



# **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.

In furtherance of this aim the IPF Executive on 29th July 2013 adopted the following IPF Code of Ethics.

## **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 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**

- a) No discrimination based on gender, race, religion or political opinion shall be tolerated.
- b) When electing or appointing persons in a position of trust, both sexes should be considered.

### **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 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 and 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.

#### **NEUTRALITY**

11. 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**

12. 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.

13. Officials shall avoid any situation that could lead to conflicts of interest. Potential conflicts of interest arise:

- a. 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.
- b. 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.

14. 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.

## **RECOURCES**

15. The resources of the IPF may only be used for Powerlifting purposes.

16. 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.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

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

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. 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**

21. The IPF Executive, via the President, may refer matters involving a possible breach of this Code of Ethics to the IPF Ethics Committee. If a matter concerns the IPF President, this matter shall be transferred to the Ethics Committee by one of the members of the IPF Executive, as appointed by that Executive.

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. Upon decision of the IPF General Assembly on November 8th, 2015, in Hamm, Luxembourg, 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**

26. This Code came into force on 29th July 2013 and was amended by the IPF General Assembly held on 8th November 2015 in Hamm, Luxembourg.