

UFC Pulls Kelvin Gastelum From Anderson Silva Fight

UFC middleweight [Kelvin Gastelum](#) has been pulled from a scheduled fight on June 3 against Anderson Silva after he tested positive for marijuana on March 11.

Under WADA standards, the legal decision limit for Carboxy-THC in-competition is 180 ng/mL. Gastelum was flagged for Carboxy-Tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as Carboxy-THC, “which is a metabolite of marijuana and/or hashish.” Marijuana metabolites under the UFC's anti-[doping](#) policy are classified as a specified substance, which carries a potential one-year suspension.

The 25-year-old Gastelum (14-2) is riding a three-fight win streak. He now has been placed under provisional suspension. Gastelum, who won “The Ultimate Fighter” in 2013 over Uriah Hall by split decision, has since missed weight on three different occasions, the most recent coming at UFC 205. He was ordered by UFC president Dana White to move up to middleweight after not making weight on two occasions while fighting in the welterweight division in the UFC. He has since won back-to-back fights in dominant fashion at 185 pounds where he stopped both Tim Kennedy and Belfort inside the distance.

The United States Anti-Doping Agency informed the UFC of violation of the drug policy by Gastelum. The failed drug test happened after the knockout win of Gastelum over [Vitor Belfort](#) in Fortaleza, Brazil. Gastelum defeated Belfort via first-round TKO at UFC Fight Night 106 to propel himself into the top-10 of the UFC middleweight rankings. The win also earned Gastelum his second Performance of the Night bonus award.

The American professional mixed martial artist who is currently signed to the Ultimate Fighting Championship was the winner of The Ultimate Fighter 17. Currently competing as a middleweight and is ranked #8 in the UFC official middleweight rankings, Kelvin Gastelum made his professional MMA debut on December 11, 2010 and won via submission because of punches in the second round. Gastelum then went on to amass undefeated record of 5–0 and had finished every opponent he had faced with 2 TKOs and 3 submissions on his record. Gastelum was selected for The Ultimate Fighter: Team Jones vs. Team Sonnen in January 2013. He defeated Kito Andrews by decision to get into the TUF house and was picked last by Chael Sonnen for Team Sonnen.

In a statement, the UFC said a replacement is currently being sought to face Silva at UFC 212 on June 3 in Rio de Janeiro. Yoel Romero has expressed interest in taking on Anderson Silva but Romero wants the fight to be for the interim belt. The statement further reads that USADA, the independent administrator of the UFC Anti-Doping Policy, will handle the results management and appropriate adjudication of this case involving Gastelum, as it relates to the UFC Anti-Doping Policy and future UFC participation.

The UFC statement also reads that USADA will work to ensure that the Commission has the necessary information to determine its proper judgment of Gastelum’s potential anti-doping violation because the Brazilian MMA Athletic Commission (CABMMA) was the regulatory body overseeing the fight in Fortaleza and has licensing jurisdiction over Gastelum. It was also added that additional information will be provided at the appropriate time as the process moves forward.