

Rules for Appointments, and other persons at International Events

Background

The High-Performance Commission (HPC) has been established by the AFF Board to deal with all matters relating to High-Performance including all matters regarding International Events.

These rules are provided to Relevant Persons to ensure that all Relevant Persons are aware how the HPC makes decisions with respect to the attendance of any person at an International Event, and appointments of officials and coaches at these events.

Appointment Rules

Athletes, coaches, and Relevant Persons must observe the AFF Policies, and other relevant guidelines, and agreements, such as the Athlete Agreement for National Squad Members, and these Appointment Rules.

Administration: The HPC appoints coaches to attend and coach at International Events including:

- FIE competitions and any activities associated with these;
- AFF tours; and
- HPC Designated Events, International Non-designated events, and International Championships, as defined in the AFF Selection Policy.
(collectively the “**International Events**”)

In these Appointment Rules, the term “International Events” has the same meaning as in the AFF Selection Policy.

Appointed coaches, athletes, and other Relevant Persons, must remember that they are representatives of Australia and the AFF when they are present at International Events.

The appointment of any coach or official to attend to National Squad Members, and Australian athletes, at International Events are subject to the following requirements:

- **Accreditations at International Events:** Only AFF personnel at the direction of the HPC are authorised to make applications for accreditation (including accreditation of coaches or other representatives) to organizers of International Events. Athletes, their parents, coaches and/or any other persons are not authorised to, and must not, make any representations or applications to organisers to obtain accreditations for an International Event, or communicate with event organizers unless authorized in writing by the AFF.
- **Communication with International Event Organizers:** Only AFF personnel are to make representations to the organizers of an International Event. Athletes, nor any person associated with them, may write to, or make representations to the organizers unless they have been expressly permitted to do so in writing by the AFF.

- **Recognition of Officials and Coaches:** AFF appointed and accredited officials and coaches are the only persons recognized and eligible to represent and work with an Australian athlete piste-side on a tour, or at an International Event.
- **Personal Coaches on AFF Tour:** While the AFF welcomes and encourages athletes to bring their personal coach on AFF tours, their personal coach, nor any other person, may coach an Australian athlete at an International Event (including competition coaching piste-side and working with an Australian team athlete during tour activities such as training) **unless:**
 - the athlete's personal coach has been invited and authorised by the HPC to work as an Australian team coach at an International Event; or
 - they are otherwise authorised to do so by the HPC.

An athlete may apply to the HPC to authorise their coach to work with the Australian team or join an athlete and to coach them during an International Event. The decision whether to allow the application is at the discretion of the HPC and may be subject to restrictions, terms or conditions.

- **Personal Coaches for non-Tour Events:** For the avoidance of doubt, an athlete's personal coach may only coach that athlete at an International Event that is a non-tour event, if they are approved to do so by the HPC and subject to the athlete applying to the HPC for approval. In granting approval, the HPC may impose restrictions, terms or conditions that the athlete and their personal coach must comply with these.
- **Australian Accreditation:** Notwithstanding anything in these guidelines, in addition to complying with the above requirements, **it is mandatory** for a personal coach to obtain an Australian coaching accreditation (level 1) if they wish to coach an Australian athlete at an International Event. In exceptional circumstances the HPC may set aside this requirement.
- **Permissions Process:** Athletes must write to hpc@fencing.org.au requesting that permission be granted for a personal coach to attend an International Event, or a non-tour event, setting out the reasons why permission should be granted and confirming that their personal coach has obtained Australian coach accreditation. Athletes may make application for multiple events at any one time.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT and DISCIPLINE

- Athletes representing Australia, and any Relevant Person, must comply with these Appointment Rules.
- A breach of these rules will be considered Prohibited Conduct and is subject to measures and discipline under these rules and the Complaints, Disputes, and Discipline Policy, at the discretion of the AFF.
- Where a Relevant Person is engaged in, or has engaged in, Prohibited Conduct, the AFF, may take any interim measures necessary to rectify or manage a situation on Tour.
- In the instance of a breach of these RULES, the AFF may also take any of the following disciplinary measures:

