

Chapter 1: GENERAL RULES FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter deals generally with authorized participants' certifications, conduct of participants, kickboxing event locations, and the powers of the Authority.

SECTION 1. Compliance

All kickboxing competitions and exhibitions shall be conducted pursuant to 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and rules adopted by the Authority. An individual certificated by the Authority shall not engage in any activity, individually, or in concert with others, which violates 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or any Authority rule. An individual certificated by the Authority shall not induce or encourage any person, club, association, or corporation to violate 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or any Authority rule.

SECTION 2. Certificates Required

Participants in kickboxing events must be certificated in accordance with Authority rules.

SECTION 3. Location

No kickboxing contest shall be conducted except in a city or town and venue specified in a certificate issued by the Authority for that contest and location.

SECTION 4. Exhibitions

No kickboxing exhibition shall be conducted without special permission from the Authority. An "exhibition" is a kickboxing competition conducted pursuant to these rules, except that it concludes without a decision being rendered. Except for provisions specifically applicable to the rendering of a decision, reference in these rules to kickboxing "competition" shall be construed as applicable to not only contests in which a decision is rendered but also to exhibitions in which no decision is rendered.

SECTION 5. Certificates for Events and Participants

- A. All applications for certifications shall be made on forms furnished by the Authority. Certificates are nontransferable, and no person shall loan a certificate or participate in events under any name other than that stated in his/her certificate.
- B. Every certificate issued by the Authority must be in the possession of the individual for whose benefit it was issued and must be shown to a proper official when

requested.

- C. All individuals who wish to participate in a kickboxing event in any capacity for which a certificate is required must submit a certificate application and any other documentation requested for certification. The Authority must receive all requested documentation no later than 24 hours prior to the start of competition. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for denial of a certificate.
- D. The Authority may establish testing procedures to ascertain applicants' knowledge of its rules. Insufficient knowledge of the rules is grounds for denial of a certificate.

SECTION 6. Collections

No collection of money shall be made at any competition, unless permission has been obtained from the Authority and the person or group conducting the collection has complied with Title 9 M.R.S. Chapter 385, the Maine Charitable Solicitations Act.

SECTION 7. Wagering

Wagering on any kickboxing competition is prohibited in the venue where an event is conducted or on the venue's surrounding grounds.

SECTION 8. Profanity; Verbal Abuse

No individual certificated by the Authority shall direct profanity or verbal abuse at any authorized participant, guest, or member of the Authority.

SECTION 9. Fixed Fights

No individual certificated by the Authority shall engage in any activity designed to predetermine the result of any kickboxing contest.

SECTION 10. Arrival Time of Officials

All officials shall arrive at the fighting venue at least one hour prior to an event's first bout. Any official who has not arrived on time may be replaced with another official and prevented from officiating.

SECTION 11. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

No participant in a kickboxing event shall engage in conduct that violates a

standard of behavior established for persons who perform activities for which that person is certificated. Such actions may be punishable by disqualification, removal from an event, denial or revocation of certification, or other discipline.

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes a failure to produce complete and truthful information in an individual's possession or under his/her control and relevant to the Authority's consideration of an application for certification, a possible disciplinary violation, or an individual's medical condition or eligibility for competition.

SECTION 12. Powers of Authority Members

Any Authority member in attendance at a kickboxing competition can enforce these rules and the provisions of 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20.

SECTION 13. Prohibition of Professionals Fighting as Amateurs

Any competitor who competes as an amateur may not currently be or ever have been a professional fighter in any striking sport.

SECTION 14. Amateurs Qualifying as Professionals

Any competitor who wishes to compete as a professional fighter but who has a record of fewer than three sanctioned amateur fights must apply to the Authority for the change to professional status. Factors the Authority may consider include the extent of a fighter's martial arts training, a fighter's experience outside of sanctioned competition, and whether more experienced opponents could potentially pose a risk to a fighter's safety.

SECTION 15. Adjudicatory Hearing

Authority adjudicatory hearings will be conducted pursuant to 5 M.R.S. Chapter 375, Subchapter IV.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523 EFFECTIVE

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Chapter 2: TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter identifies technical requirements for competitions, including weight classifications; glove weights; fighting area specifications; appropriate equipment; hand bandages; apparel; physical appearance; round duration; and the presence of judges, referees, physicians, emergency medical technicians, inspectors, and ambulances.

SECTION 1. Weighing-In

The Authority shall weigh each competitor using scales furnished by the Authority. Scales shall have a maximum deviation of 8 ounces. Both fighters in a scheduled competition must weigh in on the same scale. The Authority may require appropriate testing of the scales prior to the weigh-in, to ensure that the weights of opposing competitors comply with these rules. If the scales are not suitable or a competitor's weights do not comply with these rules, the Authority shall notify the promoter, and the contest shall not take place.

All weigh-ins must occur with an Authority member or agent of the Authority and the promoter or an agent of the promoter present. All weigh-ins must occur at a time and place chosen by the promoter and approved by the Authority. Once a weigh-in begins, the scales shall not be moved until all fighters have been weighed and the weigh-in is otherwise complete.

Competitors shall weigh in wearing clothes like those in which they will be fighting (biking shorts, trunks, for example). Male competitors shall not wear shirts or shoes. Fighters will be allowed to weigh in without clothes, if necessary.

Failure of a competitor to weigh in at the time approved by the Authority will result in disqualification.

SECTION 2. Kickboxer and Glove Weights

Weight Classes	Fighters' Weights	Glove Weights
Atomweight	Up to 105 pounds	All competitors up to and including 154 shall wear 8-ounce gloves. Competitors 155 and above shall wear no less than 10-ounce gloves
Strawweight	Over 105 to 115 pounds	
Flyweight	Over 115 to 125 pounds	
Bantamweight	Over 125 to 135 pounds	
Featherweight	Over 135 to 145 pounds	
Lightweight	Over 145 to 155 pounds	
Welterweight	Over 155 to 170 pounds	
Middleweight	Over 170 to 185 pounds	
Light Heavyweight	Over 185 to 205 pounds	
Heavyweight	Over 205 pounds	

There will be a one-pound allowance over the weight class permitted for non-title

fighters. If a competitor does not initially make weight, she/he will be allowed up to one hour from initial weight-in to drop weight and weigh in again. Any fighter not making weight after one hour may be suspended for up to 180 days.

SECTION 3. Fighting Area

The fighting area for each kickboxing contest shall be either a cage or a ring. The Authority has the right to inspect all items brought into the fighting area.

A. Cage requirements

1. The fighting area canvas shall be no smaller than 18 feet by 18 feet and no larger than 32 feet by 32 feet. The fighting area canvas shall be padded in a manner approved by the Authority, with at least a one-inch layer of foam padding. Padding shall extend beyond the fighting area and over the edge of the cage platform. Plastic rubberized coverings shall be permitted.
2. The fighting area canvas shall not be more than four feet above the floor on which it is placed and shall have suitable steps or a ramp for use by the participants. Posts shall be made of metal not more than six inches in diameter, shall extend from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the fighting area canvas, and shall be padded in a manner approved by the Authority.
3. The fighting area canvas shall be enclosed by a fence made of material that will not allow a fighter to fall out or break through it onto the floor or spectators. All metal parts shall be covered and padded in a manner approved by the Authority and shall not be abrasive to the competitors.
4. The fighting area fence shall have two separate outward-opening door entries onto the fighting area canvas with a set of steps or ramp for each entry.

