

**2018 IMMAF OCEANIA  
OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS OF  
AMATEUR MMA**

**Competition Handbook  
Version 1 January 5<sup>th</sup> 2018**



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## Organizer

International Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF)

Address:

*C/O Sporting Equals, Building 300, Trinity Park,  
Birmingham International Airport, United Kingdom B37  
7ES*

Email [info@immaf.org](mailto:info@immaf.org)

## Emergency Contact

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## Pre Event Support for Visa Applications

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## Record Enquiries

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### Medical Enquiries (SAFE MMA)

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## 2 – Program

Attention: The schedule may be modified according to the total number of entries and circumstances of competition.

### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Registration and Credentials**

Time 9am to 5pm

Location:

**Address:** TO BE CONFIRMED

**Phone:**

### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Day 1 of competition**

Weigh in and pre fight medicals - 6:00am to 8:00am TO BE CONFIRMED

Competition starts at 10am

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Day 2 of competition**

Weigh in and pre fight medicals - 6:00am to 8:00am TO BE CONFIRMED

Competition starts at 10am

### **Sunday 18th March – Day 3 of competition**

Weigh in and pre fight medicals - 6:00am to 8:00am TO BE CONFIRMED

Competition starts at 10am

### 3 - Competition Place

Venue Name – Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre  
Venue address - 1 Convention Centre Pl, South Wharf VIC 3006, Australia  
Venue web address -<http://www.mcec.com.au>

### 4 – Eligibility

Please see the document for athlete eligibility found here -  
[https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)

### 5 – Athlete Sponsor Guidelines

Please see the document for athlete sponsor guidelines found here -  
[https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)

### 6 - Athlete Screening

Please see [https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed) for the Athlete screening process document.

**If any professional records are detected by IMMAF after the registration deadline without prior notification, the National Federation will incur a fine of £100 for each athlete who is listed as professional, regardless of website error.**

### 7 – Participation

The IMMAF Oceania Open Championship is for all IMMAF Member Federations. Each National Federation can enter a maximum of 2 participants per weight category, with an imposed limit of 8 participants for each weight category. The host federation may enter up to a maximum of 4 participants per weight category. After Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> if there are any places still available in any weight bracket, then federations may enter as many entries they would like into a weight category with a deadline of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. **This is based on a first come first served basis.**

Every delegate of the 2018 Oceania Open Championship will have to become an Affiliate Member of their National Federation on My Next Match with the minimum of \$6 Admin Fee. Email [malik@immaf.org](mailto:malik@immaf.org) for information on how to register as a member of your national federation.

## 8 – Categories

Woman
Atomweight -105lbs (-47.6 kgs)
Strawweight -115lbs (-52.1kgs)
Flyweight -125lbs (-56.7kgs)
Bantamweight -135lbs (-61.2kgs)
Featherweight -145lbs (-65.8kgs)
Lightweight -155lbs (-70.3kgs)

Men
Strawweight -115lbs (-52.1kgs)
Flyweight -125lbs (-56.7kgs)
Bantamweight -135lbs (61.2kgs)
Featherweight -145lbs (65.8kgs)
Lightweight -155lbs (-70.3kgs)
Welterweight -170lbs (-77.1kgs)
Middleweight -185lbs (-83.9kgs)
Light Heavyweight -205lbs (-93.0kgs)
Heavyweight -265lbs (-120.2kgs)
Super Heavyweight +265lbs (+120.2kgs)



## 9 – Accreditation & Control of Nationality

At least one (1) team official and a maximum of two (2) must attend the registration of Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 09:00 to 17:00 in order to confirm the delegation. Failure to do this will result in a nation not being entered into the draw and will be disqualified from the competition. Passports or photocopies of passports from all competitors must be available on request (National ID Card showing nationality and date of birth or a copy is also accepted). An IMMAF accreditation card with a photograph will be issued to competitors and officials.

