

WEST VIRGINIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
BOX 5
ODD, WEST VIRGINIA

June 26, 1970

*obsolete
void July 29, 1970
to Jan 27, 1982*

Hon. John D. Rockefeller, IV.
Secretary of the State
State Capitol Building
Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

Enclosed you will find two copies of the Rules and Regulations approved and accepted by the West Virginia State Athletic Commission.

Please file the same with your office, under the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, State of West Virginia.

Additional copies of these Rules and Regulations will be forwarded to various promoters, sponsors, and participants by this Commission in the next few days.

Sincerely yours

WEST VIRGINIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

Doug Epling
Doug Epling, Secretary

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enc.

WEST VIRGINIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED IN THE OFFICE
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, IV
SECRETARY OF STATE
THIS DATE 6/29/70

WEST VIRGINIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
RULES AND REGULATIONS

(REVISED JUNE 1, 1970)

1. Definitions

In the interpretation of the regulations, unless the content indicates a different meaning--

The word "commission" means the West Virginia Athletic Commission of the State of West Virginia.

The word "promoter" means any individual, club, corporation or association incorporated if necessary under the laws of the State of West Virginia engaged in the promotion of regularly scheduled or individual boxing and wrestling shows or contests.

"Deputy" means an individual appointed by the commission to represent the commission in its absence.

"Professional" and "Amateurs" - A professional boxer is one who competes for money. An amateur boxer is one who competes for other than a money prize.

Amateur contests and exhibitions within the meaning of these rules are defined to mean and include only contests or exhibitions in which the participants are bona-fide amateurs and receive no named compensation or reward for their participation in any contest or exhibition, except that watches, medals, articles of jewelry, silverware, trophies or ornaments suitably inscribed to show that it is given for participation in an amateur boxing contest or exhibition, may be given, but the value of such article given to any contestant must not exceed the sum of \$25.00. No other prize or reward shall be given or rewarded or accepted by any amateur boxer unless authorized in writing by the commission.

All business of the commission will be transacted by and through the Secretary of the Commission. This shall include all applications, suspensions, releases, reports, etc.

2. Press Relations

The commission may, in its discretion, after each meeting, issue a bulletin to the press of news items of interest to the public, and may, in its discretion, invite members of the press to attend meetings or hearings of the commission.

3. Licenses

The commission at its discretion may issue a license to promote, conduct or hold professional wrestling or boxing or sparring matches and exhibitions to any individual, club, corporation or association eligible for a license under this Chapter.

Each application for license of professional boxer, wrestler, manager, second, matchmaker and promoter shall be accompanied by two passport size photographs of the applicant. The application for such license shall be signed by the applicant and such signature verified by an official of the commission. In making application for such license the applicant shall set forth such facts as the rules and regulations of the commission may require.

The commission shall cause the fingerprints of each applicant for the license of professional boxer, wrestler, manager, second, matchmaker and promoter to be recorded on a fingerprint card furnished by the commission. Such fingerprints shall be used for identification purposes of the commission and shall be kept on file in the offices of the commission. The information obtained by any such fingerprint record, and examination thereof, shall be for the guidance of the commission in the exercise of its discretion in granting, rejecting or suspending such license.

An applicant's or promoter's license is required in order to stage any professional contest or exhibition.

Before being granted a license, or renewal of such license the applicant must establish to the satisfaction of the commission that he:

- a. Is skilled in the profession of boxing and wrestling generally.
- b. Is of good moral character.
- c. Is physically fit and mentally sound.
- d. Has not been convicted of a felony or any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

- e. Will conduct his business in the best interest and welfare of the public, preserving the safety and health of participants and the best interest of professional boxing and wrestling generally.
- f. Will adhere to and comply with all the rules and regulations of the commission pertaining to such license.
- g. In the case of a corporate applicant, these factors shall pertain to its officers, directors, principal stock holders and employees.
- h. Every license and licensee shall be subject to the provisions of the Code of West Virginia and amendments thereof, and to the other provisions of this Chapter.

The Commission shall have the additional authority and power to suspend, revoke or place on probation the license of any licensee licensed under this Chapter, who in the discretion of the commission:

- a. Is guilty of failure to obey any lawful order of the commission or any inspector thereof.
- b. Is guilty of gross immorality.
- c. Is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence.
- d. Is insolent or disrespectful to any member of the commission or representative thereof.
- e. Is guilty of violating any provision of this Act or Rules and Regulations of the commission.
- f. Has committed fraud or deceit in securing a license for himself or another.
- g. Has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude in any jurisdiction within ten years preceding the suspension or revocation and such conviction not previously reported to the commission by said licensee.
- h. Is an habitual drunkard or addicted to the use of narcotics.
- i. Is or has become mentally incompetent.

