

WORLD BOXING BODY (WBB)

CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS

Integrity, Professional Conduct and Ethical Standards

International Professional Boxing Standard - 2026 Edition

Issued under the authority of World Boxing Body (WBB)

This Code supplements the WBB Professional Boxing Rules & Regulations and other WBB policies.

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SECTION 1 - PURPOSE, STATUS AND SCOPE

1.1 Purpose

This Code establishes the minimum ethical and professional standards expected of persons acting within, representing, participating in, or performing duties connected with World Boxing Body (WBB). Its purpose is to protect boxer welfare, sporting integrity, impartial decision-making, public confidence and the reputation of professional boxing.

1.2 Status of this Code

This Code supplements the WBB Professional Boxing Rules & Regulations, WBB Medical Rules & Regulations, licensing conditions, event sanctions, championship regulations and any other WBB policy in force. Where a more specific WBB rule applies to particular conduct, that specific rule shall be read together with this Code.

1.3 Persons Covered

- WBB directors, officers, committee members, employees, consultants, representatives and delegates;
- licensed or appointed referees, judges, supervisors, inspectors, timekeepers and other officials;
- boxers, managers, matchmakers, coaches, seconds and corner personnel participating in WBB-sanctioned activities;
- promoters, event organizers, contractors and accredited personnel working under WBB authority;
- any other person who accepts a WBB appointment, licence, accreditation, sanction or formal role.

1.4 Conduct Outside an Event

The Code may apply to conduct outside a WBB event where that conduct has a clear and material connection with WBB activities, boxer safety, sporting integrity, corruption, competition manipulation, abuse of authority or the person's fitness to hold a WBB role. The Code is not intended to regulate ordinary private life or good-faith criticism that has no material connection to these interests.

1.5 Local Law and Mandatory Rules

All persons remain subject to applicable local law and mandatory rules of the competent boxing commission or authority. WBB requirements do not replace criminal, civil, employment, safeguarding, medical, data-protection or regulatory obligations imposed by law.

SECTION 2 - CORE ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

2.1 Integrity

Persons covered by this Code shall act honestly, fairly and in a manner consistent with the integrity of professional boxing. No sporting, commercial, personal or political interest shall justify dishonest conduct or an avoidable compromise of boxer safety.

2.2 Independence and Impartiality

Persons performing regulatory, medical, supervisory or officiating functions shall exercise independent judgment. Decisions must not be influenced by promoters, managers, boxers, sponsors, betting interests, personal relationships, financial pressure or fear of criticism.

2.3 Boxer Welfare

Boxer health and safety shall take priority over entertainment, scheduling, financial loss, title status, contractual pressure or promotional interests. No person may pressure a boxer, doctor or official to ignore a genuine safety concern.

2.4 Accountability

WBB participants are expected to take responsibility for their own conduct, comply with reasonable WBB instructions, keep required records accurately and cooperate with legitimate regulatory review.

2.5 Proportionality and Fairness

Ethical concerns shall be assessed according to their seriousness, context, intent, actual or potential harm, repetition and the position of responsibility held by the person concerned. Honest mistakes shall not automatically be treated in the same manner as deliberate misconduct.

SECTION 3 - RESPECT, DIGNITY, EQUALITY AND SAFEGUARDING

3.1 Respectful Conduct

All persons shall treat boxers, officials, medical personnel, opponents, colleagues, event staff and members of the public with reasonable dignity and respect. Strong sporting disagreement is permitted, but threats, intimidation, abusive harassment or deliberate humiliation are not acceptable.

3.2 Discrimination

WBB does not tolerate unlawful discrimination. Decisions concerning licensing, appointments, participation and discipline shall not be based on race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion or belief, age, or another status protected by applicable law, except where a lawful and objectively justified sporting, medical or safety rule applies.

3.3 Harassment, Bullying and Sexual Misconduct

Harassment, bullying, stalking, sexual harassment, coercive sexual conduct and abuse of authority are prohibited. Consent obtained through intimidation, exploitation of a position of authority or improper pressure shall not excuse misconduct.

