

# Arkansas State Athletic Commission Rules and Regulations

Rev. 08/10/2015

## CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL REGULATIONS

- 1.1. Authority. In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 17-22-101 *et seq.*, the following Regulations are promulgated and adopted by the Commission.
- 1.1.1. All activities, events, hearings, persons and meetings under, subject to or arguably falling within the Commission's jurisdiction shall be subject to these Regulations.
- 1.1.2. These Regulations shall be liberally construed and broadly applied within the constraints of due process and any long-arm statutes of the State of Arkansas so as to do substantial justice and operate to protect the health, safety and welfare of the person participating in or performing any activity related in any way to an Event and members of the general public.
- 1.1.3. These Regulations are supplemental to, not in limitation of, the Commission's authority and power provided by the Combative Sports Law and all other laws, ordinances and regulations of the State of Arkansas, counties and municipalities thereof.
- 1.1.4. The Commission, including through its Committees and Designated employee(s), shall, in its sole discretion and on a case by case basis, have the authority to add to, deviate from or create an exception to these Regulations upon receipt of a duly submitted request or in such other circumstances as the Commission, in its sole discretion, deems necessary or prudent under the circumstances. The Commission's prior addition to, deviation from or exception to these Regulations shall not be construed or operate to require or obligate the Commission to add to, deviate from or create an exception to these Regulations under the same or similar circumstances in the future. No person shall rely upon or use as a basis for their non-compliance with these Regulations the Commission's prior or subsequent additions to, deviations from or exceptions to these Regulations.
- 1.1.5. The Commission and Inspectors are permitted in any Event without charge for the purpose of checking and insuring compliance with these Regulations. This does not provide preferential seating for those not assigned directly to the Event.
- 1.2. Purpose & Declaration of Emergency. The Regulations are promulgated and adopted for the purpose of effecting and enforcing the Combative Sports Law, providing for the efficient and proper administration of the Commission's activities, duties and responsibilities, and enforcing the Regulations themselves. The Regulations further serve to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons participating in, viewing or performing any activity related in any way to an Event, as well as, the members of the general public in the State of Arkansas. The Commission finds there has been an unprecedented growth in Combative Sports Events being held in the State of Arkansas, which Events were prior to the passage of the Combative Sports Law outside the jurisdiction or scope of the Commission, which have grown largely unregulated, and which involve unarmed combat and related activities adversely affecting the health, safety and welfare of persons in the State of Arkansas; accordingly, the Commission finds that due to the severe risk to public health, safety and welfare of continued operation and participation in unregulated Combative Sports Events, there exists imminent peril to the public health, safety, and welfare of the persons subject to regulation by the Commission under the Combative Sports Law, as well as,

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the members of the general public and spectators of Combative Sports in Arkansas, which imminent peril requires the adoption of these Regulations in their entirety upon less than thirty (30) days' notice and immediate enforcement. Because Combative Sports are presently ongoing within the State of Arkansas without sufficient rules and regulations necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare, there exists an imminent peril to the public health, safety and welfare and these Regulations are hereby adopted by the Commission in their entirety and deemed effective immediately pursuant to the emergency provisions of Arkansas Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e).

- 1.3. Revocation of Prior Regulations & Rules. Upon adoption of these Regulations, the Commission's prior administrative rules and regulations are revoked and superseded by these Regulations.
- 1.4. Supplementation, Amendment, Interpretation & Limitations. Any Regulation is subject to further interpretation by the Commission or the Commission's members, Inspectors or agents as necessary from time to time.
  - 1.4.1. The Regulations provided for herein do not limit the actions permitted to be taken by the Commission, Committee or the Commission's members, Inspectors or agents from time to time for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Combative Sports Law, Regulations or the protection, safety and welfare of the public, spectators, Officials, or Contestants.
  - 1.4.2. The interpretation of any Regulation shall be at the sole discretion of the Commission and such interpretation shall be final and binding with respect to the matter requiring an interpretation, with the over-riding concern to be the health, safety and welfare of participants and the public, and whether or not the situation is correctable.
  - 1.4.3. During the performance of official Commission duties or in any other circumstance in which the Commission may be deemed to be taking official action, the Commission and its members, Inspectors and agents are specifically prohibited from providing legal advice to a person or entity subject to the jurisdiction of or regulation by the Commission.
- 1.5. Commission Office. The Commission shall maintain for the transaction of its business a main office at a location to be designated from time to time by the Commission.
- 1.6. Meetings. The Commission shall meet at the times and places designated by the Chairman from time to time, but not less than once per calendar quarter, for the purpose of conducting the Commission's business. Committees shall meet at the times and places designated by the Committee Chairman for the purpose of conducting the Committee's business. At each Commission or Committee meeting, every Member entitled to vote shall have the right to one vote on each matter presented for voting, whether in person, electronically, telephonically. A quorum of the full Commission or Committee shall be necessary for voting to decide any matter required to be voted upon by the Commission or Committee, as the case may be. A quorum of any meeting of the Commission or Committee shall consist of a majority of the Members thereof. Unless otherwise stated in these rules or authority is otherwise granted by the Commission, the vote of the majority of the quorum in attendance at Commission or Committee meeting shall decide any question presented at the meeting and requiring a vote thereon.