## 10 – IMMAF Pre – Registration Online

All participants and delegates must be pre-registered for the event using the IMMAF Online Registration System. <https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details>

Deadline for Pre-Registration is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018. After Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> if there are any places still available in any weight bracket, then federations may enter as many entries they would like into a weight category with a deadline of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. **This is based on a first come first served basis.**

After the deadline only athletes replacing a competitor who is medically diagnosed as unfit to compete can be entered into the competition. An official letter from the injured athlete's GP or registered team Doctor will need to be submitted to IMMAF's independent Medical Partner for verification at [safemma@immaf.org](mailto:safemma@immaf.org)

## 11 – Key Deadlines

Team Registration including participation fee payment – Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017

Pre-Registration of Injury Replacements – Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Medical Clearance – Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

## 12 – Weigh-in (inc allowance policy) & Pre Fight Medical Examination

Programme:

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – All Competitors to make weight within 1.5% of the weight category they are competing in.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Competition days 1 to 3 – All competitors to make weight with *no allowance*. Any competitor that fails to make weight will be out of the competition at this stage. Priority weigh in on the scales will be given for the competitors competing on day one.

The first official weigh-in takes place at registration. There will be no option for late annual medical examination or blood tests.

Following this the official weigh-in & pre fight medical for each weight category is held each morning of competition ( See 2 programme). Athletes must present their IMMAF accreditation card and his/her passport (National ID Cards showing nationality and date of birth are also accepted).

Only athletes that are set to compete on that day must attend that competition day weigh in. Competitors with byes are not expected to weigh in.

Any athlete who does not show up within the designated weigh in times or fails to make weight will be excluded from competition. Athletes will only have one chance at making weight on the official scales.

A set of test scales will be available for one hour before the official weigh in. This is to facilitate athletes who wish to check their pre-fight weight before stepping onto the official weigh in scales.

Outside of the official weigh in times test scales available on the same morning and a set of scales will be made accessible throughout the competition.

Athletes must present their accreditation card and passport or National ID Card showing nationality and date of birth. Athletes must be a national citizen of the federation they are representing.

Weigh in allowance policy can be found here -

[https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)

## 13 – Competition Mode

The competition will be conducted in accordance with the latest IMMAF Amateur rules, (See [https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)).

There is only one uniform competition system for all IMMAF official events – an elimination system with no repechage.

## 14 – Draw

The draw will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 18:00hrs (Location to be confirmed) - (See Programme 2).

The top four (4) from the entered competitors in each weight category will be seeded according to the current IMMAF World Amateur MMA Ranking List.

For all categories the competitors will be divided into two (2) tables by means of a “draw”, and elimination system will be used to produce two (2) Finalists, who will compete for the gold medal.

A bronze medal will be awarded to both losing semi finalists.

IMMAF and the Local Organising Committee will distribute for each of the fourteen weight categories:

- 1st Place - gold medal (1)
- 2nd Place - silver medal (1)
- 3rd Place - bronze medal (2)

All competitors must make weight each day they are scheduled to compete. Once a competitor loses a bout they are then out of the competition from that stage. If a competitor wins their bout but is medically suspended, they are out of the competition from that time. Please note, competitors that have byes are not required to weigh-in. Only competitors scheduled to compete on any given day must weigh in and make weight. If the competitor fails to make weight for the official weigh in, then they will be out of the competition from this time and their opponent will advance to the next round via a bye. If both opponents fail to make weight then no one advances.

## 15 – Referees & Judges

Each federation may put forward a recommended competition officials through the IMMAF NTO application process. The requirement for officiating can be found in the “Officials Selection Procedure Form” at [https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)

The Officials Meeting will be held on Thursday March 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. (See program 2). Attendance at the Officials Meeting is strictly compulsory.

## **16 – Corners (seconds), Team Leaders & Team Delegates.**

All team delegates must fully adhere to the dress code outlined for the draw and for the duration of the competition.

Dress Code Draw: National team tracksuit or team attire

Rounds 1 to 3: National team tracksuit / uniform, NO caps, NO shorts OR flip flops.

## **17 – Equipment**

The gloves, shorts, rash guards and shin guards will be provided by the organiser. Hand wraps will be provided and applied by the official IMMAF cut-man team. Competitors are responsible for providing their own mouth and groin guard.

## **18 – Transport**

For this event, it is the sole responsibility for each National Federation to arrange their own transport to and from Melbourne, Australia, including all on the ground transport whilst in Melbourne. IMMAF have no responsibility for transporting teams during the event.

