

World Professional Boxing Federation

United States Boxing Council



WPBF



USBC

GENERAL RULES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

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GENERAL RULES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

The WPBF adopts and incorporates by reference the Uniform Rules and Regulatory Guidelines of the Association of Boxing Commission as amended from time to time for all WPBF World Championships and Regional or other recognized Championships. In the event of a dispute regarding the rules, guidelines or any other issue that is not clearly covered in the following rules, the supervising commission of the bout will be the final authority.

Article 1. Duration of Rounds

- 1.1 All WPBF sanctioned bout shall be scheduled for no more than twelve (12) rounds for males and ten (10) rounds for female. Each round shall be three (3) minutes duration for male boxers and two (2) minutes for female boxer with a one (1) minute rest period between rounds.

Article 2. Weight and Weigh-In Ceremony

- 2.1 **Timing of Initial Weigh-In.** The official weigh-in shall be no less than twenty (20) nor more than twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled start time of the bout. The scales to be used at the official weigh-in must be available to both boxers at least two (2) hours prior to the official weigh-in.
- 2.2 **Weight Determines the Championship.** If either or both contestants fail to make the prescribed weight at the prearranged time for the official weigh-in, either or both of them shall have two (2) additional hours to make the prescribed weight.
- 2.3 **Champion's Failure to Make Weight.** If a Champion fails to make the prescribed weight, after the two (2) additional hours, the title shall be forfeited on the scale, but the bout may still continue take place as a twelve (12) rounds fight for the vacant title. If the Challenger having made the prescribed weight and wins the bout, the Challenger shall be declared the winner of the vacant title, but if the overweight champion wins the bout, the title shall remain vacant.
- 2.4 **Challenger's Failure to Make Weight.** If the Champion makes the prescribed weight and the Challenger fail to do so, the Champion shall retain the title, whether wins or loses the bout.
- 2.5 **Failure to Make Weight for Vacant Title or Elimination Bout.** If a contestant fail to make the prescribed weight in a fight for a vacant title or elimination bout, the bout may continue take place as a vacant title or elimination bout at the discretion of the WPBF supervisor. If a contestant who makes the weight defeats another contestant who did not make the weight, he shall be declared the winner of the vacant title or the elimination bout.
- 2.6 **Both Boxers Failure to Make Weight.** If both the contestants fail to make the prescribed weight in a fight for a vacant title or elimination bout, the sanction of the bout will be withdrawn.

2.7 Weigh-ins For Postponement. If a sanctioned bout is postponed more than 48 hours, a new weigh-in shall be necessary.

2.8 Weight Divisions. The Championships shall be recognized in the following 17 weight divisions:

Weight Division	Maximum Weight
Heavyweight	Over 200 Lb. (90.71 Kg)
Cruiserweight	Not over 200 Lb. (90.71 Kg)
Light Heavyweight	Not over 175 Lb. (79.38 Kg)
Super Middleweight	Not over 168 Lb. (76.20 Kg)
Middleweight	Not over 160 Lb. (72.57 Kg)
Super Welterweight	Not over 154 Lb. (69.85 Kg)
Welterweight	Not over 147 Lb. (66.68 Kg)
Super Lightweight	Not over 140 Lb. (63.50 Kg)
Lightweight	Not over 135 Lb. (61.23 Kg)
Super Featherweight	Not over 130 Lb. (58.97 Kg)
Featherweight	Not over 126 Lb. (57.15 Kg)
Super Bantamweight	Not over 122 Lb. (55.34 Kg)
Bantamweight	Not over 118 Lb. (53.52 Kg)
Super Flyweight	Not over 115 Lb. (52.16 Kg)
Flyweight	Not over 112 Lb. (50.80 Kg)
Light Flyweight	Not over 108 Lb. (48.99 Kg)
Minimumweight	Not over 105 Lb. (47.62 Kg)

Article 3. Physical Examinations

3.1 In order to protect the safety and health of the boxers who participate in a WPBF sanctioned championship contests, all boxers must submit to a thorough medical examination by the Ringside Physician of the local boxing commission. It will be the sole responsibility of the local boxing commission, to determine whether a boxer is physically fit by allowing to participating in a WPBF sanctioned bout. If the physician's certification fails to certify that the boxer is physically fit to safely fight, the boxer will not allow participate in any WPBF sanctioned bout. It will be the sole responsibility of the local boxing commission, in regards to medical matters, to approve or disapprove a boxing title bout. The WPBF and USBC shall have no responsibility, whatsoever, for any consequence or outcome resulting from compliance or non compliance of these rules by the promoter, boxer, managers, trainers or local boxing commission. The WPBF recommend that each local boxing commission to consider the use of the WPBF Medical and Safety Guidelines.