- a. Any interim measure it deems necessary to rectify or manage a breach or situation on Tour or at a non-Tour Event;
- b. In serious cases, remove an athlete or coach, or Relevant Person, from an International Event, with the expressed written consent of the President of the AFF or High Performance Commission Chair. In circumstances where time does not permit, this may only be done by the Tour Manager;
- c. Suspend a National Squad member from the National Squad under the terms of the Athlete Agreement, or suspend an accreditation of a Coach or Official; or
- d. Refer the prohibited Conduct to the AFF Complaints Manager to be dealt with under the Complaints, Disputes, and Discipline Policy.

Definitions

DEFINITIONS

- i. In these RULES, the following words have the corresponding meaning:

Activity means a sporting contest, match, competition, event, meeting, discussion whether in person or online, or activity (including training, camp, lesson, whether online or in-person, tour where it is endorsed by a Relevant Organisation, accreditation process, high performance activity, or any such activity), whether on a one-off basis or as part of a session, series, league, or competition, which is either sanctioned, organised, co-ordinated by, or connected-with a Relevant Organisation.

AFF means the Australian Fencing Federation.

Athlete means a person who is registered, or entitled to participate, in an Activity.

Complaints, Disputes, and Discipline Policy means the National Integrity Framework policy that has been adopted by the AFF.

Complaints Manager means the person, or group of persons, appointed under clause 6.11 of the Complaints, Disputes, and Discipline Policy to manage Complaints under that Policy.

Coach means a person who is guiding and instructing the athlete.

Non-Tour Event means any FIE, EFC, or Commonwealth event that is not designated as a Tour.

Member means a member of a Relevant Organisation, including:

- ii. **Member Organisation**, which means each company or incorporated association that includes: each:
 - iii. State or territory, referred in the AFF Constitution as a "Member State"; and
 - iv. Affiliate that is a member of a state and territory Member (Affiliated Member, as defined in the AFF Constitution).;
- v. **Individual Member**, which means individuals who are individuals registered with a Relevant Organisation.
- vi. Any other category of membership recognised by AFF

Participant means:

- vii. Athletes;
- viii. coaches appointed to train an Athlete or Team in an Activity;
- ix. administrators who have a role in the administration, operation or Activity of a Relevant Organisation including owners, directors, committee members or other persons;
- x. officials including referees, umpires, technical officials, or other officials appointed by a Relevant Organisation, or any league, competition, series, Club or Team sanctioned by a Relevant Organisation; and
- xi. support personnel who are appointed in a professional or voluntary capacity by a Relevant Organisation, or any league, competition, series, Club or Team sanctioned by a Relevant Organisation including sports science sports medicine personnel, team managers, agents, selectors, and team staff members.
- xii. Spectator, observer or similar at an Activity.
- xiii. Parent of an athlete.

Relevant Organisation means any of the following organisations:

- xiv. AFF;
- xv. Member Organisations; or
- xvi. any other organisation that has agreed to be bound by the Relevant Policies.

Relevant Person means any of the following persons of a Relevant Organisation or at an Activity:

- xvii. Individual Member;
- xviii. Participant;
- xix. Employee;
- xx. Contractor;
- xxi. Volunteer; or
- xxii. any other individual who has agreed to be bound by the Relevant Policies.

Tour means any organisation or management by a Relevant Organisation of athletes, with or without an attending coach, or Head of Delegation, to attend any international event including but not limited to FIE, EFC, Commonwealth, US based, or Asian based. Where the AFF denotes that representation in the event is subject to participation in a Tour, all organisation around such participation will be a Tour for the purposes of these RULES.

Tour Manager means the person appointed by the AFF to be the Head of Delegation for the Tour, and is the AFF's chief representative on the Tour.

High Performance Commission
Australian Fencing Federation