

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

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Sub-Chapter 1

Organizational Rule

24.117.101 BOARD ORGANIZATION (1) The board of athletics hereby adopts and incorporates the organizational rules of the department of labor and industry as listed in Chapter 1 of this title. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 2-4-201, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Sub-Chapter 2

Procedural Rules

24.117.201 PROCEDURAL RULES (1) The board of athletics hereby adopts and incorporates the procedural rules of the department of labor and industry as listed in Chapter 2 of this title. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 2-4-201, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.202 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RULES (1) The board of athletics hereby adopts and incorporates by this reference the public participation rules of the department of commerce as listed in Chapter 2 of this title. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 2-3-103, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148)

Subchapter 3

Definitions

24.117.301 DEFINITIONS (1) "Amateur" means an individual who has never been a professional boxer or professional wrestler, as defined in this chapter, as well as an individual who has never received nor competed for any purse, either for participating in any boxing contest or exhibition or for the expenses of training.

(2) "Bout or athletic event" means any semiprofessional or professional boxing, club boxing, kickboxing or wrestling match, exhibition, contest, show or tournament.

(3) "City" means any city, town, village or county location within the state of Montana.

(4) "Contestant" means any participant in a semiprofessional or professional boxing, club boxing, kickboxing or wrestling bout or athletic event who receives remuneration directly or indirectly as consideration of their performance.

(5) "Club" or "promoter" means any person, club, corporation, association or organization.

(6) "Club boxing" is distinct from amateur boxing, professional boxing and elimination-type events and is conducted pursuant to the rules contained in this subchapter.

(7) "Kickboxing", "full contact karate" means the use of hands, feet or other striking techniques which are utilized to disable or cause injury to an opponent in a contest, exhibition or performance.

(8) "Manager" means a person in overall charge of a boxer and has the executive function of planning, organizing, coordinating, directing, contracting, and supervising any scheduling or business activity of a boxer and is responsible for the results of such activity.

(9) "Mud wrestling" is interpreted by the board to include means wrestling in Jell-o, natural dirt and water, polyurethane, synthetic, or other unnatural or foreign substances. This rule is advisory only.

(10) "Professional" means a person seeking compensation or reward by participating in an athletic event. A person seeking a license as a "professional" must first truthfully execute a sworn affidavit, which establishes his qualifications.

(11) "Recognized amateur association", for the purposes of 23-3-404, MCA, means the United States Amateur Boxing, Inc.

(12) "Ring generalship" means having the ability to quickly grasp and take advantage of every opportunity offered, the capacity to cope with all kinds of situations which may arise, and to foresee and neutralize an opponent's method to adopt a style of boxing at which the contestant is not particularly skillful.

(13) "Ringside health care professional" means a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.), a licensed physician-assistant certified, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse (nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist, or clinical nurse specialist).

(14) "Semiprofessional" means a person seeking compensation or reward by participating in an athletic event who has not previously competed professionally. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1986 MAR p. 200, Eff. 2/14/86; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 4

General

24.117.401 GENERAL INFORMATION (1) The mailing address of the board is: Board of Athletics, 301 South Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200513, Helena, MT 59620-0513. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.402 FEES

(1) Promoters	\$500
(a) Bonding requirements are in addition to the fee	
(2) Boxers/kickboxers	45
(3) Wrestlers	45
(4) Referees	45
(5) Managers/trainers	45
(6) Seconds	45
(7) Judges	45
(8) Minimum kicking requirement	45
(9) Club boxing promoter	250
(10) Fees are nonrefundable.	

(11) Additional standardized fees are specified in ARM 24.101.403. (History: 23-3-405, 37-1-134, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 37-1-134, 37-1-141, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 1670, Eff. 6/24/94; AMD, 1999 MAR p. 1506, Eff. 7/2/99; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3603, Eff. 12/27/02; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1583, Eff. 7/1/06.)

24.117.403 PROHIBITIONS (1) The board will not sanction and will seek to enjoin the following bouts and athletic events:

(a) in which more than two boxing contestants are to appear in the ring at the same time; and

(b) between members of the opposite sex. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1985 MAR p. 1608, Eff. 11/1/85; AMD, 1986 MAR p. 200, Eff. 2/14/86; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 1483, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.404 CONTRACTS AND PENALTIES (1) Contracts between promoters, managers, semiprofessional or professional boxing, club boxing, kickboxing, and wrestling organizations and contestants shall be completed on forms approved by the board. The original or a true copy of each contract shall be filed with the board at least 24 hours prior to the date of the event, unless otherwise allowed by the board. Contestants must sign contracts with their legal names.

(2) Letters, including faxed letters, showing acceptance of terms pending the signing of a contract, shall be considered as an agreement between the contestant, the contestant's manager, and the organization. No verbal agreements will be permitted.

(3) When a party to a contract under which performance has begun finds it impossible or inconvenient to carry out the terms of the contract, or intends, for other reasons, to violate a condition of the contract with another licensee, the party shall notify the board immediately. Failure to provide such information may result in disciplinary action by the board.

(4) Except in club boxing, when a contestant under contract appears at weigh-in time, is ready to fulfill the contract, and neither an opponent nor a substitute appears, the promoter must pay the contestant the contract guarantee unless a forfeit is provided.

(5) The amount of the forfeit fee must be 25 percent or the amount of the contract guarantee, whichever is greater.

(6) If a contestant fails, without good cause, to comply with the terms of a contract with a promoter, the contestant may be subject to disciplinary action by the board.

(7) If a promoter fails, without good cause, to comply with the terms of a contract with a contestant, the promoter may be subject to disciplinary action by the board. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-603, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 1670, Eff. 6/24/94; AMD, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.405 MEDICAL ADVISOR (1) The board shall appoint a medical advisor to provide the board competent medical advice regarding issues of health and safety implicated in the course and conduct of boxing contests. The duties of the medical advisor include:

(a) preparing and submitting appropriate standards for the physical and mental examination of contestants;

(b) advising the board of the physical or mental fitness of a contestant at the board's request.

(2) The medical advisor may participate in board deliberations, but shall not be permitted to vote on the board's adoption or rejection of the recommendation. The medical advisor shall submit recommendations in writing to the board and any recommendations accepted by the board shall be adopted through a formal rulemaking process.

(3) The board may request the medical advisor to attend specific athletic events. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1998 MAR p. 2958, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.406 GENERAL LICENSING REQUIREMENTS (1) All referees, seconds, managers, contestants, promoters and judges must be licensed by the board.

(2) All licenses end on the date set by ARM 24.101.413 and are nonrenewable.

(3) Applications and fees shall be received by the board prior to or on the date of the athletic event.

(a) Application must be on forms provided by the board and include a photograph of the applicant or contestant.

(4) Contests staged on federal or tribal land within the state of Montana, shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be agreed upon between the governing bodies concerned and the Board of Athletics.

(5) No person shall charge or receive an admission fee for exhibiting within this state a telecast of any bout or athletic event as defined at ARM 24.117.301, held in this state, without a permit issued by the board. Permits are required for simultaneous telecasts, closed circuit telecasts or any transmission of any kind, including but not limited to, transmission via microwave, closed circuit, satellite or fiber optic link.

(6) Except in club boxing, all contestants shall submit a certified laboratory report documenting that the contestant has, within 30 days prior to each bout or match in which the contestant is scheduled to appear, been administered an HIV test for the presence of AIDS antibodies and that the results of such test were negative. (History: 37-1-141, 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-502, 37-1-141, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 1670, Eff. 6/24/94; AMD, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3603, Eff. 12/27/02; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1583, Eff. 7/1/06.)

Rules 24.117.407 and 24.117.408 reserved

24.117.409 BOUT APPROVAL (1) The board shall approve all boxing contests and bouts. Board decisions are final.

(2) The board shall consider the following information and shall approve only those bouts where the information is similar between boxers and the board has no concerns regarding the safety and welfare of either boxer:

- (a) boxing record;
- (b) boxing experience;
- (c) boxing skill; and
- (d) physical condition.

(3) The board shall notify the promoter/matchmaker when a boxing bout/contest is approved. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.410 and 24.117.411 reserved

24.117.412 FEE ABATEMENT (1) The Board of Athletics adopts and incorporates by reference the fee abatement rule of the Department of Labor and Industry found at ARM 24.101.301. (History: 37-1-131, MCA; IMP, 17-2-302, 17-2-303, 37-1-134, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 5

Promoter Regulations

Rule 24.117.501 reserved

24.117.502 PROMOTER-MATCHMAKER (REPEALED) (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-601, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 1670, Eff. 6/24/94; AMD, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3603, Eff. 12/27/02; REP, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.503 PROMOTER (1) Applicants for a promoters license shall apply on forms prescribed by the board and shall furnish the following information:

- (a) names and addresses of three references (excluding relatives, present employer, or employees) who can attest to the applicant's experience and integrity;
- (b) proof of financial stability by providing a \$5000 surety bond; and
- (c) proof of applicant's familiarity with the laws and administrative rules of the board, as evidenced by attestation on the application.

