

## CHAPTER 20:81:03

### LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS

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**20:81:03:01. Terms and conditions of registration -- Boxers and kickboxers.** All boxers and kickboxers who apply for registration with the Commission are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All boxers and kickboxers who participate in a bout or contest must be registered with the Commission, unless specifically exempted;

(2) The applicant must provide proof of a Boxers Federal Identification Card, or submit an application and required fee for an identification card and meet the eligibility requirements to be issued such a card pursuant to § 20:81:03:02;

(3) The applicant must submit verification of a physical within the previous ~~twelve months~~ three hundred sixty-five days from a physician licensed as a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner;

(4) The applicant must submit verification of a dilated eye exam within the previous ~~twelve months~~ three hundred sixty-five days from a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist;

(5) The applicant must provide proof the applicant has been administered a test by a laboratory in the United States that possess a certificate number under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (42 U.S.C. 263a) to detect the presence of HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other blood borne pathogens as identified by the Commission, within ~~six months~~ one hundred eighty days prior to the application and that the results are negative;

(6) The applicant must disclose any serious bodily injuries, any serious head injuries, any surgeries, and whether the applicant is taking any medications;

(7) If the Commission determines that a question exists as to the medical condition of an applicant, the Commission may require the applicant to complete a physical by a physician approved by the Commission. Upon completion of the physical, the physician shall submit the

report of the results directly to the Commission. The report must affirmatively state the physician's opinion as to the advisability of the applicant fighting. The physical performed must address the question raised about the applicant's health and include such testing as a prudent physician would perform to determine the health and fitness of an individual to engage in the sport of boxing. The results of all required examinations must be made a part of the applicant's permanent medical record maintained by the Commission. The costs of all examinations required by this section shall be paid by the applicant; and

(8) The applicant must demonstrate financial responsibility, experience, character, and general fitness of the applicant are such that the participation of such applicant are consistent with the public interest, convenience, or necessity and the safety of contestants and with the best interests of the sport, generally.

Failure to meet any of these terms or conditions may result in the denial of the application for registration.

A boxer or kickboxer registered with the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements following registration. ~~For the first infraction of any provisions of this rule, the Commission may issue a verbal warning. Following a second violation of any provision of this rule, a written warning may be issued. Following a third infraction of any provision of this rule, the boxer or kickboxer may be suspended for up to six months.~~ The Commission may suspend any boxer or kickboxer for any period of time for any **serious** violation of this rule **without warning**.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 42 SDR 101, effective January 7, 2016.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10(2).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10(2).

**20:81:03:02. National Registry of Boxing.** No boxer shall be allowed to compete without a Boxer's Federal Identification Card issued by the Association of Boxing Commissions. All applicants for registration as a boxer shall provide a Boxer's Federal Identification Card with the application for registration or apply for registration in the state where the boxer resides, unless where the boxer resides does not participate in the Association of Boxing Commissions' registration system. An applicant for a new or renewal boxer registration shall complete, sign, and submit ~~in-person~~ to the Commission, the Association of Boxing Commissions Boxer's Federal Identification Card Application. With the application, the applicant shall submit ~~a \$25 fee;~~ two 1 inch by 1.5 inch color photos of identification; a copy of a photo identification issued to the applicant by a governmental entity containing the applicant's photograph; and social security number or similar foreign identification number. The applicant must be recognizable in the photographs.

A Federal Identification Card shall expire ~~two~~ four years from the date of issuance.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**20:81:03:03. Terms and conditions of registration -- Mixed martial artists.** All mixed martial artists applying for registration with the Commission are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All mixed martial artists participating in a bout or contest must be registered with the Commission, unless specifically exempted;

(2) The applicant must provide a complete record of competitions;

(3) The applicant must provide acceptable photo identification;

(4) The applicant must provide proof of a national mixed martial arts identification or make application for a national mixed martial arts identification at the time of application;

(5) The applicant must disclose whether the applicant is, or has been, under suspension in any jurisdiction in the preceding twelve months;

(6) The applicant must submit verification of a physical within three hundred sixty-five days prior to a bout from a physician licensed as a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner;

(7) The applicant must submit verification of a dilated eye exam within three hundred sixty-five days prior to a bout from a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist;

(8) The applicant must provide proof the applicant has been administered a test by a laboratory in the United States that possesses a certificate number under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (42 U.S.C. 263a) to detect the presence of HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other blood borne pathogens as identified by the Commission, within one hundred eighty days prior to a bout and that the results are negative;

