

# **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL (“WBC”)**

## **ARTICLE I - APPLICABILITY AND INTERPRETATION**

- 1.1 **Applicability and Interpretation of these Rules and Regulations.** In all WBC-sanctioned championship and elimination contests, these Rules and Regulations, the WBC Championship Rules as promulgated by the WBC from time to time, and all other rules and rulings issued by the WBC shall apply, unless due to special circumstances a written exception is issued by the WBC in its sole discretion on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.2 **Interpretation of Rules and Power of WBC President to Act in the Best Interests of Boxing.** As special and unique circumstances arise in the sport of boxing, not all of which can be anticipated and addressed explicitly in these Rules and Regulations, the President of the WBC, in consultation with the WBC Board of Governors, has full power and authority to interpret these Rules and Regulations, and to issue and apply such rulings as he shall in his sole discretion deem to be in the best interests of boxing.
- 1.3 **President’s Authority to Act with Subsequent Ratification.** Under special circumstances, if the approval of the WBC Board of Governors is required under these Rules and Regulations for the WBC to take any action, but due to special circumstances it is not possible or practical to obtain such prior approval in a timely manner, the WBC President may take any necessary action, subject to the later ratification of such action by the WBC Board of Governors.
- 1.4 **No Course of Dealing.** As circumstances arising in the sport of boxing are unique to each matter, no decision of the WBC in its discretion shall constitute a precedent or establish a course of dealing upon which other parties may rely. The WBC shall retain the power and authority to issue rulings on a case by case basis in the exercise of its sole discretion.
- 1.5 **All Parties Subject.** By participating in any bout, promotion, or any other business dealings involving the WBC’s exclusive trademarks and other intellectual property, each champion, challenger, and all other parties are, and are expressly deemed to have agreed to be, subject to these Rules and Regulations and all rulings and interpretations hereof by the WBC.

## **ARTICLE II - GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO WBC CONTESTS**

### **Rules Regarding WBC Approval of Bouts**

- 2.1 **WBC Approval of WBC Championship and Elimination Bouts.** All promoters must request in writing the approval by the WBC of any WBC-sanctioned championship, elimination, or qualifying bouts. No bout shall be considered as officially sanctioned by the WBC unless the promoter has received the written approval of the WBC President’s office, and complies fully with all terms and conditions of the WBC’s sanctioning, including payment of all required fees and compliance with these Rules and Regulations.
- 2.2 **WBC Discretion to Deny Sanction.** The WBC reserves the right to deny its sanction of any bout, or to withdraw its sanction prior to a bout after it was initially granted, for cause as the WBC shall determine in its sole discretion. Such instances may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Noncompliance with WBC Rules and Regulations. The WBC may deny or withdraw its sanction of any contest to be held in a jurisdiction that does not respect the WBC's legitimate interest in the conduct of WBC bouts, including enforcement of these Rules and Regulations and the WBC's right to appoint and approve ring officials.
- (b) Violation of the WBC's Principles or Constitution. The WBC may deny or withdraw its sanction of any contest to be held in a jurisdiction that violates the WBC's principles or Constitution.

The WBC may also deny a bout sanction to any promoter whose actions might be detrimental to the WBC and boxing, if the promoter acts in opposition to the WBC's expressed policies on safety and other measures to protect boxers, or any other violations of the WBC's Rules or Constitution.

2.3 WBC's Right to Revoke Sanction after a Contest. The WBC reserves the right to withdraw its sanction of any bout that had been previously sanctioned as a WBC contest under the following circumstances:

- (a) if (i) the local boxing commission where the bout occurred did not permit the WBC to appoint all the ring officials, or if the WBC did not agree in writing to all ring officials appointed by the local commission for the match, and (ii) the result is that the decision in the contest is different from what it would have been if all officials had been appointed by the WBC and upheld the WBC's rules and standards; or
- (b) if (i) all Rules and Regulations, Championship Rules, and rulings of the WBC are not complied with, and (ii) the result is that the decision in the contest is different from what it would have been if all of the WBC's rules and standards had been properly applied.

Under such circumstances, upon an affirmative vote of 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the WBC Board of Governors, the WBC may withdraw its sanction of the bout as a WBC contest. In either circumstance, whether the decision would have been different under the WBC's rules and standards is to be determined solely by the WBC in its sole discretion.

If the bout was a WBC title contest, it will be deemed to have been a non-title bout. If the bout was a WBC elimination contest, WBC sanctioning will be withdrawn from the match, and neither boxer will gain any rights to a mandatory contest or final elimination bout, nor be eliminated from contention as a result. (The WBC may, in its discretion, accept or reject the action of the bout in determining its ratings of the boxers.)

In such cases, the ruling of the WBC will not affect the final determination of the local boxing commission regarding the decision in the contest. However, the decision of a local boxing commission can never interfere with the power and authority of the WBC to grant or withhold sanctioning any contest as a WBC championship or elimination bout, or to recognize or withhold recognition of any boxer as a WBC Champion or Challenger.

If WBC sanctioning is withdrawn after a contest under this rule, the WBC will still retain all sanction fees and expenses, as the promotion will have benefitted from the marketing value brought to the bout as a result of having been originally sanctioned by the WBC, and because the event was promoted using the WBC's exclusive and proprietary trademarks and

other intellectual property, including but not limited to commercial designations, trade names, trademarks and copyrighted materials.

- 2.4 Disputes between a Boxer and a Boxer's Representative. In the event of a dispute in which a manager, promoter, or other representative claims contractual rights with respect to a boxer, the WBC may order that the boxer may compete in the bout on the condition that a portion of the boxer's purse shall be withheld and deposited in escrow until the time that the dispute is resolved. In such cases the boxer must also agree in a manner satisfactory to the WBC to indemnify the WBC and hold it harmless from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, and liabilities of any kind or nature with respect to the matter.

### **Purse Offer Procedures**

- 2.5 Adherence to Purse Offer Procedure. The purse offer procedure shall apply when the boxers and their representatives cannot reach an agreement on financial terms during the free negotiations period. In such instances, this purse offer procedure shall be respected at all times, and shall not be affected by any promotional agreements in which a promoter has options on either or both boxers in such bouts.
- 2.6 WBC's Authority to Modify. The WBC has the authority to modify these purse offer procedures, including all timetables and the respective percentages of the bout purses payable to the boxers, in special circumstances as determined by the WBC in its sole discretion.
- 2.7 Notifications When Bouts Ordered. Upon ordering a title or elimination bout, the WBC shall provide notification to the boxers or their representatives at their last known contact information registered with the WBC. It is the sole responsibility of each boxer and boxer's representative to provide the WBC Secretary with contact information specifically designated for all notices required under the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations. The WBC is not and shall not be held liable for the failure of a boxer or any boxer's representative to keep the WBC advised of their current contact information for such notices.
- 2.8 Free Negotiations Period. After the WBC orders a bout, there shall be a period of thirty (30) days for the parties to negotiate, finalize, execute, and file a contract for the match. Should the parties fail to execute and file a contract with the WBC by the end of such period, the period of free negotiations shall be closed.

The WBC may, by notification to the parties, shorten or lengthen the free negotiation period in special circumstances as determined by the WBC in its sole discretion.

- 2.9 Request for Purse Offer. Should the free negotiation period not result in signed bout contracts or notification of an agreement being filed with the WBC, the WBC shall issue a public announcement requesting that promoters file purse offers bids to promote the bout. Promoters then currently registered with the WBC may in writing request that the WBC, as a courtesy, send them individual notifications of a request for purse offers. The announcement requesting bids will contain the date, time, and place for the purse offer ceremony.

The period for purse offers to be filed will be, and the purse offer ceremony shall be held, 15 calendar days from expiration of the free negotiation period, unless such period is reduced or extended by the WBC in its sole discretion.

- 2.10 Extension If No Bids Received. If no bids are received by the time and date specified in the announcement, the period for receipt of bids may be extended by the WBC for an additional fifteen (15) calendar days, and the boxers or their registered representatives shall be notified.
- 2.11 Privilege to Participate in a Purse Offer. The WBC may reject any purse offer bid received from a promoter not in good standing with the WBC (that is, any promoter who has (i) failed to pay all sanction fees, yearly licensing fees, or any other fees, expenses, or fines payable in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, or (ii) is suspended, expelled, or subject other discipline by the WBC). The WBC may also reject any purse offer bid received from a promoter who has failed to execute and file with the WBC (i) the WBC Registered Promoters Agreement and (ii) the WBC World Title Bout Authorization Agreement for Promoter.

Each promoter participating in a purse offer procedure shall pay a non-refundable fee to the WBC as follows:

Heavyweight division bid:	\$10,000
Cruiserweight to middleweight division bid:	\$ 7,500
Superwelterweight to superbantamweight division bid:	\$ 5,000
Bantamweight to strawweight division bid:	\$ 2,500

If a promoter is participating in more than one bid scheduled on the same day, only one payment will be assessed to such promotional company.

The requirement to provide such fee is mandatory and will only be subject to being altered by the WBC in its sole discretion.

- 2.12 Rejection of Commonality of Bidders. The WBC in its discretion may reject any purse offer bid if there is commonality of ownership or control among two or more of the participants.
- 2.13 Format of Purse Offer Bids. Each purse offer bid should be submitted using the WBC's approved purse offer form. The WBC in its sole discretion may, but is not required to, accept any purse offer bid in an alternate format.
- 2.14 Submission of Purse Offer Bids. The WBC may reject any purse offer bid submitted after the time and date set forth in the announcement for the opening of bids. Purse offer bids should be presented in person by the date, time and at the place set forth in the announcement of the solicitation of said bids. A bid may also be sent by fax or email to the WBC official conducting the purse offer ceremony. It is the sole responsibility of the participant to confirm actual receipt of any purse offer bid to the WBC official conducting the purse offer ceremony. The WBC will handle all bid received with strict confidentiality prior to the purse offer ceremony.
- 2.15 Purse Offer Ceremony. At the official purse offer ceremony for a bout, the WBC shall reveal all properly-submitted bids, and the promoter that has made the highest offer of

compensation to the boxers shall be awarded the championship match. The WBC may reject any bid that contains any contingency, such as purses subject to income projections, or any bid stating that a promoter will bid a percentage or dollar amount over the bid by other promoters. Any interested promoter may attend and observe the purse offer ceremony.

2.16 Winning of Purse Offer. The WBC shall notify the winning promoter of his winning bid. Minutes of the purse offer procedure shall be written, signed, and delivered by and to the participating parties and the boxers or their representatives.

