

**RULES
OF
GEORGIA ATHLETIC & ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION
GEORGIA BOXING COMMISSION**

CHAPTER 85-1

Professional Boxing

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85-1-.01 Definitions

- (1) “**Applicant**” means any persons, corporations, organizations or associations required to be licensed before promoting, holding, organizing, participating in, or competing in a professional boxing match.
- (2) “**Body jewelry**” means any tangible object affixed to, through, or around any portion of the contestant’s body.
- (3) “**Federal Identification Card**” means an identification card issued by the commission pursuant to O.C.G.A 43-4B-12 or any such card issued by another boxing commission as required by 15 USC 6305, *et seq.*
- (4) “**Official**” unless otherwise indicated is an exclusive term collectively meaning “judges,” “referees,” and “timekeepers.”
- (5) “**Sanctioning Organization**” means a national or internationally organization generally recognized in the boxing community and which: ranks boxers within each weight class; sanctions and approves championship matches in those weight classes; and awards championship status and championship prizes (belts, rings, plaques, etc.) to the winner of those matches.
- (6) “**Special Event**” means a boxing card or boxing show, which has among its contests a championship match, a pay-per-view or subscription television match, a national televised match, or any other match of significance to boxing in this state as designated by the commission.

Authority: O.C.G.A 43-4B Et Seq.

85-1-.02 Licenses.

(1) General Provisions.

- (a) **Terms and Agreements.** Every license issued is subject to the terms, conditions, and agreements set forth in the application as well as those set forth in the application as well as those set forth in these rules and the statute governing professional boxing in Georgia.

- (b) **Applications Forms.** Applications for annual license shall be submitted to the commission on a form prescribed by the commission.
- (c) **Incomplete Applications.**
1. Unless otherwise agreed to by the commission, incomplete applications, will not be considered for approval.
 2. Applications submitted without proper payment as provided in these rules will not be considered for approval.
- (d) **Participant License: When Due.** Except as provided in (3)(a) below [Promoter's License] all participant applications must be submitted no later than the weigh-in preceding the first professional appearance in Georgia within any calendar year of such participant.
- (e) **Participant License: Approval/Denial.** Annual licenses for Contestants, corner persons, managers, and matchmakers may be approved or denied by the commission appointed supervisor assigned to each boxing show, or in the case of such applications presented in the staff office, approved or denied by the secretary of state staff assigned to assist the commission.
1. Any individual denied a license by the commission appointed supervisor or by the secretary of state staff assigned to assist the commission can appeal the denial of the license to the commission. The appeal will be presented to the commission during their next regularly scheduled meeting at which time the commission will vote to sustain or override the initial denial.
- (f) **Background Investigation.** The commission may request a general background investigation of any applicant for any license. Such investigation may include searching for any past criminal record, and such investigation may be conducted by an appropriate law enforcement agency.
- (g) **Denial of License.** The commission may deny a license application from any person who has violated any of its rules or regulations or violated any of the provisions of O.C.G.A. 43, Chapter 4B or whose application contains false statements or material omissions.
1. Unless otherwise ruled by the commission the denial of any license application shall remain in effect for a period of twelve months, and such applicant may not re-apply for a license from the commission during that period.
- (h) **Expiration Date.** Annual licenses are valid until December 31, of the year issued for boxing and June 30 of the year issued for Mixed Martial Arts.

- (i) **Verbal or physical abuse of official or commission appointed supervisor.** Any licensee who verbally or physically abuses an official or the commission appointed supervisor of a match shall be suspended indefinitely and his or her license may be revoked.

(2) License Fees:

- (a) **How Paid.** Unless otherwise agree to by the commission, application for a promoter's licenses and/or match permit shall be accompanied by a certified check for the required fee. Participant licenses, except for the promoter's license, shall be paid at the time of the application.

- (b) **Schedule of Fees.** Annual fees for participant licenses are as follow:

1.	Promoter	\$150.00
2.	Mixed Martial Arts Promoter	\$500.00
3.	Matchmaker	\$ 50.00
4.	Manager	\$ 50.00
5.	Boxer/MMA Contestant	\$ 20.00
6.	Second/Trainer	\$ 20.00
7.	Timekeeper	\$ 20.00
8.	Referee	\$ 20.00
9.	Judge	\$ 20.00
10.	MMA Sanctioning Org	\$1000.00
11.	Physician	\$0.00

- (c) Application Fees tendered to the commission are not refundable, provided however that the proposed date of any match disclosed on an open match permit application may be changed without the requirement of an additional fee.
- (d) All fees shall be paid by purse deduction, certified check, cashiers check, or personal check. NO cash will be accepted by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission or its representatives

(3) Promoter's License

- (a) Application for a promoter's license must be made in writing and received by the commission no less than 30 days in advance of the proposed date for promoting any professional boxing match in the state of Georgia.
- (b) Unless otherwise agreed to by the commission, each application for a promoter's license shall be accompanied with a cashier's check (or money order) in the amount of \$150.00 and made out to the Georgia Athletic & Entertainment Commission.
- (c) Each application for a promoter's license shall be accompanied with an appropriate security bond as provided for in these rules.

- (d) Any licensed promoter who partners or joint-ventures with any other person, organization, or group for the promotion of a boxing show in Georgia (thereby establishing that person, organization, or group as the show's "co-promoter") will be considered the principal promoter of the show and will be solely responsible for all financial obligations incurred in its production. Provided however that contracts may be filed with the commission delimiting each party's financial responsibility.
- (e) Agreements between the promoter and any other party or co-promoter for payment of any purse will NOT be honored by the commission and without the co-promoter or any other party filing with the commission an approved security bond in the amount of the total deferred obligation.
- (f) Agreements between the promoter and any other party (or co-promoter) for payment of any regulatory fees, match permit fees, license fees, and or taxes will NOT be honored by the commission without prior approval by the commission and without the co-promoter or other party filing with the commission an approved security bond or some combination thereof in the amount of the total deferred obligation.
- (g) Applications for a promoter's license shall be signed in the presence of a commission representative, or shall be signed in the presence of and verified by a notary public.
- (h) The Promoter shall provide the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission or the commission secretary a video of the event, match or exhibition within 10 days of the event, match, or exhibition

(4) Co-Promoters License

- (a) Any co-promoter of a boxing promotion associating with a licensed promoter for one or more promotion(s) shall obtain a promoter's license from the commission. There shall be no limitation on the number of days prior to a match when a co-promoter's license application may be submitted to the commission.
- (b) Rules and requirements of the commission shall be the same for co-promoters as for promoters, provided however that the commission may require from each co-promoter, in addition to the promoter's license bond, a suitable match permit bond or such other financial security as defined by these rules.
- (c) Agreements between the co-promoter and the promoter for payment of any purse shall be filed with and must be approved by the commission.
- (d) Agreements between the co-promoter and the promoter for payment of any regulatory fees, match permit fees, license fees, and taxes shall be filed with and must be approved by the commission.

- (e) Applications for a co-promoter's license shall be signed in the presence of a commission representative, or shall be signed in the presence of and verified by a notary public.

(5) Programs for Charity.

- (a) A person who wishes to present a program of boxing for charitable purposes must file with the commission a letter of intent to present the program as one benefiting a charitable organization. The letter of intent must contain the name of the charity, charitable fund or organization which is to benefit from the program and the amount or percentage of the receipts of the program which is to be paid to the charity. The letter of intent must be signed by the promoter and co-signed by an authorized representative of the charity targeted to benefit from the show.
- (b) Within three business days after such a program is held, the promoter shall furnish to the commission:
 - 1. A certified copy of the ticket manifest showing the number of tickets sold. The manifest shall give a breakdown disclosing the number of tickets sold in each price range, and the number of complimentary tickets given for the show;
 - 2. A certified and itemized statement of the show's gross receipts from sponsorships ticket sales, advertisements, or any other source;
 - 3. A statement disclosing the itemized and total gross expenditures in connection with the show;
 - 4. A statement co-signed by the promoter and the authorized representative of the charity, disclosing the net amount paid to the charitable fund or organization
- (c) If the promoter fails to file any of these statements within the prescribed time, the commission:
 - 1. May suspend or revoke the promoter's license, and/or
 - 2. will not thereafter issue a match permit to the promoter for the holding of any program for charitable purposes.

(6) Match Permit.

- (a) Applications for a match permit must be made in writing and received by the commission at least 30 days in advance of the date proposed for such professional boxing match provided however that any licensed promoter who has held a professional boxing match in the state of Georgia within the previous twelve months may, at the discretion of the commission, be allowed to apply for a subsequent match permit no less than 15 days in advance of the proposed date of each subsequent professional boxing match.

- (b) Unless otherwise agreed to by the commission, each match permit application shall be accompanied by a non-refundable cashier's check (or money order) in the amount of \$50.00 and made out to the Georgia Athletic & Entertainment Commission.
- (c) As provided by statute [43-4B-20], the commission will calculate an additional match permit fee which will then be assessed to the promoter. This additional fee will be calculated at five percent (5%) of the gross proceeds exclusive of any federal taxes.
- (d) For all events approved by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission for Mixed Martial Arts a regulatory fee shall be assessed that will be calculated at five percent (5%) of the gross proceeds exclusive of any federal taxes.
 - 1. The term gross proceeds means the total revenue received solely from the sale of tickets used or intended to be used by the audience physically attending any event required to be licensed under this chapter.
 - 2. The gross proceed tax and regulatory fee must be accompanied by a form approved by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission that will calculate the tax
 - 3. Failure to pay the gross proceeds tax or regulatory fee above within thirty (30) days will result in a 20% late fee and may cause the commence liquidation action against the security bond(s) on file with the commission.
- (e) Each application for a match permit shall be accompanied with an appropriate security bond as provided for in these rules.
- (f) Each match permit application should be accompanied with copies of all contracts for Contestants, arena rental, and any other contracts which the promoter has entered into for that particular show.
- (g) Applicants for a match permit will be notified of the date, time, and place for the next scheduled meeting of the commission during which meeting documents submitted by said applicants shall be reviewed.
 - 1. Applicants or their designated representative(s) may be required to attend such meeting and to answer during that meeting additional questions concerning the proposed event.
 - 2. Once the commission determines that all safety requirements pertaining to the individual Contestants have been or will be met, that all the rules governing the conduct of the professional boxing matches in Georgia will be adhered to, that the promoter has shown through previous experience the ability and resources to conduct a show, and that no harm to the health, welfare, morals or safety of the citizens of Georgia will result from the holding of such event, then the match permit will be issued.

