



Combative Sports Commission

MANDATE

To regulate and govern amateur and professional combative sporting events, activities, and contestants within The City of Calgary, ensuring safety for the participants and the public.

COMPOSITION

As per the Combative Sports Commission Bylaw, members shall be appointed for three-year terms and members may serve a maximum of five consecutive terms. The Commission structure provides the opportunity for Commission members to gradually attain the required knowledge and skill to develop a robust succession management plan and adequately reflect the complexity associated with ensuring safety standards.

Member	Role	Appointment Start	Expiry Year
TJ Madigan	Commission Chair	2012	2024
Shane Moore	Commission Vice Chair	2017	2024
Allison Kavanagh	Commission Member	2013	2024
Marc Pesant	Commission Member	2019	2024
Kent Pallister	Commission Member	2020	2025
Michael Briegel	Administration Member, Deputy Chief Business Safety & Community Support	Non voting member	

MEETINGS

The Combative Sports Commission holds no less than five regular meetings per year with additional special meetings as required. Comprised of Commission members, these special meetings are set up to address time-sensitive applications for combative sports events, requests from promoters or contestants, and discussions of safety and risk mitigation around combative sports events and activities. All Commission meetings are hybrid in nature and are a mix of in-person and remote attendees.

Administration posts the notice of upcoming meetings, meeting agendas and minutes on the Calgary Combative Sports Commission website (www.calgarycsc.ca). Members of the public that wish to participate in the meeting can be added to the agenda by contacting the Commission members as outlined on the website.

WORK, IMPACT & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This reporting period saw eight combative sports events held in Calgary. This post-pandemic rebound is a continuance of sustained growth with the previous reporting period's number of events. Three new promoters chose to host their events in Calgary. The Commission could see an increase in the number of events being held in the area due to recent regulatory changes in Edmonton that now restrict their licenses to only allow large-scale events at venues with a capacity of 5,000 spectators or more.



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Previous and continued efforts by the Commission to develop staff and officials for events have resulted in an increase in new local staff members employed for recent events. This creates contract employment opportunities for Calgarians and strengthens the local operational knowledge base on combative sports.

The Commission continues its work on both provincial and national working groups. The Canadian Association of Combative Sports Commissions is working to align rules, reporting, and safety standards across the country. The provincial combative sports working group supports the establishment of a provincial combative sports commission and continuing to share best practices and operational knowledge between the various municipal Commissions in Alberta.

MANDATE ALIGNMENT

With a focus on safety, the Commission maintains high operational standards to protect participants, officials and spectators. This is accomplished in tandem with reducing barriers for events to be held in Calgary. The Commission's active participation on various national and provincial working groups allows for the sharing of information on best practices, understanding new and emerging trends, and playing a foundational role for the future of combative sport regulation in Canada.

Commission members attended the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports Conference in Summer 2023, ensuring that Calgary is utilizing international best practices for the governing of combative sport events.

COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION

The Commission's narrow scope of practice is focused on combative sports, as such, the Commission has not had the opportunity to collaborate or interact with other committees on projects or work pertaining to City initiatives. The Commission is open to collaboration where appropriate. Outside of this yearly report, the Commission has not presented any formal reports to Council or other committees, nor has it participated in a report that was compiled for Council or other committees.

WORKPLAN & PRIORITIES FOR 2024-2025

While continuing to advocate for the development of a provincial combative sports commission in Alberta to ensure consistent regulation and support best practice, the Commission will be working towards the following in 2024-2025:

- Improve guidance for promoters through the development of a step-by-step, user-friendly guide clearly outlining Commission requirements.
- Review and update forms, documentation and external communications for relevancy and accuracy.
- Continue efforts to attract more local inspectors and officials.
- Review ruleset changes in other jurisdictions to ensure Calgary's rules are aligned and compatible with international standards.



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- Begin to explore modernization options to improve service offerings for contestants, promoters, and staff. This could include investigating online systems options.

CHALLENGES

The Combative Sports Commission membership could face a knowledge base loss with four out of five members' terms expiring in 2024. The Commission has taken the following steps to mitigate this knowledge loss:

- Discussions have been held with expiring members and some have expressed interest in extending their appointments.
- The Vice Chair has been shadowing the Commission Chair to promote knowledge transfer.
- Existing members, some with over a decade of experience, are preparing to train possible new members to the Commission.

The City of Calgary's organization realignment project has affected the Combative Sports Commission administratively with staffing responsibility changes that have not been reassigned to a permanent staff. A plan is in place to assign staff in the coming months to support the Commission.

Combative sports in Calgary have only begun to recover from the reduction in events due to the COVID-19 pandemic and post-pandemic related health restrictions. This has caused a significant reduction in the gate fees being collected by the Commission. The Commission follows a cost recovery model using fees from events to cover operating expenses. The reduction in the gate fees has resulted in the Commission using their contingency fund. The Commission is working with Administration to explore a sustainable operating model.