2.17 Division of Proceeds in a Purse Offer. The net purse offer (after deduction of all sanction fees payable to the WBC hereunder) shall be divided as follows:

(a) 70% for the champion and 30% for the challenger in title bouts; and

(b) 50% to each contender in the case of vacant titles or elimination bouts;

provided, however, that the WBC Board of Governors may by a majority vote, modify the division of purse offer proceeds between boxers in a purse offer in unusual or special cases, such as consideration of outstanding marketing value of one of the boxers, as the WBC shall determine in its sole discretion. The modification of the split shall be limited to 60-40% and 55-45%, except in the most exceptional circumstances, in which the split may be modified to 50-50%.

2.18 Boxers' Obligations Regarding Purse Offer Bids. The interested boxers must accept the winning bid and participate in the match, as the WBC may deem that any boxer who does not agree to participate in a bout on the terms of the winning purse offer has forfeited his privilege as a WBC champion or challenger. For a champion to be deemed to forfeit his title as a result, the WBC Board of Governors must confirm such forfeiture by 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote.

2.19 Promoter's Deposit after Winning Purse Offer. Unless otherwise permitted by the WBC in its sole discretion, the promoter who wins a purse offer must, within ten (10) calendar days after the purse offer ceremony or as otherwise ordered by the WBC, deposit with the WBC ten percent (10%) of the total amount of his offer. If such 10% deposit is not made by the winning promoter as required, the WBC may in its discretion deem that the promoter has forfeited his right to promote the bout, which will be granted to the second highest bidder.

The balance of the deposit, after deduction of all applicable sanction fees, will be returned to the promoter at the time of the title bout. In the event the promoter does not promote the bout according to the terms of his winning bid, the WBC may, in its sole discretion, order that the promoter has forfeited such deposit, which the WBC may then distribute to the boxers in accordance with the purse split, or retain as a penalty.

2.20 Failure to Promote a Bout. If a promoter who won the purse offer relinquishes the right or fails or refuses to promote the championship bout, the right to promote the bout will be granted to the second highest bidder, if any, provided however, that if in the discretion of the WBC the second-highest bid was too low, the WBC may initiate another purse offer procedure.

2.21 Purse Offer Contracts. After winning a purse offer, the promoter shall within seven (7) days present championship bout contracts, either on the WBC's form or in a form deemed

to be acceptable by the WBC in its sole discretion, to each boxer or the boxer's representative to be signed and delivered to the WBC within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the purse offer ceremony. The promoter will have fifteen (15) calendar days after the purse offer ceremony to inform the WBC in writing of the location and date of the bout. The WBC may alter either or both periods for cause as determined in its sole discretion.

- 2.22 Failure to Sign Purse Offer Contracts. If a promoter has presented to the boxers bout contracts in a WBC accepted form within the required deadline, but either or both boxers have not signed and returned the contract, the promoter will not be deemed at fault, and will be deemed to have complied with his obligation to file the contracts in a timely manner.

If the promoter has presented a WBC approved contract, and a boxer or boxer's representative fails to sign the contract within the required period after the purse offer ceremony, or if the boxer otherwise refuses to participate in the bout for the promoter who won the purse offer, the WBC shall have the power to impose disciplinary actions upon such boxer and/or or boxer's representative, including but not limited to forfeiture of title or challenger status, or any other measure the WBC deems appropriate in its sole discretion.

- 2.23 Timing of a Bout. A promoter must promote the match within ninety (90) days winning a purse offer, subject to modification at any time by the WBC in its discretion. The WBC may withdraw a promoter's privilege to promote any bout if the promoter is unable to comply with such time limit.

#### **Rules Regarding Special Circumstances Affecting Purse Offers**

- 2.24 Amount of Purse Offer Bids and New Bids. The WBC reserves the right to refuse any purse offer if deemed to be too low. In the event of identical high bids, new purse offers will be taken from those promoters who submitted the identical high bids, or they may agree to co-promote. New bids may be taken at the same purse offer meeting if the interested parties are present. If one or more of the promoters who submitted identical higher bids are not present, new sealed or confidential bids shall be submitted to the WBC within seven (7) calendar days from the original opening of the bids.

- 2.25 Boxers Must Have No Contractual Restrictions. The WBC may reject as unavailable any boxer who has contractual or legal restrictions that would prevent the boxer from complying with his obligations to engage in free negotiations under these Rules and Regulations. Each boxer is solely responsible for notifying the WBC of any such contractual restrictions. Absent any such notification, the WBC may assume that there are no contractual or legal obligations that would interfere with a boxer's ability to freely negotiate for a bout. In the event that a boxer fails to timely notify the WBC of any such contractual or legal restriction, the WBC may subject such boxer to disciplinary action, including a fine or removal of WBC status.

- 2.26 Non Applicability of Purse Offer Procedure. The purse offer procedure herein will not be applicable in a situation when in free negotiations a boxer is offered a purse at least ten (10) times the highest purse made by the boxer, based on registered contracts and other information made available to the WBC. In the event that a boxer is offered at least ten (10) times his highest purse refuses to accept it, the WBC may remove the boxer's WBC status and order an alternate challenger.

- 2.27 Rights of Promoters Holding Options. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary which may be contained in these Rules and Regulations, if a promoter holds a duly registered, binding, and approved option to promote a bout of a boxer, but: (a) is unable to finalize a contract for a mandatory championship bout within the time periods prescribed herein; or (b) is not successful in winning the purse offer for the bout, the WBC may in its sole discretion order that the winning promoter and affected boxer shall pay to the promoter holding the option an amount equal to 25% of the amount by which the purse payable to the boxer in the winning purse offer exceeds the amount that was guaranteed to the boxer under the option (or any higher amount that had been offered to such boxer by the promoter holding the option during the free negotiations period.

Under such circumstances, it shall be the obligation of the winner of the purse offer to pay such amount direct to the promoter holding the option at the same time that the purses are paid to the boxers for the ordered bout. For example, if a promoter has a valid option to promote a champion's next bout, under which the champion will receive a guaranteed US\$100,000 purse (and no higher purse was offered to the boxer by such promoter during free negotiations), and in the purse offer won by another promoter the champion is guaranteed \$200,000, then the promoter holding the option would be entitled to payment of US\$25,000, which is 25% of the excess of the purse offer (\$200,000) over his option (\$100,000).

- 2.28 Modification of Purse Offers. If at any time after a purse offer the boxers and the promoter agree to reduce the amount of the purse, the sanction fees payable to the WBC will nevertheless be based upon the original purse offer and not pursuant to any reduced terms, due to the WBC's role in maximizing the value of the bout.
- 2.29 Single Purse Offer Bids. If only one promoter presents a bid in a purse offer, he will be allowed to promote the bout unless the Board of Governors considers the offer so low that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the boxers, in which case the WBC will undertake efforts to improve the boxers' purses.
- 2.30 Authority of the President in Purse Offers. The WBC President or his designee shall have the authority to resolve any issue regarding purse offers if the situation is not otherwise provided for in these Rules and Regulations, or to act in their discretion to take whatever action they deem necessary and appropriate regarding purse offer procedures to preserve justice and equality.

### **Rules Regarding Contractual Arrangements**

- 2.31 Privileges of WBC Registered Promoters. All promoters who are registered and in good standing with the WBC shall have the right to register contracts for championship and elimination bouts with the WBC, promote any WBC-sanctioned championship or elimination match, participate in WBC purse offer procedures, register option contracts with the WBC, and participate in any other pertinent activity within the WBC's operating procedures.
- 2.32 Filing of Official Championship Bout Contracts. All contracts for WBC-sanctioned bouts must be filed by the promoter with the WBC. If the bout is the result of a purse offer, the contracts must be on the official WBC form, unless the parties submit a mutually-agreed contract in alternate format acceptable to the WBC. The official WBC forms of Registered Promoters Agreement, Authorization Agreement from Promoter, and Champion and

Challenger Compliance Agreement must also be executed and filed with the WBC. It is the responsibility of each promoter to ensure that bout agreements are properly executed by the boxers or their valid and legally authorized representatives in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

2.33 Registration of Management Contracts. To be recognized by the WBC, all contracts between boxers and their managers, promoters, agents, or other representatives must be filed by such parties with the WBC. Alternatively, the WBC may in its sole discretion accept a certificate of the governing boxing commission or federation confirming that it has received and has such contract on file, provided that the parties consent to the WBC obtaining any such contract from such commission or federation.

2.34 Mandatory Option for Title Bouts. At the request of the promoter of a WBC World Championship, at the time of execution of a contract resulting from free negotiations but not purse offers, the challenger shall grant one (1) option for his first title defense in the event that he is successful in his challenge. In order for an option clause to be recognized by the WBC, it must be specific in its terms as to the boxer's compensation and the period during which it may be exercised.

This Rule is not applicable if it is prohibited in the jurisdiction where the related contest will take place or otherwise prohibited by law.

2.35 Time Limitations on Mandatory Options. A promoter exercising an option granted to him pursuant to the preceding rule must stage the option bout within six (6) months from the date after the initial bout or sooner if ordered by the WBC. The WBC may permit an option to be extended beyond its stated term if the bout cannot be promoted within such term due to matters beyond the control of the promoter, if such option may be extended under such circumstances according to its terms and is legally binding.

2.36 Voluntary Options. A boxer may voluntarily grant options to a promoter, and the WBC will recognize such options as valid, binding, and enforceable unless: (1) such options are invalidate due to breach of the terms stipulated in such contract; or (2) the WBC determines that such options are unfair or abusive pursuant to Rule 2.39 below.

2.37 Procedures Related to Options. In order to be recognized by the WBC, all option agreements must comply with these Rules and Regulations, be validly executed, and be filed by promoters with the WBC. All bouts held pursuant to options must comply in all respects with these Rules and Regulations.

2.38 WBC Bouts Take Priority Over Options. A promoter's exercise of any option is subject to the WBC's right to order or sanction mandatory or voluntary bouts in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and may not interfere with the responsibilities of any boxer to comply with the rulings of the WBC.

2.39 Unfair Economic Value of Option. The WBC may deny its sanction of any match to be held pursuant to an option contract if the economic value of the option is so low that could be considered unfair or abusive toward the boxer, as the WBC may determine in its sole discretion.

2.40 Exclusive Promotional Agreements. The WBC does not recognize exclusive promotional agreements between a promoter and a boxer. Therefore, the WBC may deem any such



agreement to be a contractual impediment to the boxer fulfilling his obligations under the Rules and Regulations.

- 2.41 Limited License. In consideration of the benefit derived from the use of the WBC's exclusive trademark, accolade, and sanction, each promoter, boxer, and other participant in a WBC sanctioned bout is deemed to consent to the use by the WBC of images, video/digital footage, likeness, and descriptions of such bout and its participants for the purposes of training of WBC officials and members, as well as promotion of the bout, the WBC Championship, and the WBC, but not for commercial use beyond such limited license granted to the WBC hereby.

