Match-fixing Prevention: R&Js, Athletes, and Entourage
Muaythai Values

**Honour** – This requires the involvement of all Muaythai stakeholders: showing respect for one another, towards the rules and regulations of IFMA, and upholding a spirit of solidarity.

**Tradition** – The fostering of Muaythai’s historical roots and all cultural aspects and customs inherent in the sport from its ancient origins.

**Respect** – The practice by all IFMA stakeholders of a respectful involvement regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability or nationality.

**Excellence** – Promoting the highest levels of achievement in competition, coaching, and officiating.

**Fair Play** – The provision of a level playing field for competition, encouraging sportsmanship, efficiency, and transparency in the operations of IFMA, as well as strict adherence to the World Anti-Doping Code.
IFMA Stakeholders

IFMA operates in a variety of different contextual levels, with a myriad of different regulatory bodies and institutions. The different political and administrative contexts which IFMA must navigate through, require flexibility and adaptability from the organisation, without a loss of its core values. IFMA tries to maintain a healthy balance between the needs and interests of the entities with which it interacts. These include:

Internal Stakeholders

- **Athletes** – elite athletes, national team level, local and grassroots practitioners
- **Coaches** – national, local and grassroots coaches
- **Officials** – IFMA’s Technical Commission, and world, continental, national, state, and club level referees, judges, and technical officials
- **Administrators** – IFMA’s International Office staff, Executive Board members, Commission Members, and national representatives
- **National Federations** – One hundred and one (101) Recognised NFs
- **Continental Federations** – five continental bodies: Federation of Amateur Muaythai of Asia, African Continental Muaythai Association, Pan-American Muaythai Union, Oceania Muaythai Federation Amateur, European Muaythai Federation
IFMA Stakeholders

External Stakeholders

- **Athlete supporters** - family members, personal fan base, and gyms
- **Spectators** – live audiences at events, via television, and online
- **Media** – in print, electronic, and internet forms
- **Commercial partners** – sponsors and approved equipment manufacturers
- **Sport Representative Bodies** – SportAccord, OCA, TAFISA, and National Olympic Committees
- **Games Bodies** – SportAccord World Combat Games, Arafura Games, TAFISA Sport for All Games, Asian Indoor & Martial Art Games, South-East Asian Games, and Asian Games
- **Sport Regulatory Bodies** – WADA and CAS
- **Government Departments** – National Sports Ministries, National Tourism Ministries, and Foreign Ministries
Words like integrity, honesty, and respect, are meaningful for us.

They are the foundation we all stand on.

“How can we protect and ensure the preservation of the values and traditions of our sport?”

“How can we guarantee fair play in our sport?”
The following is adapted from the:

“SportAccord MODEL RULES on Sports Integrity in Relation to Sports Betting for all International Sports Federations and Organisations”
What is considered a match-fixing related offense by IFMA?

a. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage participates or engages in betting or gambling related to his or her own sport event or competition.

b. When an athlete or official fails to perform to the best of his or her abilities in exchange for a monetary incentive, gift or other compensation/reward.

c. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage encourages, enables or instructs another party to bet or gamble on a sport event or competition to which he or she is personally connected.
What is considered a match-fixing related offense by IFMA?

d. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage ensures that an incident, occurrence or event takes place, in exchange for which he or she expects to receive or has already received compensation/reward.

e. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage receives or provides any monetary incentive, gift or other compensation/reward in a context which can reasonably be expected to bring the athlete or the sport into disrepute.

f. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage uses any “Inside Information” for betting purposes, including disclosing “Inside Information” to any person (with or without reward) where the individual might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure could be used in relation to betting.
g. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage does not provide information to the competent IF or competition authority (without undue delay) regarding the full details of any approaches, invitations to engage in conduct, or incidents that would amount to a breach of the IF or competition rules related to betting.

h. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage does not cooperate with any reasonable investigation carried out by the IF or competition authority, including failure to provide relevant information and/or requested documentation, including records relating to the alleged breach (such as itemised telephone bills, bank statements, internet service records, computers, hard drives and other electronic information storage devices).
i. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage knowingly assists, covers up or is otherwise complicit in any acts previously described committed by another party. The individual shall be treated as having committed such acts himself and shall be liable accordingly.

j. When an athlete, official or member of the entourage induces, orders or supports any participant to commit any of the listed offences.
Values Safeguards Against Match-fixing and Competition Irregularities
• Understanding the responsibilities and duties of your position:

IFMA CODE OF ETHICS

IFMA CONDUCT POLICY

• Understanding the importance and consequences of signing the:

IFMA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR REFEREES / JUDGES / OFFICIALS

IFMA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

IFMA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES

IFMA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ENTOURAGE
In-Competition Safeguards Against Match-fixing and Competition Irregularities
Selection:

R&Js are designated and managed by the Referee & Judge Commission. Nominations from the referee and judging pool can be made up to 1 hour before a competition.

All R&Js assemble in a designated, private area on the day of competition. Not more than 30 minutes before the start of each competition, individual officials are informed by the R&J Commission who will be officiating over the match in question. Immediately upon being informed, the selected officials must sit alone in a neutral corner, with no contact with any other judge or referee.

A Jury Commission is appointed at every event by the EB, made up of the most senior, experienced, and trusted officials.

The Jury Commission designates a three person jury to preside over each quintet of judges per match. The head of each jury is called the chairman.
**R&J Evaluation:**
Scoring is performed by five individual judges (a quintet), stationed around the ring. The three person jury monitors the judges. After each match, the R&J Commission evaluates every judge and scorecard, compared against the overall decision made.

Electronic scoring is being introduced, for increased transparency.

**Referee Evaluation:**
During the match, the referee’s performance is evaluated by the chairman of the jury. If unethical or unusual behaviour is observed, the match is stopped and the referee is warned. If the behaviour continues, the referee is immediately withdrawn from the competition and replaced.
Athlete Evaluation:

During the match, it is the referee’s responsibility to monitor the performance of the athletes, both to ensure the safety of both athletes, and to prevent unnecessary harm, but also to note when an athlete is intentionally not performing to the best of his or her ability.

The referee will first order the athlete to compete competently, next will issue a warning and notice to all judges, and if there is a further occurrence, will stop the fight and no winner will be declared.

Entourage Evaluation:

Members of the athletes entourage are expected to display behaviour appropriate to the competition venue, refraining from disrespectful or abusive behaviour towards officials, athletes, or other participants, and must not seek to disrupt in any way the competition underway. Complaints may be evaluated by the Athletes Commission.
Consequences of Violations
Judge:
If a judge is shown to be inconsistent in decision-making, he or she will be called before the R&J Commission and receive a firm warning, not being allowed to officiate on the next match day.

If there is a re-occurrence, there will be an immediate suspension, and the national federation will be informed. The judge in question will be asked to re-take the exams for his or her judge certificates.

Amongst the nominated referees and judges, a bad performance will immediately have them taken off the nominees list for future events.

If intent to distort results is shown, the judge in question can be barred from officiating.
Referee:
A referee who has been withdrawn from a competition for irregular behaviour will be barred from refereeing.

Athlete:
An athlete whose match has been stopped by the referee for failing to compete to the best of his or her known ability will face disciplinary action.

Entourage:
Any member(s) of the entourage demonstrating inappropriate, disruptive or abusive behaviour will face disciplinary action.

SEE GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT OF IFMA ENTOURAGE
How Offenses Should Be Managed
“KEY POINTS TO TAKE AWAY:

- Whatever your role or position within the IF, as a stakeholder, it is your responsibility to uphold the values of Muaythai and to strive for fair play in all aspects of the sport and competition.

- If you are ever approached and offered any kind of incentive to commit a match-fixing offense, it is your responsibility to inform the relevant authority, regardless of whom has offered the incentive.