



## **PROFESSIONAL BOXING ASSOCIATION**

### **RULES OF “PROFESSIONAL” BOXING**

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1) The Professional Boxing Association (hereinafter referred to as the PBA) reserves the right to clarify and amend any of the rules without notice as set out herein. The rules are published on the PBA website, and it is the responsibility of licence holders to check and review any of the rules 24 hours prior to any contest. No amendment to the rules shall be made within 24 hours of any PBA sanctioned event. The PBA shall have the sole and reserved discretion to act in the interests of Professional Boxing and shall act in accordance with the natural rules of justice. Licence holders have the right to seek clarification as to the interpretation of the rules.

## 2) Rules of Boxing

2.1 Each round shall consist of a three (3) minute duration, with a one (1) minute rest period between rounds.

2.2 The referee is the sole arbiter of a bout and is the only individual authorised to stop a contest. This rule shall not preclude a video or other review of a decision under the procedures of the applicable regulatory authority if a protest is filed claiming a clear rule violation. Any protest brought shall be promptly. If a protest is not brought promptly and in a reasonable time period, the PBA shall reserve the right to decline a protest based on such a delay.

2.2.1 In the event a Boxer (or somebody acting on their behalf who must be a PBA licence holder) seeks to challenge a decision made by the PBA officials in relation to a decision made in a contest such a challenge MUST be made within 7-days of the contest in writing.

2.2.2 The decision will only be overturned by an independent panel as appointed by the PBA in the event the decision was irrational or perverse and not on the basis of a disagreement with the Judge's decision[s].

2.2.3 In the event the decision is not overturned the challenger to the decision may be liable for the reasonable costs of the PBA's consideration.

2.3 All bouts will be evaluated and scored by three (3) judges.

2.4 The 10 Point Must System will be the standard system of scoring a bout.

2.5 The Mandatory Eight (8) Count after knockdowns will be standard procedure in all bouts.

2.6 All boxers are required to wear a mouthpiece during competition. The round cannot begin without the mouthpiece. If the mouthpiece is dislodged during competition, the referee will call time and have the mouthpiece replaced 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.

2.7 There is NO Standing Eight (8) Count.

- 2.8 There is NO Three (3) Knockdown Rule.
- 2.9 A boxer shall receive a twenty (20) second count if the boxer is knocked out of the ring. The boxer is to be unassisted by spectators or his/her seconds. If assisted by anyone, the boxer may lose points or be disqualified with such a decision being within the sole discretion of the referee.
- 2.10 A boxer who has been knocked down cannot be saved by the bell in any round.
- 2.11 If a boxer sustains an injury from a fair blow and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout, the injured boxer shall lose by TKO.
- 2.12 Injuries sustained by Fouls: **Intentional Fouls:**
- 2.12.1 If an intentional foul causes an injury, and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout immediately, the boxer causing the injury shall lose by disqualification.
  - 2.12.2 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee shall notify the authorities and deduct two (2) points from the boxer who caused the foul. Point deductions for intentional fouls will be mandatory.
  - 2.12.3 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the bout is allowed to continue, and the injury results in the bout being stopped in any round after the fourth (4th) round, the injured boxer will win by TECHNICAL DECISION if he is ahead on the score cards; and the bout will result in a TECHNICAL DRAW if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards.
  - 2.12.4 If the boxer injures himself while attempting to intentionally foul his opponent, the referee will not take any action in his favour, and this injury shall be the same as one produced by a fair blow.
  - 2.12.5 If the referee feels that a boxer has conducted himself in an unsportsmanlike manner, he may stop the bout and disqualify the boxer.
  - 2.12.6 **Accidental Fouls:**
  - 2.12.7 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout, the bout will result in a NO DECISION if stopped before four (4) completed rounds. Four (4) rounds are complete when the bell rings signifying the end of the fourth round.
  - 2.12.8 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout after four (4) rounds have occurred, the bout will result in a TECHNICAL DECISION awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped.

**2.12.8.1** *Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored. If no action has occurred, the round should be scored as an even round. This is at the discretion of the judges*

**2.13** A fighter who is hit with an accidental low blow must continue after a reasonable amount of time but no more than five (5) minutes, or he/she will lose the fight.

### **3) Rounds:**

#### **3.1 Males:**

- 3.1.1** 3 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds for tournament style events only.
- 3.1.2** 4 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.1.3** 5 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.1.4** 6 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.1.5** 8 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.1.6** 10 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.1.7** 12 x 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.

#### **3.2 Females:**

- 3.2.1** 3 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds for tournament style events only.
- 3.2.2** 4 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.2.3** 5 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.2.4** 6 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.2.5** 8 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.2.6** 10 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.
- 3.2.7** 12 x 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest between rounds.

### **4) Weight Classes**

#### **4.1 Men**

- 4.1.1** Minimumweight 105lbs (not more than)
- 4.1.2** Light flyweight, 108lbs
- 4.1.3** Flyweight, 112lbs
- 4.1.4** Super flyweight, 115lbs

4.1.5	Bantamweight,	118lbs
4.1.6	Super Bantamweight,	122lbs
4.1.7	Featherweight,	126lbs
4.1.8	Super Featherweight,	130lbs
4.1.9	Lightweight,	135lbs
4.1.10	Super Lightweight,	140lbs
4.1.11	Welterweight,	147lbs
4.1.12	Super Welterweight,	154lbs
4.1.13	Middleweight,	160lbs
4.1.14	Super Middleweight,	168lbs
4.1.15	Light Heavyweight,	175lbs
4.1.16	Cruiserweight,	200lbs
4.1.17	Heavyweight,	200lbs (Over)

