



Children Participating at Promotions

Scope:

Children under the prescribed age, may not have the understanding and skills to limit/control movement when striking for the purposes of an exhibition match, making it difficult for Officials to control the level of contact inside the contest area.

As such, the Combat Sports Commission (the Commission) will not approve any children who have been placed on a permit for the purposes of an exhibition match.

Children under the age of 18 years of age will not be permitted to register as an Industry Participant as it is deemed an adult shall be responsible for the health and safety of a Contestant and responsible for the adjudicating of a contest.

Definitions:

Act – means Combat Sports Act 1987 (the Act).

Contest – means a contest or exhibition of a combat sport, that is organised, arranged or promoted for profit or that is conducted for public entertainment or to which the public is invited.

Contestant: means a person who participates in a contest, whether for reward or not.

Industry Participant: means a person who, otherwise than as a contestant, is involved, in a capacity that is prescribed, in conducting or assisting to conduct a contest.

Regulations means Combat Sport Regulations 2004 (the Regulations).

Legislative background:

The Act provides that a function 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.

Regulation 3 of the Regulations defines light contact as;
where participants do not strike their opponent with full force and where strikes are pulled.

Regulation 5 of the Regulations stipulates that;
events with light contact with no scoring and no outcome are not contests.

Regulation 8B prescribes age classes of contestants:

- (f) 10 years of age for Boxing
- (g) 12 years of age for Kickboxing
- (h) 12 years of age for Muay Thai
- (i) 16 years of age for Shooto
- (j) 18 years of age for MMA



Application:

This policy applies to all children under the prescribed age and under 18 years of age.

Related Procedure:

Children under the prescribed age who have been placed on a permit for the purposes of an exhibition match will not be approved by the Commission under section 45(1)(b) of the Act.

A person under the age of 18 years will not be permitted to register as an Industry Participant under section 10(1)(b) of the Act. This includes as a Promoter, Trainer, Matchmaker, Judge, Official, Timekeeper and acting in the capacity as a Second.

Additional Procedure Links:

Commission Rules
Code of Conduct
Guidelines and Conditions of Registration
Contestant Preparation Standards and Guidelines