### **Rules Regarding WBC Officials**

- 2.42 Appointment of Judges and Referees. The WBC President or Executive Secretary shall be responsible for appointing or approving judges and referees as ring officials for each WBC contest. Such officials shall be from countries neutral to the boxers, unless both boxers have the same nationality or residence. The WBC President may, under extraordinary circumstances, reach special agreements with local commissions regarding the appointment of ring officials.
- 2.43 Examinations for Officials. All judges and referees must pass such performance, medical, ophthalmologic, and other tests as shall be mandated by the local commission for the bout, as well as the official's local federation and the WBC.
- 2.44 Conduct of Ring Officials. Ring officials at all WBC-sanctioned matches shall exercise their duties and responsibilities in accordance with the procedures and practices contained in the WBC Ring Officials Guide and the WBC Code of Ethics. Every official appointed by the WBC shall be a member in good standing. Appointment as an official in a WBC-sanctioned contest is a privilege, not a right.
- 2.45 WBC Supervisors. The WBC shall be represented at all sanctioned contests by a Supervisor or Supervisors appointed by the WBC President or respective Federation president or committee chairman. With respect to the bout, the WBC Supervisor shall have the authority to make all decisions and take all actions necessary to interpret and enforce these Rules and Regulations and the WBC's rulings, subject only to review by the WBC President and/or Board of Governors.
- 2.46 WBC Representatives at WBC Bouts. The WBC Supervisor shall be seated next to the bout commissioner in order to supervise and tally the scoring of the judges after every round and to be able to perform his other responsibilities. The President of the WBC must also be seated at the apron. The promoter(s) of any WBC-sanctioned contest is also specifically obligated to arrange for or provide tickets for up to five (5) numbered ringside seats to accommodate additional WBC officials and executives in the technical zone, or, if not available, immediately adjacent to the ring.
- 2.47 Promoters' Obligations for WBC Representatives' Expenses. The promoter(s) of any WBC-sanctioned contest shall pay all expenses, including transportation, lodging, meals, and other incidental expenses, of all ring officials, and also for the WBC Supervisor(s), not to exceed two (2) persons. Any attendance by the WBC President or his designee at any WBC-sanctioned contest will be in an official capacity, and the promoter must pay all of

the transportation, lodging, meals, and other incidental expenses for the WBC President or his designee to attend the event.

- 2.48 Fees for Ring Officials. A schedule of minimum fees to be paid to ring officials will be designated by the WBC from time to time, and the promoter must pay the costs of such fees as required. The payment of fees to the ring officials must be made directly by the WBC Supervisor or by the local boxing commission under his supervision.

### **Rules Regarding WBC Championship Belts**

- 2.49 Belts Provided for Each Division. The WBC will award championship belts to the champions of each weight division. The promoter of any WBC championship is expressly obligated to pay for a new title belt in the event that a new champion is crowned.
- 2.50 Ownership of Belt. Once a boxer wins a WBC championship, the physical belt becomes his property; provided, however, that the WBC retains the exclusive worldwide copyright, trademark, and all other intellectual property rights in any way associated with the appearance, design, or ownership WBC title belts as its sole property. Given these rights, the WBC expressly reserves the right to prevent the display of any WBC title belt in circumstances that the WBC in its sole discretion deems inappropriate or that otherwise brings dishonor upon the WBC or the sport of boxing.
- 2.51 Champion Must Bring His Belt Into the Ring. A WBC champion must always bring his championship belt when he enters the ring for every defense of his title. If he does not bring his championship belt, he will be subject to fine and other disciplinary measures by the WBC. The champion must then give the championship belt to the WBC Supervisor before the beginning of the bout, so that it may be awarded to the winner.
- 2.52 Presentation of Belt. At the end of each championship contest, the WBC Supervisor(s), the WBC President if present, and the president of the local commission and local federation shall go into the ring to present the belt to the champion on behalf of the WBC Board of Governors. The promoter of the contest is responsible to provide security, organize the ceremony for presentation of the championship belt, and require the boxers to reasonably assist so that such presentation can occur in an organized and efficient manner.
- 2.53 Subsequent Award of Belt to a New Champion. If a champion's title belt is presented to a new champion, following the presentation ceremony, upon request of the WBC Supervisor he must immediately return the former champion's belt, and the WBC Supervisor shall return the belt to the former champion. The WBC will later award a new title belt to the new champion.

### **ARTICLE III - CHAMPIONSHIP OBLIGATIONS**

- 3.1 Timing of Defenses. A WBC champion shall defend the title in mandatory or voluntary defenses at least three (3) times a year, unless a written exception or extension is granted by the WBC in its sole discretion. Therefore, a champion must defend his title every one hundred twenty (120) unless otherwise permitted by the WBC in its sole discretion. Upon winning a title, a champion must defend the title within 90 to 120 days as ordered by the WBC, and thereafter every 120 days, in each case unless otherwise ordered or permitted by the WBC in its sole discretion.

- 3.2 Recognition Subject to Forfeit. A champion who does not defend his title within the periods set forth herein shall forfeit his title, unless the WBC in its sole discretion otherwise permits. Further, the WBC may also withdraw recognition of a mandatory or qualifying challenger for inactivity or failure to engage in any bout ordered by the WBC. A WBC champion may not hold a championship of another organization unless permitted by the WBC in its sole discretion.
- 3.3 Qualified Challengers. Champions shall defend their titles, either in a voluntary or mandatory defense, against a challenger (each, a “Qualified Challenger”) in one of the following categories:
- (a) any of the top ten (10) rated contenders; or
  - (b) with the approval of or ratification by a majority of the Board of Governors,
    - i. any boxer rated 11 to 15;
    - ii. a champion or a highly-rated boxer of another weight division;
    - iii. another WBC champion, such as a WBC Diamond or Silver Champion, Champion Emeritus, or Champion in Recess;
    - iv. a former world champion or other elite challenger;
    - v. a champion of another boxing organization recognized by the WBC; or
  - (c) under special circumstances and with the approval of or ratification by two-third (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the Board of Governors, a contender not otherwise listed in one or more of the above categories.
- 3.4 Voluntary Defenses. In order to fulfill their requirement to defend the title regularly in a timely manner, champions shall propose voluntary defenses against Qualified Challengers as defined above. No bout shall qualify as a voluntary defense other than as permitted by the WBC in accordance with these Rules and Regulations. Unification bouts with champions of other organizations recognized by the WBC must be specifically requested and may be approved, denied, or made subject to special conditions by the WBC in its sole discretion.
- 3.5 Mandatory Defense Obligations. All WBC champions shall make at least one (1) mandatory defense per year, unless an exception is granted by the WBC in its sole discretion. A champion may be required to make more than one mandatory defense per year, if the WBC has designated more than one mandatory challenger for any reason. No bout shall be considered a mandatory defense unless specifically approved by the WBC and made exclusively against an official mandatory challenger designated by the WBC. A challenger who wins the title shall automatically inherit the mandatory defense obligations of the champion he defeated, unless the WBC in its sole discretion otherwise directs.
- 3.6 Timing and Extensions of Mandatory Defense Obligations. The time periods for mandatory defenses stated in these Rules may be altered by the WBC in its sole discretion under special circumstances, including if a champion has defended the title in a voluntary defense against a contender the WBC may have deemed a mandatory challenger. No mandatory bout may be contested until such time as is required for a mandatory defense under these Rules and Regulations, including any extensions that may be granted by the WBC in its sole discretion.

3.7 Designation of Mandatory Challengers. The WBC shall always have the discretion to designate a mandatory challenger by:

- (a) ordering a final elimination bout of two qualified contenders; or
- (b) designating as official mandatory challenger a Qualified Challenger.

For the avoidance of doubt, the highest rated (or the highest rated available) boxer in the WBC rankings is never, solely by virtue of such position, the official mandatory challenger. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, including any communications attributed to the WBC, no boxer shall be considered as or claim any privileges associated with being a mandatory challenger unless (i) the boxer has been officially designated as such by the WBC Presidency, and (ii) the WBC Board of Governors has voted to appoint or ratify the designation of such boxer as mandatory challenger.

3.8 Special Bout Sanction. Under special circumstances, such as a match involving an elite contender, a unification bout, or other match that the WBC determines in its sole discretion would be in the best interests of boxing, the WBC may order and/or sanction such bout as either a voluntary or mandatory defense, and may order that such special bout take precedence over and occur prior to any previously designated mandatory defense.

Under the circumstances set forth in the preceding paragraph, any previously-designated mandatory challenge may be ordered by the WBC: (i) to occur immediately after the special bout with no intervening bout, (ii) to be rescheduled to occur after one or more voluntary bouts, or (iii) postponed by the WBC until such time as the champion is required to defend against his next mandatory challenger, including any extensions that may be granted by the WBC in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

3.9 Elimination Bouts. The WBC may order one or more qualifying or elimination bouts and tournaments to determine ratings and to select the boxers that will compete in a final elimination bout to designate an official mandatory challenger. Therefore, not all elimination bouts are necessarily to designate the official mandatory challenger, and the winner of an elimination bout does not become mandatory challenger unless such bout has been sanctioned by the WBC explicitly as a Final Elimination Bout.

Only the winner of a Final Elimination Bout shall become a mandatory challenger, and shall be subject to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations and such additional conditions and exceptions as may be imposed by the WBC in its discretion on a case-by-case basis.

3.10 Suspension or Withdrawal of Recognition Following Elimination Bout. Following an elimination or final elimination contest, the WBC may withdraw recognition of the winner of such bout as a qualifying or mandatory challenger if the WBC in its sole discretion determines: the outcome of the match was controversial or irregular; that despite winning the bout, the winner's performance was unsatisfactory or did not demonstrate the merit to advance; if a winner remains inactive for an extended period in advance of his final elimination or championship bout; or if it otherwise serves the best interests of the sport.

Under such circumstances, the WBC may order a rematch, order one or more additional qualifying, elimination, or final elimination bouts that include or exclude one or both of the

previous contenders, or designate as a mandatory contender a Qualified Challenger under Rule 3.4.

3.11 Immediate Rematch Policy. The WBC does not recognize immediate rematch clauses in bout agreements and will not sanction or authorize immediate rematches, unless it determines in its sole discretion, with the approval of or ratification by two-third (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the Board of Governors, that:

- (a) the conduct or result of the bout was controversial or irregular;
- (b) there is sufficient public demand; or
- (c) a direct rematch would otherwise be in the best interests of boxing.

3.12 Immediate Rematches. If the WBC determines that a rematch is appropriate pursuant to the preceding rule, it may order the rematch as a mandatory bout, permit a requested rematch as a voluntary bout, or sanction the bout as a special bout under Rule 3.8.

