

Government of Western Australia **Combat Sports Commission** 

## Warning: weight cutting can seriously injure or kill you

Weight cutting is a dangerous practice where contestants rapidly lose weight before weigh-ins through excessive dehydration. Weight cutting causes many physical and mental side effects which can harm you in the short term and over the course of your career.

## Health dangers of weight cutting

- Decreased muscle strength/endurance
- Heat illness
- Severe changes to body electrolytes
- Mood swings and mental changes
- Decreased kidney function

- Increased risk of brain injury
- Decreased heart and cardiovascular function
- Reduced energy utilisation, nutrient exchange and acidosis
- Blurred vision and dry eyes
- Loss of life

Prepare well, perform better, visit dlgsc.wa.gov.au/combat-sports-commission/weight-cutting