3.4 Violence and Threats

Physical violence outside the legitimate rules of a boxing contest, credible threats of violence, retaliation and deliberate attempts to provoke disorder at a WBB activity may result in immediate removal and disciplinary action.

3.5 Safeguarding

Where children, young persons or vulnerable persons are present in a WBB-related environment, all participants must comply with applicable safeguarding law, venue requirements and any WBB safeguarding policy. Any immediate safety concern must be reported to the appropriate responsible authority without delay.

SECTION 4 - HONESTY, INTEGRITY AND ACCURATE REPRESENTATION

4.1 Truthful Information

Information supplied to WBB in connection with licensing, medical clearance, rankings, bout records, contracts, event sanctioning, title applications, payments or disciplinary matters must be accurate and not deliberately misleading.

4.2 Falsification and Fraud

Forgery, alteration or deliberate falsification of licences, medical reports, scorecards, bout records, identity documents, contracts, invoices, receipts, title certificates or official WBB communications is a serious ethical violation and may be referred to external authorities where appropriate.

4.3 Misrepresentation of Titles and Sanctions

No person may falsely represent a contest as sanctioned by WBB, falsely claim WBB championship status, use an unauthorized WBB title designation, or advertise a WBB licence, appointment or approval that is expired, suspended, withdrawn or never issued.

4.4 Records and Results

Officials and event representatives must not knowingly manipulate official records, scores, times, weigh-in data, medical status or bout results. Corrections made honestly and transparently in accordance with WBB procedure are not misconduct.

SECTION 5 - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, GIFTS, BRIBERY AND IMPROPER INFLUENCE

5.1 Duty to Disclose Conflicts

A person must disclose any actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest that could materially affect independent performance of a WBB duty. Disclosure should be made before accepting an appointment or as soon as the conflict becomes known.

5.2 Examples of Relevant Conflicts

- a financial interest in the outcome of a bout or event;
- a current management, promotional, coaching, employment or business relationship with a boxer or team involved;
- a close family, intimate or similarly significant personal relationship with a participant;
- a debt, financial dependency, dispute or other circumstance reasonably capable of affecting impartiality;
- holding two roles in the same matter where one role is expected to supervise, review or judge the other.

5.3 Management of Conflicts

Disclosure does not automatically disqualify a person. WBB may determine that the conflict is immaterial, impose safeguards, reassign duties or require the person to withdraw. A person must not conceal a material conflict in order to retain an appointment or financial benefit.

5.4 Bribery and Improper Payments

Offering, requesting, giving or accepting money, services, commissions, favours, employment, gifts or any other benefit with the intention of improperly influencing an official, medical, licensing, ranking, sanctioning or sporting decision is prohibited.

5.5 Gifts and Hospitality

Reasonable and modest hospitality connected with an event may be accepted where it cannot reasonably be understood as an attempt to influence a decision. Cash gifts, secret payments and benefits linked to a desired sporting or regulatory outcome are prohibited. WBB may issue additional guidance or value limits.

SECTION 6 - BETTING, COMPETITION MANIPULATION AND INSIDE INFORMATION

6.1 Competition Manipulation

No person shall fix, arrange, influence or attempt to manipulate the result, scoring, duration, method of victory, knockdown, performance or any other aspect of a contest for an improper purpose. Deliberately underperforming in exchange for a benefit, or encouraging another person to do so, is prohibited.

6.2 Betting by Officials and WBB Personnel

A WBB-appointed official, supervisor, inspector, employee, director or other person exercising regulatory authority shall not bet on a bout or event in which that person is appointed, involved or able to influence the outcome, nor use confidential WBB information for betting purposes.

6.3 Betting by Boxers and Team Personnel

A boxer, manager, coach, second or matchmaker shall not bet on a contest in which the boxer or team is participating, and shall not arrange for another person to place such a bet on their behalf. They must not use confidential injury, medical, contractual, matchmaking or tactical information for corrupt betting activity.

6.4 Inside Information

Non-public information obtained through a WBB role must not be disclosed or exploited where the disclosure is intended to facilitate betting, manipulation, corruption or an unfair commercial advantage.