3.2 In order to ensure the judges and referees are physically fit to officiate in any WPBF sanctioned bout, all judges and referees must pass a physical examination by the physician of the local boxing commission, after the weigh-in ceremony, which include: a) Blood pressure test; b) Heart rate test; c) Reflexes test; d) Ophthalmological test; e) Neurological test; f) Psychological test.

Article 4. Insurance Requirements

- 4.1 Each boxer shall be covered by the minimum amount of medical and life insurance that provides medical coverage for any injuries sustained during a WPBF sanctioned bout, and life insurance payable to the boxer's beneficiary in case of accidental death resulting from injuries sustained during a WPBF sanctioned bout.
- 4.2 The Promoter must submit proof of insurance coverage to the local boxing commission for the verification that medical and life insurance have been obtained for each boxer no later than 4 days prior to the bout. The WPBF and USBC shall have no responsibility or liability, whatsoever, for any consequence or outcome resulting from compliance or non-compliance of these rules by the promoter, boxer, managers, trainers or local commission.

Article 5. Knockdown and Knockout

- 5.1 A boxer shall be deemed to be down when any part of his body, except his feet are on the ring floor, or if he is still rising from the down position and not standing upright, or if he is hanging helplessly over the ropes as a result of a legal blow as ruled by the referee, who is the only person authorized to determine this.
- 5.2 The Mandatory Eight (8) Count after knockdowns will be standard procedure in any WPBF sanctioned bout, there is no standing eight (8) count, three (3) knockdowns in any one round do not automatically terminate the fight. If in the referee's judgment, which must be keen and decisive, the knockdowns have been indecisive and clearly have no injurious effect upon the boxer, the contest may continue but with good sense and judgment and the boxer's welfare always paramount.
- 5.3 When a boxer is knocked down, the referee shall audibly announce the count as he motions with his right arm downward indicating the end of each second of the count. If the boxer taking the count is still down when the referee calls the count of ten (10) the referee shall wave both arms indicate that the boxer has been knocked out.
- 5.4 When a boxer has been knocked down, the referee shall promptly order the opponent to the farthest neutral corner. If the opponent refuses to remain in the farthest neutral corner as direct by the referee, the referee shall discontinue the count and order his opponent back into the indicated corner, and then, the referee shall resume the count from the point at which it was interrupted.
- 5.5 A boxer who has fallen through the ropes and onto the floor as a result of a legal blow during the contest may not be assisted by anyone, and the referee shall start the count, which in this special case will be twenty (20) seconds. If the boxer assisted by anyone, the boxer may lose points or be disqualified with such a decision being within the sole discretion of the referee. If the boxer fails to re-enter the ring before the count of twenty (20) seconds, the referee shall wave both arms to indicate that the boxer has been knocked out.
- 5.6 The bell will not save a boxer in any round. If a boxer is "downed" just before the 3-minute

bell in any round, the timekeeper shall not ring the bell, the referee shall continue the count until the contestant rises or is counted out.

Article 6. Illegal Blows and Fouls

- 6.1** It is expressly understood that the championship contest will not be terminated by a low blow. The protector that must be used by both boxers is sufficient protection to withstand any so-called low blow.
- 6.2** If one of the boxers shall fall to the ring floor or otherwise indicate an unwillingness to continue because of a low-blow foul, the contest will be terminated and the referee will award the contest to the opponent.
- 6.3** In the case of an accidental foul as determined by the referee, he shall determine if the boxer who has been fouled can continue or not. If his chances have not been seriously jeopardized as a result of a foul, the referee may order the bout to continue after an interval of not more than five (5) minutes.
- 6.4** Any boxers intentional delivers illegal blows to his opponent during a contest will be penalized with loss of points or disqualification, depending upon the severity of the foul and the effect upon the opponent, subject to the referee's discretion.
- 6.5** A foul is an action by a boxer, identified by the referee, that does not meet the standard of a fair blow or the conduct of a responsible professional boxer. Fouls may include, but not limited to, the following types of contact or acts:
 1. Hitting an opponent below the navel or behind the ear;
 2. Hitting an opponent who is knocked down;
 3. Holding an opponent with one hand and hitting with the other;
 4. Holding or deliberately maintaining a clinch;
 5. Wrestling, kicking or roughing;
 6. Pushing an opponent about the ring or into the ropes;
 7. Butting with the head, shoulder, knee, elbow;
 8. Hitting with the open glove, the butt or inside of the hand, or back of the hand, the elbow or the wrist;
 9. Purposely falling down onto the canvas of the ring without being hit or for the purpose of avoiding a blow;
 10. Striking deliberately at that part of the body over the kidneys;
 11. Using the pivot blow (pivoting while throwing a punch) or the rabbit punch (punches thrown to the back of the head and neck areas);
 12. Jabbing the eyes with the thumb of the glove;
 13. Use of abusive language;
 14. Unsportsmanlike conduct causing injury to an opponent that does not meet the standard of a fair blow;
 15. Hitting on the break;
 16. Intentionally spitting out the mouthpiece;

17. Hitting on or out of the ropes;
18. Holding rope and hitting;
19. Biting/spitting;
20. Not following referee's instructions;
21. Stepping on opponent;
22. Crouching below opponent's belt;
23. Leaving neutral corner; and
24. Corner second shouting.



Article 7. Injuries (Cuts) Sustained By Fouls

7.1 Fair Blows.

If a boxer sustains an injury from a fair blow and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout, the injured boxer shall lose by TKO (Technical Knockout).

7.2 Intentional Fouls:

- a) If an intentional foul causes an injury, and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout immediately, the boxer causing the injury shall lose by Disqualification.
- b) If an intentional foul causes an injury, and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee shall notify the authorities and deduct two (2) points from the boxer who caused the foul. Point deductions for intentional fouls will be mandatory.
- c) If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the bout being stopped in a later round, the injured boxer will win by **TECHNICAL DECISION** if he is ahead on the score cards; and the bout will result in a **TECHNICAL DRAW** if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards.
- d) If the boxer injures himself while attempting to intentionally foul his opponent, the referee will not take any action in his favor, and this injury shall be the same as one produced by a fair blow.
- e) If the referee feels that a boxer has conducted himself in an unsportsman-like manner, the referee may stop the bout and disqualify the boxer.

7.3 Accidental Fouls.

- a) If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout will result in a **NO DECISION** if stopped before four (4) completed rounds. Four (4) rounds are complete when the bell rings signifying the end of the fourth round.
- b) If an accidental foul causes an injury severe for the referee to stop the bout immediately after four (4) rounds have occurred, the bout will result in a **TECHNICAL DECISION**

awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped.

- c) Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored. If no action has occurred, the round should be scored as an even round. This is at the discretion of the judges.
- d) A boxer who is hit with an accidental low blow must continue after a reasonable amount of time but no more than five (5) minutes, or he will lose the fight.

Article 8. Ringside Physicians

8.1 There shall be at least two (2) ringside physicians at ringside at all times, the ringside Physicians shall be seated as close as possible to the corners where the boxers sit between rounds. The ringside physician may enter the ring to examine a boxer's injury when asked by the Referee to do so and may advise his opinion on the injury to the Referee.

Article 9. Emergency Equipment and Personnel

9.1 The ring and seating layout should have an unobstructed, clear path to the ring for emergency purposes. This path should be wide enough to allow paramedics access to the ring with an ambulance stretcher and any necessary medical equipment. No bout shall begin or continue unless such personnel and equipment are on the premises in a state of readiness. The local commission is responsible for ensure that the following emergency medical equipment and personnel must be in place at all times during the event:

- a) An ambulance with at least two (2) licensed EMT's or paramedics, arrangements should be made to allow the ambulance to park as close to the boxing arena as possible with easy access to the main floor/ring;
- b) A portable resuscitator with all additional equipment necessary for its operation;
- c) Portable oxygen supply (put at the Commission table/ringside and one in each dressing room (total of three required);
- d) A clean stretcher and clean blanket to be located along with the ambulance attendants, at a location determined by the local commission.

Article 10. Size of Ring

10.1 The rings to be used for any WPBF sanctioned bouts shall measure no less than eighteen (18) feet (5.5m) and no more than twenty-four (24) feet (7.3m) long for each side between the ropes. All boxing rings must be equipped with four (4) parallel ring ropes each no less than one inch (25.4 mm) thick in diameter, all the ropes shall be covered with a soft material.

