



International Federation of Muaythai Associations

The World Governing Body for Muaythai

IFMA Policy on Neutral Participation

18th July 2025

For Delegations from the Russian Federation, Republic of Belarus, and State of Israel.

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the conditions under which athletes, officials, and delegation members from the Russian Federation, Republic of Belarus, and State of Israel may participate in IFMA and IFMA-sanctioned events. The policy reflects IFMA's commitment to fair play, neutrality, and the protection of the values and integrity of sport in the current complex geopolitical landscape and recent developments.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All IFMA-organised and IFMA-sanctioned competitions, championships, and events.
- All athletes, team officials, coaches, and support personnel holding a Russian, Belarusian, or Israeli passport.
- Local Organising Committees (LOCs) responsible for hosting IFMA events.

3. Neutral Participation Framework

Athletes and officials from Russia, Belarus, and Israel may continue to participate in IFMA events under the following conditions:

3.1 Neutral Status Designation

- Such individuals must register and compete under the status of Authorized Individual Neutrals (AIN).
- They must not represent their country in any capacity.

3.2. Prohibition of National Representation

The following are strictly prohibited at IFMA and IFMA-sanctioned events:

- Display of national flags, emblems, or symbols.
- Playing or performance of national anthems.
- Use of uniforms, accessories, or equipment bearing national insignia.
- Display of any other form of national affiliation.

4. Additional Criteria: Russia and Belarus

In line with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recommendations, any individual or personnel with Russian or Belarusian nationality who has actively supported the war in Ukraine is not eligible to participate in IFMA events.

Eligibility is subject to compliance with IOC-defined criteria, including:

- No active support for the war in Ukraine in any form (e.g., through public statements, social media posts, participation in pro-war events, or affiliation with military or security bodies).
- No contractual or voluntary affiliation with the armed forces or national security agencies of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus.

IFMA retains the right to verify and assess compliance with these conditions on a case-by-case basis.

5. Special Provisions: Israel

In accordance with a decision of the IFMA Executive Committee, and in response to recent developments affecting the IFMA community:

- Participants from Israel must also compete under neutral status.
- The display of Israeli flags, anthems, emblems, or other national symbols is not permitted at IFMA or IFMA-sanctioned events.
- No IFMA or IFMA-affiliated events may be hosted in or supported within Israel until further notice.

5.1. Temporary Exception

These provisions shall not apply to the 2025 Youth World Championships in Abu Dhabi, where Israeli delegations may compete under their national identity. All subsequent events will enforce the full neutrality conditions set forth in this policy.

6. Declaration & Compliance

All delegation members from Russia, Belarus, and Israel must:

- Complete and submit the official IFMA Declaration & Undertaking for Neutral Participation (see Annex A) as a condition of registration.
- Confirm their understanding and acceptance of this policy.
- Agree to comply fully with all requirements before and during participation.

7. Monitoring & Verification

- IFMA reserves the right to conduct background checks and verification procedures for all Neutral Athletes and Officials.
- Non-compliance or failure to declare relevant affiliations may result in disqualification, removal from the event, or revocation of accreditation.

8. Event Hosting Guidelines for LOCs

- Local Organising Committees must acknowledge this policy and ensure its implementation at all competition venues.
- LOCs must not display any prohibited symbols and must ensure that medal ceremonies and athlete presentation adhere strictly to the neutrality provisions.

9. Entry into Force

This policy enters into force on **18th July 2025** and remains effective until repealed or amended by the IFMA Executive Committee.

Annex A

Declaration & Undertaking Form for Neutral Individual Participation

(For athletes, officials, and delegation members from Russia, Belarus, and Israel)

To be completed and submitted as a mandatory condition of registration for all IFMA and IFMA sanctioned events.

1. General Undertaking

I, acknowledge that I am seeking to participate in an IFMA or IFMA sanctioned event under the designation of an Authorised Individual Neutral (AIN).

I understand that this neutral status applies to participants from the Russian Federation, Republic of Belarus, and State of Israel, in accordance with the IFMA Operating Policy on Neutral Participation.

2. Compliance with IFMA Policies

I hereby confirm the following:

- I have read and fully understood the IFMA Operating Policy on Neutral Participation.
- I accept that my eligibility to participate is subject to full compliance with this policy.
- I am not representing my country in any capacity and will not display national flags, emblems, anthems, or other symbols of national affiliation.
- I understand that any violation of neutrality may result in exclusion from the event and other disciplinary measures.
- I undertake to wear strictly neutral uniforms and equipment with no reference to national identity.

3. Additional Confirmation - Russia and Belarus (if applicable)

If I am a passport holder of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus, I further confirm:

- I have not expressed support for the war in Ukraine in any form, including public statements, social media posts or attendance at pro-war events.
- I am not affiliated either by employment, contract, or voluntary association with any military or security agency of the Russian Federation or Republic of Belarus.

- I understand that IFMA may assess compliance through independent verification and may request additional documentation.

4. Cooperation and Notification

I agree to:

- Cooperate fully with any background checks or eligibility assessments conducted by IFMA.
- Notify IFMA immediately if any circumstances arise that may affect my compliance with the policy.
- Accept that failure to cooperate or to provide truthful information may result in exclusion from participation.

5. Declaration

I declare that all information provided in this form is true, complete, and accurate. I understand and accept the terms above as a condition for my participation in the event.

Name: _____

Function: ☐ Athlete ☐ Coach ☐ Official ☐ Support Personnel

Nationality (Passport held): _____

Event Name: _____

Date of Event: _____

Signature: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

6. For Minor Athletes (Under 18 Years Old)

I/we, as legal guardian(s) of the minor athlete named above, confirm our consent to the declarations set forth in this document.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Relation to Athlete: _____

Signature: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

7. National Federation Confirmation

We confirm that the above-named individual is registered for the event and that this declaration has been reviewed.

Federation Name: _____

Representative Name & Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

Official Stamp: