



PROFESSIONAL BOXING ASSOCIATION

RULES OF “PROFESSIONAL” BOXING

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1) Interpretation and Clarification

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 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 or relevant date that may apply to a licence holder.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 The Rules and Regulations of the PBA are binding upon the agreement of a promoter/boxer contract (howsoever formed) who are subject to a PBA licence.
- 1.5 Licence holders have the right to seek clarification as to the interpretation of the rules.
- 1.6 Any licence holder who has any suggested rule amendment[s] must suggest the same in writing, which shall be considered by the PBA and either adopted, refused or amended accordingly at their sole discretion in a reasonable time in all the circumstances. For the avoidance of doubt any such amendments will not be applied or adopted to have retrospective affect.

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 contest 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 PBA if a protest is filed claiming a clear rule violation. Any protest brought shall be brought promptly.
- 2.3 All contests will be evaluated and scored by three (3) judges.
- 2.4 The 10 Point Must System will be the standard system of scoring a contest.
- 2.5 The Mandatory Eight (8) Count after knockdowns will be standard procedure in all contests.
- 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 contest, the injured boxer shall lose by TKO.

2.12 Intentional Fouls:

2.12.1 If an intentional foul causes an injury, and the injury is severe enough to terminate the contest immediately, the boxer causing the injury shall lose by disqualification.

2.12.2 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the contest 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 discretionary.

2.12.3 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the contest is allowed to continue, and the injury results in the contest 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 contest will result in a TECHNICAL DRAW if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards.

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

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

2.12.6 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.

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

2.13 Accidental Fouls:

2.13.1 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the contest, the contest will result in a NO DECISION if stopped before four (4) completed rounds.

2.13.2 If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the contest after four (4) rounds have occurred, the contest will result in a TECHNICAL DECISION awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the contest is

stopped.

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

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

2.13.4.1 *Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored.*

- 2.14** 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 contests, 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.

	Day 1	Day 2	
5.1.1	Light Minimumweight <small>(female)</small>	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 contract 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 shall 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 contest 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 PBA hand wrappers that are assigned to an event **MUST** be used by all boxers.

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

- 7.5 Must not be longer than 4.5m (14.76ft) and no shorter than 2.5m (8.2ft) and 5.7cm (2¼in) wide.
- 7.6 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)
- 7.7 Professional Bandages are permitted.
- 7.8 ALL fighter hand wraps must be "*SIGNED OFF*" by the PBA official PRIOR to the beginning of their contest.
- 7.9 DO NOT ADD TAPE OR GAUZE TO YOUR HAND AFTER BEING SIGNED OFF as this will lead to a sanction and/or disqualification.
- 7.10 If after the contest 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 Men:

- 9.1.1 Gumshield
- 9.1.2 Groin and Abdominal Protector
- 9.1.3 Boxing Shorts/Trunks
- 9.1.4 Boxing Shoes

9.2 Women:

- 9.2.1 Gumshield
- 9.2.2 Abdominal Protector
- 9.2.3 Hard Surface Boxing Chest Protector
- 9.2.4 Boxing Shoes

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 Suspension periods after KO/TKO/RSCH rule 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 contest.
- 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 doctor's 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 contest.
- 10.3.5 The doctor's decision from the post-fight medical is final.
- 10.3.6 Boxer must comply with the doctor's instruction and/or advice.
- 10.3.7 Failure to comply with the doctor's 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 contests, 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

12.1 Promoter must submit a typed and detailed proposed fight card prior to an event commencing, in a reasonable time period for consideration of the PBA with the following information:

