

**PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET**  
**Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission**  
**(Amendment)**

**201 KAR 27:011. General requirements for boxing and kickboxing shows.**

RELATES TO: KRS 229.025, 229.031, 229.055, 229.111, 229.131, 229.155, 229.171, 15 U.S.C. 6304, 6305(a), (b)

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 229.025, 229.171, 15 U.S.C. 6304, 6305

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 229.171(1) authorizes the Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission to exercise sole direction, management, control, and jurisdiction over all unarmed combat shows in the ~~Commonwealth~~~~commonwealth~~. KRS 229.171(2) authorizes the commission to promulgate administrative regulations it considers necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions provided in KRS Chapter 229. KRS 229.025 requires every licensee to be subject to administrative regulations promulgated by the commission. 15 U.S.C. 6304 requires protection of the health and safety of boxers, and includes requirements for a physical examination, a physician to be present at ringside, an ambulance or resuscitation equipment, and health insurance coverage. 15 U.S.C. 6305 requires the commission to issue an identification card to each professional boxer who registers with the commission. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for boxing and kickboxing shows, and for participants in boxing and kickboxing shows.

**Section 1. Show Date.**

- (1) A promoter shall request a show date by completing and submitting to the commission the Boxing and Kickboxing Show Notice Form.
- (2) The Boxing and Kickboxing Show Notice Form shall be submitted to the commission for approval no less than thirty (30) calendar days before the requested show date.
- (3) A promoter shall not advertise a show until the date has been approved by the commission. Approval is effective upon the commission:
  - (a) Placing the event on the Calendar of Events available on the commission's Web site at [https://kbwc.ky.gov/ppc\\_boxing/Ecal.aspx](https://kbwc.ky.gov/ppc_boxing/Ecal.aspx)~~[http://ins.kbwa.ky.gov/ecal.asp]~~; or
  - (b) Providing written notice that the event is approved.

**Section 2. Program and Changes.**

- (1) If a contestant is unable to participate in a show for which the contestant has a contract, the contestant shall immediately notify the promoter and the commission. A contestant with repeated and unexcused absences or cancelations~~[a cancellation]~~ shall be issued a violation.
- (2) The proposed card for a show shall be filed with the commission at least five (5) business days prior to the show date. Notice of a change in a program or substitution in a show shall be immediately filed with the commission.
- (3) If the commission determines that a proposed bout may not be reasonably competitive, the bout may be denied. Bout approval does not exempt contestants~~[contestant]~~ from individual physical approval as required by 201 KAR 27:008, Section 3. The commission's determination shall be based upon the contestants' previous fighting experience, including:
  - (a) The number of bouts the contestants have competed in;
  - (b) The number of rounds the contestants have competed in;
  - (c) The date of the contestants' bouts;
  - (d) The contestants' performance in previous bouts, including the contestants' win-loss record;
  - (e) The level of competition the contestants have faced; and

- (f) The contestants' medical histories.
- (4) The final approved card for a show shall comprise a minimum of five (5) complete bouts, no later than two (2) business days prior to the show date.

### Section 3. Compensation.

- (1) If a show or exhibition is cancelled with less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the commission, ring officials shall be paid one-half (1/2) the compensation agreed upon prior to the bout.
- (2) Before the commencement of a show or exhibition, the promoter shall tender to the inspector payment to each ring official. The schedule of compensation for a ring official shall be at least as established in this section. If a ring official serves both as a referee and as a judge under Section 13(2)(a) of this regulation, the official shall receive pay for both referee and judge services as established in this section. If a referee also serves as a judge other than as an in-ring judge, the referee shall only receive compensation as a referee as established in this section.~~[as follows:]~~
  - (a) Judge: at least the amount set by the following schedule based on the number of bouts on the show card:~~[seventy-five (75) dollars each;]~~
    - 1. One (1) to eleven (11), \$125;
    - 2. Twelve (12) or more bouts, \$175.
  - (b) Timekeeper: at least the amount set by the following schedule based on the number of bouts on the show card:~~[seventy-five (75) dollars;]~~
    - 1. One (1) to eleven (11) bouts, \$100;
    - 2. Twelve (12) or more bouts, \$125.
  - (c) Physician: at least the amount set by the following schedule based on the number of bouts on the show card:~~[\$350;]~~
    - 1. One (1) to eleven (11) bouts, \$400; and
    - 2. Twelve (12) or more bouts, \$500.
  - (d) Each referee: At least the amount set by the following schedule based on the number of bouts on the show card: ~~[Referee: \$100 each; and]~~
    - 1. One (1) to eleven (11) bouts, \$150;
    - 2. Twelve (12) or more bouts, \$200.
  - (e) Each ~~[Bout]~~ assistant: at least the amount set by the following schedule based on the number of bouts on the show card:~~[seventy-five (75) dollars each;]~~
    - 1. One (1) to eleven (11) bouts, seventy-five (75) dollars; and
    - 2. Twelve (12) or more bouts, \$100.
- (3) Each contestant's compensation agreement shall be in writing and submitted to the commission for approval not less than two (2) calendar days prior to the date of the proposed show.

### Section 4. Pre-Fight.

- (1) A contestant shall weigh in stripped at a time set by the commission, which shall not be more than thirty-six (36) hours before the first scheduled bout of the show.
  - (a) A contestant shall produce one (1) form of picture identification at the weigh-in.
  - (b) The inspector and the promoter or a representative of the promoter conducting the show shall be in attendance to record the official weights.
- (2) A contestant shall check in with the commission at least one (1) hour prior to the event start time. A contestant shall produce one (1) form of picture identification at check-in.
- (3) A contestant shall attend a pre-fight meeting as directed by the commission.
- (4)
  - (a) A contestant shall remain in the locker room area until it is time to compete unless approved by the inspector.
  - (b) The promoter shall supply a separate locker room for males and females.

(5) A contestant shall submit an original or certified copy of his or her HIV Antibody, Hepatitis B Antigen, and Hepatitis C Antibody test results to the commission at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the event.

(a) The results of these tests shall be no more than 365 days old.

(b) A person with a positive test result shall not compete.

(6) A contestant shall undergo a pre-fight physical conducted by a physician within eight (8) hours of the show. Prior to undergoing the physical, a contestant shall submit a completed Boxing and Kickboxing Pre-Fight Medical Questionnaire under penalty of perjury.

(7) A contestant shall report to and be under the general supervision of the inspector in attendance at the show and shall comply with instructions given by the inspector.

#### Section 5. The Ring.

(1) The area between the ring and the first row of spectators on all four (4) sides and the locker room area shall be under the exclusive control of the commission. Commission staff and licensees shall be the only people allowed inside the areas under the control of the commission without inspector approval.

(2) An event held outdoors if the heat index is at or exceeds 100 degrees Fahrenheit shall be conducted under a roof or cover that casts shade over the entire ring.

(3)

(a) A ring shall have a canvas mat or similar material, unless the event is held outdoors in which case only canvas shall be used.

(b) A bout may be held in a mixed martial arts cage if the bout is in conjunction with a mixed martial arts event.

(4) There shall be an area of at least six (6) feet between the edge of the ring floor and the first row of spectator seats on all four (4) sides of the ring. A partition, barricade, or some type of divider shall be placed:

(a) Between the first row of the spectator seats and the six (6) foot area surrounding the ring; and

(b) Along the sides of the entry lane for contestants to enter the ring.

(5) Ring specifications shall be as established in this subsection.

(a) A bout shall be held in a four (4) sided roped ring.

1. The floor of the ring inside the ropes shall not be less than sixteen (16) feet square.

2. The floor of the ring shall extend beyond the ropes for a distance of not less than one (1) foot.

3. The floor of the ring shall be elevated not more than six (6) feet above the arena floor.

4. The ring shall have steps to enter the ring on two (2) sides.

(b) The ring shall be formed of ropes.

1. There shall be a minimum of three (3) ropes extended in a triple line at the following heights above the ring floor:

a. Twenty-four (24) inches;

b. Thirty-six (36) inches; and

c. Forty-eight (48) inches.

2. A fourth rope may be used if the inspector finds that it will not pose a health or safety concern.

3. The ropes shall be at least one (1) inch in diameter.

4. The ropes shall be wrapped in a clean, soft material and drawn taut.

5. The ropes shall be held in place with two (2) vertical straps on each of the four (4) sides of the ring.

6. The ropes shall be supported by ring posts that shall be:

- a. Made of metal or other strong material;
  - b. Not less than three (3) inches in diameter; and
  - c. At least eighteen (18) inches from the ropes.
- (c) The ring floor shall be padded or cushioned with a clean, soft material that:
  - 1. Is at least one (1) inch thick and uses slow recovery foam matting;
  - 2. Extends over the edge of the platform;
  - 3. Is covered with a single canvas stretched tightly; and
  - 4. Is, at the commencement of the event, clean, sanitary, dry, and free from:
    - a. Grit;
    - b. Dirt;
    - c. Resin; and
    - d. Any other foreign object or substance.
- (d) A ring rope shall be attached to a ring post by turnbuckles padded with a soft vertical pad at least six (6) inches in width.

