



IFAGG Code of Discipline

Council's proposal to General Assembly 2022



IFAGG Code of Discipline

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IFAGG Code of Discipline

International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics IFAGG was established on 12 October 2003 and is the recognized world governing body of aesthetic group gymnastics (AGG). IFAGG is a non-profit international federation, and it has been properly and legally registered as such. Its mission and purpose are strictly to advance the sport of aesthetic group gymnastics. IFAGG is the supreme authority on all matters relating to International Aesthetic Group Gymnastics.

GENERAL

1 Preamble

International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (IFAGG) – Kansainvälinen Joukkuevoimisteluliitto, its members and the committees of the members, and every person who competes or acts in IFAGG's events are obligated to follow the good spirit of the sport, the ethical values of the sport, the principles of Fair Play, National and International Rules of Doping, IFAGG Statutes and other rules and regulations that are in force. Violations will be penalized according to these rules. The IFAGG members, gymnasts, officials (judges, coaches, medical staff and others) as well as the IFAGG authorities are bound by the IFAGG disciplinary rules. In the absence of a specific provision in this Code of Discipline or in other provisions of the IFAGG rules regulations and policies, the Disciplinary Authority shall rule according to the general principles set out in this Code of Discipline and according to the general principles of justice, fairness and equality. It shall apply the general principles of Finnish law and principles acknowledged internationally.

2 Penalties

The penalties (sanctions) for the violation of the rules and principles mentioned above and below will be:

- Notification
- Written warning
- Fine (financial penalty up to 3000 EUR)
- Prohibition to compete or act as official for a limited time or permanently
- Closing out of the action of IFAGG for a limited time
- Severance for a limited time or permanently

The disciplinary sanctions may be imposed to any natural person or legal entity such as but not limited to IFAGG members (national federations and clubs), gymnasts, officials (judges, coaches, representatives, assistants, medical staff or other), members of the IFAGG authorities.

The Disciplinary Authority shall set out **the type and the scope of the disciplinary penalties (sanctions)** by considering both the objective and subjective elements of the infringement and the seriousness and materiality of the violation. The penalties (sanctions) imposed shall take into account mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Aggravating circumstances shall include in particular, but not be limited to, the repetition of an offence. In the event of extremely minor cases or of appropriate justified reasons, all disciplinary penalties (sanctions) may be withdrawn.

3 Decisions

Decisions of the Disciplinary Authorities shall provide the following elements:

- description of the offence;
- facts and proofs provided by the participants of the disciplinary procedure or investigated by the Disciplinary Authority;
- summary of reasons and proofs explaining why a sanction was taken or, on the contrary, the reasons explaining why no sanction was imposed;
- determination of the Disciplinary Authority;
- the Appeal Authority and time limits for the appeal.



4 Disciplinary Authorities and Measures

4.1 Operative Disciplinary Authorities present at the IFAGG events

Judge Responsible, Superior jury/Superior judge or the Head Judge of a competition and the members of the Council and of the Ethics Committee present at the event are the Operative Disciplinary Authorities with competences specified by this IFAGG Code of Discipline and by the other IFAGG documents:

Judge Responsible, Superior jury/judge or the head judge of a competition are authorised to act in the mentioned order - preferably together with the members of the Council and of the Ethics Committee present at the competition, if they are available (they will create an ad hoc Operative Disciplinary Authority).

Competence of the Operative Disciplinary Authorities under this article:

- a) To solve/interfere and/or penalize **any violations** of the rules, regulations and policies that will **demand immediate action** of the gymnasts, team, assistant, coach, official, judge or audience of the competition or another IFAGG event.
In such cases the authorities are entitled to give the following penalties:
 - Notification
 - Written warning
 - Prohibition to compete or act as official for a limited time
- b) To supervise judges' work during competitions and to act according to IFAGG warning procedure for international judges.

Reporting duty:

The Operative Disciplinary Authorities are obligated to send the written decision and to report the decision made and the reasons for it within 3 days after the decision has been made. The report will be submitted to the IFAGG Council and to the Ethics Committee. The written decision will be sent to the participants of the disciplinary procedure.

4.2 Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee is the disciplinary authority in the disciplinary measures submitted to the IFAGG authorities and in the disciplinary measures reported by the Operative Disciplinary Authorities.

The Ethics Committee will accept the submission for the disciplinary procedure, or the report of the Operative Disciplinary Authorities stipulated in the article 3.1. above.

The Ethics Committee has the competences stipulated by IFAGG regulations.

The IFAGG Ethics Committee has the following competences in relation to disciplinary measures:

- a) To supervise and review any decisions made by the Operative Disciplinary Authorities.
- b) To evaluate other submissions for disciplinary procedures.
- c) To investigate the case and relevant circumstances including hearings of participants of the disciplinary procedure or other affected persons, to ask for or assure proofs, etc.
- d) To solve/interfere any violation of the rules and to provide the IFAGG Council with findings and suggestions relating the disciplinary measure/delict.

4.3 IFAGG Council

The main IFAGG disciplinary authority is the Disc the IFAGG Council.

The IFAGG Council has competences stipulated by this IFAGG Code of Discipline and by the other IFAGG regulations.



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The IFAGG Council (among others) has the following competences in relation to disciplinary measures:

- a) To supervise and review any decisions made by the other IFAGG disciplinary authorities.
- b) To impose all penalties (sanctions) according to this Code of Discipline as well as the other IFAGG rules and regulations.

The written decision will be sent to the participants of the disciplinary procedure within 7 days after the decision has been made

All complaints of the penalties will be complained to and decided by the IFAGG Council. The IFAGG Council is always the body that gives or is responsible for the penalties.

