

TRADITIONAL BULLFIGHTING MATCH ACT

Act No. 6722, Aug. 26, 2002

Amended by Act No. 7428, Mar. 31, 2005

Act No. 8282, Jan. 26, 2007

Act No. 8354, Apr. 11, 2007

Act No. 8852, Feb. 29, 2008

Act No. 10118, Mar. 17, 2010

Act No. 11690, Mar. 23, 2013

Act No. 11744, Apr. 5, 2013

Act No. 12434, Mar. 18, 2014

Act No. 13143, Feb. 3, 2015

Act No. 16787, Dec. 10, 2019

Act No. 16986, Feb. 11, 2020

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 (Purpose)

The purpose of this Act is to contribute to the promotion of the development of rural areas and the growth of the livestock industry by revitalizing bullfighting traditionally passed down and to provide for matters regarding bullfighting matches.

Article 2 (Definitions)

The terms used in this Act are defined as follows:

1. The term "bullfighting" means a trial of strength between fighting bulls in a bullfighting arena;
2. The term "bullfighting match" means activities of selling betting slips on a bullfighting match and paying winnings to winners in the betting on the bullfighting match;
3. The term "fighting bull" means a bull registered with a bullfighting match organizer with intent to participate in a match;
4. The term "owner of a fighting bull" means a person who has registered him/herself with a bullfighting match organizer with his/her own bull or with intent to own a bull;

5. The term "trainer" means a person who manages and trains a fighting bull with a license granted by a bullfighting match organizer;
6. The term "referee" means a person who manages and operates a bullfighting match and judges the result of the match with a license granted by a bullfighting organizer;
7. The term "bullfighting betting slip" means a slip sold by a bullfighting match organizer upon the request of a person who intends to collect winnings by predicting the correct result of a bullfighting match and that contains the details of the betting method, the numbers of fighting bulls, the amount betted, etc.;
8. The term "winnings" means an amount paid by a bullfighting match organizer to persons who have bought a bullfighting betting slip and succeeded in predicting the correct result of the match after deducting sales fees and taxes from the sales of bullfighting betting slips when the result of the match is confirmed;
9. The term "unit betting amount" means the basic unit and the minimum betting amount of a bullfighting betting slip sold for a bullfighting match.

Article 3 (Establishment and Implementation of Comprehensive Medium- and Long-Term Development Plans for Bullfighting Matches)

- (1) A bullfighting match organizer that has obtained a permit under Article 6 shall establish and implement a comprehensive medium- and long-term development plan to maintain bullfighting arenas, to improve the conditions of surrounding environments, to foster farmers who raise fighting bulls and to revitalize bullfighting matches.
- (2) A bullfighting match organizer may have a committee for deliberation on the revitalization of bullfighting matches under its jurisdiction, in order to deliberate on important matters of the plan under paragraph (1).
- (3) Matters necessary for the functions, composition and operation of the committee for deliberation on the revitalization of bullfighting matches under paragraph (2) and other matters shall be prescribed by ordinance of the relevant local government.

Article 4 (Relationship to Other Statutes)

- (1) Articles 8 (2) and 46 (1) (limited to persons who violate Article 8 (2) of the Animal Protection Act) of the Animal Protection Act shall not apply to bullfighting.
- (2) The Act on Special Cases concerning Regulation and Punishment of Speculative Acts, etc. shall not apply to sale of bullfighting betting slips.

CHAPTER II HOLDING BULLFIGHTING MATCHES

Article 5 (Principles for Holding Bullfighting Matches)

The life and safety of fighting bulls shall be preferentially considered in determining the operation, method, etc. of bullfighting matches.

Article 6 (Holding Bullfighting Matches)

(1) Bullfighting matches shall be held by a local government (including a local government-invested public corporation or a local government public corporation incorporated under the Local Public Enterprises Act; the same shall apply hereinafter) that obtains a permit from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

(2) Every local government that has obtained a permit to hold bullfighting matches under paragraph (1) (hereinafter referred to as "match organizer") shall prepare a plan to hold bullfighting matches each year and obtain approval of the plan from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 7 (Sale of Bullfighting Betting Slips)

(1) A match organizer may sell bullfighting betting slips (hereinafter referred to as "betting slips") to raise funds necessary for the development of rural areas, the growth of the livestock industry, etc.