B. Ring requirements

1. The ring may be any one of three sizes; 18 feet x 18 feet, 20 feet x 20 feet, or 24 feet x 24 feet, measured from the inner side of the ropes.
2. The ring floor shall be soundly constructed with no obstructions and extend at least three feet but not more than four feet beyond the ropes.
3. The ring floor shall be based on either felt, rubber, or other flexible materials not less than ¼ inch and not more than ½ inch thick, entirely covered with canvas stretched tightly over the entire ring floor.
4. All four ring corners must be erected with ring posts of five inches in diameter. The erected height must be 60 inches from the ring floor and the inner corners of the ropes must be completely taped to prevent harm to competitors.
5. There shall be a minimum of four ropes at least 1.18 inches and not more than 1.97

inches in diameter, stretched tightly to the four corner posts. Each side of the rope ring shall be held rigid by two pieces of strong cloth equally spaced on each side. The tightening cloths shall not slip when the ropes are moved.

6. There shall be at least two sets of steps or ramps to the ring, one set each of the red and blue corners provided for the competitors and their seconds.

The Authority has the right to inspect any item brought into the fighting area.

SECTION 4. Stools

An appropriate number of stools of a type approved by the Authority shall be available outside the ring or cage for each kickboxer and his or her seconds. All stools and chairs used must be thoroughly cleaned or replaced after the conclusion of each contest.

SECTION 5. Water Bucket/Water Bottle/Towels

Each kickboxer shall be allowed a clean water bucket, a clean and clear plastic water bottle, and clean towels in his/her corner.

SECTION 6. Hand Bandages

All hand bandages shall comply with the following specifications:

- A. In all weight classes, the bandages on each competitor's hand shall be restricted to soft gauze cloth not more than 15 yards in length and two inches in width, held in place by not more than ten feet of surgeon's tape, two inches in width, for each hand. Surgeon's adhesive tape may be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to within one inch of the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist. Tape may be placed between the knuckles to secure the wrap but must not cover the striking surface. The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand. The bandages may be secured by one winding of Lightplast® or Flex Tape® bandage with the same restriction of a one-inch gap from the knuckles of a clenched fist.
- B. Bandages and tape for competitors shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of a representative of the Authority. At the completion of the hand wrap, each shall be marked by an inspector indicating that it has been performed in accordance with these rules.
- C. Each competitor shall be required to wrap their hands in accordance with these rules.
- D. Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a competitor until the approval of the Authority or its representative is received.

SECTION 7. Mouthpieces

- A. All kickboxers are required to wear a custom-made and individually fitted mouthpiece during competition. The mouthpiece shall be subject to examination and approval by an attending physician.
- B. A round cannot begin without kickboxers' mouthpieces in place.
- C. If a mouthpiece is accidentally dislodged during competition, without interfering with the immediate action, the referee shall call time, and the kickboxer or a cornerperson may clean and re-insert the mouthpiece.

SECTION 8. Protective Equipment

- A. Male kickboxing competitors shall wear a groin protector of their own selection.
- B. Female competitors must wear approved, anatomically correct groin protectors, rash guards for shirts, and approved breast protection.
- C. Shin guards are optional for amateurs and must be approved by the Authority. If one competitor wears shin guards, his/her opponent must also wear shin guards. Shin guards shall not be worn by professionals.
- D. The promoter shall provide the shin guards.
- E. All protective equipment is subject to inspection and approval by the Authority or its representative.

SECTION 9. Gloves

- A. The gloves for all contests shall be in good condition, or they must be replaced. Gloves must be used only once during an event.
- B. Promoters shall provide gloves, which must be examined for suitability by an inspector. No competitor shall supply gloves for any contest.

SECTION 10. Physical Appearance

- A. An inspector or Authority representative shall determine whether head or facial hair presents any hazard to the safety of a fighter or her/his opponent or will interfere with the supervision and conduct of the event
- B. Jewelry or piercing accessories are prohibited during competition.
- C. Toenails must be trimmed.
- D. No body grease, gels, balms or lotions may be applied to a competitor, except that petroleum jelly may be applied lightly to the facial area at ringside/cageside in the presence of an inspector, referee, or other person designated by the Authority. Any

competitor applying any other substance(s) or applying petroleum jelly under different circumstances may be penalized a point, disqualified, and/or disciplined.

SECTION 11. Apparel During Competition

- A. All competitors shall wear kickboxing style shorts without pockets, mixed martial arts shorts without pockets, or unpadded spandex shorts without pockets. Shorts cannot extend lower than three inches from the top of the knee.
- B. Contestants may wear traditional armbands secured around the biceps. No metal or abrasive material may be contained within or on them.
- C. Gis or shirts are prohibited during competition for males. Females may wear an armless shirt. The shirt shall be tucked into the shorts and may not be loose or in any way impede the competitor.
- D. Shoes are prohibited during competition. Competitors shall compete barefoot.
- E. Elastic support anklets may be worn.
- F. Elastic or neoprene style knee supports may be worn with approval of the Authority, but they may not contain any hard or solid material.

SECTION 12. Round and Rest Durations

In all kickboxing contests the number and duration of rounds must conform to the following criteria unless granted a waiver or dispensation by the Authority:

- A. Amateur. Rounds shall be two minutes in duration. Amateur bouts shall consist of three rounds with a one-minute rest period between rounds. Amateur title bouts shall consist of five rounds of two minutes in duration with a one-minute rest period between rounds.
- B. Professional. Bouts may consist of a maximum of ten (10) rounds of three (3) minutes each in duration, with a minimum of one (1) minute rest period between each round.
- C. Considerations. The three knockdowns rule will be in effect for knockdowns caused by strikes to the head. A competitor cannot be saved by the bell in any round, including the final round. The standing eight-count shall be utilized.
- D. For events televised live, the Authority may extend the duration of rest periods beyond one minute.

SECTION 13. Judges Required

Each kickboxing contest shall be evaluated and scored according to rules adopted by the Authority.

SECTION 14. Referee Required

Each kickboxing contest shall be refereed according to rules adopted by the Authority.

SECTION 15. Physicians Required

Each kickboxing contest shall have at least two attending physicians present performing duties according to rules adopted by the Authority.

SECTION 16. Medical Technicians Required

Each kickboxing contest shall always have at least two emergency medical technicians present performing duties according to rules adopted by the Authority.

SECTION 17. Ambulance Required

There shall be an ambulance present at each kickboxing event.

SECTION 18. Inspectors

Kickboxing contests shall have inspectors approved by the Authority present and performing duties according to rules adopted by the Authority.

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99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 3: JUDGING/REFEREEING KICKBOXING COMPETITIONS

SUMMARY: This Chapter sets forth the criteria for judging and refereeing kickboxing competitions.

SECTION I. Stopping a Kickboxing Contest

A referee and an attending physician are the only individuals authorized to enter the fighting area during competition or authorized to stop a competition.

This rule shall not preclude use of a video or other review of a decision under the procedures of the applicable regulatory authority if a protest is filed claiming a clear rule violation.

SECTION 2. Judging

All kickboxing competitions shall be judged according to the following criteria:

- A. All bouts shall be evaluated and scored by three judges. The 10-Point Must System shall be the standard system of scoring a bout. Under the 10-Point Must Scoring System, 10 points shall be awarded to the winner of the round and nine points or fewer shall be awarded to the loser, except for an even round, which is scored 10-10.
- B. Awarding of Points. In determining the score, judges shall evaluate kickboxing techniques such as number of knockdowns, effective striking, clinching, control of the fighting area, and effective aggressiveness and defense.
 - 1. Points will be awarded whenever the competitor strikes the opponent with force which lands on target without infringement and without being blocked or guarded against.
 - 2. Effective striking is judged by determining the number of legal strikes landed by a competitor and the significance of such legal strikes.
 - 3. Fighting area control is judged by determining who is dictating the pace, location, and position of the bout.
 - 4. Effective aggressiveness means moving forward and landing a legal strike.
 - 5. Effective defense means avoiding being struck while countering with offensive attacks.
 - 6. The following objective scoring criteria shall be utilized by the judges when
 - 7. Scoring a round:
 - a. A round is to be scored as a 10-10 round when both competitors appear to be fighting evenly and neither competitor shows dominance in a round.
 - b. A round is to be scored as a 10-9 round when a competitor wins by a close but clear margin, landing the greater number of effective legal strikes and other maneuvers.
 - c. A round is to be scored as a 10-8 round when a competitor wins a round by a wide margin and damages his or her opponent. A round is scored a 10-8 round when a competitor receives a standing eight count, however a competitor can win back a 10-9 in that round.
 - d. A round is to be scored as a 10-7 round when a competitor totally and

completely dominates in a round and damages his or her opponent. A round is scored a 10-7 round when a competitor receives two standing eight counts in the same round.

