

A. CONTEST RULES

1. **Application.** The Contest Rules apply to all bouts sanctioned by the Association. A boxer may be disqualified for failure to adhere to any Contest Rule. The Rules may be modified in certain respects for women bouts.

2. **Bout Duration.** All sanctioned bouts shall be scheduled for twelve (4-6-8-12) rounds. Each round shall be scheduled for three (3) minutes duration with a one (1) minute rest between rounds for men & 2 minutes fight and 1 minute interval for women.

3. **Scoring.** The judges shall score and decide the result of a bout using the “Ten Point Score System”. The winner of a complete round shall be entitled to ten (10) points and the opponent to a proportional smaller number. Rounds may be scored even if a Judge cannot determine a winner of the round. All rounds must be scored, even when incomplete. A score should not be less than ten (10)-seven (7), unless a different scoring system is mandated by law or is applicable to a unified title bout, or the referee has taken away points. Scores will be announced only at the end of a bout.

4. **Deducted Points.** When one or both contenders have points deducted, the judges will register the deduction on their scorecards. If a fight must be stopped in a round where points were deducted and it is necessary to go to the scorecards, the points deducted by the referee in that round shall be considered.

5. **Weighing.** The official weigh-in and rules review for a sanctioned bout shall be carried out between 16 and 36 hours before the bout. The Supervisor may require the boxers or their agents at the time of the rules review to certify in writing that they have agreed to the terms of the bout and the PBC Rules and Regulations.

6. **Scale.** The scale to be used at the official weighing shall be available to both boxers at least two (2) hours before the official weighing time.

7. **Delayed Bout.** If a sanctioned bout is delayed more than 48 hours, additional weighing is required.

8. **Making Weight.** If a boxer fails to make the required weight limit at the official weighing, he shall have two (2) additional hours to make the prescribed weight. He shall make his best effort to reduce his weight accordingly.

9. **Failure to Make Weight.**

a. The Association may penalize any boxer who fails to make weight by imposing a monetary fine, and demoting or suspending the boxer.

b. If a champion makes weight and a challenger fails, the champion shall retain the title, even if he loses the bout.

c. Should both boxers fail to make weight after the two (2) additional hours given, the title shall be declared vacant, and the bout may be staged as a non-title match. Both boxers shall be subject to removal or demotion in the weight division.

d. Should a champion fail to make weight after the additional two (2) hours period, he shall lose his title. If the challenger makes weight, and the challenger wins the bout, he shall be crowned the new champion. If the champion who did not make the weight is the winner of the fight, the title shall be declared vacant.

e. Absent contractual provisions to the contrary, if the bout takes place, a boxer who does not make weight after the two-hour extension shall forfeit 35% of his purse, with 25% going to the promoter and 10% to his opponent. In addition, the boxer shall pay the Association the bout sanction fee. A boxer who refuses to attempt to make weight during the two-hour extension shall forfeit 45% of his purse, with 30% going to the promoter and 15% to his opponent.

f. To the extent applicable, the same rules apply to an eliminator or other sanctioned bout.

10. **Downed Boxer.** A boxer shall be considered "down" when, as a result of a legal blow, any part of his body, except his feet, makes contact with the floor of the ring, or when he hangs helplessly over the ropes.

11. **Knockdown.** When a boxer is knocked down, the referee shall order the opponent to retire to the farthest neutral corner of the ring in relation to the down boxer, pointing at such corner, and he shall immediately count the seconds in a loud voice, with a movement of his arm, taking the count from the timekeeper. If the boxer refuses to go to the farthest corner determined by the referee, or does not stay there, the referee shall stop the count to the down boxer until his opponent retires to the indicated corner, and then the referee shall continue with the count starting from the point from which it was interrupted. If the downed boxer does not rise before the count of ten (10), he will be declared the loser by KO (Knockout), and the referee shall make

it known by waving both arms. A boxer who rises and can continue the bout shall receive a minimum count of eight (8) seconds.