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- 1.7. Per Diem and Expense Reimbursement for Members & Inspectors. Members are entitled to only the stipend and expense reimbursements allowed for by Ark. Code Ann. §25-16-901 et seq. Inspectors or other officials assigned by ASAC shall be entitled to the fees established in the Rules and Regulations.. In order to receive the per diem, expenses and mileage compensation hereunder, the Member or Inspector must have attended the meeting or event for official business at the specific request of the Designated employee(s), Chairman or duly authorized Member.
- 1.8. Assessments for Reimbursement. If the per diem, expenses and mileage reimbursement paid by the Commission to the Member, Inspector, Judge, Doctor, Referee, and Timekeeper is necessitated by attendance at an Event or any other activity, hearing or meeting conducted by the Commission or Committee for the purpose of investigating or administering any complaint or suspected violation of the Combative Sports Law or Regulations, the Commission, Committee or Designated employee(s) may assess the costs of the per diem, expenses and mileage reimbursement against the person(s) or entity(ies) necessitating such attendance of the Commission member(s) and inspector(s), with any such assessment being in addition to any other sanctions, fees or other action taken by the Commission, Committee or Designated employee(s).
- 1.9. Designated employee(s). The Designated employee(s) shall have the following duties, powers and authority in addition to the other duties, powers and authority expressed or implied by the Commission, its rules and regulations, and the laws of the State of Arkansas:
  - 1.9.1. The Designated employee(s) shall be present at all Commission meetings and record the minutes of such meetings. In the absence of the Designated employee(s), the Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman in the absence of the Chairman, shall appoint a commission member to keep the minutes.
  - 1.9.2. The Designated employee(s) is directed and authorized to do all acts and take steps as may be necessary for the operation and enforcement of Arkansas Code Annotated § 17-22-101 *et seq.*, these Regulations, and any other rule, regulation or directive promulgated by the Commission including, without limitation, the appointment, hiring, and licensure of Inspectors to assist the Designated employee(s) in enforcement of the Combative Sports Law and these Regulations.
  - 1.9.3. The Designated employee(s) is directed to keep a full and true record of all proceedings of the Commission, preserve at its general office all its books, documents and papers. The Designated employee(s) shall insure that at least one Commission member has access to all Commission records at all times.
  - 1.9.4. The Designated employee(s) shall collect and disburse all monies on behalf of the Commission and is authorized to incur such expenses, and make such expenditures, as may be necessary to carry out and effectuate the Designated employee(s)'s duties and powers.
- 1.10. Disciplinary or Other Administrative Action. Any action above that of a verbal warning or written reprimand, on any matter involving a Licensee or person subject to licensure or regulation under these Regulations may be taken by the Commission, Committee, Designated employee(s) or Inspector with or without a hearing; however, if negative action such as Revocation or

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Suspension of licensure is taken against a licensee or person subject to regulation under these Regulations, then such person may, within ten (10) days following issuance of a notification letter sent to such person's last known address, submit a written request for a formal hearing on such matter. Following a duly submitted request for hearing, the Commission shall grant the requesting party a formal hearing in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act. In certain situations, a Consent Judgment may be offered.

1.11. Prohibited Activities. No person shall engage in any activity, which is performed wholly or partially within the State of Arkansas and subject to regulation under the Arkansas Combative Sports Law or these Regulations, without fully complying with the Combative Sports Law, these Regulations and possessing a valid license from the Commission for such activity.

1.11.1. No person holding a license issued by the Commission shall participate or engage in any activity for which an Event license has not been issued or has been denied or revoked by the Commission.

1.11.2. No person holding a license issued by the Commission shall participate or engage in any activity in connection with an Event while having within their body any alcohol or Drug or while otherwise under the influence of alcohol or a Drug. Provided however, participation may be allowed if the Licensee possesses a current and valid prescription from a Doctor for the Drug and the Drug does not, in the sole discretion of the Commission, result in an impediment or impairment of the performance of Licensee's duties or responsibilities nor result in an unfair competitive advantage. ASAC has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency's List of banned substances 5/1/2015.

1.11.2.1 ASAC will begin to screen fighters for illegal drug use. A screening urine test will be administered to a random sample of both amateurs and professionals.

If a fighter's screening test shows positive, he/she will have 72 hours to appear with identification to a lab on ASAC's approved list of drug testing laboratories. Results must be submitted to ASAC within 72 hours. If the 72 hour period ends on a weekend or holiday, the results must be submitted to ASAC by the next business day.

1.11.2.2 Fighter will be responsible for the initial cost of the test. If the results of the laboratory test shows the screening results gave a false "positive result", ASAC will reimburse the cost of the lab test if a copy of the bill marked paid is sent to ASAC within 15 days of the test.