#### Section 6. Equipment.

- (1) A bell or horn shall be used by the timekeeper to indicate the time.
- (2) In addition to the ring and ring equipment, the promoter shall supply:
  - (a) A public address system in good working order;
  - (b) Chairs for judges and timekeepers elevated sufficiently to provide an unobstructed view of the ring and the ring floor;
  - (c) Items for each contestant's corner, to include:
    - 1. A stool or chair;
    - 2. A clean bucket;
    - 3. Towels; and
    - 4. Rubber gloves;
  - (d) A complete set of numbered round-cards, if needed;
  - (e) Gloves for each boxer or kickboxer; and
  - (f) A scale used for weigh-in, which shall be approved as accurate in advance by the inspector.

#### Section 7. Contestant Equipment and Attire.

- (1) A contestant shall be clean and neatly attired in proper ring attire, and the trunks of opponents shall be of distinguishing colors.
- (2) A contestant shall not use a belt that:
  - (a) Extends above the waistline of the contestant; or
  - (b) Contains any metal substance during a bout.
- (3) A contestant shall wear shoes during a bout. The shoes shall not be fitted with spikes, cleats, hard soles, or hard heels.
- (4) A contestant shall wear a properly fitted:
  - (a) Groin protector; and
  - (b) Double-arch mouthpiece.
- (5) If a contestant has long hair, the hair shall be secured by a soft, non-abrasive material so that the hair does not interfere with the vision or safety of either contestant.
- (6) If cosmetics are used, a contestant shall use a minimum of cosmetics.
- (7) Boxing gloves.
  - (a) Contestants shall wear boxing gloves that shall be of the same weight for each contestant and:
    - 1. Dry, clean, and sanitary;
    - 2. Furnished by the promoter;
    - 3. Of equal weight, not to exceed twelve (12) ounces per glove;
    - 4. A minimum of eight (8) ounces per glove for a contestant weighing no more than 154 pounds;

5. A minimum of ten (10) ounces per glove for a contestant weighing over 154 pounds; and
  6. Thumbless or thumb-attached.
- (b) Gloves shall be new for main events and for bouts and exhibitions scheduled for ten (10) or more rounds.
  - (c) Gloves shall be approved or denied in accordance with this administrative regulation by the commission prior to a bout.
  - (d) Gloves for all main events shall be dry and free from defects and shall be put on in the ring or locker room while supervised by the inspector.
  - (e) Breaking, roughing, or twisting of gloves shall not be permitted.
  - (f) The laces on gloves shall be tied on the back of the wrist and taped.
  - (g) Kickboxing contestants shall wear padded kickboxing boots. The padding shall be sufficient to protect the kickboxer and his or her competitor.
- (8) Bandages.
- (a) For boxing and kickboxing, only soft cotton or linen bandages shall be used for the protection of the boxer or kickboxer's hands.
  - (b) Bandages shall not be more than two (2) inches in width and twelve (12) yards in length for each hand.
  - (c) If adhesive tape is used:
    1. Medical adhesive tape not more than one (1) inch in width shall be used to hold bandages in place;
    2. Adhesive tape shall not be lapped more than one-eighth (1/8) of one (1) inch;
    3. Adhesive tape not to exceed one (1) layer shall be crossed over the back of the hand for its protection; and
    4. Three (3) strips of adhesive tape, lapping not to exceed one-eighth (1/8) of one (1) inch, may be used for protection of the knuckles.
  - (d) Hand wraps shall be applied in the dressing room in the presence of an inspector or ring official. The inspector or ring official shall sign the hand wrap and the tape around the strings of the gloves.

#### Section 8. Weight Classes.

- (1) The class weights permitted in boxing and kickboxing bouts shall be as follows:

CLASS	WEIGHT
Flyweight	Up to 112 lbs.
Bantamweight	Up to 118 lbs.
Jr. Featherweight	Up to 122 lbs.
Featherweight	Up to 126 lbs.
Jr. Lightweight	Up to 130 lbs.
Lightweight	Up to 135 lbs.
Jr. Welterweight	Up to 140 lbs.
Welterweight	Up to 147 lbs.
Jr. Middleweight	Up to 154 lbs.
Middleweight	Up to 160 lbs.
Light Heavyweight	Up to 175 lbs.
Cruiserweight	Up to 195 lbs.
Heavyweight	Over 195 lbs.

(2) After the weigh-in, a contestant shall not change weight in excess of eight (8) percent prior to the bout.

(3) After the weigh-in, a contestant shall not re-hydrate by the use of intravenous fluids unless approved by the inspector for medical purposes. A contestant may be subject to a random urine specific gravity test to determine compliance with this subsection.

#### Section 9. Fight Length.

(1) Bouts and rounds shall:

(a) Be three (3) minutes in duration; and

(b) Have a one (1) minute rest period between rounds.

