

GCO WKU



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INTRODUCTION

This rulebook replaces all previously issued rules.

These current rules are valid for members from all states, whereas consideration can be given to local law, in case the law requires such adjustments.

English is the official language of the GCO. This rulebook can be translated into other languages by the GCO headquarters (hereinafter referred to as the "GCO HQ"). In case of any discrepancies, the official English version shall prevail.

Without a written consent from GCO HQ this rulebook shall not be used (copied, published, distributed, etc...) for commercial or business purpose in any way, even electronically.

It is GCO members' responsibility to be aware of and to know the GCO official rulebook, including its changes and amendments. Ignorance of the updated version of the GCO rulebook, which is available on the GCO official website, will not be taken into consideration at any GCO event.



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1. GCO

GCO

GCO stands for the Global Combat Sports Organisation, which has its seat in Germany. The affiliated National Federations are members of GCO.

GCO HQ

GCO HQ stands for GCO headquarters, which has seat in Nördliche Uferstr.4-6, 76189 Karlsruhe, Germany and includes the GCO office in James Court, 63 Gravelly Lane, Erdington, Birmingham B23 6LX England as well.

GCO Executive Board

GCO Executive Board consists of all GCO vice presidents.

2. Amateur Status

The term "Amateur" is used to refer to the Full Contact, Original GCO Kickboxing (K-1 style), Thai Boxing, **Mixed Martial Arts, and Submission Grappling** competitors. However, in this rulebook it is used to describe all non-professional competitors.

A professional is a competitor who is under a professional contract and simultaneously earns more than 100,000 Euro per year by professional fights.

A professional competitor cannot participate in amateur events; especially the amateur GCO World Championships. If the GCO HQ should discover non-amateur participation in such events, one or more of the following consequences might be considered:

- a) Disqualification of the non-amateur; and/or
- b) Participation ban, time to be determined by the GCO HQ;
- c) Fine of 250 Euro; and/or
- d) Revocation of the won title; a revocation of the World title requires the GCO Executive Board approval.

3. Doping

It is prohibited to use any substance to boost one's performance, if such substance is banned by one of the appropriate organizations as a doping substance (IOC, Anti-Doping Agency, National Olympic Committee, etc.).

The GCO supervisor, tournament promoters, and the official doctor can and may perform tests. Other qualified and authorized organizations or persons may also perform such tests in case the local law dictates that.

Competitors who intentionally avoid or evade such controls or try to obstruct or manipulate the testers in any way can be disqualified and banned for a period of time to be determined by the GCO HQ.

Privacy, especially for children and female competitors, shall be respected. Doping tests must be made by a qualified person of the same gender. Whenever this is not available, a GCO supervisor of the same gender shall supervise the collection of the test samples.

4. Registration

Conditions:

Competitors who wish to be admitted to any competition, tournament, or gala should fulfill the following conditions:

- a) Possess a GCO issued or accepted sport book (sport pass); and
- b) Have a valid stamped license for the current year applied in the sport book; and
- c) Have proof of an appropriate entry in the sport book, or show a medical test not older than 12 months, proving that they are "fit to fight"; and
- d) Have no medical or any other reason preventing them from participating in the event; and
- e) Show a medical proof of EEG examination in case of having experienced three head knockouts within a period of less than 12 months, with the EEG made after the banned period; and
- f) Female participants must not be pregnant; and
- g) Fighters in Ring Sports divisions must undergo an AIDS test with the cost of 2 € if the test is available and to provide it according to local law where possible

Entries into the GCO sport book:

Promoters of the tournaments, competitions or galas are responsible to make the following entries into the GCO sport book:

- a) Place, date and name of the event;
- b) Fact that the competitor took part in the event;

- c) Discipline and place (1st, 2nd, 3rd) of the competitor; and
- d) The fact of any head knockout.

In addition to the promoter, the head referee, a GCO supervisor, or, in the case of a head knockout, the physician can also make the entries.

Banning periods after a head knockout:

- a) 1 month after the first head knockout within 12 months;
- b) 3 months after the second head knockout within 12 months; and
- c) 12 months after the third head knockout within 12 months (EEG required).

After being banned for 12 months due to three head knockouts within 12 months, the competitor must submit medical documentation with a negative EEG examination result before he/she can participate in any competition again.

Identification of the competitors:

In international tournaments, competitions or galas, competitors must prove their identity and nationality by showing a government-issued ID.

Competitors who show an ID card issued by GCO HQ displaying their 5-digit MAP number, and who have already had their passport or ID scanned need not to show further identification.

At international competitions, competitors must be in possession of their GCO-issued ID card in order to gain access to the venue and to the competition area. At tournaments, this ID shall serve to prove to the referee the identity of the competitor as well as the division(s) for which the competitor has registered.

Exceptions from nationality requirements:

A competitor can prove his/her special relation to a country other than the one of his/her nationality (the "chosen" country) by submitting to GCO HQ one of the following documents:

- a) Birth certificate of the country of choice;
- b) Marriage certificate with a citizenship of the country of choice; or
- c) Proof of a permanent residence of the country of choice.

Competitors must submit a written application to start "the country of choice" process through the national federation, which then forwards the application to GCO HQ.

Competitors who have selected a "country of choice" can only change the country after obtaining a new citizenship or after moving to another country for permanent residency.

The GCO Executive Board has the right to decide upon such applications, which must be submitted at least one month prior to the competition in which the competitor intends to participate. Exceptions may be made only where approved only by the GCO HQ.

5. Age Categories

The cut off date for an age category is always the 30th of June of the calendar year in which the competition is held.

Kids:

A kid who is 12 years old or under on the cut off day can compete in this age category. The promoter of tournament must inform all country representatives in the official invitation about the age limit within which kids can compete in the tournament.

Juniors:

A junior who is between the age of 13 and 17 (inclusive) years old on the cut off day can compete in this age category.

Juniors – Ring Sports:

A junior who is between the age of 15 and 17 (inclusive) years old on the cut off day can compete in this age category.

Adults:

An Adult who is 18 years or older on the cut off day can compete in this age category.

Veterans:

A Veteran who is 35 years or older on the cut off day can compete in this age category. There is no Veteran category in Full Contact, Thai Boxing, Original GCO Kickboxing (K-1 style), and MMA (Mixed Martial Arts). Veterans may compete down one age category.

Executives:

An Executive who is 45 years or older on the cut off day can compete in this age category. There is no Executive category in Full Contact, Thai Boxing, Original GCO Kickboxing (K-1 style), and MMA (Mixed Martial Arts). Executives may compete down one age category.