1.11.2.3 If the results of the lab test are positive. Fighter will be on indefinite suspension pending laboratory test results. ASAC reserves the right to require another laboratory test before reinstating a license suspended for drug-use in order to insure the safety of the fighter

1.11.2.4 If fighter leaves the venue before a screening test can be administered, he/she will be on an automatic suspension, pending a hearing. Fighter may submit lab results directly to ASAC and if results are negative for any illegal substance, the suspension will be lifted. If a fighter leaves the venue before a screening test can be administered, the fighter will bear all cost and responsibility for the lab drug test.

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- 1.11.3. No person shall be allowed to participate or perform services in connection with an Event, unless the person has proof of identification and a current license for their activity. Acceptable proof of identification includes driver's license, passport, state issued identification card, federal identification boxing card, or any other identification required by the designated employee(s).
  - 1.11.4. No person shall interfere with or hinder an Official's performance of his or her duties or threaten physical harm to any person present at an Event or any activity related or associated with an Event, except physical harm may be threatened between Contestants within the boundaries of other applicable laws.
  - 1.11.5. Judges, Timekeepers, Referees, and Doctors may not have a direct or indirect financial interest in any Contestant participating in a specific match or bout or in an Event for which they are providing services.
  - 1.11.6. No Professional shall compete against an Amateur.
  - 1.11.7. No person shall use abusive language, use profanity or otherwise conduct themselves in a manner which is disrespectful to the Commission, Commissioners, Officials, any person at an Event or otherwise engage in disruptive conduct.
  - 1.11.8. No person shall compete in a combative sports match under the purview of this Commission within ninety (90) days of having participated in a non-sanctioned event. Once contestant has submitted clearance from a physician, to include neurological testing, the rest period can be reduced to sixty (60) days
- 1.12. License Fees: The following non-refundable, non-prorated fees shall be required and remitted to the Commission with each application for a license as follows:
- 1.12.1. Announcer – \$20.00
  - 1.12.2. Contestant – \$20.00
  - 1.12.3. Doctor – NO FEE
  - 1.12.4. Event Coordinator – \$100.00
  - 1.12.5. Event Permit License – \$50.00
  - 1.12.6. Federal Boxing ID – \$20.00
  - 1.12.7. Inspector – NO FEE
  - 1.12.8. Judge – \$15.00
  - 1.12.9. Manager – \$50.00
  - 1.12.10. Matchmaker – \$100.00
  - 1.12.11. National Mixed Martial Arts ID – \$20.00
  - 1.12.12. Promoter – \$100.00
  - 1.12.13. Referee – \$25.00
  - 1.12.14. Second – \$15.00
  - 1.12.15. Timekeeper – \$15.00

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- 1.13. Weight Differences. Contestants shall not fight outside their contracted weight or weight class without approval of the Commission and agreement by the Contestants to compete at the weight differential. Regardless of contracted weights, no Contestant may participate in an Event where the difference between the weights of the Contestant and his or her opponent at the time of weigh-in exceeds the following allowance(s):
- 1.13.1. 112 lbs. or under – 3 lbs.
  - 1.13.2. 113-118 lbs. – 4 lbs.
  - 1.13.3. 119-126 lbs. – 5 lbs.
  - 1.13.4. 127-135 lbs. – 6 lbs.
  - 1.13.5. 136-147 lbs. – 8 lbs.
  - 1.13.6. 148-160 lbs. – 10 lbs.
  - 1.13.7. 161-175 lbs. – 12 lbs.
  - 1.13.8. 176-200 lbs. – 15 lbs.
  - 1.13.9. 201 lbs. or over – No limit
  - 1.13.10. Any amateur combative sports fighter shall not gain more than .75 (7 & ½%) of his advance weigh-in body weight, and in no case, shall any fighter be allowed to gain weight sufficient to move up more the ONE published weight class.
- 1.14. Event Compensation. In order to receive compensation hereunder, the inspector must have attended the Event for official Commission business at the specific request of or assignment by the designated employee(s), Chairman or duly authorized Member. At such time as ASAC has certified training open to officials and assigns officials to an Event, compensation for the Officials can be established by ASAC. Until such time the Promoter can negotiate such rates directly with officials. Said officials must be approved by ASAC. The following fees may be increased or decreased from time to time by the Commission. In addition to any other sum to which the following persons may be entitled under these Regulations and by agreement with the Promoter, the following persons shall receive compensation for attendance and performance of their duties at an Event as follows with such sums to be paid directly to the following by the Promoter through remittance of cash, certified check, cashier's check, or other check or order for immediately available funds to the Commission Official in charge of the Event prior to the beginning of each Event. Such Commission Official shall distribute the sum to the following persons immediately after conclusion of the Event, with the exception that the Inspector Fee must be paid by the promoter to the State and a warrant/direct deposit for payment by ASAC will be issued to the Inspector.
- 1.14.1. Announcer - Negotiable
  - 1.14.2. Inspector/Supervising Commission Official - \$100 per day of Event
  - 1.14.3. Referee - Negotiable
  - 1.14.4. Judge - Negotiable
  - 1.14.5. Doctor - Negotiable
  - 1.14.6. Timekeeper - Negotiable