8. Techniques. The following techniques which have a visible impact on the opponent should be weighed most heavily:
 - a. Knocking the opponent to the ground with a legal strike;
 - b. Unbalancing the opponent with a legal strike;
 - c. Techniques that cause the opponent to stop advancing;
 - d. Techniques that force an opponent to cover up and limit his or her offense;
 - e. Defense and ability to evade the opponent's attack; and
 - f. Maintenance of proper footwork, balance, stance, and stamina.

SECTION 3. Refereeing

All kickboxing contests shall be refereed according to the following criteria:

A. Cautions and Warnings

1. The referee may choose to caution a competitor if he or she perceives that there may be an impending foul or if there has been an unintentional foul. A caution carries no judging penalty but may advise the referee in assessing a warning for similar fouls.
2. The referee may issue a warning for rule infractions or assess a one-point penalty. The point shall be subtracted from the final round score by the judges.
3. Severity of the penalty shall be determined by the impact the illegal act had on the bout. A competitor should never benefit from an illegal act. If the act in question results in giving the competitor a positional advantage, the referee may stop the action to take away the advantage. If the competitor uses an illegal technique to escape from a disadvantaged position, the referee may issue a warning.

B. Fouls

1. Only a referee can assess a foul. Judges shall not make that assessment and shall not factor such into their scoring calculations.
2. The referee may immediately terminate a bout based upon a single foul if he or she determines that it was intentional and flagrant. In that event, the fight shall be deemed a disqualification.
3. Fouls assessed by the referee will result in a point deduction by the judge from the

offending competitor's score.

4. A fighter who has been struck with a low blow is allowed up to five minutes to recover from the foul as long as in the referee and/or ringside doctor's opinion the fighter may continue on in the contest. If the fighter states that she or he can continue before five minutes have expired, the referee shall as soon as practical restart the fight. If the fighter takes more than the five minutes allotted, the fight cannot be restarted, and the contest must come to an end with the outcome determined by the round and time in which the fight was stopped.

5. If a competitor is fouled by a blow that the referee deems illegal, but not a low blow, the referee should stop the action and call for time. The referee may take the injured competitor to the ringside doctor and have the ringside doctor examine the competitor as to his or her ability to continue on in the contest. The ringside doctor has up to five minutes to make a determination. If the ringside doctor determines that the competitor can continue in the contest, the referee shall as soon as practical restart the fight. However, unlike the low blow foul rule, the competitor does not have up to five minutes of time to use at his or her discretion.

6. If a foul is committed, the referee shall:

- a. Call time;
- b. Check the fouled competitor's condition and safety; and
- c. Assess the foul to the offending contestant, deduct points, and notify each corner's seconds, judges, and the official scorekeeper.

7. Types of Fouls

Fouls include, but are not limited to, the following conduct:

- a. Head butts;
- b. Groin strikes;
- c. Thrusting or linear kicks directed at the knee joint;
- d. Striking the back of the head or the spine – defined as striking any of the area beginning at the back of the head starting at the crown of the head and running directly down the center of the head, spreading from ear to ear in the back of the head, running down the entire rear portion of the neck, beginning again at the occipital junction and stopping at the top of the trapezius, and beginning again from the trapezius muscle down the spine to the tailbone;
- e. Attacks to the throat;

- f. Striking a downed fighter (Fighters are considered "down" whenever they have any part of their body other than the soles of their feet touching the canvas.);
- g. Failure to obey the referee's commands;
- h. Striking on a break;
- i. Striking after a bell;
- j. Holding or using the ropes while striking or clinching;
- k. Timidity: Repeatedly and intentionally avoiding engagement or contact with the opponent;
- l. Use of abusive language and/or gestures;
- m. Causing intentional delays in the action, *e.g.*, repeatedly spitting out the mouthpiece or falling out of the ring to cause delay;
- n. Thumbing;
- o. Holding the opponent's leg without executing a legal strike or while executing more than one striking technique. (A fighter may grab the opponent's kicking leg and immediately execute one legal strike while taking one step but then must immediately release the leg.);
- p. Any effort to down a fighter by a method other than a legal strike or strikes, including but not limited to joint locks, submission attempts;
- q. Sweeps, reaps, takedowns and throws;
- r. Biting;
- r. Spitting at the opponent;
- s. Striking with the elbow, arm, wrist, or part of the glove that is not padded; and
- t. Holding, which is defined as repeatedly grabbing, grasping, or tying up an opponent in order to prevent the opponent from striking. Clinching is allowed in order to immediately launch a credible knee attack. If in the referee's estimation, the attack and/or counter knee attack is consistent and effective, the referee may allow it to continue for up to five seconds, at which point he or she will separate the fighters. If the knee attack or counterattack wanes or appears ineffective within five seconds, the referee will immediately separate the fighters;

8. Legal Targets

Legal targets include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Front of face (ears forward);
- b. Front of body above the waist;
- c. Ribs; and
- d. Inner and outer thighs.

9. Legal Strikes

Legal strikes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Punches with the front padded portion of the glove;
- b. Spinning backfist with padded portion of the glove above the wrist;
- c. For professionals, knees to the head (illegal for amateurs);
- d. Kicks to the inner and outer thigh;
- e. One hand clinch around the neck, only if immediately followed by one knee strike and then a mandatory break;
- f. Punches to the front of the body above the waist;
- g. Jumping knees above the waist, for professionals;
- h. Jumping knees above the waist and below the neck for amateurs; and
- i. Kicks to all legal targets.

There is no kick minimum, for either amateurs or professionals.

C. Injuries Sustained During Competition

- 1. If a competitor sustains an injury during competition due to a legal maneuver that is severe enough to terminate a bout, the injured contestant loses by Technical Knockout.
- 2. If a competitor sustains an injury during competition due to an intentional foul that is severe enough to terminate a bout, the contestant causing the injury loses by Disqualification.
- 3. If a competitor sustains an injury during competition due to an intentional foul and the bout continues, the referee shall immediately notify the Authority and the judges, and the judges shall deduct the points as determined by the referee and/or

Authority's representative.

4. If an injury caused by an intentional foul results in the contest being stopped in a later round:

- a. The injured competitor wins by Technical Decision, if he or she is ahead on the scorecards; or
- b. The contest shall be declared a Technical Draw, if the injured competitor is behind or even on the scorecards.

5. If an injury sustained during competition from an accidental foul is severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout shall result in a Technical Decision awarded to the competitor who is ahead on the scorecards at the time the referee stops the bout. This happens only when the referee stops the bout when the competitors have completed two rounds of a three-round bout, three rounds of a five-round bout, or four rounds of a bout of more than five rounds.

6. There should be scoring of an incomplete round. If the referee penalizes either competitor, then the appropriate points shall be deducted when the scorekeeper calculates the final score for the partial round.

D. Types of Fight Results

1. A knockout ("KO") is awarded when the opponent is knocked down and unable to continue within the ten second count. Knockdowns occur when fighters touch the mat with anything other than the soles of their feet as the result of a legal, damaging strike or are in a defenseless position when grabbing the opponent or hanging on or over the ropes. The referee shall have sole discretion in determining what is a knockdown versus a slip.