- j. Is or has been guilty of unprofessional or unethical conduct, or such conduct as to require a suspension or revocation of license in the best interest of the public.
- k. Has failed to furnish the proper party a copy of any contract or agreement required by this Act or rules and regulations promulgated hereunder, or as breached such contract.
- l. Has loaned or permitted another person to use his license, or has borrowed or used the license of another.
- m. Has failed to maintain in force the bond required by this Chapter.
- n. Has by act or omission conducted himself in a manner which would tend to be detrimental to the best interests of boxing and wrestling generally, or to the public interest and general welfare.
- o. Has been disciplined in any manner by the Athletic Commission or similar agency or body of any jurisdiction.
- p. Has failed to pay a fine or forfeiture imposed by this Chapter.
- q. Has, either within or without this State, by any act, threat, statement or otherwise, restrained, hindered, interfered with, or prevented another applicant or promoter, club, corporation, association or booking agent, or has attempted, either within or without this State, in any manner to restrain, hinder, interfere with or prevent another promoter, club, corporation, association or booking agent from presenting any professional boxing or wrestling match or exhibition within the State of West Virginia.

- r. Has either within or without this State, engaged directly or indirectly, in restraints or monopolies, or taken any action tending to create or establish restraints or monopolies, or conspired with others to restrain any person or persons from participating or competing in any professional boxing or wrestling match or exhibition for any promoter, club, corporation, association or booking agent.

The commission, at its discretion or at the advice of a qualified physician, may suspend or cause to suspend any participant whenever the commission or physician feels that the health, safety or welfare of the participant is in jeopardy.

Each contestant, professional or amateur, shall be licensed by the commission. The fee for the license of professional contestants, either boxing or wrestling, shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) per annum.

LICENSE FEES

Promoters (3 months)	\$125.00
Promoters (1 year)	\$500.00
Professional boxers	\$ 10.00
Professional wrestlers.....	\$ 10.00
Seconds	\$ 3.00
Managers	\$ 6.00
Referees.....	\$ 10.00
Amateur contestants	\$ 1.00

4. Bond Required

Before any license is issued to any promoter regularly conducting boxing or wrestling contests having filed application in accordance with the provisions of the Boxing and Wrestling Act, such applicant shall execute a bond in such penalty as the commission may determine, with surety approved by the commission, conditioned for the payment of the taxes and penalties herein imposed and for the fulfillment of contracts made with boxers and wrestlers in accordance with the regulation of the commission, which bond shall be filed with the commission.

5. Individual Sanction and Permits
for Professionals and Amateurs

Before any professional boxing or wrestling performance shall be staged in the State of West Virginia, the promoter shall first be required to obtain an Individual Sanction and Permit the commission at least five days before the date of any such contests or exhibition. This rule applies to any showing or exhibiting of any simultaneous telecast of any live, current or spontaneous boxing, sparring or wrestling match, exhibition or performance on a closed circuit telecast or subscription television viewed within this state or any other state and for which an admission charge is made.

Permits will be issued by the commission five (5) days in advance of all contests. This permit must be exhibited in a conspicuous place at the box office.

Any boxer, wrestler, referee or second who participates in an unlicensed or unsanctioned boxing or wrestling exhibition, contest or bout, without the consent of the commission shall be suspended and/or fined.

All contracts made by the promoter with contestants who are to appear on the card must be filed at the same time.

Under no conditions are the promoters permitted to give publicity to a card unless the card has been approved by the commission.

The minimum number of rounds on a card shall not be less than thirty rounds unless a special written permission is obtained from the commission at the time of granting the sanction to have a fewer number of rounds.

Each such sanction shall state on the face thereof that the applicant thereof agrees to accord the commission the right to examine the books, accounts, and other records of the applicant relating to the boxing matters and exhibitions for which such sanction is issued.

Each applicant for such sanction shall name all contestants, the number of rounds, and the date and place of contest.

All changes and substitutions must be sanctioned in writing by the Secretary of the Commission. Notice of any change in the announced or advertised programs for any contest must be filed with the commission and with the press at least four hours previous to the contest. Notices announcing such change or substitution must be conspicuously posted at the box office, and also announced from the ring before the opening contest. Where a boxer is under contract to appear at a club, appears at weighing time and is ready to fulfill his contract and his opponent does not appear, nor

is a substitute provided, the club must pay the boxer his contract price unless a forfeit is provided. All clubs are directed whenever a substitution is made in a contest as advertised, to have the official announcer to advise the audience of such substitution prior to the opening bout, and if any of the patrons desire to have the price of the ticket refunded, the same will be done if the tickets are presented at the box office at once and the box office remain open twenty minutes to redeem such tickets.

Substitutions will not be permitted in the main bout unless made forty-eight hours before weighing time of the day of the contest and then only when the substitution has been approved by the commission. Public notice must then be made in the local press of such substitution.

5. Insurance for Boxers

All promoters, clubs, associations and corporations engaged in the presentation of boxing events, amateur or professional, will provide insurance for the protection of boxers appearing and participating in such events.

Insurance coverage shall provide for reimbursement to the athlete for medical, surgical and hospital care with a maximum limit of \$500.00 for injuries sustained while participating in any sanctioned boxing event under the control of such promoter, club, corporation or association and for payment of \$2,500.00 to the estate of any deceased athlete where such death is occasioned by injuries received during the course of an event in which such licensed athlete participated under the promotion of any licensed promoter, club, corporation or association.

The commission may enter into the policy with the insurance company and collect the premium as set fourth and sanctioned by the commission.

Failure to pay premiums on such insurance as is required by these rules and regulations, or by law, shall be cause for suspension or revocation of the license of such promoter, club, association or corporation.