(2) A bout shall consist of no less than four (4) and no more than twelve (12) rounds. A championship bout shall be twelve (12) rounds in length.

(3) A contestant who has not fought within the last twelve (12) months shall not be scheduled to box or kickbox more than ten (10) rounds without commission approval.

#### Section 10. Judging and Scoring.

(1) Scoring shall be as established in this subsection.

(a) Each round shall be accounted for on the scorecard, using the ten (10) point system. Scoring shall be expressed in ratio of merit and demerit.

(b) Score cards shall be:

1. Signed;

2. Handed to the referee in the ring; and

3. Filed by the referee with the inspector.

(c) The decision shall then be announced from the ring.

(2) Decisions shall be rendered as established in this subsection.

(a) If a bout lasts the scheduled limit, the winner of the bout shall be decided by:

1. A majority vote of the judges, if three (3) judges are employed to judge the bout; or

2. A majority vote of the judges and the referee, if two (2) judges are employed to judge the bout.

(b) Decisions shall be based primarily on boxing or kickboxing effectiveness, with points awarded for display of the following attributes, and points deducted for an opposite showing:

1. Clean, forceful hitting;

2. Aggressiveness;

3. Defensive work; and

4. Ring generalship.

(c) The requirements governing knockdowns shall be as established in this paragraph.

1. If a contestant is knocked to the floor by the contestant's opponent, or falls from weakness or other causes, the contestant's opponent shall:

a. Immediately retire to the farthest neutral corner of the ring; and

b. Remain there until the referee completes the count or signals a resumption of action.

2. The timekeeper shall commence counting off the seconds and indicating the count with a motion of the arm while the contestant is down.

3. The referee shall pick up the count from the timekeeper.

4. If a contestant fails to rise to his or her feet before the count of ten (10), the referee shall declare the contestant the loser by waving both arms to indicate a knockout.

5. If a contestant who is down rises to his or her feet during the count, the referee may step between the contestants long enough to assure that the contestant just arisen is in condition to continue the bout.

6. If a contestant who is down arises before the count of ten (10) is reached, and again goes down from weakness or the effects of a previous blow without being struck again, the referee shall resume the count where he or she left off.
7. A standing eight (8) count shall be used at the discretion of the referee.
8. If a contestant is knocked down three (3) times during a round, the bout shall be stopped. The contestant scoring the knockdowns shall be the winner by a technical knockout.
9. If a round ends before a contestant who was knocked down rises, the count shall continue, and if the contestant fails to arise before the count of ten (10), the referee shall declare the contestant knocked out.
- (3) A contestant shall be considered down if:
  - (a) Any part of the contestant's body other than his or her feet is on the ring floor;
  - (b) The contestant is hanging helplessly over the ropes and in the judgment of the referee, is unable to stand; or
  - (c) The contestant is rising from the down position.
- (4) Failure to resume a bout.
  - (a) If a contestant fails to resume the bout for any reason after a rest period, or leaves the ring during the rest period and fails to be in the ring when the bell rings to begin the next round, the referee shall count the contestant out the same as if the contestant were down in that round.
  - (b) If a contestant who has been knocked out of or has fallen out of the ring during a bout fails to return immediately to the ring and be on his or her feet before the expiration of ten (10) seconds, the referee shall count the contestant out as if the contestant were down.

#### Section 11. Fouls.

- (1) The following shall be considered fouls:
  - (a) Hitting below the belt;
  - (b) Hitting an opponent who is down or who is getting up after having been down;
  - (c) Holding an opponent and deliberately maintaining a clinch;
  - (d) Holding an opponent with one (1) hand and hitting with the other;
  - (e) Butting with the head or shoulder or using the knee;
  - (f) Hitting with the inside, or butt, of the hand, the wrist, or the elbow;
  - (g) Hitting, or flicking, with the glove open or thumbing;
  - (h) Wrestling, or roughing, against the ropes;
  - (i) Purposely going down without having been hit;
  - (j) Deliberately striking at the part of an opponent's body over the kidneys;
  - (k) Using a pivot blow or rabbit punch;
  - (l) Biting of the opponent;
  - (m) Using abusive or profane language;
  - (n) Failing to obey the referee;
  - (o) Engaging in any unsportsmanlike trick or action that causes injury to another person;
  - (p) Hitting after the bell has sounded at the end of the round; or
  - (q) Backhand blows except in kickboxing.
- (2)
  - (a) A contestant who commits a foul may be disqualified and the decision awarded to the opponent by the referee.
  - (b) The referee shall immediately disqualify a contestant who commits a deliberate and willful foul that prevents the opponent from continuing in the bout.
  - (c) The referee may take one (1) or more points away from a contestant who commits an accidental foul.