(2) Promoters shall:

- (a) obtain sanction for each athletic event at least 14 days prior to each specific event and before any ticket sales or publicity issuance;
- (b) deliver to the board a surety bond in the amount of \$5000, prior to issuance of a promoter's license. The bond shall be forfeited to the board as a penalty bond upon a board finding that the promoter has violated any provision of applicable board statutes or rules;
- (c) report on the total number of tickets sold, the total of gross receipts and such other information as prescribed on forms provided by the board, within 24 hours after the conclusion of any live or televised athletic event;
 - (i) advance ticket sales must be included in the gross receipts; and
 - (ii) complimentary, sponsor, or other gifted tickets must be included in the gross receipts;

- (d) announce all substitutions as soon as substitutions are known;
- (e) notify the board that an athletic event is to be telecast, televised, or broadcast in any manner, including but not limited to:
 - (i) television;
 - (ii) radio;
 - (iii) any transmission via a cable television system;
 - (iv) any transmission via closed circuit or satellite; or
 - (v) any other method of limited distribution;
- (f) provide the names and weights of all contestants scheduled for an athletic event to the board at least ten days before the event. For club boxing events, preflight notification of names and weights at the board office is not required;
- (g) ensure that adequate public safety is maintained;
- (h) provide all materials necessary for the athletic event, including ring, steps, stools, water buckets, resin, bell, buzzer or whistle, timer, gloves, gauze, and tape for hand wraps;
- (i) provide adequate, separate dressing room facilities for male and female contestants;
- (j) comply with any and all state or local health rules regarding sanitary conditions of dressing rooms, showers, towels, or other equipment;
- (k) provide for the attendance of a ringside health care professional and compensate the ringside health care professional for such attendance at all athletic events;
- (l) compensate the officials for services rendered at each event in addition to reasonable room and board and mileage, if any;
- (m) respect the authority of the board and its representatives;
- (n) ensure that the rules of the board are strictly observed and carried out;
- (o) make arrangements to have an ambulance or medical personnel with appropriate resuscitation equipment be continuously present on site for each event;
- (p) provide security guards who either hold a license issued by the state of Montana or are law enforcement officers; and
- (q) provide liability insurance to adequately protect the contestants, officials, and the attending public, and shall furnish proof of such insurance to the board prior to sanction being granted. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-601, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 6

Contest Regulations

24.117.601 CONTEST REGULATIONS (1) Smoking will not be permitted at athletic events licensed by the board, except outdoor athletic events. Signs reading "NO SMOKING" shall be displayed in conspicuous places throughout the building where the athletic event is held.

(2) Notice of any change in announced or advertised programs for any athletic event must be promptly filed with the board at least 24 hours prior to the athletic event. Notices announcing such change or substitution must be announced from the ring before the opening athletic event.

(3) Only board members, contestants, seconds, managers, promoters, ringside health care professionals, and representatives of the board will be permitted in dressing rooms upon presentation of proper credentials issued by the board.

(4) No applicant, licensee, inspector, or official shall consume or appear under the influence of alcohol or mood-altering drugs at a venue, unless prescribed to the individual by a physician. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.602 TICKETS (1) No person shall be admitted to any athletic event unless the person:

- (a) holds a ticket;
- (b) is a member of the board;
- (c) holds an identification card issued by the board for official duty;
- (d) is an official provided for the athletic event; or
- (e) is a policeman or fireman in uniform and actually on duty.

(2) All tickets issued to the press shall be marked "PRESS", and no one, except the officials designated by the board and the timekeeper, shall be permitted to sit at the press table unless actually engaged in reporting the athletic event.

(3) No contestant shall sell tickets for any athletic event in which the contestant is engaged on a commission basis, to serve as a remuneration for services as a contestant.

(4) All tickets, except press and complimentary tickets, shall:

- (a) clearly show the price and date of show;
- (b) be consecutively numbered; and
- (c) have a coupon attached, which may be retained by the purchaser.

(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 7

Boxing Regulations

Rule 24.117.701 reserved

24.117.702 BOXING CONTESTANTS (1) All boxing contestants must file an application with the board, including a photograph of the applicant.

(2) All contestants shall present a valid picture ID prior to participating in an athletic event.

(3) Contestants shall compete consistently under the same name. Ring names may be used and must appear on the official license as issued by the board.

(4) No contestant under the age of 18 or over the age of 35 shall be licensed to participate in Montana unless an exception is granted by the board.

(a) Contestants over the age of 35 wishing to compete must provide to the board a written statement by the contestant's personal physician (M.D.) that:

(i) the physician has performed a full physical examination of the contestant within a year of the event; and

(ii) the contestant is medically fit to participate in the event.

(b) Club boxing contestants over the age of 40 wishing to compete must provide to the board a written statement by the contestant's personal physician (M.D.) that:

(i) the physician has performed a full physical examination of the contestant within a year of the event; and

(ii) the contestant is medically fit to participate in the event.

(5) No contestant under the age of 21 shall be permitted to participate in more than six rounds until the contestant has participated in ten or more professional bouts involving boxing, unless special permission is granted by the board.

(6) Contestants shall wear proper athletic attire and appropriate protective devices, including:

(a) form-fitting mouthpiece; and

(b) protective athletic cup.

(7) Contestants competing in the main event must train in the city where the bout is to be held, or another suitable place approved by the board, at least 24 hours prior to the date of the bout.

(8) Any contestant who has participated in an athletic event, unless specifically granted an exception by the board, shall be placed under temporary suspension for the health and safety of the contestant as follows:

(a) physical injury or severe punishment - discretionary upon advice of ringside physician

(b) knockout (KO) - 60 days suspension

(c) technical knockout (TKO) - 30 days suspension

(d) Contestants receiving three medical suspensions in the contestant's boxing history shall be placed on indefinite suspension. The board may lift the suspension upon certification by the contestant's personal physician (M.D.) that:

(i) a complete physical examination of the contestant has been performed; and

(ii) the contestant is medically fit to participate.

(9) An athletic bout shall be stopped and decision rendered upon determination by the referee that:

(a) a contestant(s) is not honestly competing;

(b) the knockout is a "dive"; or

(c) the foul is a prearranged action.

(10) Contestants participating in a sham or fake bout shall be disqualified and shall be prohibited from participating in any bout or athletic event in this state as follows:

(a) six months for the first offense; or

(b) one year for subsequent offenses.

(11) All contestants shall be ready to enter the ring immediately upon completion of the preceding bout or athletic event.

(12) Whenever a contestant, because of injury or illness, is unable to take part in an athletic event for which the contestant is under contract, the contestant or the contestant's manager shall immediately report the fact to the board or inspector. The contestant must submit to an examination by a physician approved by the board, which examination must be made prior to the date set for the athletic event. The expense of the physician's examination is to be paid by the contestant.

(13) During a bout or athletic event, it is prohibited for a contestant to drink anything but water. The use of drugs of any kind, before or during the bout, shall be cause for disqualification and/or other disciplinary action by the board. All contestants may be required to submit to a drug test before and after a bout or athletic event in which the contestant is involved.

(14) The board may at its discretion allow limited professional and semiprofessional boxing rounds at a club-boxing event. The professional and semiprofessional rounds must conform to all applicable statutes and rules. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-603, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 2046, Eff. 12/8/89; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.703 FEMALE CONTESTANTS (1) Bouts for female contestants shall be scheduled for no more than ten rounds with each round lasting two minutes and one minute between rounds.

(2) Female boxers shall not use facial cosmetics and shall secure their hair with soft and nonabrasive material.

(3) Female contestant weight classes shall be the same as used by male boxers.

(4) Female boxers shall wear properly fitted breast protectors and groin protectors and a mouthpiece.

(5) Female boxers weighing up to 154 pounds shall use 8 oz. gloves and female boxers weighing over 154 pounds shall use 10 oz. gloves, properly fitted.

(6) All female boxers must provide proof of a negative pregnancy test prior to each bout and an attestation that the boxer has no knowledge of her pregnancy. Evidence of a negative pregnancy test shall include either:

(a) a written certification by a physician of a negative pregnancy test previously administered within 14 days of the bout; or

(b) negative results of a pregnancy test administered at the venue. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 1088, Eff. 6/22/01; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.704 WEIGHTS AND CLASSES (1) The following limitations or weights are placed on all boxing bouts:

- (a) Between junior flyweights (108 lbs.)
- (b) Between flyweights..... (112 lbs.)
- (c) Between junior bantamweights (115 lbs.)
- (d) Between bantamweights (118 lbs.)
- (e) Between junior featherweights (122 lbs.)
- (f) Between featherweights (126 lbs.)
- (g) Between junior lightweights (130 lbs.)
- (h) Between junior welterweights (140 lbs.)
- (i) Between welterweights (147 lbs.)
- (j) Between middleweights (160 lbs.)
- (k) Between light heavyweights (175 lbs.)
- (l) Between cruiser weights..... (175-190 lbs.)
- (m) Heavyweights, all over 190 lbs (no limitation)

(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.705 MANAGERS (1) Applicants for a managers license shall apply on forms prescribed by the board and furnish the following information:

(a) names and addresses of three references (excluding relatives, present employer, or employees) who can attest to the applicant's experience and integrity; and

(b) proof of applicant's familiarity with the laws and administrative rules of the board, as evidenced by attestation on the application.

