



SEROLOGY REPORTING

Scope:

Combat sports are associated with a high risk of bleeding injuries and consequentially a risk of transmitting or contracting blood borne viruses. Contestants must provide the Combat Sports Commission with current and clear serology reports upon registration, renewal of registration and prior to competing in a combat sports Contest.

Definitions:

Act – means the *Combat Sports Act 1987*.

Commission – means the Combat Sports Commission of Western Australia.

Contest – means a contest or exhibition of a combat sport, that is organised, arranged or promoted for profit or that is conducted for public entertainment or to which the public is invited.

Contestant – means a person who participates in a contest, whether for reward or not.

Regulatory Body – means the Australian Commonwealth Territory (ACT) Controlled Sports Division, South Australian Office for Recreation Sport and Racing, New South Wales Combat Sports Authority and the Professional Boxing and Combat Sports Board of Victoria.

Regulations – means the *Combat Sports Regulations 2004*.

Legislative background:

Sections 16 and 19 of the Act requires a person who desires to be registered or renewed as a Contestant, to make an application to the Commission. The application must be accompanied by any medical information as prescribed under the Regulations.

Regulation 8A of the Regulations prescribes that a serology report, prepared within six (6) months before the date of the application stating whether or not the applicant has Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection, Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, must accompany the application for registration or renewal.

In accordance with regulation 8A(2) if the person who desires to be registered as a Contestant is or has been a Contestant in any country outside Australia, the serology report must be prepared within 7 days before the date of the application.

Application:

This policy applies to any person applying for a registration or renewal of registration as a Contestant, any Contestant seeking to compete in Western Australia and any Contestant requiring clearances to compete.



Process:

Registration or Renewal

Applicants must provide, at registration or upon renewal of a registration, a serology report completed within six (6) months prior to the date of the application. However, if a person has competed in a Country outside Australia, applicants must provide a serology report completed within seven (7) days prior to the date of the application for registration or renewal.

Contestants should consider being vaccinated for hepatitis B prior to competing or participating in a Contest.

Western Australia (WA) Contests

Contestants registered with the Commission must submit a new serology report to the Commission if their previous serology report is more than six (6) months old at the time of any Contest they wish to compete in. However, regardless of the currency of a Contestants serology report, where a Contestant has competed in a Country outside Australia a serology report completed within seven (7) days prior to the date of their next WA based Contest must be provided.

The Commission accepts serology clearances, for interstate registered Contestants, to compete in WA when provided with a declaration of clearance from a Regulatory Body. The declaration of clearance must specify a valid (within six (6) months from date of Contest) serology date for the interstate Contestant. As the ACT does not require mandatory serology testing, any declaration clearance without a specified serology date will not be finalised until the interstate Contestant provides a serology report to the Commission completed within seven (7) days prior to the date of the Contest.

Interstate or Overseas Contests

No Contestant registered with the Commission will be given clearance to compete interstate or overseas if their serology report is more than six (6) months old at the time of the contest for which the clearance is sought.

Mandatory serology testing of Contestants does not occur in the ACT, Northern Territory or Queensland and may not occur overseas. Contestants registered with the Commission and seeking clearance to compete overseas or interstate are advised of the increased risk of competing in jurisdictions with unregulated serology requirements. Those who choose to compete in a Country outside Australia will be required to submit to a subsequent serology report seven (7) days prior to returning to any WA based Contest regardless of the currency of any prior serology report submitted to the Commission.

Additional Procedure Links:

[*Code of Conduct for Contestants and Industry Participants*](#)

[*Guidelines and Conditions for Combat Sports Registrants*](#)