Article 11. Selection of Gloves

11.1 The Promoter shall be responsible to provide not less than four (4) pairs of new gloves to be selected by both boxers. The gloves may not be twisted, manipulated or altered in any manner, if the Gloves found to be twisted, manipulated, altered, unfit or ill-fitting shall be replaced. The weight of the gloves to be used in any WPBF sanctioned bouts shall be based

on the weight division of sanctioned contests, as follows:

- a) **Eight (8) Ounce gloves** shall be used for the Minimumweight (105Lbs/47.62Kg) up to Welterweight (147Lbs/66.68Kg) division;
- b) **Ten (10) Ounce gloves** shall be used for the Super Welterweight (154Lbs/69.85Kg) up to Heavyweight (Over 200Lbs/90.71Kg) division;

- 11.2 Prior to the Official Rules Meeting, each boxer or his/her representative shall inform the promoters or local commission as to the boxer's preferred brand and color of gloves.
- 11.3 If the two boxers cannot agree on the brand and color of gloves, the WPBF supervisor or local commission shall make the determination.
- 11.4 At the conclusion of the official rules meeting, the WPBF Supervisor or local commission shall announce the brand and color of the gloves to be worn by both boxers during the bout.
- 11.5 Upon the selection of the gloves, the WPBF Supervisor shall impound the gloves and keep them in a secure location until the gloves are put on by both boxers.

Article 12. Bandages

- 12.1 In all weight division the bandages shall be restricted to no more than twelve (12) yards of soft gauze, no more than two (2) inches wide. The gauze shall be held in place by no more than eight (8) feet of adhesive tape, no more than one and one (1) inch wide for each hand. The adhesive 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. The Bandages shall be applied in the dressing room in the presence of an inspector and if requested, an opponent's representative. The each boxer's bandages shall be signed by the inspector.

Article 13. Ring Attire & Protective Equipment

- 13.1 The Boxers shall wear boxing shorts, groin protectors, shoes and a custom-made, individually fitted mouthpiece. The use of a mouthpiece and groin protectors is compulsory for all boxers participating in any WPBF sanctioned bouts. All boxers must be prepared two (2) mouthpieces at the start of the bout, the round cannot begin without the mouthpiece. When a boxer loses his mouthpiece during a round, the Referee will call time and have another clean mouthpiece replaced at the first opportune moment, without interfering with the immediate action. Points may be deducted by the referee if the Referee feels the mouthpiece is being purposely spit out.

Article 14. Dressing Room

- 14.1 The Promoters shall be responsible to provide separate dressing room facilities for both boxers.

Article 15. Ring Occupants

- 15.1 No person other than the boxers and the referee shall enter the ring during a bout. For a championship fight there may be four seconds. Between rounds, one second may be inside the ring and two (2) of the seconds on the ring apron, with the fourth second remaining off the apron on the floor.
- 15.2 The physician may enter the ring if asked by the referee, the supervising commission or the inspectors to examine an injury to a boxer.
- 15.3 No contestant shall leave the ring during any one-minute rest period between rounds.
- 15.4 The referee may, in his/her discretion, stop a contest, if an unauthorized person enters the ring during a round.

Article 16. Drugs and Stimulants

- 16.1 The use of prohibited drugs, stimulants either before or during a bout to or by any boxer is absolutely prohibited. Any of the contestants violating this rule shall be subject to disqualification. Any substance other than plain water or an electrolyte solution approved by the ringside physician shall be given to a contestant during the course of a bout is absolutely prohibited. The discretionary use of Vaseline around the eyes is permitted, however, the use of Vaseline, grease or any other substance on the arms, legs and body is prohibited.
- 16.2 The use of coagulants, such as Adrenaline 1/1000, Avitene or Thrombin shall be allowed between rounds to stop the bleeding of minor cuts and lacerations sustained by a contestant. The use of "iron type" coagulants, such as Monsel's solution is absolutely prohibited, and the use of such coagulants to or by any contestant shall be considered a violation and shall be cause for immediate disqualification.
- 16.3 In all WPBF sanctioned bout, the Anti-Doping Tests must be mandatory, each boxer is required to take a urinalysis before and/or after the fight. The specimen must be taken with a ringside physician and commission inspector on hand. The specimens should be taken in a plastic container and clearly marked by the physician and boxer.
- 16.4 The following items are forbidden and shall not be worn or applied during a bout:
- A. General Items:**
- Spectacles (contact lenses);
 - Dentures;
 - Individual removable false teeth;
 - Rings;
 - Watches, charms, bracelets, or necklaces of any description;
 - Head bands and hair nets;
 - Earrings;

- Hearing aids; and
- Any plastic or metallic attachments to the trunks of a boxer;
- Any gauze, band-aides, dressings to the facial, scalp, neck,arms,back,or chest areas;
- Plaster or fibreglass casts;
- Butterfly or steristrip sutures on the facial, neck, ear,scalp,chest,arm or back areas;
- Suture material of any kind in the skin of a boxer's face, ears, neck, scalp or chest;
- Sub-cuticular suture in the face, neck, ear or chest;
- Beards or facial hair of more than forty-eight (48) hours growth are not permitted. (Note: a mustache is permitted; provided the ends do not extend below the upper lip and mouth area and the hairs are less than three-quarter (3/4) inches in length);
- Hair length of the frontal scalp area should not interfere with the vision of the boxer; If the physician feels that the frontal hair length poses a danger to the eyes and hence the vision of the boxer, the physician may order the frontal hair cut to a shorter length. If the posterior hair length is such that its swishing effect may harm a boxer's opponent, the physician may order the posterior hair to be knotted.