12. **Automatic Knockout.** Three (3) knockdowns in the same round constitute an automatic knockout.

13. **Outside of the Ring.** A boxer knocked through the ropes onto the ring apron will be given ten (10) seconds to regain his feet and get back into the ring. If under the same conditions a boxer falls through the ropes onto the floor, clear of the ring, he will be given twenty (20) seconds to get back into the ring and regain his feet, unassisted by any of his cornermen. In either situation, the referee may rule a knockdown. If the boxer is assisted by a cornerman, he shall be disqualified. If the boxer is assisted by anyone other than a cornerman, the referee shall determine what action shall be taken.

14. **Knockdown at End of Round.** The referee shall count the seconds to a downed boxer even after the bell. If the downed boxer fails to rise before the count of ten (10), he shall be declared loser by KO in the round that has just finished.

15. **No Saved by the Bell.** A boxer legally knocked down cannot be saved by the bell in any round.

16. **End of Round Blow.** A blow given at the same time as the bell rings will be considered a legal blow.

17. **Fouls.** The referee shall prevent accidental and intentional fouls, including headbutts. The referee is the only person authorized to stop the fight and to decide whether an injury was caused by a foul. Intentional fouls may result in a loss of points or disqualification, subject to the referee's discretion.

18. **Late and Low Blows.** In case of an accidental low blow or other accidental blow after the bell, the referee shall determine if the boxer who received the blow may continue the fight. Because the protector used by a boxer is considered sufficient protection, a bout cannot be terminated by a low blow. If the capacity of the boxer has not been endangered as a result of the blow, then the referee shall order the fight to resume, after an interval which is subject to the referee's discretion but which shall not exceed five minutes. A boxer unable or unwilling to resume the fight after the referee orders him to resume fighting shall lose the fight by Technical Knockout (TKO).

19. **Serious Injuries.** When an injury produced by a fair blow is so serious that the bout cannot continue, the injured boxer shall lose the fight by TKO.

20. **Terminated Bouts.**

a. **Intentional:** If a boxer is injured as a result of an illegal intentional blow and cannot continue fighting, the offender boxer shall lose the fight by disqualification. If as a result of an intentional illegal blow a boxer causes an injury to his rival, the referee shall take a mandatory and automatic two (2) point deduction from the offender. If as a result of that injury the referee determines that the injured boxer cannot continue fighting in later rounds, the result of the bout shall be determined by the judges' scorecards as long as four rounds have been completed. If the injured fighter is ahead on the scorecards, he will be declared the winner by technical decision. If the injured fighter is behind or drawing on the scorecards, the fight shall be declared a technical draw. If the situation described in the above paragraph occurs before the completion of the fourth round, the fight shall be declared a no decision or a draw. If a boxer injures himself by attempting to commit an intentional foul to his rival, the referee shall not take any action in the offender's favor and the injury shall be considered as a result of a legal punch.

b. **Accidental:** If a boxer is accidentally injured and cannot continue fighting before the completion of the fourth round, the fight shall be declared a technical draw. If a boxer is accidentally injured and as a result the referee determines that he cannot continue fighting in that or later rounds, the result of the fight shall be determined by the judges' scorecards as long as four rounds have been completed. The fighter ahead on the scorecards shall be declared the winner by technical decision. If there is a draw in the scorecards, the bout shall be declared a draw.

21. **Referee's Authority.** The referee shall exercise immediate authority, direction, and control over the fight to which he has been designated, and it shall be his responsibility to enforce the rules and regulations governing the bout. The referee shall be the only authorized person to determine if a foul has produced an injury, and if it was accidental or intentional. The referee shall have the authority to stop a fight and make a decision if he considers that the bout has become dangerously one-sided, or if any of the boxers is in such condition that if the fight continues he is likely to suffer serious injury. He may disqualify a boxer or cornerman. He may consult the physician in attendance on whether the contest should be stopped.

