

INTERNATIONAL POWERLIFTING FEDERATION CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

It is the aim of the International Powerlifting Federation (IPF), its officers and the entire Powerlifting family to promote the highest possible values within the sport of Powerlifting.

APPLICABILITY

This Code shall apply to all IPF staff, persons elected or appointed to any position within the IPF and to any other person in any position of trust within the IPF or its Regional Federations and also to any consultants, agents or similar when acting for or on behalf of the IPF. Such persons are referred to in this Code as Officials.

This Code shall also apply to athletes, athlete support personnel, coaches, managers, referees and any other persons accredited to attend or participate in an international competition. Such persons are referred to in this Code as Participants.

DEFINITION

Words used in this Code shall have the same meaning as set out in the IPF Constitution, By-Laws, Technical Rules and Anti-Doping Rules.

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES IN POWERLIFTING

EQUALITY

1. No discrimination on the basis of gender, race, religion, **sexual orientation** or political opinion shall be tolerated.
2. When electing or appointing persons in a position of trust, both sexes should be considered **equally**.

DIGNITY

3. The governance of the IPF shall have due regard to the physical and mental well-being of all Participants. Any form of harassment, be that physical, psychological, professional or sexual, is strictly prohibited.

FAIR PLAY

4. Fair play is the basic guiding principle in the sport of Powerlifting.
5. Doping is strictly forbidden at all levels. The IPF Anti-Doping Rules shall be scrupulously observed at all times. Also the general principles of the “spirit of sport” those not explicitly specified as anti-doping rule violations in the IPF Anti-Doping Rules shall be observed. For example:
 - a) any Athlete and Athlete Support Personnel (i.e. “Participant”, refer to “Applicability” of this Code) shall cooperate in full with the IPF or any other Anti-Doping Organization investigating anti-doping rule violations;
 - b) any Athlete Support Personnel (i.e. “Participant”, refer to “Applicability” of this Code) shall not Use or Possess, without valid justification, any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method listed on the valid WADA Prohibited List.
6. Betting on Powerlifting and other corrupt practices relating to the sport of Powerlifting by IPF Officials or Participants, including improperly influencing the outcomes or results of an event or competition, are prohibited.
7. Any person subject to this Code shall exercise due care and diligence in fulfilling their roles for or on behalf of the IPF. Such persons must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the IPF or Powerlifting generally, nor in a manner likely to bring the sport into disrepute. Officials and Participants shall not disclose information received by them, if such disclosure is made maliciously in order to damage the interests of the IPF, especially when it is made for personal gain or benefit.

INTEGRITY

8. No Official shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any concealed remuneration, commission, benefit or service of any nature connected with their participation in or with their function as an Official.
9. No Official shall solicit or accept benefits, entertainment or gifts in exchange for, or as a condition of, the exercise of their duties, or as an inducement for performing an act associated with their duties or responsibilities, except that gifts, hospitality or other benefit associated with their official duties and responsibilities may be accepted if such gifts, hospitality or other benefits:
 - a) are within the bounds of propriety, a normal expression of courtesy, or within the normal standards of hospitality;

- b) would not bring suspicion on the Official's objectivity and impartiality; and
 - c) would not compromise the integrity of the IPF.
10. No Official may be involved with any company, association, firm or person whose activity is inconsistent with the objectives of interest of the IPF. If it is unclear, whether this kind of connection exists in any given situation, the matter shall be submitted to the **IPF Ethics Committee** for a decision, subject to a right of appeal.
11. All IPF Officials, Officers at all levels must use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they must act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they must act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism. They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the Olympic Movement and the International Powerlifting Federation.