6.5 Duty to Report Approaches

Any person who is offered money or another benefit to manipulate a contest, influence an official or misuse confidential information should report the approach to WBB or the competent authority as soon as reasonably practicable.

SECTION 7 - PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AT WBB EVENTS

7.1 Compliance with Official Directions

Participants shall comply with lawful and reasonable directions from WBB officials, medical personnel, venue safety personnel and the competent local regulator. Disagreement may be raised through appropriate procedures but must not obstruct immediate safety or regulatory duties.

7.2 No Interference with Officials or Medical Personnel

Promoters, managers, coaches, boxers and other participants shall not pressure, threaten, intimidate or attempt to influence referees, judges, supervisors, inspectors, timekeepers or medical personnel in relation to scoring, stoppages, medical clearance or regulatory decisions.

7.3 Alcohol, Drugs and Impairment

No official, medical decision-maker, supervisor, inspector or other person performing a safety-critical WBB function may perform that role while impaired by alcohol, illegal drugs, misused medication or another substance. Boxers remain subject to applicable anti-doping, medical and local regulatory requirements.

7.4 Security and Public Order

Participants must not deliberately create unsafe disorder, incite crowd violence, damage the venue or interfere with emergency personnel. Officials may remove or restrict access for a person whose conduct presents an immediate safety risk.

7.5 Respect for Medical Decisions

A medical decision made within the doctor's lawful and professional authority must not be overridden by commercial pressure. Concerns about a medical decision may be reviewed afterwards through appropriate channels, but immediate safety instructions must be respected.

SECTION 8 - ROLE-SPECIFIC ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES

8.1 Boxers

- compete honestly and in accordance with WBB rules;
- provide truthful identity, medical and licensing information;
- refrain from intentional fouls, corruption, match manipulation and prohibited betting;
- respect medical suspensions and disclose relevant suspensions imposed elsewhere;
- avoid conduct intended to intimidate or improperly influence officials.

8.2 Managers, Coaches, Seconds and Matchmakers

- place boxer safety and lawful representation above improper financial interests;
- avoid exploitative, coercive or deceptive conduct toward boxers;
- disclose conflicts and material relationships relevant to matchmaking or representation;
- not interfere with scoring, medical decisions or officiating;
- ensure that information submitted to WBB concerning records, opponents and contracts is not knowingly false.

8.3 Promoters and Event Organizers

- honour contractual and financial obligations as required by applicable agreements and WBB rules;
- provide safe and properly organized event conditions;
- not advertise unauthorized titles or sanctions;
- not offer inducements to officials or pressure participants to compromise safety or integrity;
- cooperate with WBB and local regulatory personnel before, during and after the event.

8.4 Referees, Judges, Supervisors, Inspectors and Timekeepers

- perform duties independently, competently and impartially;
- declare material conflicts of interest before appointment;
- not seek or accept improper benefits connected to their decisions;
- protect confidential information obtained through their appointment;
- report material irregularities accurately and without favour;
- avoid public statements that compromise the perceived neutrality of an appointment before or during an event.

8.5 WBB Directors, Officers and Representatives

- use WBB authority for legitimate organizational purposes and not for undisclosed personal advantage;
- avoid participation in decisions where a material conflict has not been appropriately managed;
- protect confidential and personal information;
- ensure sanctions, rankings, appointments and disciplinary decisions are not sold or exchanged for improper benefits;

- apply WBB policies consistently, while allowing documented exceptions only where the rules permit them.

SECTION 9 - COMMUNICATIONS, SOCIAL MEDIA, CONFIDENTIALITY AND WBB IDENTITY

9.1 Public Statements and Social Media

WBB recognizes the right of participants to express opinions and make good-faith criticism. However, persons acting in an official WBB capacity must not knowingly publish false statements, confidential information, threats, discriminatory abuse or material intended to corrupt, intimidate or improperly influence a WBB process.

