



Government of **Western Australia**
Combat Sports Commission



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CONTESTANTS AND INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS



PREPARE WELL
PERFORM BETTER



CODE OF CONDUCT

Scope: The Code of Conduct outlines the standard of behaviour required of all Contestants and Industry Participants registered with the Combat Sports Commission (the Commission) and forms part of the conditions of registration. All Contestants and Industry participants are required to abide by this Code during combat sports contests and in the public domain.

Legislative background: *Combat Sports Act 1987* s.10(b) Functions of the Commission - To formulate or recommend standards, specifications, codes of conduct or other forms of guidance for the purpose of maintaining proper standards in combat sports.

Application: This Code of Conduct applies to all Contestants and Industry Participants (promoters, matchmakers, managers, trainers, referees, judges, timekeepers or seconds) pursuant to the *Combat Sports Act 1987*.

Your actions and behaviour will be ethical, fair and honest and at all times respect the principles of combat sports and their traditions.

1.0 As a Contestant you MUST:

- 1.1 Behave honestly, with integrity and treat everyone with respect both during a contest and in the public domain.
- 1.2 Comply with any lawful and reasonable direction given by a member of the Commission or person authorised by the Commission, contest official, sample collector or medical practitioner.
- 1.3 Comply with the *Combat Sports Act 1987*, *Combat Sports Regulations 2004*, Commission approved rules for contests and all applicable Australian laws.
- 1.4 Provide accurate and complete information and not provide false or misleading information in response to any request for information that is made for official purposes.
- 1.5 Immediately advise the Commission of any changes to your:
 - a. Address or contact details.
 - b. Fit and Proper Person status.
 - c. Medical status relating to your suitability to participate in a combat sports contest.



2.0 As a Contestant you MUST NOT:

- 2.1 Engage in violence, threats of violence or intentionally put another person in fear of bodily injury other than in accordance with the Commission approved rules of the contest.
- 2.2 Harass another person including conduct violating a person's dignity, or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.
- 2.3 Engage in derogatory or offensive conduct, whether physical, oral or in writing, including and without limitation:
 - a. Insulting language.
 - b. Symbols or physical actions that are deemed as offensive or derogatory.
 - c. Actions against a person's age, disability, gender, ethnic background, heritage, religion, race, creed or sexual orientation.
 - d. Inappropriate physical, verbal or online behaviour such as inappropriate statements made via email, text messaging or social media networks.
- 2.4 Compete in a contest which has not been issued a permit by the Commission or a contest where the permit has been suspended or cancelled by the Commission.
- 2.5 Behave in a manner that brings combat sports or the Commission into disrepute.
- 2.6 Use illegal drugs or a substance or method prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

3.0 As an Industry Participant you MUST:

- 3.1 Behave honestly, with integrity and treat everyone with respect both during a contest and in the public domain.
- 3.2 Comply with any lawful and reasonable direction given by a member of the Commission or person authorised by the Commission, contest official, collection agent or medical practitioner.
- 3.3 Comply with the *Combat Sports Act 1987*, *Combat Sports Regulations 2004*, Commission approved rules for contests and all applicable Australian laws.
- 3.4 Provide accurate and complete information and not provide false or misleading information in response to any request for information that is made for official purposes.



- 3.5 Immediately advise the Commission of any changes to your:
- a. Address or contact details.
 - b. Fit and Proper person status.
 - c. Ability to carry out statutory obligations for example change to cognitive function.

4.0 As an Industry Participant you MUST NOT:

- 4.1 Engage in violence, threats of violence or intentionally put another person in fear of bodily injury either at a contest or in the public domain.
- 4.2 Harass another person including conduct violating a person's dignity, or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.
- 4.3 Engage in derogatory or offensive conduct, whether physical, oral or in writing including and without limitation:
- a. Insulting language.
 - b. Symbols or physical actions that are deemed as offensive or derogatory.
 - c. Actions against a person's age, disability, gender, ethnic background, heritage, religion, race, creed or sexual orientation.
 - d. Inappropriate physical, verbal or online behaviour such as inappropriate statements made via email, text messaging or social media networks.
- 4.4 Participate in a contest which has not been issued a permit by the Commission or a contest where the permit has been suspended or cancelled by the Commission.
- 4.5 Use excessive force or offensive or abusive language towards your own Contestant or your Contestant's opponent.
- 4.6 Behave in a manner that brings combat sport or the Commission into disrepute.
- 4.7 Use illegal drugs or administer to a Contestant a substance or method prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

5.0 Rapid weight loss by dehydration

- 5.1 A Contestant must not attempt to 'make weight' by any artificial means to dehydrate, as these methods increase the risk that Contestants may be seriously or even fatally injured during contests.



- 5.2 In the interests of Contestant safety, the Commission prohibits Contestants from using:
- a. heat suits;
 - b. saunas within 5 days prior to a pre-contest weigh-in; or
 - c. any other device or method which dehydrates the Contestant and is used for the purposes of rapid weight loss.
- 5.3 The Commission also prohibits the use of intravenous therapies which are used for aiding rehydration from excessive and deliberate dehydration.
- 5.4 An Industry Participant found to be encouraging the use of the methods described above or Contestant found to be using these methods will be subject to disciplinary proceedings which may result in their registration being cancelled or suspended by the Commission.

6.0 Social Media, Email or Text for Contestants and Industry Participants

- 6.1 As a Contestant or Industry Participant you may use social media to promote a contest using appropriate language that serves to promote a contest.
- 6.2 When using social media, email or text a Contestant or Industry participant must not:
- a. Make threats of violence to kill, maim or disable.
 - b. Use offensive or derogatory language, or ongoing harassing behaviour that is offensive, degrading or humiliating.
 - c. Use offensive, degrading or humiliating images.
 - d. Be offensive towards a person's age, ethnic background, heritage, religion, race, creed, sexual orientation, or disability.

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