

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF BRASILIAN JIU JITSU

ANTI-DOPING POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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PART A: FRAMEWORK AND PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the Australian Federation of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu's (AFBJJ) commitment to doping-free sport. It establishes the standards expected of everyone competing, coaching or officiating under AFBJJ affiliation, explains what counts as an anti-doping rule violation, and sets out how a concern or a positive test would be handled.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- all AFBJJ-affiliated clubs, academies and their committees
- all coaches, instructors and assistant instructors
- all athletes, junior and adult, training or competing under AFBJJ affiliation
- athlete support personnel, meaning any coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical or paramedical personnel, parent or other person working with, treating or assisting an athlete in competition or training
- AFBJJ Governance Committee members and officials.

It applies to training, gradings and competitions conducted or affiliated with the AFBJJ. It does not apply to, and does not override, an event run directly by IBJJF or another body, such as an IBJJF Pan, World or No-Gi World Championship. A member competing at that event is subject to that body's own anti-doping program for that event, not this policy. See section 22.

3. Definitions

Term	Meaning
The Code	The World Anti-Doping Code, the global framework published by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). References in this policy are to the 2027 Code, effective 1 January 2027.
Prohibited List	WADA's list of substances and methods prohibited in sport, updated at least annually.
Anti-doping rule violation (ADRV)	Any of the categories of conduct described in section 9, whether or not intentional.
Strict liability	The principle that an athlete is responsible for whatever is found in their body, regardless of how it got there or whether they intended to cheat.
Athlete support person	A coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical or paramedical personnel, parent, or anyone else working with, treating or assisting an athlete.
Sample	A biological specimen, such as urine or blood, collected for doping control purposes.
Testing	The collection of a sample for doping control, whether in-competition or out-of-competition.
Provisional suspension	A temporary suspension from competing, imposed after an adverse finding and before the matter is finally resolved.

Term	Meaning
Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)	Approval for an athlete to use an otherwise prohibited substance or method for a legitimate, well-documented medical reason.
Protected Person	An athlete who, at the time of the anti-doping rule violation, has not turned 16, or has turned 16 but not 18 and is not in any registered testing pool and has never competed in an open international event, or a person who lacks legal capacity under applicable law. See Part D.
Prohibited association	Working with an athlete support person who is currently serving a period of ineligibility for an anti-doping rule violation, or who has been criminally convicted of doping-related conduct, where the athlete knew or should have known of that status.
National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO)	The body with primary legal authority to conduct doping control in a country. For Australia, this is Sport Integrity Australia.

4. Policy statement and guiding principles

- AFBJJ is committed to protecting the health of athletes and the integrity of competition by keeping the sport free of doping.
- Athletes are strictly liable for whatever is found in their body. Trusting a coach, a supplement label or a medical professional is not a defence to whether a violation occurred, though it can be relevant to the sanction.
- A fair, proportionate process applies to every person facing an allegation, including a genuine opportunity to explain and, where relevant, a hearing before any sanction is finalised.
- Junior athletes are treated as Protected Persons, consistent with the Code, with a greater emphasis on education over sanction. See Part D.
- As a condition of participating in an AFBJJ-affiliated activity, every athlete consents to provide a sample for testing through any of AFBJJ's engaged testing partners. See section 13.
- Anyone who raises a genuine concern about doping in good faith is protected from victimisation, consistent with the AFBJJ Member Protection Policy.

5. Legislative and standards framework

This policy has been developed with reference to the following.

Standard / reference	Relevance to this policy
2027 World Anti-Doping Code (WADA)	The global anti-doping framework this policy is modelled on. Effective 1 January 2027, replacing the 2021 Code.
WADA Prohibited List	The list of substances and methods prohibited in sport, updated at least annually and referenced throughout Part B.
IBJJF Anti-Doping Policy	IBJJF is not a Code signatory but maintains its own anti-doping program, historically delivered in partnership with an external anti-doping agency at its major events. This policy is informed by that approach. See section 22 for how it interacts with AFBJJ.
Sport Integrity Australia Act 2020 (Cth) and the National Anti-Doping (NAD) Scheme	Sport Integrity Australia is Australia's National Anti-Doping Organisation and administers the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, which sports can formally adopt with Sport Integrity Australia's approval. AFBJJ is exploring formal adoption and membership. See section 23.
Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)	Governs the collection, use, storage and disclosure of the personal and health information handled under this policy. See section 24.

6. Roles and responsibilities

Role	Key responsibilities
AFBJJ Governance Committee	Adopt, resource and review this policy. Engage and coordinate with testing partners under Part C. Make final decisions on sanctions, or delegate that authority to a panel.
Athletes	Understand and accept strict liability. Check any medication or supplement before use. Apply for a TUE where needed. Cooperate with any testing conducted under this policy.
Athlete support personnel	Never administer, traffic in, or assist an anti-doping rule violation. Complete education. Model good practice.
Any engaged sample collection agency	Where AFBJJ engages a third party for testing, that agency conducts collection under its own protocol and reports results consistent with due process.