If a fighter goes down from what the referee indicates is a "slip" but fails to raise after the referee's repeated commands, the referee will initiate a count and follow the procedures for a knockdown. If the fighter does not rise at the count of ten, it will be considered a technical knockout ("TKO").

If a fighter injures him/herself and then fails to defend him/herself intelligently by turning their back on the opponent, the referee may in the proper exercise of discretion either treat the injury the same as one produced by a fair blow from the opponent and follow the procedures for a knockdown or terminate the bout and declare the opponent winner by TKO.

2. When any competitor falls out of the ring or cage, the referee shall start counting immediately. If the count reaches 20 and the fallen competitor cannot come up onto the ring or cage, he or she will lose by a KO. If the fallen competitor can come up before the count reaches 20, he or she may continue the fight.

3. A TKO is awarded:

- a. When a competitor is seriously hurt or weakened;
- b. When a competitor cannot continue the match after a break;
- c. On the doctor's recommendation, when the referee is unsure whether a competitor can continue the match due to injury or being seriously weakened;
- d. The Three Knockdown Rule is in effect only where a fighter has been knocked down three times in the same round by strikes/kicks to the head;
- e. When an opponent retires because of injury.

4. Winning on Points.

- a. Unanimous Decision. When all three judges score the bout for the same contestant.
- b. Split Decision. When two judges score the bout for one contestant and one judge scores for the other.
- c. Majority Decision. When two judges score the bout for the same contestant and one judge scores a draw.

5. Disqualification.

- a. Winning due to the opponent's violation of the rules; or
- b. No decision as a result of competitors colluding to cheat or not fight properly.

6. No Contest. A no contest shall be declared when the referee stops a contest due to accidental injury and the requisite number of rounds have not been completed to render a decision on the scorecards, as a result of the ring being damaged and the match not being able to continue, if an external event causes the fight to be stopped, if both competitors are unable to continue due to injury or disqualification, or when the Authority determines that any other result would create a miscarriage of justice. If less than one round of a three-round bout, less than the third round of a five-round bout, or less than the fourth round of a bout scheduled for more than five rounds has been completed at the time of the stoppage, the bout shall be declared a no contest. If the requisite number of rounds has been reached, individual scores decide the victor.

7. Draws.

- a. Unanimous. When all three judges score the bout a draw.
- b. Majority. When two judges score the bout a draw.
- c. Split. When all three judges score the bout differently and the score total results in a draw.
- d. When both competitors receive a count of ten.

E. Procedure after a Knockout or Technical Knockout

- 1. When a competitor is knocked down, the referee shall order the opponent to retire to the

farthest neutral corner of the ring or cage by pointing to the corner and immediately beginning the eight count over the competitor who is down. The referee shall audibly announce the passing of the seconds, accompanying the count with motions of his/her arm, with the downward motion indicating the end of each second.

2. No competitor who is knocked down may be allowed to resume competing until the referee has finished counting to eight. The competitor may take the count either on the floor or standing.

3. If the opponent of a downed competitor fails to stay in the farthest corner, the referee shall cease counting until the opponent has returned to his or her corner and shall then go on with the count from the point at which it was interrupted. If the downed competitor rises before the count of ten, the referee may step between the competitors long enough to assure himself or herself that the competitor who has just risen is in condition to continue. If so assured, the referee, without loss of time, order both competitors to go on with the contest. During the intervention by the referee, the striking of a blow by either competitor may be ruled a foul.

4. When a competitor is knocked out, the referee shall perform a full ten-second count unless, in the judgment of the referee, the safety of the competitor would be jeopardized by such a count. If the competitor who is knocked down is still down when the referee calls the count of ten, the referee shall wave both arms to indicate that he or she has been knocked out.

5. If both competitors go down at the same time, the count must be continued as long as one is still down. If both competitors remain down until the count of ten, the contest must be stopped, and the decision is a Technical Draw.

6. If a competitor is down and the referee is in the course of counting at the end of a round, the bell indicating the end of the round shall not be sounded, but the bell shall be sounded as soon as the downed competitor regains his or her feet.

7. When a competitor has been knocked down before the normal termination of a round and the round terminates before he or she has arisen from the floor of the ring or cage, the referee's count must be continued. If the competitor who is down fails to arise before the count of ten, he or she is considered to have lost the contest by a knockout in the round containing the round that was just concluded.

8. If a legal blow struck in the final seconds of a round causes a competitor to go down after the bell has sounded, that knockdown must be regarded as having occurred during the round just ended, and the appropriate count must continue.

9. If a competitor is knocked unconscious or injured, only the physician, the referee, and a representative of the Authority are allowed in the ring. Any others may only enter at the physician's discretion.

10. A competitor losing by a KO or TKO, shall be immediately treated and undergo a physical examination by the ringside physician.

F. Procedure When a Competitor Has Fallen Through or Been Knocked Through the Ropes

1. A competitor who has been knocked or has fallen through the ropes and over the edge of the ring or cage platform during a contest:
 - a. May be helped back by anyone except his or her seconds or manager; and
 - b. Shall be given 20 seconds to return to the fighting area.
2. A competitor who has been knocked or has fallen onto the ring or cage platform outside the ropes, but not over the edge of the platform:
 - a. May not be helped back by anyone, including without limitation his or her seconds or manager; and
 - b. Will be given ten seconds to regain his or her feet and get back into the fighting area.
3. If the seconds or manager of the competitor who has been knocked or fallen out of the ring helps the competitor back into the ring or cage, such help may be cause for disqualification.
4. When one competitor has fallen through the ropes, the other competitor shall retire to the farthest corner and stay there until ordered to continue the contest or by the referee.
5. No fighter may leave the fighting area before the end of the bout. Should a fighter fail to resume the bout following the end of the rest period, the referee shall begin counting as though there were a knock-down. At the conclusion of the count, the fighter's opponent shall be awarded the bout by way of a TKO.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-066

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 4: RULES GOVERNING JUDGES FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of judges.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All judges must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, all judges must:

- A. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and all Authority rules governing kickboxing; and
- B. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by payment of all required fees.

SECTION 3. Designation

The Authority shall designate judges for every bout. Referees shall not score a bout.

SECTION 4. Conflict of Interest; Multiple Certifications Prohibited

- A. No otherwise certificated individual shall be certificated as a judge. Upon filing an application with the Authority for a judge's certificate, an otherwise certificated individual must surrender for cancellation any other certificate held.
- B. No individual who has been certificated/licensed or acted as a promoter in any jurisdiction during the previous 365 days will be issued a certificate as a judge.

SECTION 5. Minimum Number of Judges Required

All kickboxing competitions shall be evaluated and scored by three judges duly certified by the Authority.

SECTION 6. Judges' Duties

- A. Prior to the start of any kickboxing competition, the judges must confirm with the referee the correct identity of each kickboxer.
- B. Judges shall not confer with each other during the contests or express in any way to anyone their opinions as to the winner of a bout, except by final written vote.
- C. Judges shall use only criteria set forth in these rules when scoring bouts.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-067

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 5: RULES GOVERNING REFEREES FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of referees.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All referees must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, referees must meet all the following requirements:

- A. Every new applicant for a referee's certificate and any applicant who has been inactive as a referee for three years or more years shall furnish satisfactory proof of physical fitness.
- B. All applicants shall:
 - 1. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and Authority rules governing kickboxing competitions; and
 - 2. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees.

SECTION 3. Designation

The Authority shall designate the referee for every bout.

SECTION 4. Conflict of Interest; Multiple Certifications Prohibited.