(2) Contestants shall have one manager only. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-501, MCA; NEW, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.706 ELIMINATION-TYPE EVENTS (1) All semiprofessional elimination-type boxing contests shall be conducted under the authority of the board and conform where applicable to Title 24, chapter 117, subchapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 23 of the Administrative Rules of Montana, unless provided for specifically in this rule.

(2) Contests may be conducted in the following weight classifications:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| (a) light | 150 to 175 lbs. |
| (b) middle | 176 to 195 lbs. |
| (c) heavy | 196 and over. |

(3) Bouts shall not exceed three rounds of not more than 60 seconds in length, and provide a minimum of one minute rest period between rounds. Bouts must be staggered to ensure adequate rest time to all contestants.

(4) Contestants may participate in more than one bout in each contest; however, no contestant shall compete for more than 12 rounds in any single contest.

(5) Contestants shall wear 16 ounce gloves. In addition to the protective gear specified in ARM 24.117.702, contestants shall wear protective gear for the head.

(6) Contestants are not required to comply with the HIV testing required in rule, but shall comply with all remaining requirements pertaining to physical condition. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.707 and 24.117.708 reserved

24.117.709 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION (1) Contestants, including substitutions and exhibition contestants, shall be examined by a ringside health care professional approved by the board, between the time of weigh-in and prior to entering the ring. Only the contestant and his manager/trainer are allowed in the examination room during the physical.

(2) Contestants shall:

(a) provide the board with written documentation of a current physical examination; and

(b) meet the following minimum physical requirements as determined by the preflight examination performed by either a medical doctor (M.D.) or doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) for professional boxing and wrestling events. Semiprofessional boxing and club boxing event examinations may be performed by either an M.D., D.O., physician assistant-certified (PA-C), or an advanced practice registered nurse (nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist):

- (i) blood pressure no higher than 150/90 (may be controlled by the use of diazide diuretic or low salt program);
- (ii) temperature below 100 degrees F or 37 degrees C;
- (iii) distant vision 20/100 each eye - near vision 20/40 by near vision chart;
- (iv) fundi - no retinopathies or previous detachments (repaired or not);
- (v) abdomen - no visceralmegaly;
- (vi) no hernias, containing abdominal contents on coughing or straining;
- (vii) normal Romberg or finger to nose tests;
- (viii) no suppurative lesions on skin;
- (ix) no indications of active renal disease or loss of one kidney;
- (x) no perforated ear drum;
- (xi) no changes in gait, mental status;
- (xii) no changes in ring performance;
- (xiii) no body deformity that would tend to promote injury; and
- (xiv) no history of epilepsy or seizure disorder.

- (3) The board may request the following of any contestant:
 - (a) electroencephalogram (EEG);
 - (b) computerized axial tomography (CAT-scan); or
 - (c) electrocardiogram (EKG).
- (4) The weigh-in shall be at least eight hours before the bout. Contestants appearing at weigh-in and weighing 3 percent over the contracted weight, without allowing for dehydration, shall be disqualified from the bout.
 - (a) Contestants exhibiting signs of dehydration as a result of taking diuretics or drugs shall be disqualified.
- (5) No contestant shall take part in an athletic event until pronounced fit to do so by the ringside health care professional. Physical fitness of contestants to participate shall be certified by the ringside health care professional to the board within 24 hours after the contest.
- (6) The manager or an authorized agent shall accompany the contestant to the weigh-in.
- (7) If a contestant is late to weigh-in, the opponent may be weighed in under the direction of the board. Late contestants and their managers may be subject to disciplinary action by the board. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.710 RINGSIDE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The health care professional shall be present at ringside and be available to assist the referee until the conclusion of the final bout.
- (2) The ringside health care professional shall perform post-bout examinations of all contestants. The health care professional's recommendations, medical disqualifications, reports of contestant injuries, and any other examination results shall be reported to the board within 24 hours after the athletic event. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 8

Ring Regulations

24.117.801 POINT SYSTEM - SCORING (1) At the beginning of each round, the contestants are given 10 points, from which the judges deduct points according to the performance in the round as follows:

- (a) round ends, no clear winner, score 10-10 (rare);
- (b) close round/winning of round by effective boxing, score 10-9;
- (c) one knockdown and a winning of the round, score 10-8;
- (d) no knockdowns, but a clear dominating winning of the round, score 10-8;
- (e) two knockdowns, score 10-7;
- (f) one knockdown and one point deduction to the same boxer, score 10-8 (minus 1) = 10-7;
- (g) more than two knockdowns, score 10-6; and
- (h) two knockdowns and one point deduction to the same boxer, score 10-7 (minus 1) = 10-6.

(2) A contestant who has been knocked down can recover lost points if the contestant's performance throughout the rest of the round is good. The contestant will be given credit for points recovered. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1991 MAR p. 2599, Eff. 12/27/91; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2858, Eff. 10/23/98; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.802 NUMBER AND DURATION OF ROUNDS (1) No boxing match shall be more than 12 rounds in length and such rounds shall be of not more than three minutes' duration, with one minute intermission between rounds. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.803 DOWN (1) A contestant shall be deemed "down" when:

- (a) any part of his body other than his feet is on the ring floor;
- (b) he is hanging helplessly over the ropes; and
- (c) rising from "down" position.

(2) A contestant hanging over the ropes is not officially "down" until so pronounced by the referee, who can count the contestant out either on the ropes or on the floor.

(3) A contestant may go down through accident or weakness, but must arise instantly. If he is sent down by a blow, he shall remain down until the count of "eight" before arising and continuing the round, and he may remain down until the count of "nine" without being disqualified.

(4) Referees in athletic events shall, in rendering their decisions, consider and declare a contestant to be "knocked out" when the contestant is unable, after being knocked down, to arise unaided inside of ten seconds.

(5) A contestant who is in distress, but still on his feet and the referee intercedes to save him, or if, while in his corner, his manager and seconds notify the referee the contestant is unable to continue, the decision shall be "stopped in so many rounds".

(6) Should a contestant who is "down" arise before the count of ten is reached, and again go down intentionally without being struck, the referee shall resume the count where he left off.

(7) When a contestant is "down" his opponent shall retire to the farthest neutral corner designated by the referee and remain there until the count is completed. Should he fail to do so, the referee may cease counting until he has so retired.

(8) When a contestant has been knocked down three times in one round, the referee will declare him the loser by a technical knockout.

(a) This subsection may be waived in "bouts" if agreed to by both contestants, in writing, and the writing is filed with the board prior to the beginning of the athletic event.

(9) Before a fallen contestant resumes competition after having slipped, fallen or been knocked down, the referee shall wipe the contestant's gloves free of any foreign substance.

(10) If a boxer is knocked down after two minutes and 50 seconds of the round, the bell will not sound until he gets up. If he does not get up before the count of ten, he will lose by KO. The bell cannot save a boxer in any round. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 2046, Eff. 12/8/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 1088, Eff. 6/22/01; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.804 ACCIDENTAL AND INTENTIONAL BUTTS (1) If a contestant is accidentally butted in a bout, but can continue, the referee shall:

(a) stop the action to inform the judges and acknowledge the butt; and
(b) if in following rounds, as a result of legal blows, the cut worsens, and the injured contestant cannot continue, the referee shall stop the bout and declare a technical draw if this occurs before the end of the third round. If this occurs after the start of the fourth round, the referee shall declare a technical decision with the winner being the contestant who is ahead on points.

(2) If a contestant is accidentally butted in a bout so that he cannot continue, the referee shall:

(a) call the bout a draw if an accidental butt occurs during the first three rounds of any athletic event.

(b) call the bout a technical decision if the accidental butt occurs after the completion of the third round with the winner being the contestant who is ahead on points. The round in which the bout is stopped shall be scored by the judges.

(3) In the case of a clear and intentional butt when the bout can continue, the contestant who initiated the butt shall have a two point deduction. The referee shall stop the action and inform the judges of the two point deduction.

(4) In the case of a clear and intentional butt when the bout is stopped because of a cut, the contestant who initiated the butt shall lose by disqualification, even if he is the injured contestant. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.805 FOULS (1) Fouls are those acts of:

- (a) hitting below the belt;
- (b) hitting an opponent who is down or who is getting up after going down;
- (c) holding an opponent with one hand and hitting with the other hand;
- (d) holding an opponent or deliberately maintaining a clinch;
- (e) butting with the head or shoulders or using the knee;
- (f) hitting with the inside or butt of hand, the wrist or the elbows;
- (g) hitting or 'flicking' with the open glove;
- (h) purposely going down without being hit;
- (i) striking deliberately at the part of the body over the kidneys;
- (j) the use of the pivot and backhand blows and rabbit punch;
- (k) the use of abusive or profane language; and
- (l) the failure to obey the referee;
- (m) any physical actions which may injure a contestant except by fair sportsmanlike boxing;
- (n) hitting on the break;
- (o) hitting after the bell has sounded ending the round;
- (p) roughing on the ropes or pushing the opponent about the ring, into the ropes or intentionally pushing, shoving or wrestling an opponent out of the ring with any part of the body.