If such a rematch is ordered, the winner of the immediate rematch must comply with mandatory defense obligations existing at the time of the original contest, and a previously designated official mandatory challenger shall instead face the winner of the immediate rematch without an intervening bout, unless an exception is granted by the WBC in its sole discretion.

3.13 Rematch after intervening contest. The WBC may also order a rematch as a mandatory defense after allowing an intervening contest. In such a case, the winner of the intervening contest must face the other participant in the original bout and must comply with mandatory defense obligations existing at the time of the original bout, unless an exception due to special circumstances is granted by the WBC in its sole discretion.

3.14 Non-Title Bouts. A WBC Champion must always defend the WBC title if he boxes in the same weight division as his championship. A WBC Champion may not engage in any title or non-title bout in his weight division, or a title or non-title bout in any other weight division, without requesting and receiving a written sanction of the bout from the WBC.

In such circumstances, the WBC may in its sole discretion authorize a WBC champion to engage in such a contest, provided, however, that the WBC Champion has requested and consented that the proposed bout be sanctioned as a WBC Special Event to be governed by the WBC's Rules and Regulations, and pays all sanction fees required pursuant to Rule 7. The champion's title is subject to forfeiture for any failure to comply with this Rule.

3.15 Withdrawal or Suspension of Recognition for Cause. The privilege, trademark, and other intellectual property associated with any WBC championship or WBC-sanctioned bout are each owned exclusively by the WBC. Therefore, the WBC may suspend or withdraw recognition of a boxer as a WBC champion, challenger, or contender for cause, as it may determine in its sole discretion. Cause may consist of any reason justifying suspension or withdrawal, including but not limited to violation of the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations, holding the title of another boxing organization without the approval or sanction of the WBC, or conviction and imprisonment for a crime involving moral turpitude or other serious moral offense.

- 3.16 Petition for Reconsideration. In the event that WBC recognition is suspended or withdrawn under these Rules, such action will be deemed final, and the WBC may undertake any action to fill a vacant title or establish challengers as it may deem appropriate in its sole discretion, provided, however, that the affected party may request reconsideration solely in accordance with Article V hereof.
- 3.17 Filling a Vacant Title. If a title becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Governors may in its discretion take whatever steps or actions it deems necessary or appropriate to fill the title, including but not limited to:
- (a) instituting a tournament or elimination contest(s) among Qualified Challengers;
  - (b) Ordering a championship contest between two Qualified Challengers; or
  - (c) recognizing as champion the winner of a previous elimination bout.
- This list is non-exclusive.
- 3.18 Conditions upon New Champion. The WBC may, as it in its discretion deems proper and necessary, impose conditions upon a new champion filling a vacant title, including but not limited to: (a) ordering the first defense of the title as a mandatory defense against a WBC-designated challenger (who may be any Qualified Challenger or a challenger selected through a final elimination bout. Upon request, the WBC may in its discretion approve one or more voluntary defenses prior to ordering a mandatory defense.
- 3.19 Inactivity of a Champion. If a WBC Champion is or may become inactive in a manner that may prevent him from fulfilling his voluntary and mandatory defense obligations, the WBC may declare the championship vacant and order one or more bouts to fill the vacant title. Such inactivity may be either (i) a period of past and continuing inactivity or (ii) potential future inactivity that may prevent a champion from defending his title in a timely manner as required under these Rules.

The WBC may make such a determination based upon special circumstances, which may include, but not be limited to:

- (a) medical issues or injury;
- (b) legal issues or contractual impediments;
- (c) personal or family issues; or
- (d) other controversy or circumstances whether or not beyond the control of the boxer or the WBC.

It is the sole responsibility of a WBC Champion to notify the WBC in writing in a timely manner of any special circumstances that may prevent him from complying with his title defense obligations. In the event that a champion fails to notify the WBC in a timely manner of such circumstances, the WBC may take appropriate actions including vacating the title or imposing other penalties.

- 3.20 Champion in Recess. In certain cases under the preceding Rule, the WBC may in its discretion designate a Champion as a “Champion in Recess”, such that upon the boxer’s return, he will qualify to box for the championship as an elite contender for the new champion, or as the returning champion. The WBC may order or permit a returning Champion in Recess to box directly for the title in a mandatory or voluntary contest, or to box one or more Qualified Challengers in order to retain his status as Champion in Recess. A Champion in Recess may return as a mandatory challenger, but only upon the prior written approval of such status by the WBC Board of Governors, which may approve or deny such request in its sole discretion.
- 3.21 Diamond Championship. In its discretion, on such terms and conditions as it may impose, the WBC may designate one current WBC Diamond Champion of the World in each weight division. The WBC Diamond Championship may be awarded to recognize the most extraordinary and elite boxer in a division, as an honorarium or as a title under such terms and conditions as the WBC may designate in its sole discretion. Under extreme special circumstances, the WBC may in its discretion designate the Diamond Champion as supreme champion in the division, subject only to such obligations to defend the title as the WBC may impose or permit in its sole discretion, upon an affirmative vote by the WBC Board of Governors. The Diamond Champion may be permitted to voluntarily defend the title; however, the Diamond Championship may be not won by a challenger unless a special sanction is granted by the WBC in its sole discretion. The WBC may also order the Diamond Champion to comply with all defense and other obligations applicable to WBC World Champions hereunder.
- 3.22 Silver Championship. In its discretion, on such terms and conditions as it may impose, the WBC may designate or order and award WBC Silver Championships of the World in each weight division. The WBC Silver Championship is a world title superior to all WBC championships except the World or Diamond Championships. The WBC may designate the challengers for a Silver Championship from among any Qualified Challengers. A Silver Champion must comply with all defense and other obligations applicable to WBC World Champions hereunder as the WBC shall order in its discretion. A Silver Champion shall not be a mandatory contender for the WBC World Championship absent winning a final elimination bout for the World title, unless a written exception has been approved by a majority vote of the WBC Board of Governors in its sole discretion.
- 3.23 Champion Emeritus. In its discretion, the WBC may, upon a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote of the Board of Governors, designate in each weight category one or more WBC Champions Emeritus. The recognition of WBC Champion Emeritus may be bestowed upon a present or past WBC World Champion of extraordinary prestige, reputation, stature, or everlasting legacy in the sport. A WBC Champion Emeritus shall also be an Ambassador of Good Will on behalf of the WBC.

A WBC Champion Emeritus shall be free to display and exhibit his special belt in any social ceremony or sports event. The WBC Champion Emeritus recognition is the highest of honors granted by the WBC to any boxer, and cannot be ceded to anyone inside or outside the ring. Champion Emeritus recognition may be withdrawn only by the WBC in its sole discretion in the event that a holder of this recognition affiliates with another boxing organization or otherwise brings dishonor upon the WBC or the sport of boxing. A Champion Emeritus has the right to request an immediate challenge to the WBC World Champion without first boxing in an elimination contest, and if a mandatory challenger has previously been designated, the WBC may order that the Champion Emeritus compete first

for the title as an immediate mandatory challenger, but in any event, only upon the prior written approval of such status by the affirmative vote of the WBC Board of Governors, which may approve or deny such request in its sole discretion.

- 3.24 Twelve Round Restriction. World title bouts between male boxers shall be twelve (12) rounds of three (3) minutes each in duration. In order to ensure safety of all boxers, no WBC champion or challenger will be authorized to compete at any event with any bout of over twelve (12) rounds. Associated WBC titles may be competed at 12 rounds or less, as ordered by the affiliated entity or committee.

## **ARTICLE IV – MEDICAL AND ANTIDOPING REGULATIONS**

### **Medical Regulations**

- 4.1 WBC Medical Advisory Board. The WBC shall have a medical advisory board or committee consisting of one or more chairmen and one or more vice-chairmen from the continental federations. The medical advisory board shall study and make recommendations regarding, and prepare rules to implement, safety and health measures for boxers. The WBC and the medical advisory board will hold medical congresses and regular seminars to study and update safety rules and regulations.
- 4.2 WBC-Ordered Examinations. The WBC has the right to require any boxer competing in a WBC bout to obtain such medical examinations as the WBC may deem necessary to confirm the boxer's health and ability to compete safely. Such examinations shall conform to the standards promulgated from time to time by the WBC medical advisory board, and may include any testing deemed necessary under each boxer's unique circumstances. Each boxer is also deemed to have consented to the disclosure to the WBC of all their medical information so that the WBC may make a complete evaluation of all relevant facts.
- 4.3 Examination for Licensing. All boxers shall submit themselves to a complete medical examination as may be required to obtain their licenses by their respective boxing commissions or in any jurisdiction in which they will compete, in addition to such examinations as shall be mandated by the WBC.
- 4.4 Responsibility of Local Commission for Enforcement. It will be the responsibility of the boxing commission where a WBC contest will occur to enforce these medical regulations, subject to the advice and consent of the WBC.
- 4.5 Compliance Responsibilities. The responsibility for compliance with all medical standards, rules, and regulations rests with the boxers and their representatives, trainers, managers, promoters, and with the boxing commissions in which the boxers reside and/or where the contests are to occur. Therefore, the WBC shall have no responsibility whatsoever for any consequence resulting from non-compliance by any party with these medical rules, and shall be held harmless by all parties.
- 4.6 Penalties for Failure to Comply. If a boxer fails to submit to any examination required by these rules or ordered by the WBC, the WBC may take such actions as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion with respect to boxers, trainers, managers, promoters, etc., including but not limited to imposing fines, suspensions, removal from the ratings, revocation of challenger status and opportunities, or vacating a title.