#### 4.2 Female

4.2.1	Light Minimumweight,	102lbs (not more than)
4.2.2	Minimumweight:	105lbs
4.2.3	Light Flyweight:	108lbs
4.2.4	Flyweight:	112lbs
4.2.5	Super Flyweight:	115lbs
4.2.6	Bantamweight:	118lbs
4.2.7	Super Bantamweight:	122lbs
4.2.8	Featherweight:	126lbs
4.2.9	Super Featherweight:	130lbs
4.2.10	Lightweight:	135lbs
4.2.11	Super Lightweight:	140lbs
4.2.12	Welterweight:	147lbs
4.2.13	Super Welterweight:	154lbs
4.2.14	Middleweight:	160lbs
4.2.15	Super Middleweight:	168lbs
4.2.16	Light Heavyweight:	175lbs
4.2.17	Heavyweight:	175lbs (Over)

### 5) 2nd Day Weight Check (Rehydration Limits)

5.1 2nd day weight limits are discouraged by the PBA but if absolutely necessary the PBA in their sole discretion taking all the circumstances into account for certain bouts then a weight limit of 7.32% must be followed, unless varied at the sole discretion of the PBA having taken all the necessary circumstances and the representations of the boxers into account.

	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	
5.1.1	Light Minimumweight (female)	102lbs	109.47lbs
5.1.2	Minimumweight:	105lbs	112.69lbs
5.1.3	Light Flyweight:	108lbs	115.91lbs
5.1.4	Flyweight:	112lbs	120.20lbs
5.1.5	Super Flyweight:	115lbs	123.42lbs

5.1.6	Bantamweight:	118lbs	126.64lbs
5.1.7	Super Bantamweight:	122lbs	130.93lbs
5.1.8	Featherweight:	126lbs	135.22lbs
5.1.9	Super Featherweight:	130lbs	139.52lbs
5.1.10	Lightweight:	135lbs	144.88lbs
5.1.11	Super Lightweight:	140lbs	150.25lbs
5.1.12	Welterweight:	147lbs	157.76lbs
5.1.13	Super Welterweight:	154lbs	165.27lbs
5.1.14	Middleweight:	160lbs	171.71lbs
5.1.15	Super Middleweight:	168lbs	180.30lbs
5.1.16	Light Heavyweight:	175lbs	187.81lbs
5.1.17	Cruiserweight (male)	200lbs	214.64lbs
5.1.18	Heavyweight:	200lbs +	Unlimited

5.2 No difference in weight shall be agreed upon other than 7.32% unless approved by the PBA.

5.2.1 If a second day weight check variance of under 7.32% is to be stipulated, the PBA must be given evidence of the boxer's weight during the negotiation stage in order to make a final decision.

5.3 The 2nd day weight limit shall be agreed upon based on the contractually agreed weight.

5.4 2nd day weight check to be taken no later than 10am on fight day.

5.5 Both boxers must participate in the 2nd day weight check (cannot be just 1 boxer restricted).

5.6 After 10am on day of fight, no more restrictions.

5.7 If a boxer is over the agreed limit by 10am then the fines/penalties agreed between both parties shall come into force.

## 6) Gloves

6.1 Men and Women shall box in an agreed brand by the PBA of standard professional bout gloves, thumb attached, unless the PBA agrees to a contrary weight and brand.

6.2 Men and Women weighing up to and including 147lbs (Welterweight) shall wear 8oz gloves.

6.3 Men and Women weighing any weight over 147lbs (Super-Welterweight) shall wear 10oz gloves.

## 7) Hand Wrapping

7.1 Promoter to ensure that all trainers of boxers know how to wrap hands for boxing (not wraps for another combat sport) to ensure no inadequate hand wraps or loss of time on fight night.

7.2 Promoter to arrange hand wrappers to wrap hands of boxers if trainers do not obtain the skill.

7.3 Fighters may tape their wrists and hands but **NOT** over their knuckles.

- 7.4 Must not be longer than 4.5m (14.76ft) and no shorter than 2.5m (8.2ft) and 5.7cm (2¼in) wide.
- 7.5 Bandages must be made of a stretchy cotton material with Velcro closure or a small piece of tape 7.6cms x 2.5cms (3in x 1in)
- 7.6 Professional Bandages are permitted.
- 7.7 ALL fighter hand wraps must be "*SIGNED OFF*" by the PBA official PRIOR to the beginning of their bout.
- 7.8 DO NOT ADD TAPE OR GAUZE TO YOUR HAND AFTER BEING SIGNED OFF as this will lead to a sanction and/or disqualification.
- 7.9 If after the bout your glove is removed and there is no PBA Officials signature on your hand wrap you WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

## 8) Dress Code

- 8.1 Boxing Shoes
- 8.2 Boxing Shorts/Trunks
- 8.3 Women: Boxing Vest

## 9) Safety Equipment

- 9.1 Gumshield
- 9.2 Men: Full Boxing Groin and Abdominal Protector
- 9.3 Women: Hard Surface Boxing Chest Protector

## 10) Boxer Medical Requirements

### 10.1 ANNUAL MEDICAL

- 10.1.1 Boxers must complete the following medicals annually:
  - 10.1.1.1 MRI Scan
  - 10.1.1.2 MRA Scan (first time licence applicants)
  - 10.1.1.3 Blood works (HIV, Hep B&C)
  - 10.1.1.4 Full eye health report (OCT exam with report)
  - 10.1.1.5 PBA physical medical (or another commission, governing body, associations boxing physical medical equivalent)
- 10.1.2 The above medicals must be performed and completed by a licenced doctor in their respective field of expertise.
- 10.1.3 All medicals are reviewed by the PBA's chief medical officer for licencing.
- 10.1.4 Boxer licences are granted solely at the discretion of the PBA chief medical officer's declaration that an applicant is fit to box.
- 10.1.5 Each part of the medical is valid for 365 days from the date it was performed.
- 10.1.6 MRI Scan must be completed annually

