

Conduct Policy of the International Federation of Muaythai Associations (IFMA)

Revised 2025



สหภาพมวยไทยโลก

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction

- A. Basis of the Bylaws
- B. Scope of the IFMA Conduct Policy
- C. Good Conduct

II. Acting Disciplinary Authorities and the Conduct Committee

- A. Acting Disciplinary Authorities
 - (i) Event Rules Group
 - (ii) Conflicts or Additional Action
- B. The Conduct Committee

III. Code of Conduct and Other Regulatory Codes

- A. Code of Conduct
 - (i) Conduct During Sanctioned Events
 - (ii) Conduct Regarding IFMA
 - (iii) Conduct Within the IFMA Community
 - (iv) Anti-Discrimination and Equal Treatment

IV. The Adjudication Process

- A. Complaint
 - (i) Complaint to or by an Acting Disciplinary Authority
 - (ii) Complaint to the Conduct Committee
- B. Review
- C. Appeal
 - (i) Appeal of Decision of an Acting Disciplinary Authority
 - (ii) Appeal of the Executive Committee or Conduct Committee
 - (iii) Appeals of Rulings Involving Violations of IFMA Anti-Doping Rules

V. Sanctions

- A. Sanctions by an Acting Disciplinary Authority
- B. Sanctions by the Executive Committee or Conduct Committee

VI. Conclusion

I. INTRODUCTION

This policy defines a code of conduct for Member associations of the International Federation of Muaythai Amateur (IFMA) and such individual associations' members, including athletes, officials, officers, and other affiliated parties (referred to as "Constituents"). It details the bodies responsible for managing conduct-related matters and describes procedures for addressing instances of improper or inappropriate conduct. The primary mechanism for resolving disputes is direct communication between the persons or parties involved. This policy takes effect when direct resolution fails or in cases requiring formal redress.

A. Basis in the Bylaws

This policy is based on the IFMA Bylaws, which state:

ARTICLE X - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Executive Committee has the authority to establish policies to adjudicate disputes among Members or between Members and itself. Such disputes may include but are not limited to, eligibility for membership, anti-doping violations, and disciplinary matters concerning IFMA-sanctioned events. The Executive Committee shall also establish conduct policies for adjudicating disputes at events and off-site decision-making procedures.

B. Scope of the IFMA Conduct Policy

IFMA's jurisdiction covers disputes arising from IFMA-sanctioned events or issues between Members and their Constituents. IFMA expects all Members and Constituents to respect the laws, regulations, and statutes of the legal jurisdiction in which they participate in any event or activity.

C. Good Conduct

IFMA encourages good conduct through awards recognizing individuals and teams that demonstrate the tenets of Muaythai, based on the principles of fairness, respect, and sportsmanship.

II. ACTING DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITIES AND THE CONDUCT COMMITTEE

IFMA uses a dual system to ensure proper conduct in all Muaythai-related activities. One system operates on-site at Sanctioned Events, while the other is overseen by the Executive Committee or its designated Conduct Committee for all matters beyond specific events.

A. Acting Disciplinary Authorities

These authorities enforce conduct policy and impose real-time resolutions during Sanctioned Events. These decisions include penalties for violations of the Code of Conduct and are administered by an Event Director or designated officials.

(i) Event Rules Committee

The Event Rules Committee (ERC) handles disputes during events. It includes the Event Chair and one delegate each from four countries. The ERC will address formal complaints or protests during the event, including violations of conduct.

(ii) Conflicts or Additional Actions

In cases where multiple authorities have jurisdiction, coordination is required to determine the appropriate course of action.

B. The Conduct Committee

The Conduct Committee, established by the Executive Committee, handles complaints that cannot be resolved at the event level. The committee ensures that conduct complaints are adjudicated fairly, with appropriate penalties applied.

III. CODE OF CONDUCT AND OTHER REGULATORY CODES

A. Code of Conduct

IFMA Members and Constituents must act in ways that reflect the ideals and values of the organization. This responsibility applies both within and outside the ring and includes interactions with the administration of IFMA.

(i) Conduct During Sanctioned Events

Members and Constituents are expected to act respectfully and safely, adhering to Muaythai's cultural and competition rules, as well as any event-specific regulations. Violations may include:

- Abusive heckling
- Dangerous conduct
- Taunting or unsportsmanlike behaviour
- Violence against others
- Any conduct endangering the safety or dignity of participants

(ii) Conduct Regarding IFMA

Conduct relating to IFMA refers to the actions of Members and Constituents in dealings with IFMA officials, including fraudulent activities, obstruction, or defamatory statements.

(iii) Conduct Within the IFMA Community

Members must uphold the reputation of IFMA, refraining from actions such as slander, vandalism, or public criticism of Muaythai.

(iv) Anti-Discrimination and Equal Treatment

IFMA is committed to a discrimination-free environment. Members and Constituents must not engage in discriminatory behaviour based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, or any other characteristic protected by applicable laws and international standards.

Prohibited Conduct Includes (but is not limited to):

- Discriminatory remarks or jokes based on protected characteristics
- Harassment or bullying based on any protected characteristic
- Social media conduct that perpetuates discrimination or hate speech

- Denial of participation based on discriminatory practices

Reporting and Accountability

- Reports of discrimination should be made to the Event Rules Committee (ERC), Acting Disciplinary Authorities, or the Conduct Committee.
- IFMA commits to confidentially handling complaints and ensuring protection against retaliation.

IV. THE ADJUDICATION PROCESS

A. Complaint

Complaints regarding violations of the Code of Conduct may be filed by any Member or Constituent, or by the Acting Disciplinary Authorities. Complaints must be filed within 30 days of the incident.

B. Review

The Conduct Committee will review complaints and determine whether further investigation is warranted. A full hearing may be scheduled if necessary.

C. Appeal

Members may appeal decisions made by the Acting Disciplinary Authorities or the Conduct Committee. The appeal process is based on a written submission and must be filed within 30 days of the decision.

V. SANCTIONS

A. Sanctions by an Acting Disciplinary Authority

Sanctions for violations during an event include warnings, disqualification from the event, or exclusion from specific activities.

B. Sanctions by the Executive Committee or Conduct Committee

Sanctions by the Executive Committee or Conduct Committee can include penalties such as suspension, mandatory education on diversity and inclusion, and expulsion from IFMA events.

VI. CONCLUSION

IFMA promotes mutual respect and fairness among all Members and their Constituents. While IFMA encourages self-governance, the enforcement of this Conduct Policy ensures a fair process when issues arise. This policy is designed to maintain the integrity and spirit of Muaythai while safeguarding an inclusive, discrimination-free environment.