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1.15. Event Procedures. The following shall be applicable to every Event:

Promoter shall provide to the Commission, no less than 30 days prior to the event:

If for an Amateur Event, proof of financial responsibility by submitting a surety bond of at least two thousand dollars (\$2,000)

If for a Professional Event, a bond for at least five thousand (\$5,000) written by a bonding company or other Commission approved corporate surety authorized to do business in the State of Arkansas guaranteeing payment of all obligations, including without limitation gross receipts taxes, arising out of the Event, prize money contracted to have been paid to fighters, or civil penalties assessed for failure to adhere to the Statutes and Rules and Regulations, with such bond or bonds being of such type that a claim may be made thereupon, if such claim is filed with ASAC no later than 90 days after the Event. Bonds may be issued for as long as one year, but in no case valid for less than ninety (90) days. Provided, however, the amount of the bond required hereunder may be increased by the Commission or Designated employee(s) on an Event by Event basis when seating capacity of the venue exceed 10,000 seats.

1.15.1. Audit & Taxes. The provisions of the Act shall be followed with respect to remittance of taxes to the Commission and such shall be subject to audit by the Commission at any time.

1.15.2. Bouts, Heats & Rounds. Each Event shall consist of a minimum of twenty-four (24) scheduled rounds and a maximum of seventy-two (72) scheduled rounds.

1.15.3. Credentials & Tickets. No person, excluding Contestants, Seconds and Officials, shall be admitted to any Event without a ticket or credential issued and documented by the Promoter. No credential may be sold, exchanged or bartered and a manifest for all credentials, including the name of the person to whom the credential was issued and the reason, must be maintained and produced for the Commission at each Event upon request by the Commission, made at a reasonable time the day of the event.

1.15.3.1. All credentials shall be clearly designated by the Promoter as required by these Regulations and the Commission.

1.15.3.2. Promoters are prohibited from accepting cash or other remuneration or consideration for admission to an Event without issuance of a ticket reflecting the price paid therefor.

1.15.3.3. All tickets shall reflect the price thereof and Event date.

1.15.3.4. All tickets shall be consecutively numbered, individually bar coded or otherwise numbered in a manner easily grouped, counted and identifiable by the Commission.

1.15.3.5. All tickets shall have a stub indicating the price and row or seat number, which shall be detached and retained for later auditing and accounting by the Commission, or bar code scanned and records thereof maintained in a Commission approved manner.

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- 1.15.3.6. All tickets shall have a coupon or portion thereof which may be retained by the purchaser thereof.
- 1.15.3.7. All ticket stubs, except electronically redeemed tickets, must be deposited into a locked container at the Event entrance(s). Each ticket container must remain in the possession of the ticket-taker until after the close of the Event and only be surrendered by the said ticket-taker in the presence of the Promoter or Inspector. The Inspector may, at his discretion, require the ticket box be opened only in his presence. If the Inspector deems necessary, all admission ticket stubs shall, immediately after the ticket container is opened, be sorted by price and counted by the Commission, the Inspector, or by a person authorized by the Inspector.
- 1.15.3.8. Unless otherwise designated by the Promoter to have a higher value and for purposes of calculating the gross receipts tax, complimentary, give away or promotional Event tickets representing five percent (5%) or less of the Event tickets sold shall be exempted from the gross receipts tax; complimentary, give away or promotional Event tickets representing greater than five percent (5%) and not more than ten percent (10%) of the Event tickets sold shall have the same value as the least expensive five percent (5%) of Event tickets sold; and complimentary, give away or promotional Event tickets exceeding ten percent (10%) of the total Event tickets sold shall have the same value as the highest priced Event ticket sold. No complimentary or purchased ticket shall hold a calculated Tax of less than 25¢ per ticket. The Commission reserves the right to tax all complimentary tickets at the value of the highest priced Event ticket if the Commission deems the Promoter implements or utilizes a scheme or ticketing process which attempts to or actually evades taxes under the Act or these Regulations, after a Reprimand has been made against the promoter.
- 1.15.3.9. Any event which is part of Single Ticketed, Multiple Activity Entertainment, for example and without limitation, a fair or carnival as a part of which there is included a Combative Sports Event along with concerts and other entertainment OR a baseball game immediately before which there is a Combative Sports Event. Shall be subject to the following methods of Gross Receipts Tax Calculations.
  - 1.15.3.9.1. The amount resulting from an equally weighted, pro rata method whereby the value of the Multiple Activity Ticket is equal to the total amount charged for the Multiple Activity Ticket multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the total number of Combative Sports Events to which such Multiple Activity Ticket permits entry or access and the denominator of which is the total number of "Major Activities" to which the Multiple Activity Ticket Permits entry or access, plus any extra amount charged specifically for entry or access to the Combative Sports Event, if any, and without deduction for any extra amount charged specifically for entry or access to any other activity, if any.
  - 1.15.3.9.2. Once Admission Costs are divided by the number of "Major Activities" that amount will be multiplied by the number of Combative Sports Events then multiplied by 5% (.05)