6. Commission's Tax on Receipts

Every promoter, club, association or corporation which may hold or exercise any of the privileges conferred by this Chapter shall, within twenty-four hours after the termination of every contest, showing or exhibition, furnish

to the commission a written report, duly verified by one of its officers, showing the number of tickets sold for such contest, showing or exhibition, and amount of gross proceeds thereof, and such other matters as the commission may prescribe; and shall also within such time, pay to the commission a tax of five per centum of its total gross receipts from the sale of tickets of admission to such boxing or sparring match or wrestling exhibition.

Every promoter, club, association or corporation holding, showing or exhibiting a simultaneous telecast of any live, current or spontaneous boxing, sparring or wrestling match or exhibition or performance on a closed circuit telecast or subscription television viewed within this State, or any other state, shall within twenty-four hours after the termination of such showing, furnish the commission a written report, duly verified by one of its officers, showing the number of tickets sold for such showing and the amount of the gross proceeds thereof, and such other matters as the commission may prescribe; and shall also within twenty-four hours after the termination of such showing, pay to the commission a tax of five per centum of its total gross receipts from the sale of tickets of admission to, or moneys received from subscription for, the showing or exhibiting of said boxing, sparring or wrestling match, exhibition or performance.

7. Inspectors or Deputies

The commission shall appoint such number of inspectors as in the discretion of the commission, may be necessary. At least one inspector shall be at all contests. The compensation of the inspector shall be fixed by the commission.

No person who is, directly or indirectly, interested in the management of any contestant, or who is an individual promoter, or stockholder in or employee of a corporation, or interested in an unincorporated club, or association, engaged in the promotion of contests, shall be appointed as an inspector.

At each boxing and wrestling performance where an admission fee is charged an official or inspector of the commission shall attend and upon its conclusion, shall sign a detailed report showing the results of bouts, attendance, number of tickets sold at various prices, and total gate receipts. For each performance the commission, shall collect five per centum (5%) of the gross receipts for tickets sold. The supervision of the gate at each performance shall be accomplished jointly by a representative of the promoter and of the commission. The counting of the gate receipts shall be similarly supervised. The box in which admission

tickets are deposited shall be doubly padlocked, one to be opened by the commission's inspector and one by the promoter's representative.

The deputy in charge of a show shall have complete charge of the licenses and box office statement and will be his duty to see that the rules and regulations of the commission are carried out. The Chief Inspector or Deputy in charge of a show shall be held accountable for the actions of every other deputy assigned to that particular show. The deputy in charge shall file, in addition to the official report, a detailed account of any violations of the rules and regulations and the law governing boxing or wrestling, particularly where a purse or gate has been ordered held.

Inspectors shall work in cooperation and in conjunction with such police officers as may be detailed for this duty of boxing and wrestling contests.

The inspector shall be responsible for all details of the contests which do not come under the jurisdiction of the other officials and shall file all necessary reports within 24 hours after the event with the Secretary of the Commission. The inspector may choose other inspectors to assist him with his duties with the approval of the commission.

He shall see that all necessary equipment is provided, that the contestants are ready, on time, that the seconds are properly instructed in their duties, that the doctors report and the statement of weights are delivered to the commission, and that all regulations pertaining to the proper conduct of the bouts are enforced.

Boxers shall not be permitted to put on their gloves until the bandages are examined by a representative of the commission.

Boxers will be suspended if they come in over the weight contracted for, unless authorized by the commission.

Ring equipment must be approved by the commission inspector. Clubs must have dressing rooms set aside for the use of contestants and no person, unless a representative of the commission, is to be permitted in the room.

8. Failure to Submit Report of Contests

Whenever any promoter, corporation, club or association shall fail to make a report of any contest within twenty-four (24) hours, or whenever such report is unsatisfactory to the commission, it shall be liable to the penalties as set fourth and prescribed by this act.

The promoter must file within 24 hours after any bout or bouts, a list of all the matches of the bouts and the list shall include: the weight and address of each participant, and the decisions rendered (whether unanimous, split, knockout or technical knockout).

9. Minimum Age Limit

No professional boxer shall be licensed who is under (18) years of age. No manager shall be licensed who is under twenty-one (21) years of age. No second shall be licensed who is under eightean (18) years of age.

10. Assumed Names

In applying for a license a contestant shall give both his correct name and his ring name, and his address together with names appearing on license held under other boxing commissions.

11. Designation of Officials

For all contests, whether professional or amateur, the referee or referees, judges, examining physicians and timekeeper shall be designated by the commission, and only the officials so designated shall have authority to perform their respective functions.

12. Failure to Appear

Any contestant absenting himself from a show for which he has signed or has been signed by his duly licensed manager to appear, without a valid excuse or furnishing a doctor's certificate in case of physical disability, shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days.

Whenever a licensed contestant, because of injuries or illness, is unable to take part in a contest for which he is under contract, he (or his manager) must immediatly report that fact to the commission, and submit to an examination by a physician designated by the commission.

Such contestant shall submit to the commission, in person or in writing his reasons for non-appearance and, if such reasons are not satisfactory to the commission, he shall lose his appearance forfeit, his license shall be cancelled and notification of the commission's action shall be forwarded to other boxing commissions. His manager shall be held accountable in the same manner as the contestant, with the same penalty, unless he satisfies the commission that he had no part in the contestant's non-appearance.