3. If the match permit is denied, written notice will be available to the applicant writing two days of said commission meeting.

(7) **Boxers.** Boxers applying to be licensed in Georgia shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) **Head Injury.** The commission will not issue a professional boxer's license to any person when the commission has reason to believe that such person has previously been diagnosed with or has suffered sub-dural hematoma or any level of intra-cerebral hemorrhage.
 1. Each boxer knows or should know his or her medical history and is in a better position to protect themselves against permanent brain damage than the evaluating commission or examining physician. It is the absolute obligation of any boxer who has previously suffered any head injury as described in subparagraph 7(a) above to report that injury to the physician conducting the pre-fight physical.
- (b) **General Physical Evidencing Good Physical Health.** Applications to be licensed as a boxer shall be accompanied by a signed statement from a licensed physician that the applicant is in good physical health, has no abnormalities, or deficiencies which would prevent athletic competition or endanger the applicant's health when engaging in athletic competition.
 1. **Neurological Examination.** Any boxer who has competed in over 200 rounds during his or her professional career must submit such additional proof of neurological fitness as specified in Rule 4.01(a) [Medical Requirements].
 2. **Ophthalmological Examination.** Any boxer who has competed in over 200 rounds during his or her professional boxing career must submit additional proof of ophthalmological fitness as specified in Rule 4.01 (b) [Medical Requirements].
 3. **Hepatitis Testing.** All contestants in all bouts shall complete testing for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. The initial test for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C detection shall be conducted within 180 days prior to licensure. In addition to the pre-licensure test, any boxer shall be re-tested for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C prior to his or her participation in each boxing match in the state if the match is scheduled to occur more than 180 days after the date of the most recent test results submitted to the commission.
 - (i) Any contestant who tests positive for Hepatitis B may appeal the denial of a license by submitting a verifiable doctor's written statement, on the doctor's letterhead stationary, that the Hepatitis is non-contagious. The appeal will be presented to the commission during their next regularly

scheduled meeting at which time the commission will vote to sustain or override the initial denial.

4. **Age Restrictions.** Applicants for a boxer's license shall be no more than 37 years of age, provided however that the commission may, in its discretion, issue a license to an applicant-boxer who is more than 37 years of age and who submits satisfactory evidence that his or her health, ability and physical condition is sufficient to ensure the applicant's safety. Such medical evidence shall include, but is not limited to:
 - (i) A detailed dilated ophthalmological examination, conducted by a state licensed ophthalmologist. The intent of this examination is to assure both the boxer and the commission that no ophthalmological complications exist potentially hampering the boxer's ability to protect himself or herself in the ring, and to ensure that no ocular damage from previous bouts is evidenced. This exam must, at a minimum, include a careful dilated examination of the retinal periphery utilizing indirect ophthalmoscope.
 - (ii) A detailed neurological examination, conducted by a state licensed neurologist. Whether auxiliary neuro-diagnostic tests, such as electroencephalography (EEG), computerized tomography (CT), or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), are utilized is left to the discretion and the clinical opinion of the examining physician.
 - (iii) A detailed cardiovascular examination to establish cardiovascular endurance. A poorly conditioned boxer is at increased risk of injury because of exhaustion, which may impede his or her ability to mount an active offense or defense. Whether auxiliary cardiovascular tests, such as an electrocardiogram (EKG), are utilized is left to the discretion and clinical opinion of the examining physician.

5. **Extended Periods of Inactivity.** Applicants for a boxer's license where the official ring record for such boxer reports a continuous period of inactivity during the previous 36 months shall provide to the commission satisfactory evidence that his or her health, ability and physical condition is sufficient to ensure the applicant's safety. Such medical evidence shall include, but may not be limited to:
 - (i) A detailed cardiovascular examination to establish cardiovascular endurance. A poorly conditioned boxer is at increased risk of injury because of exhaustion, which may impede his or her ability to mount an active offense or defense. Whether auxiliary cardiovascular tests, such as an electrocardiogram (EKG), are utilized is left to the discretion and clinical opinion of the examining physician.

(ii) A detailed neurological examination, conducted by a state licensed neurologist. Whether auxiliary neuro-diagnostic tests, such as electroencephalography (EEG), computerized tomography (CT), or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), are utilized is left to the discretion and the clinical opinion of the examining physician.

6. The minimum uncorrected visual acuity in Georgia is set at 20 / 200 in both eyes. Any person who applies for a license or renewal of a license to compete as a professional boxer in the state may, upon the request of the commission, be required to present evidence of their visual acuity.

(c) **Out-of-State Suspensions.** Any Contestant who at the time of his or her application is under medical or administrative suspension from any other commission, where such suspension is recorded in the boxing registry, is ineligible for licensure in Georgia.

(8) **Suspensions and Revocations.**

(a) The commission may revoke, suspend, place on probation or take other disciplinary action against the license of any licensee who has violated any of its rules or regulations or any of the provisions of O.C.G.A. 43, Chapter 4B or whose application contains false statements or material omissions.

1. Any person who has had his or her license revoked by the commission may not petition for reinstatement or apply for a new license until one (1) year after the revocation. Any petition for reinstatement or application for a license filed within the 1-year period may be denied without a hearing.

(b) **Contestant Under Suspension: Prohibition From Participating Outside Georgia.** No Contestant shall enter any agreement or contract with a promoter, compete, or attempt to compete in any professional boxing match outside Georgia when such Contestant knows that his or her license issued by this commission is under suspension.

(9) **Falsifying an Application.** Upon a finding by the majority of the commission that any licensee or applicant has knowingly made a misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representation in regard to a professional match contest or exhibition of boxing or any document connected therewith or practiced fraud or deceit or intentionally made any false statement in obtaining a license to participate or promote a professional match contest or exhibition of boxing or made a false statement or deceptive registration with the commission then the commission shall have the authority to refuse to grant a license to an applicant, revoke the license of a person licensed by the commission, or discipline a person licensed by the commission.

Authority: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET SEQ.

85-1-.03 Bonds

(1) Promoter's License Surety Bond

- (a) Before any promoter's license is issued authorizing the promotion of professional boxing matches in the state of Georgia, the applicant shall make and deliver to the commission a security bond executed by a surety corporation authorized to transact business in this state.
- (b) Any and all bond applications shall be on a form provided by the commission, and shall be accompanied by an enforceable power of attorney. The commission may also require certificate of 'good standing' issued by the Commissioner of Insurance.
- (c) If any company issuing a bond shall be removed from doing business in this state, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Insurance to notify the Georgia Athletic & Entertainment Commission within 30 days.
- (d) The bond shall be in such amount as the commission may determine based upon the payment of officials' fees, fees necessary to secure the proper medical supervision of any professional boxing show in the state of Georgia, and/or the estimated potential damages, penalties, taxes or expenses resulting from promotional activities contemplated in the state of Georgia.
- (e) Whenever the commission shall determine that a previously approved bond has for any cause become insufficient, the commission may require an additional bond or bonds to be given, conforming with the requirements of these rules.
 - 1. Unless the additional promoter's license bond or bonds are given within the time fixed by written demand therefor, or if the promoter's license bond of a licensee is canceled, the license of such person shall be immediately revoked by the operation of law without notice or hearing.

(2) Match Permit Bond.

- (a) Before any match permit is issued authorizing the sale of tickets and the ancillary contracting necessary to promote a professional boxing show in the state of Georgia, the applicant shall make and deliver to the commission a security bond executed by a surety corporation authorized to transact business in this state. The purpose of the bond is to ensure that each Contestant competing in Georgia is paid their entire purse, and that full payment of other contractual liabilities is made.
- (b) Any and all bond applications shall be on a form provided by the commission, and shall be accompanied by an enforceable power of attorney. The commission may also require a certificate of 'good standing' issued by the Commissioner of Insurance.
- (c) If any company issuing a bond shall be removed from doing business in this state, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Insurance to notify the Georgia Athletic & Entertainment Commission within 30 days.

(d) The bond shall be in such amount as the commission may determine based upon the estimated contractual liabilities against the licensed promoter for damages and expenses resulting from non-payment of contract liabilities, including but not limited to the total amount of each competing Contestant's purse or other services contracted for or from promotional activities conducted within the state of Georgia.

(e) Whenever the commission shall determine that a previously approved bond has for any cause become insufficient, the commission may require additional bond or bonds to be given, conforming with the requirements of these rules.

1. Unless the additional match permit bond or bonds are given within the time fixed by written demand therefor, or is the match permit bond of a licensee is canceled, the match permit of such person shall be immediately revoked by operation of law and without notice or hearing.

(3) Complaints and Actions to Recover Damages.

(a) Any person claiming that he or she has been damaged by a breach of the conditions of a bond given by a licensee as provided in these rules may enter a complaint with the commission.

(b) Such complaint shall be a written statement of the facts constituting the complaint and should be made within 90 days of the alleged breach. If the commission determines that the complaint is prima facie a breach of the bond and the matter cannot be amicably resolved within 15 days, the commission shall endeavor to contact all known additional potential complainants regarding the breach of the bond.

1. Complaints may be registered and filed with the commission after the ninety day period, but such late complaints shall state a reasonable and good cause for the delayed submission.

(c) Additional complaints must be filed within 30 days following the initial public notification of a breach of the bond.

(d) Upon the filing of such complaint in the manner provided in these rules, the commission shall investigate the charges made and at its discretion order a hearing, giving the party complained of notice of the filing of such complaint and the time and place of such hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall report its findings and render a conclusion upon the matter complained of to the complainant and respondent in the case, who shall have 15 days thereafter in which to make effective and satisfy the commissions conclusions.