PART B: THE RULES

7. Strict liability and athlete responsibility

An athlete is personally responsible for any prohibited substance found in their body and for any prohibited method used, regardless of intent, fault, knowledge or how it got there. This is called strict liability and it is the foundation of anti-doping regulation worldwide.

An athlete does not need to intend to cheat for a violation to occur. A contaminated supplement, a medication prescribed without checking its status, or a substance passed on unknowingly can all result in a violation. Intent, fault and the degree of care taken are relevant to the length of any sanction, not to whether a violation occurred in the first place.

8. The Prohibited List

WADA publishes the Prohibited List, updated at least annually and sometimes more often. It sets out substances and methods prohibited at all times, those prohibited only in-competition, and any prohibited only in particular sports.

- Always check the current Prohibited List and a substance checking resource such as Global DRO before using any new medication or supplement, especially close to competition.
- A brand name alone does not tell you whether a product is safe. Check the active ingredients.
- The Prohibited List changes. Something that was permitted last year may not be permitted this year, and vice versa.

9. Anti-doping rule violations

Consistent with the Code, the following categories of conduct are anti-doping rule violations under this policy. Full definitions and the precise tests that apply sit in the Code itself; this is a summary.

- Presence of a prohibited substance or its markers in an athlete's sample.
- Use, or attempted use, of a prohibited substance or method.
- Evading, refusing, or failing without compelling justification to submit to sample collection after proper notification.
- Whereabouts failures, relevant only to an athlete included in a registered testing pool, which AFBJJ does not currently operate.
- Tampering, or attempted tampering, with any part of doping control.
- Possession of a prohibited substance or method without a valid Therapeutic Use Exemption or other acceptable justification.
- Trafficking, or attempted trafficking, in a prohibited substance or method.
- Administration, or attempted administration, of a prohibited substance or method to any athlete.
- Complicity, or attempted complicity, in another person's violation.
- Prohibited association with an athlete support person serving a period of ineligibility, or convicted of doping-related conduct, where this was known or should have been known.
- Acts to discourage or retaliate against a person reporting a concern in good faith.

10. Therapeutic Use Exemptions

An athlete who needs to use an otherwise prohibited substance or method for a legitimate, well-documented medical condition can apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). A TUE should be sought in advance of use wherever possible; a retrospective TUE is only available in limited circumstances, such as a genuine emergency.

AFBJJ does not currently operate its own TUE committee. Until it does, an athlete should seek a TUE recognised by Sport Integrity Australia or where competing under another body's event such as an IBJJF championship, that body's own process. Keep a copy of any TUE and supporting medical evidence.

11. Supplements and medications

Supplements are one of the most common sources of an unintentional anti-doping rule violation, because manufacturing contamination is common and poorly regulated in some markets.

- No supplement is guaranteed safe, whatever the label or marketing claims.
- Strict liability applies regardless of what a label says or what a retailer, coach or training partner told you.
- Check any new medication or supplement against the current Prohibited List and a checking resource such as Global DRO and ask a sports physician or pharmacist if you are unsure.
- Keep records: packaging, batch numbers and receipts can matter later if a result is ever queried.

12. Prohibited association and support person obligations

An athlete must not knowingly work with a coach or other athlete support person who is currently serving a period of ineligibility for an anti-doping rule violation, or who has been criminally convicted of doping-related conduct, where the athlete knew or should reasonably have known of that status.

Athlete support personnel are themselves bound by this policy. Administering, trafficking in, or aiding an anti-doping rule violation, whether the support person is also an athlete, is treated with the same seriousness as an athlete's own violation and may result in the support person's own suspension from AFBJJ-affiliated activity.

PART C: TESTING AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT

13. AFBJJ's authority to test

AFBJJ maintains relationships with accredited testing partners across multiple Australian states and territories and can engage any of these partners to conduct doping control at an AFBJJ-affiliated event or training environment, at any time. This section sets out AFBJJ's authority to do so.

Consent as a condition of participation

By registering with, training or competing under AFBJJ affiliation, every athlete consents to provide a sample, such as urine or blood, for doping control conducted by any of AFBJJ's engaged testing partners. This mirrors the approach IBJJF has taken in contracting an external anti-doping agency for its own major events.

Anyone attending an AFBJJ-affiliated event to conduct testing on AFBJJ's behalf carries identification confirming who they are and which organisation they represent and will produce it on request before testing begins.

Testing partners conduct collection under their own protocol and their results are treated as authoritative for the purposes of this policy.

