassen-Tui,
Tel: (61-2) 905-7126

Australian Muay Thai Boxing Association,
18 Saxonvale Crescent, Edensor Park. NSW 2176.
Attn: Khun Viroon Polpimai,
Tel: (61-2) 823-4115

J.N.I. Thai Boxing Equipment,
264 William St, Kingsgrove,Sydney,N.S.W.2208.
Attn: Mr. John Ioannou,
Tel/Fax: (61-2) 718-1216

Muay Thai Boxing Promotions,
1/2 Edith St.,Northbridge.WA 6003
Attn: Suraphon Martdee,
Tel/Fax: (61-9) 227-5296,018 948 883

Senjo Group of Companies,
Suite 2,32 Lower Heidelberg Rd,Ivanhoe. VIC 3079.
Attn: Sensei Bob Jones,
Tel: (61-3) 499-6051
Fax: (61-3) 416-9457

Sitsiam International
12-25 Cotner St.,Como,W.A. 6152.
Attn: Craig Kenyon,

World Martial Art Council
150 Wood St,Mackay. QLD 4740
Attn: Stephan Fox
Tel/Fax: (61-79) 513 560

Austria

Austrin Muay Thai Association,
Bichlweng 12,6322 Kirchbichel.
Attn: Harold Hage,

Belgium

F.B.K.B.M.T.(Rigiani Gym),
Rue Louis Hap 140,1040 Bruxelles.
Attn: Mr. A.Rigiani,
Tel: (32-2) 736-4816
Fax: (32-2) 736-9426

Martial Arts Centre Of Belgium
Rue Joseph Bens 34,1180 Bruxelles.
Attn: Mr Yanourang Meas
Tel: (32-2) 345-4936

Belorus

Athleic Club Muay Thai
23 Masherov Ave,Minsk 220746
Attn: A.Andrievsky

Brazil

Academia Thai Center
Rua Almirante Tamandare 66/s1304
Flamengo
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Attn. Prof. Marcos Vidal

Brazilian Muay Thai Association
Rua Caraputinga, 731 Cep,02928-Sao Paula.
Attn: Edson Jose de Souza

Muay Thai Academies and Private Lessons in Rio de Janeiro
Contact: Guilherme Bringel
Tel.: (021)265-3023
Bip: 532-4499 - cod. :2155636
[Email: muaythai01@hotmail.com](mailto:muaythai01@hotmail.com) or muaythai@base.com.br

Bulgaria

Bulgarian Kick-Boxing Federation
29/01 Gen. Gurko Str,Varne
Attn: Vladimir Kondov
Tel: (359-52) 23-24-19
Fax: (352-52) 24-40-30

Canada

Canadian Muay Thai Association
33232 S.Fraser Way, Abbotsford, British Columbia.
Attn: Songlith Singthong,
Tel: (1-604) 852-6508

Frank Lees Martial Arts International.
9311-111 Avenue, Edmonton,
Alberta Canada
Tel: 403-423-2802

King Siam Thai Boxing Club,
34 Elmsthorpe Ave, Toronto, Ontario M5P 2LP
Attn: Kru Sichart Yodkerepauprai,
Tel: (1-416) 653-3216

Lumpini Stadium

1865 B Lawrence Ave E.
Scarborough Ontario
M1R 2Y3
CANADA
Tel: (416)-285-4515

Mike Miles National Kickboxing & Muay Thai

Lwr. Lvl. 1210 - 11th Ave. SW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3C 0M4
Ph: (403) 244-8424
Fax: (403) 259-5849 *
Attn: Mike Miles
E-Mail: [natkick\(&sadvision.com\)](mailto:natkick(&sadvision.com))

PRO-AM KICKBOXING MUAY THAI TRAINING CENTRE

358 Park Ave. East
Brandon, Manitoba, CANADA
R7A-7A7
Attn: Dave Harris
Tel: (1-204) 729-0590

Round One Kick Boxing & Muay Thai
Unit 6-8 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C OB6
Attn: Khru Shawn Pelkey
Tel: (1-204) 943-0443
Fax: (1-204) 943-1085

SIAM NO.1 Thai Boxing School

1069A St. Clair Avenue, West
Toronto, Ontario

St, Gabriel s Library, Au

Tel. 416.651.7315
Master Suchart Yodkeripauprai

Sik Tai Muay Thai Centre/Canadian Muay Thai Federation (CMTF)
Attn: Arthur Periera
PO Box 395
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Sparmax Academy

235 boul Cure Labelle
Rosemere, Qc, Canada
Tel: (514) 236-5425
email: sparmax*.videotron.ca

Sun Kune Do Thai Boxing
129 Thorny Vineway, Willowdale, Ontario
Attn: Tyrone S. Herod
Tel: (1-416) 756-4466

Thai Boxing Association, Canada
P.O.Box 4165. S.T.N.E. Ottawa. Ontrio K35 5B2
Attn: Bob Carver,
Tel: (1-613) 233-8376