- 10.1.7 Blood works must be completed annually
- 10.1.8 Eye health report must be completed annually
- 10.1.9 Physical medical must be completed annually
- 10.1.10 Each component of the medical must be valid in order to hold a valid boxer licence.
- 10.1.11 If one component of the medical expires, the boxer licence automatically is expired.
- 10.1.12 If the PBA's chief medical officer requests additional information, applicant must comply.
- 10.1.13 Rule 25 (Suspension periods after KO/TKO/RSCH) must be followed with clearance form and physical medical form completed after the suspension period has passed.
- 10.1.14 PBA clearance form + physical medical must be approved by the PBA for boxer licence to be reinstated
- 10.1.15 Failure to adhere to rule 25 suspension period will result in suspension or removal of boxer licence

## **10.2 PRE-FIGHT MEDICAL**

- 10.2.1 All boxers must be seen by the event doctor and complete pre-fight medical before their bout.
- 10.2.2 The purpose of the pre-fight exam is to ensure that boxer is well and fit to compete on the day.
- 10.2.3 Pre-fight medical will be conducted by one of the Doctors assigned to the event.
- 10.2.4 The doctors decision from the pre-fight medical is final and ruling.

## **10.3 POST-FIGHT MEDICAL**

- 10.3.1 All boxers must be medically examined and assessed immediately after their fight.
- 10.3.2 Post-fight medical will be conducted by one of the Doctors assigned to the event.
- 10.3.3 There must be an examination area some distance away from the ring on the way to the dressing room where the boxer can be stopped and examined for mental status, head, neck or extremity injuries. This can be done rapidly by asking questions as to mental orientation and status while a quick survey of head, face, neck and upper extremities is made.
- 10.3.4 A focused examination must be performed of any suspected possible injury that may have been noted during the bout.
- 10.3.5 The doctors decision from the post-fight medical is final.



- 10.3.6 Boxer must comply with the doctors instruction and/or advice.
- 10.3.7 Failure to comply with the doctors instruction could result in suspension or removal of boxer licence
- 10.3.8 The PBA, at their sole discretion, may require the boxer to undergo a further MRI scan prior to reinstatement of boxer licence.

## 11) Scoring

11.1 The 10 Point Must System is always in effect in ALL PBA Sanctioned bouts, score examples:

- 11.1.1 **10-10** round, indicates that according to the judge, BOTH fighters showed even or equal skill and no clear winner could be determined by the judge.
- 11.1.2 **10-9** round, indicates one fighter was more effective than the other or dominated the round without a knockdown. A 10-9 could also be given in a round where the dominating fighter was knocked down once in the round.
- 11.1.3 **10-8** round indicates one fighter was in constant control and clearly out fought his opponent as far as technique within the ring "AND" scored a knockdown on his/her opponent. The 10 score would be given to the fighter who forced the knockdown.
- 11.1.4 **10-7** round indicates total domination by one fighter in all aspects to the point that the referee nearly stopped the fight. There should have been at least 2 knockdowns.
- 11.1.5 **9-9** score indicates one or both fighters scored 10, but a point deduction brought the score down to 9-9. Again, these are just some examples. There are many other possibilities in final scoring, especially when point deduction and knockdowns are together in a single round.

## 12) Promoter Requirements

12.1 Promoter must submit a **TYPED and DETAILED Bout Sheet** prior to an event commencing in a reasonable time period for consideration by the PBA with the following information:

- 12.1.1 Official name of each boxer – (spelled correctly for licencing and insurance)
- 12.1.2 Matchups
- 12.1.3 Agreed weight

12.2 Ensure boxers have submitted all required medical forms and licencing forms to the PBA.

- 12.3** Promoter must ensure all safety equipment to compete is supplied to boxers on the night of the event:
- 12.3.1** Men: Professional Full Groin Protector
  - 12.3.2** Women: Hard Surface Boxing Chest Protector
  - 12.3.3** Gauze
  - 12.3.4** Tape
  - 12.3.5** Padding
  - 12.3.6** Boxing Gloves – professional bout gloves, thumb attached.
- 12.4** Promoter is required to cover reasonable accommodation and travel expenses for PBA officials
- 12.5** PBA will invoice the promoter with travel and accommodation costs incurred by PBA officials related to working on the event agreed in advance if possible.
- 12.6** PBA logo must be included on all promotional artwork and graphics on events sanctioned by the PBA.

### **13) Event Fees**

- 13.1** A Sanction fee must be paid by the promoter to the PBA for each event, fee to be determined.
- 13.2** The Boxer purses he following amounts are to be paid by the promoter to the PBA before promoter payment to boxer;
- 13.2.1** £1000 –£9999 = 5%
  - 13.2.2** £10,000 – £99,999 = 4%
  - 13.2.3** £100,000 – £499,999 = 3%
  - 13.2.4** £500,000 – £999,999 = 2%
  - 13.2.5** £1,000,000 or greater = 1%
  - 13.2.6** Fee subject to negotiation
- 13.3** Events that are digitally broadcasted in any manner, whether through streaming or other forms, are obligated to allocate 10% of the broadcast agreement to the PBA. This clause is subject to negotiation.
- 13.4** A mandatory contribution of 5% from sponsorship revenue accrued for an event is to be remitted to the PBA. This clause is subject to negotiation.
- 13.5** The PBA can request documentation regarding any related contracts to review.

### **14) Licences and Licence Holders**

- 14.1** Any person to whom a licence is issued shall be deemed to be a Member of the Company and shall be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association and to the Rules and Regulations of the PBA.
- 14.2** Individuals working ringside on PBA sanctioned events must hold a valid PBA licence enabling them to operate within their respective capacity.