22. **Ringside Physician.** The ringside physician may only step up to the ring between rounds or when requested by the referee. He will give his opinion discreetly to the referee and avoid any gestures or signals that could be erroneously interpreted by the public.

23. **Medical.** The local commission or governing authority will determine the number of doctors and medical equipment required for the bout, and the necessity and rules for medical and drug testing. The Medical Guidelines are advisory only.

24. **Drugs.** Use of unauthorized drugs or stimulants by a boxer is prohibited. The Association encourages drug testing of the boxers in any sanctioned contest. If the local commission does not require such testing, the promoter shall be responsible for doing so according to procedures recognized by the WBA. The list of prohibited substances is as published by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or other agency as authorized by the WBA. The Supervisor's report shall address whether the local commission required drug testing and the circumstances of any drug testing. The Supervisor may observe drug tests, but the Association itself will not conduct such tests.

25. **Allowed Substances.** An authorized homeostatic may be allowed to control bleeding of minor cuts or lacerations. Homeostatic solutions based on iron, such as Monsel solution, and other caustic solutions are prohibited. The ringside physician is authorized to examine for such substances during the fight. During the fight, boxers may only ingest water. The discretionary use of petroleum jelly around the eyes shall be allowed.

26. **Gloves.** The weight of the gloves to be used in world championship bouts shall be as follows:

- a. From Super Welterweight up to and including Heavyweight: ten (10) ounces.
- b. From Minimum up to and including Welterweight: eight (8) ounce gloves.
If the bout contract does not identify the brand of gloves to be used, the brand shall be determined by the Local Commission.

27. **Taping and Bandaging.** The following standards shall apply to taping and bandaging of hands, although the local commission and referee may allow variations.

- a. The binding of the surgeon's tape must not be applied less than one (1) inch from the knuckles of the contender's hands. A boxer may use his bandage as he likes, provided that the knuckles of his hand are not covered by the surgeon's tape.

b. Bandage requirements are as follows:

(1) In all categories up to and including Middleweight: the bandage shall be of no more than ten (10) yards of soft gauze, no more than two (2) inches wide, and no more than six (6) feet of surgeon's tape of one inch for each hand.

(2) In all categories between Super Middleweight and Heavyweight: the bandage of the hand shall be of (12) yards of soft gauze of no more than two (2) inches wide, and no more than one inch wide of (8) feet of surgeon's tape, one inch wide, for each hand.

(3) In all divisions up to and including Super Middleweight, the hand bandage can be increased to a maximum of twelve (12) yards and no more than two (2) inches wide, and eight (8) feet of surgeon's tape of one (1) inch for each hand.

(4) In all divisions from the Light Heavyweight to Heavyweight, the hand bandaging can be increased to a maximum of fourteen (14) yards and no more than two (2) inches wide, and ten (10) feet of surgeon's tape of one (1) inch for each hand.

28. **Ring.** The rings to be used in any World Championship bouts shall measure no less than eighteen (18) feet (5.486 m) and no more than twenty-four (24) feet (7.315 m) long for each side between the ropes. The ring floor shall extend no further than the ring by eighteen (18) inches (45.72 cm). The ring padding shall consist of one (1) inch layer of "Ensolite Boxing Ring Pad" or similar material applied over one-inch base of Celotex Building Board or similar material. The padding shall be covered with canvas, drill or similar material tightly tied under the platform.

All boxing rings must be equipped with four parallel ring ropes each no less than one (1) inch thick in diameter. Such ropes shall be manila, synthetic, or plastic rope or any similar material and shall not be made of metal of any type. The first rope shall be eighteen (18) inches above the ring floor, the second rope shall be thirty (30) inches above the ring floor, the third rope shall be forty two (42) inches above the ring floor, and the fourth rope shall be fifty four (54) inches above the ring floor.

These general standards may be adjusted for a bout with the approval of the local commission and referee.