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1.15.3.9.2.1. For example but without limitation, in an event such as a Fair where there is a concert, rodeo, rides, and a Combative Sports event the calculations would be as follows:

1.15.3.9.2.2. General Admission = \$20 / Four(4) "Major Activities = \$5

1.15.3.9.2.3.  $\$5 \times 1,500 = \$7,500$  Gross in attendance

1.15.3.9.2.4.  $\$7,500 \times 5\%(.05) = \$375$  Gross Tax Receipt

1.16. Officials. The Promoter shall be responsible for selecting and obtaining the Officials, except the Inspectors and Commission Representatives who will be assigned solely by the Commission Within the twenty four (24) months of the Commission holding ABC Certified Referees and Judges Training in the state, professional referees and judges must be certified in order to officiate. All Officials are subject to Commission approval and the Commission or Designated employee(s) may disallow or re-assign any Official or otherwise require Promoter to use only the Officials appointed by the Commission or Designated employee(s). The minimum Officials required for each Event are:

- 1.16.1. One (1) Announcer;
- 1.16.2. One (1) Commission Representative;
- 1.16.3. One (1) Doctor;
- 1.16.4. One (1) Inspector;
- 1.16.5. Three (3) Judges;
- 1.16.6. One (1) Referee; and
- 1.16.7. One (1) Timekeeper.

1.17. Definitions. The definitions found in Arkansas Code Annotated § 17-22-101 *et seq.*, as amended from time to time, shall apply to the Commission's rules and regulations, as well as, all Commission activities and the following definitions are supplemental thereto. The following words or terms shall have the meaning ascribed thereto, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

1.17.1. "ABC" means The Association of Boxing Commissions.

1.17.2. "Act" means Act 781 of the 2009 Arkansas Legislative Session and Act 1096 of the 2013 Arkansas Legislative Session, as codified in Ark. Code Ann §17-26-101-et seg.

1.17.3. "Administrator" or "Designated employee(s)" means the designated employee, Program Manager or Managing Director of the Arkansas State Athletic Commission.

1.17.4. "Amateur" means a Contestant who has never, directly or indirectly, received or competed for any Purse or other compensation exceeding the lesser of \$100 or the actual expenses incurred by the Contestant for training, travel, or competition relating to a particular contest, Exhibition or Event. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Combative Sports Contestant shall be considered an amateur if the Contestant meets the eligibility requirements, of USA Boxing, if applicable to Contestant, and the International Olympic Committee ("IOC"), if the IOC regulates the Contestant's Combative Sport.

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- 1.17.5. **“Announcer”** means a person who announces the names of the officials, judges, sponsors, Contestants, Contestants’ weights, decisions of each contest, and otherwise provides information to the spectators during an Event.
- 1.17.6. **“Certified”** means a Judge or Referee who has completed the ABC or other approved courses of said discipline or other in-depth courses to be approved on an individual basis by ASAC; with such certification having been offered within the state at least once during a 24 month period prior to said Certification being required for Professional Referees and Judges. Certified can also mean a Doctor who has completed the necessary certification requirements and testing, if required, of the American Association of Ringside Physicians or International Association of Ringside Physicians and is currently certified by either organization.
- 1.17.7. **“Chairman”** means the Chairman of the Commission or Sub-committee, as the case may be or context may indicate.
- 1.17.8. **“Chief Second”** means the Second designated by the Contestant as the primary advisor or assistant to the Contestant during a contest.
- 1.17.9. **“Combative Sports Law”** means Arkansas Code Annotated § 17-22-101 *et seq.*, as amended from time to time.
- 1.17.10. **“Combative Sports Tax”** means the five percent (5%) tax, or other such tax rate established by the Combative Sports Law, upon the Gross Receipts derived from an Event.
- 1.17.11. **“Commission”** means the Arkansas State Athletic Commission or one of its duly appointed, members.
- 1.17.12. **“Committee”** means any committee or sub-committee duly appointed by the Commission from time to time, either through a full vote of the members of the Commission or through establishment and appointment by the Chairman, to assist the Commission with the administration of the Commission’s affairs, business and duties. Each committee or sub-committee shall be comprised of at least one, Commission member. The Chairman shall not have the authority to appoint non-Commission members to any committee or sub-committee without the consent and affirmative vote of the Commission.
- 1.17.13. **“Contestant”** means any participant who competes or otherwise participates in an Event through the use or display of their combative sports or other skills.
- 1.17.14. **“Count”** means either an Eight Count or Ten Count given by the Referee to a Contestant who has suffered a Knock-down.
- 1.17.15. **“Deadwood”** the numerical difference between tickets printed and tickets sold, given away or otherwise used.