- A. No otherwise certificated individual shall be certificated as a referee. Upon filing an application with the Authority for a referee's certificate, an otherwise certificated individual must surrender for cancellation of any other certificate held.
- B. No individual who has been certificated/licensed or acted as a promoter in any jurisdiction during the previous 365 days will be issued a certificate as a referee.

SECTION 5. Referees' Duties

- A. Referees shall be attired in apparel approved by the Authority.
- B. Prior to commencement of a bout, a referee shall:
 - 1. Inspect the mouthpiece of each kickboxer, to ensure that mouthpieces are correctly inserted;
 - 2. Inspect any dressing on a cut, wound, abrasion, laceration, or blood swelling on the scalp or face, to determine whether a kickboxer should be allowed to compete. Unless the dressing can be removed and the injury, cut, or wound is not so serious as to endanger the kickboxer, the referee shall not allow the kickboxer to compete;
 - 3. Confirm kickboxers' identities;
 - 4. Receive confirmation that each judge has the correct identity of each kickboxer;
 - 5. Meet with kickboxers and their chief seconds in the dressing room to:
 - a. Warn the seconds that violation of applicable rules may result in their disqualification, disqualification of their kickboxer(s), and/or disciplinary action;
 - b. Identify the belt/hip line and clarify that equipment shall not extend above that imaginary line unless that is explicitly authorized by Authority rule;
 - c. Explain what to do when the warning that the end of a round is near sounds and when the bell ending the round sounds;
 - d. Explain to the chief second that he/she is expected to manage the corner, *e.g.*, clean up spills or ice, wipe off excess petroleum jelly, and ensure that the kickboxer has his/her mouthpiece in place before the start of each round;
 - e. Share how she/he will direct the kickboxers to break, *e.g.*, "punch" or "get

out" and, if necessary, "hold your punches" and step in and separate the kickboxers;

f. Review fouls and how she/he will issue cautions and/or deductions of points; and

g. Answer any questions from kickboxers and chief seconds;

6. Meet with each physician to:

a. Determine his/her ringside experience;

b. Determine where she/he will be located at ringside during the bout;

c. Remind every physician that he/she is not to enter the ring unless directed to do so by the referee or the Authority;

d. Specify the signal to be used to call a physician into the ring;

e. Specify the signal to be used to call a physician to a neutral corner;

f. Direct every physician to mount the ring apron quickly if called to examine a kickboxer, make a quick examination, and communicate with the referee;

g. Direct the physician not to make any statement after examining a kickboxer that could change the dynamics of the bout, *e.g.*, "Let it go one more round"; and

h. Answer any questions from the physician;

7. Check the condition of the ring or cage to ensure that everything is ready for the bout (buckets and stairs in red and blue corners, rope tension, ring or cage floor, and canvas condition, *etc.*).

C. When kickboxers enter the ring or cage, a referee shall:

1. Make sure that no foreign substance that might be detrimental to an opponent has been applied to the gloves or body of a kickboxer;

2. Inspect gloves, trunks, hair, mouthpieces, and safety equipment;

3. Re-establish the belt line and check for jewelry;

4. After the announcer makes introductions, call the kickboxers to center ring or cage, give final instructions, direct kickboxers to return to their corners, and clear the fighting area and its apron in preparation for the contest; and

5. Before signaling the timekeeper to start the bout, check with each judge, the timekeeper, and the physician(s) to determine if they are ready.

D. During a bout, a referee shall:

1. Ensure the safety of the kickboxers;
2. Enforce all the rules that apply to the conduct of a kickboxer's second;
3. Maintain control of the fight and issue cautions and/or point deductions as appropriate;
4. Whenever the glove of a kickboxer touches the fighting area floor, inspect the glove and wipe it clean before the bout proceeds;
5. If a kickboxer is cut, and it is deemed appropriate, interrupt the bout to consult the ringside physician to determine if the injured kickboxer can continue;
6. If a ringside physician steps onto the ring apron, call time-out, and have the injured kickboxer examined by that physician;
7. Immediately stop a contest to inform the Authority and kickboxers of any injury caused by a head butt or foul, determine if the act was intentional or accidental, and determine if the bout can continue;
8. Instruct the judges to mark their scorecards accordingly, when he/she has assessed a foul;
9. If a kickboxer is still down when the referee calls the count of ten or, in the opinion of the referee, a kickboxer who has been knocked down is in no condition to continue, wave both arms to indicate a KO;
10. If both kickboxers go down at the same time, continue the count as long as one of them is still down. If both kickboxers remain down until the count of ten, stop the bout, and the decision shall be a technical draw;
11. At the end of each round, pick up the score cards from the judges and give them to the Authority, unless the Authority has arranged some other procedure; and
12. Exercise exclusive and final authority to stop or continue the bout, as deemed appropriate.

E. After a bout, a referee shall:

1. Inspect the hand wraps of both kickboxers after their gloves have been removed;

2. Call the kickboxers to center ring and raise the hand of the winner after his/her name is announced; and
 3. Maintain control of the ring, kickboxers, and seconds, until the winner has been announced and all have exited the ring.
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STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-068

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 6: RULES GOVERNING PROMOTERS OF KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of kickboxing promoters.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All promoters must obtain both event and authorized participant certificates from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, every promoter must:

- A. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and all Authority rules governing kickboxing.
- B. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees.

SECTION 3. Duties

- A. Notify the Authority of Contest Dates and Officials
 1. A promoter shall secure the employment of officials for a kickboxing event from a list of officials maintained by the Authority. The Authority shall provide a current list of officials to promoters upon request.

2. A promoter shall notify the Authority of any proposed kickboxing event date at least 30 days prior to any such competition. The Authority may, in its discretion and in consideration of other pending or potential requests for event dates, give approval to the promoter's proposal.
3. A promoter shall provide the Authority with a proposed list of officials at least ten days prior to the date which the Authority has approved for an event. If an official on the promoter's list is not properly certificated, the Authority shall require the promoter to submit the name of an alternate official who is duly certificated.
4. The Authority may approve a promoter's request for an event date change, if it receives such request no later than 45 days in advance of the proposed new date. In considering a request, the Authority may take into account how that date change will affect the interests of the requesting promoter, other promoters, and other interested persons. Whether to grant a request is wholly a matter of the Authority's discretion. The Authority may require that a new event fee be paid.

B. Ensure Presence of Referees

A promoter shall ensure that all kickboxing competitions are refereed by individuals certificated by the Authority. The Authority requires that there be two or more referees at each kickboxing event.

C. Ensure Presence of Attending Physicians

A promoter shall ensure that every kickboxing event is attended by at least two physicians licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maine and certificated by the Authority. The promoter shall ensure that attending physicians perform all duties required by Authority rules.

D. Ensure Certification of Participants

1. A promoter shall ensure that all event participants are duly certificated before permitting them to participate in any capacity at any kickboxing event. Promoters will be held liable for all unpaid fees due for certification of participants.
2. Persons without certificates who desire to participate in any way in a kickboxing event must apply for their certificates using forms furnished to promoters by the Authority. Application must be made as soon as possible, usually no later than ten days prior to participation in the event.
3. A promoter shall forward to the Authority completed applications and fees for individuals who wish to become authorized participants in any kickboxing event. Upon approval of the applications and receipt of the fees, the Authority will issue certificates. The Authority may issue a receipt for the fee paid, which will serve as a temporary certificate for ten days.

E. Submit Fight Card for Approval

1. A promoter shall submit to the Authority for its approval a proposed fight card at least 30 days in advance of a scheduled event.
2. A promoter shall notify the Authority immediately of any proposed changes to a fight card. Substitutions may be made only after approval of the Authority or a duly appointed Authority member. Relevant circumstances considered will include kickboxers' win/loss records, fighting experience, demonstrated skill, and physical condition. When it approves a match, the Authority will notify the matchmaker and promoter.

