



California State Athletic Commission

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PANKRATION EVENTS IN CALIFORNIA

The California State Athletic Commission is committed to California's martial arts community and will work hard to ensure the continued vitality of the multiple sports under the Commission's jurisdiction. The management staff of the California State Athletic Commission has determined that, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 18627(a) and 18627(c), Pankration is considered a "full contact" (full and unrestrained contact even though there may be no strikes to the head) martial art and as such must be regulated in California.

The Commission's efforts are purely focused on protecting the health and safety of athletes who compete in California and our resources are committed to assuring those athletes can continue to enjoy the satisfaction of competition. The Commission's emphasis on health and safety is not at odds with and does not supplant the sanctioning of Pankration as a sport by national or international sanctioning bodies.

Effective January 1, 2010, the Commission will regulate professional Pankration events subject to all of the Commission's laws and regulations to ensure that health and safety standards are applied to these events. Additionally, effective immediately, all amateur Pankration events have been delegated to the California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Organization (CAMO) to ensure that California's health and safety standards are applied to those events.

There are thus two avenues for a Pankration event to be held legally. The first is to obtain a professional or amateur promoter's license from the Commission while the second is to obtain a sanction from CAMO. Any event held without a license or a sanction is illegal under California's Business and Professions and Penal Codes.

We have set up a dedicated phone line, 916-263-2196, to handle inquiries from concerned athletes and members of the martial arts community to advise them how promoters, managers, and athletes can obtain licensure in California as well as how future events should be organized and ultimately approved.