

It has just come to the notice of FARS Board that certain Clubs are operating a 'Contract' with their skaters.

This 'Contract' is worded in such a way so as to stop any skater who wishes to leave the Club from joining another Club and immediately continuing with their competitive career.

Skaters are being, in the first place, coerced into signing this Contract before being allowed to join their selected Club.

Should the skater be under the age of consent then their parents are asked to sign.

It is doubtful if the so called 'Contract' is legal and it may well infringe the European Human Rights Laws

Regardless of the Law this practice is completely against the principles of FARS as indicated in the Introduction to the General Rules in our Constitution

As of January 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 all clubs must incorporate a rule into their Constitution which says

**No competitive restrictions shall be imposed on any member  
who wishes to leave the Club**

It is accepted that this rule can only be put into Club Rules at their AGM but FARS will expect that all Clubs accept the principle of this rule **immediately**, and withdraw any '**Restrictive Practices**' they have in place right away.

Should a Club refuse to agree to this principle then their Affiliation to FARS will be suspended until such time as the Rule is put in place

This notice will be circulated to all Clubs immediately and all Clubs should acknowledge within 14 days, by 24<sup>th</sup> January 2008, that they WILL accept the principle of this rule directly.

If this acknowledgement is not received Affiliation to FARS of the said Club/s will be suspended until such time as the Rule is put in place

Sincerely

On behalf of the Board of FARS

Ron Gibbs

President FARS