- 14.3** PBA General licences are valid for 12 months and subject to automatic annual renewal, with such renewal continuing until the licence holder formally communicates their intention to the PBA to surrender or relinquish their PBA licence, unless otherwise determined by the PBA, or suspension or withdrawal by the PBA.
- 14.4** PBA Boxer licences are valid for 12 months and subject to automatic annual renewal, however, their use is subject to the submission and confirmation of a complete set of valid annual medicals by the PBA, unless otherwise determined by the PBA, or suspension or withdrawal by the PBA.
- 14.5** Boxers must be licensed by the PBA before signing a fight contract.
- 14.6** Promoter licences are only issued on the basis that the promoter agrees to promote boxing events exclusively with the PBA for the duration of the licence.
- 14.7** The Promoter agrees that after being granted a licence, during the term of the licence they shall work exclusively with the PBA.
- 14.8** In the event the Promoter breaches these conditions and/or brings the reputation of the PBA and/or Professional Boxing into disrepute, the Promoter shall be called before the PBA and shall be given the right to a fair hearing in accordance with the rules and time frames set down whereby an allegation may be proved or disproved on the balance of probabilities. Any sanction shall thereafter be proportionate and at the discretion of the PBA. This rule does not mutually exclusive from Rule 15 below.

## **15) Misconduct**

- 15.1** The PBA may call a member to appear before them in relation to allegations of misconduct made by an individual.  
Misconduct refers to conduct detrimental to the interests of boxing or public interest and includes but not limited to:
- 15.1.1** Failure to comply with PBA's orders
  - 15.1.2** Breaking PBA Rules and Regulations
  - 15.1.3** Incompetence
- 15.2** The PBA will investigate the issue and, if they determine that the member is guilty of the alleged misconduct, they can issue an appropriate order at their absolute discretion in accordance with the natural rules of justice as set down. The PBA may suspend or withdraw a license for a specific period, seek their reasonable legal costs and/or impose a fine.
- 15.3** Any fines received will be donated to The Ringside Charitable Trust No.1185462

## **16) Matchmaking**

- 16.1 Boxers must always be matched based on a combination of the following:
  - 16.1.1 Weight
  - 16.1.2 Ability
  - 16.1.3 Age
- 16.2 Matchmakers / Promoters MUST do their utmost to match boxers correctly.
- 16.3 Matchmakers / Promoters MUST aim for even, 50/50 matchups at all times.
- 16.4 Mismatches will be scrutinised.
- 16.5 Repeat mismatches will result in removal of licence.
- 16.6 Referee is instructed to stop mismatched bout as soon they are evident.

## 17) Weigh-in Procedure

### 17.1 Weigh-ins

- 17.1.1 Promoters must schedule a weigh-in window (*Window is a time frame such as from 5 to 8 PM*) that is no more than 3 hours in time.
- 17.1.2 Weigh-in time windows are to be no more than 3 hours in length.
- 17.1.3 Fighters shall weigh-in no more than 36 hours prior to the scheduled time of the event start time.
- 17.1.4 Every Fighter and Trainer has the right to witness their opponents weigh-in.
- 17.1.5 If the agreed weigh in time passes and the other boxer/trainer has not arrived, the boxer who is present and on time shall weigh in.
- 17.1.6 It is a courtesy for both teams to be present and observe each other's weight but not necessary.
- 17.1.7 Only the PBA representative is able to verify and officiate the weight.
- 17.1.8 Participants of a bout must BOTH weigh-in on the same day and during the scheduled weigh-in time.
- 17.1.9 Tournament fighters may weigh-in later if approved by the PBA.

### 17.2 Weigh-in Rooms

- 17.2.1 Promoter must supply an area to fit all the boxers, trainers and officials that is private from the public.
- 17.2.2 Promoter must supply **DIGITAL** weigh-in scale.
- 17.2.3 Scale location and PBA Staff Tables must be side by side and close to a private room in case a fighter is required to strip down to make weight.
- 17.2.4 Promoter must supply Table and Chairs for PBA Staff to conduct weigh-ins and acquire fighter information.

**17.3 Witness to Weigh-in**

- 17.3.1 All boxers and their trainers should be present at the official weigh-ins and should be present at the weigh-in start time.
- 17.3.2 All boxers and trainers are allowed to witness their opponents weigh-in.
- 17.3.3 If the agreed time has passed and one of the boxers has not arrived, the official weigh in will continue with the PBA Inspector taking the official weight of the present boxer.
- 17.3.4 It is curtesy for both teams to be present and observe each other's weight but not necessary.
- 17.3.5 The only individual who can verify and officiate the weight is the PBA representative.

**17.4 Missed or Late Weigh-ins**

- 17.4.1 If a boxer or the boxers chief cornerman/trainer fail to attend the weigh-ins within the time suggested weigh-in window, they will be fined a minimum of £1000.
- 17.4.2 Boxers will be fined 20% of their fighters purse for being up to 20 minutes late and higher fines past the 20 minute mark.
- 17.4.3 Boxers may also be dropped from the event and be charged for all expenses the promoter occurred for them to be on the event.

**17.5 Weigh-in Announcements**

- 17.5.1 At the weigh-ins, trainers and fighters will be informed of the following:
  - 17.5.1.1 Time to show-up at venue
  - 17.5.1.2 Transportation to the venue.
  - 17.5.1.3 The time of pre-fight medicals, if not being done at the weigh-ins.

**18) ICB Championship**

- 18.1 Influencer Championship Boxing Titles (hereinafter referred to as the ICB) are decided at the sole discretion of the PBA and shall be governed and regulated in accordance with the same rules and regulations subject to Rule 19.2 below.

