



Ringside Photography and Videography

Purpose:

To ensure that any ringside photography/videography, occurring during a contest, is authorised and conducted in a safe manner.

Scope:

This policy applies to any person wishing to engage in ringside photography/videography during a combat sport contest pursuant to the *Combat Sports Act 1987* (Act). The following process only applies within the contest area and exclusion zone (generally referred to as being ringside) and does not apply to publicly accessible areas. This policy is applicable to the use of any device that can capture images and/or record footage including but not limited to mobile phones, laptops, tablets, camera/video equipment and drones.

Legislative Background:

The functions of the Combat Sports Commission (Commission) include formulating or recommending standards, specifications, codes of conduct or other forms of guidance for the purpose of maintaining proper standards in combat sports (section 10(1)(b) of the Act).

Process:

The Commission acknowledges that photography/videography is often desired by contestants or industry participants for commercial or non-commercial use for:

- training, development or performance analysis;
- promotion or publicity;
- event live streaming or recording;
- personal or social sharing.

In the interests of contestant safety, ringside access/egress, event management and crowd control, the Commission places certain restrictions on who can enter or remain within the exclusion zone and what activities are permitted ringside.

Promoters engaging ringside photographers/videographers:

- Promoters may engage or designate additional ringside personnel for the purpose of contest filming, photographing, broadcasting, streaming or commentating.
- Promoters must nominate to the Commission, during the Part 2 permit application, all additional ringside personnel.
- Prior to commencement of an event, a promoter must confirm with an attending Commission member, the final list of names for authorisation of additional ringside personnel or advise of any requisite changes.
- No photography/videography is permitted to occur ringside without prior authorisation.

Prohibited ringside photography/videography (during bouts) by industry participants:

- The *Contest Rules* specify the duties and responsibilities for industry participants during a contest which do not extend to photography/videography. Therefore, industry participants are strictly forbidden from ringside photography/videography whilst a bout is in action or during the rest period between rounds of the bout. This



includes trainers or seconds designated to work in a corner.

- Industry participants working ringside are welcome to take ringside photos/videos at the conclusion of a bout or alternatively industry participants not working ringside may engage in photography/videography during a bout from publicly accessible areas.

Individual requests for independent ringside photography/videography:

- At the promoter's discretion and consent, a contestant or industry participant may engage an independent professional photographer/videographer to work temporarily ringside.
- Requests to conduct professional ringside photography/videography for a specified bout, must be pre-arranged (prior to the start of the event) through the promoter.
- Promoters must subsequently notify the Commission of any consent granted and advise of any independent photographer/videographer and bout number to which temporary ringside access is being granted.
- Only professional photographers/videographers will be granted access. Family and friends of contestants are not permitted ringside but are welcome to take photographs/footage from publicly accessible areas.

Ringside requirements for Commission members, appointees and others:

- Commission members, appointees and any other person authorised to work ringside must not use a mobile phone for non-urgent or non-work-related purposes, during any bout or rest period between rounds of a bout, whilst working within the exclusion zone.

For more information contact the Commission on:

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<https://www.cits.wa.gov.au/sport-and-recreation/combat-sports-commission>