29. **Mouthpiece.** All boxers are required to wear a mouthpiece during competition. A second mouthpiece must be available from a boxer's second. If a mouthpiece is dislodged

during competition, the referee will call time and replace the mouthpiece at the first opportune moment, without interfering with the immediate action. Points may be deducted by the referee, if he feels the mouthpiece is being purposely spit out.

30. **Protector.** A protector (belt and cup) shall be required for boxers participating in sanctioned fights. The protector shall not exceed the navel or the superior anterior iliac spine. The trunks shall go one (1) inch over the protector. Boxers shall have the trunks and protector available at the weighing ceremony so that the supervisor or referee may approve or disapprove them. Before beginning the fight, the referee will verify that both contenders use their protectors below the navel.

31. **Seconds.** Each boxer shall be allowed no more than four (4) seconds (cornermen), one of whom shall be designated as responsible for behavior of all seconds/cornermen during the bout. Only one second/cornerman is allowed in the ring between rounds.

32. **Highlights Document.** The President may issue a document entitled “Highlights of Contest Rules” (or Contest Rules Summary), for use by officials and boxers, summarizing the rules applicable to a sanctioned contest.

33. **Officials.** If appointed by the President, the following shall represent the Association at sanctioned contests: a Supervisor, a Referee, and three judges. In emergency cases when one or more of the three appointed judges is unable to carry out his duties, the Supervisor may appoint another Association member, including the referee, to serve as judge.

MEDICAL AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

Rule 1

a. In order to obtain a license or the renewal of a license, all boxers must submit to a thorough medical examination by a physician approved by the Boxing Commission. The examination shall include a complete history of the applicant and any of all of the following laboratory procedures at the discretion of such physician: x-rays, skull x-rays, flat abdominal x-rays, electrocardiogram, complete blood count, including bleeding and coagulation time, urine analysis, serological examination of syphilis, neurological and psychiatric examination, and any other test which might be indicated by the past record or present condition of the applicant. HIV.

The following minimum physical requirements and disqualification shall apply to professional boxers (unless contrary to law of a given region).

1. Age: Upper Limit -36 years
Lower Limit -17 years

Exception: If in a championship bout, the fighter is just over 36 years (Example: 36 years and 7 days), then this may be waived by discretion of the Commissioner. No person of 36 years or over will be allowed to start a career in professional boxing.

2. Blood Pressure: No over 150/90. If the physician thinks that the blood pressure was raised because of the boxer's anxiety, he may take several readings. If a boxer suffers from hypertension above 150/90, without evidence of cardiovascular disease and can be allowed to fight.
3. No organic heart disease or history of cardiac surgery.
4. No active lung disease, e.g., pneumonia, tuberculosis, pneumothorax.
5. Fundi -- no retinopathy or detached retinas (repaired or not).
6. Vision – both eyes without the use of lens, not less than J7 for close vision or no more than 20/100 for distant vision. No contact lenses.

7. Abdomen – no hernias or organomegalia (enlarged liver or spleen) or palpable masses.
8. Oral temperature – not over 37.4° C or 100° F.
9. No dental abscess.
10. No skin infection.
11. No recent wound on face or ear which is less than 6 weeks old.
12. No active ear infections.
13. No absence of kidney or actual renal (kidney) disease.
14. No body deformity that may tend to cause bodily injuries.
15. No cranial or brain surgery.
16. No changes in gait, mental status, or boxing performance.
17. No hand fractures less than 6 weeks old.
18. No history of epilepsy.
19. No history of mental illness.
20. No rapid dehydration. If a boxer is more than 5% overweight 5 days before a fight, he should not be allowed to dehydrate himself and should not be permitted to fight. If he presents signs of dehydration or excessive loss of weight on the day of the fight, he should not be permitted to fight.

b. All boxers applying for an original given electroencephalogram, chest x-rays, serological test for syphilis and preferably a CAT Scan of the brain. The CAT Scan of the brain shall be an obligatory exam for all classified WBA boxers, and should be repeated when clinical circumstances so require. Any boxer that presents an altered CAT Scan that indicates brain atrophy, intra or extra cerebral hemorrhage, aneurysms, or any other pathological abnormalities, shall be retired permanently from boxing.