(3) A contestant committing a foul may be issued a violation by an inspector.

(4)

(a) If a bout is temporarily stopped by the referee due to fouling, the referee, with the aid of the physician, if necessary, shall decide if the contestant who has been fouled is in physical condition to continue the bout.

(b) If in the referee's opinion the contestant's chances have not been seriously jeopardized as a result of the foul, the referee shall order the bout resumed after a reasonable time set by the referee, but not exceeding five (5) minutes.

(5)

(a) If a contestant is unable to continue as the result of an accidental foul and the bout is in one (1) of the first three (3) rounds, the bout shall be declared a technical draw.

(b) If an accidental foul occurs after the third round, or if an injury sustained from an accidental foul in the first three (3) rounds causes the bout to be subsequently stopped, the bout shall be scored on the basis of the judges' scorecards.

(6) If a bout is ended by reason of fouling or failure to give an honest demonstration of skill, as determined by an inspector or referee, the compensation of the offending contestant shall be withheld by the promoter.

#### Section 12. Prohibitions.

(1) The following shall be prohibited:

(a) Battle royal type events; and

(b) Use of excessive grease or other substance that may handicap an opponent.

(2) A contestant shall not engage at a show in boxing or sparring with a member of the opposite sex.

#### Section 13. Non-Contestant Participants.

(1) A promoter shall provide a minimum of two (2) security guards on the premises for each show.

(2) All ring officials shall be selected, licensed, and assigned to each show by the commission. For each show, a minimum of the following shall be required:

(a) A minimum of three (3) judges, or a minimum of two (2) judges if a referee also serves as a judge, and a maximum of five (5) judges;

(b) One (1) timekeeper;

(c) One (1) physician, except two (2) physicians shall be assigned to a bout designated a championship bout by a national sanctioning body recognized by the commission; and

(d) One (1) referee, unless the card has more than thirty (30) rounds, in which case a minimum of two (2) referees shall be required.

#### Section 14. Judges.

(1) A judge shall arrive at least one (1) hour prior to the start of a show.

(2) At the beginning of a bout, the judges shall locate themselves on opposite sides of the ring and shall carefully observe the performance of the contestants.

(3) At the conclusion of the bout, the judges shall render their decision based on the requirements of Section 10 of this administrative regulation.

(4) Upon request of the referee, the judges shall assist in determining:

(a) Whether or not a foul has been committed;

(b) Whether or not each contestant is competing in earnest; and

(c) Whether or not there is collusion affecting the result of the bout.

#### Section 15. Timekeeper.

(1) The timekeeper shall be seated outside the ring near the bell and shall take the cue from the referee to commence or take time out.



- (2) The timekeeper shall be equipped with a whistle and a stop watch. Prior to the first bout, the inspector shall ensure that the whistle and stopwatch function properly.
- (3) Ten (10) seconds before the start of each round, the timekeeper shall give notice by sounding the whistle.
- (4) The timekeeper shall indicate the starting and ending of each round by striking the bell with a metal hammer.
- (5) If a bout terminates before the scheduled limit, the timekeeper shall inform the announcer of the exact duration of the bout.
- (6) Ten (10) seconds prior to the end of each round, the timekeeper shall give warning by striking a gavel three (3) times.

#### Section 16. Physicians and Healthcare Requirements.

- (1) There shall be at least one (1) physician licensed by the commission at ringside at all times during a bout. A bout shall not begin or continue if a physician is not at ringside.
- (2) The physician shall have general supervision over the physical condition of each contestant at all times while on the premises of a show or exhibition.
- (3) The physician's pre-bout duties:
  - (a) A physician shall make a thorough physical examination of each contestant within eight (8) hours prior to a bout.
    1. The physician's examination shall include a review of the Boxing and Kickboxing Pre-Fight Medical Questionnaire of each contestant.
    2. The physician shall deliver to the inspector the Boxing and Kickboxing Pre-Fight Examination form that documents the results of the examination prior to the contestant entering the ring.
  - (b) The physician shall ensure that all equipment required by subsection (5) of this section is present before the start of the first bout or exhibition.
  - (c) The physician shall prohibit a contestant from competing if the physician believes the contestant is physically unfit for competition or impaired by alcohol or a controlled substance.
- (4) The physician's duties during the bout or exhibition:
  - (a) The physician shall remain at ringside during the progress of any bout or exhibition unless attending to a person.
  - (b) The physician shall observe the physical condition of each contestant during a bout.
  - (c) The physician shall administer medical aid if needed or requested.
  - (d) The physician shall order the referee to pause or end a bout or exhibition if necessary to prevent serious physical injury to a contestant.
- (5) The physician shall have at ringside medical supplies necessary to provide medical assistance for the type of injuries reasonably anticipated to occur in a boxing or kickboxing show. The physician shall not permit a referee to begin a bout if the medical supplies are not present. At a minimum, these medical supplies shall include:
  - (a) A clean stretcher and blanket, placed under or adjacent to the ring throughout each bout;
  - (b) Spine board;
  - (c) Cervical collar;
  - (d) Oxygen apparatus or equipment; and
  - (e) First aid kit.
- (6) The promoter shall ensure that a certified ambulance with an emergency medical technician is on the premises of a show at all times. A show shall not begin or continue if the ambulance and emergency medical technician are not on the premises.
- (7) The physician shall make a thorough physical examination of each contestant after each bout. The physician shall deliver to the inspector the form Boxing and Kickboxing Post-Fight Examination that documents the results of the examination.