This policy does not itself grant AFBJJ any function reserved by law to Sport Integrity Australia as Australia's National Anti-Doping Organisation. AFBJJ is exploring formal adoption of the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy and membership with Sport Integrity Australia, which would provide access to Australia's government-backed testing and results management framework. See section 23.

14. Notification and sample collection

When a testing partner is engaged, the following general process applies, consistent with standard doping control practice. The exact detail depends on the partner conducting collection.

- Athletes may be selected for testing at random or on a targeted basis, in-competition or out-of-competition.
- A selected athlete is formally notified and has the right to have a representative present during the process.
- The athlete may ask to see the tester's identification and notification documentation before providing a sample.
- The athlete is chaperoned until the sample is provided, to protect the integrity of the process for everyone involved.
- The sample is split into A and B portions, sealed, and sent to a WADA-accredited laboratory.
- A documented chain of custody is maintained from collection through to analysis.

15. Results management and provisional suspension

Where a sample returns an adverse finding, the athlete is formally notified and given the substance of the finding and a genuine opportunity to explain, consistent with natural justice.

- For most violations involving a non-specified substance, a provisional suspension from AFBJJ-affiliated competition applies from notification, pending the outcome.
- The athlete has the right to have the B sample analysed.
- The athlete has the right to a hearing before a decision-maker who was not involved in the original finding, before any final sanction is imposed.
- A provisional suspension is not itself a finding of guilt. It is lifted if the matter is not substantiated, or if the B sample does not confirm the A sample result.

16. Sanctions and period of ineligibility

Sanctions under this policy are intended to reflect the general approach of the Code. This is a summary of typical ranges, not a substitute for the Code itself, which governs in the event of any inconsistency.

Violation category	Typical range under the Code
Presence, use or possession of a non-specified substance	4 years, reduced to as little as 2 years where the athlete establishes the violation was not intentional.
Presence, use or possession of a specified substance	A lower starting point, potentially as low as a reprimand, depending on the athlete's degree of fault.
Trafficking or administration	4 years to lifetime, reflecting the seriousness of supplying or administering to others.
Refusing or evading sample collection, or tampering	Generally treated on par with a non-specified substance violation, typically 4 years.
Prohibited association	Up to 2 years while the association continues.

2027 Code change: earlier admission, bigger reduction

The 2027 Code expands the reduction available for early admission and acceptance of a sanction. Where the otherwise applicable period is less than 4 years, an athlete admitting the violation early and accepting the consequences may receive up to a 25% reduction, in addition to the existing 1-year reduction available for longer periods. A further reduction may apply where an athlete provides useful information about how the violation occurred, even without identifying another person's involvement.

A sanction under this policy applies to participation in AFBJJ-affiliated competitions. It does not, by itself, impose a sanction recognised by another federation, though AFBJJ will notify a relevant body such as IBJJF where appropriate and will recognise and apply an equivalent sanction imposed by another anti-doping body. See section 22.

Beyond a period of ineligibility, a violation may also result in disqualification of results from the event in question, and forfeiture of any medal, points or prize.

17. Appeals

A person sanctioned under this policy may appeal in writing within 14 days of the decision, on the grounds that a fair process was not followed or that significant new information has since become available. An appeal is decided by Governance Committee members or an appointed panel, who were not involved in the original decision, and that decision is final within AFBJJ's internal process.

Where testing was conducted by Sport Integrity Australia or another anti-doping organisation with its own appeal rights, such as an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, those external rights operate under that body's own rules and are separate from AFBJJ's internal appeal process.

PART D: PROTECTED PERSONS AND JUNIOR ATHLETES

18. Protected Persons under the Code

Consistent with the Code, a Protected Person is an athlete who, at the time of the alleged violation:

- had not turned 16 years of age, or
- had turned 16 but not 18, and is not included in any registered testing pool and has never competed in an open international competition, or
- lacks legal capacity under applicable law for a reason other than age.

A Protected Person is treated differently under the Code: the available sanctions are generally more lenient, and results management is conducted with additional care for the young person's welfare.

19. AFBJJ's approach for junior athletes

- Education comes first. AFBJJ's priority for junior athletes is age-appropriate awareness of what doping is and why it matters, not enforcement.
- A parent or guardian is involved in any process under this policy concerning a junior athlete, from first contact onward.
- A junior athlete's case is not publicly disclosed except where AFBJJ is legally required to do so.
- If testing is ever conducted involving a junior athlete, it is done with extra care, and, where practicable, with a parent, guardian or other support person present.
- Sanctions applied to a junior athlete reflect the more lenient range available to a Protected Person under the Code, and the emphasis stays on education and support rather than punishment.

PART E: EDUCATION, SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE

20. Education requirements

- Coaches and senior athletes are encouraged to complete anti-doping education, such as WADA's ADEL platform or Sport Integrity Australia's education modules.
- Clubs display current Prohibited List information and a link to a substance checking resource such as Global DRO.
- New club members receive an induction covering this policy.

