



National Women's Martial Arts Federation Policy on Men at Special Training

The mission of the NWMAF is to promote the involvement of women and girls in the martial arts. Special Training (ST), by virtue of its all-women environment, is one of our most effective means of accomplishing our mission. ST offers more than just the opportunity to train in a diversity of styles with great women martial artists. It is also a unique environment that offers participants many kinds of support that can inform and enhance training throughout the rest of the year. To maintain that unique environment, the NWMAF Board and the ST planning committee should follow these guidelines:

1. Our highest priority at ST is the development of the best women-only training opportunities possible.
2. Because completely excluding men and boys from the living and dining areas of ST may prevent some women from participating in ST, we are committed to finding ways to allow their presence while also maintaining, to the extent possible, women-only spaces as well.
3. Although men and boys may share limited living and eating space with ST participants, the NWMAF maintains a commitment to women-only training spaces for the duration of ST, to the extent possible given the details of the site and the facilities available to us. Ideally, this means that indoor training spaces will be closed to male observers and that men will maintain respectful distances from women training outdoors.
4. Men and boys are invited to attend the demonstration showcase. If an ST participant wishes to include men and boys as participants or assistants during their portion of the showcase, they should speak with the volunteer coordinating the performance.