

MMA Fighter Suspended After Failed Marijuana Test

American mixed martial artist Fernando Gonzalez, who is currently competing in Bellator's Welterweight division, has failed post-fight drug test for marijuana. The MMA fighter has been fined \$1500 and the cost of his second offense's doping test.

CSAC Executive Director Andy Foster said Gonzalez has been suspended for 90 days and the increased penalty is on the basis that the MMA fighter had twice violated rules of the commission on banned substances.

This is the second failed drugs test for Gonzalez. In 2014, Fernando Gonzalez tested positive for marijuana and received a suspension of one month and a fine of \$315. However, his technical knockout of former UFC star [Karo Parisyan](#) was overturned after the failed test to a no-contest. At that time, Rob Emerson, Keith Berry, and Nick Moghaddam were also suspended and/or fined for post-fight drug test failures following Bellator 127. Berry and Moghaddam tested positive for marijuana and elevated testosterone-to-epitestosterone ratio while Emerson tested positive for Modafinil, which is a drug used to improve alertness and cognitive function. Gonzalez said he was smoking pot to help with insomnia and had not used it for enhancement. The MMA fighter said marijuana does not make anyone perform any better and all he used it for was to get a good sleep.

Born on September 15, 1983, Gonzalez is presently competing in Bellator's Welterweight division. Since 2003, Gonzalez has been a professional competitor for the World Extreme Cagefighting, Strikeforce, and King of the Cage. The former WBC National Muay Thai Cruiserweight champion made his WEC and MMA debut on October 17, 2003 against Mike Castillo where he won via first round TKO. The American mixed martial artist made his Bellator debut against Bellator Season 6 Welterweight Tournament winner Karl Amoussou on July 25, 2014 at Bellator 122. Gonzalez, coming in as an underdog, won via unanimous decision to pull off a huge upset. In his second appearance for Bellator, Gonzalez stepped in as a replacement for Marious Zaromksis and won the fight in the first round via TKO. However, he was suspended for 30 days and fined \$315 after he tested positive for Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

In another development, [Mike Richman](#) has been suspended after he tested positive for performance enhancing drugs. It is believed that Richman tested positive for Drostanolone ([Masteron](#)) though the same is still not officially confirmed by the California State Athletic Commission. Richman failed the drugs test after his unanimous decision loss at Bellator 137 to Eduardo Dantas at Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, California. The American mixed martial artist accepted the failed drugs test and said he let himself, his family, coach, friends, and fans down because of the doping incident.

In 2008, Richman made his professional debut and compiled an undefeated record of 8-0 before he competed on *The Ultimate Fighter: Team GSP vs. Team Koscheck*.

Bellator MMA President Scott Coker said in a statement that CSAC Executive Director Andy Foster has communicated of two positive tests following Bellator 137. It was revealed that Fernando tested positive for marijuana, while Richman failed a test for performance enhancing drugs.