- 12.1.1 Official name (stage name, if any) of each boxer, spelt correctly.
 - 12.1.2 The proposed matchup
 - 12.1.3 Contractual agreed weight
 - 12.1.4 Proposed number of rounds
- 12.2 Promoters must formally notify the PBA of an event no later than 10-days prior to a proposed and/or scheduled event date.
- 12.3 All individuals seeking to organise a contest or tournament must possess a Promoter's Licence issued by the PBA.
- 12.4 Entities such as companies, partnerships, associations, clubs are not entitled to obtain a PBA Promoter's Licence.
- 12.5 The PBA reserves the right to grant a Promoter's Licence with specific terms and limitations, ensuring the best for boxing as a sport.
- 12.6 Recipients of a PBA Promoter's licence may, at the discretion of the PBA, be required to deposit and maintain a Bond with the PBA for the duration of their licence. The specified amount may differ where the PBA, in its sole discretion, deems as necessary.
- 12.7 The PBA holds the authority to prohibit any contest that, in the PBA's informed discretion, is not within the best interests of boxing.
- 12.8 Upon request by the PBA, a Promoter must promptly disclose in writing the amount of the Purse paid, or to be paid to any Boxer.
- 12.9 A Promoter shall act as his own Matchmaker. The Promoter is therefore responsible for any duly appointed and/or employed Matchmaker.
- 12.10 Promoters do bear sole responsibility for ensuring that all Boxers, their licensed representatives, and the PBA are informed a contest the time and venue of the weigh-in.
- 12.11 While Promoters are entitled to apply for licences in categories other than as a Promoter, the issuance of such licences is at the sole discretion of the PBA.
- 12.12 During every tournament, promoters must allocate one side of the ring exclusively for use by PBA Officials, along with seats in each corner for appointed inspectors and the Medical Officer. If applicable, a raised seat should be provided in the middle of three sides of the ring exclusively for the Judges.
- 12.13 It is the promoter's responsibility to ensure adequate stewarding and security at all tournaments under the jurisdiction of the PBA, maintaining good order and safety. Failure to do so will be considered a breach of these Regulations and subject to disciplinary action, a fine or both.

- 12.14 Ensure boxers have submitted all required medical forms and licencing forms to the PBA.
- 12.15 Promoter must ensure all safety equipment to compete is supplied to boxers on the night of the event:
 - 12.15.1 Professional Full Groin Protector
 - 12.15.2 Women: Hard Surface Boxing Chest Protector
 - 12.15.3 Gauze
 - 12.15.4 Tape
 - 12.15.5 Padding
 - 12.15.6 Boxing Gloves – professional contest gloves, thumb attached.
- 12.16 Promoter is required to cover reasonable accommodation and travel expenses for PBA officials.
- 12.17 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.
- 12.18 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 are obligated to allocate 10% of the broadcast agreement to the PBA. This clause is subject to negotiation.
- 13.4 A mandatory amount of 5% from sponsorship revenue accrued for an event is to be allocated to the PBA. This clause is subject to negotiation.
- 13.5 The PBA, in their absolute discretion, can request to view any contracts and/or documents relating to an event sanctioned by the PBA.

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. This does not fetter the discretion of the PBA to withdraw or suspend any such licence if it so sees fit in accordance with these rules.
- 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** PBA Promoter 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 Promoter licence in accordance with 14.9 and/or 14.10 below. This does not fetter the discretion of the PBA to withdraw or suspend any such licence if it so sees fit in accordance with these rules.
- 14.6** The PBA has absolute discretion as to the issuance of all PBA licences.
- 14.7** Boxers must be licensed by the PBA before signing a fight contract with a PBA licenced promoter.
- 14.7.1** If a boxer is not licenced with the PBA at the time of signing a fight contract, the boxer, will be bound by the rules and regulations of the PBA from the date of signing the fight contract.
- 14.8** The Promoter agrees that upon being granted a PBA Promoters Licence, during the term of the licence they shall work exclusively with the PBA:
- 14.8.1** United Kingdom: PBA Promoter licence holders within the United Kingdom are only issued on the basis that the Promoter agrees to promote boxing events exclusively with the PBA for the duration of the licence within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom.
- 14.8.2** Outside of the United Kingdom; International Licenced PBA Promotions: Any exclusivity clause relating to a Promoter's licence where such events take place outside of the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom shall be subject to specific negotiations on an ad-hoc and on a specific event basis. For the avoidance of doubt, any PBA Promoter who promotes in the United Kingdom is bound by the exclusivity clause relating to the United Kingdom only.