TWIN DRAGON KUNG FU & KICK-BOXING

1081 St. Clair Ave. West
Toronto, ON M6E 1A8
Telephone: (416) 657-8394
info*.twin-dragon.com

Croatia

Croatian Muay Thai Association,
C. Zuzoric 55/VI, 41000 Zagreb
Attn: Zoran Rebac
Tel: (38-41) 434-289

Czech Republic

Czech Muay Thai Association
Havanska 16/1555, 170 Prague 7
Tel/Fax: (42-2) 2422-4024517
Attn: Petr Machacek

Denmark

Dansk Muay Thai Forbund
Vesterbrogade 116A, Kobenhavn
Attn: Benny Jakobsen

Tel: (45) 3325-0527,5380-0627

SOR.RACHAN MUAYTHAI CAMP DK.
ATTN: RENE LAURSEN
WILDERSGADE 31,5 TH
1408 CPH. K
COPENHAGEN,DENMARK
TEL (0045) 2062 5568 **R LAURSEN**"HOTMAIL.COM

Finland

Finnish Kickboxing Federation
Radiokatu 20
00240 HELSINKI
Tel. +358-9-3481 2277
Fax +358-9-512 0913
Home Page: www.kickboxing.fi
Director of Muay Thai section: Mr. Rauli Jarvinen, tel +358-40-541 9068

Muay Thai Assosiation of Finland
Laivurinkatu 1
20810 Turku
Attn: Kai Mustonen
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APPENDIX 13

QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire

" Attitude of foreign Thai Boxing Students toward the study of Thai Boxing at Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym "

This Questionnaire belongs to Sor.Vorapin Boxing Gym. The purposes of the questionnaire are to improve our training and study the attitude of foreigner trainees toward Thai Boxing at Sor.Vorapin Gym. **All** the answers and personal data beneath will be kept confidential.

Please mark the answer which reflects your most, in the blank space provided.

Part A. General Information

1. Nationality _____
2. Age
 1. 15-20 years
 2. 21-25 years
 3. 26-30 years
 4. 31 year up
3. Marital Status
 1. Single
 2. Married
 3. Divorced
4. Occupation
 1. Student
 2. Employee
 3. State Officer
 4. Business Owner
 5. Non-Employment
 6. etc
5. Education
 1. Primary School
 2. High School
 3. Bachelor Degree
 4. Master Degree

Part B. The Question of Media Exposure.

1. How do you know about Muay Thai ? (You can answer more than one)

Book/Magazine	TV
Word of Mouth	___ Internet / Web site
___ Walk in	___ Poster / Billboard
___ Tour Agency	Other _____

2. How do you know about Sor.Vorapin Gym? (You can answer more than one)

Book/Magazine	___ TV
Word of Mouth	___ Internet / Web site
___ Walk in	___ Poster / Billboard
___ Tour Agency	Other _____

Part C. Your attitude towards Muay Thai and Training

1. Please mark the answer which is closest to your opinion in the blank space provided.

	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Fair (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1. Muay Thai is not too difficult for training					
2. Muay Thai is suitable only for men					
3. Muay Thai is the best martial art of the world.					
4. Elbows should be allowed in Muay Thai competition					
5. Muay Thai in your country is increasingly popular					

2. Your reason of learning Muay Thai

Please mark the answer which is closest to your opinion in the blank space provided. (Please answer every question)

	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Fair (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1. To exercise					
2. To get real Muay Thai training					
3. To be a Thai boxing professional					
4. To learn Thai culture					
5. To lose weight					
6. To apply as self defense					
7. Other, please specific...					

Part D. Your Satisfaction with Training Muay Thai at Sor.Vorapin Gym

Please mark the answer which is closest to your opinion in the blank space provided.

	Most Satisfied (5)	Much Satisfied (4)	Fair Satisfied (3)	Less Satisfied (2)	Least Satisfied (1)
1. Your satisfaction towards learning Muay Thai technique from our trainers					
2. The adequacy of our boxing equipment					
3. Training Fee 300 Baht/session					
4. Your satisfaction towards the class mates					
5. Your safety during the training					
6. Location of the gym					

1. Which is the most convenient time for you to undergo training ?

..... 7.30 — 10.30 AM 3.00 — 6.00 PM
 12.00 — 3.00 PM 6.00 — 9.00 PM

2. Please rank the level of Muay Thai weapon in which you are interested.
 (4 is the Most interested, 3 : Much, 2 : Fair, 1 is lease interested)

..... Punch Elbow
 Kick Knee

3. Please rank the level of Muay Thai that you think is the most powerful to least powerful. (4 is the Most powerful, 3 : Much, 2 : Fair, 1 is least powerful)

..... Punch Elbow
 Kick Knee

4. Please rank the level of Muay Thai that you think is the most difficult to learn to least difficult to learn (4 is the Most difficult, 3 : Much, 2 : Fair, 1 is least difficult)

..... Punch Elbow
 Kick Knee

Part E. To study advantages of Muay Thai training

Please mark the answer which is closest to your opinion in the blank space provided.

	Strongly Agree (⁵)	Agree (4)	Fair (³)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1. Knowledge of Muay Thai can be used as self defense					
2. Muay Thai training makes you have more self confidence					
3. Muay Thai training canhelp you release tension					
4. Muay Thai training makes you strong and healthy					

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