(2) The referee shall deduct points after two warnings for the same foul. A point or points shall be taken at the time of the third warning for the same foul or where there is a continued flagrant fouling by a contestant after a deduction of points from the fouling contestant.

(3) A contestant who commits a foul, intentional or unintentional, may be fined the total amount of his purse, not to exceed \$1000 per violation, and suspended by the board and/or fined only in such amount as the board may deem warranted by the offense. It will only be by unanimous opinion of the referee, judges, and the board inspector that the offender not be held responsible for the foul and the promoter authorized to pay the purse.

(4) Any contestant claiming to be struck by a foul blow must be immediately examined by the ringside health care professional. If the examining health care professional determines that the contestant is only temporarily injured, and can proceed after a short rest, the contestant shall be ordered to do so by the referee.

(5) Any contestant falsely claiming to have been struck by a foul blow will be punished in the same manner as provided for contestants who commit fouls.

(6) In no case shall the offender be paid any part of his purse until the final decision of the board.

(7) If the fouled contestant is ahead on points or the points are equal, he shall be declared the winner. However, if the fouled contestant is not ahead on points, the contest shall be declared a draw. If in the referee's judgment the foul is serious or intentionally inflicted, the referee may award the bout to the contestant so fouled.

(8) If any accidental foul occurs before the completion of four rounds and the injured contestant cannot continue, the fight will be declared a technical draw. If the accidental foul occurs after the completion of four rounds and the fouled contestant cannot continue, a technical decision shall be rendered by the judges and the contestant ahead on points shall be declared the winner. If a contestant is accidentally fouled and can continue, the referee must stop the action and inform the board representative and both contestants that the foul is the result of an accidental foul. If in the later rounds the injury has worsened as a result of legal blows, and the injured contestant cannot continue, a decision shall be rendered by going to the scorecards. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 2046, Eff. 12/8/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 1088, Eff. 6/22/01; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.806 APPEAL OF DECISIONS OF OFFICIALS (1) In cases involving appeal to the board of an officials' decision, the decision of the officials shall not be changed unless:

(a) the board determines that there was collusion affecting the officials' decision; or

(b) the board determines that actual bias or prejudice on the part of one or more officials affected the officials' decision; or

(c) the officials' decision was the result of an incorrect interpretation of a statute or rule applicable to the circumstances of the bout; or

(d) the officials' decision was clearly erroneous in view of the reliable, probative, and substantial evidence on the whole record; or

(e) the compilation of the score cards of the judges discloses an error which shows that the decision was given to the wrong boxer.

(2) On review of an officials' decision, the board shall not substitute its judgment for that of the officials as to the weight of the evidence on questions of fact. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 2046, Eff. 12/8/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Rules 24.117.807 through 24.117.809 reserved

24.117.810 HANDWRAPS (1) Handwraps shall be restricted to no more than 20 yards of soft gauze not more than two inches wide held in place by not more than eight feet of adhesive tape not more than one and one-half inches wide for each hand. The use of adhesive tape over the knuckles is strictly prohibited. The tape shall not cover any part of the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist. The use of water or any other liquid or material on the tape is strictly prohibited.

(2) All handwraps shall be adjusted in the dressing room in the presence of a board representative. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 1088, Eff. 6/22/01; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.811 OFFICIAL BOXING GLOVES (1) Gloves in the weight classes of welterweight and below must be no less than eight ounces, and must have the thumbs attached. Gloves in weight classes of middleweights and above must be of no less than ten ounces in weight, and must have thumbs attached. The only exception to this rule is in championship bouts where the board may authorize eight ounce gloves, thumbs attached, for any weight class.

(2) No breaking, roughing or twisting of gloves shall be permitted. Gloves shall be examined by the inspector. If padding is found to be misplaced or lumpy, or if gloves are found to be imperfect, other gloves shall be substituted therefore.

(3) Gloves and headgear shall be cleaned with a disinfectant between each bout. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.812 MOUTHPIECE (1) Each participant shall wear an individually fitted mouthpiece. The mouthpiece shall be in the participant's mouth at all times during a round. A backup mouthpiece shall be available in case of loss or damage.

(2) If the mouthpiece was ejected as a result of natural fight action, no points will be deducted. The referee shall wait until the flurry during which the mouthpiece was ejected has subsided. He shall then take time out, direct the participant whose mouthpiece remains in place to retire to a neutral corner, take the participant to his own corner, direct that the mouthpiece be rinsed and replaced in the participant's mouth and then order the fight to immediately continue.

(3) If the referee believes that the contestant spit out or allowed the mouthpiece to fall out of the contestant's mouth the referee shall:

(a) upon the first occurrence, wait until the initial flurry subsides, proceed as in (2) and warn the contestant that a point will be deducted if the contestant subsequently spits out or allows the mouthpiece to fall out of the contestant's mouth;

(b) upon the second occurrence, wait until the initial flurry subsides, proceed as in (2), warn the contestant that he or she will be disqualified if the contestant subsequently spits out or allows the mouthpiece to fall out of the contestant's mouth. The referee shall direct each judge to deduct a point from the contestant's score and shall notify the board representative; and

(c) upon the third occurrence, disqualify the contestant who deliberately spit out or allowed the mouthpiece to fall out of the contestant's mouth. The opponent shall be declared the winner due to disqualification. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1991 MAR p. 2599, Eff. 12/27/91; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.813 and 24.117.814 reserved

24.117.815 RING--EQUIPMENT (1) The ring shall be no less than 15 or more than 20 feet square when measured inside the line of the ropes. The apron of the ring shall extend beyond the ropes not less than two feet. The ring shall be equipped with four ropes with two spacer ties on each side of the ring to secure the ropes.

(2) Only the following substances shall be allowed in the ring:

(a) ice,

(b) only plain water,

(c) cotton swabs,

(d) gauze pads,

(e) clean towels,

(f) adrenaline 1:1000, thrombostat and 2 percent adrenaline hydrochloride,

(g) avitine in sterile single packets,

(h) petroleum jelly (unscented) only,

(i) tape.

(3) Gong, bell, buzzer, or horn which is used must be sufficiently loud so that the officials and contestants can hear it clearly.

(4) The ring must be swept, dry mopped, or otherwise adequately cleaned before the athletic event and prior to the first bout.

(5) There shall be a minimum three foot clear walkway from the ring through the seating area to the exit(s). (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1990 MAR p. 1143, Eff. 6/15/90; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 9

Boxing Officials

24.117.901 OFFICIALS REQUIRED (1) The officials shall consist of a referee, three judges, timekeeper, announcer, and a physician. The judges and referee shall be named by the board and paid by the promoter conducting the athletic event.

(2) The board shall have the right to appoint at least two officials of their choice for all title bouts licensed by the board. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 1088, Eff. 6/22/01; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.902 REFEREE (REPEALED) (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1985 MAR p. 1608, Eff. 11/1/85; AMD, 1991 MAR p. 814, Eff. 5/31/91; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; REP, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.903 JUDGES (1) Applicants for a judges license shall apply on forms prescribed by the board and shall furnish the following information:

(a) proof of either:

(i) three years prior experience in judging boxing events; or

(ii) two years prior experience in judging boxing events and additional experience as determined by the board to demonstrate competency;

(b) names and addresses of three references who can attest to the applicant's judging experience and integrity; and

(c) proof of familiarity with the laws and administrative rules of the board, as evidenced by attestation on the application.

(2) Judges shall be ready at all times, if requested by the referee, to assist in deciding whether fouls have been committed, and may bring any other points to the attention of the referee at the end of the round.

(3) Scoring shall be done by three judges, approved by the board. The referee shall not score any bout or contest.

(4) Judges shall score bouts on a ten point must system, using the following criteria:

- (a) clean punching (power versus quantity);
- (b) effective aggressiveness;
- (c) ring generalship; and
- (d) defense.

(5) If a bout is stopped before the completion of a round, the judges shall score all incomplete or partial rounds as if they were a complete round.

(6) Judges shall only deduct points for fouls or knockdowns when designated as such and instructed to do so by the referee.

(7) Judges shall avoid scoring a round even. Complete concentration and application of the basic scoring concepts in ARM 24.117.801 will allow judges to choose the winner of each round.

(8) Judges shall not act as managers or promoters. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1989 MAR p. 967, Eff. 7/28/89; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.904 TIMEKEEPER (1) The timekeeper shall be appointed by and the responsibility of the promoter, and known as the official timekeeper. The timekeeper shall be seated outside the ring close to the gong.

(2) The timekeeper shall indicate the beginning and end of each round.

(3) The timekeeper shall bring a whistle and a stop watch to the bout. Ten seconds before the beginning of each round, the timekeeper shall warn the seconds of contestants by blowing the whistle.

(4) If an athletic event terminates before the scheduled limit of rounds, the timekeeper shall inform the announcer of the exact duration of the athletic event.

(5) Timekeepers shall not use a whistle, buzzer, or any other instrument during the progress of a round. The whistle, buzzer, or other instrument shall be used only ten seconds prior to the beginning of the bout and ten seconds prior to the beginning of each round.