4.4 Authorities of Appeal – Right to Complain

The authorities of Appeal are:

- a) The IFAGG Council
- b) The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne

If the penalised person/team/club/member is dissatisfied with the subjective disciplinary decision, she/he/it is entitled to submit an appeal against the decision and present the decision to the IFAGG Council for its revision within 30 days when she/he/it received the original written decision.

The Council shall discuss the submitted decision with the penalised person/team/club/member or their representatives as well as with the Disciplinary Authority which issued the decision. The IFAGG Council is authorised to change, to annul or to affirm the revised decision.

The penalised person/team/club/member can apply an appeal against disciplinary decisions issued by the IFAGG Council to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne within 30 days when she/he/it received the written decision issued by the IFAGG Council.

5 Disciplinary procedure – right to explain

Before a penalty is given the person/team/club/member and/or their representatives must have the possibility to explain. If the given possibility to explain is not used without a serious reason, the penalty can be given without the explanation.

IFAGG DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

6 Judging

All international judges are obliged to observe, follow, and respect this IFAGG Code of Discipline, IFAGG Judges Code of Ethics, the warning procedure for IFAGG international judges as well as any other IFAGG documents.

Penalties which can be imposed to the international judges:

- Notification
- Warning
- Temporary prohibition to judge at IFAGG A or B competitions

7 Doping rules

It's a condition of participation in IFAGG's activities that gymnasts and their assistants, coaches and representatives will follow the national and international doping rules. All gymnasts and their assistants, coaches and representatives are obligated to know the doping rules. The information of the prohibited substances and methods can be found on the WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency), www-pages.wada-ama.org.



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The penalties of a doping violation are:

- Written warning.
- Temporary prohibition to compete (mainly 2 years) for the first violation of doping.
- Permanent prohibition for a repeated violation of doping.

8 Spirit of Fair Play

Fair Play is the basic guiding principle in the sport of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics.

For behaviour that goes against Fair Play or shows non-sportsmanship during a competition, the main penalty is:

- Notification
- Written warning.

If the case is outrageous the penalty can be:

- Fine
- Temporary prohibition from competing

9 Ethical principles and measures

The IFAGG members and participants of the IFAGG events shall protect and respect the human rights, equality and dignity, honesty and fairness, integrity, neutrality, confidentiality, to observe and avoid potential conflicts of interest, to keep and build good relations and cooperation with other sport organizations, to protect the environment, to avoid misleading and providing false information, to avoid betting, and generally to observe very highest values and ethical standards in all aspects of the sport according to the IFAGG Code of Ethics and other IFAGG rules, regulations and principles as well as general ethics principles.

Among others, but not limited to, the following ethical principles and measures must be observed:

Equality:

Discrimination on the basis of gender, race, age, creed, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or political opinion shall not be tolerated or allowed.

All gymnasts, coaches, assistants, judges, and officials shall be treated equally and with fairness before, during and after the competition.

Human Dignity

All form of harassment, be they physical, psychological, professional or sexual, is strictly prohibited.

Intentional violation

Any intentional violation of the physical or intellectual integrity of gymnasts, coaches, assistants, judges or officials is prohibited.

Agreement of results

The ethical principle of the sport is that gymnasts, teams, assistants, officials, and clubs will during the competition give their best performance.

The club, gymnasts, team or official that participates in the agreement of the competition results beforehand will get penalized.

Betting

A gymnasts and/or a person that belongs to the team, like a coach or director of the club or team cannot personally or by representative bet on the competition event in which it/she/he is participating.

Misleading

Misleading or giving false information to IFAGG is prohibited and will be penalized.



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Neutrality

All Judges and Officials shall remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the IFAGG, the federations, confederations, associations and clubs, and generally act in a manner compatible with their function and integrity.

Confidentiality

Officials shall not disclose improperly information entrusted to them in confidence by the IFAGG. The obligation is to respect confidentiality.

The penalties given for the violation of the ethical principles mentioned are:

- Notification
- Written warning.
- Prohibition to compete or act as an official during 1 competition season.
- Permanent prohibition for a repeated violation of ethical principles.

10 Trademarks and logos in the good spirit of the sport

By the general rules of IFAGG the gymnasts or team can be punished for the print or logo that is against the good spirit and good custom of the sport, e.g. if the logos/prints would injure nationality, religion, human rights and so on, if the logos/prints would advertise alcohol, tabaco, etc.

For the logos/prints that are against the good spirit and good custom of the sport can be imposed the following penalties:

- Notification
- Written warning

If the offence is repeated:

- other penalties mentioned in the Article 2 above may be applied.

11 Financial resources

IFAGG financial resources may only be used to support gymnastics purposes and objectives as approved by decisions at IFAGG Council. Financial resources must be documented according to sound accounting principles and be fully transparent.

IFAGG members shall take care of its finance according to the rules and regulations that have been given and properly observe their financial duties.

For the offence the following penalties can be imposed

- Notification
- Written warning
- Closing out of the action of IFAGG for a limited time

If the offence is repeated or severe:

- other penalties mentioned in the Article 2 above may be applied.

12 Miscellaneous

Any other violations of IFAGG rules or law will be solved and penalized according to the general and adequate stipulations of this IFAGG Code of Discipline.



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FINAL DISPOSITION

13 Changing and confirming the rules

The IFAGG Council will decide and confirm the IFAGG Code of Discipline.
IFAGG Code of Discipline will be approved at the General Assembly of IFAGG.