**19) Non-Title / Title Fights****19.1 Non-Title Fights**

- 19.1.1 Boxers who do not make their agreed weight will be allowed 2 hours to make the weight.
- 19.1.2 If the boxer does not make their weight within the 2 hours set by the PBA event representative and the bout

is forced to be cancelled, the boxer will be required to pay the promoter for all expenses related to their bout, including travel expenses for BOTH fighters.

- 19.1.3 If the Boxer does not make the weight the PBA may order in its sole discretion that the Boxers purse be deducted at an amount in their sole discretion to be paid to the opposing Boxer.
- 19.1.4 If the two boxers are still within a sanctionable weight spread but as a "Catch-Weight" they may still be allowed to box.

## 19.2 Title Fights

- 19.2.1 Boxers who do not make their required weight will be allowed up to 2 hours to make the weight.
- 19.2.2 If the **CHAMPION** does not make the weight after 2 hours, they will automatically lose their title.
  - 19.2.2.1 If the two fighters are still within a sanctionable weight spread but as a "Catch-Weight" they may still be allowed to fight, but no title will be on the line.
- 19.2.3 If the **CHALLENGER** does not make the weight after 2 hours, the fight may be called off.
  - 19.2.3.1 If the two fighters are still within a sanctionable weight spread but as a "Catch-Weight" they may still be allowed to fight, but no title will be on the line.
- 19.2.4 If the fight is for a **VACANT TITLE** and the boxer does not make the weight after 2 hours, the fight may be called off.
  - 19.2.4.1 If the two fighters are still within a sanctionable weight spread but as a "Catch-Weight" they may still be allowed to fight.

## 20) Bout Decision Terminology

- 20.1 **WINNER, LOSER (W, L):** Unanimous Decision, Majority Decision or Split Decision.
- 20.2 **DRAW (D):** When all 3 score cards show equal points to each fighter.
- 20.3 **TECHNICAL DRAW (TD):** When a no fault foul happens in the first four rounds and 1 or both cannot continue.
- 20.4 **MAJORITY DRAW (MD):** When 2 out of the 3 judges score equal amount of points to both fighters.
- 20.5 **UNANIMOUS DECISION (UD):** When all 3 judges score the same winner.
- 20.6 **SPLIT DECISION (SD):** When 2 judges score one fighter the winner and the third judge scores the other fighter the winner.

**20.7 MAJORITY DECISION (MD):** When 2 judges score one fighter a winner and the third judge scores both fighters EVEN, as a draw.

**20.8 TECHNICAL WIN (TW): TECHNICAL LOSE (TL), TECHNICAL DRAW (TD):** Usually resulting from a Foul. The outcome of the bout was judged by the scorecards of the rounds fought\_incl. a possible partial round, after the fourth round has been completed. The fourth round is completed at the starting bell of the fifth round. Before the fourth round is completed, the result is a TECHNICAL DRAW (TD).

**20.9 TECHNICAL FORFEIT:** Usually from a pre-event disqualification or from invalid fight experience: not giving actual experience to the matchmaker prior to the event.

**20.10 TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT (TKO)**

**20.10.1** Any fighter who loses their bout by TKO will be suspended from Fighting for the time outlined in **RULE 25.**

**20.10.2** This is a fighter who is obviously hurt and the referee feels they cannot continue any longer.

**20.10.3** Any fighter who loses their bout by TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT (TKO) will be suspended from Fighting for the time outlined in **RULE 25.**

**20.10.4** For health and safety reasons, if the Chief Corner felt his/her fighter is unable to continue he/she may "Throw in the towel."

**20.10.5** If doing so, Chief Corner man must step up to the ring ropes and follow the towel into the ring.

**20.11 KNOCKOUT (KO)**

**20.11.1** A "KNOCKOUT" indicates that a fighter was "OUT COLD" after a strike.

**20.11.2** A fighter shall be awarded a knockout Win if he/she knocks their opponent to the ring floor and the opponent cannot stand or is OUT COLD by the count of 10.

**20.11.3** Any fighter who loses their bout by KO, or KNOCKOUT will be suspended from boxing for the time outlined in **RULE 25.**

## **21) Referee Annual Medical**

**21.1** The PBA does not consider age to be an absolute factor in one's health and physical fitness.

**21.2** Referees must pass the PBA Referee Medical annually in order referee PBA sanctioned bouts.

## **22) Event Medical Team**

**22.1 Per-Competition**

- 22.1.1** Chief Doctor / Medical Team assigned to an event have notified nearest hospital with a Neurological department that a boxing event is taking place so hospital is on standby.
- 22.1.2** Minimum number of medical personnel at an event:
  - 22.1.2.1** 2 x Doctors
  - 22.1.2.2** 2 x Ambulances
  - 22.1.2.3** 4 x Paramedics
  - 22.1.2.4** At least one of the medical personnel in attendance to be a an anaesthetist
- 22.1.3** Ambulance must be in attendance at every event.
- 22.1.4** An event cannot start/continue unless there is at least 1 Ambulance available.
- 22.1.5** All Medical Team assigned to an event are aware of the nearest hospital with Neurological department.
- 22.1.6** Boxers suffering with any head injuries should be transported to the nearest hospital with neurological department as soon as possible.
- 22.1.7** The medical equipment available at ringside shall include:
  - 22.1.7.1** Oxygen
  - 22.1.7.2** Stretcher
  - 22.1.7.3** Cervical-Collar
- 22.1.8** A sufficient area or room to examine and treat boxers who do not require a medical facility.
- 22.1.9** Proper equipment and medication for any stitching or treatments to be administered on-site.
- 22.1.10** The evacuation route from the ring to the Ambulance must be clear, ensure absolutely nothing is in the way to create a clear path at all times throughout the event. Move tables or anything else that may obstruct this path.
- 22.1.11** No elevators between Ring and Ambulance.
- 22.1.12** No staircase between Ring and Ambulance.
- 22.1.13** No obstruction of any kind from moving boxer to ambulance.
- 22.1.14** Security should be instructed to provide crowd control and secure the evacuation rout in case of emergency evacuation.
- 22.1.15** Security should be instructed to keep Ring to Ambulance route clear at all times. Move tables or anything else that may obstruct this path.
- 22.1.16** Availability of gloves, gauze and penlights.
- 22.1.17** The head doctor at an event should meet with the paramedic team prior to the start of the first bout.



