

BOARD ROUNDS

Professional Boxing
and Combat Sports
Board of Victoria



Engagement Forums

The Board is convening another round of engagement forums with stakeholders to provide an update on priority actions taken following forums held earlier this year. The forums provide an important opportunity to hear from the combat sports community about trends and challenges facing the sport. Invitations have been sent to all licence holders, and your participation is encouraged.

- 2pm, 2 December – Trainers
- 7pm, 2 December – Promoters and Matchmakers
- 7pm, 3 December – Officials

For more information and to confirm your attendance, please email combat.sports@sport.vic.gov.au

Code of Conduct

The Board's Code of Conduct applies to all registered contestants and licence holders who are expected to exhibit exemplar standards at all times and not engage in:

- Violent, threatening, obscene, indecent or abusive language or behaviour.
- Vilification of any kind towards another person.
- Discrimination against another person based on their age, gender or sexual orientation.
- Discrimination against another person based on their race, culture, religion or any other personal characteristic (protected or otherwise).
- Sexual harassment, intimidation or victimisation of another person.
- Competition manipulation and gambling on any activity that you are directly or indirectly connected to.
- Improper use of drugs and medicines.
- Conduct that is detrimental to the reputation or interests of the boxing and combat sports industry.

Concussion education videos



The Board's traumatic brain injury/concussion education videos are available on its new [website](#). All professional boxing and combat sports contestants in Victoria should understand the risks of concussion and appropriate management of this injury, particularly in relation to seeking medical advice and treatment.

Licensed trainers and referees are also expected to be familiar with the risks of concussion, their duty of care and obligations to contestants.

Revised concussion management protocol and non-fight periods



The Board has completed the review of its concussion management protocol and non-fight periods and, following consultation, has endorsed the revised protocol that will take effect from 1 January 2025.

The revisions were recommended by the Medical Advisory Sub-Committee and reflect consensus expert opinion from leading industry groups, including

the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Association of Ringside Physicians, Boxing USA, and leading academics.

Consultations with the community of ringside doctors and licensed trainers indicated support for the revisions that will strengthen the approach to contestant safety.

The changes include longer mandatory suspension periods and the requirement to provide a medical clearance prior to returning to contact training in some situations. It also identifies special considerations that will apply when a loss of consciousness occurs in competition and when a contestant sustains successive KOs and TKOs to allow sufficient time for recovery. The updated protocol will be published on the Board's website by the end of this year and separate notification will be provided to raise awareness across the sector.

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Offences

Professional boxing and combat sports are regulated in Victoria via the Professional Boxing and Combat Sports Act 1985 (the Act) and the Professional Boxing and Combat Sports Regulations 2018 (the Regulations).

The Board's purpose in regulating the sport is to promote safety, reduce the risk of malpractice and uphold industry integrity and the legislation contains a range of explicit offences and penalties that apply when breaches of safety and integrity measures occur.

It is important that you are aware of these offences that are published on the Board's website: [List of offences](#).

MMA Referee and Judge Certification Course

This course consists of classroom lectures and written tests that cover all aspects of being an MMA licensed Referee and Judge.

30 November 2024 - Judge* (full day)

1 December 2024 - Referee and Judge (full day)

Venue: Richmond Football Club

Curriculum

- Ethics
- Scoring criteria
- ABC Unified Rules
- Judging guidelines
- Duties
- Bout results
- Video mock-judging fights
- Demonstration of MMA techniques
- Event logistics
- Written, video and technique tests

Board Policies

The Board is committed to ensuring that boxing and combat sports are conducted in safe, inclusive and respectful workplaces. As part of this commitment, bullying, harassment, discrimination, victimisation, and vilification will not be tolerated. The Board has published its [Respect in the Workplace Policy](#) that applies to all participants in the boxing and combat sports industry, including Board members, registered contestants, licence holders and spectators.

The Board has also published its [Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy](#) as part of its commitment to protecting the integrity of boxing and combat sports. Manipulating sporting competitions can be a crime and punishable by law. The Policy identifies prohibited conduct, which includes competition manipulation and betting (even where a person is not involved in a professional contest), and creates obligations, including that licence holders disclose information to the Board regarding any commercial agreements, interests, and connections with Wagering Service Providers. The Policy applies to various participants in the boxing and combat sports industry, including Board members, registered contestants, licence holders and ringside doctors

Instructors

Greg Kleynjans and Steve Perceval

Greg and Steve are two of Australia's most active and respected MMA officials. They have officiated as referees and judges in MMA events worldwide. Greg was the first student to graduate from the Herb Dean Referee School in 2007 and Steve from John McCarthy in the same year.

Both are trainers of UFC inspectors and judges in Australia.

If you are interested in upcoming judge and/or referee training opportunities (any discipline), register your interest via email at combat.sports@sport.vic.gov.au

