

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this Membership Policy is to establish guidelines for membership eligibility, rights, responsibilities, and expectations for Members of B.C. Wrestling Association (BCWA), as defined in the BCWA's bylaws (hereinafter referred to as "Members"). This policy aligns with BCWA's bylaws and is intended to increase transparency, consistency, accountability, and fairness in the membership process.

1. General Membership

- 1.1. To participate in BWCA-sanctioned events, all Clubs, Teams, and other individuals must be current Members of the BWCA.
- 1.2. There are two classes of BWCA membership: Voting Members and Non-Voting Members.
 - a. Voting Members are Member Clubs or Teams, BCWA Directors and BCWA nominated directors, as defined in section 7 of the bylaws.
 - b. Non-Voting Members, are natural persons and individual members, as defined in section 9 of the bylaws.
- 1.3. To be considered for BCWA Membership, wrestling Clubs and Teams must be located in British Columbia and composed of:
 - a. At least five active athletes who are BCWA Members;
 - b. At least one active coach who is a BCWA Member; and
 - c. No athlete or coach is permitted to be counted towards the official count of more than one Club or Team.
- 1.4. To become Members, Clubs must:
 - a. Have stated purposes that are aligned with the purposes of the BCWA;
 - b. Require BCWA membership for all its club members;
 - c. Have its training facility located in British Columbia;
 - d. Not be sanctioned by BCWA, WCL, or any governing body recognized by BCWA; and
 - e. Comply with all BCWA policies, rules, and regulations.

- 1.5. To be considered for BCWA Membership, individuals must be a person resident in British Columbia participating in the sport of wrestling in any capacity, including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches officials, managers, and volunteers.
- 1.6. Applications will be considered by the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting, if they are complete.
- 1.7. Members must be compliant with applicable policies and agreements.

Procedure

- 1.8. Applicants must register as Members of the BCWA through [Interpodia 2MEV online registration portal](#). Through the registration portal, applicants will:
 - a. Include their full name, civic address, e-mail address and telephone number and other such information as required;
 - b. Indicate the category of membership sought; and
 - c. If applicable, pay the BCWA membership dues.
- 1.9. All Members must notify BCWA promptly and in writing of any change of mailing address, e-mail, or telephone number.
- 1.10. The applicant will receive approval or a request for any additional information required to fully complete the application.

2. Membership Renewal

- 2.1. Voting Members must re-apply for membership annually.
- 2.2. BCWA shall send a membership renewal notice to each Voting Member at their registered address (or e-mail address) not less than 30 days before the Membership Renewal date each year.
- 2.3. Renewal applications received after the specified deadline will be returned and the organization must apply as a new Member.

Procedure

- 2.4. A completed application for membership renewal through [Interpodia 2MEB online registration portal](#) must be submitted by no later than the date specified by the BCWA.

2.5. The Applicant will receive approval or a request for any additional information required to fully complete the application.

3. Membership Standing and Termination

3.1. A Member is not in good standing if the Member:

- a. Fails to pay membership dues and applicable fees to BCWA;
- b. Is suspended or expelled from membership, or other membership restrictions or sanctions are imposed;
- c. Fails to complete and remit all documents as required by BCWA;
- d. Is subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by BCWA, or has not fulfilled all the terms and conditions of prior disciplinary action to the Board's satisfaction; or
- e. Is a current member of another wrestling Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization.

3.2. Membership shall terminate upon any of the following, in accordance with Bylaw section 21:

- a. BCWA's receipt of the Member's written resignation;
- b. The death of the individual or the dissolution of the Club or Team;
- c. Expulsion under the BWCA's Code of Conduct; or
- d. Remaining not in good standing for 30 consecutive days.

3.3. A Member's membership may also be terminated if the Member breaches their Membership Agreement, or if the agreement's termination terms are met.

4. Registered Participants

4.1. Registered Participants, as defined in the Registered Participants Policy, are individuals who are registered with the BCWA, including but not limited to athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, managers, administrators, committee members, and directors and officers affiliated with a Member Team, Club or other organization.

4.2. Registered Participants are not necessarily BCWA Non-Voting Members under the Society's Bylaws. However, for ease of communication, Registered Participants may be referred to as "members" in BCWA materials or messaging.

- 4.3. Individuals are deemed Registered Participants only after their registration and any required payment has been validated in BCWA's provincial registration system.
- 4.4. All individuals who participate in any BCWA sanctioned event, including but not limited to, training, practices camps, tournaments and meets run or organized by BCWA or its Member(s), must be Registered Participants prior to the event.
- 4.5. Registered Participants must comply with all BCWA policies, rules, and regulations and any violation may result in disciplinary action.

Standing and Restrictions

- 4.6. Non-compliance with any policies or procedures may impact the Registered Participant's eligibility and/or standing with BCWA.
- 4.7. An individual must not be a registered with more than one Member at any given time, unless approved by BCWA in accordance with BCWA Recruitment and Transfer rules.
- 4.8. An individual deemed to be not in good standing from a previous registration period is ineligible to register for the current registration period.

Procedure

- 4.9. Registered Participants must be registered in the BCWA portal renewal through [Interpodia 2MEB online registration portal](#). Athletes may be registered by their coaches. Registered Participants will be required to identify the Member Club or Team with which they are affiliated.
- 4.10. Head coaches are expected to ensure Registered Participants are appropriately registered with BCWA prior to participating in BCWA sanctioned events.
- 4.11. Once registered, Registered Participants will be issued an electronic registration card.
- 4.12. Evidence of medical insurance is required for non-Canadian citizens. The Registered Participant must provide such evidence to their affiliated Member Team or Club upon registration.
- 4.13. Upon request, copies of birth certificates, passports or other evidence acceptable to BCWA as proof of age or citizenship must accompany all registrations. The burden of proof of age or citizenship rests with the Registered Participant.

4.14. Individuals must not register through BCWA's registration system for the upcoming season before a date specified by BCWA.

4.15. Each Member shall annually, in accordance with directions from BWCA, provide a list of any Registered Participants not in good standing.

Amendments and Approval to the Policy

4.16. This policy may be reviewed and amended by the Board on a year-to-year basis to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with organizational governance best practices.

4.17. This Policy was approved by the BCWA Board of Directors on June 21st, 2025 and will be effective June 21st, 2025.