(6) If a boxer is knocked down after two minutes and 50 seconds of the round, the bell will not sound until the boxer gets up. If the boxer does not get up before the count of ten, the boxer will lose by KO. The bell cannot save a boxer in any round. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.905 SECONDS/CORNERS (1) Applicants for a seconds/corners license shall be at least 18 years of age and shall furnish to the board evidence of assisting at athletic events involving boxing, including:

(a) names and addresses of three references who can attest to ring experience; and

(b) names of contestants in whose corner the applicant previously assisted at ringside.

(2) Only three individuals shall be seconds/corners at an event and only one shall be designated as chief second.

(3) Only one second/corner shall be inside the ring between rounds.

(4) Licensed managers shall be permitted to act as seconds and shall comply with all rules of conduct pertaining to seconds.

(5) A wet sponge may be used to refresh the contestant. Excess water on the ring floor shall be wiped up by the seconds/corners before the start of the next round.

(6) Seconds/corners shall not either:

(a) enter the ring until the timer indicates the termination of a round; or

(b) spray or forcefully throw water on a contestant.

(7) Seconds/corners shall:

(a) leave the ring enclosure at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle ten seconds before the beginning of each round; and

(b) leave the ring platform and remove all obstructions, buckets, and stools promptly when the gong sounds at the beginning of each round. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3603, Eff. 12/27/02; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.906 INSPECTORS (1) The inspector may not have an interest in the management of any contestant, nor act as a referee, judge, timekeeper, or second/corner at the same athletic event.

(2) A person who wishes to be appointed as an inspector shall submit to the board a resume indicating their boxing experience and the names of three references who can attest to any applicable boxing experience and integrity. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-402, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3603, Eff. 12/27/02; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.907 ANNOUNCER (1) The announcer shall announce the names of contestants, their correct weights, the decisions of the referee and judges, and other matters as directed by the promoter or board representative. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rule 24.117.908 reserved

24.117.909 REFEREE (1) Applicants for a referees license shall apply on forms prescribed by the board and furnish the following information:

- (a) evidence of either:
 - (i) three years prior experience in refereeing boxing events; or
 - (ii) two years prior experience in refereeing boxing events and additional experience as determined by the board to demonstrate competency;
 - (b) names and addresses of three references who can attest to the applicant's refereeing experience and integrity; and
 - (c) proof of applicant's familiarity with the laws and administrative rules of the board, as evidenced by attestation on the application.
- (2) No persons other than the contestants and the referee may enter the ring during the progress of a round.
- (3) The referee shall stop a bout for any of the following reasons:
- (a) due to the physical condition of one or both of the contestants;
 - (b) when one of the contestants is clearly outclassed;
 - (c) the referee decides a contestant is not putting forth the contestant's best effort; or
 - (d) any other reason the referee deems sufficient.

- (4) Referees shall not act as managers or promoters.
- (5) The referee shall meet with each contestant and chief second in the dressing room prior to the bout and the referee shall:
 - (a) warn the second of any existing rule violations and any disciplinary consequences that will result from further noncompliance;
 - (b) identify the belt/hip line and clarify that the equipment shall not extend above such line;
 - (c) explain the proper procedures to occur when the warning sounds prior to the end of a round and when the bell sounds ending a round;
 - (d) explain the duties expected of the chief second in managing the corner, including:
 - (i) cleaning up spills and ice;
 - (ii) wiping excess petroleum jelly from contestant; and
 - (iii) ensuring that the contestant has a mouthpiece in place prior to the start of each round;
 - (e) explain the procedures to be used in directing contestants to break ("punch" or "get out" and, if necessary, "hold your punches" and step in and break the contestants);
 - (f) review fouls, issuance of cautions, and point deductions;
 - (g) inspect and sign handwraps (semiprofessional and professional boxing only); and
 - (h) ask contestants and seconds if they have questions.
- (6) The referee shall meet with the ringside health care professional and the referee shall:
 - (a) determine the health care professional's ringside experience;
 - (b) determine the health care professional's location at ringside;
 - (c) clarify that the health care professional shall not enter the ring unless directed to do so by the referee or the board designee;
 - (d) specify the referee's signals for calling the health care professional into the ring or to a neutral corner;
 - (e) discuss and determine the health care professional's procedures if called to examine a contestant during a bout, including:
 - (i) mounting the ring apron quickly;
 - (ii) examinations to be no longer than ten seconds; and
 - (iii) ways to communicate with the referee;
 - (f) direct the health care professional against making any statements following the examination of a contestant during a bout that could change the dynamics of the bout ("Let it go one more round."); and
 - (g) discuss any known traits or tendencies of contestants that the health care professional may observe during the bout (ex. common nosebleeds).

- (7) The referee shall check the condition of the ring, including:
 - (a) presence of buckets and stairs in corners;
 - (b) correct rope tension; and
 - (c) acceptable condition of the floor and canvas.
- (8) When the contestants enter the ring, the referee shall:
 - (a) inspect the contestants as follows:
 - (i) gloves (no foreign substances);
 - (ii) trunks;
 - (iii) shoes (double knot and/or laces taped);
 - (iv) hair;
 - (v) mouthpiece;
 - (vi) safety equipment (reestablish the belt/hip line); and
 - (vii) presence of jewelry;
 - (b) upon contestant introductions, the referee shall:
 - (i) call contestants to center ring;
 - (ii) present final instructions;
 - (iii) direct contestants to return to the corners;
 - (iv) clear the ring and ring apron;
 - (v) ensure readiness of judges, timekeeper, and ringside health care professional; and
 - (vi) signal timekeeper to start the bout.
- (9) During the bout, the referee shall:
 - (a) ensure the safety of all contestants;
 - (b) enforce all applicable board laws and rules;
 - (c) maintain control of all stages of the contest to include issuance of cautions and deduction of points;
 - (i) In case of a knockdown, the referee shall require the fallen contestant to take a count of eight.
 - (ii) When a contestant is down, the referee shall direct the opponent to the farthest neutral corner and instruct the opponent to remain there until the count is completed. If the opponent fails to do so, the referee may cease counting until the opponent has complied.
 - (iii) If a fallen contestant arises before the count of eight and again goes down due to weakness, or is unable to arise, the referee shall continue the count from the point where the referee ceased counting.
 - (iv) If a contestant appears to be in distress or not giving the best effort, the referee may intervene and give a "standing eight count".
 - (v) When a contestant has been knocked down three times in one round, the referee will declare the contestant the loser by a technical knockout.
 - (A) In championship matches, the board may waive subsection (9)(c)(v) if agreed to in writing by both contestants, and the agreement is filed with the board prior to the beginning of the athletic event;

- (d) physically inspect and wipe clean all contestant gloves that touch the canvas floor;
- (e) interrupt the bout if a contestant is cut and consult with the health care professional to determine if the injured contestant may continue;
 - (i) If a cut is produced by a legal punch and the bout is stopped, the injured contestant shall be declared the loser by technical knockout, with the designation of TKOC to indicate the cut as the reason for the technical knockout;
 - (f) immediately stop a bout in the case of an injury caused by a head butt or foul, determine whether the act was intentional or accidental and determine whether to continue or stop the bout;
 - (g) instruct the judges to mark the scorecards accordingly when assessing fouls;
 - (h) wave both arms to indicate a knockout when:
 - (i) a contestant is still down following the referee's count of ten; or
 - (ii) the referee has determined that the contestant who was knocked down is in no condition to continue; and
 - (i) continue counting when both contestants go down simultaneously as long as one contestant remains down. If both contestants remain down at the end of the count, the referee shall stop the bout and render a technical draw decision.
- (10) At the conclusion of a bout, the referee shall:
 - (a) collect scorecards from the judges and present them to the inspector;
 - (b) call contestants to center ring and raise hand of winner when the contestant's name is announced; and
 - (c) maintain control of the ring, contestants, and seconds until all persons have exited the ring.
- (11) The board shall appoint the referees and the board decisions are final.
- (12) The referee is the sole arbiter of a bout and is the only individual authorized to stop a bout. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapter 10

Club Boxing

24.117.1001 INTRODUCTION (1) In addition to the rules set forth in this subchapter, promoters and contestants involved in club boxing shall be required to abide by the provisions elsewhere in ARM Title 24, chapter 117, except where specifically noted as not applicable to club boxing. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1002 CLUB BOXING CONTESTANTS (1) All contestants must be in the building or wherever the contest is to be held at least one hour prior to the commencement of the bout. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-603, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1003 CLUB BOXING--FEMALE CONTESTANTS (REPEALED)
(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; REP, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1004 CLUB BOXING--PHYSICIAN REQUIREMENTS (REPEALED)
(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; REP, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1005 CLUB BOXING--CONTEST REGULATIONS (1) In addition to the requirements of ARM 24.117.601 the following shall apply to club boxing events:

- (a) a match is limited to three rounds of no more than 90 seconds with a 90 second rest period between rounds;
- (b) a match that the promoter has designated as a semi-main or main match is limited to three rounds of no more than 120 seconds, with a 90 second rest period;
- (c) if the match results in a draw, an additional round of no more than 120 seconds may occur; or
- (d) if the match still results in a draw, the judges will vote for one winner based on aggressiveness, ring generalship, and punches landed cleanly. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1006 CLUB BOXING--WEIGHTS AND CLASSES (1) The weights and classes for club boxing contestants, both male and female, shall be as follows:

(a) between 100 and 130 pounds the maximum weight difference permitted between boxers is ten pounds;

(b) between 130 and 185 pounds the maximum weight difference permitted between boxers is 15 pounds; and

(c) for 186 pounds and over there is no limitation on weight difference.