Calgary Combative Sports Commission 2019 - 2023 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures (\$000)					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Revenues/Other Funding Sources:					
Gate Fees*	\$36	\$6	\$0	\$36	\$24
Draw from Contingency Fund**	\$37	\$21	\$37	\$7	\$14
Expenditures	\$73	\$27	\$37	\$43	\$38
Ongoing Operating Expenses					
Salary, Wage and Benefits	25	15	25	28	25
Honorarium Expenses (for attending regular Commission meetings, weigh-in and events)	32	9	7	2	2
Business Expenses (parking, meeting supplies, bank service charge, conference)	11	1	2	8	9
Communication and IT Services (computer, phone, printing, interpretation services)	5	2	3	5	2
	\$73	\$27	\$37	\$43	\$38
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
* The 2020 and 2021 decrease in event revenue and Commission expenditures are a direct result of COVIC-19 restrictions. ** As of March 31, 2024, the contingency fund balance was at \$19K					



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In the absence of provincial regulation, the Commission will continue to actively participate with the provincial working group to share knowledge and best practices. The Commission would ideally like to see combative sports be regulated at the provincial level to ensure consistent safety measures and operating procedures. This would be in line with combative sports regulation with other provinces across Canada.

MEMBER PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

The Combative Sport Commission Bylaw (53M2006) section 6, states that members must sign a certificate acknowledging their eligibility and agreement to abide by all policies, procedures and any code of conduct as established by the Commission. Failure to adhere to this code of conduct may result in disciplinary actions that could include the suspension, revocation or other sanctions being levied against a member. The Calgary Combative Sport Commission Code of Conduct Certificate is included as attachment A.

The Combative Sports Commission Bylaw (53M2006) indicates that any member that fails to attend three consecutive monthly meetings of the commission without Commission approval shall be deemed to have submitted a resignation.

BCC COMMENTS

Having been in operation for more than 100 years, the Calgary Combative Sports Commission will continue to advocate for enhancements to its program to support the safe operations of combative sporting events in Calgary.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Calgary Combative Sports Commission Code of Conduct for Commission Members



CALGARY COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS

E 2089 (2017-05)

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish clear and ethical parameters for the members of the Calgary Combative Sports Commission. Members of the Calgary Combative Sports Commission must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

Professionalism is conduct consistent with the tenets of representing the City of Calgary as demonstrated by a Member's civility, honesty, integrity, character, fairness, competence, ethical conduct, public service and respect for the law.

NOTE: The term "Member" for purposes of this document includes Commissioner of the Calgary Combative Sports Commission, Official, Inspector, Ringside Physician or Physician's Assistant, acting in an official capacity.

"Commission" means the Calgary Combative Sports Commission.

1. Members should never be involved in situations where any direct or indirect conflict of interest may be cause for concern affecting the objectivity of that Member. A conflict of interest is a situation in which a Member has competing professional or personal interests that would either make it difficult to fulfill his or her duties fairly, or would create an appearance of impropriety that could undermine public confidence.
2. Members should be familiar with the Calgary Combative Sports Bylaw and all regulatory laws and rules which may apply to the combative sports governed by the Commission.
3. Members should maintain their professional competence through continuous educational study such as participating in seminars, clinics and training workshops associated with combat sports governed by the Commission.
4. Members must protect confidential information and, at the same time, comply with all legal requirements for the disclosure of information affecting the welfare of others.
5. Members must not use confidential information gained as a result of professional activities for personal benefit.
6. Members must not accept undisclosed gifts, payments or financial consideration from anyone. This includes, but is not limited to: Tickets, credentials and merchandise that are not previously authorized as disclosed promotional items by the Commission.
7. Members must never solicit nor accept any gift, payment, or financial consideration from any promoter, manager, fighter, athlete, trainer, media or those persons otherwise affiliated through combat sports.
8. Members shall have limited social contact with the promoter, fighters, athletes, managers, trainers, or media other than contact that is professional and a requirement of the Member's performing their duties. If a social relationship should develop, Member's are expected to disclose same.

9. Members will act as professional regulators and in this capacity and while undertaking their duties and responsibilities not solicit any photographs and/or autographs from celebrities, fighters, or prominent personalities.
10. Members will not use their position to gain access to other events (combative sports related or other), regardless of jurisdiction. Members wishing to attend events in other jurisdictions must do so by way of the Chairman, who will make all arrangements.
11. Members must maintain a professional appearance by complying with the Commission’s dress code during events. A general guideline is as follows:
 - Business attire at major events for Commissioners
 - Business attire or approved casual for weigh-ins and other events
 - Referees / Judges – as per policy dress code policy on file
 - Room Inspectors / Other Officials – Commission approved shirt and Blazer, Business attire (dress slacks, proper footwear)
12. Members shall not be involved in criminal activities, nor knowingly be associated with persons who are except in the normal course of their professional obligations.
13. Members shall not engage in any activity, or conduct, while home or abroad, which may bring discredit or disrepute to the City of Calgary, and the Commission.
14. Members should be punctual and prepared for all events and meetings, so that all events may commence on time and proceed efficiently. Members who cannot attend meetings and functions should give ample notification to the Chairman.
15. Members should be prepared to commit sufficient time to serve. This means that a certain amount of time is required to carry out the duties of the Commission. Members are expected to attend the majority of events and meetings during their appointment.

***** Any violation of this document may result in disciplinary action being taken. Disciplinary action may result in a Members’ designation being suspended, revoked, or other sanctions as determined by the Calgary Combative Sports Commission and/or the City of Calgary.**

In signing this document I agree to follow the Code of Conduct.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

YYYY-MM-DD