## **19 – Accommodation**

For this event it is the sole responsibility for each National Federation to arrange their own accommodation and meals whilst in Melbourne, Australia.

## **20 – Participation Fee**

A participation fee of \$460 AUD per competitor, team leader, team affiliates and team coaches is payable to IMMAF at pre-registration.

Accreditation will not be issued where entry fees have not been paid by the pre-registration deadline.

Payment has to be made by each member federation for its' whole team. Payment will be made at the point of registration for each competitor and team delegate via the IMMAF online tournament system at <https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details>

## 21 – Anti-Doping

Anti-doping controls will be conducted in accordance with the IMMAF Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Agency Code.

We would like to remind you that according to IMMAF Anti-Doping Policy regulations, from 2016, urine and/or blood testing may be conducted during IMMAF Competitions. Participants should therefore check that all medications they use AT ANY TIME are permitted under this Policy. Absolute caution is advised in respect of all supplements, which are unregulated products, often poorly labelled; many supplements have been known to contain prohibited substances. Each participant is strictly liable for any prohibited substance found in their body or supplied to/by them.

If a participant has a medical condition requiring the use of a prohibited substance, this must be approved and authorised by a valid Therapeutic Use Exemption. If there is no permitted alternative and this treatment is justified by professional diagnostic evidence, they will need to apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). Participants must apply to their national anti-doping organisation at least one month before competition. Participants are responsible for ensuring that their approved applications are submitted to IMMAF through [tue@immaf.org](mailto:tue@immaf.org) no later than 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (2359hrs GMT). If emergency treatment with a prohibited substance is required after this date, their TUE application must be sent to the national anti-doping organisation with a copy to IMMAF explaining why a retrospective application has been submitted. No guarantee of approval of use may be assumed; continued participation is at their own risk of committing a violation.

## 22 – Medical Clearance

Competitors need to ensure that their annual medical examination and blood work is in good standing as per IMMAF's competition medical requirements.

**The cut-off date for submission of all correctly completed AND correctly submitted medical forms and blood work is Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.**

In order to be medically cleared to compete in the 2018 IMMAF Oceania Open Championships, each athlete must provide the following:

- a) a completed **Annual Medical Examination form**, dated within one year of the final day of competition - so on or after 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017

- b) a copy of the testing laboratory result form showing **clear blood test results** for Hepatitis B (HBsAg), Hepatitis C (Anti-HCV) and HIV (p24 antigen and HIV 1+2 antibodies), all dated within 6 months of the final day of competition - so on or after 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017
- c) a doctor's **review of blood test results**, documented in EITHER the Annual Medical Examination form OR the Blood Test Review form \*Please Note: this review does NOT need to be duplicated on both forms (the one page Blood Test Review form is ONLY needed if blood test results are NOT being reviewed during the course of the annual medical examination!)
- d) all documentation must be sent as an email attachment in PDF form (**ideally one complete PDF per athlete**) through the team Medical Safety Lead (\*see Note 1 below) to: [safemma@immaf.org](mailto:safemma@immaf.org)  
\*Please Note: we strongly recommend submitting all forms at least one week in advance of the deadline so that any mistakes or omissions can be addressed BEFORE the cut-off date, thus avoiding any Late admin fees (\*see Note 2 below)
- e) there is NO need to resubmit forms previously received and accepted by SafeMMA - details of exactly which records we hold and the relevant dates can be found on your 'team card' (\*see Note 1 below)

Both the Annual Medical Examination and Blood Test Review forms can be downloaded here:  
[https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national\\_team/feed](https://www.mynextmatch.com/tournament/63/details/national_team/feed)

*Note 1: MEDICAL SAFETY LEAD & TEAM CARD*

Each team must nominate a Medical Safety Lead. Your MSL acts as the single point of contact through whom we expect to receive all medical documentation, and with whom we share important updates, as well as your 'team card' - the web-based tool through which precise details of the medical clearance status of each of your athletes can be tracked.

The role is purely administrative - no prior medical knowledge or experience is required. Please let us know if you require details of your MSL, or wish to nominate someone new to the role.

