# Controlled sports code of practice

### CONSULTATION FACTSHEET

## What we’re asking

### The ACT Government is seeking views on the draft Controlled Sports Code of Practice, to be implemented as part of reforms to combat sports legislation in the ACT under the *Controlled Sports Act 2019*.

### The Code of Practice is a key part of regulations that specify certain requirements for controlled sports events to promote the safety and integrity of events. We are seeking your views on:

1. Matters included in the Code of Practice and their application
2. Matters not included in the Code of Practice that you feel should be included
3. How practical the clauses would be for you to implement
4. Any industry specific feedback on the design, structure and content of the Code of Practice

## Who we’re talking to

* Combat sports promoters currently operating in the ACT
* Combat sporting organisations
* National Sporting Bodies (for combat sports covered by the legislation)
* Combat sport gyms and training centres in the ACT
* Other regulating jurisdictions in Australia (New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia)
* The Australian Institute of Sport
* ACT Policing

## Your say matters

Your input is very important.

* We want the Code of Practice to truly reflect the industry and be useful and easy to understand
* We will consider different perspectives on the matters in the draft Code of Practice
* Your input will influence the Government’s decision-making process
* You can provide input through one of our forums, or submit a written response

## What next

All feedback will be considered when revising the draft Code of Practice. Following this, the Minister for Sport and Recreation will consider the draft and approve it to become law. It will take effect when the new Act commences on 11 October 2019.

# code of practice

### FACTSHEET

## Key Questions

### Registrable events (Schedule One)

* Does the proposed Code of Practice (Schedule One) accurately reflect the operating requirements of registrable events?
* Are there any clauses in the draft Code of Practice that should be refined in order to operate effectively?
* Are there any clauses you feel shouldn’t be included? Why? How will these matters be addressed otherwise?
* Is there anything missing from the draft Code of Practice? What is it? Why should it be included?

### Non-registrable events (Schedule Two)

* Does the proposed Code of Practice (Schedule Two) accurately reflect the operating requirements of non-registrable events?
* Are there any clauses in the draft Code of Practice that should be refined in order to operate effectively?
* Does the proposed Code of Practice (Schedule Two) contradict any of your current operating rules? If so, what? How might this be addressed?
* Are there any clauses you feel shouldn’t be included? Why? How will these matters be addressed otherwise?
* Is there anything missing from the draft Code of Practice? What is it? Why should it be included?

## Providing feedback

You can provide feedback in the following ways:

* Directly to ACT Government at one of the consultation forums
* By written submission (including email) to [ControlledSports@act.gov.au](mailto:ControlledSports@act.gov.au) or post to   
  Sport and Recreation, PO Box 147, Civic Square ACT 2608.

Questions can be directed to [ControlledSports@act.gov.au](mailto:ControlledSports@act.gov.au).

## Background Information

### The Code of Practice is a longstanding regulatory arrangement for combat sports, existing under the *Boxing Control Act* since 1993. This Act will be replaced by the *Controlled Sports Act 2019* on 11 October 2019.

### The Controlled Sports Code of Practice provides details of the required conduct of both registrable and non-registrable events in the ACT, including:

* Applications
* Contest rules
* Responsibilities of the promoter
* Insurance requirements
* Weigh-in requirements
* Medical requirements (pre, during and post events)
* Protective clothing and equipment requirements
* Contest area requirements

Compliance with the Code of Practice is mandatory. Schedule One of the draft Code of Practice relates to the requirements for registrable events, and Schedule Two relates to non-registrable events.

Failure to comply may result in administrative sanctions (such as registration suspension or cancellation, or offence penalties).

### Other regulations supporting the Code of Practice

The Code of Practice is the main piece of regulation which details the specific requirements for controlled sports events. It is supported by several pieces of related regulation that will determine how an event is run, including:

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| Regulation | Explanation | Timeframe |
| Requirements for non-registrable events | Requirements for:   * Becoming an authorised controlled sports body * Authorised Controlled Sports Bodies to approve non-registrable events * Notification requirements for non-registrable events. | Currently available for consultation. To be implemented by August 2019 to allow applications to be made prior to commencement of Act. |
| Light contact combat sport exemption | A combat sport, or style of combat sport deemed a light contact combat sport, is exempt under Section 8 from all requirements of the *Controlled Sports Act*, including the Code of Practice. | Applications for light contact exemption will open in June or July 2019 for consideration and approval by the Minister for Sport and Recreation before the legislation commences. |
| Minimum age for participation in events | Prescription of a minimum age for participation as a contestant for registrable and non-registrable events | Currently available for consultation. Feedback will be considered when designing the regulation, to be in place by late August 2019. |

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