- 14.9** In the event that the Promoter announces that it shall seek to sanction and/or regulate an event without the PBA, it must do so before (without reservation or excuse), 10-days prior to the event being announced and/or booked, seeking permission in writing prior to the 10-days. The Promoter in compliance and recognition of this rule and condition accepts that in breaching the same shall cause such loss and damage to the PBA, which shall be subject to a finding by an appointed Independent Panel by the PBA.
- 14.10** A PBA Promoter wishing to relinquish its licence must do so no later than 10-days prior to an event. The Promoter in compliance and recognition of this rule and condition accepts that in breaching the same shall cause such loss and damage to the PBA, which shall be subject to a finding by an appointed Independent Panel by the PBA.
- 14.11** In the event the Promoter breaches any of these rules and/or conditions as set out above within the time frames as specified (in that it was a licence holder at the time of the stated alleged breach) and/or brings the reputation of the PBA and/or Professional Boxing into disrepute, the Promoter shall be called in writing before the PBA (whether the licence has been relinquished, suspended or withdrawn or not at the time of writing to be called) 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.
- 14.12** This rule does is not mutually exclusive from Rule 15 below.

15) Misconduct

- 15.1** The PBA may call any Licence Holder to appear before an Independent Adjudication Panel in relation to any allegation of misconduct or otherwise which the PBA considers there to be a case to answer.
- 15.2** Misconduct refers to conduct which is detrimental to the interests of boxing or public interest and includes but not limited to:
- 15.2.1** Failure to comply with PBA's orders or instructions.
 - 15.2.2** Aggressive and unsportsmanlike behaviour.
 - 15.2.3** Being involved and/or engaging in activities that brings the PBA's name into disrepute by association.
 - 15.2.4** Bringing the PBA's name into disrepute in any way.
 - 15.2.5** Breaking PBA Rules and Regulations.
 - 15.2.6** Incompetence.
 - 15.2.7** Communicated malice towards the PBA on any media platforms whether written or spoken.
- 15.3** The PBA will investigate and issue and, if the PBA determine that the member is guilty of the alleged misconduct, the PBA can issue an appropriate order, at their absolute discretion in accordance with the natural rules of justice. The PBA may suspend a licence for a specific period and/or seek their reasonable legal costs incurred on the matter and/or impose a fine.
- 15.4** Licence holders shall be given no less than 7-days' notice (the day of the notice to be included), unless otherwise agreed.

15.5 Any fines received by the PBA will be donated to The Ringside Charitable Trust No.1185462 OR at the PBA's discretion, other charitable causes.

16) Matchmaking

- 16.1 A Promoter shall act as his own Matchmaker.
- 16.2 A Promoter can duly appoint the role of Matchmaker to a person who must have competence and experience within the role.
- 16.2.1 A duly appointed matchmaker is required to possess a valid PBA Matchmaker's licence.
- 16.3 Matchmakers are authorised to organise and negotiate contests and perform the responsibilities associated with the role of a Matchmaker.
- 16.4 Boxers must always be matched based on a combination of the following in order of:
- 16.4.1 Weight
- 16.4.2 Ability
- 16.4.3 Age
- 16.5 Promoters or Matchmakers must do their utmost to match boxers correctly.
- 16.6 Promoters or Matchmakers must aim for even, 50/50 matchups.
- 16.7 Mismatches will be scrutinised by the PBA.
- 16.8 Repeat mismatches will result in removal of Promoter and/or Matchmakers licence.
- 16.9 The Referee, in their professional discretion, shall stop the contest if a mismatch is 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 10am to 1pm*) that is no more than 3 hours in duration.
- 17.1.2 Fighters shall weigh-in no more than 36 hours prior to the scheduled time of the event start time.
- 17.1.3 Every Fighter and Trainer has the right to witness their opponents weigh-in.
- 17.1.4 If the agreed weigh-in time passes and the other boxer has not arrived, the boxer who is present and on time shall weigh in.
- 17.1.4.1 The missing boxer has 2 hours from the scheduled time to weighin.
- 17.1.4.2 If the missing boxer does not weighin within the 2hr period, rule 17.3 applies.
- 17.1.5 It is a courtesy for both teams to be present and observe each other's weight but not mandatory.