21. Reporting concerns

Anyone can report a genuine concern about doping, whether about an athlete, a coach or another support person. A person who reports in good faith is protected from victimisation, consistent with the AFBJJ Member Protection Policy.

A concern can be raised with the AFBJJ Governance Committee. Sport Integrity Australia also accepts reports concerning any sport in Australia, including one where the sport is not a formal partner of Sport Integrity Australia, through its confidential reporting channels.

22. Relationship with IBJJF and other events

IBJJF is not itself a signatory to the Code but maintains its own Anti-Doping Policy and has historically engaged an external anti-doping agency to conduct testing at its major events, such as the Pan Pacific Championships. A member competing at an IBJJF-run event is subject to IBJJF's own policy and any testing conducted there, not this AFBJJ policy, for that event.

Where IBJJF, another national federation, or a recognised anti-doping organisation notifies AFBJJ of a sanction imposed on an AFBJJ member, AFBJJ recognises that sanction and applies an equivalent period of ineligibility to the member's participation in AFBJJ-affiliated activity.

23. Relationship with Sport Integrity Australia

AFBJJ is exploring formal adoption of the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy and membership with Sport Integrity Australia. Formal adoption would give AFBJJ access to Sport Integrity Australia's actual testing and results management functions under Australian law, a materially different and more robust arrangement than the testing partner arrangements described in Part C can provide on their own.

A national sporting organisation can apply to Sport Integrity Australia to adopt the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, including any sport-specific variations, subject to the CEO's approval. The AFBJJ Governance Committee is progressing this option and this policy will be updated to reflect formal adoption if and when it is approved.

24. Record keeping and privacy

Health, testing and results information handled under this policy is collected, used, stored and disclosed in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), and is shared only with those who need it to progress a matter or as required by law. Records are retained for a minimum of seven years, reflecting standard practice for integrity and disciplinary records.

25. Breach of this policy

A confirmed anti-doping rule violation, or a breach of this policy by an athlete support person, is dealt with under the sanctions described in section 16, and may also be considered under the AFBJJ Member Protection Policy where the conduct also involves a breach of AFBJJ's standards of behaviour, such as supplying a prohibited substance to a junior athlete.

26. Related documents and references

- AFBJJ Member Protection Policy and Procedure (AFBJJ-POL-MPP-01)
- AFBJJ Concussion and Head Injury Management Policy and Procedure (AFBJJ-POL-CHI-01)
- AFBJJ Constitution and disciplinary rules
- 2027 World Anti-Doping Code and Prohibited List, wada-ama.org
- IBJJF Anti-Doping Policy, ibjjf.com
- Sport Integrity Australia and the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, sportintegrity.gov.au
- Global DRO, globaldro.com

27. Policy review

This policy is reviewed by the AFBJJ Governance Committee at least every 12 months, reflecting that the Prohibited List is updated at least annually, and immediately following the commencement of a new Code cycle or any material change to Sport Integrity Australia's framework.

Appendix A: Quick reference: is it banned?

Before you take anything

Check the current WADA Prohibited List and a checking resource such as Global DRO (globaldro.com) before using any new medication or supplement.

Strict liability means you are responsible for what's in your system, whatever the label says.

No supplement is guaranteed contamination-free.

Need to use something on the list for a genuine medical reason? Apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption in advance wherever possible (section 10).

Not sure? Ask a sports physician or pharmacist, and keep the packaging and any advice you're given.

Appendix B: Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) request

Field	Details
Athlete name	
Date of birth	
Substance or method requiring exemption	
Medical condition being treated	
Prescribing / treating practitioner name and qualification	
Supporting medical evidence attached?	Yes / No
Intended start date and duration of use	
Is this an emergency / retrospective request?	Yes / No, and reason
Athlete signature	
Date	

Appendix C: Athlete rights and responsibilities card

Your responsibilities

You are strictly liable for anything found in your body. Check every medication and supplement. Apply for a TUE before using a prohibited substance for a genuine medical reason, wherever possible. Never source performance-enhancing substances from an untrained or unqualified person. Report a genuine concern about doping.

Your rights if you're ever tested or investigated

To be properly notified and to have a representative present during sample collection. To have your B sample analysed. To a fair hearing before an unbiased decision-maker, before any final sanction. To appeal a decision. To have a parent or guardian involved throughout, if you're a junior athlete.

Appendix D: Doping concern / incident report

Field	Details
Reporting person	(may be left blank if raising anonymously)
Contact details	
Person(s) the concern relates to	
Nature of the concern	
Date(s) and location(s)	
Evidence or witnesses, if any	
Has this been reported elsewhere (e.g. Sport Integrity Australia)?	Yes / No, and details
Signature	
Date	