(9) The applicant must disclose any serious bodily injuries, any serious head injuries, any surgeries, a cerebral hemorrhage of any kind, and whether the applicant is taking any medications;

(10) If the Commission determines that a question exists as to the medical condition of an applicant, the Commission may require the applicant to complete a physical by a physician approved by the Commission. Upon completion of the physical, the physician shall submit the report of the results directly to the Commission. The report must affirmatively state the physician's opinion as to the advisability of the applicant fighting. The physical performed must address the question raised about the applicant's health and include such testing as a prudent physician would perform to determine the health and fitness of an individual to engage in the sport of mixed martial arts. The results of all required examinations must be made a part of the applicant's permanent medical record maintained by the Commission. The costs of all examinations required by this section shall be paid by the applicant; and

(11) The applicant must demonstrate financial responsibility, experience, character, and general fitness of the applicant are such that the participation of such applicant are consistent with the public interest, convenience, or necessity and the safety of contestants and with the best interests of the sport, generally.

Failure to meet any of these terms or conditions may result in the denial of the application for registration.

A mixed martial artist registered with the commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements following registration. ~~For the first infraction of any provisions of this rule, the Commission may issue a verbal warning. Following a second violation of any provision of this rule, a written warning may be issued. Following a third infraction of any provision of this rule, the mixed martial artist may be suspended for up to six months.~~ The Commission may suspend

any mixed martial artist for any period of time for any **serious** violation of this rule without warning.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 42 SDR 101, effective January 7, 2016; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10(2).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10(2).

DISCUSSION ONLY

**20:81:03:04. Terms and conditions of license -- Promoters.** All promoters are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All persons, clubs, corporations, associations, or entities acting as a promoter of a boxing, kickboxing, or mixed martial arts bout or contest must be licensed by the commission;

(2) The applicant must demonstrate financial responsibility, experience, character, and general fitness of the applicant, including in the case of corporations, its officers and stakeholders, are such that the applicant will be consistent with the public interest, convenience, or necessity and the safety of contestants, and with the best interests of the sport, generally;

(3) If a promoter is acting as a matchmaker, the promoter is responsible for working with the Commission, or its designee, while the contest is in progress and must be available at all times to the Commission, or its designee;

(4) Any person, party, or organization acting as a promoter of a bout or contest must obtain approval of the commission at least thirty business days prior to the date of the competition or exhibition. The promoter shall request approval on a form prescribed by the Commission;

(5) The promoter shall ensure that all events are conducted in a safe and orderly manner and is responsible for ensuring the maintenance of adequate public safety at all contests;

(6) The promoter shall comply with all applicable state, city, municipal, and county laws and regulations including, but not limited to, any applicable fire and health laws. The promoter shall also comply with any directives from any governing state, municipal, city, or county law enforcement or regulatory agency or entity. Failure to abide by the provisions of this rule or to ensure adequate public safety may result in cancellation of a contest, discipline against a promoter's license, and denial of future contest permits by the Commission;



(7) The promoter shall provide all materials necessary to conduct the contest, including a ring, stools, water buckets, competition gloves, rubber gloves, gauze, and tape for hand wraps. The promoter must provide adequate equipment for the number of bouts on the approved card. The promoter shall ensure that all the required equipment is in its place;

(8) The promoter shall register the approved event with the Association of Boxing Commissions;

(9) Not less than seven days prior to the date of an approved event, the promoter must file with the Commission proof of adequate insurance for the protection of the contestants, officials, and the attending public in an amount of at least one million dollars;

(10) Not less than seven days prior to the date of an approved event, the promoter must provide proof of health insurance for each contestant to provide coverage for any injuries sustained in the competition or exhibition. The minimum benefit shall be ten thousand dollars for health and ten thousand dollars in accidental death benefits. The promoter is responsible to pay any deductibles necessary, including the deductible of the contestant's primary insurance, if applicable;

(11) Not less than seven days prior to the date of an approved event, the promoter shall submit a completed notification of the final contest form to the Commission. The final contest form shall constitute the final card for the event;

(12) The promoter must submit any change or substitution in the announced or advertised programs for any main event bout at least forty-eight hours before the weigh-in time of the contest. Such change or substitution must be approved by the Commission. Notices of such change or substitution must also be included in any public announcement or advertisement relating to the contest and must be conspicuously posted at all box offices on the premises and announced from

the ring before the opening contest. The promoter shall obtain prior approval from the commission for any change to the date or time of an approved contest;