(2) Matters necessary for the unit betting amount and the method of selling betting slips and other matters shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 8 (Methods of Betting on Bullfighting Matches)

(1) Betting on bullfighting matches shall be made in any of the five different methods: betting on a single match, betting on the duration of a single match, betting on multiple matches, betting on durations of multiple matches, and betting on a particular matter.

(2) Matters necessary for determining successful betting and implementing the method with regard to each method of betting on bullfighting matches under paragraph (1) and other matters shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Article 9 (Installation of Bullfighting Arenas)

(1) When a match organizer intends to install a bullfighting arena, it shall meet the requirements prescribed by Presidential Decree and shall obtain a permit therefor from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The same shall also apply to any amendment to the granted permit: Provided, That the foregoing shall not apply to a modification to a minor matter specified by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

(2) In granting a permit under paragraph (1), the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall take into comprehensive consideration the proximity to other bullfighting arenas, the appropriate size of bullfighting arenas nationwide, etc.

(3) If the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs acknowledges that the facilities of a bullfighting arena are inadequate and thus it is likely to cause hindrance in maintaining order and safety in the bullfighting arena or to compromise the fairness of bullfighting matches, he/she may order the match organizer to take measures necessary for altering the facilities.

(4) If an entity that has obtained a permit to install a bullfighting arena pursuant to paragraph (1) fails to commence the installation of the bullfighting arena without any justifiable ground within one year from the date of the permit, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may revoke the permit. In such cases, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall hold a hearing. *<Amended on Feb. 11, 2020>*

(5) When a match organizer holds bullfighting matches, it may collect an admission fee from the persons who enter the bullfighting arena, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Article 10 (Registration and Licenses of Fighting Bulls, Owners of Fighting Bulls, Referees, and Trainers)

(1) The owner of a fighting bull who intends to have his/her fighting bull participate in bullfighting shall file for registration of matters concerning the type and characteristics of the fighting bull and the tests of contagious livestock diseases with a match organizer, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

(2) A person who intends to own a fighting bull shall register him/herself with a match organizer.

(3) If the owner of a fighting bull falls under any of the following, the relevant match organizer shall revoke the registration under paragraph (2). In such cases, if he/she falls under subparagraph 1, 5, 6, or 7, the match organizer shall hold a hearing:

1. Where the owner of a fighting bull is registered by fraud or other improper means;
 2. Where the owner of a fighting bull dies;
 3. Where the owner of a fighting bull falls under any of paragraph (5) 1 through 3;
 4. Where the owner of a fighting bull is sentenced to imprisonment without prison labor or any heavier punishment;
 5. Where the owner of a fighting bull fails to comply with an order to suspend his/her affairs issued under paragraph (4) or has been subjected to such order on at least two occasions;
 6. Where the owner of a fighting bull becomes a public official, executive officer, or employee of a match organizer or performs administrative affairs related to bullfighting matches;
 7. Where the owner of a fighting bull does other act specified by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs that substantially compromises the fairness of bullfighting matches.
- (4) If the owner of a fighting bull falls under any of the following, the match organizer may issue an order to the owner of a fighting bull to suspend his/her activities for a specified period not exceeding six months:

1. If the owner of a fighting bull fails to file a report on a change in any matter reported for resident registration (the name, address, representative, or articles of incorporation in cases of a corporation) within 14 days from the date such change occurs;
 2. If the owner of a fighting bull fails to own a fighting bull for at least six consecutive months without any justifiable ground;
 3. If the owner of a fighting bull violates the duty to comply in the course of performing his/her duties or degrades dignity in any other manner.
- (5) None of the following persons shall be eligible for registration as the owner of a fighting bull under paragraph (2): *<Amended on Mar. 18, 2014>*
1. A person who is under adult guardianship or limited guardianship;
 2. A person declared bankrupt and not yet reinstated;
 3. A person upon whom a sentence of a fine or any heavier punishment was imposed for a violation of this Act;
 4. A person for whom five years have not passed since a sentence of imprisonment without prison labor or any heavier punishment, imposed upon him/her, was completely executed (or is deemed to have been completely executed) or discharged;
 5. A person for whom two years have not passed since a sentence of suspension of execution of imprisonment or any heavier punishment imposed upon him/her;
 6. A person for whom three years have not passed since his/her registration was revoked under paragraph (3) 1, 5, or 7.
- (6) A person who intends to serve as a trainer or referee shall obtain a license therefor from the relevant match organizer (referring to the head of the relevant local government, if the match organizer is a local government-invested public corporation or local government public corporation).
- (7) Matters necessary for the registration of fighting bulls and owners of fighting bulls, and qualifications for and the selection, licensing, and training of referees and trainers shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.
- (8) A match organizer may collect fees from a person who intends to file for registration under paragraph (1) or (2) or who intends to obtain a license under paragraph (6), as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Article 11 (Winnings)