(e) If such settlement is not effected within such a time, the commission or the complainant may bring an action to enforce the claim. If the complainant is not satisfied with the

ruling of the commission, he or she may commence and maintain an action against the principal and surety on the bond of both parties complained of as in any civil action.

- (f) If the bond or collateral posted is insufficient to pay in full the valid claims of complainants, the commission may direct that the proceeds of such bond(s) shall be divided pro rata among such complainants.

85-1-.04 Medical Requirements

(1) Medical Examination.

(a) **Neurological Examination.** All boxers intending to compete in Georgia who have competed in over 200 rounds during their professional career, according to the number of rounds disclosed on such boxer's official ring record, and prior to competing in Georgia, must submit to the commission the results of a detailed neurological examination performed within the previous twelve months by a board certified and state licensed neurologist. Such examination shall include a careful examination for signs of any trauma induced neurological damage along with any other specific test or tests requested by the neurologist. Any boxer not submitting said results prior to the match may be allowed to compete provided however that such boxer's license will, at the conclusion of the match, be medically suspended until such time as his neurological examination requirement is fulfilled.

(b) Eye Examination.

1. The minimum uncorrected visual acuity to be able to box in Georgia is set at 20 / 200 in both eyes. Any person who applies for a license or renewal of license to compete as a professional boxer in the state may, upon the request of the commission, be required to present evidence of their visual acuity.
2. All boxers intending to compete in Georgia who have competed in over 200 rounds during their professional career, according to the number of round disclosed on such boxer's official ring record, and prior to competing in Georgia, must submit to the commission results from a complete ophthalmological examination performed within the previous twelve months by a board certified state licensed ophthalmologist. Such examination shall include a careful dilated examination of the retinal periphery utilizing indirect ophthalmoscope sufficient to identify any sign of previous trauma or retinal damage along with any other specific test or tests requested by said ophthalmologist. Any boxer not submitting said results prior to the match may be allowed to compete provided however that such boxer's license will, at the conclusion of the match, be medically suspended until such time as this ophthalmological requirement is fulfilled.

- (i) The commission may require an up-date examinations submitted pursuant to sub-paragraphs (a) [Neurological Examination] and (b) [Eye Examination] of this rule after each successive 100 fought rounds after the previous submission, as disclosed on such boxer's official ring record.

(2) Pre-fight Examination.

- (a) At the time of weigh-in, or at such other time as is then announced, all contestants must pass a thorough and complete pre-fight medical examination and have a commission designated physician complete the pre-fight medical examination form prepared by the commission.
 - 1. Each female Contestant, during the pre-fight physical, will be required to pass a pregnancy test administered under the direction of the examining physician, or such physician's authorized assistant. The cost of such test, unless the Contestant's contract or bout agreement states otherwise, shall be the responsibility of the promoter. For purposes of this subparagraph the term "pass" shall mean that the Contestant is not pregnant.
 - 2. Female Contestants submitting written documentation acceptable to the examining physician may be waived from the pre-fight physical pregnancy test requirement. Such documentation will be limited to:
 - (i) a copy of a lab report from a recognized clinical laboratory and dated within ten days of the pre-fight physical attesting that the Contestant is not pregnant, or
 - (ii) a statement from a state licensed physician, on such physician's letterhead stationary, stating that the Contestant has undergone certain medical procedures rendering her medically improbable of bearing children.
- (b) Whenever a Contestant's examination indicates that he or she is unfit for competition, because of any weakness or disability discovered by the physician, then an immediate report of such fact must be made to the promoter and to the commission. In such case the Contestant shall be prohibited from participating in the match.
- (c) The examining physician shall deliver all pre-fight examination reports to the commission or to its authorized representative immediately after the weigh-in.
- (d) Any Contestant who failed his or her pre-fight physical for medical reasons or for lack of general conditioning will be reported within two business days to the boxing registry.

- (3) Additional Medical Examinations.** The commission may at any times require any Contestant to undergo such additional medical examinations performed by a state licensed physician as may be necessary to determine such Contestant's medical fitness to compete.

- (4) **Before Contest: Illness or Injury.** Should a Contestant who is already under contract to compete on an announced card, because of illness or injury, become unable to compete in such contest, he or she or his or her manager must immediately report said injury to the promoter and the commission. The commission may then require said Contestant to submit to an examination conducted by a commission designated physician.
- (5) **Medical Suspensions by Other Commission.** Medical suspensions by other boxing commissions recognized by the Association of Boxing Commissions and which are published by any boxing registry approved for such purposes by the Association of Boxing Commissions shall be recognized and honored by the commission.
- (6) **Drugs Prohibited.** The administration or use of any drugs, alcohol, stimulants, or injections in any part of the contestant's body either prior to or during a match is prohibited unless such drugs are administered by a physician and with the approval of the commission. The commission may order drug screens at any time and at the expense of the Contestant.
- (7) **Time Between Bouts.** Except as specifically authorized by the commission or commission representative, no Contestant shall be permitted to engage in another contest or exhibition in any jurisdiction for a period of seven (7) days after competing in Georgia.
- (8) **Head Injury.** Any Contestant who suffers a knock out, concussion, or other serious head injury, should be examined by the ringside physician. The physician shall immediately report to the commission the condition of such Contestant and whether or not additional medical attention is advised.
- (9) **Knock Out and Technical Knock Out.**
- (a) After the first knock out, there shall be a 60 day medical suspension. After the second knock out, there shall be a 60 day medical suspension and a CAT scan, EKG or other medical testing may be required before such suspension is removed from the registry. Any boxer losing by knockout (LKO) in two or more consecutive fights may be suspended for a period of 6 months.
 - (b) Unless otherwise ordered by the attending ringside physician, there shall be a 30 day medical suspension after a technical knockout.
 - 1. Technical knock outs caused by a severe cut may result in either a 45 day or 60 day medical suspension.
 - 2. Technical knock outs caused by a blow anywhere other than the head may, at the discretion of the attending ringside physician, result in a suspension of less than 30 days.
- (10) **Under-Conditioned Fighter.** An under-conditioned fighter will be suspended for 90 days.
- (11) **Consecutive Losses.**

- (a) A boxer who has lost 6 consecutive fights, according to the boxers official ring record compiled and maintained by the boxing registry, may be suspended pending a hearing by the commission.
- (b) A boxer who has lost 6 consecutive fights by knock-out, technical knock-out, or any combination of either result, according to the boxer’s official ring record compiled and maintained by the boxing registry, shall be suspended pending a hearing by the commission. (Suspension will be listed as an “Indefinite Pending Hearing”)
 - 1. Any boxer whose history of poor performance is identified by the subparagraphs (a) and/or (b) above may be approved to compete against any other boxer who exhibits a similar history of poor performance.

(12) Verification of Contestant Experience

- (a) A trainer or manager for a contestant with the following situations shall submit, on a letter approved by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission, their testament that a Contestant is prepared for a professional contest
 - 1. Pro Debut
 - 2. Has not competed in the last 12 months
 - 3. Has lost their last 6 events by TKO, KO, DQ, or Decision

Authority: O.C.G.A. 43-4b ET SEQ.

85-1-.05 Conduct of Promotion.

- (1) **General Responsibilities and Provisions.** During the performance of any promotion it shall be the promoter’s responsibility to ensure the compliance with all laws and rules governing professional boxing in Georgia. Such responsibilities **shall include**, but will not be limited to the following:
 - (a) **Medical Insurance.** The promoter shall provide for the participants insurance covering ambulance services, medical, surgical and hospital care with a minimum limit of \$20,000 for injuries sustained while participating in said program and for a \$20,000 death benefit awarded to the estate of any Contestant should death occur from injuries received will participating in said contest.
 - (b) **Ambulance Service.** The promoter shall provide continuous ambulance service with a state-certified EMT attendant, who shall then provide a resuscitator, stretcher, backboard, oxygen and such other medical equipment reasonably expected for an immediate trauma care, and who shall be present before the start of each contest and shall remain on site until the close of the program.
 - 1. For the purposes of this section, a program of boxing begins with the commencement of the first bout and ends when the last Contestant leaves the site of the program.

2. The chief referee and/or the commission appointed supervisor shall meet with the EMT prior to the beginning of the show. During such meeting the commission supervisor will instruct the EMT concerning the show, placement of the stretcher and any other information necessary to ensure prompt and appropriate immediate care should such care be needed.
 3. Such ambulance shall be able and available to immediately transport any severely injured Contestant to an appropriate medical facility.
 4. If the ambulance or EMT is required to leave the site of the show for any reason, no boxing will be allowed to continue until another ambulance or replacement EMT returns to the site.
- (c) **General Safety.** It shall be the promoter's responsibility to insure safety for the Contestants, officials and fans and to comply with all safety standards required by the commission.
- (d) **Arena Security.** Arena security is the responsibility of the promoter and such security measures provided by the promoter shall be sufficient to maintain order. At a minimum, 2 sworn off duty law enforcement officers shall be retained for security
- (e) **Obtain Ring.** The promoter will provide a ring for the show and that ring must pass the certification requirements established the commission.
- (f) **Extra Gloves.** Each promoter must have an extra set of gloves of the appropriate weight available to be used in case a glove is broken or otherwise damaged during the course of the contest or exhibition.
- (g) **Ring & Glove Certification.** It is the promoter's responsibility to ensure that the ring and gloves selected for use during each show meet the commission's rules and regulations concerning proper certification should be resolved no less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the show.
- (h) **Advanced Advertising.** In addition to the requirements in this Chapter, no contestant or celebrity shall be advertised by any promoter before said promoter has in his or her possession a written commitment from said contestant or celebrity and before said promoter has filed a copy of such written commitment with the commission.
- (i) **Suggesting Benefits for Charitable Organization.** No promoter may advertise, hold out, or suggest in any fashion that a portion of the proceeds of any proposed show will be donated to a charitable organization without first complying with the commission's rules governing "programs for charity."
- (j) **Main Event Start Time.** The final bout for all events sanctioned by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission shall start by 11:59pm on the date for which the event permit is approved.