- 22.1.18 The head doctor advises the referee on whether a boxer is medically fit to continue.
- 22.1.19 Head doctor must have clear view of the Ring so paramedics can be called by hand signal easily in case of emergency evacuation.
- 22.1.20 After each bout, the two doctors stationed ringside are required to enter the ring promptly and examine both boxers. However, this examination is not intended to replace the routine post fight medical examination
- 22.1.21 Placement of the medical team table in the neutral corner next to the physician's table for emergency ring access

## 22.2 During Bout

- 22.2.1 The doctor will enter the ring when the referee requests the physician's evaluation of and/or aid for a dropped boxer or serious injury.
- 22.2.2 Only the doctor and referee will be the in the ring with the injured boxer unless the doctor requests assistance from another member of the medical team.
- 22.2.3 The doctor may, at his own discretion, between rounds indicate to the referee or PBA event supervisor that they want to examine the boxer.
- 22.2.4 If there is a serious risk of physical injury, the doctor shall notify the Referee or Supervisor to terminate the bout. The doctors decision shall take precedence over all other considerations.
- 22.2.5 Advice for the physician entering the ring:
  - 22.2.5.1 Enter quickly, but calmly and with authority. Remember, everyone else in the ring is not qualified and experienced medically and tend to become overly excited.
  - 22.2.5.2 When entering the ring, take clean gauze pads and a penlight.
  - 22.2.5.3 Corner personnel and other persons not allowed in the ring.
  - 22.2.5.4 Do not permit the boxer's corner personnel to dictate your evaluation, management or the time you take.
- 22.2.6 The chief medical officer or medical team must examine the boxer after a period of unconsciousness or other serious injury.

## 22.3 Post Bout

- 22.3.1 It is essential that boxer does not leave until they have completed their post-fight medical.

- 22.3.2 All boxers must complete Post-Fight Medical.
- 22.3.3 PBA Post-fight medical will be conducted by a member of the medical team assigned to the event.
- 22.3.4 There should be an examination area some distance away from the ring on the way to the dressing room where the boxer can be stopped and briefly examined for mental status, head, neck or extremity injury. This can be done rapidly by asking questions as to mental orientation and status while a quick survey of head, face, neck and upper extremities is made.
- 22.3.5 A focused exam is performed of any area suspected of possible injury that may have been noted during the bout.
- 22.3.6 Medical staff must make list of injured boxers and include nature of injury, any treatment administered and any follow-up recommendations.
- 22.3.7 Failure to listen to Doctors advice or instruction will result in suspension or removal of boxer licence.

### 23) **PBA Boxer Insurance**

- 23.1 PBA licensed boxers are covered by PBA boxer personal injury insurance during their PBA sanctioned bout. Full details are available on request to PBA members.
- 23.2 PBA personal injury insurance is valid for injury's that occur between the first and last bell of the PBA sanctioned bouts
- 23.3 PBA personal injury insurance is only valid on PBA sanctioned events
- 23.4 PBA Rules and Regulations must be adhered too in order for injury insurance to be valid.

### 24) **Stoppage Regulation**

- 24.1 Any fighter who loses their bout by KNOCKOUT (KO) or TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT (TKO) OR RSCH (Referee Stops Contest - Head) will be suspended from boxing for the time periods outlined in **Rule 25**.
- 24.2 It is the responsibility and duty of the fighter, trainer and manager to respect and abide by this rule for the personal safety of their own fighter.
- 24.3 After the minimum rest period has been completed, boxer must have a doctor complete the PBA Clearance Form. Once this is completed, returned and approved by the PBA, boxer can then begin training for next event.
- 24.4 Boxers will not be able to take part in any further PBA sanctioned contests until we have received a completed clearance form along with physical medical. Boxer license will then be reinstated.

24.5 The PBA, at their sole discretion, may require the boxer to undergo a further MRI scan prior to reinstatement of boxer licence.

**25) Suspension Periods after KO / TKO / RSCH (Referee Stops Contest - Head)**

**25.1 Single Occurrence of Knockout or RSCH**

**25.1.1 No Loss of Consciousness:** If a boxer suffers a knockout as a result of blows to the head or if the bout is stopped by the referee because the boxer has received heavy blows to the head, then the boxer may not take part in boxing or sparring for a period of at least 30 days afterwards.

**25.1.2 Loss of consciousness less than one Minute:** the boxer may not take part in boxing or sparring for a period of at least 60 days afterwards.

**25.1.3 Loss of consciousness more than one Minute:** the boxer may not take part in boxing or sparring for a period of at least 90 days afterwards

**25.2 Double Occurrence of Knockout or RSCH**

**25.2.1** If during the period of 90 days after a boxer's suspension, the boxer is knocked out a second time due to the boxer having received heavy blows to the head, then the boxer may not take part in boxing or sparring for a period of 90 days after the second occurrence. If the first Suspension was 60 days, the repeat suspension will be 90 days. If the first suspension was 90 days, the new suspension will be 180 days.