#### Section 17. Announcers.

- (1) The announcer shall have general supervision over all announcements made to spectators.
  - (a) The announcer shall announce the name of contestants, their weight, decisions at the end of each bout, and any other matters as are necessary.
  - (b) A person other than the official announcer shall not make an announcement, unless deemed necessary by an inspector:
- (2) If a bout is stopped before its scheduled termination, the announcer shall immediately confer with the referee and judges and then shall immediately announce the decision.
- (3) The announcer shall not enter the ring during the actual progress of a bout.

#### Section 18. Referees.

- (1) The referee shall be the chief official of the show, be present in the ring at all times, and have general supervision over each contestant, manager, and second during the entire event.
- (2)
  - (a) The referee shall have the authority to disqualify a contestant who commits a foul and award the decision to the opponent.
  - (b) The referee shall immediately disqualify a contestant who commits an intentional or deliberate foul that causes serious physical injury to an opponent.
- (3) The referee's duties and responsibilities shall be as established in this subsection.
  - (a) The referee shall, before starting a bout, ascertain from each contestant the name of the contestant's chief second. The referee shall hold the chief second responsible for the conduct of the chief second's assistants during the progress of the bout.
  - (b) The referee shall call the contestants together in the ring immediately preceding a bout for final instructions. During the instructional meeting, each contestant shall be accompanied in the ring by the contestant's chief second only.
  - (c) The referee shall inspect the person, attire, and equipment of each contestant and make certain that no foreign substances that are prohibited by KRS Chapter 229 or 201 KAR Chapter 27 have been applied on a contestant's body or equipment or used by a contestant.
  - (d) The referee shall stop a bout at any time if the referee has grounds to believe either contestant is:
    1. Unable to protect himself or herself from possible injury;
    2. Not competing in earnest; or
    3. Colluding with another person to affect the results of the bout.
  - (e) The referee may take one (1) or more points away from a contestant who commits an accidental foul, and the referee may permit a rest period not exceeding five (5) minutes for the contestant who was fouled.
  - (f) The referee shall not touch a contestant during the bout except upon failure of a contestant to obey the referee's orders or to protect a contestant.
  - (g) The referee shall decide all questions arising during a bout that are not otherwise specifically covered by KRS Chapter 229 or 201 KAR Chapter 27.

#### Section 19. Trainers and Seconds.

- (1) A trainer or second shall be equipped with a first aid kit and the necessary supplies for proper medical attendance upon the contestant.
- (2) There shall be no more than three (3) persons total serving as a trainer or second in any bout and only two (2) shall be allowed in the ring at the same time.
- (3) A trainer and a second shall leave the ring at the timekeeper's ten (10) seconds whistle before the beginning of each round and shall remove all equipment from the ring. Equipment shall not be placed on the ring floor until after the bell has sounded at the end of the round or period.

- (4) A trainer and a second shall wear surgical gloves at all times while carrying out their duties.

#### Section 20. Medical Prohibitions.

(1) The executive director, the executive director's designee, or a commission representative may issue an order for a medical suspension of a contestant's license under the following circumstances:

(a) A contestant who has been repeatedly knocked out and severely beaten shall be retired and not permitted to compete in unarmed combat again if, after subjecting the boxer or kickboxer to a thorough examination by a physician licensed by the commission, the medical advisory panel determines the action is necessary to protect the health and welfare of the contestant.

(b) If a contestant receives an injury to the head or body, the contestant's license may be suspended indefinitely. The ringside physician may require that a contestant suspended pursuant to this paragraph undergo a physical or neurological examination and submit a completed Medical Release Form or the Neurological Release Form as a condition of reinstatement.

(c) ~~[(2)]~~ A contestant who has suffered five (5) consecutive defeats by knockout or medical stoppage shall not be allowed to compete in unarmed combat until the contestant has been evaluated and subsequently cleared for further competition by the medical advisory panel.