- (1) A match organizer shall pay winnings, out of the sales of the relevant betting slips, to persons who bought a betting slip and predicted the correct result of a match, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.
- (2) If the amount of winnings referred to in paragraph (1) is smaller than the face value of a betting slip, the face value shall be deemed the amount of winnings.
- (3) If no one has correctly predicted the result of a bullfighting match, the sales shall be refunded to persons who bought a betting slip of the relevant bullfighting match, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

<Amended on Feb. 11, 2020>

- (4) In paying the winnings under paragraph (1) or (3), any fraction of less than 10 won shall be rounded off, and gains or losses therefrom shall be accounted for as revenue or expenditure of the match organizer.
- (5) A right to claim the winnings under paragraph (1) or (3) shall lapse by extinctive prescription, unless it is exercised within one year from the commencement date of payment.

Article 12 (Invalidation of Betting Slips)

- (1) If any of the following events occurs in a bullfighting match after betting slips are sold, such betting slips shall become invalid:
1. Where one or no fighting bull participates in the match;
 2. Where the bullfighting match fails to be duly formed;
 3. Where an event referred to in subparagraph 1 or 2 occurs in one or more matches for which the betting method adopted is to bet on two or more bullfighting matches.
- (2) A person who has a betting slip that becomes invalid pursuant to paragraph (1) may request the match organizer to refund the purchase price.
- (3) A right to claim under paragraph (2) shall lapse by extinctive prescription, unless it is exercised within one year from the date of sale of the relevant betting slip.

Article 13 (Sales Fees)

A match organizer may collect an amount at the rate determined by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs from the sales of betting slips to appropriate it for operating expenses for holding bullfighting matches. In such cases, the amount collected shall not exceed 20/100 of sales.

Article 14 (Reserve for Losses)

- (1) A match organizer shall accumulate an amount not exceeding 1/100 of the sales of betting slips as the reserve for losses, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.
- (2) When a match organizer intends to appropriate the reserve for losses under paragraph (1) for the compensation of losses, it shall obtain approval therefor from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Article 15 (Disbursement of Gains)

- (1) A match organizer shall disburse gains on the settlement of accounts for each business year for the following purposes:
1. Contribution to the Livestock Industry Development Fund under Article 44 of the Livestock Industry Act;
 2. The reserve for investment to maintain and expand bullfighting matches;

3. Other local development projects determined by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.
- (2) Matters necessary for the distribution, disbursement, etc. of gains under paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 16 (Entrustment of Holding of Bullfighting Matches, etc.)

- (1) If deemed necessary for holding bullfighting matches efficiently, a match organizer may entrust part of business affairs related to bullfighting matches, such as sale of betting slips, the operation and management of bullfighting arena, and public relations activities, to an organization or individual approved by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs within the extent that such entrustment does not compromise the fairness and soundness of matches.
- (2) If an individual or organization entrusted with business affairs related to bullfighting matches under paragraph (1) (hereinafter referred to as "entrusted business operator") falls under any of the following or the relevant match organizer becomes aware of such fact, the match organizer shall cancel such entrustment:
1. Where he/she or it has been entrusted with business affairs or has performed business affairs by fraud or other improper means;
 2. Where it is deemed that he/she or it is unable to continue to perform the entrusted business affairs or is likely to substantially harm public interests due to a change in circumstances;
 3. Where he/she or it violates this Act or an order or a disposition issued under this Act.
- (3) A match organizer may pay entrusted business operators expenses incurred in performing entrusted operation.