B. Medical Items:

- Stimulants (amphetamine, fencamfamine, cocaine, etc.)
- Narcotic analgesics (heroin, morphine, etc.)
- Diuretics (furosemide, thalazide, etc.)
- Sedative hypnotics (barbiturates, phenobarbital, secobarbital, etc.)
- Hallucinogens (marijuana, LSD, mescaline, etc.)
- A trace of 100 up to 200 nanograms will result in a warning and severe fine.
- A trace of 200 or more nanograms will result in disqualification or suspension.

16.5 The Boxer shall be restricted to the use of materials during a bout issued to them or approved by the local boxing commission's physician, as follows:

- Thrombin, Avetine, Thrombin soaked pads;
- Adrenalin 1/1000 solution, restricted for topical haemostasis of cuts and nosebleeds only;
- Vaseline or petroleum jelly;
- Gauze pads;
- Cotton swabs;
- Adhesive surgeon's tape;
- Clean towels;
- Clean water;
- Ice;
- Bandage scissors;
- Electrolyte solution prior approval by the local commission's physician;

- Any other items or substances that have been approved by the local commission's physician.

Article 17. Seconds

17.1 Number of Seconds. Each Boxers participating in any WPBF sanctioned bouts shall be allowed not more than four (4) seconds, one inside the ring, two on the ring apron, and one at ground level. One of seconds shall be designated as Chief Second shall be responsible for the conduct of the corner during the fight.

17.2 Chief Second and Corner Duties. No second may enter the ring to assist or move a boxers who has been knocked-down or injured, unless instructed to do so by ringside physicians, or the bell has rung or the bout has been terminated by the referee. A boxer may lose points or be disqualified for the conduct of his chief second or corner(s).

Before a contest begins:

- a) The chief second and other cornermen for each boxer shall be identified for the inspector and the referee. Only those so identified shall be allowed in the boxer's corner;
- b) Before putting on gloves, each boxer shall present his wrapped hands for inspection by the inspector;
- c) The corner shall present the boxer, ready to box, when the referee calls the boxers to ring center for final instructions;
- d) Sealed sport drinks must be presented to the inspector for examination before the bout or they may not be used.

During the round, seconds:

- a) Must remain seated;
- b) Must not mount the stairs or apron or enter the ring until the bell indicates the end of a round;
- c) Must refrain from excessive coaching of his/her boxer;
- d) Shall signal the referee to stop the fight by mounting the ring apron rather than throwing towels, sponges or anything else into the ring. Only the Referee can stop the contest, and he may consult with the ringside physician on the physical condition of either boxer at any time.

During the one minute rest period:

- a) May coach his/her boxer;
- b) May treat cuts/abrasions and/or swelling;
- c) May provide water, ice, approved sports drinks, or other cooling-down techniques;
- d) Must leave the ring at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle that is given ten seconds before a round begins;
- e) Shall remove all items in the ring and on the ring platform prior to the bell sounding the beginning of the round.

Article 18. Referee

18.1 Appoint of Referee. The one referee shall be appointed by the WPBF President, the referee is the sole arbiter of a bout and is the only individual authorized to stop a contest.

18.2 Referee's Responsibilities Before the Bout.

1) Meet with each boxer and his chief second in their dressing room:

- a) Warn the seconds about violations of seconds rules, and if they do not comply, the referee shall warn them that further violations will result in disqualification of their boxer;
- b) Identify the belt/hip line and clarify that the equipment shall not extend above this imaginary line.
- c) Explain what you will do when the warning sounds, indicating that the end of the round is near, and when the bell sounds ending the round.
- d) Explain to the chief second that he/she is expected to manage the corner (clean up spills and/or ice, wipe off excess Vaseline, and ensure that the boxer has his/her mouthpiece in place before the start of each round).
- e) Share how you will direct the boxers to break (i.e., "punch" or "get out" and, if necessary, "hold your punches" and step in and break the boxers.
- f) Review fouls and how you will issue cautions and/or deducts points.
- g) Inspect signed bandages;
- h) Ask the boxer and chief second if they have any questions.

