The International Sumo Federation (IFS)

Rules for Sanctioning the Members of Sumo Athletes’ Entourage

1. General Principles

1.1 The International Sumo Federation (hereinafter call the “IFS”) implements and enforces the following rules regarding the integrity of sumo, including effective and enforceable sanctions for members of Sumo Athlete’s entourage.

1.2 National members should fully cooperate with the IFS with respect to maintaining the integrity of sumo.

1.3 The IFS should investigate, whenever necessary, the potential involvement of members of Sumo Athlete’s entourage any time an Athlete’s behavior is investigated.

1.4 National members shall put in places rules and processes to ensure full cooperation by the Athlete’s entourage during an investigation from the IFS.

2. Sanctionable Acts and Omissions

2.1 Acts and omissions by members of Sumo Athlete’s entourage that may give rise to the implementation of measures and/or sanctions include:

2.1.1 Doping violations;

2.1.2 Any form of discrimination (gender, ethnic, origin, religious, political, language and sexual orientation);

2.1.3 Any form of harassment or abuse (physical, professional, sexual, mental);

2.1.4 Participation in, support of, or the promotion of any form of gambling, betting or match-fixing;

2.1.5 Violations of integrity of matches and competitions;

2.1.6 Unsportsmanlike conduct/ unsporting behaviors;
2.1.7 Political propaganda;
2.1.8 Libel and slander;
2.1.9 Bribery, corruption and embezzlement;
2.1.10 Forgery and falsification;
2.1.11 Failure of Duty of disclosure, cooperation and reporting;
2.1.12 Offering and accepting gifts and other benefits; and
2.1.13 Any other unethical behavior.

2.2 Members of Sumo Athlete’s entourage may also be sanctioned for the acts and/or omissions of persons over whom they have influence or for whom they are responsible.

3. Measures and Sanctions

3.1 The range of measures and sanctions include:

3.1.1 Reprimands;
3.1.2 Provisional measures;
3.1.3 Withdrawal of accreditation from the relevant sporting event;
3.1.4 Withdrawal of license for agents;
3.1.5 Financial sanctions;
3.1.6 Temporary exclusion from the relevant sumo event or sumo organization (club, National federation, IFS, Sumo Competition, IFS event)
3.1.7 Permanent exclusion from the sumo event or sumo organization (club, National federation, IFS, Sumo competition, IFS event)
3.1.8 Return of medals, awards; certificate, medal prize and
3.1.9 Educational measures to raise and improve the awareness about the rules and regulations in force.
3.2 After investigated, if there is proof of a violating action from a member of an athletes’ entourage that stated on Point 2.1, the IFS shall consider applying measures or sanctions that stated on Point 3.1.

3.3 Measures and sanctions may be combined when circumstances so require.

3.4 Before applying any measure or sanction, the IFS may issue a warning.

3.5 The IFS may publish the decision sanctioning a member of an athlete’s entourage on website.

4. **Proportionality of Measures and Sanctions**

4.1 Measures and Sanctions must respect the principle of proportionality and be in proportion to the severity of the violation(s)

4.2 The following factors should be taken into consideration when determining proportionality:

4.2.1 The nature and severity of violation(s);

4.2.2 Whether there is only one violation or multiple violations;

4.2.3 Whether there are any aggravating circumstances (e.g. when the victim is a minor); and

4.2.4 Whether there are any mitigating circumstances (e.g. cooperation with the IFS, member federation, sumo club, etc.)

5. **Due Process**

Before applying any measure or sanction to a member of an Athlete’s entourage, such member should have right to appeal and right to be heard before the relevant IFS executive board committee.

**Supplementary Provisions**

These rules shall take effect as of 29 July 2016.