(13) If requested, the promoter must provide the Commission with a surety bond payable to the State of South Dakota in the amount of at least twenty thousand dollars or an irrevocable letter of credit in at least the same amount from a lending institution approved to do business in the United States to guarantee payment of all fees and state taxes. The irrevocable letter of credit may only be released upon written approval of the Commission. An additional bond or irrevocable letter of credit may be required in the amount specified by the Commission where it may be reasonably expected that the twenty thousand dollars bond or irrevocable letter of credit will not provide sufficient protection to the state. It is the duty of each promoter to maintain all required bonds on a current status. All surety bonds or irrevocable letters of credit must be valid until the promoter's license expiration date. The Commission may require the bond to pay unpaid fees for officials and purses based on the amounts stated in bout contracts;

(14) The promoter must provide proof of ability to pay the entire purse of the contest and all assigned officials at weigh-in;

(15) The promoter shall submit ticket information along with a financial report to the Commission on a form prescribed by the Commission within thirty days of the contest, along with any remaining contest fee due;

(16) The promoter is responsible for making all financial arrangements with all event officials, except the Commission or its designee. The Commission shall approve and assign all officials;

(17) The promoter must file all contracts between the promoter and the contestants with the Commission at least seven days prior to the weigh-in. The Commission, or its designee, shall review all contracts to ensure compliance with applicable laws and rules; and

(18) Prior to an approved contest, the promoter shall provide the Commission with a plan for security adequate to ensure the safety of the public, contestants and officials attending the event.

Failure to timely file any required report or form may result in the cancellation of an approved event and the denial of a future contest.

Failure to meet any of these terms or conditions may result in the denial of the application for licensure.

A promoter licensed by the ~~Commission~~ Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements. ~~The first infraction of any provisions of this rule, the Commission may issue a verbal warning. Following a second violation of any provision of this rule, a written warning may be issued. Following a third infraction of any provision of this rule, the promoter may be suspended for up to six months.~~ The Commission may suspend any promoter for any period of time for any serious violation of this rule ~~without warning~~.

The lack of timely payments to any contestant, official, or the Commission is cause for revocation of a promoter's license, denial of the renewal of a license, or denial of approval for a future event.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 42 SDR 101, effective January 7, 2016; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10(3).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10(3).

**20:81:03:05. Terms and conditions of license -- Matchmakers.** All matchmakers are subject to the following terms and conditions;

(1) All persons clubs, corporations, associations, or entities acting as a matchmaker must be licensed by the Commission;

(2) The matchmaker is responsible for arranging the contest and matching contestants as to weight and experience for approval by the Commission;

(3) A matchmaker must be present at every contest;

(4) The matchmaker is responsible for working with the Commission, or its designee, while the contest is in progress and must be accessible at all times to the Commission, or its designee; and

(5) The matchmaker is directly liable for the promoter he represents.

Failure to meet any of these terms or conditions may result in the denial of the application for licensure.

A promoter acting as a matchmaker is responsible for the duties of the matchmaker.

A matchmaker licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements. ~~For the first infraction of any provisions of this rule, the Commission may issue a verbal warning. Following a second violation of any provision of this rule, a written warning may be issued. Following a third infraction of any provision of this rule, the matchmaker may be suspended for up to six months.~~ The Commission may suspend any matchmaker for any period of time for any **serious** violation of this rule ~~without warning~~.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**20:81:03:06. Terms and conditions of license -- Managers.** All managers are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All persons, clubs, corporations, associations, or entities acting as a manager must be licensed by the Commission; and

(2) The manager is responsible for working with the Commission, or its designee, while the contest is in progress and must be accessible at all times to the Commission, or its designee.

Failure to meet any of these terms or conditions may result in the denial of the application for licensure.

A manager licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements.

~~For the first infraction of any provisions of this rule, the Commission may issue a verbal warning. Following a second violation of any provision of this rule, a written warning may be issued. Following a third infraction of any provision of this rule, the manager may be suspended for up to six months.~~ The Commission may suspend any manager for any period of time for any **serious** violation of this rule ~~without warning~~.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10.

