

Implementation of recommendations arising from the Review of the *Combat Sports Act 2013*

August 2023

To the combat sports sector.

I am pleased to advise that the NSW Government has supported a series of recommendations made by the Combat Sports Authority of NSW (Authority) arising from the review of the *Combat Sports Act 2013* (Act) that will promote the health and safety of combatants and reduce regulatory burden.

Implementation of the recommendations are expected to occur in 2024-2025. Implementation of some recommendations is subject to the passing of legislation through the NSW Parliament. The Authority is working with the Office of Sport to progress the drafting of a Bill. Proposed reforms arising from the recommendations include:

- introducing concussion and other serious head injury identification training for all registered persons;
- prescribing circumstances when a contest should be stopped or suspended to promote combatant health and safety;
- accreditation of medical practitioners that attend contests including prescribed training standards and minimum equipment required at a contest;
- introducing a public register of combatants to enable industry participants and promoters to determine if a person is appropriately registered for placement on a fight card;
- introducing promoter and manager registration classes for body corporates while simplifying the number of classes;
- expanding the eligibility criteria to become an approved amateur body; and
- digitising combatant medical records.

I look forward to working with the sector including our newly appointed Industry Advisory Group to introduce the reforms.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Kane

Chairperson

For and on behalf of the Combat Sports Authority of NSW