NEUTRALITY

12. Officials shall remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the IPF and its member nations and generally act in a manner compatible with their function and integrity.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

13. In discharging their duties to the IPF, all officials shall act for the benefit of the IPF when making decisions that affect, or may affect, the IPF and shall do so without reference to their own personal interests, either financial or otherwise. Should a conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, between the IPF and any IPF Official arise, or if there is a danger of such conflict arising, the individual concerned must refrain from taking any further part in the handling of the matter. If there is any doubt as to whether such a conflict of interest exists in any given situation, the matter shall be submitted to the **IPF Ethics Committee** for a decision as to the appropriate handling of the matter.
14. Officials shall avoid any situation that could lead to conflicts of interest. Potential conflicts of interest arise:
- if Officials have, or appear to have, private or personal interests that detract from their ability to perform their duties with integrity in an independent and purposeful manner. Private or personal interests include gaining any possible advantage for the persons bound by this Code themselves, their family, relatives, friends and acquaintances;
 - if the opinion or decision of an Official, acting alone or within an organization, is influenced by, or may be reasonably considered as liable to be influenced by relations that such Official has, has had or is on the point of having, with another person or organization that would be affected by the person's opinion or decision.

15. If a situation arises that may represent a conflict of interest, the Official or Officials concerned shall report it immediately to the **IPF Ethics Committee** for appropriate measures. If an objection is made concerning an existing or potential conflict of interest of an Official, it shall be brought to the **IPF Ethics Committee** for appropriate measure.

RESOURCES

16. The resources of the IPF may only be used for Powerlifting purposes.
17. The IPF recognizes the significant contribution that sponsors, partners and other supporters of sports events make to the development and prestige of Powerlifting throughout the world. However such support must be in a form consistent with the IPF Constitution and its Rules and By-Laws as well as the principles set out in this Code of Ethics. By virtue of their position they must not be allowed to interfere with the running of the sport by the IPF.
18. All Olympic Resources allocated to the International Powerlifting Federation must be used only for Olympic purposes.

CONFIDENTIALITY

19. No IPF Official or Participant shall improperly disclose any documents or information entrusted to them in confidence.

IMPLEMENTATION

20. It is the duty of all persons falling under this Code to conduct themselves according to the Code and to ensure to the best of their ability that the Code is applied within the IPF.
21. All persons bound by this Code shall immediately report any seeming or potential violation of the Code to the IPF Executive. At the request of the IPF Executive, the **IPF Ethics Committee** or any other duly authorized organ of the IPF, persons bound by this Code are obliged to contribute to clarifying the facts of the possible violation.
22. The **IPF Ethics Committee** may make recommendations to the IPF General Assembly for the modification, amendment or deletion of provisions in this Code of Ethics.

IPF ETHICS COMMITTEE

23. **The IPF Ethics Committee is composed of a maximum number of six independent members. Out of these three members will be elected by the General Assembly and three members are appointed by the IPF Executive Committee. The members must not hold any other position within the IPF structure and be credible representatives of good governance and Ethics in sport as to the satisfaction of the electoral bodies.**
24. **In dealing with any case the IPF Ethics Committee will apply the procedures as regulated in the IPF Legal Code for the legal proceedings of these legal bodies.**

25. The IPF Executive, via the President, may refer matters involving a possible breach of this Code of Ethics to the **IPF Ethics Committee**. In the event that a matter concerns the IPF President, this matter shall be transferred to the **IPF Ethics Committee** by one of the members of the IPF Executive, as appointed by that Executive.
26. The **IPF Ethics Committee**, in handling a matter arising from this Code of Ethics, shall conduct itself according to the IPF Constitution and By-Laws, but shall act in accordance with the principles of natural justice.
27. For any violation of this Code of Ethics, the **IPF Ethics Committee** may impose any one or more of the following sanctions:
 - a) a warning or reprimand;
 - b) a suspension for a fixed period of up to 4 years from holding office or other position held by an Official and/or until a specified set of conditions have been met to the **IPF Ethics Committee's** satisfaction;
 - c) a return of any IPF award;
 - d) a ban for a fixed period of up to a lifetime from taking part in any Powerlifting related activity;
 - e) a recommendation to the IPF Executive of the notification of the matter to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
28. Decisions taken by the **IPF Ethics Committee** are subject to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The decisions of CAS are final.
29. Upon decision of the IPF General Assembly on November 4, 2018 in Halmstad, the IPF has amended this Code and created the **IPF Ethics Committee** which from there on will oversee the implementation of the Code.

EFFECTIVE DATE

30. **This Code came first into force on 29th July 2013 and is amended by the IPF General Assemblies held on 8th November 2015 in Hamm, Luxembourg and on 4th November 2018 in Halmstad, Sweden.**