**25.3 Triple Occurrence of Knockout or RSCH**

**25.3.1** If during a period of 180 days after the boxers suspension, the boxer is knockout a third time from head blows, then they may not take part in boxing or sparring for a period of 180 days after the third occurrence. Any combination of knockouts or RSCHs that equal three times consecutively under these circumstances qualifies for the 180 day suspension.

**25.4 Other Suspension Periods**

**25.4.1** Any boxer who loses a difficult bout as a result of many blows to the head or who is knocked down in several successive competitions may be suspended from taking part in boxing or sparring for a minimum period of 30 days after the last contest.

**25.4.2** All these protective regulations apply when the knockout or severe head trauma occurs in training or in any other activity (sports, auto accidents, etc).

**25.5 Medical certification after the end of the suspension period**

**25.5.1** Before a boxer is allowed to fight after the above-mentioned suspension periods have passed, boxer must be passed as fit to box by a registered GP/Doctor or a neurologist.

**25.5.2** Boxer must have a registered doctor complete the PBA clearance form along with physical medical form, after the suspension time has passed.

**25.5.3** Only on the approval of these documents and the satisfaction by the PBA will the boxers licence will be reinstated.

**25.5.4** The PBA, at their sole discretion, may require the boxer to undergo a further MRI scan prior to reinstatement of boxer licence.

**26) Event Drug Testing**

**26.1** Random drug testing at the PBA's sole discretion for performance enhancement drugs (PED) and recreational drugs is in force on all PBA sanctioned events.

**26.2** Boxers will be selected at random and must oblige with the process of testing without failure.

**26.3** Failure to participate if selected will result in suspension of boxer licence and unable to compete until testing is completed.

**26.4** Positive findings will be dealt with on a case by case basis and the necessary disciplinary measures will be taken

**26.5** The licensed promoter is liable and responsible for all costs relating to implementing drug testing on PBA sanctioned events.

**26.6** The PBA is not responsible for payment of any fees which are due from the Promoter to any third party or licence holder. In the event the Promoter fails to pay a third party or licence holder, which ought to have been paid then the PBA will consider all the circumstances and may consider any sanction for the reasons set as set out in rule 14.5 and 15 above.

**27) Intentional Foul**

**27.1** If a fighter is guilty of an **INTENTIONAL FOUL**, points could be deducted from boxers score card and the referee may, at his discretion, disqualify boxer from the match.

**27.2** The referee shall have the discretion to determine the following along with the assistance of the PBA representative at ringside:

**27.2.1** Give the fighter who has fouled a warning.

27.2.2 Deduct 1-2 points from the fighter who has fouled. The amount of points deducted would be determined by the Referee and/or the PBA Event representative.

27.2.3 Disqualify the boxer who has fouled.

27.3 The PBA shall rule in such a case.

27.4 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the bout being stopped in a later round, the injured boxer will win by TECHNICAL DECISION if he is ahead on the score cards; and the bout will result in a TECHNICAL DRAW if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards.

27.5 If the boxer injures himself while attempting to intentionally foul his opponent, the referee will not take any action in his favour, and this injury shall be the same as one produced by a fair blow.

27.6 If the referee feels that a boxer has conducted himself in an unsportsmanlike manner, he may stop the bout and disqualify the boxer.

## 28) **Accidental or Unintentional Foul**

28.1 If a fighter commits an **ACCIDENTAL FOUL**, points could be deducted from boxers score card.

28.2 The referee shall have the discretion to determine the following along with the assistance of the PBA representative at ringside:

28.2.1 Give the fighter who has fouled a warning.

28.2.2 Deduct 1-2 points from the fighter who has fouled. The amount of points deducted would be determined by the Referee and or the PBA Event representative.

28.3 **IF AN ACCIDENTAL FOUL HAPPENS BEFORE THE START OR THE FIFTH ROUND:**

28.3.1 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout before the FOURTH round has been completed, the bout will result in a 'NO DECISION'.

28.3.2 The fourth round has been completed at the starting bell of the fifth round.

28.3.3 The one min break separating the fourth and fifth round is classed as the fourth round.

28.4 **IF AN ACCIDENTAL FOUL HAPPENS AFTER THE START OF THE FIFTH ROUND:**

28.4.1 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout AFTER THE FIFTH ROUND BEGINS, the bout will result in a "TECHNICAL DECISION" awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped.

**28.4.2** Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored. If no action has occurred, the round should be scored as an even round. This is at the discretion of the judges.

**28.5** LOW BLOW

**28.5.1** A fighter who is hit with an accidental low blow must continue after a reasonable amount of time but no more than **FIVE MINUTES**, or they will lose the fight.

**28.5.2** PBA does not believe a fighter should be "*Disqualified*" for an "ACCIDENTAL" Foul UNLESS it occurs more than once.

**29) Unintentional or Non-Foul Related Injury**

**29.1** If a fighter becomes injured by something other than a foul or legal strike (*Example: Twisted or Dislocated Knee, Dislocated Shoulder, Twisted Ankle, Getting hit by something flying into the ring from the crowd, fall to the ring floor and floor causing an injury etc.*) the decision of the bout would be one of two outcomes.

**29.1.1** If the injury occurs before the fourth round has been completed, the bout will be declared a "NO DECISION". This includes if the determination "*not to continue*" is made during the break of round four.