9.2 Official Representation

Only authorized persons may issue statements on behalf of WBB. A person expressing a personal opinion must not falsely present that opinion as an official WBB decision or policy.

9.3 Confidential Information

Confidential medical, disciplinary, contractual, financial, ranking, appointment or personal information obtained through a WBB role shall be disclosed only where authorized, legally required or reasonably necessary for a legitimate regulatory, safety or disciplinary purpose.

9.4 Personal Data

Personal data must be handled in accordance with applicable data-protection law and WBB privacy requirements. Access should be limited to persons who reasonably need the information for their role.

9.5 WBB Name, Logo and Credentials

WBB names, logos, licences, credentials, certificates and championship designations must not be altered, sold, copied or used in a misleading manner. Authorization to use WBB branding may be withdrawn where misuse occurs.

SECTION 10 - REPORTING CONCERNS, COOPERATION AND PROTECTION AGAINST RETALIATION

10.1 Reporting Ethical Concerns

Persons covered by this Code are encouraged to report credible concerns involving corruption, match manipulation, serious safety breaches, abuse, falsified documents, harassment, undisclosed conflicts or other significant misconduct. Reports may be made to the WBB Supervisor, Inspector, designated WBB officer or another channel established by WBB.

10.2 Good-Faith Reporting

A person who makes a report honestly and on reasonable grounds shall not be disciplined merely because the allegation is later unproven. Knowingly false, malicious or fabricated allegations may themselves constitute misconduct.

10.3 Non-Retaliation

Retaliation against a person for making a good-faith report, providing evidence or cooperating with a legitimate investigation is prohibited. This does not prevent action for unrelated misconduct or knowingly false allegations.

10.4 Cooperation

Persons subject to WBB authority must reasonably cooperate with WBB investigations and provide relevant records, explanations or evidence within their possession or control, subject to applicable law and legitimate privilege or confidentiality rights.

10.5 Confidentiality of Reports

WBB shall seek to handle reports discreetly and limit disclosure to those who reasonably need the information. Absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed where disclosure is required for fairness, safety, legal compliance or referral to competent authorities.

SECTION 11 - ETHICAL INVESTIGATIONS, INTERIM MEASURES AND DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

11.1 Preliminary Assessment

WBB may conduct a preliminary assessment to determine whether an allegation falls within WBB jurisdiction and whether further investigation is justified. Frivolous, clearly unsupported or purely private matters with no material connection to WBB may be closed without formal proceedings.

11.2 Fair Opportunity to Respond

Before serious disciplinary action is imposed, the affected person should ordinarily be informed of the substance of the allegation and given a reasonable opportunity to provide a written explanation or relevant evidence, consistent with the WBB Professional Boxing Rules & Regulations.

11.3 Interim Measures

Where reasonably necessary to protect boxer safety, evidence, event integrity or participants, WBB may impose temporary measures pending review. These may include temporary suspension, removal from an appointment, restriction of access, withholding of approval or other proportionate safeguards. An interim measure is not a final finding of misconduct.

11.4 Disciplinary Consequences

Indicative seriousness	Possible WBB response
Lower-level / first breach	advice, corrective instruction, formal warning or required training
Moderate or repeated breach	fine where permitted, removal from appointment, conditions on licence or temporary suspension
Serious integrity or safety breach	longer suspension, revocation of licence, withdrawal of sanction/approval, ineligibility for appointment
Corruption, manipulation, fraud or serious abuse	revocation, long-term or permanent ineligibility within WBB authority, non-recognition of affected sporting outcome where permitted, and possible referral to competent authorities

Sanctions are not automatic and shall be proportionate to the circumstances. WBB may consider intent, harm, benefit obtained, cooperation, prior history, position of trust, admission, remediation and aggravating or mitigating factors.

11.5 Relationship with Sporting Results

Where misconduct materially affects a contest, WBB may exercise any sporting authority available under its Rules, including non-recognition or correction of a result where permitted. Ordinary disagreement with subjective judging is not itself an ethics violation.

