



WAKO Policy

- Fair Play -

WAKO is member of International Fair Play Committee, CIPF. The membership is established in order to raise awareness and understand what we understand and define as fair play, to act preventive and to ensure positive development for all, within the sport of Kickboxing.

The area of fair play is a code of conduct about behavior and that cherished development of the sport, also in the field of competition. Focusing on fair play is ment to be a positive tool and when implemented also as an automatic mechanism and rational behaviour.

Fair Play should be implemented in all field of our Organization;

- **For athletes**
- **For referees and judges**
- **For coaches**
- **For officials and leaders**
- **For the entourage**

Automatic fair play shall lead to ethic behavior and manner and that all involved take decision well rooted in respect and understanding. WAKO defines these five aspects to draw a complete picture of fair play in Kickboxing;

1. **Performance and achievement**
2. **Creating rules and complying with them**
3. **Equal opportunities**
4. **Respect**
5. **Health**

Performance

In sporting competition fair play means doing your best and continually improving on your personal performance within the rules of the sport and taking your own abilities and competencies into account. This applies to both improving individual performance and comparing your performance with that of the opponent, the team performance or in terms of personal achievement. Within the meaning of fair play, performance is to be understood as commitment and effort. Violent conduct is, however, incompatible with the understanding of performance within Kickboxing. Fair play also a means to avoiding exerting excessive pressure on others to do well (along the lines of “being able to perform without being forced to do so”).



Creating rules and complying with them

Fair play means complying with the structured rules of Kickboxing, behaving in accordance with them and acting within the spirit of those rules. The rules make the sport possible in the first place. In a particular Kickboxing under the governance of WAKO are the same worldwide and enable various cultures and nations to compete against one another Kickboxing. Fair play forms the basis of this agreement. In the interests of the sport this agreement can be changed if it helps to improve the game and within the rules, by laws and statutes. In this respect, the rules are inherently dynamic and not rigidly unalterable. Within the spirit of fair play related risks are also to be considered and it must be ensured that reasons outside the sport are not the exclusive driving force behind rule changes.

However, fair play also means ensuring when the rules are created and interpreted so that they enable the best possible performance, convey respect, take care of health and guarantee equal opportunities for all.

Equal opportunities

Fair play means observing and promoting the fundamental principles and the idea of equal opportunities in sport and Kickboxing. The principle of equal opportunities implies that the conditions before and during the sporting contest must be equal for all participants (as far as possible). In order to come as close as possible to this equality, fair play is indispensable. Beyond competitive sport fair play means giving everyone who would like to participate in the sport the opportunity to do so.

Respect

Fair play means respecting those involved in the sport and the sport itself, with tolerance of other views and opinions playing an important part. Only with respect for the dignity of others, and its own dignity, can sport develop its many and varied facets. By those playing sports showing respect for one another wide-ranging emotions lying dormant are brought to life, turning sporting events into a unique positive and expressive experience – whether on a personal scale or in a major international spectacle.

Health

Fair play means guaranteeing the health of fellow players as well as one's own health in Kickboxing and also generating overall a healthy well-being. Kickboxing helps to improve or preserve good health if it is practiced in accordance with the principles of fair play and within the rules. In this sense, fair play calls for careful monitoring of one's own abilities and resilience so as to avoid overstretching oneself or not stretching oneself sufficiently. Moreover, the health of an opponent as well as fellow team-mates must be recognized as inviolable.

These five aspects play a significant role in all performance levels and age groups in Kickboxing, ranging from competitive Kickboxing at both elite and popular levels, to Kickboxing for fun, leisure and health. Furthermore, the CIFP does not view sport for the disabled as an independent category since disabled athletes are engaged in similar categories of sport.

The Fair Play implementation handbook lectures more deeply in each of the above subjects in how to act and how to understand and live fair play in a natural way understanding the complexity in exercising activity and to live it.

Read it, understand it and do it!



Yearly WAKO Fair Play Award

Highlighting our work within Fair Play, WAKO have established a yearly WAKO Fair Play Award and we will inform all members of procedures, criteria and how to nominate suitable candidates.

These yearly Awards are granted under the auspices of the International Fair Play Committee (CIFP), an IOC-recognized organization.

See separate information.



Renamed 2.4.2016.

Decided by the WAKO Board of Directors 1.3.2016