- 17.1.6 The PBA representative is only individual who is authorised to verify and confirm a boxer's weight.
- 17.1.7 Participants of a contest must weigh-in on the same day and during the scheduled weigh-in time.
- 17.1.8 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 Missed or Late Weigh-ins

- 17.3.1 If a boxer does not arrive within the 2-hour window starting from the scheduled time, the boxer shall be fined, at the PBA's discretion, 20% of their purse exactly at the 2 hour mark.
- 17.3.2 The boxer shall be fined a further 20% of their purse for every 30 minutes over the 2hr mark.
- 17.3.3 At only the sole discretion of the PBA, fines may be avoided if the boxer has excellent mitigation for his reasoning for being late.
- 17.3.4 The boxer may be dropped from the event and charged with all costs associated to the boxer originally being part of the even, by the promoter. (discretion of the PBA).

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 contest is forced to be cancelled, the boxer will be required to pay the promoter for all expenses related to

their contest, 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) Contest 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 contest 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 contest 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 contest 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 feels their fighter is unable to continue, they shall "Throw in the towel."
 - 20.10.4.1** 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 contest by KO, or KNOCKOUT will be suspended from boxing for the time outlined in **RULE 25.**

21) Referee

- 21.1** The referee is the sole arbiter of a contest and is the only individual authorised to stop a contest.
- 21.2** The referee of a contest has absolute discretion in their judgement and assessment.
- 21.3** Referees must pass the PBA Referee Medical annually in order referee PBA sanctioned contests.

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 nothing is in the way to create a clear path at all times during 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 contest.

- 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 contest, 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 Contest

- 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 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 contest. The doctor's 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 Contest

- 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 contest.
- 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 contest. 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 contests.
- 23.3 PBA personal injury insurance is only valid on PBA sanctioned events.
- 23.4 PBA Rules and Regulations must be adhered in order for injury insurance to be valid.

24) **Stoppage Regulation**

- 24.1 Any fighter who loses their contest 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 contest 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 contest 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 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 All information relating to a PBA licenced boxer from the designated event anti-doping agency shall be confidentially sent directly to the PBA only.

26.5 The PBA shall make determinations on a case by case basis.

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

26.7 The PBA is not responsible for payment of any fees that 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, the PBA will consider all the circumstances and may consider sanctions for the reasons set out in rule 15.

27) Intentional Foul

27.1 If the referee deems that a fighter is to have committed an **INTENTIONAL FOUL**, points may be deducted from the boxer and the referee may, in the referee's sole discretion, disqualify the boxer[s] from the contest.

- 27.2 The referee shall have the discretion to determine the following along with the assistance (if the referee so decides) of a PBA representative at ringside (who must be present 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.
 - 27.2.3 Disqualify the boxer who has committed the intentional foul.
- 27.3 The PBA shall rule in such a case of intentional fouling whereby the Licenced Boxer (and/or an associated person), having been notified in writing as to the same, to answer before a disciplinary hearing and whereby the Boxer's purse may be withheld until the outcome of any such disciplinary hearing.
- 27.4 If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the contest being stopped in a later round, the injured boxer will win by TECHNICAL DECISION if he is ahead on the score cards; and the contest 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 contest and disqualify the boxer.
- 27.7 The PBA shall, if it sees fit, fine the Licence Holder so that the Boxer is not compensated for such illegal conduct and unsportsmanlike bad faith.

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 contest before the **FOURTH** round has been completed, the contest 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 contest AFTER THE FIFTH ROUND BEGINS, the contest will result in a “TECHNICAL DECISION” awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the contest is stopped.