Article 17 (Rules on Bullfighting Matches)

A match organizer may establish rules necessary for holding bullfighting matches, except as otherwise expressly provided for in this Act.

CHAPTER III SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Article 18 (Control of Bullfighting Arenas)

- (1) A match organizer shall take measures necessary for the fair operation of bullfighting matches and the maintenance of order in the bullfighting arena.
- (2) A match organizer shall collect, classify, and analyze information and data about fighting bulls based on the matters registered pursuant to Article 10 (1) before holding a bullfighting match and shall provide the general public with such information and data for their use.
- (3) Matters necessary for taking measures under paragraph (1) and providing information, data, etc. under paragraph (2) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 19 (Welfare of Referees and Trainers)

- (1) A match organizer shall take measures necessary for the welfare and safety of referees, trainers, and other persons who engage in bullfighting.
- (2) Measures necessary for taking measures for welfare, safety, etc. under paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 20 (Approval of Business Plans)

- (1) A match organizer shall prepare an operation plan and a budget for revenue and expenditure with regard to bullfighting matches to be held in the following year, and shall obtain approval thereof from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs by no later than the end of each year. The same shall apply to any modification thereto.
- (2) A match organizer shall submit a report on the results of the holding of bullfighting matches and settlement of accounts to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs within two months from the end of each business year.

Article 21 (Orders, Dispositions, and Inspections)

- (1) If deemed necessary for the enforcement of this Act, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may issue an order or issue a disposition necessary for the supervision of bullfighting matches to a match organizer. In such cases, if the match organizer is a Si/Gun/Gu (a Gu refers to an autonomous Gu), such order or disposition may be issued or issued through a Special Metropolitan City Mayor, Metropolitan City Mayor, or Do Governor.
- (2) If deemed necessary for successfully holding a bullfighting match, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may require a match organizer to report on the current operation status of bullfighting matches or assign public officials under his/her jurisdiction to enter the match organizer's office or bullfighting arena to inspect account books, documents, and other things as necessary. *<Amended on Feb. 11, 2020>*
- (3) Each public official who conducts an inspection pursuant to paragraph (2) shall carry a certificate of identification indicating his/her authority and present it to related persons.
- (4) If a public official or an executive or employee of a local government-invested public corporation or local government public corporation fails to comply therewith, or violates an order or a disposition issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs pursuant to paragraph (1), the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may demand the head of the competent local government to punish the relevant public official or executive or employee.

Article 22 (Prohibition of Similar Acts)

No person, other than a match organizer, shall sell a betting slip or similar or hold a bullfighting match in which money is paid to persons who correctly predict the result of a bullfighting match.

Article 23 (Restrictions on Purchase of Betting Slips)

- (1) No match organizer shall sell any betting slip to a minor.
- (2) None of the following persons shall buy or arrange to buy any betting slip or accept the transfer of any betting slip:
 1. An executive officer or employee of a match organizer (a related public official, if the match organizer is a local government);
 2. A person in a position of supervisor related to the holding of a bullfighting match;
 3. A referee or trainer;
 4. A person employed by a trainer, etc. for the care of a fighting bull (hereinafter referred to as "caretaker of a fighting bull");
 5. An entrusted business operator;
 6. Other persons who engage in bullfighting matches.
- (3) The scope of persons falling under paragraph (2) 2, 5 and 6 shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

CHAPTER IV PENALTY PROVISIONS

Article 24 (Penalty Provisions)

Any person who harms the fairness of a bullfighting match or obstructs the fair progress of a match by deceit or force shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than five years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won. *<Amended on Feb. 3, 2015>*

Article 25 (Penalty Provisions)

(1) Any referee, trainer or caretaker of a fighting bull who does any of the following acts shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than five years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won: *<Amended on Feb. 3, 2015; Feb. 11, 2020>*

1. Where he/she accepts, demands, or promises money, goods or any economic benefits upon receiving a request for an undue favor in connection with his/her duty;
 2. Where he/she has a person provide money, goods, or any economic benefits to a third party or demands or promises to provide money, goods, or any economic benefits to a third party upon receiving a request for an undue favor in connection with his/her duty.
- (2) Any referee, trainer or caretaker of a fighting bull who commits a crime under paragraph (1) 1 and subsequently does a fraudulent act shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than seven years or by a fine not exceeding 70 million won. *<Amended on Feb. 3, 2015; Feb. 11, 2020>*

Article 26 (Penalty Provisions)

(1) Any of the following persons shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than three years or by a fine not exceeding 30 million won: *<Amended on Aug. 3, 2015>*

1. A person who violates Article 22 (excluding a local government);
2. A person who gambles on a bullfighting match for profit or aids and abets such gambling;
3. A person falling under any subparagraph of Article 23 (2) who becomes a party to an act provided for in subparagraph 2.

