



15 February 2020

Attention: Members and registrants of Taekwondo Canada

Clarification of Taekwondo Canada (TC) protecting its' athletes, coaches and officials.

Dear Members, Athletes, Coaches, Officials, and TC Community,

As the President of TC, I feel very strongly about transparency and communication. As some of you know, this is something that I have been trying to fix for quite some time. This letter is to outline actions the board needed to take in January to ensure all athletes and coaches would be eligible to participate in the national selections held in Laval 18 and 19 January 2020. Please know that Taekwondo Canada has done, and will continue to do, everything in its power to ensure all athletes and coaches have access to events and programs regardless of political issues that may arise.

In February 2019, the previous TC BOD raised the membership fee from \$2- \$4; the board minutes and budget are attached. In October 2019, on behalf of the newly elected TC BOD, staff sent out notice to member provinces that registration lists for 2020 were due. As per TC policy, competitors for national events must be registered with TC in order to be eligible to compete. The registration deadline for the national selection events in Laval was January 8th. In the process of confirming registrations, it became evident that some athletes were registered for the Laval selections that were not on the registration lists forwarded by their provinces. At this crucial time, communication from TC assisted most provinces in correcting these clerical errors; however, some provinces did not respond. This meant that there were athletes registered for the national selection events in Laval that were not going to be confirmed to participate because they were ineligible as a result of their PSOs not forwarding their registration to TC. More than one of Canada's elite athletes were missing from registration lists submitted to TC at that time.

To ensure the affected athletes (and coaches) would be able to participate in the January national selection events, the TC BOD passed two (2) motions. First, the board approved a motion to move toward suspending the four (4) Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) for non-compliance with the TC Affiliation policy. Second, the board motioned to protect affected athletes so they would be able to compete. The four (4) PSOs were advised they were non-compliant and were advised the BOD would hold a hearing in February to review the issue. Further, they were advised that if they came into compliance by end-January 2020, their hearing would be cancelled. Affected athletes and coaches who wished to compete at the



selection events were advised of how to confirm their registrations. Please note that it was always TC's hope and goal that the PSO's would become compliant before the hearing and reiterated in the letter that they had until January 31, 2020 to do so.

Two (2) PSO's became compliant prior to the February hearing date and were advised their hearing was cancelled.

Taekwondo Manitoba attended the hearing and was given an additional five (5) days to provide clarifications to their members. Although the notice to their members contained incorrect timelines and inferred a false sense of blame toward TC and staff, TC found them to be compliant.

Taekwondo Ontario did not attend the hearing and instead responded with an inappropriate and condescending email. Even with the emotionally charged words found throughout the email, TC found the content of the email to satisfy compliance.

All PSO's are now compliant with the affiliation policy.

To be clear, it was never the intention of TC to suspend any members; it is always the goal to have compliance and do what is best for our athletes, coaches, officials, participants and spectators. TC did not make this decision based on a single athlete or province; this was a Canada wide issue that needed to be resolved to safeguard participation and adherence to policy.

I am pleased to say that TC has been working on a membership review for quite some time and will be announcing changes in the near future. I will be calling an SGM shortly to review membership issues and discuss other matters.

Yours in Taekwondo,

Phil Power
TC BOD President