



ECSC Guidelines **Funding Requests for Officials' Training or Certification**

Introduction:

Edmonton Combative Sports Commission (ECSC) Officials are responsible for their own industry careers and are expected to pursue training to continually update their officiating credentials.

The ECSC is willing to invest in officials training and development to achieve and maintain a skilled, knowledgeable and competent roster of licensed officials in order to enhance contestant safety at sanctioned events. As such, by request the ECSC may subsidize or reimburse officials for their training and/or certification programs. Approval of requests may be based on several different factors, including, but not limited to:

- Officiating history
- Prior training
- Course relevance
- Certification & grading standards
- Location of courses and costs
- Industry trends

Process and Requirements for Funding:

Funding requests will not be considered unless the requesting official is licensed and in compliance with ECSC policies and related by-law requirements. An official may apply for funding only once per year.

All funding requests must be made in advance of the training, in writing, to the ECSC Chair and copying the Executive Director. Furthermore, the requesting official may be given an opportunity to speak to the funding request at the next Commission meeting. The request will be approved or denied by board resolution and the requesting official will be notified of the decision as soon as reasonably practicable, via the contact information provided. All decisions are final.

All funding requests should include the following information:

- Course name, organization offering the course and course description
- Location and date
- Cost and amount of reimbursement or subsidy requested
- Justification
- Official's Contact Information

All officials who are approved for funding must agree to provide a follow up report to the Commission, which may include a presentation at a monthly Commission meeting, a written report or proof of certification.

Factors to be Considered:

Officiating History

The ECSC will consider requests from officials who have shown a commitment and dedication to officiating at Commission sanctioned events.

Prior Training

The official's base level of prior training will be considered, including whether or not the ECSC has previously subsidized or reimbursed the individual's training/certification.

Course Relevance

Courses or training must align with the ECSC mandate of governing the local combative sports industry. When considering requests, the ECSC may consider the relevance and benefit of the training/certification to the Commission, the enhancement of contestant safety, the official's role at sanctioned events and industry trends.

Certifications

To ensure return on investment, courses that offer a certification or grading will only be reimbursed and approved reimbursement will occur upon successful completion of the course.

Location and Costs

The ECSC has an annual allocated budget which can determine if a request is approved or denied. It is incumbent on the official approved for training to report back to the Commission on the benefits, findings and results of the training.

Industry Trends

The combative sports industry is continually evolving, especially in regards to safety policies and trends. In the event that the ECSC needs to adopt a new safety policy or guideline and training is required, the Commission may approve training requests on an "as needed" basis. This may include changing the requirements for reimbursement or subsidization, or expediting the approval process for an emerging situation.

If you have questions regarding funding requests or these guidelines, you may direct your questions to the Commission Chair or Executive Director.