Rule 2

Boxers in all have the type of examination outlined in section (a) on the day of the weigh-in and again a short while before the boxing program begins. The boxer shall furthermore, be checked by a physician before leaving the venue of the tournament.

Rule 3

In the event of any serious injury, the ringside physician shall immediately render any emergency treatment necessary, recommend further treatment or hospitalization if indicated, and fully report the entire matter to the Commission within twenty four (24) hours and subsequently thereafter, if necessary. Such physician may also require that the injured boxer remain in the ring or on the premises after the contest for such period of time, as the physician deems advisable.

Rule 4

Any boxer who has sustained any severe injury or actual knockout, in a bout, shall, within twenty four (24) hours, be thoroughly examined by a physician approved by the Boxing Commission. Such examination shall include any or all the procedures as provided in Section (a) above, or as is specifically directed by the Commission physician or the ringside physician. Upon the physician's request, the Commission may suspend the boxer until he is fully recovered, and similarly, may extend such suspension already imposed.

Rule 5

All medical reports submitted to the Commission relative to the physical examination or condition of boxers shall be considered confidential, and shall be open to examination only to the Commission or its authorized representative, to the licensed boxer upon his written application to the Commission or its authorized representative, to the licensed boxer upon his written application to examine said records, or upon the order of a court of competent jurisdiction in an appropriate case.

Rule 6

Any contestant who has lost six (6) consecutive fights, must be automatically suspended and cannot be reenroll until he has submitted to a medical examination of the type specified in (a) above.

Rule 7

Any boxer who has suffered an actual knockout shall be suspended for at least sixty (60) days and shall forthwith surrender his license card to the Commission. He cannot be reinstated until he has submitted to a medical examination of the type specified in Section (a) above.

If such a boxer suffers a knockout in his next bout, or within three-(3) month following a previous knockout, he shall be suspended from boxing for a period six (6) months. During the six-(6) months interval he shall refrain from any contact training in the gymnasiums. It shall be

the responsibility of the boxer's manager to see that he complies with this rule, and any violation shall result in indefinite suspension of the boxer and/or his manager.

The following automatic suspension shall come into effect irrespective of the outcome of the bout:

- a) More than 10 rounds 30 days
- b) Between 6 and 10 rounds 21 days
- c) Between 1 and 6 rounds 14 days

Rule 8

Semiannual and annual medical examinations must be given to all licensed judges referees by the Commission physician and such examination must be of the same type and thoroughness as is outlined in Section (a).

Rule 9

In the event that a boxer who has suffered a knockout or any severe injury has on such account been treated by his personal physician or has been hospitalized, he or his manager must promptly submit to the Boxing Commission a full report from such physician or hospital. (What commission?)

Rule 10

The Commission shall appoint a panel of three physicians to especially examine any licensed boxer when a question arises as to the physical ability of such licensee to engage in a scheduled match, and the findings of such panel shall be a conclusive determination of such question. Any injury of illness before a scheduled match or while in training for a such match must be fully reported to the Commission within twenty four (24) hours by the licensee or his licensed manager. In such event the Commission does not request the appointment of such panel, the license must be examine by one approved physician in accordance with he procedure outlined in Section 1, above. (What Commission?)

Rule 11

Each boxer shall be equipped with and use throughout the out a custom made individually fabricated mouth guard.

Rule 12

A portable resuscitator with oxygen equipment and a stretcher shall be available at ringside. An ambulance properly equipped with resuscitation equipment and manned by duly

trained personnel to transfer any injured boxer to a hospital that is available at the site of the bout. The injured boxer should be transported to a hospital, which has neurological facilities.