13. Weighing

Contestant shall be weighed on the commission's scales in the presence of each other and an official of the commission at such time and place prior to the bout as may be designated by the commission. At the weighing-in of all contestants duly accredited newspaper representatives shall, upon request, be admitted. Boxers performing at outdoor shows are required to weigh in on day they contract for their services. In the event of a twenty-four hour postponement due to weather conditions, weights, and physical examination of original date of contract are to hold. In the event of a postponement requiring the show to be held later than twenty-four hours after original date, new weights and physical examinations will be required.

Weighing-in ceremonies must be completed at or before 2:30 p.m., on the day of contest. Commission inspectors in charge have been instructed to the effect that boxers appearing late are not to be weighed-in and in addition to being denied the opportunity to box, will be indefinitely suspended.

Further, inspectors are authorized to approve the use of substitutes for which is suggested, in order to avoid any breaks in a card, that boxers contracted to appear on shows present themselves for the weighing-in ceremonies at such time and place as may be designated by the commission.

All clubs are to commence boxing and wrestling programs not later than 8:30 p.m.

Boxers scheduled to appear at a club are to assemble in the dressing rooms not later than 7:30 p.m. and remain until ordered into the ring by the commission inspector.

Promoters or matchmakers must personally attend weighing-in ceremonies and are not permitted to delegate their duties to an assistant. Inspectors will not weigh-in

boxers until the arrival of the promoters or matchmakers staging the contest. All equipment of contestants shall be approved by the inspector at weighing-in time.

14. Weights and Classes

Championships will be recognized in the following classes:

Flyweights	112 pounds
Bantamweights	118 pounds
Featherweights.....	126 pounds
Junior Lightweights.....	130 pounds
Lightweights	135 pounds
Junior Welterweights.....	140 pounds
Welterweights.....	147 pounds
Middleweights.....	160 pounds
Light Heavyweights.....	175 pounds
Heavyweights.....	Over 175 pounds

The following limitations of weights is placed on all boxing bouts. No exception shall be made to this rule except by written permission of the commission:

Between Flyweights (112 lbs.).....	3 pounds
Between Bantamweights (118 lbs.).....	4 pounds
Between Featherweights (126 lbs.).....	5 pounds
Between Junior Lightweights (130 lbs.).....	6 pounds
Between Lightweights (135 lbs.).....	7 pounds
Between Junior Welterweight (140 lbs.).....	8 pounds
Between Welterweights (147 lbs.).....	9 pounds
Between Middleweights (160 lbs.).....	10 pounds
Between Light Heaveyweights (175 lbs.).....	11 pounds
Between Heavyweights (all over 175 lbs.)..	No limitation

15. Contracts

The commission shall be furnished with certified copies of all contracts between promoting corporations and contestants or managers of contestants.

A copy of all contracts and agreements between a promoter, club, association or corporation, licensed under this Act, and any person or persons not named in said license, who by virtue of said contract or agreement might gain financial benefit from the promotion and presentation of boxing and wrestling events in West Virginia by said promoter, club, association or corporation, must be placed on file with the Commission for approval.

An original copy of every contract between a manager and a boxer licensed in West Virginia must be filed in the

archives of the State Athletic Commission and this contract must be filed when application for license is made.

Any boxer or wrestler claiming illness or injury as a reason for cancelling or inability to appear in a bout shall be required to report to the Commission's physician, when it is convenient, or file a physician's certificate with the commission before such bout is scheduled again to take place.

16. Fake Contests

Any promoting corporation, referee, second, or contestant, who, in the judgement of the commission, is guilty of intentional conniving at or participation in any pre-arranged or "fake" contest shall be liable to suspension and other penalties provided in this Act.

17. No Pay Before Contest

No contestant shall be paid for his services before a contest.

18. Wagering

Wagering on contest is prohibited in any area under the jurisdiction of the commission.

19. Length of Rounds

Rounds for professional boxing contest shall be of three minutes duration with a rest period of one minute between rounds. The Commission in its discretion may limit the duration of rounds to two minutes duration with a rest period of one minute between rounds.

20. Interval Between Bouts

When a contestant competes in a bout of more than four rounds he will be allowed to compete again until six days have elapsed. When a contestant competes in a bout of four rounds or less he will not compete again until four days have elapsed. The sole exception to this rule shall be in the case of amateur tournaments or competition, where the customary regulations of the amateurs shall govern.

21. Reporting

Contestants shall report to the inspector in the dressing room at least one hour before they are due in the ring.

22. Dressing Room

A commission inspector shall be in charge of and supervise the conduct of the dressing room, see that contestants and seconds are dressed in accordance with the rules, that tape, gloves and accoutrements are as required, and that there is no delay between bouts. He shall see to it that one set of boxers is ready to enter the ring while the preceding bout is in progress.

No one shall be allowed in the contestant's dressing rooms except managers, seconds, and commission or promoter representatives.

23. Managers

Managers or professional contestants shall pay a license fee of six dollars (\$6.00) per annum. No manager shall attempt to select or insist upon the selection of any designated referee in a bout in which a boxer under his management is to appear, nor shall he have the name of any referee written into the official contract covering such bout. Managers shall not pay or contribute to the pay of any referee under any circumstances. Managers who act as seconds for their own boxers exclusively shall not be required to obtain a second's license, provided he holds a manager's license.