11.6 Appeals and Review

A person subject to disciplinary action may seek review or appeal in accordance with the WBB Professional Boxing Rules & Regulations and any separate WBB Disciplinary & Appeals Procedure in force. Mandatory legal rights remain unaffected.

SECTION 12 - RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL LAW AND OTHER REGULATORS

12.1 Cooperation with Authorities

WBB may cooperate with recognized boxing commissions, sanctioning bodies, law-enforcement agencies, safeguarding authorities, anti-doping organizations and other competent bodies where reasonably necessary and legally permitted.

12.2 Recognition of External Discipline

WBB may take into account a valid suspension, integrity finding or disciplinary sanction imposed by a recognized boxing commission or competent authority. WBB retains discretion to determine the consequence within its own jurisdiction, subject to mandatory law.

12.3 Criminal or Civil Matters

WBB disciplinary action is separate from criminal or civil proceedings. WBB may act on matters affecting its sporting jurisdiction without waiting for external proceedings where it is fair and lawful to do so, and may also pause a matter where necessary to avoid prejudicing an external investigation.

12.4 No Obstruction of Legal Reporting

Nothing in this Code prevents or discourages any person from reporting suspected criminal conduct, safeguarding concerns, corruption or other matters to a competent public authority.

SECTION 13 - ADMINISTRATION, INTERPRETATION AND ENTRY INTO FORCE

13.1 Ethical Guidance

WBB may issue guidance, declarations-of-interest forms, betting guidance, gift rules, event-specific instructions or training materials to support implementation of this Code. Such guidance shall not contradict the Code or mandatory law.

13.2 Interpretation

WBB retains authority to interpret this Code for matters within its sporting and organizational jurisdiction. Interpretation should be consistent with the wording of the Code, the WBB Professional Boxing Rules & Regulations, fairness, proportionality and boxer safety.

13.3 Amendments

WBB may review and amend this Code in response to experience, regulatory developments, integrity risks and changes in professional boxing. Amendments shall take effect on the date specified by WBB.

13.4 Severability

If any provision is invalid or unenforceable under applicable law, the remaining provisions shall continue in effect to the fullest extent permitted.

13.5 Entry into Force

This Code shall enter into force on the date formally adopted and published by WBB. Continued participation in WBB-licensed, appointed or sanctioned activities after that date constitutes acceptance of the Code where permitted by applicable law and WBB rules.

APPENDIX A - PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following examples are illustrative and do not limit the scope of the Code:

- paying or offering a judge money or another benefit in exchange for favourable scoring;
- a promoter threatening to remove a referee from future events unless the referee changes a decision;
- a manager concealing a boxer's active medical suspension from WBB;
- an official betting on a bout at the event where the official is appointed;
- a boxer agreeing to deliberately lose or underperform in exchange for payment;
- forging an MRI report, medical clearance, licence, scorecard or championship authorization;
- a supervisor failing to disclose a material financial relationship with one of the participating teams;
- knowingly advertising a non-sanctioned bout as an official WBB championship;
- disclosing confidential injury information for corrupt betting purposes;
- sexual harassment, discriminatory abuse, credible threats or retaliation connected to a WBB activity;
- misusing WBB credentials or branding to obtain money, access or authority that WBB did not grant.

APPENDIX B - QUICK ETHICAL DECISION TEST

When unsure whether conduct is appropriate, a WBB participant should consider the following questions before acting:

Step	Question
1	Is it lawful and consistent with WBB rules?
2	Does it protect boxer safety and fair competition?
3	Would I be comfortable if the relevant relationship, payment or decision were disclosed to WBB?
4	Could a reasonable person believe that my independence or impartiality is compromised?
5	Am I using confidential information only for a legitimate purpose?
6	Would the action still appear proper if it were reviewed after the event?
7	If there is doubt, have I disclosed the issue or sought guidance before acting?

Where the answer reveals a material conflict, safety concern, improper benefit, manipulation risk or uncertainty about authority, the person should pause the action and seek guidance or make the appropriate disclosure.

WBB ADOPTION AND APPROVAL

Item	Details
Document	WBB Code of Conduct & Ethics
Edition	2026
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Effective date	_____