**29.1.2** If the injury occurs after the starting bell of round "5", the Official PBA Representative at ringside will do the following:

**29.1.2.1** All 3 Judges' scorecards will be collected and tallied by the PBA Representative.

**29.1.2.2** If the INJURED Fighter is ahead on the score cards, the round shall be declared a TECHNICAL DRAW.

**29.1.2.3** If the NON-INJURED fighter is ahead on the scorecards, they will be awarded a win by TKO.

**30) Illegal Techniques**

**30.1** Headbutts.

**30.2** Punches to the back of the Head.

**30.3** Striking to the Spine Area. (*Kidneys are OK.*)

**30.4** Slapping. (*Striking with the LACE Side of the Gloves*)

**30.5** Spitting.

**30.6** Biting.

**30.7** Holding your opponent's head or arm and hitting.

**30.8** Striking with your feet, legs or knees in any way.

**30.9** Striking with any part of the body other than the fist of the glove.

**30.10** Takedowns, Sweeps, Throwing or Grappling of any kind.

**30.11** Clubbing (*Hammer fist Karate Style Strikes*) OR Karate Chopping Style Strikes.

- 30.12 Strikes to the Groin.
- 30.13 Striking opponent when they have slipped or fallen to 1 knee or more. An opponent is down when any part of their body other than the bottom of their feet touches the floor of the ring.
- 30.14 Abusive language in the ring.
- 30.15 Attacking when the referee is breaking the fighters apart.
- 30.16 Fighting after the bell has indicated the end of the round.
- 30.17 Pushing or shoving an opponent through the ropes or out of the ring.
- 30.18 Grabbing or holding onto an opponent's leg, foot or any other part of the body.
- 30.19 If the Referee or PBA Representative feel that a fighter has acted unsportsmanlike.
- 30.20 The "REFEREE" has several options after a foul:
  - 30.20.1 To give a Warning.
  - 30.20.2 To deduct points from the fighter fouling.
  - 30.20.3 Disqualify
- 30.21 If the fighter "STRUCK" is greatly injured, (*Cut, Can't Continue because of the blow or Knocked Out*) the Referee "MAY" choose to disqualify the fouling Fighter.
- 30.22 If the bout continues after the "*Illegal*" strike without any point deduction, the NEXT Illegal Strike Will "*ALWAYS*" result in a MINIMUM of a 1 point deduction or, if deemed necessary by the Referee, disqualification of the Fouling Fighter.

### 31) Disqualifications

#### 31.1 FALLING OUT OF RING.

- 31.1.1 If a fighter has fallen through or become entangled in the ropes of the ring, the opponent CANNOT strike. If they do, a decision will be made that will depend greatly upon what actually occurred which will vary from how long the fighter was entangled in the ropes to if or not the attacking fighter had a good view of such or not.
- 31.1.2 If a fighter is knocked down to the ring floor or falls to the floor he must get up under his own power within 10 seconds if he falls onto the apron and within 20 seconds if he falls to the floor.
- 31.1.3 Usually if a boxer falls or is pushed through the ropes out of the ring, it is not their own fault. If so, the bout shall stop until said boxer can gather themselves and return to the ring. They are not allowed any help from their own corner men, but ringside officials may assist within reason.

**31.1.4** If the fall from the ring caused any injury/damage, the ringside physician shall examine the boxer to make any such conclusion.

**31.1.5** If injured, the Referee, Ringside Doctor and PBA Representative shall determine whether the injury was due to a strike prior to their falling from the ring or a cause of the fall and together shall make a decision as to the outcome of the bout.

**31.1.6** If the fighter is injured from the fall out of the ring, the Referee, Ringside Doctor and PBA Representative will determine the decision for the moment. (*Recovery period, Disqualification, Technical Draw, Knockout etc.*)

**31.2** If a fighter drops his mouthpiece 3 times during 1 round, that fighter will be disqualified from the match and lose by a TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT (KO).

**31.3** Any illegal move or action will result in disqualification.

## **32) Alcohol and Drugs**

**32.1** Any fighter found under the influence of ANY drug within 24 hours before or during the contest shall be fined by the PBA a MINIMUM of £1000.00, plus any reasonably incurred legal costs and shall be disqualified from their match, not receive their purse and pay the Promoter costs incurred. Fighters may also be banned from taking out a PBA boxer licence again in the future for a time period as set down by the PBA.

**32.2** Rule 26, Random drug testing is in action on all PBA sanctioned events.

**32.3** If the fighter holds any PBA titles, they will lose them immediately.

**32.4** Any boxer holding a PBA boxer license in accordance with Rule 26 shall give permission to the PBA for drug testing before or after any bout.

## **33) Appeals**

**33.1** All licence Holders shall have the right to Appeal a finding or decision of the PBA. Such Appeals shall be conducted by an independent Chairperson who shall ensure such an Appeal process is fair and transparent.

**33.2** The PBA shall have no influence in their decision and the hearing shall be heard de novo in accordance with the process as the chairperson shall set out in writing within 14 days of the receipt of an Appeal Notice which shall set out their reasons succinctly in writing for bring the Appeal.



- 33.3** All appeals **MUST** be brought within 14 days of any decision of the PBA. The Appeal panel shall include two eminent lawyers and one lay person unless the Appeal Chairperson directs to the contrary.
- 33.4** The Appeal panel shall in their sole discretion uphold the original decision, overturn the PBA's original decision, and have the discretion of implementing a new sanction.
- 33.5** In the event an Appeal is won the Appellant shall not be entitled to their legal costs if any for the Appeal or the decision made by the PBA.
- 33.6** In the event the Appeal is lost the Panel shall have the sole discretion as to whether the costs of the PBA's representation shall be borne by the unsuccessful Appellant taking all the circumstances of the case.

**34) Jurisdiction**

**34.1** The laws of England and Wales shall apply to these rules. For the avoidance of doubt any proceedings issued or the rules challenged shall be governed by the Courts of England and Wales unless there is an Agreement for the parties to enter into a confidential Arbitration. Such details to be requested by any challenger and the terms of which shall remain confidential.