No assignment of a boxer's or manager's interest in a contract, or of any part thereof, shall be made without the written approval and consent of the commission.

All copies of contracts entered into between managers and boxers must be placed on file with the commission for approval. A contract, however, becomes null and void if any time during his term the manager is not duly licensed by the commission. A boxer is permitted to have one manager and no manager is allowed to receive more than 33 1/3 per cent of the ring earnings of a boxer. Managers shall not have more than two boxers under their management in any one show without special permission from the commission.

24. Boxers with no Managers

Any boxer not under contract to a manager may make his own matches and sign contracts, and need not apply for a manager's license to handle his own affairs. No boxer may have more than one manager.

25. Seconds

Seconds shall pay a license fee of three dollars

(\$3.00) per annum. Seconds and managers acting as seconds, must be neatly attired when in the ring and wear jerseys or shirts of plain colors and with sleeves.

Seconds shall not coach or in any way assist a principal during a round, or by word or action attempt to heckle or annoy his principal's opponent. They shall remain seated in place, and silent.

Seconds shall not enter a ring until the bell indicates the end of the round, and are prohibited from spraying or forcefully throwing water on a contestant. they shall leave the ring at the sound of the timer's whistle ten seconds before a round is to begin, removing all obstructions, buckets, stools, etc., promptly at the sounding of the gong.

Seconds are prohibited from throwing a towel in the ring as a token of defeat. the referee is the sole judge as to the ability of a boxer to continue. At the time that the inspector examines the contestant's bandages in the dressing room the contestant shall inform the inspector as to the name of his principal second. Violation of the above provisions shall be followed by the ejections of offenders from the ring corner and may result in the disqualification of the principal by the referee.

No second will be permitted to use grease or any other substance on the body of a contestant. The use of Vaseline in corners is not allowed excepting in the use of stopping blood and on cuts. The use during a boxing match of Monsel's Solution, or any similar drug or compound for the stopping of hemorrhage in the ring is prohibited. The use of drugs, alcoholics or stimulants during a match by any contestant is adequate cause for revoking his license.

26. Timekeepers

Timekeepers shall be appointed by the commission and shall be bona fide residents of the State of West Virginia of recognized good standing and character.

The timekeeper shall be seated at the ringside close to the gong. He shall indicate the beginning and ending of each round by striking the gong with a hammer.

He shall provide himself with a whistle and an accurate stop watch that shall have been properly examined and certified by an inspector of the commission before it is used.

Ten seconds before the beginning of each round the timekeeper shall give warning to the seconds of the contestants

by blowing the whistle.

The gong shall not be less than ten inches in diameter, adjusted securely on a level with the ring platform, the timekeeper to use a metal hammer in indicting the beginning and end of a round so that the contestants can hear the sound of the bell.

27. The Announcer

After contestants and their chief seconds are in the ring the announcer shall announce the names of the contestants, their correct weights, and such other matters as may be approved by the commission. Promoters shall make provisions for the announcement of rounds. The announcer shall announce the decisions. He may announce whether or not the decision is unanimous.

The announcer must get the judges' verdict on paper and he must not reveal a judge's decision to another prior announcement. The announcer shall immediately after each bout turn these tally slips over to a representative of the commission at the ringside and this official shall check the slips and inform the announcer of the decision. The announcer shall then announce it to the crowd.

The announcer in both boxing and wrestling contests shall be neatly dressed and his conduct is subject to the supervision of the commission.

The announcer shall be approved by the commission and must be bona fide resident of the State of West Virginia, except when specifically approved for any one performance by the commission.

29. Physician

Every contestant shall, at weighing-in time or at such other time on the day of the contest that may be designated by the commission be subjected to a physical examination by a duly licensed physician appointed by the commission.

Inspectors are charged with the duty of seeing that this provision, is, in every case, complied with.

No contestant shall take part in a contest until pronounced fit to do so by the physician appointed by the commission, and the facts of physical examinations and of the physical fitness of contestants shall be certified over the signature of the said physician as a part of the inspector's report submitted after each set of bouts.

The examining physician shall attend at the ring-side until the conclusion of the final bout.

30. Judges

Three judges, except in wrestling exhibitions, appointed by the commission shall render a decision at the termination of each boxing contest. In wrestling exhibitions there shall be no judges. There shall be no license fee for judges, who shall be bona fide residents of the State of West Virginia of recognized good standing and character.

Licensed referees, members of the commission, or designated officials of the commission, may, in an emergency, act as judges.

The three judges shall be stationed at opposite sides of the ring.

The decision of the judges shall be based primarily on effectiveness, taking into account the following points:

1. A clean, forceful hit, landed on any vulnerable part of the body above the belt should be credited in proportion to its damaging effect.
2. Aggressiveness is next in importance and points should be awarded to the contestant who sustains the action of a round by the greatest number of skilled attacks.
3. Defensive work is relatively important and points should be given for cleverly avoiding or blocking a blow.
4. Points should be awarded where ring generalship is conspicuous. This comprises such points as the ability to quickly grasp the advantage of every opportunity offered; the capacity to cope with all kinds of situations which may arise; to foresee and neutralize an opponent's methods of attack; to force an opponent to adopt a style of boxing at which he is not particularly skillful.
5. It is advisable to deduct points when a contestant persistently delays the action of a contest by clinching and lack of aggressiveness.
6. A contestant should be given credit for sportsmanlike actions in the ring, close adherence to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules and for refraining from taking technical advantage of situation unfair to an opponent.