**20:81:03:07. Terms and conditions of registration -- Referees.** All referees are subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (1) All referees designated by the commission must be registered with the commission;
- (2) An applicant for registration must demonstrate knowledge of boxing, kickboxing, or mixed martial arts and safety measures sufficient to oversee a bout or contest;
- (3) A referee may not officiate more than thirty-~~five~~ six scheduled rounds in any one scheduled contest;
- (4) The referee must ~~have a physical examination within one hundred and eighty days before acting in a referee's capacity~~ submit verification of a physical within three hundred sixty-five days prior to a bout from a physician licensed as a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. The physical examination may be done at either the official weigh in or before the contest begins by the ringside physician. The ringside physician's approval must be given to the commission prior to the referee entering the ring;
- (5) The referee shall exercise immediate authority, direction, and control over the bout for which the referee has been designated, and it is the referee's responsibility to enforce all rules;
- (6) Before starting a contest, the referee shall ascertain from each contestant the name of the contestant's chief second, and shall gather them together for final instructions;
- (7) Pursuant to the commission's rules, the referee may stop the bout and make a decision during any stage of the bout, if the referee determines that the contestants have become partial, or if a contestant is in such condition that if such contestant continues fighting, the contestant is likely to suffer serious injury;

(8) If a contestant suffers a cut or wound that is considered dangerous, the referee has the authority to stop the fight. In these cases, the referee shall consult the head physician appointed to attend the fight regarding the necessity of stopping the fight;

(9) The referee is responsible for deciding whether an injury has been done by a legal or illegal blow, intentional or accidental, and must notify the judges immediately;

(10) When, for whatever reason, a contestant loses a mouthpiece, the referee will proceed to return the mouthpiece when there is a lull in the action. The referee will exercise full authority to avoid a contestant ejecting the mouthpiece intentionally by deducting a point as a result of this behavior or disqualifying the contestant;

(11) A referee is prohibited from using alcoholic beverages twelve hours prior to the fight and until the referee's assigned duties are completed;

(12) If a referee becomes incapacitated and is unable to complete the entire contest, a timeout shall be called by the commission, or its designee, shall immediately assign an alternate referee to assume the duties; and

(13) A referee must inform the commission, or its designee, how a fight was stopped.

The commission is under no obligation to designate a registered referee to act as an official for a bout or contest.

A referee licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements.

The Commission may suspend any referee for any period of time for any violation of this rule.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 42 SDR 101, effective January 7, 2016.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10(1).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10(1).

**20:81:03:08. Terms and conditions of registration -- Judges.** All judges are subject to the following terms and conditions;

- (1) All judges designated by the Commission must be registered with the Commission;
- (2) An applicant for registration must demonstrate knowledge of boxing, kickboxing, or mixed martial arts and sufficient to judge a contest;
- (3) Each of the three judges must be seated midway between the ring posts and the ring, but not on the same side as another judge, and must have an unimpaired view of the ring;
- (4) Judges shall indicate the winner of each round on the scorecard provided by the Commission by marking and signing the scorecard in ink. Judges must be discreet at all times. The judge should have no discussion with anyone except the Commission, or its designee, during the contest;
- (5) A judge is prohibited from using alcoholic beverages twelve hours prior to the fight and until the judge's assigned duties are completed; and
- (6) If a judge becomes incapacitated and is unable to complete the entire contest, a timeout shall be called by the Commission, or its designee, and the Commission, or its designee, shall immediately assign an alternate judge to assume the duties from the point at which the judge became incapacitated.

The Commission is under no obligation to designate a registered judge to act as an official for a bout or contest.

A decision that is rendered by the judges at the termination of a contest may not be changed without a hearing before the commission, unless it is determined that the computation of the scorecards show a clerical or mathematical error giving the decision to the wrong contestant, in



which case such clerical or mathematical error may be corrected by the judge by informing the Commission of the error.

A judge licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements.

The Commission may suspend any judge for any period of time for any violation of this rule.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 42 SDR 101, effective January 7, 2016; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** SDCL 42-12-10(1).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 42-12-10(1).