(d) ~~[(3)]~~ A contestant who has been knocked out shall be prohibited from all competition for a minimum of sixty (60) days.

(e) ~~[(4)]~~ Any contestant who has suffered a technical knockout may be prohibited from competition for up to thirty (30) days if the contestant's health or safety would be jeopardized without the prohibition.

(f) A contestant subject to an order levying a medical suspension may appeal the medical suspension by submitting a written notice of appeal to the Commission within twenty (20) days of the Commission's order. The provisions of KRS Chapter 13B shall govern the proceedings.

(2) ~~[(5)]~~

(a) A female boxer or kickboxer shall submit proof she is not pregnant prior to her bout. The proof may be either:

1. An original or certified copy of the result of a medical test taken no more than one (1) week before the day of the bout that shows she is not pregnant; or
2. From an over-the-counter home pregnancy test taken while on the premises of the show that tests for human chorionic gonadotropin.

(b) A female boxer or kickboxer shall be prohibited from competing if:

1. She is pregnant; or
2. She fails to comply with this subsection.

#### Section 21. Insurance.

(1) A promoter shall provide insurance for a contestant for any injuries sustained in the boxing or kickboxing show.

(2) The minimum amount of coverage per contestant shall be \$5,000 health and \$5,000 accidental death benefits.

(3) A certificate of insurance coverage shall be provided to the commission no less than two (2) business days before the event.

(4) The deductible expense under the policy for a contestant shall not exceed \$1,000.

#### Section 22. Other Provisions.

(1) A promoter shall maintain an account with the recognized national database as identified by the commission and submit contestant's names to that database upon

approval of the show date. The promoter shall be responsible for the costs associated with the use of this service.

(2) All shows shall be video recorded and retained by the promoter for at least for one (1) year. Upon request of the commission, the promoter shall provide the video recording of a show to the commission.

(3) Smoking shall be prohibited inside the gymnasium, room, or hall in which the ring is located.

(4) Alcohol shall be prohibited inside the six-foot area alongside the ring.

#### Section 23. Incorporation by Reference.

(1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

(a) "Boxing & Kickboxing Show Notice Form", June 2023~~[November, 2019]~~;

(b) "Boxing & Kickboxing Pre-Fight Medical Questionnaire", June 2023~~[November, 2019]~~;

(c) "Boxing & Kickboxing Pre-Fight Examination", June 2023~~[November, 2019]~~; ~~[and]~~

(d) "Boxing & Kickboxing Post-Fight Examination", June 2023~~[November, 2019]~~; ~~[-]~~

(e) "Boxing & Kickboxing Medical Release Form", June 2023; and

(f) "Boxing & Kickboxing Neurological Evaluation Form", June 2023.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission office at 500 Mero St, 218NC, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and is available online at [https://kbwc.ky.gov/New\\_Docs.aspx?cat=29&menuid=27](https://kbwc.ky.gov/New_Docs.aspx?cat=29&menuid=27)~~[http://kbwa.ky.gov/Pages/Appsforms.aspx]~~.

*This is to certify that the Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission has reviewed and reviewed and recommended this administrative regulation, as required by KRS 229.025 and KRS 229.171.*

*MATT BYRD, Executive Director*

*RAY A. PERRY, Secretary*

APPROVED BY AGENCY: June 14, 2023

FILED WITH LRC: June 15, 2023 at 10 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 1:00 PM Eastern Time at the Mayo-Underwood Building, Room 133CE, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be canceled. This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through August 31, 2023. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Doug Hardin, Staff Attorney, Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission, 500 Mero Street 218 NC, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, phone (502) 782-8204, fax (502) 573-6625, email [doug.hardin@ky.gov](mailto:doug.hardin@ky.gov).

## REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

**Contact Person:**Doug Hardin

**(1) Provide a brief summary of:**

**(a) What this administrative regulation does:**

This regulation establishes general requirements for boxing and kickboxing shows.

**(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation:**

This regulation is necessary so that the Boxing & Wrestling Commission may establish standards for unarmed combat shows in Kentucky, which are authorized pursuant to KRS 229.025.

**(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:**

KRS 229.025 authorizes and requires the Commission to promulgate administrative regulations for licensing participants, officials, and physicians for unarmed combat shows.

**(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:**

The Boxing & Wrestling Commission is charged with the responsibility of licensing and regulating unarmed combat shows. This administrative regulation establishes the process and forms necessary for licensure of participants, officials, and physicians. The regulation further establishes standards for compensation, pre-fight procedures, ring size, equipment and attire, weight classes, fight length, judging and scoring, and insurance.