A boxer will be charged with the loss of a round in which the referee gives him a second warning for a minor foul. Any such penalty, however, shall not be imposed by the judges on their cards until they are advised by the referee.

In scoring a contest the elements of offence, defence, clean hitting, ring generalship and sportsmanship shall be carefully considered. Minor fouls shall count against an opponent. Foul blows, no matter how damaging, count against the contestant responsible for their delivery.

Scoring shall be by the "5 point" system in Professional Bouts. And the "20 point" system in Amateur Bouts (unless approved or changed by the commission). The winner of any round is marked "5". The loser of any round is marked "0" to "4". There will be no even rounds.

A clean knockdown, being the closest approach to a knockout, wins the round in which the knockdown occurs. When a contestant is knocked down he shall be required to take a count of eight (8) seconds, whether or not he rises before the count of eight (8) has been reached. The count is for the benefit of the fallen contestant. The knockdown is scored against him regardless of the length of the count. Taking the "8" count is regarded as a display of ring generalship.

31. Fouls

1. Hitting below the belt.
2. Hitting an opponent who is down or rising after being down.
3. Holding an opponent with one hand and hitting with the other.
4. Holding or deliberately maintaining a clinch.
5. Wrestling or roughing at the ropes.
6. Pushing an opponent about the ring or into the ropes, or striking an opponent who is helpless as a result of blows and so supported by the ropes that he does not fall.
7. Butting with the head or shoulder or using the knees or elbow.
8. Hitting with the open glove, or with the butt or inside of the hand, the elbow, the wrist, and all backhand blows.
9. Purposely going down without being hit.

10. Striking deliberately at that part of the body over the kidneys.

11. The use of the pivot blow or the rabbit punch.

12. Jabbing opponent's eyes with the thumb of the glove.

13. The use of abusive language in the ring.

14. Any unsportsmanlike trick or action causing injury to an opponent.

32. Referee's Licenses

Referees shall be appointed by the commission and shall be licensed after first satisfying the commission of their professional and physical qualifications. The annual fee for such license shall be ten dollars (\$10.00).

No person who is, directly or indirectly, interested in the management of any contestant, or who is an individual promoter, or stockholder in or employee of a corporation, or interested in an unincorporated club or association engaged in the promotion of contests, shall be granted a referee's license.

33. Powers Of The Referee

After a contest starts the referee has power to declare a bout "no contest", and order the purse held, pending the decision of the commission to whom the referee shall immediately make a report. The referee may stop a contest if, in his opinion, one of the contestants is badly outclassed or injured; or the referee may temporarily stop a contest and consult the examining physician on the advisability of stopping the contest in case a contestant appears injured. The referee is empowered to enforce discipline and the regulations pertaining to the conduct and behavior of contestants and second.

34. Duties of Referee

The chief official of the contest shall be the referee, who shall have general supervision over bouts and take his place in the ring. He shall be paid \$15.00 per night, compensated by the promoter.

The referee shall, before starting a contest, ascertain from each contestant the name of his chief second, and shall hold said chief second responsible for the conduct

of his assistant seconds during the progress of the contest.

The referee shall call contestants together in ring before each bout for the final instructions, at which time each contestant shall be accompanied by his chief second only. The principals after receiving instructions shall shake hands and retire to their corners. They shall not again shake hands until the beginning of the last round.

No persons other than the contestants and the referee may enter the ring during the progress of a round. The referee shall not touch the contestants except on failure of either or both to obey the command to "break".

35. Referee's Inspection

The referee shall inspect the bandages and the gloves and make sure that no grease or other foreign substances have been applied to either the gloves or the bodies of the contestants to the detriment of an opponent.

36. Referee's Uniform

Referees shall wear gray trousers, gray or white shirt with long sleeves and collar, and black bow tie. The referee shall wear regulation boxing shoes.

37. "Down" Without Being Struck

A contestant who goes down without being struck, and stays down, shall be disqualified.

Should a contestant leave the ring during the one minute period between rounds and fail to be in the ring when the gong rings the signal to resume boxing, or should a contestant fail to rise from his chair at the beginning of a round, the referee shall start counting immediately, and unless the contestant is on his feet in the ring at the end of ten seconds shall declare him counted out.

Should a contestant who is "down" arise before the count of "ten" is reached, and go down again immediately without being struck, the referee shall resume the count where it left off.

38. Withholding Purse

As counting a contestant out, or disqualifying one of the contestants for fouling, is held to be, in effect,

giving a decision, should the referee decide that one or both the contestants are not honestly competing, or that the knockdown is "a dive" or the foul prearranged termination of the bout, he shall stop the bout and order the purses or trophies of both boxers held pending investigation by the commission notwithstanding the referee may have completed the count of ten.