(2) Ringside Physician.

(a) **Providing a physician.** It shall be the responsibility of the commission representative to assign one or more physicians at ringside during the contest.

1. The physicians assigned must be on the roster of physicians authorized to conduct pre-fight physicals and serve as ringside physicians created by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
2. At least one ringside physician must have in his or her possession any medical supplies and equipment reasonably anticipated to provide first-aid medical assistance for the type of injuries reasonably anticipated to occur in professional boxing matches.
3. The promoter shall compensate assigned ringside physicians in an amount to be mutually agreed upon.

(3) Arena.

(a) **Drinks.** No boxing match will be allowed to commence or continue, without specific authorization from the commission, in any arena where concessionaires dispense or serve beverages in containers other than plastic or paper cups.

(b) **Arena safety.** No boxing match will be allowed to commence or continue in any arena which appears to the commission appointed supervisor to be unsafe or where the commission appointed supervisor has reason to believe that such building or location does not conform to any applicable laws, ordinances and regulations in the city or unincorporated county area.

(c) **Dressing rooms.** The only people allowed in the Contestant's dressing room are the Contestant, manager, seconds, commission representatives including appointed commissioners, approved physician(s), news media representatives, and promoters.

1. Promoters may be required by the commission appointed supervisor to post a guard at the entrance to the dressing rooms to aid in enforcement of dressing room security.
2. If requested by the commission, a separate dressing area should be provided for all referees and judges.

(4) Show.

(a) **Marketing Prohibited Without Prior Commission Approval.** Commission approval or authorization must be obtained prior to selling tickets, making announcements, or distributing advertisements concerning any show, show date, contestants, or matches.

(b) Rounds scheduled.

1. Unless otherwise approved by the commission, promoters shall schedule no less than 25 rounds of boxing on one program. An emergency bout must be provided in case any of the scheduled bouts are not held.
2. No boxing match shall have any rounds lasting longer than three (3) minutes.
 - (i) All contests or exhibitions in professional boxing featuring male boxers will be required to have 3 minute rounds with 1 minute rest periods between rounds.
 - (ii) All contests or exhibitions in professional boxing featuring female boxers will be required to have 2 minute rounds with 1 minute rest periods between rounds.
3. No boxing or exhibition shall be permitted for more than 10 rounds duration, except in a championship match, which shall not exceed 12 rounds.

(c) Card Approval. Requests for preliminary approval of cards should be received by the commission no less than ten days prior to the date of the contest. The Final card must be received by the commission no less than three days prior to the date of the contest.

1. Substitutions to the final card will only be allowed after sufficient evidence documenting a medical reason why such substitution is required.
2. No substitution will be allowed during the final seven hours prior to the beginning of the show.

(5) Purse.

(a) Method of Payment. Except as otherwise stated below, purses shall be paid by certified or cashiers check immediately after the contest. Payments of percentage contracts shall be made as soon as the amount can be determined. If requested by the commission or by any Contestant, all purse payments shall be made in the presence of the authorized commission representative.

1. After notification and approval by the commission, arrangement for the payment of any purse greater than \$50,000.00 shall be mutually agreed to by the promoter and the Contestant.
2. Should a promoter default on payments to Contestants, only that amount disclosed on the contract or bout agreement filed with the commission and in advance of the bout will be covered by any bond on file with the commission.

- (b) **Minimum Payment per Contracted Round.** All contestants shall be guaranteed a purse equal to or exceeding \$50.00 per contracted round.
- (c) **Authorized Purse Deductions.** Promoters may deduct from any contestant's purse, the total amount of fees or fines owed to the commission by said Contestant, including but not limited to fees required to issue to such contestant a federal identification card and/or state license, where such fees or fines have not previously been paid by said contestant. Any such deduction shall immediately be remitted to the commission.

(6) **Contracts.**

Contract or Bout Agreement: Unless agreed upon in advance by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission, all bout agreements must be on the form approved by the commission

1. The amount of guarantee or percentage promised; the number and time limit of rounds; when and where the official weigh-in will be conducted; when and where the Contestants are scheduled to appear; weight; and all other reasonably expected to be an issue of agreement within professional boxing contracts and agreements.
 - (i) Weights expressed on bout agreements for all four and six round bouts shall allow no less than a +/-2 pounds variance of the contracted weight.
 - (ii) Weights expressed on bout agreements for all championship (12 rounds) matches shall be absolute and shall not allow for any variance.
2. Signature of the promoter or his or her designated representative, and the Contestant or his or her designated representative.
3. All bout agreements will state the following in bold type: Each Contestant applying for a license is required to obtain on their own a Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C blood test and must present to the commission representative no later than at the weigh-in the results of such test conducted within 180 days of the proposed match.

(b) **Contract or Bout Agreement: Required Form for Submission.** All information appearing on any written agreements or contracts shall be typed or printed clearly.

(c) **Contract or Bout Agreement: File with Commission.** One copy of each signed written agreement or contract, once executed by both parties and within three calendar days of such execution, shall be filed with the commission.

1. No boxing match shall be allowed to commence prior to execution of a signed contact or bout agreement by both parties or before said contract or bout agreement is submitted to the commission.

- (e) **Violations: Grounds for Suspension.** Violation by either party of any written bout agreement or contract may be grounds for suspension of any license issued by the commission and may in addition to such suspension result in a fine imposed by the commission.

(7) Failure to Perform.

- (a) **Promoter Failure to Perform.** The failure of a promoter to perform according to the terms of the contract; to produce contestants or special added attractions as advertised; to pay the contestants their contractual guarantee, or percentage; or the failure of a promoter to live up to his or her agreement with his or her contestants or performers who did perform as scheduled is prohibited.
- (b) **Contestant Failure to Perform.** The failure of a contestant under contract with a licensed promoter to perform according to the terms of said contract; or the failure of a contestant to live up to his or her agreement with an person to which the contestant is under contractual agreement is prohibited.

(c) Violation: Penalties.

- (i) Violation of either paragraph (a) or (b) within this subsection shall, for the first offense, be grounds for administrative suspension of not less than 90 days and a fine of not more than the contracted purse amount disclosed on the bout agreement or contract.
- (ii) The second and/or any subsequent violation by any person of either paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) within this subsection may, in addition to any suspension by the commission, subject the violator to a fine of not more than the contracted purse amount as disclosed on the bout agreement or contract plus not more than an additional \$10,000. Said fine to be imposed by the commission.
- (iii) Any person or license holder violating on three or more occasions either sub-paragraph (a) or sub-paragraph (b) within this subsection shall have his or her license suspended indefinitely. Provided however that any action by the commission to enforce or attempt to enforce the provisions of this sub-paragraph will be taken only after notice and hearing according to the “Georgia Administrative Procedure Act,” Title 50, Chapter 13 of the *Official Code of Georgia Annotated*.

Authority: O.C.G.A. 43-4b Et Seq.

85-1-.06 Ring and Equipment

- (1) **General Provisions.** Any dimension in this rule, where the unit of measurement is “inches,” shall be considered only as a general and approximate guideline. Where such dimension

guidelines are exceeded, the commission appointed supervisor shall have the authority to allow or disallow any such variance from the established guideline.

(2) **The Ring.**

- (a) **Ring Size.** The ring must be a square and not less than 16 feet nor more than 20 feet on a side within the ropes. The ring platform (floor) must extend beyond the ropes at least 18 inches on all sides (apron).
 - 1. A ring size greater than 20 feet on a side within the ropes shall only be allowed after unanimous agreement of all the boxers contracted to appear on the show. For purposes of the subparagraph, the term “all boxers” shall be limited to those boxers contracted to compete in bouts of eight rounds or more.
- (b) **Safety Padding.** The ring floor shall be padded with 1-inch thick slow recovery foam matting, or other soft material approved by the commission or its authorized representative, and shall extend over the edge of the ring platform with a top covering of canvas, duck or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the ring platform. Padding material that tends to gather in lumps may not be used.
- (c) **Ring Mat.** The mat and covering shall be kept clean and free from disagreeable odors at all times. The corners must be covered by a pad long enough to cover all the rope joints.
- (d) **Platform Height.** The ring platform shall not be more than 54 inches from the floor of the building and shall be provided with suitable steps for use by the contestants.
- (e) **Ringside Tables.** Each promoter shall be responsible for employing a safety plan to protect boxers who might fall outside of elevated rings. Except where deemed impractical, the floor of those sides not so protected shall be covered with protective matting.
- (f) **Ring Posts.** Ring posts shall be made of some strong material, preferably metal pipe, three inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a height of at least 58 inches above the ring floor.
- (g) **Ring Certification.** Rings used in professional boxing matches in Georgia must be certified by the chief referee and/or the commission representative in attendance at the show.
 - 1. Any ring judged unsafe by the chief referee and/or the commission representative or not otherwise meeting basic standards as defined in commission rules, or which is deemed by the chief referee or commission representative to be improperly stabilized will not be certified.
 - 2. Failure to obtain certification will result in immediate and summary suspension of the match permit.

- (h) **Rope Lighting.** The ring shall be amply illuminated by the overhead lights, which shall be so arranged that shadow shall be eliminated and discomfort from heat and glare minimized for persons in and near the rings.

(3) **Ring Ropes.**

- (a) **Rope Dimensions.** Ring ropes shall be four in number, at least one inch in diameter, the lower rope 18 inches above the ring floor and the top rope 52 inches from the ring floor. The two remaining ropes will be evenly spread between the top and bottom ropes. All four ropes shall be wrapped in soft material.

- (b) **Rope Lanyards.** Each ring rope on each side of the ring shall be connected with two rope lanyards.

- (4) **Gong.** The gong shall be approved by the commission and it shall be of sufficient size to enable its sound to be heard by both contestants and the referee.

- (5) **Ring Equipment.** The promoter shall provide a sufficient number of water buckets for the use of all contestants. Each bucket shall be sterilized before being used. Additionally, the promoter shall provide, resin, stools, and such other articles as are required for the conduct of each bout.