**(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:**

**(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation:**

This amendment corrects some typographical errors and amends the minimum fee scale for referees, timekeepers, judges, bout assistants, and physicians. It further updates the medical suspension section to establish a process for the Commission to indefinitely suspend injured contestants and for the contestants to appeal those suspensions. The amendment also incorporates medical forms to be used in the evaluation of injured contestants to aid in the Commission's determination of whether to reinstate a suspended contestant's license.

**(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation:**

The adjusted fee scheduled is designed to ensure that these officials receive fair compensation for services rendered. The medical suspension provisions and associated forms are necessary to ensure that boxing and kickboxing contestants who are injured undergo a proper examination and only return to competition when it is safe to do so.

**(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:**

These amendments conform to the content of the authorizing statute because this regulation sets forth licensing requirements as permitted by KRS 229.025

**(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:**

The adjusted fee scheduled is designed to ensure that these officials receive fair compensation for services rendered. The new medical forms are designed to give the

Commission and ringside officials adequate information to ensure that a contestant is healthy enough to compete.

**(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation:**

As of February 2023, the Boxing & Wrestling Commission licenses and regulates over 900 licensees that will be affected by this administrative regulation, as follows: Over 679 licensed contestants (includes boxers, kickboxers, amateur mixed martial artists, professional mixed martial artists, wrestlers,); Over 185 licensed non-contestants (includes judges, trainers, managers, referees, timekeepers, and seconds); Over 6 licensed medical providers (includes physicians and healthcare professionals); Over 40 licensed promoters.

**(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:**

**(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment:**

Licensed promoters would be required to provide more compensation for referees, physicians, judges, timekeepers, and bout assistants. Physicians would be required to complete and submit the medical forms to the Commission.

**(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3):**

The existing administrative regulation contains fees for licensure, which the amendment does not increase. Promoters will be required to increase compensate certain officials consistent with the fee schedule established in Section 3.

**(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3):**

The licensees mentioned in the fee scale will receive additional compensation. Additional compensation may result in higher quality officials and physicians. The medical oversight and examinations required will help ensure that contestants only enter competition when they are healthy enough to compete.

**(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:**

**(a) Initially:**

There will be no additional cost to the Commission to implement this administrative regulation initially.

**(b) On a continuing basis:**

There will be no additional cost to the Commission to implement this administrative regulation on a continuing basis.

**(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation:**

There is no additional funding necessary to implement this amendment to the administrative regulation.

**(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment:**

The implementation of this administrative regulation requires no increase in fees or funding. The compensation required by this amendment is paid by licensed promoters.

**(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees:**

This administrative regulation neither directly nor indirectly increases any fees.

**(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied?**

The compensation required for the various licensees is tiered based on the number of bouts that the official or physician will oversee.

## **FISCAL NOTE**

**(1) What units, parts, or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation?**

The Kentucky Boxing & Wrestling Commission is the agency responsible for implementing this regulation.

**(2) Identify each state or federal statute or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation.**

KRS 229.025, 229.031, 229.055, 229.111, 229.131, 229.155, 229.171, 15 U.S.C. 6304, 6305(a), (b)

**(3) Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect.**

**(a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year?**

This administrative regulation is not intended to generate revenue for any state or local government agency.

**(b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years?**

This administrative regulation is not intended to generate revenue for any state or local government agency.

**(c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year?**

There is no cost to administer this administrative regulation for the first year.

**(d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years?**

There is no cost to administer this administrative regulation for subsequent years.

**Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.**

**Revenues (+/-):**None

**Expenditures (+/-):**None

**Other Explanation:**

None

**(4) Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and cost savings of regulated entities for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect.**

**(a) How much cost savings will this administrative regulation generate for the regulated entities for the first year?**

This administrative regulation is not intended to generate cost savings for regulated entities in the first year, except that certain licensed charitable gaming facilities will have a reduced annual fee if they do not host regularly scheduled bingo sessions.

**(b) How much cost savings will this administrative regulation generate for the regulated entities for subsequent years?**



This administrative regulation is not intended to generate cost savings for regulated entities in the first year.

**(c) How much will it cost the regulated entities for the first year?**

This administrative regulation is not intended to generate costs for regulated entities in the first year.

**(d) How much will it cost the regulated entities for subsequent years?**

**Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.**

**Cost Savings (+/-):**None

**Expenditures (+/-):**None

**Other Explanation:**

None

**(5) Explain whether this administrative regulation will have a major economic impact, as defined below.**

"Major economic impact" means an overall negative or adverse economic impact from an administrative regulation of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or more on state or local government or regulated entities, in aggregate, as determined by the promulgating administrative bodies. [KRS 13A.010(13)]. This administrative regulation is not intended or anticipated to have a major economic impact as defined by KRS 13A.010(13).