- 4.7 Unsatisfactory Results or Verification. If the WBC determines in its sole discretion that a boxer is medically unfit or that the boxer's condition to safely compete cannot be adequately verified, the WBC may remove the boxer from its ratings, suspend the boxer from competition, or revoke the boxer's status as a challenger or champion.
- 4.8 Examination Protocols. Medical examinations for licensing or approval of boxers should include the following examinations, which may be revised from time to time by the WBC medical review board:
- general: blood type, allergies, pulse, blood pressure, temperature, weight
  - eyes: visual screening, acuity, fields, intraocular pressures, dilated fundoscopy
  - ears: otoscopy
  - mouth: pharynx, teeth
  - adenopathies, lungs, heart (abdominal palpitation)
  - hernia, testicles, tendon reflexes
  - upper extremities and lower extremities
  - skin or suppurative wounds or lesions; urinalysis
  - magnetic resonance angiography to detect arterial abnormalities
  - blood test (hemoglobin and hematocrit); serology
  - screening for blood-borne pathogens such as HIV (performed 2-4 weeks prior to the contest), Hepatitis B and C
  - electrocardiogram and echocardiogram if cardiac risk factors are present
  - skull, neck and chest X-ray
  - yearly testing for top 10 ranked boxers, with MRI and neuropsychological testing, CAT scan/PET, after defeats by KO, or when ordered by Commission doctors
  - a questionnaire on present and past health, recent and past injuries, as well as drugs, alcohol and smoking habits
- 4.9 Risk Factors. The following risk factors should also be considered prior to approving a boxer for any bout:
- any congenital or acquired neurological abnormality, including both major or minor epilepsy (Grand Mal or Petit Mal), migraine, or any congenital or acquired abnormalities observed in CT or MRI scans, or in an EEG tracing
  - any psychological disorder such as depression, schizophrenia, or hypomania
  - any pathology in the eye, including cataracts, detachments, holes or tears of the retina, retinal hemorrhages or exudates, or any other intraocular pathology which, in the opinion of the WBC medical advisory board, would endanger a boxer's sight or health
  - in principal, any boxer with uncorrected visual standards of less than 6/9 in one eye and 6/18 in the other should not be approved
  - blood pressure higher than 140/90 after prolonged rest
  - any congenital or acquired cardiovascular disorder, or any congenital or acquired circulatory problem
  - chest problems such as chronic asthma, emphysema, active tuberculosis and acute chest infections
  - any acute or chronic gastrointestinal abnormalities, hernias, etc.
  - any acquired or congenital genitourinary abnormalities including hematuria other than that caused by effort, proteinuria, and active venereal infections, including HIV / AIDS

- acute perforations of the eardrum, and acute sinusitis, acute or chronic infections of the middle or inner ear, including labyrinthitis and vertigo
- any severe skeletal abnormality or deformity which may impair the performance of a boxer, such as rheumatoid or osteoarthritis, or recurrent dislocations
- any infectious skin condition
- diabetes, thyroid, or other endocrinological abnormalities or diseases
- anemia, or other chronic or acute blood disorders, reticulosis, or any malignant disease even when in remission
- boxers with a positive MRA for arterial abnormalities
- boxers under the age of 18

4.10 Extensive Examinations for Boxers at Increased Risk. More extensive examinations should be made of boxers at increased risk. This category includes:

- boxers over 35 years of age
- boxers with a high number of bouts or many difficult bouts
- boxers with poor performances, such as three consecutive losses by TKO/KO or six consecutive losses
- boxers with history of severe concussions
- boxers who have not boxed in three or more years

Such boxers should undergo extensive examinations on an annual basis and/or prior to sparring or competing. Such examinations should include at least the following:

- general physical examination
- neurological exam by a neurologist or neurosurgeon
- stress EKG and echocardiogram if cardiac risk factors are present (family history of heart attack under the age of 50, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia)
- annual MRI to provide evidence of no injury
- screen for age-related diseases
- ophthalmologic exam including dilated funduscopy
- annual neuropsychiatric testing to provide evidence of no deterioration

Performance testing of any boxer at increased risk may also be ordered to be conducted by an impartial panel of trainers or other boxing experts appointed by the WBC.

4.11 Boxers Suffering from Detached Retinas. No boxer will be authorized to box in a WBC bout if he has had a detached retina, even following an operation to correct such detachment, unless his participation in the bout is authorized after examination by two independent ophthalmologists chosen or approved by the WBC medical advisory board.

4.12 Examination Prior to Bouts Outside Boxer's Jurisdiction. For a boxer to travel outside his home boxing jurisdiction to participate in a WBC contest, his local boxing commission shall have sole responsibility to administering medical exams and to certify his fitness to compete. The local medical officer should issue a certificate, preferably attached to or recorded in the boxer's International Boxers Traveling Visa instituted by the WBC, including the following exams:

- ophthalmology: vision; eye fundi; peripheral vision testing
- neurology: reflexes, Romberg, nystagmus
- weight, blood pressure, heart rate, and heart rate time recovery

- maxilar: teeth, abnormalities to prevent possible inferior maxilar fractures

4.13 Examinations before WBC Bouts: Between four to six weeks before a WBC championship bout, the promoter has the responsibility to have administered, through the local commission's medical officer or a doctor or institution approved by the WBC, examinations of both boxers in accordance with the WBC medical regulations. Such examinations should include:

- weight, blood pressure, heart rate, and heart rate time recovery
- HIV test
- thorough examination, with special attention to the nervous and skeletal system
- thorough examination of the eyes with special attention to visual acuity and eye fundi with dilated pupil examination
- notation of any allergies, use of medications or other drugs, or otherwise
- blood tests for hemoglobin, serology and blood grouping
- chest X-ray, CAT scan if necessary or if not taken within the current year, and complete microureanalysis
- thorough questionnaire about his present and past health, both physical and mental

Such medical examinations should be sent to the WBC Executive Office in Mexico City no later than 30 days prior to the date of the bout.

The local boxing commission's medical exams will be accepted as valid at the request of the boxer, if they contain the same exams as listed above.

4.14 Safety Weigh-Ins. The final and official weigh-in of the boxers shall occur no less than 24 hours but not more than 30 hours prior to a WBC bout due to the possible adverse results of dehydration and subsequent rehydration of boxers to make the required weight limit for a bout. Further, in order to encourage safe weight loss in advance of a WBC bout, additional official safety weigh-ins are to be held 30 and 7 days prior to the official 30-24-hour weigh-in for non-heavyweight boxers. The boxers' weight should be as follows:

- (a) 30-day weigh-in: 4 weeks prior to the bout, the boxers' weight should not exceed 10% of the weight limit for the bout; and
- (b) 7-day weigh-in: 7 days prior to the bout, the boxers' weight should not exceed 5% of the weight limit for the bout.

Boxers and their representatives, managers, and trainers, and promoters, are solely responsible to arrange the pre-bout safety weigh-ins and medical examinations required under this rule, not the WBC, and for any failure by such parties to do so, the WBC may take such actions as it deemed appropriate in its sole discretion, including but not limited to imposing fines, suspensions, removal from the ratings, revocation of challenger status and opportunities, or vacating a title.

In the event that a boxer exceeds any weight limitation stated above, the WBC may, for the safety of the boxer or his opponent, revoke or deny its sanction of the bout, in addition to any other disciplinary action as it shall deem appropriate in its discretion.

4.15 Extraordinary Medical Weight Measures. When necessary, the WBC may require fat tissue laboratory exams on boxers with weight issues to assess their rating in certain weight

divisions, and more importantly to protect their health by not allowing their participation in bouts in weight divisions which could put their health in danger.

4.16 Medical Examination at Weigh-In. The local boxing commission has the responsibility to conduct physical examinations prior to all WBC-sanctioned bouts at the weigh-in ceremony, which shall occur for all weight classes including heavyweight. The exams shall include:

- blood pressure and heart rate; stethoscope examination of heart and lungs
- thorough examination of the eyes, ears, and throat
- tests for rombergism, reflexes, power, and coordination
- direct questioning about the use of any medicines or drugs, or any artificial means for weight reduction
- direct questioning about any recent medical symptoms, including headaches, visual disturbances, loss of concentration, general fatigue or other symptoms

The local commission medical panel and/or the WBC Supervisor(s), on medical advice, will have the right to take or order blood and/or urine samples or any other exam if, in the pre-bout medical examination, signs of serious dehydration or drugs are detected or are suspected.

4.17 Post-Bout Examinations. The local ringside doctors should follow the contestants back to the dressing rooms or to the antidoping test special area, if any, to check that both boxers are in satisfactory condition or institute any treatment that may be required. The doctor(s) shall issue a written report of the post-bout examinations.

4.18 Post Knock-Out Examinations. In order to protect the health and welfare of boxers, a boxer who has been knocked-out should be medically examined after the bout. Such examinations should be conducted under the authority of local commission where the bout occurred, the boxer's local commission, or any medical institute approved by the WBC. The following examinations should be conducted on a boxer who suffers a knock-out or technical knock-out due to the referee stopping the fight when the boxer has been seriously punished in the ring:

- a physical examination, including a complete neurological examination with particular reference to the pupils and optic fundi
- MRI/CAT Scan
- electronystagmography
- any other medical exam recommended by the WBC medical advisory board or the attending neurologist or neurosurgeon

4.19 Report of Knock-Outs. The local boxing commission and the manager or other representative of the knocked-out boxer must immediately report the knock-out to the boxer's local commission or federation that licensed the boxer.

4.20 Rest Periods after Knock-Out. Boxers that suffered concussion by knock-out should not participate in sparring sessions for a minimum of 45 days, and no less than 30 days after any other concussive trauma, including but not limited to knock-out.

4.21 Suspension after Knock-Outs. A boxer suffering a knock-out should be suspended for sixty (60) days. A boxer suffering two (2) consecutive knock-outs should be suspended for one

hundred twenty (120) days. A boxer suffering three (3) consecutive knock-outs should be suspended for one hundred eighty (180) day, during which his license should be revoked and confiscated, pending special thorough medical examinations, after which other necessary medical measures might be taken.

4.22 Emergency Equipment at the Ring. The local boxing commission is responsible to ensure that the following emergency equipment is at the ring before commencement of the boxing program:

- a portable resuscitator or similar equipment tested to be in working order
- a stretcher under or near at the ring apron for easy availability
- ambulance parked in a secured and freely accessible place outside the boxing arena for one (1) hour before and after the program, staffed with paramedics skilled in resuscitation
- a telephone at ringside only for the use of medical officers

4.23 Medical Facilities. The local boxing commission is responsible to ensure that its medical staff has made arrangements for any injured boxer to be taken to a local hospital with an approved accident, emergency, and neurosurgical unit, as well as a neurosurgeon on call. Further, the boxing venue should have a room set aside for medical purposes only, which should be adequately lit, have an examination table, hot and cold running water, and a treatment trolley. The chief doctor and the promoter of the program shall be responsible for ensuring this on-site medical room has been designated and equipped to provide for an emergency.

4.24 Role of Medical Officers at WBC-Sanctioned Bouts. Although local boxing commissions are responsible for medical supervision of all boxing matches including WBC-sanctioned contests, it is the WBC's desire and strong recommendation that the following measures be adopted in boxing matches of all kinds, and especially in WBC bouts:

- (a) There should be no less than two (2) doctors present, one (1) of whom (the senior doctor) must be and remain at ringside throughout the bout, while his assistant or colleague must be ready to go to the dressing rooms should any medical emergencies arise while a bout is in progress, for example involving a boxer that has competed earlier. All doctors must be skilled in the management of an unconscious patient.
- (b) Each doctor should attend the boxing event fully equipped, including sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, otoscope, ophthalmoscope, suturing material, patella hammer, an emergency airway, and a portable resuscitator in case of emergency.
- (c) Doctors should visit the boxers prior to the contest to advise and ensure that no stimulant or any kind of prohibited drug is used before or during the contest.
- (d) During a contest, the referee may call time out and invite the ring doctor to examine a boxer for a cut or other injury, or to evaluate the boxer's ability to continue. During the sixty (60) second rest period, a ring doctor may also on his own initiative examine a boxer in his corner, although he should not interfere with the seconds' work; the doctor may then advise the referee of his medical opinion as to the boxer's injuries and ability to continue.

- (e) During a fight, no prohibited hemostatics or artificial coverings should be used to stop bleeding. The only substances permitted to be used by the cornermen during a bout are water or approved electrolyte beverages, vaseline, ice, and adrenaline 1/1000, Avetine, or other WBC approved hemostatic. No liniments or other astringent lotions (which could affect wounds on boxers or a person's) should be applied to boxers before or during the bout. The use of smelling salts, amyl nitrite, or similar substances is also not permitted.
- (f) A doctor, the WBC Supervisor, or any official of the WBC or local boxing commission may instruct the referee to or himself may confiscate any substance suspected of being prohibited, or the referee may do so at his discretion. Any such substance should be immediately placed in the custody of the WBC or the local commission for further examination and investigation.
- (g) If the senior doctor deems it necessary that a fight should be stopped because of serious damage or risk to a boxer's health, he must immediately advise the referee. In a WBC bout, this should be done by handing the red card provided by the WBC to the referee as an indication of the doctor's recommendation to stop the fight, provided, that the decision and authority whether to stop a fight always belongs solely to the referee.
- (h) After a boxer is counted out, or a bout is stopped and the boxer fails to stand up, doctors should immediately enter the ring, with or without the referee's call, remove the boxer's mouthpiece if still in the boxer's mouth, establish adequate ventilation, and attend to the boxer as necessary under the circumstances.

4.25 Investigation of Fatal Injuries. The WBC medical advisory board shall be responsible for studying fatalities of boxers, and to develop safety recommendations resulting from such studies. Factors and records to be reviewed should include:

- autopsy reports
- files of medical examinations
- reports of pre-contest training and lifestyle prior to the fatal bout
- nutritional history
- boxing record, knock-outs received, boxing style and difficult contests during the boxer's life
- medical file and physical record
- autopsy reports
- potential contributing factors such as any use of drugs, alcohol, etc.

Following a bout involving a fatality, the WBC medical advisory board may be requested to prepare a report containing the conclusions of its investigation. Based upon such investigations, the WBC medical advisory board may prepare reports and make recommendations to implement additional safety measures for future contests.

4.26 All Injuries to be Reported. For the protection of boxers and to ensure that licensing and sanctioning decisions are based upon all relevant medical information and history, all injuries in boxing gyms must be reported to the local boxing commissions and the WBC prior to a boxer's participation in any contest. Further, all injuries suffered by a boxer, whether or not related to boxing or training, must be reported to the boxing commission of his jurisdiction by the boxer and his trainers, manager, and/or personal doctor.

- 4.27 Manager and Trainer Education. Managers and trainers should take courses and obtain certificates of attendance at seminars and programs relating to health and safety of boxers, including programs regarding nutrition, physiology, drugs, dangerous hemostatics, diuretics, and other dangerous substances, as well as boxing rules and training programs.
- 4.28 WBC Referees and Judges. Referees and judges for WBC contests should pass a yearly medical examination including neurological and ophthalmological testing. Referees must have a pre-bout examination at the weigh-in for reflexes, blood pressure, heart rate, nistagemus, and a Romberg test. Ensuring that these requirements are satisfied is the responsibility of the various local boxing commissions.

### **Antidoping Regulations**

- 4.29 Doping in Boxers. Boxers contending in any contest sanctioned by the WBC shall not take, ingest, or have administered to him any substance, medicine, or drug that may enhance or reduce his performance in the ring.
- 4.30 Antidoping Testing. The antidoping testing protocols of these rules are applicable for both WBC championship and elimination bouts.
- 4.31 Responsibilities of Local Commissions. It is the responsibility and obligation of the local commission, not the WBC, to arrange for the antidoping testing, including appointment of a doctor or other qualified official to collect the required samples, maintaining the chain of custody and control over the samples to prevent errors or tampering, selection of a qualified laboratory, and conduct of the testing in compliance with these Rules and Regulations.
- 4.32 Compliance by Local Commissions. Antidoping testing by local commissions and their selected laboratories must follow the procedures stated herein. The WBC may in its discretion accept antidoping testing by local commissions that is substantially in accordance with these regulations, and may recognize suspensions or other penalties for antidoping violations imposed by local commissions. The WBC may also in its discretion reject any testing, investigation, determination of guilt or innocence, or suspension if it finds that the local commission has failed to observe these regulations.
- 4.33 WBC Independent Authority regarding Antidoping. The WBC reserves the right to appoint its own officials to independently conduct antidoping procedures, including collection and custody of samples, selection of laboratory, and the testing process, where the local commission is unable or unwilling to comply with these regulations. The WBC further reserves the right to conduct investigations, hold hearings, and issue its own decisions regarding the culpability of any boxer for antidoping violations.
- 4.45 WBC Protocols. The WBC may establish such standards and protocols as it shall determine necessary to carry out these antidoping regulations, including mandating official forms setting forth the antidoping tests and procedures. All WBC champions and challengers must adhere to these regulations and any such protocols.
- 4.35 All Drugs Must be Reported. Should a boxer be taking any form of medication or other drug or substance, he and his representatives must report that fact immediately, but not later than the rules meeting for the bout, to the WBC, the local commission, and the attending doctors.

4.36 Procedures for Administration of Antidoping Tests. Each local commission will determine the mechanics for implementation of antidoping tests, but the following measures are required:

- (a) The antidoping tests shall be taken from the urine of the contending boxers immediately after the bout, at the dressing room or place designated by the doctor. The WBC may authorize the samples to be taken before the bouts only in places where a law or a rule so requires.
- (b) The urine of each boxer shall be placed in two (2) separate bottles perfectly clean and sterilized, marked "A" and "B" or "1" and "2", before the boxer and his representative, the doctor or official in charge and/or any neutral doctor that may be chosen by the WBC. All bottles shall then be sealed.
- (c) All sealed bottles shall be signed by the boxer or his representative and the doctor, local commissioner, or WBC Supervisor.
- (d) The first bottle, "A" or "1", will be used for a first test, to be performed independently by the laboratory specifically appointed by the local boxing commission or the WBC. If the test results, which shall be presented within a week after the contest, are negative, the result shall be reported as such and filed, and the second bottle, "B" or "2", destroyed.
- (e) If the first bottle, "A" or "1" is found positive, the WBC shall be immediately informed by the local commission or directly by the laboratory. The WBC will immediately contact the affected boxer, or his representative, to inform them of their right to select a representative to witness a second test. The positive result of bottle "A" or "1" shall be kept in strict confidence among the laboratory, the local commission, the WBC headquarters, the WBC Supervisor of the contest, and the accused boxer and his representatives.
- (f) The responsibility for second test, if the first is found positive, will be that of the WBC. At the WBC's direction, bottles "B" and "2" shall be sent to the laboratory officially and expressly appointed or agreed to by the WBC, where the boxer may have a representative present to observe the second testing. The local boxing commission and the WBC may agree on the laboratory to perform the second test.
- (g) If bottle "B" or "2" is found positive, confirming the first test, the WBC shall appoint a WBC investigating committee, whose report shall be presented to the WBC Board of Governors. The WBC shall schedule and conduct a hearing in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, prior to making a final determination.

The WBC may in its discretion accept antidoping testing by local commissions that is substantially in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and may recognize suspensions or other penalties for antidoping violations imposed by local commissions. However, the WBC reserves the right to conduct its own testing or investigations, hold hearings, and issue its own decisions regarding the culpability of any boxer for antidoping violations.



- 4.37 Prior Notification of Testing. Before each WBC bout, the local commission shall inform each boxer that the testing of his urine is mandatory immediately after each bout, and that failure or refusal to submit to such testing may result in disciplinary action, including, without limitation, disqualification, suspension or a fine.
- 4.38 Failure to Take Antidoping Tests. If, after being notified by the local commission about the mandatory testing of their urine, a boxer does not submit to such a testing, he will be disqualified, fined, or suspended as the WBC may determine in its discretion.
- 4.39 Prohibited Substances and Procedures. No boxer shall take substances or undertake procedures that may unfairly affect the outcome of the contest or threaten the safety of either boxer. The WBC medical advisory board may from time to time promulgate categories and lists of prohibited drugs and procedures, which shall include but not be limited to the following:
- (a) Classes of Prohibited Substances:
- stimulants (amphetamine, fencamfamine, cocaine, etc.)
  - diuretics (furosemide, thiazide, etc.)
  - steroids or other performance enhancing drugs as may be prohibited by the WBC convention
  - narcotic analgesics (heroin, morphine, etc.)
  - sedative hypnotics (barbiturates, phenobarbital, secobarbital, etc.)
  - hallucinogens<sup>1</sup> (marijuana, LSD, mescaline, etc.)
- (b) Banned Procedures:
- infusions of blood, red blood cells, or plasma expanders
  - alterations in the integrity and validity of urine (substitution of urine provided in testing or the use of masking agents such as probenecid)
- 4.40 Sanctions for Violation of Antidoping Regulations. A boxer who has been found to have tested positive for banned substances or otherwise found to have engaged in prohibited procedures under these rules will be subject to such penalties as the WBC shall determine appropriate in its sole discretion. Such penalties may include but are not limited to disqualification in the contest, a fine up to the amount of the boxer's purse, imposition of medical treatment and further testing or investigation, suspension and removal from the ratings of up to one (1) year, and vacating the boxer's status as a champion or challenger.
- 4.41 Vacating of Status. In addition to any other penalty that may be imposed in accordance with the preceding rule, the WBC may vacate a boxer's status for violations of these antidoping regulations in WBC title and elimination contests as follows:
- (a) In a title bout, if the champion retains his title and is later found to have violated these antidoping regulations, the WBC may declare the title vacant and that the challenger whose antidoping tests were negative shall box another contender chosen by the WBC for such vacant title, unless the WBC determines that the challenger's performance in the bout was unworthy. Alternatively, the WBC may order any other

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<sup>1</sup> A trace amount of 100 up to 200 nanograms may result in a warning and severe fine; the presence of 200 or more nanograms may result in fine and/or disqualification or suspension in accordance with these rules.

contest(s) at its discretion to fill the vacant title or take such other action as it may determine in its sole discretion.