- (6) **Scales.** Scales shall be furnished by the promoter. The commission may require that the scales be certified. Residential bathroom scales of the type generally used in private residences will not meet certification requirements of the commission and will not be allowed for use at any weigh-in.

(7) **Hand Wrapping: Gauze and Tape.**

- (a) Contestants desiring to stabilize the metacarpal bones may use no more than six inches of adhesive tape, not more than two inches in width, across the back of each hand, provided however that the commission inspector or representative must sign each piece of tape prior to placing gauze over such tape.

- (b) Stabilization tape may not extend beyond a line one inch on the posterior side of the knuckle.

- (c) Gauze shall be of soft surgical-type gauze not more than two inches in width, held in place by surgeon's tape for each hand. All contestants will have their hands wrapped in the dressing room [or some other suitable place in the general vicinity of the dressing room] under the examination of a representative from the commission. Whenever requested by any party, hand wrapping shall take place only in the presence of one or more representatives from the opposing contestants camp.

- (d) Under no condition will any adhesive tape be allowed to extend a position within one inch of the posterior line of knuckles. Provided however that a thin “butterfly” of tape between the fingers will be allowed to stabilize the placement of gauze.
- (e) Stacking the process of layering on top of the boxer’s wrapped hand additional layers of gauze and tape is prohibited.

(8) Gloves.

- (a) **Weight Allowed In Bout.** Unless otherwise approved by the commission, contestants in all weight categories up to and including welterweights (up to 147 pounds) shall use 8 ounce gloves. In heavier classes, 10 ounce gloves must be worn.
- (b) **Brand-Name Certification Required.** The commission is authorized to certify boxing gloved by brand-name or manufacturer and gloves not so certified may not be used. Each promoter desiring to use for the first time in Georgia a brand of gloves or gloves manufactured by a company not previously certified for use in Georgia are advised to seek prior certification.
- (c) **Glove Condition.** Gloves may not be broken or twisted, nor may the padding be misplaced or lumpy.
- (d) **Glove Approval.** Gloves shall be examined by the referee and/or the commission representative prior to the start of the matches.
- (e) **Glove Style.** Only gloves of the “thumb-attached” or thumbless variety will be used, and all gloves must be laced with the knot on the top [or exterior] side of the wrist. Thumbless gloves may be worn only if both boxers in a particular match agree.
- (f) **Skinning of Gloves.** “Skinning” (the practice of tying gloves in such a manner as to force a portion of the padding back from the fist area to over the contestant’s wrist) is prohibited. Any glove tied in such a manner will be required to be re-tied.
- (g) **New Gloves: Main Event Bouts.** The promoter shall furnish new gloves for all main events.

- (9) **Taping of Gloves.** Unless otherwise permitted by the commission appointed supervisor, glove laces shall not be covered by tape except under the direct supervision of a commission approved inspector or official.

Authority: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET SEQ.

85-1-.07 Officials (Referees, Judges, and Timekeepers)

(1) General Provisions.

- (a) Each official must be licensed by the commission prior to working in any professional boxing match.
- (b) Each official will be assigned or appointed by the commission

- (c) Each official assigned to serve in a boxing match is a contract employee of the promoter of such match.
- (d) A referee and three judges shall officiate all boxing bouts. A majority vote of the judges will determine the outcome of the contest.
- (e) No active manager, promoter, trainer, or Contestant shall be allowed to officiate at any contest.
- (f) Any referee or judge assigned to a match who becomes unable to officiate shall notify the commission assigned supervisor before 2:00 pm on the day of the contest.

(2) Compensation for boxing referees and judges.

(a) All payments of fees, including travel expenses when required, to boxing referees and judges shall be paid by the promoter conducting the show and shall be on the following basis:

1. Payment shall be made to the commission appointed supervisor no later than at the weigh-in, and shall be by cashiers check or money order
2. When assigned by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission or the Commission Secretary, the fee for a chief official who will perform the duties of the commission representative shall be \$300.00
3. When the gross aggregate purse of the show does not exceed \$50,000, the fee for each referee shall be \$150.00 and the fee for each judge shall be \$150.00.
4. When the gross aggregate purse of the show is between \$50,000 and \$100,000, the fee for each chief official shall be \$400.00
5. When the gross aggregate purse of the show is between \$50,000 and \$100,000, the fee for each referee shall be \$200.00 and the fee for each judge shall be \$200.00.
6. When the gross aggregate purse of the show is between \$100,000 and \$300,000, the fee for each chief official shall be \$500.00
7. When the gross aggregate purse of the show is between \$100,000 and \$300,000, the fee for each referee shall be \$250.00 and the fee for each judge shall be \$250.00.
8. When the gross aggregate purse of the show exceeds \$300,000, the fee for the chief official, referees and judges shall be set by the Commission.
9. Except as provided in the 7(c) below, [sanctioned championship bouts], payment for the timekeeper and countdown person shall be the same as payment for each assigned judge.
10. Travel expenses for officials required to travel a distance of fifty (50) miles or greater to the site of a show shall be set by the commission appointed supervisor, provided that such amount shall not exceed the usual and customary amount allowed by state guidelines for state employees. Hotel rooms may be required, but only when the distance traveled exceeds 100 miles.

(b) In the event one [or more] of the referees assigned to a boxing show become incapacitated, or in an emergency situation where he or she become unavailable, the remaining refereed[s] shall referee the remaining contests of the program and, at the discretion of the commission assigned supervisor, may be compensated in a greater amount not to exceed the total amount originally intended for the unavailable referee[s]. In such a situation, the compensation to be paid to the incapacitated or unavailable referee shall be reduced accordingly.

(c) The compensation schedule set forth in (a) above shall not apply in a sanctioned championship bout. The commission shall set compensation to be paid to the boxing referees and judges officiating at sanctioned championship bouts. In making this determination, the commission may consider any standards or recommendations made by a recognized boxing association. Nevertheless, the commission shall retain full authority to set the compensation schedule for boxing referees and judges in championship bouts regardless of a recommendation by such an association.

(3) **Referees and Judges.**

(a) **General Provisions for referees.**

1. The referee is the chief official of the contest and has general supervision over the bout.
2. Before the contest, the referee shall ask the name of each contestant's chief second and shall hold that chief second responsible for the conduct of the contestant during the contest.
3. Before each bout the referee shall call the contestants and their chief second together for final instructions. Referees must then instruct boxing contestants that wrestling and rough tactics will not be tolerated, and instruct the boxers to protect themselves at all times. The contestants, after receiving final instructions, shall shake hands and retire to their corners.

(b) **Referee's Power.**

1. The referee is the only person empowered to stop a fight during or between rounds.
2. The referee may stop a bout by disqualifying both contestants if he or she reasonably believes the contestants are not boxing in earnest.

(c) **Referee's duties.**

1. **Pre-show Instructions.** Referees shall meet with the contestants and with each chief second appointed by the contestants prior to the beginning of the show and during that meeting shall inform each party of the rules applicable to each fight as well as the in-ring conduct expected from each contestant and second assisting in the corner of each contestant.
2. **Pre-Bout Confirmation of Officials and Physician.** Prior to calling for the sounding of the bell to begin each bout, the referee in the ring will confirm that the ringside physician as well as each judge assigned to the bout is in place at ringside.

3. **Touching Contestants.** The referee shall not touch the competing boxers except when one or both contestants fails to obey the break command.

4. **Count: How to Proceed.** The referee's count is the official count. When a contestant is knocked down, the referee shall order the opponent to retire to the furthest corner of the ring, pointing to that corner. Once the opponent has so retired to the farthest neutral corner the referee will immediately pick up the timekeeper's count. The referee shall then audibly announce the passing of each second, accompanying the count upward with motions of his or her arm, indicating the count with visual finger counts at the end of each second. The referee may cease counting if the opponent fails to remain in the neutral corner until the count is complete. No contestant who is knocked down shall be allowed to resume boxing until the referee has finished counting eight. The contestant may take the count either on the floor or standing.

5. **Count: Continue for Dazed Contestant.** Should a contestant who is down rise before the count of 10 and again go down without being struck then the referee shall resume the count where he or she stopped.

6. **Saved by the Bell.** A boxer cannot be saved by the bell in any round including the final round of any boxing contest.

(i) When any round ends before a contestant who was knocked down rises, the bell shall not ring and count shall continue. If the contestant rises before the count of ten, the bell shall ring ending the round.

(ii) The one-minute rest period, delayed by the count in (i) above, shall not begin until the bell has sounded ending the round.

(iii) A knockdown will not be awarded or scored if the blow was struck after the bell ending the round has sounded.

7. **Boxers knocked out of the ring.**

(i) Any boxer knocked out of the ring shall receive a twenty (20) second count.

(ii) During the time that any such boxer is outside the ring, he or she shall not be assisted by any member of their corner and such assistance, if offered shall end the match with that boxer losing by a technical knockout.

(iii) As a general precaution, to protect the safety of the boxer and to prevent any potential injury, a boxer knocked out of the ring may have her or her fall stopped or slowed by any person without penalty, provided that such assistance shall only be to prevent injury from the fall and not to assist the boxer in returning to the ring.

8. **Standing Eight Count.** There shall be no standing eight count.

9. **Knock-Out.** If the contestant fails to rise before the count of 10 the referee shall declare said contestant the loser by a knockout.

10. **Failure to Answer Bell.** A contestant shall not leave the ring during any 1 minute rest period between rounds. If any contestant fails or refuses to resume boxing when the bell sounds signaling the commencement of the next round, the referee shall award a decision of technical knockout to his opponent as of the round which has last been finished.

(i) If the circumstances indicate to the referee the need for investigation or punitive action, the referee may withhold giving a decision and may

recommend the purse or purses of either or both boxers should be withheld pending a commission hearing.

11. The referee shall have the authority to stop a contest at any time if one of the boxers is unable or no longer able to defend himself.