(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

24.117.1007 CLUB BOXING--REQUIRED EQUIPMENT (1) Club boxing contestants shall use either training wraps or handwraps that comply with the provisions of ARM 24.117.810.

(2) Official boxing gloves used by contestants shall be as follows:

(a) contestants weighing up to 150 pounds shall use no less than 14 ounce gloves with the thumbs attached; and

(b) contestants weighing 151 pounds and above shall use no less than 16 ounce gloves with the thumbs attached.

(3) If two contestants in a bout use different glove weights, both contestants shall use the glove required for the heavier contestant.

(4) No breaking, roughing, or twisting of gloves shall be permitted. The inspector shall examine and approve all gloves. If padding is found to be misplaced or lumpy, or if gloves are found to be imperfect, other gloves shall be substituted.

(5) All contestants shall use protective headgear. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 2150, Eff. 10/26/01; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Sub-Chapter 11

Kickboxing

24.117.1101 GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE (1) All general rules, where appropriate, also apply to kickboxing. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1102 CONDUCT OF ATHLETIC EVENTS (1) All professional non-title kickboxing athletic events will be a minimum of five up to a maximum of 12 rounds in duration. All title athletic events shall be conducted according to the professional rules and regulations of karate international council of kickboxing.

(2) All offensive kickboxing, punching, and kicking techniques are authorized, with the exception of those techniques specified as "fouls", and may be executed according to the individual contestant's style or system of kickboxing.

(3) Contestants shall have the option of leg kicks when both contestants have been properly trained for leg kicks and the contract explicitly states that leg kicks will be used.

(4) If leg kicks are allowed, any kicking technique may be used as long as the kicks are not to any foul area, such as a knee joint. Targets include kicks to the inside, outside, and back of the thigh on either leg and kicks to the calf of either leg.

(5) The board may limit, at its discretion, the use of leg kicks or the use of inside kicks.

(6) A contestant intentionally avoiding any physical contact with his opponent will receive a warning from the referee. If the contestant continues to avoid a confrontation with his opponent after receiving a warning during that round, he may be penalized by the referee. If the contestant continues to evade action, either in the same round or in any other round, the referee may, at his discretion, award more penalties. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1103 SWEEPS (1) Contestants may execute sweeps only by making a sweeping motion to the padded area of an opponent's foot with the padded area of the user's foot, or "boot-to-boot" as it has been called.

(2) Contact to any other part of the leg (thigh, knee, shin and sides of the shin from any angle) while delivering a sweep shall constitute a foul and be treated accordingly.

(3) A sweep is not a kick and shall not be judged as such.

(4) Any techniques thrown following a sweep must land on the opponent prior to any part of his body touching the floor of the ring. If the technique lands after some part of the opponent's body, other than the soles of his feet, has touched the floor, the referee may call a foul.

(5) A successful sweep is not considered a knockdown. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1104 FOULS (1) All general foul rules of boxing apply to kickboxing in addition to the following fouls:

(a) striking the groin, the spine, headbutts, the throat, collarbone, or that part of the body over the kidneys;

(b) kicking into the knee or striking below the belt in any unauthorized manner;

(c) anti-joint techniques (striking or applying leverage against any joint);

(d) grabbing or holding onto an opponent's leg or foot;

(e) leg checking the opponent's leg or stepping on the opponent's foot to prevent the opponent from moving or kicking;

(f) throwing or taking an opponent to the floor in an unauthorized manner;

(g) failure to throw eight kicks in a given round;

(h) intentional evasion of contact; or

(i) executing any technique which is deemed malicious and beyond the scope of reasonably expected techniques in an athletic event.

(2) All national, continental, intercontinental or world championship kickboxing athletic events shall comply with the regulations set forth by the karate international council of kickboxing.

(3) When the referee determines that a foul has been committed, the judges or scorekeeper shall automatically deduct the appropriate number of points on each judge's scorecard. When both contestants commit fouls, the appropriate points shall be deducted for each contestant. In the event that one contestant commits two, three or five point fouls in one round or commits the same fouls two or more times during the course of the athletic event, that contestant may be automatically disqualified by the referee. No contestant will be scored less than zero in a round. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1105 KICKING REQUIREMENTS (1) All professional kickboxing contestants must execute a minimum of eight hard kicks per round.

(2) In the event a contestant fails to execute the required number of kicks per round, the referee may give one warning to that contestant and his chief second during the one minute rest period following the round.

(3) If the contestant fails to execute the minimum number of kicks in any round following the referee's warning, he shall be penalized one point for each kick short of the minimum requirement.

(4) If a contestant fails to achieve the minimum kicking requirement (hereinafter "MKR") in a majority of the scheduled rounds, the contestant shall be disqualified.

(5) If a contestant executes less than eight kicks in any one round, the MKR official shall immediately notify the referee of the number of kicks thrown. The referee shall, in turn, notify the judges, who shall record the appropriate penalty. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1106 CONTESTANT'S EQUIPMENT (1) All promoters must have an extra set of gloves and foot pads to be used in case gloves are broken or in any way damaged beyond use during the course of an athletic event.

(2) Gloves and foot pads for all main events shall be new, furnished by the promoter and made so as to fit the hands and feet of any contestant whose hands and feet may be unusual in size, as well as bandages for all contestants.

(3) In events other than main events, if the gloves and foot pads have been used previously, they must be whole, clean, and subject to inspection by the referee and board representative as to condition. If found to be imperfect, the gloves shall be changed before the athletic event starts.

(4) No breaking, roughing or twisting of gloves or foot pads shall be permitted.

(5) Shin pads of a soft substance shall be mandatory for all contestants.

(6) No rings, jewelry or items other than those authorized may be worn.

(7) Gloves shall be secured to the hands only after the contestants have entered the ring, unless otherwise directed by a board representative. Each contestant's seconds shall help in securing the gloves. Tape may be used to secure the pads and will be subject to inspection and approval. The referee must also inspect and approve any tape used on the gloves or pads.

(8) Tape shall be supplied by each contestant's corner or seconds.

(9) Bandages shall not exceed one winding of surgeon's adhesive tape, not over 1 1/2 inches wide, placed directly on the hand to protect that part of the hand near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice, but shall not cover any part of the knuckles. Contestants shall use soft surgical bandages not over two inches wide, held in place by not more than two yards of surgeon's adhesive tape for hands.

(10) Bandages shall be adjusted in the dressing room in the presence of the board representative, who must sign across the back of the hand before the gloves are secured on each contestant.

(11) For each foot, contestants shall use soft surgical bandages not over two inches wide, held in place by surgeon's adhesive tape not over 1 1/2 inches wide.

(12) Foot wrappings shall not exceed three to four windings of soft surgical bandage around the sole and instep, and no more than four windings around the ankle. Tape shall cross the foot once before being wrapped one more time around the sole and heel.

(13) A standard karate uniform consisting of jacket, pants and belt, as traditionally worn in the sport of kickboxing or full-contact karate, must be worn by all contestants upon entering the ring. No boxer trunks will be allowed.

(14) All contestants must appear in long pants, as traditionally worn in the sport of kickboxing or full-contact karate.

(15) No boxer trunks will be allowed.

(16) Prior to the start of an athletic event, all male contestants will remove their uniform jackets and belts. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1107 WEIGHT CLASSES (1) The following limitations or weights are placed on all athletic events involving kickboxing:

- (a) flyweight..... 112 lbs. or under
- (b) super flyweight..... 115 lbs.
- (c) bantamweight..... 118 lbs.
- (d) super bantamweight..... 122 lbs.
- (e) featherweight..... 126 lbs.
- (f) super featherweight..... 130 lbs.
- (g) lightweight..... 135 lbs.
- (h) super lightweight..... 140 lbs.
- (i) welterweight..... 146 lbs.
- (j) super welterweight..... 152 lbs.
- (k) middleweight..... 159 lbs.
- (l) super middleweight..... 166 lbs.
- (m) light heavyweight..... 174 lbs.
- (n) super light heavyweight..... 181 lbs.
- (o) cruiserweight..... 189 lbs.
- (p) heavyweight..... 205 lbs.
- (q) super heavyweight..... over 205 lbs.

(2) No contestant shall engage in an athletic event where the weight difference exceeds the allowance shown in the above schedule. Any greater weight spread requires the approval of the board. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1108 KICKBOXING OFFICIALS (1) In addition to rules for boxing officials as stated in ARM 24.117.902 through 24.117.907, the following shall apply to kickboxing:

(a) In the event a referee becomes incapacitated, time out shall be called and the other referee assigned to the event shall assume the duties of the incapacitated referee.

(b) Immediately before an athletic event, the referee will call the contestants to the middle of the ring and conduct a traditional martial arts bow in the following manner:

(i) the contestants, while standing approximately four to six feet from one another, will face the referee;

(ii) the referee will first bow to the contestants, who will return the bow and then bow to each other in the customary fashion;

(iii) in their position in which the bow takes place, the contestants will prepare to fight as the referee signals that the first round will commence.