2) Meet with the physician(s) to:

- a) Determine his/her ringside experience.
- b) Determine where the physician(s) will be located at ringside during the conduct of the bouts.
- c) Inform/remind the physician that he/she is not to enter the ring unless instructed to do so by the referee.
- d) Specify the signal the referee will use to call the physician into the ring.
- e) Specify the signal the referee will use to call the physician to a neutral corner.
- f) Direct the physician to mount the ring apron quickly if called to examine a boxer during the bout, make a quick examination (no more than five to ten seconds), and communicate with the referee. Determine in advance how the physician will communicate his/her findings with the referee.
- g) Direct the physician not to make any statements after examining a boxer that could change the dynamics of the bout, such as "Let it go one more round."
- h) Discuss the boxers and some of the things the physician may see during the fight (i.e., one boxer usually bleeds from the nose).
- i) Obtain pre-fight medical exam.

- 3) Check the condition of the ring to ensure that everything is ready for the bout (buckets and stairs in red and blue corners, rope tension, ring floor and canvas condition, etc.).
- 4) At all times, the referee shall be aware of the ringside location of the:
 1. Physicians;
 2. Timekeeper; and
 3. Knock-down judge.
- 5) **When boxers enter the ring:**
 - a) Inspect the gloves of the boxers and make sure that no foreign substances have been applied to the gloves or bodies of the boxers that might be detrimental to an opponent.
 - b) Inspect the gloves, trunks, shoes (double knot and/or taped) hair, mouthpiece, safety equipment (re-establish the belt line), and check for jewelry.
 - c) After the ring announcer makes introductions, call the boxers to center ring, give final instructions, direct boxers to return to their corners, and clear the ring and ring apron in preparation for the contest.
 - d) Before starting each bout, check each judge, the timekeeper and the physician(s) to determine if they are ready before signaling the timekeeper to start the contest.

18.3 Referee's Responsibilities During the Bout

- a) Ensure the safety of the boxers.
- b) Enforce all the championship rules of the WPBF that apply to the execution of performance and the conduct of boxers' seconds while he/she is in the ring.
- c) Maintain control of the fight at all stages and issue cautions and/or deduct points as appropriate.
- d) Whenever the gloves of a boxer touch the canvas floor, whether by accident or by knockdown, physically inspect the gloves and wipe them clean before the bout proceeds.
- e) If a boxer is cut, the referee may interrupt the bout to consult the ringside physician to determine if the injured boxer can continue or not.
- f) If the ringside physician steps on the ring apron, the referee may call time-out and have the injured boxer examined by this physician. Final authority to stop or continue a bout rests with the referee.
- g) Immediately stop a contest to inform the WPBF Supervisor and boxers of an injury caused by a head butt or foul, determine if the act was intentional or accidental, and determine if the bout can continue.
- h) Instruct the judges to mark their scorecards accordingly when he has assessed a foul upon one of the boxers.
- i) If the boxer taking the count is still down when the referee calls the count of ten, or, if in the opinion of the referee, the boxer who was knocked down is in no condition

to continue, the referee shall wave both arms to indicate a knockout.

- j) If both boxers go down at the same time, counting shall be continued as long as one of them is still down. If both boxers remain down until the count of ten, the contest shall be stopped and the decision shall be a technical draw.
- k) At the end of each round, pick up the scorecards from each of the three (3) judges and present these scorecards to the official scorekeeper.

18.4 Referee's Responsibilities After the Bout Ends

- a) Pick up the scorecards from each of the three (3) judges, the official scorekeeper shall tally the score by rounds on a score sheet.
- b) Inspect the bandages of both boxers after their gloves have been removed.
- c) Call the boxers to center ring and raise the hand of the winner after his name is announced.
- d) Maintain control of the ring, boxers, and seconds until the winner has been announced and they have all exited the ring.

Article 19. Judges

19.1 Appoint of Judges. The scoring shall be done by three (3) judges, appointed by the WPBF President.

19.2 Scoring criteria. The scoring shall be done on a **TEN POINT** must system. Judges are to score each round using the following scoring criteria:

- a) Clean punching (power versus quantity).
- b) Effective aggressiveness.
- c) Ring generalship.
- d) Defense.

19.3 Incomplete or partial rounds. In the event that the bout is stopped in the middle of the round, the judges shall score ALL incomplete or partials rounds as if they were a complete round.