(4) **Fouls.** In general a referee has wide discretion in how to punish an offending boxer who fouls his or her opponent. If the referee determines that a foul is unintentional, he or she may simply caution the offending boxer to be attentive to rules concerning fouls. If the foul is determined to be intentional, the referee may issue a warning to the offending boxer, or may deduct one or more points from the offending boxer. **The referee may also disqualify any boxer who intentionally fouls his or her opponent.**

(a) Fouls, whether intentional or unintentional, are defined as follows:

1. Hitting below the belt;
2. Holding an opponent with one hand while hitting said opponent with the other hand, injuring the opponent;
3. Hitting an opponent who is “down” or who is getting up after being “down”;
4. Holding an opponent or deliberately maintaining a clinch;
5. Butting with the head or shoulder or using the knee, injuring the opponent;
6. Hitting with the inside or butt of the hands, the wrists, or the elbows, injuring the opponent;
7. Hitting or “flicking” with open gloves;
8. Wrestling or roughing at the ropes;
9. Purposely going down without being hit;
10. Striking deliberately at that part of the body surrounding the kidneys;
11. The use of abusive or profane language;
12. Jabbing an opponent’s eyes with the thumb of glove;
13. Rabbit punches (hitting the back of the head or neck);
14. Failure to obey the referee;
15. Any physical action which may injure a contestant other than sportsmanlike boxing.

(b) **Intentional Foul.** At the referee’s discretion, any foul defined in sub-paragraph (a) may be called “intentional.”

1. Upon the first occurrence of such intentional foul and during the same round as such intentional foul occurs, the referee may, at his or her discretion and without previous warning, disqualify the offending boxer or deduct one (1) point from the offending boxer.
2. Upon the second occurrence of such intentional foul, the referee may, at his or her discretion and without previous warning disqualify the offending boxer or deduct two (2) points from the offending boxer.
3. If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout immediately, the boxing causing the injury shall lose by disqualification.
4. If an intentional foul causes an injury and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee will immediately notify the judges of the foul and the injury, and deduct two (2) points from the boxer who caused the foul. **Point deduction for an intentional foul that causes injury to a boxer is mandatory.**

5. If a intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the bout being stopped later in the round, the injured boxer;

(i) If ahead on the score cards, will win by Technical Decision (TW), or

(ii) If behind or even on the score cards, the bout will be judges a Technical Draw (TD).

(c) **Unintentional Foul.** Except as provided below, no point will be deducted from the score or other disciplinary action taken against either boxer for an unintentional foul unless a previous warning has been given to the offending boxer. For the purposes of this subparagraph, unintentional fouls are actions as described by sub-paragraph (a) above, which in the judgment of the referee were not intentionally caused.

1. If an unintentional foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout result will be announced in accordance with the Uniform Championship Rules in effect at the time of the bout.

(Editor's Note: Currently the Uniform Championship Rules state that a bout stopped before four completed rounds will be reported as a "No Contest.")

2. If an unintentional foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout after four (4) rounds have been completed, the bout will result in a Technical Decision (TW), awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped.

(i) Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored. If no action has occurred, the round shall be scored as an even round.

(d) **Cuts and Lacerations:** A cut or laceration caused by either an intentional or an unintentional foul may only be treated during the one-minute break between rounds, provided however that the referee may call a brief time-out and request a physician's evaluation of the cut to determine if the bout shall be allowed to continue. During such time-out, the cure may not be treated by the physician or any other person.

(5) Scoring.

(a) **Contestant: When Considered Knocked Down.** A contestant shall be deemed down when, after a scoring blow was struck and:

1. Any part of the downed boxer's body, other than his or her feet, makes contact with the ring floor;

2. He or she is hanging over the ropes in a defenseless manner (a referee can count the boxer out either on the ropes or on the floor);

~~3. The referee calls for a "standing eight count."~~

(b) **Contestant: When Considered Not Knocked Down.** A knockdown will not be scored or counted when:

1. The referee indicated that the boxer fell after slipping or being tripped.

2. The referee or the commission supervisor determines that the blow was struck after the bell sounded ending the round.

(c) **Deducting Points for Fouls.**

1. A judge shall be careful to correctly deduct any point or points from the scorecard as commanded by the referee.

2. When one or more points is to be deducted from a boxer's score, the judge shall first record his or her actual score for the round (gross points before any points are deducted) and shall then deduct the appropriate number of points from that score to arrive at a net score for the round. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions in (d) below [10 Point Must System], the net-score for the round, after points are deducted, may result in neither boxer receiving a 10-point score.~~

(d) The 10 Point Must System.

1. The 10 Point Must system shall be used as the standard scoring of a bout.

(6) Low Blows: Intentional or Unintentional.

(a) Recuperation Time. Any contestant struck by a low blow may, at the discretion and after consultation with the ring physician, be given up to five (5) minutes to recuperate.

1. During such recuperation the injured boxer may sit on a stool inside the ring, or in a neutral corner, but may not rest in his assigned corner.

2. Only the referee is allowed to assist the injured boxer during the five minute rest period.

3. The uninjured fighter, during any such rest period, may not be assisted and shall remain in the neutral corner furthest from the boxer.

(b) Bout Stopped by Low Blow: Decision. Except as provided in sub-paragraph (4) (a) (15) [unsportsmanlike conduct] of this rule, no contestant injured by a low blow may be awarded the contest.

1. If a contestant falls to the ring floor or otherwise indicates an unwillingness to continue because of a claim of a low-blow, he shall be declared the loser by a technical knockout.

(7) Timekeepers.

(a) Number Assigned per Bout. Two licensed timekeepers, assigned by the commission, shall be required at each event; one to keep time and one to count for the knockdowns.

(b) Duration of Rounds. Except as provided in (3)(c)6 above [Saved by the Bell], the timekeeper shall ensure that each round featuring male boxers last no more and no less than three minutes, and that each round featuring female boxers lasts no more and no less than two minutes.

(c) Announcement Responsibilities.

1. The gong shall be sounded at the beginning and at the end of each round. Except as provided in (d) below [emergency suspension of round], the timekeeper shall not sound the gong during the process of the round.

(i) Regardless of the sounding of the gong, the referee in the ring is the sole authority to announce when the round begins. Each boxer will remain in their assigned corner. The referee, once he or she is satisfied that each boxer is prepared to begin and that no condition exists which may present a medical hazard to either boxer, will announce "FIGHT."

(ii) The timekeeper will immediately start the clock at the referee's command of "FIGHT."

2. Timekeepers shall alert the referee by striking the table 10 seconds prior to the end of each round.

3. Timekeepers shall blow their whistle 10 seconds prior to the end of each one minute rest period.

(d) **Countdown Responsibilities.** When a boxer is down, the timekeeper shall rise and start his or her count, counting one for each second until 10 is reached. After the referee has taken control of the count, the timekeeper shall be seated and cease counting.

(e) **Emergency Suspension of Round: Responsibility to Announce.** If the referee is absent from the ring or temporarily incapacitated the timekeeper shall immediately sound the gong for temporary discontinuance of the contest.

(8) Chief Official

(a) Chief Officials will assume the role of the commission representative for events to which they are assigned

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET. SEQ.

85-1-.08 Conduct of Bout.

(1) Boxers.

(a) **False Name.** No boxer shall enter any agreement or contract with a promoter, compete in any match, or otherwise participate in any capacity under any name which does not appear on his or her Federal ID card.

(b) **Prohibition if Under Suspension.** No boxer shall enter any agreement or contract with a promoter, compete, or attempt to compete in any match in Georgia when such boxer knows that his or her boxing license issued by this commission or by any other boxing commission is under suspension.

(c) **Pregnancy.** No boxer shall enter any agreement or contract with a promoter, compete, or attempt to compete in any match in Georgia when such boxer knows that she is pregnant.

(d) **Weigh-In.** In all contests or exhibitions, contestants shall weigh in at a previously agreed upon time and in the presence of an authorized commission representative, provided however that such weigh-in shall not take place less than six hours nor more than 36 hours prior to the contest or exhibition.

1. All official weigh-ins, unless otherwise agreed to in advance by the commission, shall be conducted outside the view of the general public.

2. Ceremonial weigh-ins may be conducted in such manner and at such place as agreed to by all parties involved in the promotion or match.

(e) **Over-weight boxers.** The use of any herbal, prescription or non-prescription diuretic by any boxer within twelve hours prior to the weigh-in is strictly prohibited.

1. **(135/2)** No over-contract-weight contestant appearing at the initial weigh-in and weighing 135 pounds or less will be allowed to lose in excess of two pounds in order to make contract weight. Any such boxer must be re-examined by the

ringside physician and receive clearance from the ringside physician prior to entering the ring.

2. **(160/3)** No over-contract-weight contestant appearing at the initial weigh-in and weighing 135 pounds but less than 160 pounds will be allowed to lose in excess of three pounds in order to make contract weight. Any such boxer must be re-examined by the ringside physician and receive clearance from the ringside physician prior to entering the ring.
3. **(190/4)** No over-contract-weight contestants appearing at the initial weigh-in and weighing 160 pounds but less than 190 pounds will be allowed to lose in excess of four pounds in order to make contract weight. Any such boxer must be re-examined by the ringside physician and receive clearance from the ringside physician prior to entering the ring.

(f) **Weight Classes.** Weight classes for professional boxers shall be:

1. Flyweight—112 lbs. or under
2. Bantamweight—over 112 lbs.—118 lbs.
3. Featherweight—over 118 lbs.—126 lbs.
4. Lightweight—over 126 lbs.—135 lbs.
5. Welterweight—over 135 lbs.—147 lbs.
6. Middleweight—over 147 lbs.—160 lbs.
7. Light Heavyweight—over 160 lbs.—175 lbs.
8. Cruiserweight—over 175 lbs.—200 lbs.
9. Heavyweight—over 200 lbs.

Editor's Note: Championship Belts will be awarded according to the weigh classifications recognized by the sanctioning body awarding the belt.

(g) **Weight Spread.** No boxing contest or exhibition may be scheduled, and no boxer may engage in a boxing contest or exhibition without the approval of the commission or the commission's representative if the difference in weight between the boxers exceeds the following allowance.