(c) There shall be two MKR officials positioned at ringside, who shall count, in order, the number of qualifying kicks executed by their assigned contestant. The MKR officials shall sit opposite their assigned contestant's corner. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Sub-Chapter 12

Wrestling Officials

Rule 24.117.1201 reserved

24.117.1202 WRESTLING CONTESTANT (1) No license will be issued to a contestant who is over 55 years of age.

(2) Should a contestant claim injury and refuse to continue an athletic event at the referee's command, and if after a physical examination, he is found physically unable to continue the bout, then the referee must decide in favor of his opponent.

(3) Contestants appearing in athletic events must be properly clothed in neat and clean athletic apparel. Trunks and tights must be well fitting and held with a high waist band. If short trunks only are used and the limbs bare, the length of the trunks shall not be less than three inches below the crotch, and two pairs, one over the other, must be worn. Shoes must have soft soles.

(4) All contestants' skin must be clean and free from grease or other sort of lotion or foreign substance. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1203 REFEREE (1) Under no circumstances shall any contestant lay his hands on the referee. Any violation of this rule shall disqualify the contestant.

(2) The referee's instructions given before the bout must be strictly complied with, as he is responsible for the proper conduct of the athletic event and the enforcement of the rules of the board. The referee's verdict shall be final and he has the right to stop an athletic event at any time because of injury or weak physical condition of one or both of the contestants. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, 23-3-501, 23-3-603, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1204 TIME LIMITATIONS (1) Athletic events shall be limited to two hours of continuous wrestling, except as herein otherwise provided. Should neither contestant have a marked advantage at the end of two hours, the referee, in his discretion, following a five-minute rest period, may order the athletic event continued for an added 30 minutes. If, at the end of the extra 30 minutes, the referee is unable to decide the winner, the athletic event shall be declared a draw. However, if one of the contestants gets a fall during the extra 30 minute period, that fall shall be the deciding fall and he shall be declared the winner.

(2) Should there only be one fall in the two hours of wrestling, the winner of that fall shall be declared the winner of the athletic event. If each contestant has gained one fall in the two hours of wrestling, then the referee may allow the athletic event to continue after a five-minute rest period for an added 30 minutes. If at that time neither of the contestants shall have gained a fall and the referee is unable to declare a winner, he shall then declare the athletic event a draw.

(3) In athletic events of less than two hours duration, when the referee is unable to give a decision in a close match, he shall have the power to declare such athletic event a draw, if in his opinion this would be a just decision. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1205 HOLDS (1) Any hold, grip, lock or trip is allowed except as herein below listed: strangle hold, scratching, eye gouging, striking with knuckles, pulling hair, kicking, butting in the face, cutting off the breath by shutting nose and mouth at the same time. Inserting fingers in the mouth, deliberately throwing of opponent over the top rope and wrestling outside the ring are specifically prohibited.

(2) The use of foul language after a warning from the referee shall immediately disqualify the offender.

(3) When contestants roll off the mat and under the ropes, but not off the ring platform, the referee and timekeeper shall begin a count of 10. In the event that neither contestant returns before the count of 10 is completed, the athletic event shall be terminated. In the event one contestant returns and his opponent fails to return before the count of 10 is completed, then the athletic event shall terminate with the contestant in the ring being awarded the athletic event.

(4) When one or both contestants fall from the ring so that a part of their bodies touch the floor, the referee and timekeeper shall begin a count of 20. In the event that neither contestant returns before the count of 20, then the athletic event shall terminate with the contestant in the ring being awarded the athletic event.

(5) Contestants failing to break when instructed to do so by the referee shall be given a count of 4 in which to release the hold, and if the aggressor does not break the hold by the count of 4, the offender shall be disqualified and his opponent shall be awarded the athletic event. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1206 FALLS AND DECISIONS (1) Both shoulders pinned to the mat for the referee's audible count of three seconds shall constitute a fall. Conceding a fall or quitting because of receiving punishment from a legitimate hold, constitutes a fall.

(2) The referee shall slap on the back or the shoulders of a contestant securing a fall so that the man under him will not be strained by being held too long in a possible painful position.

(3) The referee shall not put his hands under the shoulders of a contestant unless it is absolutely necessary to determine a fall. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1207 DELAYS IN CONTEST (1) If for any reason whatsoever it becomes necessary to temporarily stop the athletic event during the course of its progress, such time as may be consumed during the delay shall be added to the wrestling period so as to complete the full time allowed for the athletic event. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

24.117.1208 RING EQUIPMENT (1) Mats shall not be less than 1 1/2 inches thick, and must be stuffed with hair, felt, cotton or other soft material, and shall cover the entire ring platform. The mat and covering shall be clean and free from disagreeable odors at all times. The ring size ropes shall be the same as those used in athletic events involving boxing. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1109, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Subchapter 13

Australian Tag Team Wrestling

24.117.1301 AUSTRALIAN TAG TEAM WRESTLING (1) A tag team event is an athletic event between a team of two contestants against another team of two contestants.

(2) The athletic event begins with one contestant from each team wrestling one contestant from the opposing team while their respective team partners remain on the apron of the ring outside of the ring ropes. A contestant cannot enter the ring unless his partner is defeated or he is able to touch his partner and to relieve him. He must have hold of a regulation three-foot rope with a knot in one end and the other end looped over the ring post of his team's corner. At the time of a tag contact between partners, the contestant outside of the ropes must have both feet on the apron floor and must reach over the top rope only to make contact. The referee must see to it that the contestant in the ring after tagging his partner, retires to the outside of the ring before his partner can enter the ring. Not more than two referees are permitted to be in the ring at the same time during the athletic event. During the team athletic event, team partners may relieve each other as often as they desire as long as neither has lost a fall for his team. When a contestant loses a fall, he must retire to the ringside at his corner.

(3) If a contestant is injured so that he cannot continue, his partner must carry on alone. The opposing team must defeat the one contestant once to win a team fall.

(4) It shall be a foul for a contestant to assist his partner or to interfere with his opponent while awaiting his turn on the apron.

(5) It shall also be a foul for a contestant while awaiting his turn to release his hold on the rope in his corner for any reason whatsoever until officially relieved by his partner or the referee.

(6) After one warning of the above infractions, the referee shall disqualify the offender.

(7) It shall be a foul for a contestant or manager to bring into the ring any foreign object.

(8) Only the referee and contestants are permitted in the ring during athletic events. In the event anyone other than the performing contestants enters the ring, the referee shall stop the athletic event.

(9) In all other instances, the rules governing athletic events involving wrestling shall prevail. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 1984 MAR p. 437, Eff. 3/16/84; AMD, 1993 MAR p. 1320, Eff. 5/28/93; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Subchapter 14 reserved

Subchapter 15

Mixed Martial Arts

24.117.1501 RING AND ARENA REQUIREMENTS (1) Mixed martial arts contests and exhibitions may be held in a ring or in a fenced area.

(2) A ring specified in (1) must meet the following requirements:

(a) The ring must be no smaller than 20 feet square and no larger than 32 feet square within the ropes.

(b) The ring floor must extend at least 18 inches beyond the ropes. The ring floor must be padded with ensolite or another similar closed-cell foam, with at least a one-inch layer of foam padding. Padding must extend beyond the ring ropes and over the edge of the platform, with a top covering of canvas, duck, or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the ring platform. Material that tends to gather in lumps or ridges is not permitted.

(c) The ring platform must not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and must have suitable steps for the use of the unarmed combatants.

(d) Ring posts must be made of metal, not more than three inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the ring floor, and must be properly padded in a manner approved by the board. Ring posts must be at least 18 inches away from the ring ropes.

(e) Five ring ropes must be used, each rope not less than one inch in diameter and wrapped in a soft material. The lowest ring rope must be 12 inches above the ring floor.

(f) There must not be any obstruction or object, including, without limitation, a triangular border, on any part of the ring floor.

(3) A fenced area specified in (1) must meet the following requirements:

(a) The fenced area must be circular or have at least eight equal sides and must be no smaller than 20 feet wide and no larger than 32 feet wide.

(b) The floor must be padded with ensolite or another similar closed-cell foam, with at least a one-inch layer of foam padding, with a top covering of canvas, duck, or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the platform of the fenced area. Material that tends to gather in lumps or ridges is not permitted.

(c) The platform of the fenced area must not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and must have suitable steps for the use of the unarmed combatants.

(d) Fence posts must be made of metal, not more than six inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to between five and seven feet above the floor of the fenced area, and must be properly padded in a manner approved by the board.

(e) The fencing used to enclose the area must be made of a material that will prevent an unarmed combatant from falling out of the fenced area or breaking through the fenced area onto the floor of the building or onto the spectators, including without limitation, chain link fence coated with vinyl.

(f) Any metal portion of the fenced area must be covered and padded in a manner approved by the board and must not be abrasive to the unarmed combatants.

(g) The fenced area must have two entrances.

(h) There must not be any obstruction on any part of the fence surrounding the area in which the unarmed combatants are to be competing. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1502 and 24.117.1503 reserved

24.117.1504 DURATION OF CONTESTS AND EXHIBITIONS (1) Except upon approval of the board, all nonchampionship contests or exhibitions of mixed martial arts must not exceed three rounds in duration.