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- 1.17.16. **“Disciplinary Committee”** means the Committee established for the purpose of investigating, hearing and deciding complaints, alleged violations of the Regulations and other matters subject to regulation by the Commission.
- 1.17.17. **“Disqualification”** means a combative sports contest ending with the Referee disqualifying a Contestant or the Commission disqualifying a Contestant for any violation of these Regulations or other rules or directives. A Disqualification is a loss. A Disqualification may be officially reported using the abbreviation “DQ.”
- 1.17.18. **“Doctor”** means a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy, who is currently licensed by the State of Arkansas to practice medicine, if applying for a license under these Regulations or engaging in any activity related to an Event, or licensed to practice medicine in any state or territory of the United States of America, if not applying for a license under these Regulations or engaging in any activity related to an Event.
- 1.17.19. **“Down” or “Knock-down”** occurs when, as the result of a legal blow as determined by the Referee, any part of a Contestant’s body, except the Contestant’s feet, touches the floor of the ring, or when, as the result of a legal blow as determined by the Referee, any part of a Contestant’s body, except the Contestant’s feet, would have (as determined by the Referee) touched the floor of the ring but for the Contestant being supported by the ropes or cage.
- 1.17.20. **“Draw”** means a combative sports contest ending with either an equal number of judges having scored the same Contestant as both the winner and loser, or ending with all judges having scored the Contestants with the same score. A Draw may be officially reported using the abbreviation “D.”
- 1.17.21. **“Drug”** means any illegal chemical or chemical compound or controlled substance or legally prescribed chemical or chemical compound regulated or within the jurisdiction of the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, federal Food & Drug Administration or federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and any successor agency thereto and any substance banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency
- 1.17.22. **“Eight Count”** means a count of eight (8) given by the Referee to a Contestant who has suffered a Knock-down. An Eight Count starts at the time the Contestant is Down and shall continue to the count of eight (8) even after the Contestant returns to a non-Down position following a Knock-down. Each count one (1) through eight (8) should be approximately one (1) second in length, but may be fractionally longer or shorter depending on the circumstances.
- 1.17.23. **“Elimination Tournament”** means an Event in which:
- 1.17.23.1. Contestants in the Elimination Tournament are prohibited from continuing in the same Elimination Tournament after their first loss by Knockout or Technical Knockout.
- 1.17.24. **“Event”** means a contest, Exhibition or Elimination Tournament involving sparring, boxing, kickboxing, wrestling, martial arts, mixed martial arts, or any other type of combative sport

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including, without limitation, any combination of the foregoing which is subject to regulation by the Combative Sports Law or these Regulations.

- 1.17.25. **“Event Coordinator”** means any person who is not an employee of the Promoter, but is otherwise engaged by the Promoter or does actually arrange on behalf of or for the benefit the Promoter any of the following: (i) advertising; (ii) labor; (iii) lodging; (iv) transportation; (v) venue; (vi) venue setup or tear-down; (vii) any other activity associated with an Event which has the potential to misinform or mislead the Contestants, Seconds, Officials or public attending the Event.
- 1.17.26. **“Exhibition”** means a combative sports contest, exhibition or other display of the Contestant’s skills in which neither Contestant strives to win.
- 1.17.27. **“Female”** generally means a person designated as such on her State or Federal ID.
- 1.17.28. **“Full Contact Rules”** means Kickboxing Event in which kicks to only the body and head are permitted and kicks below the waist are prohibited.
- 1.17.29. **“Good Cause”** means, without limitation, (i) A Doctor’s refusal to approve a contestant to compete; (ii) Failure to pay any sum due to the Commission or Official; (iii) Failure to pay any Contestant for whom a contract exists; (iv) Suspension or revocation of a license issued by another state or country; (v) Failure to observe or comply with any applicable Rule, Regulation, or law; or (vi) Any other fact or circumstance the Commission, in its sole discretion, deems to be a reasonable basis for taking or refusing to take any action.
- 1.17.30. **“Gross Receipts”** means the total money, remuneration or other thing or service of value received for admission to an event.
- 1.17.31. **“Inspector”** means any person duly appointed and designated by the Commission or Designated employee(s) who may issue licenses, collect license fees, or oversee the proper execution of the Arkansas Combative Sports Law and Regulations.
- 1.17.32. **“International Rules”** means Kickboxing Event in which kicks to the body, head and below the hip are permitted; however, kicks to the groin are prohibited.
- 1.17.33. **“Judge”** means a person responsible for scoring an Event.
- 1.17.34. **“Knockout”** means a combative sports contest ending with a Contestant suffering a Knock-down and immediately thereafter either failing to return to a non-Down position before the referee completes a Ten Count or the Referee terminating the Ten Count and ending the contest due to the Referee’s determination the Contestant is unfit to continue the contest. A Knockout may be officially reported using the abbreviation “KO.”
- 1.17.35. **“Lights-out Suspension”** means suspension for ninety (90) calendar days or longer if deemed advisable by the Doctor or Commission.