F. Make Financial Disclosures to the Authority

1. A promoter shall not receive any compensation related directly or indirectly to a kickboxing match until she/he provides the Authority:
 - a. A copy of any written agreement between the promoter and a kickboxer participating in the match;
 - b. A statement made under penalty of perjury that there are no other agreements, written or oral, between the promoter and a kickboxer with respect to that match; and
 - c. A statement made under penalty of perjury of:
 - i. All fees, charges, and expenses that will be assessed on the kickboxer by the promoter or promoter's agent, including any portion of the kickboxer's purse that the promoter will receive and training expenses;
 - ii. All payments, gifts, or benefits the promoter is providing to any sanctioning organization affiliated with the event; and
 - iii. Any reduction in a kickboxer's purse contrary to a previous agreement between the promoter and the kickboxer or a purse bid held for the event.
2. A promoter shall not receive any compensation related directly or indirectly to a kickboxing match until he/she discloses to a kickboxer promoted:
 - a. The amounts of any compensation or consideration contracted for the kickboxer to receive from such match;
 - b. All fees, charges, and expenses pertaining to the event that will be assessed on the kickboxer by the promoter or promoter's agent,

including any portion of the kickboxer's purse that the promoter or promoter's agent will receive and training expenses; and

- c. Any reduction in a kickboxer's purse contrary to a previous agreement between the promoter and the kickboxer or a purse bid held for the event.

A promoter shall make information required to be disclosed under this section available to the Authority and to the Attorney General upon request.

G. Submit a Bout Agreement

No later than 30 days prior to a bout, a promoter shall provide the Authority with a copy of a signed and dated bout agreement for each kickboxer scheduled to compete. At minimum, a bout agreement must contain the following information:

1. The date, time, and location of the event at which the kickboxer will compete;
2. The number of rounds in each competition;
3. The date, time, and location of the weigh-in preceding the competition;
4. The weight at which the kickboxer will fight;
5. The amount of the purse which the kickboxer will receive; and
6. Any financial set-off from the kickboxer's purse.

H. Provide Insurance for Events and Participants

At least 30 days prior to a scheduled event, a promoter shall file with the Authority a certificate or certificates of insurance showing event liability coverage for every certificated person who will be participating in the event. Coverage must be to limits of at least \$500,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 in the aggregate for the event. The certificate(s) must show that the promoter is bonded to the Authority for financial obligations set forth in Authority rules. The certificate(s) must also show the existence of accident coverage for all kickboxers and accident or workers' compensation insurance for all other certificated persons who will be participating in the event.

I. Provide Police and Fire Protection

1. A promoter shall provide adequate police protection at all kickboxing events. What constitutes adequate protection is solely within the purview of the Authority to determine.
2. A promoter shall obtain a certificate from the local fire chief that the facility where the kickboxing competition will take place is safe for public use. A

promoter shall provide a copy of the certificate to the Authority at least ten days prior to the date of a scheduled event.

3. No kickboxing event shall be allowed to continue without adequate police protection or certification from the local fire chief that the scheduled venue is safe.

J. Ensure Presence of an Ambulance

A promoter shall ensure that at least one ambulance is present at all kickboxing events, from the commencement of the first contest, throughout the duration of the event, and until the last kickboxer leaves the event venue. No kickboxing event shall continue, if no ambulance is present.

K. Ensure Presence of Emergency Medical Technicians

A promoter shall ensure that at least two emergency medical technicians (“EMTs”) are present at kickboxing events, from commencement of the first bout, throughout the duration of the event, and until the last kickboxer leaves the event venue. No kickboxing event shall be allowed to continue if an EMT leaves the arena and thus reduces the number of EMTs present to fewer than two, until a replacement EMT is present.

L. Provide Emergency Medical Facilities and Equipment

A promoter must provide adequate, Authority-approved medical information, facilities, and equipment, including but not limited to a stretcher and emergency oxygen near the fighting area.

M. Attend Weigh-ins

A promoter or her/his representative shall always be present during a weigh-in to complete all paperwork required by the Authority.

N. Provide Seating for Attending Physicians

A promoter shall provide seating for attending physicians located at or near the kickboxing ring, preferably on a raised platform, commanding an unobstructed view of the entire fighting area.

O. Provide Seating for Judges

A promoter shall provide judges seating on several sides of the kickboxing ring, preferably on a raised platform, commanding an unobstructed view of the entire fighting area. The judges shall be isolated from all other attendees by at least the space of one seat on each side and to the rear.

P. Provide Seating for Authority members

A promoter shall provide Authority members ringside seating with an unobstructed view of the entire fighting area.

Q. Provide Public Address Announcer

A promoter shall provide a public-address announcer at all kickboxing competitions and ensure that the following information is announced over the public-address system or from the center of the kickboxing ring:

1. Prior to the start of any competition, the names of the referees, judges, physicians, and Authority members in attendance;
2. Prior to the start of any competition, the fact that the event is sanctioned by the Authority; and
3. During the program, any change of officials made.

R. Provide Event Equipment

A promoter shall ensure the provision of all other equipment for the proper conduct of kickboxing competitions, including, without limitation, the following:

1. Suitable watches for timekeepers and a bell or gong to start and end each round;
2. Gloves approved by the referee and/or the Authority;
3. A clean water bucket and a clean and clear plastic water bottle in each kickboxer's corner; and
4. An adequate supply of disposable latex laboratory gloves of a type approved by the Authority for use by seconds, referees, attending physicians, inspectors, and other authorized participants.

S. Ensure Timely Arrival of Kickboxers

A promoter shall ensure that all kickboxers arrive at the event venue at least two hours prior to the first scheduled bout to be weighed-in, checked by a physician, dressed, and gloved.

T. Ensure Ticket Collection

A promoter shall ensure that all tickets for kickboxing events are collected in accordance with requirements established by the Authority.

U. Ensure Presence and Compensation of Inspectors

A promoter shall ensure that every kickboxing event has present the number of inspectors deemed appropriate by the Authority and that those inspectors fulfill to the satisfaction of the Authority obligations set forth in Chapter 10 of these rules. A promoter shall select inspectors from a list of qualified individuals maintained by the Authority and shall ensure that inspectors are paid no less than \$75.00 as an initial fee and are paid an additional fee of \$15.00 per hour for each hour that an event exceeds five hours in length.

V. Remit Monies to the Authority

No later than three business days after an event, a promoter shall remit to the Authority monies equal to five percent of the value of all tickets distributed for event attendees. The “value of all tickets” means the total amount of money received in payment from attendees or prospective attendees plus the total face value of tickets distributed without receipt of monetary payment to attendees or prospective attendees. “The total face value of tickets distributed without receipt of monetary payment” means the total of usual dollar amounts which would have been required payment for tickets had they been issued in exchange for monetary payment. With the remittance of monies, a promoter shall file with the Authority objectively verifiable documentary proof that the amount remitted is correct. The Authority shall determine the form of such proof.