DISCUSSION ONLY

**20:81:03:09. Terms and conditions of registration -- Seconds.** All seconds are subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (1) All persons acting as a second for a contestant must be registered with the Commission;
- (2) A contestant may not have more than three seconds, unless the bout is a title bout, one of whom must be designated as the chief second. During a title bout, there may be up to four seconds;
- (3) The chief second is responsible for the conduct of assistant seconds during the contest;
- (4) A second is restricted to the corner and must not be touching the apron. A second may not enter the ring until the timekeeper has indicated the end of the round and shall leave the ring at the timekeeper's gong, at which time the platform should be cleared of all obstructions;
- (5) During the rest period, one second must be allowed in the ring and the other seconds must be allowed on the apron. A cut man is considered a second when in the ring for a contestant;
- (6) A chief second may indicate to the referee that the contestant cannot continue and the contest should be stopped. Verbal notification, hand signals, throwing the towel, or mounting of the ring by the chief second may be used to signal the contest should be stopped;
- (7) A second may not administer alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or stimulants to a contestant, pour or spray excessive water on the body of the contestant, or place ice in the trunks or cup of a contestant during the contests;
- (8) No second for a mixed martial arts competition may enter the ring with shoes; and
- (9) A second shall stay off the ring floor or canvas while the bout is in progress, may not lean on the ring or cage, and may not engage in excessive banging or verbal outbursts.

A second licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements.

The Commission may suspend any second for any period of time for any violation of this rule.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** 42-12-10.

DISCUSSION ONLY

**20:81:03:10. Terms and conditions of registration -- Timekeepers.** All timekeepers are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All persons acting as a timekeeper for a bout or contest must be registered with the Commission;

(2) The timekeeper must possess adequate timepieces, including a backup, to time the rounds, rest periods, and recuperation periods of a bout;

(3) The timekeeper shall indicate the beginning of each round with a signal. Ten seconds before the end of the round, the timekeeper shall warn the contestants with three loud strikes;

(4) Ten seconds before the end of the rest period, the timekeeper shall warn the contestants with three loud strikes;

(5) The timekeeper will only stop the time during a round when directed to do so by the referee, and the timekeeper will only resume time when directed to do so by the referee;

(6) If a contestant is down, the timekeeper will begin the count and relay it to the referee using hand gestures until the referee picks up the count. The referee has the sole discretion to waive off the knockdown;

(7) If the referee calls time to allow a fouled contestant to recuperate, the timekeeper shall start a separate count for the recuperation period; and

(8) If a bout terminates before the scheduled limit of rounds, the timekeeper shall inform the Commission, or its designee, of the exact duration of the bout.

A timekeeper licensed by the Commission has an ongoing obligation to meet the requirements of registration and is subject to disciplinary action for failing to maintain any of these requirements. The Commission may suspend any timekeeper for any period of time for any violation of this rule.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** 42-12-10.

DISCUSSION ONLY

**20:81:03:11. Terms and conditions of registration -- Physicians.** All physicians are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) All physicians acting as a physician for a bout or contest must be registered with the Commission;

(2) An applicant for registration shall be licensed as a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and in good standing with the issuing licensing board;

(3) The physician shall examine each contestant at the official weigh-in. If the contestant is determined to be in acceptable physical condition, the physician shall certify this on a form prescribed by the Commission. The examination shall include the following:

- (a) Eyes;
- (b) Ears;
- (c) Mouth and jaw;
- (d) Skin;
- (e) Nose;
- (f) Heart;
- (g) Lungs;
- (h) Head;
- (i) Hands;
- (j) Abdomen;
- (k) Blood pressure; and
- (l) A pregnancy test if the contestant is female;

(4) If more than one physician is assigned to work the contest, the Commission shall appoint one as the head physician;

(5) The physician must be seated near the steps of the ring, or one in each corner if two are present. The physician shall remain there for the duration of the contest, unless a physician is needed in the ring;

(6) The physician may enter the ring at any time during the contest, at the request of the referee, and may recommend termination of any bout to the referee, if, in the physician's opinion, any contestant has received severe punishment or is in danger of serious physical injury;

(7) In the event of any serious physical injury, the physician shall immediately render any emergency treatment necessary, recommend further treatment or hospitalization, if required, and fully report the entire matter to the Commission within twenty-four hours, and if necessary subsequently follow up. The physician may also require the injured contestant and contestant's manager or second remain in the ring, or on the premises, or report to a hospital after the bout for such period of time as the physician deems advisable; and

(8) The physician shall examine each contestant after the bout. If the contestant is determined to be in acceptable physical condition, the physician shall certify this on a form prescribed by the Commission.

**Source:** 41 SDR 7, effective July 28, 2014; 44 SDR 102, effective December 18, 2017.

**General Authority:** 42-12-10.

**Law Implemented:** 42-12-10.