19.4 Knockdowns. Judges shall deduct points for knockdowns only when they are called as such by the referee.

19.5 Point deductions. Judges may only deduct points for fouls when they are instructed to do so by the referee.

19.6 General guidelines for the "10 Point Must System". Judges should avoid scoring a round even. (Complete concentration and application of the scoring criteria will allow Judges to pick the winner of each round.) The basic scoring concepts are:

- a) Round ends, no clear winner - 10-10 (Rare)
- b) Close round/Winning of the round by effective boxing – 10-9
- c) One knockdown and a winning of the round – 10-8

- d) No knockdowns, but a clear dominating winning of the round – 10-8
- e) Two knockdowns – 10-7
- f) One knockdown and one point deduction to the same boxer 10-8 (minus 1) = 10-7
- g) More than two knockdowns – 10-6
- h) Two knockdowns and one point deduction – 10-7 (minus 1) = 10-6

Article 20. Timekeeper

- 20.1** Subject to the requirements and discretion of the local commission, it is the WPBF's recommendation that two timekeepers should be used, but one may suffice. One keeps the time of the rounds, the other is utilized for the knockdown call. Two stopwatches are to be used.
- 20.2** For Male bouts, each round shall be three (3) minutes in duration, with a one (1) minute rest period between rounds. For Female bouts, each round shall be two (2) minutes in duration, with a one (1) minute rest period between rounds.
- 20.3** The timekeeper shall be seated beside the ring close to the sound device. The timekeeper shall indicate the beginning and ending of each round by activating the sound device. Ten (10) seconds before the beginning of each round, the timekeeper shall sound a warning buzzer or whistle and announce "seconds out" in a loud, clear voice. The timekeeper shall indicate that there are ten (10) seconds remaining in each round by knocking loudly on a table with a hammer or similar instrument.
- 20.4** When a boxer is "down" the knockdown timekeeper shall immediately start counting the elapsed seconds in a loud, clear voice. He shall indicate each elapsed second with progressive upraised fingers until the referee has either taken up his count or told the boxer to "box".
- 20.5** When the referee orders and signals "time", the timekeeper shall stop the watch and only restart it when the referee orders "box". The timekeeper must always be alert to accept any signals from the referee.

Article 21. Supervisor

- 21.1** Any attendee appointed by the WPBF President to attend any WPBF sanctioned bouts will be an official capacity. The WPBF President shall attend or he shall appoint not exceed two (2) Supervisor(s) to represent the WPBF and its president to attend any WPBF sanctioned championship and elimination bout. The duties of the Supervisor shall be to assist the local commission to perform the bout and to ensure that all the WPBF Championship rules are complied, and the supervisor is empowered to resolve all matters which arises as unforeseen circumstances requiring immediate solution. The Supervisor's decision in these unforeseen circumstances is final. The Supervisor has the authority to perform the following activities and duties:

- 1) Meet with the local commission;

- 2) Supervise for the weigh-ins to confirm weights;
- 3) Supervise for the medical examination by the local commission;
- 4) Approve the weight and quality of boxing gloves;
- 5) Collect license fees and officials payment;
- 6) Represent the WPBF at the official rules meeting;
- 7) Meet with the Ring Officials;
- 8) Maintain control over the scorecards of the judges;
- 9) Awarded a WPBF Championship Belt for the winner;
- 10) Oversees a drug testing after the bout;
- 11) Prepare the supervisor's report to the president.

Article 22. Official Rules Meeting

- 22.1** An official rules meeting shall take place shortly after the official weigh-in.
- 22.2** The host commission shall properly notify each of the boxers and the boxers' trainers of the date, time and precise location that the official rules meeting will take place.
- 22.3** Each boxer or his/her representative shall be present for the official rules meeting. The failure of a boxer or his/her representative to be present for the official rules meeting shall result in a fine in an amount equal to 1% of the purse monies to be earned by the offending boxer for that bout; and the fine shall be donated to the Professional Boxers Assistant Fund.
- 22.4** The official rules meeting shall be conducted by the local commissioner of the host commission, or an appropriate person designated by the WPBF supervisor.
- 22.5** During the official rules meeting, the WPBF supervisor or his/her designated representative shall:
1. explain the Championship Rules and answer any questions regarding an interpretation of these Rules;
 2. remind each boxer or his/her representative that only four (4) cornermen are allowed in the corner, and only one (1) cornerman is allowed inside the ropes, between rounds;
 3. Remind each boxer or his/her representative of the time they are required to report to the venue prior to their bout.

Article 23. Formal Attire of WPBF Ring Officials

- 23.1** All Referee in a WPBF sanctioned bout must wear the uniform consisting of light blue button shirt (long or short sleeved), black bow tie, black or dark blue trousers, black boxing shoes, rubber or latex gloves and the WPBF logo patch. The Referee will not wear any rings, glasses, necklace or any other metallic accessory while on the ring. All Judges shall wear the uniform consisting of a black suit, light blue button shirt (long or short sleeved), black bow tie, black boxing shoes and the WPBF logo patch, the WPBF supervisor may allow more casual dress for weather conditions, especially for winter.