The Authority may waive a promoter’s obligation to remit up to 100 percent of the value of tickets not issued in exchange for monetary payment (“comp tickets”), if it determines that such tickets were issued for a reason justifying waiver, *e.g.*, provision of the tickets to a charitable organization. In determining whether such waiver is justified, the Authority must consider an objectively verifiable accounting for tickets. The promoter is responsible for providing that accounting.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-069

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 7: REQUIREMENTS FOR KICKBOXERS

SUMMARY: This Chapter identifies the qualifications for and the duties of kickboxers. It also outlines certain duties of the Authority regarding notices of suspension.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All kickboxers must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, kickboxers must meet all the following requirements:

- A. Be at least 18 years of age;
- B. Possess a current federal identification card;
- C. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and Authority rules governing kickboxing;
- D. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees; and
- E. Submit to a thorough medical examination by a physician to establish his or her physical and mental fitness for competition.
 - 1. A "thorough medical examination" shall at a minimum include assessment of:
 - a. Ophthalmological dilation;
 - b. A comprehensive medical history;
 - c. Physical examination;
 - d. For initial certification only, a complete blood count and bleeding and coagulation time; and
 - e. Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV tests conducted no earlier than 180 days prior to participation in a scheduled bout.
 - 2. A medical examination shall be made no earlier than 365 days but no later than one day prior to application for certification or the renewal thereof, except that the Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV tests shall be conducted no earlier than 180 days prior to participation in a scheduled bout.
 - 3. An applicant may be required to complete a urinalysis, blood test, or other procedure to detect the presence/use of any drug or performance-enhancing

substance, including without limitation any substance banned by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

4. Every applicant more than 35 years old must provide the Authority with satisfactory proof of the results of an electrocardiogram, before weigh-ins for a bout. The electrocardiogram must have been administered no earlier than 365 days prior to the date of a scheduled bout.
5. The Authority may at its discretion order such additional examinations of a kickboxer at any time to determine his or her continued fitness and qualifications to compete.

SECTION 3. Duties of Kickboxing Competitors

- A. Upon receipt of their certificates, kickboxers must attach a passport type photo of themselves to the reverse side of the certificates.

B. Pre-Fight Medical Examination

All kickboxers shall submit, when weighing-in and again a short time before the kickboxing program commences, to a thorough medical examination by a physician appointed by the Authority. All such examinations shall be conducted privately, with no other person other than the physician and the kickboxer present.

1. The pre-fight examination shall include the administration of a physical; complete medical history; ophthalmological examination; neurological examination; and, at the discretion of the Authority, a urinalysis, blood test, or other procedure to detect use of prohibited substances.
2. The kickboxer shall present to the attending physician the results of Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV tests administered no earlier than 180 days prior to participation in a bout. Any kickboxer who fails to produce negative test results for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV shall not participate in a kickboxing competition. Hepatitis vaccinations, in addition to testing, are recommended for all kickboxers but are not mandatory.
3. Any kickboxer 35 years old or older must provide the Authority with satisfactory proof of the results of an electrocardiogram administered no earlier than 365 days prior to the date of the scheduled bout.

4. The examination shall include a pregnancy test for all female kickboxers. Any kickboxer determined to be pregnant shall not be permitted to compete in a kickboxing match. A female kickboxer who fails to submit to an Authority- supervised pregnancy test will be prohibited from fighting.
5. No kickboxer shall enter the ring or cage unless an attending physician appointed by the Authority has certified his or her fitness to engage in a kickboxing contest. The physician's decision that a kickboxer is not fit to engage in a kickboxing contest shall not be subject to change by any other official.

C. Abstinence from the Use of Prohibited Substances

1. A kickboxer's use before or during a match of any drug, performance-enhancing substance, mind-altering substance, narcotic, stimulant, depressant, or analgesic of any description, including without limitation alcohol, marijuana, and substances banned by the United States Anti-Doping Agency, shall result in the immediate disqualification of the kickboxer and additional disciplinary action.
2. The Authority may require that a competitor submit to:
 - a. A pre-fight or post-fight urinalysis, blood test, or other procedure to detect the use of any prohibited substance; and
 - b. At any time after the completion of a kickboxing competition, additional testing for the use of prohibited substances.
3. Kickboxers shall cooperate with Authority testing procedures and must provide any medical or other information sought by the Authority with regard to testing.
4. Collection of urine, blood, or other evidence to test for possible use of prohibited substances shall be supervised by an Authority official. Refusal to submit to such testing shall result in the immediate disqualification of a kickboxer from a contest and additional disciplinary action.
5. The Authority shall be responsible for the costs of testing for the use of prohibited substances.
6. A positive or non-negative test result for use of a prohibited substance shall constitute *prima facie* proof of use of the substance by a kickboxer and cause for immediate certificate suspension, disqualification from competition, and additional disciplinary action including:
 - a. For a first offense, 90 days' certificate suspension and a civil penalty of \$500.00; and
 - b. For a second offense, certificate revocation and a civil penalty

of \$500.00.

D. Post-Fight Medical Examination

Immediately following a match, each kickboxer shall be given a physical examination by a physician appointed by the Authority. The post-fight examination may include a urinalysis, blood test, breath analysis, or other procedure to detect the presence of any drug or performance-enhancing substance. Any kickboxer refusing to submit to a post- fight medical examination shall be immediately suspended for at least 30 days and be subject to additional disciplinary action.

SECTION 4. Knockout Suspensions

All kickboxers who have been ruled "knocked out" by the referee shall be suspended as follows:

A. Post-Knockout Suspension

Any kickboxer who is ruled "knocked out" as determined by the referee shall be suspended from kickboxing for a period of at least 60 days. The knocked-out kickboxer shall not be permitted to participate in a match until a thorough medical examination prescribed by a physician is completed and demonstrates to the Authority that the kickboxer is fit to compete. The medical examination must include testing of neurological functions.

B. Post-Technical Knockout Suspension

Any kickboxer who is technically knocked out shall be suspended for a period of at least 30 days. The technically knocked-out kickboxer shall not be permitted to participate in a match until a thorough medical examination prescribed by a physician is completed and demonstrates to the Authority that the kickboxer is fit to compete. The medical examination must include testing of neurological functions.

SECTION 5. Records of Bout Results and Suspensions

The Authority shall maintain a current listing of all Maine-certificated kickboxers who are under suspension, the reasons therefor, and suspension durations. The listing shall include like information obtained from other jurisdictions. All results of all competitions and all impositions of suspensions shall be reported to the *BoxRec.com* database.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-070

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 8: RULES GOVERNING MANAGERS, TRAINERS, SECONDS, CUTPERSONS, SCOREKEEPERS, AND CORNERPERSONS FOR KICKBOXING

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, cornerpersons, and scorekeepers. It also identifies certain authorized, mandated, and prohibited activities and equipment.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All managers, trainers, cutpersons, cornerpersons, scorekeepers, and seconds must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, all managers, trainers, cutpersons, cornerpersons, scorekeepers, and seconds must:

- A. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and Authority rules governing kickboxing; and
- B. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees.

Managers must meet the additional requirement of filing with the Authority copies of all existing contracts between and among themselves, promoters, and kickboxers.

SECTION 3. Mandatory Activities

All members of a kickboxer's corner who will be working the fighting area must be present for a discussion of Authority rules at the time set by the Authority on the day or night of a bout.

SECTION 4. Authorized Activities

No more than three seconds can assist a kickboxer during a contest, one inside the ring or cage and two on the ring or cage apron.

- A. Before a contest begins:
 - 1. The chief second and other cornerpersons for each kickboxer shall identify themselves to the inspector present and the referee. Only those so identified shall be allowed in the kickboxer's corner.
 - 2. A cornerperson shall present the kickboxer, ready to box, when the referee calls the kickboxers to ring or cage center for final instructions.
- B. During a round, a second:

1. Must remain seated;
2. Must not mount the stairs or apron or enter the ring or cage until the bell indicates the end of a round, except to indicate a desire to stop a fight;
3. Can signal a desire to stop the fight only by mounting the fighting area apron rather than throwing towels, sponges, or anything else into the ring or cage; and
4. Must refrain from excessive coaching of his/her kickboxer.

C. During a rest period, a second:

1. May coach his/her kickboxer;
2. May treat cuts, abrasions, or swelling;
3. May provide the kickboxer water, ice, or other cooling techniques;
4. Shall leave the fighting area at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle given ten seconds before a round begins; and
5. Shall remove all items in the fighting area and its platform prior to the bell sounding the beginning of the round.

