Declaration of Interest Policy

Last Reviewed: Nov 2023
Next Review: Nov 2025
1 Introduction

1.1 The following policy is designed to provide guidance in the completion and use of Declarations of Interest.

1.2 The policy should be reviewed annually, and changes made where necessary.

2Completing Declarations of Interest

2.1 All employees and directors are required to complete a ‘Declaration of Interest’. Any members who are involved in making decisions for the Association or are signatures to the Association’s bank accounts are also required to complete a declaration.

2.2 The declaration of interest is to be prepared on the agreed form. A copy of the agreed form can be obtained from the national office.

2.3 A declaration of interest must be completed:
   a) On date of appointment
   b) Annually, at the end of the financial year
   c) When significant changes occur

2.4 When completing the Declaration of Interest, employees, directors and members are required to indicate details of:
   a) Membership of, or involvement with (e.g. posts held,) other related organisation(s) or connectivity with other directors, decision makers or bank account signatories, e.g.
      a. Any organisation which might be eligible to apply to the B.W.A. for funding such as schools, clubs, community associations, youth organisations.
      b. Where Directors are members of other Wrestling organisations, these interests should be formally declared. E.g. Chair of Northern Ireland Wrestling Association, Chair of England Committee, Chair of England Region, member of a Home Nation Commonwealth Games Council etc. (This list is not intended to be exhaustive)
   b) Employment details
   c) Ownership of organisations
   d) Benefits obtained from related organisations
   e) Commercial interests, e.g. commercial interests in companies owning, operating or providing sports facilities or services

2.5 Current details and details of the previous five years should be included. Further details may be included, at the discretion of the employee/director/member.
2.6 Details should be included for themselves or their immediate families (i.e. spouse/partner, children and parents) who may conduct business with the Governing Body, as allegations of conflicts of interest may extend to the influence of close relatives.

3 Use of Declarations of Interest

3.1 Declarations will be copied into a Register of Declarations of Interest to be reviewed by the Board at least annually, and available to Board members between times.

3.2 The collection, compiling and administration of Declarations of Interest and the associated Register are the responsibility of the company secretary.

3.3 Each Declaration of Interest should be retained on file and kept in a secure location, available to hand at any point in time.

3.4 Due to the sensitivity of the information contained within the Declarations of Interest and Register, they are only available to authorised parties. The authorised parties include:
   a) Board Directors
   b) Appointed employees
   c) External Auditors
   d) Legal Advisors

3.5 The Chair is to review the Declarations of Interest regularly to ensure that he/she is familiar with the interest of all employees, directors and members.

3.6 A yearly review should be performed on the operations of the Association to ensure the Association has not been dealing with parties included within the Declarations of Interest without the knowledge and approval of the Board e.g. there may be situations where authority has been granted to deal with related parties.

3.7 Dealings with related parties should be disclosed in the Association’s end of financial year accounts.

4 Declarations Used in Operations

4.1 When decisions are being made for the Association, the Declarations of Interest of all decision makers need to be considered. It is suggested for important decisions a full review of the Register of Declarations of Interest is performed.
4.2 It is the responsibility of employees, directors and members to disclose if they believe a potential conflict of interest may exist or would be perceived to exist if they continue to be involved in the decision being made.

4.3 If the interest is significant the employee/director/member must withdraw from the decision-making process.

4.4 The disqualified employee/director/member, if required, can provide information to the decision makers. This information should not be the sole source of information obtained. Permission for the disqualified person to provide information should be agreed by all eligible decision makers.

4.5 If it is identified that there is a conflict of interest, the related party is not necessarily excluded from the final decision. The final decision can be in favour of the related party; however formal procedures should be followed to ensure that an unbiased decision is made.

5 **Other Issues**

5.1 Employees, directors and members are not permitted to encourage related parties to actively seek dealings with the Association.

5.2 Employees, directors and members are not permitted to become involved in discussions on the results of decisions with related parties.

5.3 Employees, directors and members are not permitted to disclose the operations of the Association to a related party.

5.4 Employees, directors and members are not permitted to become involved in discussions with a related party about the operations of the Association.

5.5 Employees, directors and members must not use their position within the Association to further their private interests.