

AWF Competition Regulations for Participants Under the Age of 13 Years

Effective 1 July 2020

The Australian Weightlifting Federation (AWF) prescribes the following modified competition regulations to promote safe and enjoyable participation in weightlifting for children who are aged 12 and under at 31 December in the current calendar year ("Child Participants"). These modified regulations apply to weightlifting competitions conducted by the AWF, AWF State Members and affiliated Weightlifting Clubs.

The AWF, AWF State Members, affiliated Weightlifting Clubs, and individual members of any of the above who contribute to the organisation and/or delivery of weightlifting competitions have an obligation to take all reasonable precautions to avoid the risk of injury to participants, especially children.

Regulations for Open Competitions and all Championships (including U15 and School Championships) Modified Rules

Child Participants must not participate in the same competition sessions as older participants. Exclusive sessions must be conducted for Child Participants only. These sessions may be adjudicated by one Referee.

Child Participants must always be supervised and instructed by an accredited AWF Licenced Weightlifting Coach while engaged in weightlifting activities, including competitions.

Child Participants must wear clothing that is age appropriate, i.e. not too revealing or suggestive. For example, a T-shirt or singlet that completely covers the torso, and sport shorts, would be an acceptable outfit. They are not required to wear a one-piece weightlifting costume but may do so if they choose. They must wear closed-in shoes that provide protection, grip and stability.

Modified barbells, e.g. aluminium bars, plastic discs, plastic collars, etc., may be used by Child Participants in competition.

There are no Bodyweight Categories and no Records for Child Participants. Children are encouraged to participate in weightlifting for their enjoyment, and to develop and practice skills. Child Participants are weighed for the purpose of consistency in results management.

Weigh-in Procedure for Child Participants

- The weigh-in commences one hour before the start of the competition session and lasts for 30 minutes.
- The weigh-in is conducted in an open area, or in a room which is open to public view, i.e. the door must remain open when there is a child in the room.
- Child Participants may remove their shoes and socks, but otherwise they remain clothed and are weighed in the presence of two adults.
- It is strongly recommended that the child's parent/guardian be present at the weigh-in whenever possible.

Results

While the focus of the participation of children should be on enjoyment and learning, it is still useful to record results for their own interest and to track their progress. The results of Child Participant sessions should be uploaded to the AWF website along with all other competition sessions. The AWF results system will separate the Child Participants' sessions from the main competition, in the presentation of results on the website.