SECTION 5. Prohibited Activities

- A. No person other than kickboxers, referees, or a physician acting pursuant to Chapter 9 of these rules shall enter the ring or cage during a round.
- B. Managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, scorekeepers, and cornerpersons shall not yell loudly or use profanity while working the corner. Any profanity or disobedience of the referee's instructions during the progress of a fight shall be sufficient cause for removal of an individual from the corner.
- C. Managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, scorekeepers, and cornerpersons shall not leave their designated areas during a fight. If a manager or second leaves a designated area during a fight, the kickboxer will be disqualified.
- D. Managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, scorekeepers, and cornerpersons shall not assist a kickboxer who is knocked out of the ring or cage onto the floor. A kickboxer who is knocked out of the ring or cage onto the floor must get back into the fighting area within twenty seconds without assistance from anyone.
- E. Managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, scorekeepers, and cornerpersons shall not enter the ring or cage to assist or move a kickboxer who has been knocked down or injured, until instructed to do so by medical personnel.
- F. Managers, trainers, seconds, cutpersons, scorekeepers, and cornerpersons shall not agree in writing, verbally, or otherwise for their kickboxer to fight when they know the kickboxer to be improperly conditioned or physically inadequate.

- G. No individual other than a referee shall interfere in any way with the conduct of a fight or touch a kickboxer during a round.
- H. If the referee has ordered a kickboxer to be examined by an attending physician, no other individual shall administer any aid to the kickboxer.

SECTION 6. Mandated Equipment

The following items must be available in each kickboxer's corner:

- A. A bucket with ice;
- B. A towel;
- C. Water in an unopened clear plastic bottle which an inspector has examined and approved;
- D. A sponge; and
- E. Surgical tape.

SECTION 7. Optional Equipment

The following items are the only non-mandatory materials which a manager or second may bring to a kickboxer's corner:

- A. Petroleum jelly;
- B. Adrenaline in the original and sealed manufacturer's container as prescribed in a 1/1,000-part solution;
- C. Cotton swabs;
- D. Gauze pads;
- E. Clean towels;
- F. Thrombin;
- G. Quickclot;
- H. Avitene;
- I. Pressure plates;
- J. Hydrogen peroxide;
- K. Mouthwash solution;

- L. Bandage scissors;
- M. Sterile skin closures; and
- N. Additional clear plastic bottles of water, if examined and approved by an inspector before opening.

SECTION 8. Prohibited Equipment

The following materials are prohibited from each kickboxer's corner:

- A. Monsel's solution;
- B. Drugs of any type;
- C. "New skin" flexible collodion;
- D. Silver nitrate;
- E. Any substance with an iron base;
- F. Ammonia capsules or other "smelling salts";
- G. Water bottles opened before examination by an inspector; and
- H. Any consumable liquid other than pure water.

SECTION 9. Sanctions

- A. Any person who violates a provision of this Chapter will be disqualified from participation in the remainder of a kickboxing competition and will be subject to additional discipline.
 - B. A kickboxer may lose points or be disqualified for the misconduct of his/her chief second or corner(s).
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STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-071

Chapter 9: RULES GOVERNING ATTENDING PHYSICIANS FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of attending physicians prior to, during, and after kickboxing events.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All attending physicians must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, all attending physicians must:

- A. Be licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maine;
- B. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and all Authority rules governing kickboxing; and
- C. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees.

SECTION 3. Duties of Attending Physicians

A. Examination of Kickboxers

Attending physicians shall conduct all medical examinations required by these rules or requested by the Authority.

B. Presence During Competitions

1. During the progress of a bout, attending physicians shall remain at the kickboxing ring or cage in a seat provided by the promoter and shall have their medical kits. An attending physician shall not enter the fighting area during the progress of a bout, unless:
 - a. Requested to do so by the referee; or
 - b. The referee has ordered the kickboxers to stop and has separated them.
2. Between rounds, an attending physician may enter the fighting area, if summoned by a referee.

3. Attending physicians shall remain at the scene of an event until it has been ascertained that any serious injury incurred by a kickboxer has been given due attention.

C. Provision of Medical Equipment

Attending physicians shall have a medical kit immediately available at the side of the ring or cage. It must at a minimum include the following equipment:

1. Stethoscope;
2. Manometer;
3. Alcohol;
4. Cotton;
5. Gauze;
6. An ice bag; and
7. Aromatic ammonia capsules.

D. Termination of a Bout

1. An attending physician shall direct the referee to terminate any bout, if in the physician's opinion, a kickboxer has received severe physical injury or is in danger of serious physical injury. Any kickboxer who in the opinion of the physician suffers a serious head injury or is rendered unconscious shall not be permitted to continue to fight.
2. In the event of a kickboxer's serious injury, an attending physician shall immediately render any emergency treatment necessary and order further treatment or hospitalization as is required. The attending physician may also order that the injured kickboxer and his manager remain on the premises or report to a hospital for further examination and treatment. Any kickboxer, manager, or second refusing to comply with such an order shall be subject to discipline.

E. Reports of Injuries

1. Within 48 hours after a contest, an attending physician shall complete and return to the Authority a printed injury insurance form reporting serious injuries. Such reports shall include any recommendations regarding an injured kickboxer. A physician must supplement a report whenever she/he obtains additional relevant evidence regarding an injury.
2. On the date of a bout, an attending physician shall provide to the Authority a written statement concerning any kickboxer who has been rendered unconscious or who has suffered a serious head injury while kickboxing. Any kickboxer who in the opinion of the physician suffers a serious head injury or who has been

rendered unconscious shall not resume kickboxing competition until the Authority receives written certification from a physician that the kickboxer is fit to take part in competitive combat sports.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-072

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 10: RULES GOVERNING INSPECTORS FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes qualifications for and the duties of inspectors certificated by the Authority.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All inspectors must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, all inspectors shall study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and Authority rules governing kickboxing.

SECTION 3. The Authority shall determine how many certificated inspectors are required for each event.

SECTION 4. Inspectors' Duties

Inspectors shall assist the Authority by performing duties as assigned by the Authority during kickboxing competitions, including:

- A. Determination that kickboxers and all other participants are certificated according to the requirements of the Authority's rules;
- B. Supervision of gate entrances;
- C. When the occasion requires, submission of reports on circumstances of interest to the Authority, including reports of conduct which the Authority might wish to investigate for disciplinary purposes;

- D. Monitoring locker rooms to ensure that only authorized participants are allowed inside and remain inside at appropriate times;
- E. Inspection and signing of hand wrappings and gloves with visible lines, unless the Authority delegates this task to other individuals;
- F. Escorting kickboxers to the ring or cage and from the ring or cage to a post-fight medical examination; and
- G. Ensuring that only authorized individuals are allowed inside the fighting area.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-073

99-650 COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Chapter 11: RULES GOVERNING TIMEKEEPERS FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS

SUMMARY: This Chapter establishes the qualifications for and the duties of timekeepers.

SECTION 1. Certification Required

All timekeepers must obtain a certificate from the Authority prior to engaging in any act authorized by 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 or by the Authority's rules.

SECTION 2. Qualification for Certification

Prior to the issuance of a certificate by the Authority, all timekeepers must:

- A. Study and become thoroughly familiar with 8 M.R.S. Chapter 20 and all Authority rules governing kickboxing; and
- B. File with the Authority a completed official application form accompanied by full payment of required fees.

SECTION 3. Timekeepers' Duties

- A. Timekeepers shall ensure that rounds are of equal duration and that there is a rest period of required duration between rounds.
 - B. Timekeepers shall not leave the gong until the completion of a bout.
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STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 8 M.R.S. § 523

EFFECTIVE DATE (NEW): March 26, 2025 – filing 2025-074