(2) An attempt of a crime provided for in paragraph (1) shall be punished.

Article 27 (Penalty Provisions)

Any person who promises, provides, or expresses his/her intention to provide money, goods, or any economic benefits under Article 25 shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than two years or by a fine not exceeding 20 million won. *<Amended on Feb. 3, 2015>*

Article 28 (Penalty Provisions)

Any person who violates Article 23 shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than one year or by a fine not exceeding 10 million won. *<Amended by Act No. 13143, Feb. 3, 2015>*

Article 29 (Concurrent Imposition of Fines)

For purposes of Article 26 (1), imprisonment and a fine may be imposed concurrently.

Article 30 (Concurrent Imposition of Suspension of Qualification)

The suspension of qualification for not more than 10 years may be concurrently imposed for a crime under Article 25 or 27.

Article 31 (Confiscation and Additional Collection)

Money or goods obtained under Article 25 or 27 shall be confiscated: Provided, That if it is impossible to confiscate money or goods or if any economic benefit has been acquired, the value thereof shall be additionally collected.

Article 32 (Administrative Fines)

(1) Any of the following persons shall be subject to an administrative fine not exceeding three million won:

1. A person who fails to obtain a permit or who obtains a permit by a fraudulent means, in violation of Article 6 (1);

2. A person who fails to obtain approval or who obtains approval by a fraudulent means, in violation of Article 6 (2) or 14 (2);
 3. A person who fails to obtain a permit or permit for modification, or who obtains a permit or permit for modification by a fraudulent means, in violation of Article 9 (1);
 4. A person who fails to complete registration or who completes registration by a fraudulent means, in violation of Article 10 (1) or (2);
 5. A person who fails to obtain a license or who obtains a license by a fraudulent means, in violation of Article 10 (6);
 6. A person who fails to file a report under Article 21 (2) or files a false report, or who refuses, interferes with, or evades an inspection.
- (2) Administrative fines under paragraph (1) shall be imposed and collected by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or the head of each local government, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 6722, Aug. 26, 2002>

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 7428, Mar. 31, 2005>

Article 1 (Enforcement Date)

This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation.

Articles 2 through 6 Omitted.

ADDENDA <Act No. 8282, Jan. 26, 2007>

- (1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation.
- (2) (Transitional Measures concerning Penalty Provisions) Any act committed before this Act enters into force shall be governed by the previous provisions.
- (3) Omitted.

ADDENDA <Act No. 8354, Apr. 11, 2007>

Article 1 (Enforcement Date)

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

Articles 2 through 9 Omitted.

ADDENDA <Act No. 8852, Feb. 29, 2008>

Article 1 (Enforcement Date)

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation: Provided, That Among Acts amended under Article 6 of these Addenda, the amended provisions of an Act which was promulgated before this Act enters into force, but the enforcement date of which has not yet arrived, shall enter into force on the enforcement date of the relevant Act.

Articles 2 through 7 Omitted.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 10118, Mar. 17, 2010>

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 11690, Mar. 23, 2013>

Article 1 (Enforcement Date)

(1) This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

(2) Omitted.

Articles 2 through 7 Omitted.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 11744, Apr. 5, 2013>

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 12434, Mar. 18, 2014>

Article 1 (Enforcement Date)

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

Article 2 (Transitional Measures concerning Incompetents, etc.)

Persons under adult guardianship or limited guardianship under the amended provisions of Article 10 (5) 1 shall be deemed including persons for whom the declaration of incompetency or quasi-incompetency remains effective pursuant to Article 2 of the Addenda to the Civil Act as partially amended by Act No. 10429.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 13143, Feb. 3, 2015>

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 16787, Dec. 10, 2019>

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 16986, Feb. 11, 2020>

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

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