1. Up to 118 lbs—not more than 3 pounds
2. 118 lbs to 126 lbs—not more than 5 pounds
3. 126 lbs.—135 lbs.—not more than 6 pounds
4. 135 lbs.—147 lbs.—not more than 7 pounds
5. 147 lbs.—200 lbs.—not more than 9 pounds
6. 200 lbs. and over (Heavyweight)—no limit

- (i) Any agreement to proceed with a boxing contest or exhibition where the weight spread exceeds the limit established in this rule shall be entered on each participant's bout contract and shall be initialed or signaled by such participant.

(h) **Appearance Time.** All contestants must be in the dressing room at least 60 minutes before the event is scheduled to begin.

(i) **Ring Attire.** Boxers shall appear and compete in proper ring attire.

1. All boxers will be required to wear such protective gear as deemed necessary by the commission.

(i) Male boxers shall wear a standard kidney protection belt designed for male boxers which includes a groin protection cup of such construction as to prevent any claim of injury caused by an unintentional blow.

(I) This gear shall be firmly adjusted and tied prior to entering the ring.

(II) During the course of the match the upper belt of this gear may not rise above the trunk waist line so as to protect the boxer from normal body blows.

(III) The use during any boxing match of a protective belt commonly referred to as a training protective belt (which incorporates an oversized torso protection shield) is prohibited.

(ii) Female boxers may wear a standard kidney protection belt designed for female boxers and which provides the necessary pelvic and ovary protection and shall wear a sports bra with an interior pocket which can, at the option of the boxer, hold an appropriately sized breast protector of a “turtle-shell” style.

(I) This gear shall be firmly adjusted and tied prior to entering the ring.

(II) During the course of the match the upper belt of this gear may not rise above the trunk waist line so as to protect the boxer from normal body blows.

2. The belt-line of the trunks shall not extend above the waistline and the hem may not extend below the knee.

3. Boxers in the same match should wear different color trunks.

4. Each boxer shall use a mouthpiece and no round may start without a boxer’s mouthpiece in place.

- (i) 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 immediate action.
 - (ii) Points may be deducted by the referee, if the referee feels the mouthpiece is purposely spit out.
5. Shoes shall be of soft material and shall not be fitted with spikes, cleats, hard soles, or hard heels. Shoe lace knots will be secured with adhesive tape.
6. When deemed necessary by the referee all boxers shall have their hair secured in a manner that does not interfere with the vision and safety of either contestant.
 - (i) Provided however that no object can be worn to secure the contestant's hair which may cause injury to either contestant.
7. The wearing of body jewelry will be strictly prohibited during all contests.
8. The wearing of any facial or body cosmetic is strictly prohibited during all contests.
- (j) **Profanity.** Use of profanity by a boxer or his or her manager or second is prohibited and if indulged in after a warning by the referee or commission representative the offender, if a boxer may be disqualified and the match given to his or her opponent, or if a manager or second such person may be ejected from the ring or arena and a penalty point may be deducted from the boxer.
- (k) **Contestants: Entering Ring.** All contestants must be ready to enter the ring immediately upon the conclusion of the preceding bout.
 1. Failure to enter the ring when requested and, after warning by the inspector or commission representative supervising the match, may result in a fine not to exceed one-half of the contracted purse amount.
- (l) **Contestants: Demeanor During the Round.** Each boxer shall take care to avoid fouling their opponent or illegally striking their opponent.
 1. Regulations against fouls, as defined in these rules will be strictly enforced.
 2. Wrestling and/or roughhousing in the ring will not be tolerated. Any boxer who intentionally lifts his or her opponent and then drops such opponent on the ring floor will be subject to immediate disqualification.
 3. Boxers are at all times to follow the instructions of the referee. Any call for a break should immediately result in a clean break.

- (m) **Penalty for Disqualification.** Any boxer who is disqualified for any reason by the referee or the commission representative supervising the show and is therefore unable to fulfill the terms of their contract will forfeit their entire purse and will be subject to a fine not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of the contracted amount of the purse.
1. Any boxer who has forfeited their purse because of a loss by disqualification (LDSQ) has a right to appeal during either the next two scheduled commission meetings, and must so notify the commission in writing within fifteen days of the disqualification of their intent to appeal. Failure to notify the commission within the fifteen day period of the intention to appeal the forfeiture will be tantamount to a waiver of any further appeal rights.
 2. The contracted purse amount withheld from any boxer because of disqualification will be held by the promoter or be held in escrow by the commission until such time as the appeal is heard or waived.
 - (i) Monies held in escrow by the commission pursuant to this rule are the property of the promoter unless after an appropriate appeal an amount is awarded by the commission to the boxer.
 - (ii) After the appeal hearing or acceptance of a waiver negating any appeal hearing monies held in escrow will be distributed appropriately.
- (n) Any boxer can be fined, have his or her license suspended or have his or her license revoked in the event that a majority of the commission determines that the boxer did not utilize his or her best efforts in a match.

(2) **Seconds.**

- (a) **Number Allowed.** Each boxer must have two or three seconds, except if the commission permits otherwise. Each contestant shall have one chief second and each chief must have a complete first aid kit. The seconds must be neatly attired. Persons holding a manager's or trainer's license may act as seconds without the necessity of a second's license.
- (b) **Leaving the Ring: When.** Seconds shall leave the ring enclosure at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle. They shall leave the ring platform promptly when the gong sounds for the beginning of each round and immediately remove all obstructions, including stools, buckets, and any other corner equipment. None of these articles shall be replaced on the ring floor until the gong has sounded the end of a round.
- (c) **Assisting Contestant During Bout: Prohibited.** During the progress of the rounds, seconds shall not throw water on the contestant or in any way assist or interfere the contestant.
- (d) **Throwing Towel: Prohibited.** Seconds are forbidden from tossing a towel into the ring in token defeat of their boxer.

(e) **Ejection and Disqualification.** Violations of the provisions of this subparagraph may be followed by ejection of the offender from the ring corner, and may result in the disqualification of their contestant by the referee.

(3) **Between Round Care.** Between round care of a boxer will be strictly enforced by the commission.

(a) **Second: Only One Allowed in Ring.** Only one person will be allowed in the ring with the boxer during the rest period between rounds and no more than two people, exclusive to the commission inspector and approved media personnel, will be allowed on the apron during that time.

(b) **Swinging Towel: Prohibited.** Fans may be used between rounds but the swinging of towels is prohibited.

(c) **Corner Kit: Substances Allowed.** The use of an unapproved preparation during the match is prohibited. The only substances and materials allowed in the corner are:

1. Ice;
2. Water;
3. Cotton swabs;
4. Gauze pads;
5. Clean towels;
6. Vaseline or surgical lubricant approved by the commission;
7. Enswell;
8. Avitine or Adrenalene
9. Athletic tape as approved by the commission;

(i) Any variance to (3) (c) must be requested in writing and filed with the commission which, after consultation with a medical consultant or the ringside physician, will render its decision on the request.

(d) **Corner Kit: Substances Prohibited.** Substances such as Monsell's solution, other iron or bismuth compounds, collodion, silver nitrate, ammonia or smelling salts will not be used and the use of such modalities will result in disqualification, suspension or fine of the boxer, manager and/or trainer.

(e) **Excessive Lubricant.** The use of excessive lubricant on the body, arms or face of a boxer will not be tolerated.

(f) **Re-hydration of Contestant During Bout.** Only water will be permitted to ease dehydration of a boxer between rounds. Honey, electrolyte glucose, sugar or any other substance mixed with water is prohibited.

(4) **After the Bout.**

- (a) **Contestants to Leave Ring.** When the decision of the referee or judges has been announced both contestants and their seconds shall at once leave the ring and retire to their dressing rooms.
- (b) **Decision: How to Announce.** In all preliminary bouts up to and including the semi-main event, the announcer will announce if the decision is “unanimous,” “a majority decision,” or “a draw.” In main events and championship contests the total points given each contestant by the three individual judges will be announced.
- (c) **Decision: How to Change.** A decision rendered at the termination of any boxing contest is final and shall not be changed unless following the rendition of a decision the commission appointed secretary determines that any one of the following occurred:
1. There was collusion or fraud affecting the result of any contest, or,
 2. The compilation of the score cards of the referee and judges reveals a clerical or mathematical error which caused the decision to be given to the wrong boxer.
 3. There was a violation of the laws or rules and regulations governing professional boxing in Georgia which affected the results of any contest.
 4. The commission supervisor may in his or her discretion change a referee’s decision if in his or her judgement a palpable and self-evident error has been committed.
- (d) **Decision: How to Appeal Commission Supervisor’s Ruling.**
1. A petition to change a bout decision or the ruling of the commission appointed supervisor shall be in writing and filed by a boxer or the boxer’s manager within five (5) business days from the date the decision was rendered.
 2. If a petition to change a bout decision or the ruling of the commission appointed supervisor is not filed in writing within five (5) business days of the decision, the commissioner may, upon the vote of no less than a majority of the commissioners present, hold a hearing to change the decision at any time.
 3. If the commission determines that any of the above occurred with regards to any contest then the decision rendered shall be changed as the commission may direct, and shall notify the national registry within two (2) business days of the change.
 4. The commission’s findings of fact and rule in such matters shall be final and may not be appealed.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET SEQ.

(1) Application for Promoter’s License.

- (a) The promoter’s application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B and such other questions as are required by the commission. These questions shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. Name, mailing and/or residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the person making application. If the “person” making application is a business entity then the nature of the enterprise shall be disclosed along with certain officers’ names.
 - 2. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to ascertain if the applicant has an existing criminal record along with certain demographic questions necessary for verification purposes.
 - 3. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to ascertain applicant’s prior professional or amateur sports licensing activity.
- (b) The application for a promoter’s license will be signed by the applicant, or in the case of an organization an officer of that organization. Said signature and application shall be signed in the presence of a commission representative or signed in the presence of and certified by a notary public.