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- 1.17.36. **“Majority Decision”** means a combative sports contest ending with a majority of the judges scoring the contest in favor of one contestant with the remaining judge scoring the Contestants with the same score. A Majority Decision may be officially reported using the abbreviation “MDec.”
- 1.17.37. **“Majority Draw”** means a combative sports contest ending with a majority, but not all, of the judges scoring the Contestants with the same score. A Majority Draw may be officially reported using the abbreviation “MD.”
- 1.17.38. **“Male”** generally means a person designated as such on his State or Federal ID.
- 1.17.39. **“Manager”** means any person who, directly or indirectly, controls or administers the combative sports affairs of a Professional Contestant.
- 1.17.40. **“Martial Arts” or “Mixed Martial Arts”** means any discipline in which the participants utilize the exertion of pressure, grappling, holds, kicks, punches, blows, strikes, or other techniques including, without limitation, any form of judo, kung fu, karate, tae kwan do, jiu jitsu, muay thai, or any combination thereof.
- 1.17.41. **“Matchmaker”** means person who arranges contracts or negotiates or inquires about the possibility of an arrangement, contract or negotiation for a Contestant’s participation in any bout or contest related to an Event.
- 1.17.42. **“Member”** means any member of the Commission or Committee, as the case may be or context may indicate.
- 1.17.43. **“Minimum Suspension”** means a suspension of thirty (30) calendar days or longer if deemed advisable by the Doctor or Commission.
- 1.17.44. **“No Decision” and “No Contest”** mean a combative sports contest or Exhibition ending with no decision being rendered by the judge(s) or no scores having been maintained or recorded and no winner or loser otherwise determined by any person. A No Decision or No Contest may be officially reported using the abbreviation “NC.”
- 1.17.45. **“Official”** means any individual who performs an official function during or related in any way to an Event including but not limited to Announcers, Commissioners, Doctors, Inspectors, Judges, Referees, and Timekeepers.
- 1.17.46. **“Person”** means any individual, partnership, corporation, association or club.
- 1.17.47. **“Professional”** means a Person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age who, as a means of obtaining pecuniary gain, competes for money, prizes or purses in combative sports contests or exhibition or teaches, instructs, or assists in the practice of professional combative sports. Provided however, the term Professional does not include the following (i) A person who claims to be an Amateur and meets the definition of an Amateur; (ii) A person who solely competes in Amateur Events or Elimination Tournaments.

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- 1.17.48. **“Professional Event”** means an Event in which at least one of the Contestants is a Professional; however, Professional Event does not include Elimination Contests.
- 1.17.49. **“Promoter”** means any person, club, organization, corporation, or association, and in the case of a corporate promoter includes any officer, manager, director and employee thereof, who produces, arranges, or stages any professional boxing, kick boxing, wrestling or martial arts match or exhibition.
- 1.17.50. **“Purse”** means any form of payment or other remuneration provided to a person or entity, directly or indirectly, in exchange for or related in any way to a Contestant’s participation in a combative sports activity including, without limitation, reimbursement for expenses and travel, as well as, any amount paid, directly or indirectly, from or related to broadcast, Internet, media, radio, television, and cable rights.
- 1.17.51. **“Referee”** means the person at an Event who is or will be inside the ring or other competition area and is in charge of enforcing these Regulations and the other rules relevant to the bouts or heats during an Event.
- 1.17.52. **“Sanctioning Body”** is a sport governing body which can have a variety of functions, one of which would be to maintain a list of division/regional champions, issuance of disciplinary action for rule infractions and deciding on rule changes that can be used within the State of Arkansas for the sport the Body governs.
- 1.17.53. **“Second”** means any person aiding, assisting, or advising a Contestant during an Event.
- 1.17.54. **“Split Decision”** means a combative sports contest ending with one Contestant scored as the winner by the majority of the judges. A Split Decision may be officially reported using the abbreviation “SD.”
- 1.17.55. **“Standing Eight Count”** means a count of eight (8) given at the referee’s discretion to a Contestant who has not suffered a Knock-down in the moments preceding the referee beginning the count.
- 1.17.56. **“Submission”** means a combative sports contest ending by the Referee stopping the contest during the Contestant’s execution and continuous application of a legal hold or mixed martial technique from which a Contestant’s opponent cannot work free and which poses imminent risk of either loss of consciousness or serious physical injury. A Submission may be officially reported using the abbreviation “TKO,” if due to strikes, or “Submission” and should generally be also notated with the method or technique resulting in the Submission.
- 1.17.57. **“Tapout” or “Tap Out”** means a combative sports contest ending by the Contestant verbally indicating or physically tapping or patting either the contest area floor or any part the opponent’s body in an effort to signal the Referee that Contestant no longer wishes to continue participating in the contest. A Tapout may be officially reported using the abbreviation “TKO,” if due to strikes, or “Submission.”