- (b) In a title bout, if the challenger wins and is later found to have violated these antidoping regulations, the WBC may declare the title vacant and order that the former champion whose antidoping tests were negative shall box another contender chosen by the WBC for the vacant title. Alternatively, the WBC may order any other contest(s) at its discretion to fill the vacant title or take such other action as it may determine in its sole discretion.
- (c) In a title bout, if the challenger loses and is later found to have violated these antidoping regulations, the WBC may suspend the boxer for up to one (1) year from any WBC bout and from the WBC ratings.
- (d) In a title bout, if both boxers are later found to have violated these antidoping regulations, the title will be declared vacant and the WBC may order any contest(s) to fill the vacant title in its discretion, and the WBC may suspend either boxer for up to one (1) year from any WBC bout and from the WBC ratings.
- (e) In an elimination contest, if the winner is later found to have violated these antidoping regulations, the WBC may remove the boxer's status as a challenger and order any other contest(s) at its discretion to select a mandatory challenger or take such other action as it may determine in its sole discretion.

4.42 Rehabilitation. In accordance with these rules, the WBC may require any boxer found to have violated these antidoping regulations to undergo rehabilitation treatment or obtain medical certification that the boxer is free of prohibited substances or procedures. The WBC also reserves the right to order random antidoping tests before including the boxer in its ratings or approve them to compete in WBC bouts.

## **ARTICLE V – CLAIM & APPEAL PROCEDURES; DISCIPLINARY RULES**

### **Claim & Appeal Procedures**

- 5.1 Exclusivity of Remedies. Any boxer, promoter, manager, or other person or entity that participates in the activities or events of the WBC, does business with the WBC, or who claim any right or privilege arising from the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations, agrees that their exclusive remedies are the administrative remedies and the dispute resolution procedures provided for herein.
- 5.2 Administrative Remedies. Any claim, complaint, or protest against the WBC, or any controversy, appeal, or dispute concerning the WBC or any WBC contest, ruling, order, or action, or arising under the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations must first be presented to the WBC as a claim that may be resolved by administrative remedies.

To be recognized and valid, any such claim, claim, complaint, or protest must be submitted to the WBC President in writing by the aggrieved party or his authorized representative within fifteen (15) calendar days after the claim first arose. Each such claim, complaint, or protest must also be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$2,500.00 to cover the costs and expenses of the WBC relating to the processing of any such claim, complaint, or

protest. The WBC may in its sole discretion grant a waiver of all or a portion of such fee, but no such waiver shall apply unless it is granted in writing by the WBC and received by the protesting party.

Upon receiving a recognized claim, the President, in his discretion, may attempt to resolve the claim, or may refer the matter to either the WBC Grievance and Appeals Committee or its Board of Governors.

The WBC may institute such policies and procedures as it may deem appropriate from time to time for the administration and processing of any recognized claim. In general, the WBC representative(s) addressing such a claim will first investigate the claim, seek such additional information as may be required, hold hearings (telephonic or in-person) if necessary, and then issue a decision to accept or reject the appeal in whole or in part. The President shall notify all interested parties in writing of the decision of the WBC.

In the event that the complainant remains unsatisfied with the WBC's decision following these administrative remedies, the complainant must then seek compulsory mediation under Rule 5.3 hereof. No party may invoke or seek remedies under Rule 5.3 or Rule 5.4 without first seeking, and providing the WBC the opportunity to provide, administrative relief under this Rule 5.2.

5.3 Compulsory Mediation. Any unresolved claim, controversy, or dispute involving the WBC must be submitted to non-binding mediation in accordance with the following procedures within thirty (30) days after exhaustion of the administrative procedures outlined in Rule 5.2. The mediation process shall be as follows:

- (a) The parties must make best efforts in good faith to attempt to select a mediator mutually acceptable to both parties.
- (b) If the parties are unable to agree on a mediator, each party shall nominate two (2) qualified candidates from the List of Mediators of the Court of Arbitration for Sport ("CAS"). The mediator shall then be selected at random from the four (4) CAS candidates selected by the parties.
- (c) The mediation shall be conducted in accordance with procedures prescribed by the selected mediator and at a convenient location designated by the mediator. The mediator's expenses shall be shared equally by the parties to the mediation.
- (d) The mediation shall be conducted within thirty (30) days, absent special circumstances, after the mediator is selected.
- (e) The parties to the mediation must agree to mediate in good faith in a meaningful attempt to resolve the controversy, claim, or dispute.

5.4 Mandatory Arbitration. Any claim, controversy, or dispute that the parties have been unable to resolve pursuant to the procedures provided for in Rules 5.2 and 5.3 hereof shall then be settled exclusively by mandatory arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sports ("CAS"), pursuant to the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration.

The WBC and all boxers involved in WBC-sanctioned contests, as well as all related parties, acknowledge that these provisions concerning alternatives to dispute resolution are an essential part of these Rules and Regulations.

- 5.5 Waiver. Any person having a claim against the WBC expressly waives all remedies and courses of action other than those provided for in this Article 5.
- 5.6 Indemnification. All parties expressly agree, by doing business with the WBC, to indemnify and hold harmless the WBC, affiliated federations and committees, and all officers, members of the Board of Governors, representatives, attorneys, and agents (each, a “WBC Indemnified Party”) thereof against any and all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, penalties, actions, judgments, suits, costs, expenses, and disbursements (including the reasonable and actual fees, charges and disbursements of any counsel for any WBC Indemnified Party, incurred by any WBC Indemnified Party or asserted against any WBC Indemnified Party by any third party or by any person arising out of the actions of such WBC Indemnified Party or any actual or prospective claim, litigation, investigation or proceeding, whether based on contract, tort or any other theory, whether brought by a third party or by any person directly, and regardless of whether any WBC Party is a party thereto, **AND INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO ANY ACTION OR INACTION ARISING FROM ANY WBC INDEMNIFIED PARTY’S NEGLIGENCE OR STRICT LIABILITY**, such that no WBC Indemnified Party shall be held liable for or not be indemnified for any action taken in good faith and not resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct of such WBC Party, as determined by the CAS or any other court of competent jurisdiction by final and nonappealable judgment.

In order to attempt to hold the WBC liable for gross negligence or willful misconduct, or under any other theory of liability or damages, the complainant must prove their case by the standards of proof and law applied by the CAS.

Under any circumstances, should the WBC be found liable to any party, all parties by doing business with the WBC expressly agree that their sole and exclusive monetary remedy that may be recoverable from the WBC is limited to a maximum (but not a minimum) of sanction fees paid to the WBC relating to the last contest that gave rise to their claim against the WBC.

All parties including boxers doing business with or otherwise associated with the WBC expressly waive any and all claims for special, indirect, consequential or punitive damages (as opposed to direct or actual damages) in connection with any claim against the WBC or any other WBC Indemnified Party. In no event shall the WBC be liable to for punitive, consequential, direct, or indirect damages, including, but not limited to, lost profits, loss of earning capacity, delay, interest or attorney fees, directly or indirectly resulting from any act or omission of the WBC, its employees, officers, affiliated Federations, Governors, or agents.

- 5.7 Reimbursement of WBC’s Costs and Expenses. In the event of any claim, complaint, or protest against the WBC, and the CAS or any other authority determines that a party has failed to comply with Rules and Regulations or the rulings of the WBC, then such party shall promptly reimburse the WBC for its costs and reasonable expenses (including, without limitation, legal fees and expenses) incurred in connection with all such proceedings.

## **Disciplinary Rules**

- 5.8 **WBC Power and Authority in Disciplinary Matters.** The WBC has the power and authority to impose disciplinary sanctions on any person or organization that violates any of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, Championship Rules, or any ruling of the WBC. The procedure of the WBC in disciplinary matters shall be as follows:
- (a) Any party may file with the WBC written charges regarding any violation of the WBC Constitution or rules, or the WBC may independently take notice of and act upon any such violation.
  - (b) Violations may include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - i. Failing to comply with any rule pertaining to business dealings with the WBC;
    - ii. Intentional fouls or unsportsmanlike behavior in the ring or relating to a contest;
    - iii. Violation of antidoping or other safety measures imposed by the WBC; or iv. Defamation of or bringing disrepute to the WBC or the sport of boxing.
  - (c) Upon recognition of any potential rule violation, the WBC President may refer the matter to the WBC Disciplinary and Appeals Committee. After investigation, the Committee may recommend the imposition of penalties in accordance with this rule. Alternatively, the WBC President may intervene directly in accordance with his power and authority to act in the best interests of boxing.
  - (d) In cases of clear violations, the WBC may issue its decision following its investigation of the facts and examination of the relevant rules. In other circumstances, the WBC may hold hearings, request statements from the accused, or institute such other procedures as it may deem appropriate under the circumstances. However, the WBC is not required to institute any particular process, as an aggrieved party will retain the right to an administrative appeal in accordance with Rule 5.2.
  - (e) The WBC's decision may include the imposition of penalties including fines and suspension or expulsion from any involvement in WBC bouts, ratings, or vacating a championship or challenger status when appropriate.

## **ARTICLE VI - RATINGS**

- 6.1 **WBC Ratings Committee.** The WBC will have a Ratings Committee consisting of one or more chairmen and one or more vice-chairmen from each of the continental federations. The Ratings Committee shall consist of members of absolute integrity, who shall be subject to the WBC Code of Ethics.
- 6.2 **Reports and Recommendations.** The members of the Committee will take notice of reports of boxing matches from around the world, reports from boxing commissions, the regional federations, and the WBC, and shall provide information and extend recommendations to the Committee Secretary and Chairman regularly.
- 6.3 **Ratings Procedures.** The Ratings Committee shall compile and publish ratings, typically on a monthly basis. The decisions of the Ratings Committee shall be based upon consensus of

the committee. Once a year at the WBC Convention, the Ratings Committee shall submit to the Board of Governors its current ratings for final approval.

6.4 Ratings Principles. The WBC's ratings principles are as follows:

- (a) The purpose of ratings is to determine eligible contenders to challenge for WBC championships.
- (b) Ratings are largely subjective.
- (c) Ratings are based primarily on merit.
- (d) Forty (40) boxers will be rated in each division in the world ratings.
- (e) World champions of WBA, IBF, and WBO will be listed in each division as champions of their organization.
- (f) Any boxer committed to box for another organization may be placed in the "Not Available" section of the ratings.
- (g) Any boxer that may have an impediment to compete may be placed in the Not Available section of the ratings.
- (h) WBC federation and committee champions will be identified by their corresponding abbreviations.
- (i) It shall be the responsibility of all boxers and their representatives to advise the WBC of their boxing activity.