(2) Application for a Match Permit

- (a) The application for a match permit shall be printed in such a manner as to be clearly differentiated from any other application form used by the commission. The match permit application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B and such other questions as are required by the commission. The questions shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. Date, time and location of the proposed event.
 - 2. Name, mailing address and residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the promoter making application. If the promoter making application is a business entity then the nature of the enterprise shall be disclosed along with certain officers’ names.
 - 3. Name and appropriate telephone numbers for the matchmaker engaged to assist with the promotion of the proposed event.
 - 4. Questions ascertaining a brief description of the proposed event, including but not limited to the proposed “fight-card.”

- (b) The application for a match permit will be signed by the promoter making application for said match permit, or in the case of an organization an officer of such promotion organization. Said signature and application shall be signed in the presence of a commission representative, or signed in the presence of and certified by a notary public.

(3) Applications for Surety Bond.

- (a) Two separate security bond application forms have been approved by the commission. One such form is associated with the promoter's applications, the other such form is associated with match permit applications.
- (b) Only forms approved by the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission (Georgia Boxing Commission) may be submitted to the commission as evidence of compliance of the security bond requirements in O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B. Said forms include language to ensure payment of certain financial obligations incurred by the promoter.

(4) Application for a Matchmaker's License.

- (a) The matchmaker's application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter B and such other questions as are required by the commission. These questions shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. Name, mailing and/or residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the person making the application. If the "person" making application is a business entity then the nature of the enterprise shall be disclosed along with the officers' names.
 - 2. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to determine if the applicant has an existing criminal record along with certain demographic questions necessary for verification purposes.
 - 3. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to ascertain applicant's prior professional or amateur sports licensing activity.
- (b) The application for a matchmaker's license shall be signed by the applicant, or in the case of an organization an officer of that organization. Said signature and application shall be signed in the presence of a commission representative, or signed in the presence of and certified by a notary public.

(5) Application for Contestant's License.

- (a) The Contestant's application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B and such other questions as are required by the commission. These questions shall include, but not be limited to:

1. The national identification number assigned by a boxing registry approved by the Association of Boxing Commissions to issue such number.
2. Name, mailing and/or residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the person making application.
3. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to determine if the applicant has an existing criminal record along with certain demographic questions necessary for verification purposes.
4. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to determine the applicant's prior medical history and current medical status.

(b) Each application for a Contestant's license shall be signed by the applicant, or by said applicant's authorized agent or manager.

(6) Application for Manager's License.

(a) The manager's application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B and such other questions as are required by the commission. These questions shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Name, mailing and/or residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the person making applications. If the "person" making the application is a business entity then the nature of the enterprise shall be disclosed along with certain officers' names.
2. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to determine if the applicant has an existing criminal record along with certain demographic questions necessary for verification purposed.
3. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to ascertain applicant's prior experience as a manager.

(b) Each application for a manager's license shall be signed by the applicant.

(7) Application for Official's or Assistant's License.

(a) This application shall ask all questions required by O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapter 4B and such other questions as are required by the commission. These questions shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Name, mailing and/or residence address, and appropriate telephone numbers for the person making application.

2. Certain questions deemed necessary by the commission to determine if the applicant has an existing criminal record along with demographic questions necessary for verification purposes.
- (b) Each application for an official's or assistant's license from the commission shall be signed by the applicant.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET SEQ.

85-1-.10 Championship Rules

(1) Functions of Commission.

- (a) The commission shall have and exercise sole discretion, management, control, and supervision over all professional boxing matches in the state of Georgia.
- (b) The commission shall enforce such rules and regulations as shall be necessary or proper for the holding of professional boxing matches in the state of Georgia.
- (c) It is within the commission's power and authority to prescribe and enforce penalties for any violations of these rules or the statute governing the regulation of professional boxing in the state of Georgia, subject to judicial review.

(2) Investigations, Hearings, and Subpoena Power.

- (a) The commission or any agent designated by it may make investigations and the commission may hold hearings and issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses.
- (b) The commission may order the production of books, papers or records for any hearing.
- (c) When a hearing takes place, the commission may administer oaths to and examine any witness for the purpose of examining the question for which the hearing has been called.
- (d) Unless otherwise controlled by law or these rules, if the commission finds a violation of its rules or the statute governing the regulation of professional boxing in this state has occurred, the commission may impose a disciplinary fine of not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$25,000.00 for the first offense and not less than \$750.00 nor more than \$75,000.00 for any subsequent offense. In addition to any fine, the commission may suspend or revoke any license.
- (e) Within thirty days after the imposition of a fine and/or suspension or revocation by the commission, a licensee is entitled to judicial review, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-19.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. 43-4B ET SEQ.

Appendix A Medical Fitness & Evaluation

- 1) Any boxer previously suffering subdural hematoma or intracerebral hematoma (regardless of the cause) must report such to the physician. **Rule 2, (7)**
- 2) All boxers, prior to being approved to compete in any given match, must pass a thorough pre-fight physical. Pre-fight physicals are usually conducted at the weigh in. **Rule 2, (7); Rule 4,(1)**
- 3) All female boxers must submit to a pre-fight pregnancy test. **Rule 4,(2)**
- 4) Boxer with extended period of inactivity (defined as 36 months or greater) must complete a cardiovascular evaluation and a neurological examination. **Rule 2, (7), Rule 4,(1)**
- 5) Boxers with 200 or more fought rounds (according to their FightFax record) must complete a neurological examination and a dilated ophthalmological examination. **Rule 2, (7), Rule 4,(1)**
- 6) Boxers 38 years old or older (if approved by the commission) must complete a neurological examination, a dilated ophthalmological examination, and a cardiovascular evaluation. **Rule 2, (7)**

Appendix B Weigh-In Considerations

- 1) Weigh-Ins generally take place the day before the show. Any Contestant not weighed by the commission six hours prior to the scheduled beginning of the show will not be approved to appear on the card. **Rule 8, (1)**
- 2) All Contestants are required to be at the weigh-in. **Rule 8,(1)**
- 3) All bout agreements must be tendered to commission supervisor prior to weighing, and no Contestant will be allowed on the scales without having completed the required license application. **Rule 2, (1), Rule 5,(6)**
- 4) Weight loss after the first weighing (when a Contestant fails to make contracted weight) will be strictly monitored by the commission and any Contestant losing more than the allowable number of pounds will be removed from the card. **Rule 8, (1)**
- 5) Weight spread between competitors (at the time of the weigh-in) will be strictly monitored by the commission and any match in which the competitors weight range exceeds commission guidelines may be removed from the card. Competitors mutually agreeing to waive the weight-spread rule will affirm their agreement in writing on their bout agreement contract. **Rule 8, (1)**

Appendix C Forms

Appendix D

Application Process

- 1) Promoter's license application and Match Permit application must be received no less than thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of the show. **Rule 2, (3); Rule 2, (6)**
- 2) Applications for a promoter's license or match permit must be complete and must be signed by the applicant and notarized by a notary public, or signed by the applicant in the presence of a commission representative. **Rule 2, (3); Rule 2, (6)**
- 3) Applications must be accompanied by a security bond in an amount to be designated by the commission representative.. **Rule 2, (3); Rule 2, (6); Rule 3**
- 4) Promoters will be required to meet with the full commission prior to having their application reviewed. **Rule 2, (6)**
- 5) Promoter's application, if the application is submitted by a partnership or a corporation must include a separate "questions" page for each officer or partner, must be notarized, must be submitted with a Promoter's Bond, and must be submitted with a cashier's check in the amount of \$50.00. **Rule 2, (1); Rule 3**
- 6) Match Permit application must be submitted with a Match Permit Bond, a copy of the medical insurance binder, a disclosure as to who is supplying the ring and what brand of gloves will be used, must be notarized, and must be submitted with a cashier's check in the amount of \$50.00. **Rule 2, (6); Rule 3; Rule 6, (1); Rule 6, (8)**

Imperative Statement of Rules

- 1) **Temporary tattoos and other body colorizations** are a violation of the commission's rule prohibiting the use of cosmetics by any boxer, and as such will not tolerated. Any boxer displaying a temporary tattoo will, prior to entering the ring, be given the opportunity to wash the tattoo or colorization off or otherwise have it removed. Failure to remove the tattoo or colorization will constitute a violation of the commission's rules, and will result in the offending boxer being disqualified from participating in the match. The match will be scored as a loss by disqualification (LDSQ) for the offending boxer. **Rule 8, (1) (i) 8**
- 2) **Each round begins with the referee's announcement "FIGHT,"** not with the sound of the gong. The time-keeper will start the clock with the announcement "FIGHT," then and only then beginning the three or two minutes of action. Each round ends with the sounding of the gong and any blow struck after the sound of the gong may result in a penalty against the offending boxer. **Rule 7, (7) (c)**
- 3) **A boxer cannot be saved by the bell in any round.** If a boxer is down at the sound of the gong, the referee will continue his or her count until the boxer rises or until the count of ten is sounded. If the

boxer rises prior to the count of ten the referee will proceed with his or her duty to ensure that it is safe for a boxer to continue the match. During this time, the standing boxer will remain in a neutral corner. Once the referee determines that it should be safe for the match to continue he or she will face the timekeeper and sound “STOP” at which time the timekeeper will sound the gong a second time and will begin the one-minute rest period. A boxer who does not stand prior to the count of ten will lose the bout by knockout (KOBY) “at the end of round ____.” A boxer who does stand prior to the count of ten, but is unable to continue the bout will lose the bout by a technical knockout (TKBY) “at the end of round ____.” **Rule 7, (3)**

- 4) **A cut may not be treated during the action portion of any round.** A brief time-out may be called by the referee if a cut appears severe and the referee believes that it should be checked by the physician. During such a time-out the physician may only check the cut (to advise the referee if the bout should be stopped). Neither the physician nor any corner person may treat the cut (to advise the referee if the bout should be stopped). Neither the physician nor any corner person may treat the cut during any called time-out. If a corner worker attempts to stop the bleeding or treat the cut, the injured boxer will lose by disqualification (LDSQ). If the bout is stopped and no disqualification was called by the referee, and the cut was caused by a head-butt, the appropriate foul rule will be invoked. **Rule 7, (4)**