



# Code of Conduct for WUMA Competitions

## Competitors, Spectators & Coaches

Created 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 • Last Updated 09<sup>th</sup> August 2024

### Introduction

The World United Martial Arts Federation (WUMA) is committed to promoting a positive and respectful environment during all competitions. Martial arts is a discipline that emphasises respect, integrity, and personal growth. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations and standards of behavior for competitors, spectators & coaches, to ensure fair play, safety, and enjoyment for everyone involved.

### General Principles

- **Respect and Integrity:** All competitors, spectators & coaches must demonstrate respect for each other, the officials, and the rules of the competition. Integrity in both victory and defeat is essential.
- **Safety First:** The safety of all participants is a top priority. Actions or behaviors that threaten the safety or well-being of others will not be tolerated.
- **Fair Play:** Adherence to the rules and spirit of the competition is mandatory. Cheating, gamesmanship, and other forms of unfair advantage are prohibited.
- **Sportsmanship:** All participants should promote sportsmanship, encouragement, and positive reinforcement, regardless of the competition's outcome.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** Discrimination or harassment based on race, gender, age, ability, religion, or any other characteristic is strictly prohibited.

### Competitors' Code of Conduct

- **Respect Opponents:** Show respect to opponents, regardless of the competition's outcome, through courteous behavior before, during, and after matches.
- **Adhere to Rules:** Comply with all competition rules and guidelines, and follow the instructions of officials at all times.



- **Maintain Self-Control:** Manage emotions and avoid inappropriate language or gestures, even in high-pressure situations.
- **Commitment to Safety:** Prioritize safety by using proper techniques and equipment and avoiding dangerous or reckless behavior.
- **Gracious in Victory and Defeat:** Accept wins with humility and losses with dignity, acknowledging the efforts of all competitors.

## Spectators' Code of Conduct

- **Respect All Participants:** Show respect for competitors, coaches, officials, and other spectators at all times.
- **Positive Encouragement:** Offer encouragement and positive support, refraining from negative comments or criticism.
- **Abide by Venue Rules:** Follow all venue regulations, including seating arrangements and signage.
- **Avoid Disruptions:** Do not interrupt or interfere with the competition or officials' duties at any time. Any issues should be directed to your coach who can find a resolution with the officials respectfully.
- **Cheer Fairly:** Celebrate successes fairly without undermining the achievements of others.
- **Respect Referee Decisions:** Respect the decisions of referees and officials, recognising their qualifications and authority in the competition. All Decisions are final.

## Coaches' Code of Conduct

- **Role Model:** Coaches must act as role models, displaying integrity, patience, and fairness.
- **Support and Encourage:** Provide positive support and encouragement to all athletes, fostering a constructive and motivating environment.
- **Respect Officials:** Respect the decisions of referees and officials, and communicate any concerns through the appropriate channels respectfully and professionally to the promotor.
- **Safety Compliance:** Ensure that competitors understand and comply with safety regulations, including the use of appropriate protective gear.
- **Focus on Development:** Emphasize skill development, personal growth, and the enjoyment of competition.



## Enforcement & Consequences

WUMA reserves the right to take appropriate action in response to violations of this Code of Conduct by competitors, their spectators, their club or a coach. Actions may include warnings, removal from the competition venue, suspension from future events, or other disciplinary measures as deemed necessary.

## Disciplinary Action

To maintain a safe and respectful environment, the following severe disciplinary actions will be enforced for violations of this Code of Conduct:

1. **Discretionary Warning:** An initial verbal or written warning may be issued for minor infractions, outlining the behaviour and expected improvements if the incident is not deemed a major violation of the code of conduct.
2. **Revocation of Competition Licence & Permanent Ban:** In severe cases or repeated offenses competitors, coaches & clubs may have their competition licence/affiliation revoked, permanently banned from participating in or attending WUMA events.

## Conclusion

WUMA is dedicated to providing a positive, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants. Adhering to this Code of Conduct ensures that competitions are fair, enjoyable, and beneficial for everyone involved. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to upholding these standards.

***THE WUMA HQ TEAM***