(2) A championship contest or exhibition must be five rounds in duration.

(3) A period of unarmed combat in a contest or exhibition of mixed martial arts must be five minutes in duration. A period of rest following a period of unarmed combat in a contest or exhibition of mixed martial arts must be one minute in duration. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1505 and 24.117.1506 reserved

24.117.1507 WEIGHT CLASSES OF UNARMED COMBATANTS - WEIGHT LOSS AFTER WEIGH-IN (1) Except upon approval by the board, the weight classes for mixed martial arts unarmed combatants are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| (a) Flyweight | up to 125 lbs. |
| (b) Bantamweight | over 125 to 135 lbs. |
| (c) Featherweight | over 135 to 145 lbs. |
| (d) Lightweight | over 145 to 155 lbs. |
| (e) Welterweight | over 155 to 170 lbs. |
| (f) Middleweight | over 170 to 185 lbs. |
| (g) Light heavyweight | over 185 to 205 lbs. |
| (h) Heavyweight | over 205 to 265 lbs. |
| (i) Super heavyweight | over 265 lbs. |

(2) Following weigh-in of mixed martial arts unarmed combatants, the following weight loss is not permitted:

- (a) in excess of two pounds for combatants weighing in at 145 lbs. or less;
and
- (b) in excess of three pounds for combatants weighing in at over 145 pounds.
- (3) The above weight loss must not occur later than two hours after initial weigh-in. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1508 and 24.117.1509 reserved

24.117.1510 PROPER ATTIRE (1) Mixed martial arts combatants shall wear shorts as approved by the board or the board's inspector and shall not wear shoes or any padding on the combatant's feet during the contest or exhibition. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1511 and 24.117.1512 reserved

24.117.1513 METHOD OF JUDGING (1) Each judge shall score the contest or exhibition and determine the winner through the use of the following system:

(a) The better combatant of a round received ten points and the opponent proportionately less points.

(b) If a round is even, each combatant receives ten points.

(c) Rounds shall be scored in full points and no fraction of points may be given.

(d) Points for each round must be awarded immediately after the end of the period of combat in the round.

(2) The majority opinion is conclusive and, if there is no majority, the decision is scored a draw.

(3) After the inspector has checked the scores, the inspector shall inform the announcer of the decision. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1514 and 24.117.1515 reserved

24.117.1516 ACTS CONSTITUTING FOULS (1) The following acts constitute fouls in a mixed martial arts contest or exhibition:

- (a) butting with the head;
- (b) eye gouging of any kind;
- (c) biting;
- (d) hair pulling;
- (e) fish hooking;
- (f) groin attacks of any kind;
- (g) putting a finger into any orifice or into any cut or laceration of an opponent;
- (h) small joint manipulation;
- (i) striking to the spine or the back of the head;
- (j) striking downward using the point of the elbow;
- (k) throat strikes of any kind, including without limitation, grabbing the trachea;
- (l) clawing, pinching or twisting the flesh;
- (m) grabbing the clavicle;
- (n) kicking the head of a grounded opponent;
- (o) kneeing the head of a grounded opponent;
- (p) stomping a grounded opponent;
- (q) kicking to the kidney with the heel;
- (r) spiking an opponent to the canvas on the opponent's head or neck;
- (s) throwing an opponent out of the ring or fenced area;
- (t) holding the shorts or gloves of an opponent;
- (u) spitting at an opponent;
- (v) engaging in any unsportsmanlike conduct that causes injury to an opponent;
- (w) holding the ropes or the fence;
- (x) using abusive language in the ring or fenced area;
- (y) attacking an opponent on or during a break;
- (z) attacking an opponent who is under the care of the referee;
- (aa) attacking an opponent after the bell has sounded the end of the period;
- (ab) flagrantly disregarding the instructions of the referee;
- (ac) timidity, including without limitation, avoiding contact with an opponent, intentionally or consistently dropping the mouthpiece, or faking an injury;
- (ad) interference by the corner person; and
- (ae) throwing in the towel during competition. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1517 and 24.117.1518 reserved

24.117.1519 DEDUCTION OF POINTS FOR FOULS (1) If a mixed martial arts combatant fouls an opponent during a contest or exhibition, the referee may penalize the combatant by deducting points from the score, whether or not the foul was intentional. Except as otherwise provided in rule, the referee may determine the number of points to be deducted in each instance and shall base the decision on the severity of the foul and its effect upon the opponent.

(2) When the referee decides to make a point deduction because of a foul, the referee shall warn the offender of the penalty to be assessed.

(3) The referee shall, as soon as is practical after the foul, notify the judges and both combatants of the number of points to be deducted from the offender's score.

(4) Any point or points must be deducted in the round in which the foul occurred and may not be deducted from the score of any subsequent round.

(History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1520 and 24.117.1521 reserved

24.117.1522 ACCIDENTAL FOULS (1) If a contest or exhibition is stopped because of an accidental foul, the referee shall determine whether or not the combatant who has been fouled can continue. If the fouled combatant's chance of winning has not been seriously jeopardized as a result of the accidental foul and if the foul did not involve a concussive impact to the head of the fouled combatant, the referee may order the contest or exhibition continued after a recuperative interval of not more than five minutes. Immediately after separating the combatants, the referee shall inform the board inspector of the determination that the foul was accidental.

(2) If the referee determines that a contest or exhibition may not continue because of an injury suffered as a result of an accidental foul, the contest or exhibition must be declared a no contest if the foul occurred during:

(a) the first two rounds of a contest or exhibition scheduled for three rounds or less; or

(b) the first three rounds of a contest or exhibition scheduled for more than three rounds.

(3) If an accidental foul renders a combatant unable to continue after the completed second round of a contest or exhibition scheduled for three rounds or less, or the completed third round of a contest or exhibition scheduled for more than three rounds, the judges shall score the completed rounds and the round during which the referee stops the contest or exhibition.

(4) If an injury inflicted by an accidental foul later becomes aggravated by fair blows and the referee orders the contest or exhibition stopped because of the injury, the judges shall score the completed rounds and the round during which the referee stops the contest or exhibition. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Rules 24.117.1523 and 24.117.1524 reserved

24.117.1525 CONTEST RESULTS (1) A mixed martial arts contest or exhibition may end under the following results:

- (a) submission by:
 - (i) physical tap out; or
 - (ii) verbal tap out;
- (b) technical knockout by the referee stopping the contest or exhibition;
- (c) decision via the scorecards, including:
 - (i) unanimous decision;
 - (ii) split decision;
 - (iii) majority decision; or
 - (iv) draw, including:
 - (A) unanimous draw;
 - (B) majority draw; or
 - (C) split draw;
 - (d) technical decision;
 - (e) technical draw;
 - (f) disqualification;
 - (g) forfeit; or
 - (h) no contest. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-404, 23-3-405, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)

Subchapters 16 through 22 reserved

Subchapter 23

Unprofessional Conduct

24.117.2301 UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT In addition to the provisions of 37-1-316, MCA, the board defines "unprofessional conduct" as follows:

- (1) violating, or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of Title 23, chapter 3, MCA, or rule promulgated thereunder, or any order of the board;
- (2) violating any state, federal, provincial or tribal statute or administrative rule governing or affecting the professional conduct of any licensee;
- (3) impersonating any licensee or representing oneself as a licensee for which one has no current license;
- (4) failing to put in trust or otherwise properly segregate funds in connection with a specific project for a specific purpose;
- (5) breaching any contract with any person contracting for services of the license holder, which breach results in a material injury to another person;
- (6) failing to use a legible written contract or statement containing the following terms:
 - (a) the date of the match,
 - (b) compensation,
 - (c) the promoter's name, address, license number and expiration date,
 - (d) the weight at which the contestant will weigh in,
 - (e) the name, address and telephone number of the board;
- (7) offering, giving or promising anything of value or benefit to any federal, state or local employee or official for the purpose of influencing that employee or official to circumvent federal, state or local law, regulation or ordinance governing the licensee's profession;
- (8) using any dangerous drug or controlled substance illegally while providing professional services;
- (9) failing to cooperate with a board inspection or investigation in any material respect;
- (10) failing to report an incident of unsafe practice or unethical conduct of another licensee to the licensing authority. (History: 23-3-405, 37-1-319, MCA; IMP, 23-3-603, 37-1-308, MCA; NEW, 1996 MAR p. 1664, Eff. 6/21/96; TRANS, from Commerce, 2001 MAR p. 2148.)

Rule 24.117.2302 reserved

24.117.2303 LICENSE SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION (1) The board adopts and incorporates by reference, and shall follow all provisions regarding license suspension and revocation of the uniform professional licensing and regulation procedures as set forth in Title 37, chapter 1, part 3, MCA. (History: 23-3-405, MCA; IMP, 23-3-405, 37-1-131, 37-1-136, 37-1-303, 37-1-307, 37-1-308, 37-1-309, 37-1-310, 37-1-311, 37-1-312, 37-1-313, 37-1-314, MCA; NEW, 2006 MAR p. 1161, Eff. 5/5/06.)