*Note 2: ADMINISTRATION FEES FOR LATE SUBMISSIONS*

**The cut-off date for submission of all CORRECTLY COMPLETED and CORRECTLY SUBMITTED medical forms and blood work is Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.**

Please ensure forms are submitted at least one week in advance of this so that any mistakes or omissions can be addressed before the cut-off date. Forms must be received through the nominated MSL, ideally as one complete PDF per athlete.

- a **£20 Late admin fee** will be payable direct to SafeMMA by or for any athlete whose correct & complete documentation has not been received by the cut-off date of **Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018** (2359hrs GMT)

- a **£40 Late admin fee** will be payable direct to SafeMMA by or for any athlete whose correct & complete documentation has not been received one week after the cut-off date, so by **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018** (2359hrs GMT)

- an **£80 Late admin fee** will be payable direct to SafeMMA by or for any athlete whose correct & complete documentation has not been received more than 3 days before the start of competition, so by **Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018** (2359hrs GMT)

***Important information:***

- **Other than in exceptional cases (such as with late injury replacements) the Late admin fees detailed above WILL be strictly enforced WITHOUT exception.**

- If a Late admin fee is due, NO documentation will be reviewed, or even considered as having been received, until that fee has been paid.

- If a Late admin fee is due and not received before a further deadline has been passed, the higher fee will be payable in order for that athlete's documentation to be reviewed.

- The review of any documentation received after the cut-off date is subject to the availability of resources, and at the discretion of SafeMMA and the IMMAF Medical Committee.

For the record, late admin fees are NOT intended to raise revenue. They have solely been introduced to focus attention on the importance of complying with deadlines so that we can continue doing the work we do effectively with the resources we have - the alternatives being raising fees for everyone or removing athletes from the tournament. We would be delighted if not a single late admin fee was ever incurred! Please work with us to achieve this, and get your athletes' documentation arranged in good time. If you have any comments, issues or questions regarding this, or any medical matter, please email us at: [safemma@immaf.org](mailto:safemma@immaf.org)

## **23 – Insurance of Competitors**

The competitor competes under the full responsibility of their National Federations Insurance. Each national federation is responsible for insuring its competitors against “injury and third party risk (Public liability)” during the period of the event. The International Mixed Martial Arts Federation decline all responsibility.

## **24 – Media**

Journalists can apply for media accreditation by sending their requests directly to the organiser at [carnwath@immaf.org](mailto:carnwath@immaf.org)

When journalists are travelling as part of a National Federation Team please indicate this, so they may be treated as part of your party.

## 25. Athlete Media Obligations

### a) Television

It is a mandatory obligation for all Finalists' to complete a television interview and photograph session for IMMAF's production team, Giant TV, who will be filming the competition for television.

All winners from the Semi-Finals will be notified to remain at the competition venue on Day 2, after the Semi-Finals competition day has finished, in order to complete the interviews.

For the interview and photographs (which go into the TV graphics), athletes will need their competition wear plus their national team T-shirt.

The television interview will be in English, so please arrange for a person to translate for your athlete if needed.

### b) IMMAF Media Team

Every day after a match, some competitors will be escorted for a short interview with the IMMAF Media Team following their post-fight medical examination. The interview will be for use on IMMAF media and social media channels.

On days where Anti-doping testing takes place, the interview will be conducted following the post-fight medical and before the Anti-doping testing.

An IMMAF official will be responsible for notifying competitors of IMMAF interview requests and escorting competitors from the competition area to their post-fight medical and onto their media interview.

Competitors may wear their own sponsor apparel for the media interviews.

## 26. Medals Ceremony

During the Finals (Day 3), competition medalists will participate in a podium medals ceremony.

The Dress Code for competitors during the medals ceremony is as follows:

- 1) Competition rash guard and shorts *or* National Team uniform
- 2) The only flags or banners that may be carried are National Flags, No religious or political symbols allowed.



Casual or street wear will not be permitted on the podium.

Athletes will also be required to be in the designated seating for medalists at least five minutes before their medal presentation.

## **27 – Visa**

For competitors requiring supporting documentation for VISA applications to enter Australia please email [larry.brand@immafa.org.au](mailto:larry.brand@immafa.org.au) for details of what information each federation is required to send.

***Please note that all procedures, including rule sets, weight categories and allowance are subject to approval from the International Mixed Martial Arts Federation of Australia. Competition venues may change subject to contractual agreements.***