6.5 Ratings Eligibility. To be eligible to appear in the WBC ratings, a boxer should:

- (a) have defeated or drawn with a rated boxer.
- (b) be an Olympic medalist or have won important amateur tournaments.
- (c) had a successful career in Muay Thai or other combat sports.
- (d) Any special circumstance by recommendation of an affiliated federation.
- (e) WBC International champions will be listed and are eligible to challenge for WBC World titles.
- (f) In order to maintain a top 15 rating, a boxer should have competed against another rated boxer, which may include those rated in the top 15 of other world organizations recognized by the WBC, within the 18 month period from the time the boxer was so rated.
- (g) To be rated in one of the top 15 positions, a boxer should have competed in at least one 10 round bout.

- (h) To maintain a top 40 rating, a boxer should compete against another top 40-rated boxer within 18 months from the time the boxer was rated.
- 6.6 Ratings Criteria. Boxers shall be evaluated for the WBC ratings based upon the following factors:
- (a) Record.
  - (b) Activity.
  - (c) Result and quality of performance in recent bouts.
  - (d) Level of competition.
  - (e) Significance of bouts.
  - (f) Experience in championship bouts.
  - (g) Accomplishments and record in amateur boxing, or in Muay Thai or other combat sports.
  - (h) Competing at home or abroad.
  - (i) Decisiveness of victories.
  - (j) Style.
  - (k) Losses in controversial decisions.
- 6.7 Ratings Consequences of Inactivity. The following circumstances may permit exclusion from the WBC ratings, as follows:
- (a) A rated boxer who does not compete in 9 months will be subject to being lowered in the rankings.
  - (b) A rated boxer who does not compete in 12 months will be subject to being removed from the ratings absent special circumstances.
  - (c) A boxer's periods of inactivity due to legitimate medical, legal, and other extenuating circumstances will be considered. The WBC Ratings Committee may either continue to rate an affected boxer, or may exclude such a boxer under subsections (a) and (b) hereof, based upon the boxer's unique facts and circumstances.
  - (d) A boxer may also be excluded from the ratings if any of the following occurs:
    - (i) The boxer is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude and incarcerated.
    - (ii) The boxer is suspended indefinitely by a local commission, affiliated federation, or the WBC.
    - (iii) The boxer resides in a country in which apartheid is official policy.

(iv) For other extenuating circumstances.

6.8 “Not Available” Ratings Section. A boxer may be listed in the “Not Available” section of the WBC Ratings if the boxer:

- (a) is committed to box for another organization.
- (b) is medically unfit or has not been medically cleared to compete.
- (c) has a legal issue or contractual impediment.
- (d) is subject to other extenuating circumstances.

6.9 Website Posting. The WBC shall publish and maintain its ratings on the WBC website. The WBC shall provide written explanations of changes in the top ten (10) positions within seven days of publication of the ratings.

6.10 Ratings Appeals. The WBC shall maintain a Ratings Appeals Committee for the purpose of addressing any appeal regarding a boxer’s rating. If a boxer or his representative wishes to make inquiry or appeal a boxer’s rating, all such requests shall be directed to the Ratings Appeals Committee, care of the WBC Executive Offices. The ratings appeals process is as follows:

- (a) A boxer in the top fifteen (15) in the current or previous ratings may ask for an explanation of his status, by a written protest.
- (b) The Rating Appeals Committee will review the matter and will provide a preliminary response within the following seven (7) days, and shall notify the appellant of its final decision.
- (c) Any further action by the appellant must be in accordance with Article V of these Rules and Regulations.

**ARTICLE 7 – FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF PROMOTERS AND BOXERS**

7.1 Bout Sanction Fees. The following fees are established in conjunction with all male world title and world title elimination bouts sanctioned by the WBC, subject to modification by a majority voting of the Board of Governors.

(a) Promoter’s Bout Fee. For each bout as set forth, the promoter must pay:

Elimination bouts with combined purses up to US\$150,000	US\$ 5,000
In divisions up to and including Superbantamweight with combined purses up to US\$250,000	US\$ 6,000
In divisions from Featherweight to Cruiserweight with combined purses up to US\$250,000	US\$10,000
In bouts below the Heavyweight division with combined purses from US\$250,000 to US\$1 million	US\$15,000



In Heavyweight division with combined purses from US\$1 million to US\$1.5 million	US\$20,000
In Heavyweight championships and in any other division with a combined purse of US\$1.5 million or greater	US\$25,000

All references in this rule to bout purses refer to total combined gross purses of champion and challenger.

The promoter must have paid his annual registration fee of \$7,000.00 in order to promote a WBC sanctioned bout. A deduction of \$2,000 is applicable if payment is made before March 31 of each year.

- (b) Boxers' Bout Fees. For each WBC championship and elimination contest, each participating boxer must pay three percent (3.0%) of all gross amounts received by the boxer relating to the bout, including but not limited to compensation derived from pay-per-view, cable or satellite transmission, television broadcast, or internet distribution, merchandising, concessions, sponsorships, shared promotional fees (in cases in which the boxer is promoter or co-promoter), or otherwise, including amounts calculated and paid following the contest.

The gross amount upon which the sanction fee is based includes all sums of money paid from all national or international sources, is not limited to guaranteed amounts or minimum amounts stated in bout contracts, and includes sums retained by the promoter(s) as his (their) promotional fees, as well as any amounts payable by the boxer to his manager, trainers, or any other party.

On gross compensation up to US\$100,000, a minimum of US\$3,000.00 shall be due from a world champion, and US\$1,000.00 shall be due from any world challenger or contender in a world title elimination bout. In the event of a vacant world title, a minimum of US\$2,000.00 shall be due from each boxer.

- (c) Expenses Payable. In addition to the bout sanction fees stated above, the promoter of a WBC championship or elimination contest is also obligated to pay the following expenses and charges to the WBC:

Championship belt when a new champion is crowned:	US\$5,000
Boxers' hospitalization and life insurance:	US\$1,500
Ring Officials' Fees (minimum subject to local commission)	

<u>Total Purse</u>	<u>Referees</u>	<u>Judges</u>
Up to US\$100,000	US\$1,600	US\$1,300
From US\$100,001 to US\$250,000	US\$1,800	US\$1,400
From US\$250,001 to US\$1,000,000	US\$2,250	US\$1,950
From US\$1,000,000 to US\$5,000,000	US\$3,150	US\$2,450
From US\$5,000,001 to US\$10,000,000	US\$4,150	US\$2,950
From US \$10,000,001 and over	US\$8,150	US\$5,150

WBC Supervisor's non-accountable incidental expenses (in addition to all out-of-pocket expenses):	US\$1,000
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ALL AMOUNTS ARE PAYABLE TO THE WBC IN USA DOLLARS AGAINST A USA BANK, AND FORWARDED TO THE WBC AS INSTRUCTED IN CONNECTION WITH EACH BOUT.

Sanction fees per Rules 7.1(a) and (b), and all expenses incurred per Rule 7.1(c) remain payable by promoters and boxers, even if one or both boxers in the contest fail to make the required weight, as the promotion will have benefitted from the marketing value brought to the bout as a result of it being a WBC-sanctioned contest, and because the event was promoted using the WBC's exclusive and proprietary trademarks and other intellectual property.

7.2 Payment Procedures and Obligations of Promoters. The promoter of any WBC bout is hereby obligated as follows:

- (a) On or before fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the day of the bout, the promoter shall deposit with the WBC Ten Percent (10%) of the combined compensation payable to the boxers. The amount of such deposit shall not be required to exceed \$500,000. On or around the day of the bout, the WBC shall return the deposit to the promoter, after deducting the applicable sanction fees.
- (b) If the amount of the deposit is less than the sanction fees applicable to the bout, the promoter shall pay the difference to the WBC on or around the day of the bout.
- (c) If, as described in Rule 7.1(b), the promoter pays any compensation to either boxer after the bout, then the promoter shall pay to the WBC all remaining required 3% sanction fees at any time such compensation is paid to either boxer.
- (d) The promoter is the party ultimately liable to the WBC for payment of all fees outlined in Rule 7.
- (e) The WBC reserves the right to require documentation from promoters or boxers in order to certify and establish the total compensation to boxers in any bout upon which sanction fees are calculated and assessed pursuant to Rule 7.3. All promoters and boxers explicitly consent to disclosure by third parties of any such agreements upon request by the WBC.
- (f) All sanction fees shall be completely tax free to the WBC, and it shall be the responsibility of the promoter of the bout to pay, by withholding additional sums from the purses of the boxers, all such local, state, or national tax liabilities, if any, imposed by the country, state, or locality where the bout takes place, and to hold the WBC harmless from same.
- (g) If a visiting boxer will be taxed in his home country, the promoter must provide him with a certified tax receipt or certificate from the national or local tax authority where the bout takes place for representation as a credit to the tax authority in the boxer's home country.

7.3 Payment Procedures and Obligations of Boxers. Any boxer participation in any WBC bout is hereby obligated as follows:

- (a) All boxers must accept the deduction of the WBC boxer sanction fees from their respective purses. Each boxer is deemed to expressly agree to authorize and permit the promoter of any WBC contest to withhold from gross amounts payable to the boxer, and to pay over to the WBC, all amounts payable by the boxer under these Rules and Regulations. No bout shall be sanctioned as a WBC contest unless the applicable boxers' sanction fees are agreed to and paid to the WBC in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
- (b) In the event that a WBC champion competes in any bout in which his WBC title is not at stake, the champion is obligated to pay to the WBC fifty percent (50%) of the WBC sanction fee payable as if the bout were a title defense, in view of the market value brought to the bout as a result of his standing attained as a WBC champion.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – EXPRESS AGREEMENT OF ALL PARTIES**

All parties involved in reaching an agreement as to a WBC contest, shall sign an agreement stating their full acceptance and covenant to abide by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, Championship Rules, and all rulings of the WBC.

Regardless of whether or not such document has been executed and returned to the WBC, all boxers, managers, promoters, trainers, and all other parties transacting business with the WBC are deemed to expressly agree to be bound by and comply with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, Championship Rules, and all rulings of the WBC in all matters pertaining to the conduct of such business, in order to participate in any dealings with the WBC. The expression of any party of a lack of knowledge of the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations, or Championship rules will not be a cause for any exception in regard to this rule.

The WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and Championship Rules are available on the WBC website on the Internet. Upon request to the WBC Executive Offices, a copy of the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and Championship Rules will be furnished.

#### **ARTICLE 9 – AMENDMENTS**

These Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Governors. The proposal for amendment shall be submitted to the voting members of the Board of Governors at an annual convention or by any of the alternate procedures outlined in Article IV.7 of the WBC Constitution.

**REVISED, AMENDED, AND APPROVED BY THE WBC BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
THROUGH 13 DECEMBER 2011**