39. Counting

When a contestant is knocked down the referee shall order the opponent to retire to the corner farthest removed from the fallen contestant, pointing to the corner, and immediately begin the count over the contestant who is down. He shall audibly announce the passing of the seconds, accompanying the count with motions of his arm, the downward motion indicating the end of each second.

Should the opponent fail to stay in the farthest corner the referee shall cease counting until he has returned to it, and then go on with the count from the point at which it was interrupted.

A contestant who is knocked down must take the mandatory "EIGHT COUNT" and any contestant who is knocked down three times in any round shall be disqualified by the referee.

If when the count of "EIGHT" is reached the contestant who was down is on his feet, the referee, if he deems it advisable may examine the said contestant long enough to assure himself that without loss of time order the contest to continue. If so assured the referee shall without loss of time order the contest to continue.

If the contestant taking the count is still down when the referee calls the count of "TEN" the referee shall wave both arms to indicate that he has been knocked out, and shall raise the right hand of the opponent as the winner or hold that the bout be declared no contest. The referee's count is the official count.

If the round ends during the count, the timekeeper shall sound the gong once, thus indicating the termination of the round and that the contestant who is down has not been counted out.

When a boxer has been knocked out he shall not be touched or moved except at the direction of the ringside physician.

40. A Contestant is "Down"

When any part of his body but his feet is on the floor.

When he is hanging helplessly over the ropes and the referee has begun to count over him.

If a contestant is helpless on the ropes the referee shall instantly intervene, declare the helpless boxer "down" and proceed with the count as in case of a knockdown.

41. Suspension

Any contestant losing on a foul shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty days, in addition to such other penalties as the commission may impose.

If a bout is stopped because of accidental fouling the referee shall determine whether the boxer who has been fouled can continue or not, and if his chances have not been seriously jeopardized as a result of the foul may order the bout continued after a reasonable interval set by the referee, who shall so instruct the timekeeper.

42. Use of Drugs, Etc.

The use of drugs, alcoholics or stimulants, either before or during a match by any contestant is adequate cause for revoking his license; unless same has been ordered by a commission physician.

The use during a boxing match of Monsel's Solution; or any simular drug or compound, for the stopping of hemorrhage in the ring is prohibited.

43. Gloves

Gloves in the weight classes of welterweight and below must be no less than eight ounces in weight. Gloves in weight classes of middleweights and above must be no less than ten ounces in weight. The only exception to this rule is in Championship bouts where the commission may authorize eight ounce gloves for any weight class.

Gloves shall be examined by the inspector. If padding is found to be misplaced or lumpy, or if gloves are found to be imperfect, other gloves shall be substituted therefor before the contest starts.

No breaking, roughing or twisting of gloves shall be permitted.

Gloves for all main events shall be new and furnished by the promoting corporation.

If gloves used in any bouts have been used before, they must be whole, clean and in sanitary condition.

Gloves for the main event must be put on in the ring after the referee has first inspected the bandaged hands of both contestants.

44. Bandages

Bandages for boxers shall conform to the following restrictions:

One winding of surgeon's adhesive tape not over $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, placed directly on the hand to protect that part of the hand near the wrist. This may cross the back of the hand twice, but not extend within one inch of the knuckles.

Soft surgical bandages not over two inches in width, held in place by not more than two feet of surgeons adhesive tape, one inch wide, for each hand. One ten yard roll of bandage shall make the wrapping for each hand.

45. Contestant's Costumes

Contestants shall box in proper costume, including protection cup, which shall be firmly adjusted before leaving the dressing room.

Each contestant shall supply himself with a pair of trunks, loose fitting and made of light cloth, similar to an athlete's "running pants". The contestants shall not wear the same colors in the ring. The wearing of tights is prohibited.

The belt of the trunks shall not extend above the waist line.

Shoes shall be soft material, and not be fitted with spikes, cleats, hard soles or hard heels. Socks, rolled down to the tops of the shoes, may be of any color.

No apparel other than as specified above may be worn in the ring, except a bath robe.

The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to wrestlers with the exception that trunks shall be tight fitting.

46. The Ring

To be not less than 16 nor more than 24 feet square within the ropes, the ring floor to extend beyond the ropes not less than 18 inches. The ring posts shall not be nearer to the ring ropes than 18 inches. The ring shall be padded with felt, corrugated paper, matting or other soft material to a thickness of not less than one inch, padding extending one foot beyond the ring ropes, with a top covering of canvas, duck or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the ring platform. Material that tends to gather in lumps or ridges shall not be used.

The ring shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building or ground of an outdoor arena, and shall be provided with suitable steps for the use of contestants. Ring posts shall not be more than three inches in diameter, extending from floor of building or ground to height of 58 inches above ring floor.

47. Ring Ropes

Shall be three in number, not less than one inch in diameter; the lower rope 18 inches above the ring floor, the second rope 35 inches above the floor; the third rope 52 inches above floor. Ropes shall be wrapped in soft material.

48. Obstructions

The entire ring platform shall be cleared of all obstructions, including buckets, stools, etc., the instant the gong indicates the beginning of a round, and none of these articles shall be placed on the ring floor until the gong has ended the round.

49. Water Buckets, Etc.

There shall be provided by the promoting corporation a sufficient number of water buckets for the use of all contestants. Promoters shall also provide fans, powered resin for canvas, stools for seconds, and such other articles as are required in the conduct of contest. A bucket used by a contestant shall not be used again until it has been washed and sterilized.