Article 24. Seating of WPBF Officials at Ringside

- 24.1** There shall be a barricade between the ringside tables at which officials and others are seated and the seated area for the general public which shall consist of rope, a see-through

fence or other objects which function in a similar manner.

- 24.2 There shall be security personnel at each corner of the barricade.
- 24.3 All persons entering the ringside area shall have proper credentials.
- 24.4 The host commission shall have sole authority over the ringside area.
- 24.5 The host commission shall provide seating at the ringside tables for:
1. Members of the host commission and appropriate representatives;
 2. Physicians;
 3. Judges (including a “knock-down” judge);
 4. Timekeeper;
 5. Scorekeeper;
 6. Supervisor.
- 24.6 Physicians shall be seated as close as possible to the corners where the boxers sit between rounds.
- 24.7 Although emergency personnel do not have to be seated at ringside, the host commission shall ensure that emergency personnel have a clear path to the ring.
- 24.8 Judges shall be seated:
1. half way between the ring posts on three (3) sides of the ring;
 2. with an unobstructed view; and
 3. if possible, in an elevated chair.
- 24.9 No one seated at ringside shall possess or consume any alcoholic beverage.

Article 25. Presentation of the WPBF Championship Belt

- 25.1 The WPBF shall adopt a Championship Belt as a symbol for the Champion in each recognized weight divisions. The promoter must pay a fee determined by the WPBF for the purchase of a Championship Belt. The WPBF champion must wear his WPBF belt when entering into the ring to defend his title. Prior to the bout, the referee shall take possession of the WPBF Championship belt and present it to the WPBF supervisor in charge. At the end of the bout, after the announcement of the result by the ring announcer, the WPBF supervisor and a representative of the host commission shall award the WPBF championship belt to the winner. The WPBF supervisor and local commissioner shall escort the flag entering into the ring while national anthems are played.

Article 26. Decisions and Terms

- 26.1 The **Unanimous Decision (UD)** - A unanimous decision occurs when all three judges agree on a winner. Example: 116-114, 116-114, 115-113.
- 26.2 **Majority Decision (MD)** - A majority decision occurs when two of the three judges score one boxer as the winner, while the third judge scores neither boxer a winner (a draw). Example: 116-114, 116-114, 114-114.
- 26.3 **Majority Draw (MD)** - A majority draw occurs when two judges vote for a draw, while the third judge chooses a winner. The fight is recorded as a draw on both boxers' records. Example: 114-114, 114-114, 116-114.

- 26.4 Split Decision (SD)** - A split decision occurs when two of the three judges score one boxer as the winner, while the third judge scores the other boxer as the winner. Example: 116-114, 116-114, 113-115.
- 26.5 Split Draw** - A split occurs when one judge favors one boxer, the other judge favors the opposite boxer and the third judge scores the fight even. The fight is recorded as a draw on both boxers' records. Example: 116-114, 113-115, 114-114.
- 26.6 Draw (D)** - A draw is when both boxers tie or earn equal number of points from the judges' scoring the fight. Example: 1114-114, 114-114, 114-114.
- 26.7 Technical Decision (TD)** – If a fight is scheduled for more than four rounds and an accidental foul occurs causing an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the fight after four rounds have occurred the fight will result in a technical decision or TD awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the fight is stopped. If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the fight being stopped in a latter round, the injured boxer will win by Technical Decision if he is ahead on the score cards.
- 26.8 Technical Draw (TD)** - If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the fight being stopped in a latter round, the fight will result in a Technical Draw if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards.
- 26.9 Knocked Out (KO)** - A boxer loses by way knockout or KO when he or she is unable to get up unassisted after being floored by the count of ten.
- 26.10 Technical Knocked Out (TKO)** - A boxer loses by technical knockout or TKO if the referee intercedes and stops the fight declaring them unable to continue because of bad cuts or bruises, they cannot go on or cannot defend themselves.
- 26.11 Disqualification (DO)** - When a bout is stopped short of knockout or judges' decision because, intentionally, one or both contestants have repeatedly or flagrantly fouled an opponent or violated other rules. The disqualified boxer automatically loses the bout to the opponent. If both are disqualified, (termed a double disqualification) the result is usually declared a no contest regardless of round.
- 26.12 No Decision (ND)** - If a fight is scheduled for more than four rounds and an accidental foul occurs causing an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the fight, then the fight will result in a No Decision or ND if stopped before four completed rounds.
- 26.13 Referee Technical Decision (RTD)** - When a fight ends because a fighter refuses to continue (or a fighter's corner refuses to allow the fighter to continue).

Revised, Amended and Approved by the WPBF Board of Directors. Effective August 1,2010