28.4.2 Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored.

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 contest would be one of two outcomes.

29.1.1 If the injury occurs before the fourth round has been completed, the contest will 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 closed fist knuckle part of the glove.
- 30.10 Takedowns, Sweeps, Throwing or Grappling of any kind in non
- 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 has been committed:
 - 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, in their sole discretion, can choose to disqualify 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

contest 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/or 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 contest.

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 (TKO).

31.3 Any illegal move which is considered to be outside the rules of boxing by the PBA may result in disqualification and/or the Boxers purse being withheld, a fine, the Boxer and/or linked Licence Holder being disqualified, having to pay the reasonably incurred legal costs and/or a combination of any of these sanctions.

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 consents to the PBA for drug testing at any time.

33) Appeal Process

33.1 First Stage - Review Hearing:

33.1.1 In the event a boxer (or affiliated licence holder) seeks to challenge a decision made by the PBA officials in

relation to a decision made in a contest, this must be made within 7-days of the contest, in writing.

- 33.1.2 A challenge of a contest decision cannot be made due to a disagreement with the contest result. A challenge of a contest decision can only be overturned in the event the decision was irrational and/or perverse.
- 33.1.3 The PBA shall have complete discretion in refusing to accept such a challenge.
- 33.1.4 The relevant official[s] shall be notified of any challenge to seek whether they accept the challenge based on any the evidence presented.
- 33.1.5 The relevant official[s] view shall be taken into account by an Independent Adjudication Panel appointed by the PBA as to whether the original decision was irrational and/or perverse.
- 33.1.6 The PBA shall have no influence in the Panel's decision.
- 33.1.7 The PBA may, on determination of any challenge, make such order for costs as they deem fit.
- 33.1.8 All licence holders shall have the right to Appeal a decision made by the Review Panel within 14 days of the decision made, as set out in rule 33.2 below.

33.2 Second Stage - Appeal of the Review Panel's Decision:

- 33.2.1 Appeals must be submitted to PBA within 14 days of a decision made by the PBA review panel.
- 33.2.2 The PBA shall have no influence in the Appeal panel's 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.
- 33.2.3 The Appeal panel shall include two prominent lawyers and one lay person unless the Appeal Chairperson directs to the contrary.
- 33.2.4 The Appeal panel shall, in their sole discretion, uphold the review panels decision or overturn the review panel decision. The Appeal Panel shall have the sole discretion of implementing a new sanction, if any.
- 33.2.5 In the event an Appeal is won by the Appellant, they shall not be entitled to their legal costs for the Appeal, or the decision made.
- 33.2.6 In the event the Appeal is lost by the Appellant, the Appeal Panel shall have the sole discretion as to whether the costs of the PBA's representation shall be borne by the unsuccessful Appellant considering all the circumstances of the case.

34) Complaints

- 34.1** Any complaint about or by a Member or differences and questions coming within the provisions of these Rules and Regulations must be lodged with the PBA.
- 34.2** When notified of a complaint the PBA shall have a complete discretion to refuse to hear such complaint.
- 34.3** Upon receipt of notice of a complaint the PBA may order that the same shall be referred to and heard by an Independent Adjudication Panel and consideration shall be given as to whether the Arbitration Act 1996 shall take effect.
- 34.4** The PBA may require the Complaint to be accompanied by a deposit in such sum as the Board may determine in its discretion. If the Complaint is not pursued or is not successful the deposit may be forfeited to the PBA with further costs for such failings, if the Independent Panel so decides considering all the circumstances of the case.
- 34.5** If the PBA decide that they will hear the complaint, they shall proceed to determine the same and make such order as they may in their absolute discretion think fit. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the PBA shall have the power to withdraw a licence or to suspend the same for such a period as they may decide and/or make such an order.

35) Jurisdiction

- 35.1** 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 a confidential Arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1996.
- 35.2** If Arbitration is accepted by both parties only, then such details are to be requested and agreed by any challenger and the terms of which shall remain confidential.