50. Sales Forbidden

No intoxicating liquors shall be given away, sold or offered for sale in any building or part thereof in which wrestling, boxing or sparring exhibitions are being conducted.

51. Tickets

All tickets must be submitted to the commission for approval and such must be obtained before the tickets may be used for any contest or exhibition. This shall also include price approval.

Promoters must furnish the commission with a ticket manifest, signed and sworn to, under oath, by the printer, showing the number of tickets printed for each show.

No person, except members of the local police department, or the local fire department, in uniform and on duty, and plain clothes men of Detective Bureau assigned to duty, shall be admitted to any exhibition unless he holds a ticket.

All tickets, printed for a show, must be retained by the promoter for a period of at least 6 months and must be kept in separate packages for each show. Tickets may be destroyed only after permission has been granted by the commission.

Inspectors shall check numbers and locations of ticket boxes at gates, see that they are sealed then padlocked, and after the exhibition have them opened and the tickets counted under their supervision.

All tickets issued to the press shall be marked "PRESS". No one, except the officials designated by the commission, shall be allowed to sit at the press table unless actually engaged in reporting the contests.

All complimentary tickets shall be marked "COMPLIMENTARY" in large letters. Complimentary tickets shall not exceed two per centum (2%) of the capacity of the house, and they shall be approved by the commission for each individual.

Under no circumstances shall a ticket holder be passed through the gate without having the ticket separated from the stub, or be allowed to occupy a seat unless in possession of the ticket stub.

The sale of tickets shall not exceed the seating capacity of the house, and no ticket shall be issued for standing room, nor shall any person be sold the right to admission without a ticket.

Contestant's, managers, and seconds shall be provided with contestants' passes by the promoter and approved by the commission for shows in which such contestant, managers, and seconds take part.

52. Definition of a Champion

"One formally acknowledged supreme in a branch of athletics or game skill and READY TO CONTEND WITH ANY QUALIFIED CHALLENGER".

53. Benefit Shows

Whenever any part of the proceeds of a match are to be devoted to charitable purposes, the application must specifically state this fact and the percentage which is to be applied in this way. Any misrepresentation as to the availability of tickets of any price in an attempt to force patrons to pay a higher price will be construed as an act detrimental to boxing or wrestling, and will result in immediate suspension of license and could result in violation of Chapter 29, Article 5A, Section 9 of the Code of West Virginia and be punished accordingly.

54. Theatrical Performance

No boxing or wrestling contest will be permitted in connection with any theatrical performance. Likewise, mixed bouts (between a wrestler and a boxer) shall not be permitted, nor mixed cards (boxing and wrestling on the same card). "Battle Royals" are also prohibited in boxing.

55. Professional and Amateur Bouts On The Same Card

When professional and amateurs are boxing on the same card, all amateur bouts must be held before the professional bouts and a fifteen (15) minutes intermission must be held between the two classifications. A card of this type must have special consent from the Commission.

56. Amateur Boxing

Unless otherwise specified or directed, all amateur boxing and wrestling shows shall be conducted under the rules as adopted by the American Olympic Association and the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States.

No permit to conduct amateur boxing will be granted to an individual. Permits will be granted only to established and recognized clubs and organizations.

Fee for registering a club or organization with the State is three dollars per year. All applications for sanctions must be filed with the commission not less than five

days prior to date of program and must be accompanied with the fee of five dollars for each such application.

All amateur clubs and organizations must furnish and compensate a physician to examine amateur contestants before engaging in contests, and remain at the ringside during the contest. The physician will be required to sign the inspector's report to the effect that such examinations have been made.

Only licensed referees may be used and will be detailed to officiate by the commission.

All amateur contestants are required to register with the commission and for which there is a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) per annum.

No contestant under the age of sixteen will be issued a license; and all contestants under the age of eighteen are required to obtain the signature of parent or legal guardian in applying for registration.

All amateur boxing bouts shall be of three rounds and each round shall be of two minutes duration with one minute rest period between rounds.

Referees have been instructed not to officiate any contest where the contestants have not been examined by a physician prior to engaging in contests.

Amateur's Seconds


Second of amateur contestants need not be licensed.

57.

At the beginning of each boxing and/or wrestling program there shall be an invocation followed by the National Anthem.


I, Douglas Epling, Secretary of the West Virginia State Athletic Commission, hereby certify that the foregoing Rules and Regulations (Revised June 1, 1970), have been approved and accepted by this Commission.

Dated at Odd, West Virginia, this 25 day of June, 1970.

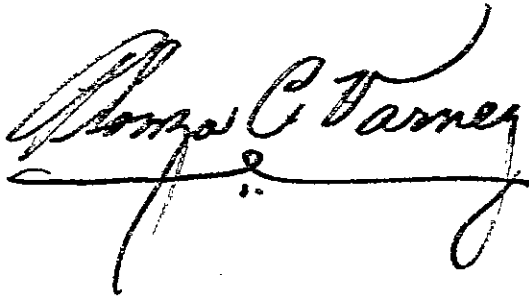


Douglas Eplings, Secretary

ATTEST:



Fred P. Becker, Chairman



Ronald C. Farney