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- 1.17.58. **“Technical Knockout”** means a combative sports contest ending with (i) Contestant or Contestant’s Second making a verbal or physical request to the Referee for an immediate end to the contest; (ii) Contestant refusing to continue participating in the contest; or (iii) The Referee ending the contest due to the Referee’s determination the Contestant is either unfit to continue the contest or is unable to safely and intelligently defend against an attack by the Contestant’s opponent. A Technical Knockout may be officially reported using the abbreviation “TKO.”
- 1.17.59. **“Ten Count”** means a count of ten (10) given by the Referee to a Contestant who has suffered a Knock-down. A Ten Count starts at the time the Contestant is Down and shall continue to the count of ten (10), unless the Contestant returns to a non-Down position and is in the opinion of the Referee fit to continue the bout before the Referee reaches the count of ten (10). Each count one (1) through ten (10) should be approximately one (1) second in length, but may be fractionally longer or shorter depending on the Referee and circumstances.
- 1.17.60. **“10 Point Must System”** means a system of scoring whereby the winner of each round must receive ten (10) points, while the loser of the round receives nine (9) points, eight (8) points if knocked down once or clearly and thoroughly dominated by the opponent without being knocked down, seven (7) points if knocked down more than once and thoroughly dominated by the opponent. A Contestant may not receive less than seven (7) points in a round, unless the reason for receiving less than seven (7) points is due to the deduction of a point or point(s). If there is no clear winner of the round or the Judge scores the round evenly, each Contestant will be awarded ten (10) points. Although a Contestant may win the round, a point deduction for the commission of a foul may result in less than ten (10) points being awarded to that Contestant. No fractions of a point shall be awarded to or deducted from any Contestant. The winner of each round should be the Contestant delivering or displaying, as legally permitted under the rules applicable to the combative sport, any combination of the most clean or effective punches/strikes/legal holds/take downs, effective aggressiveness, effective defense, and good ring generalship.
- 1.17.61. **“Timekeeper”** means the person responsible for keeping the official time for each round or heat, intervals between rounds or heats, and all counts after a Contestant is Down during an Event.
- 1.17.62. **“Technical Zone”** A restricted area extending perpendicular from all points from the edge of the ring apron, cage or out of bounds line on any surface upon which an event or competition takes place. In case of prior cited problems in a particular venue or with a promoter, ASAC can require up to ten (10) feet for the Technical Zone.
- 1.17.63. **“Twenty Count”** means a count of twenty (20) given by the Referee to a Contestant who has, as a result of actions which do not violate these Regulations or the rules of the contest, been knocked through or has otherwise fallen through the ropes during a contest. A Twenty Count starts at the time the Contestant is Down and shall continue to the count of twenty (20), unless the Contestant returns unassisted to a non-Down position inside the Ring and is in the opinion of the Referee fit to continue the bout before the Referee reaches the count of twenty (20). Each

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count one (1) through twenty (20) should be approximately one (1) second in length, but may be fractionally longer or shorter depending on the Referee and circumstances.

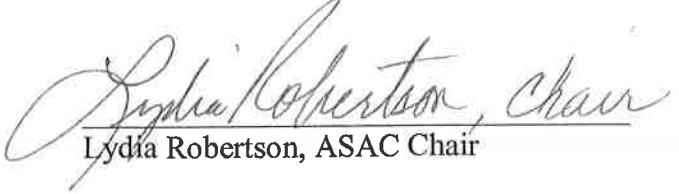
1.17.64. **“Unanimous Decision”** means a combative sports contest ending with one Contestant scored as the winner by all judge(s). A Unanimous Decision may be officially reported using the abbreviation “UD.”

1.17.65. **“Wrestling”** means any form of combat between two (2) or more Contestants where such Contestants deliver blows to his or her opponent’s body, executes throws to his or his opponent’s body, or applies holds to his or her opponent’s body.



**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Chapter 1 of the Rules and Regulations of the Arkansas State Athletic Commission was adopted and became effective on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015.

  
Lydia Robertson, ASAC Chair



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**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

**RECEIVED**

AUG 12 2015

DEPARTMENT Arkansas Department of Health  
DIVISION Arkansas State Athletic Commission  
PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT Patrisha Blackstock  
TELEPHONE NO. 501-682-1038 FAX NO. 501-255-0394 EMAIL: Patrisha.Blackstock@arkansas.gov

BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two copies with the questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE Rules and Regulations of the Arkansas State Athletic Commission

- 1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact? Yes  No
- 2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule? Yes  No
- 3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes  No

If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:

- (a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and;  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority; and if so, please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following:

(a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

<u>Current Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Next Fiscal Year</u>	
General Revenue	<u>0</u>	General Revenue	<u>0</u>
Federal Funds	<u>0</u>	Federal Funds	<u>0</u>

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_

Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_

Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_

Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

There is not cost to the State or to other entities as this rule only amateur combatants.

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes  No

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

(1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;

(2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;

(3) a description of the factual evidence that:

(a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and

- (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
  - (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
  - (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
  - (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
    - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
    - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
    - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.