



POLICY #9

Edmonton Combative Sports Policy: Suspensions and Rest Periods for Combative Sport Contestants

Description

After each match, contestants are required to observe a mandatory rest and recovery period, termed a "medical suspension," to allow for proper healing. This suspension is recorded on international databases, notifying all combative sports commissions worldwide that the contestant is currently under medical suspension following a post-match medical examination conducted by ECSC's ringside physicians. These physicians ensure contestant safety by preventing participation in training or subsequent bouts before sufficient recovery time has passed.

Rationale

The ECSC seeks to protect contestants' health by determining appropriate suspension durations based on their match performance and any injuries sustained. This ensures adequate recovery before returning to training or competition.

Procedure

1. General Medical Suspensions

- The ECSC's ringside physician shall impose mandatory "medical suspensions" or rest period on contestants after each bout.
- If the suspension duration is less than the minimum specified by ECSC policy, the Executive Director shall increase the suspension to meet policy requirements.

a) Medical Suspension Guidelines for Boxers

- **Minimum Suspension Durations:**
 - 30 days: For contests lasting 10 or more rounds.
 - 21 days: For contests lasting 6–9 rounds.
 - 14 days: For contests lasting 1–5 rounds.
- **Injury-Related Suspensions:**

- 90 days: After a knockout (KO) or technical knockout (TKO) from head blows.
- 180 days: After two KOs or TKOs from head blows within six months.
- 1 year: After three KOs or TKOs from head blows within one year.
- 30 days: For a TKO due to cuts.

b) Medical Suspension Guidelines for MMA and Muay Thai Contestants Minimum

○ **Suspension Durations:**

- 14 days: For contestants with no significant injuries, with adjustments based on post-fight evaluations.

○ **Injury-Related Suspensions:**

- 90 days: After a KO or TKO from head blows.
- 180 days: After two KOs or TKOs from head blows within six months.
- 1 year: After three KOs or TKOs from head blows within one year
- 30 days: For a TKO due to cuts.

c) Indefinite Suspensions

- The ECSC's ringside physician or Chief Medical Officer may impose an indefinite medical suspension in cases of significant injuries, such as head trauma.
- The suspension can only be lifted following a satisfactory medical evaluation by the Chief Medical Officer.

2. Recognition of Suspensions Imposed by Other Jurisdictions

To maintain contestant safety and uphold the integrity of combative sports, the ECSC recognizes suspensions issued by other jurisdictions.

a) Notification and Verification:

- ECSC reviews suspensions reported via the BOXREC and Combat Registry

b) Enforcement:

- Verified suspensions are upheld, and equivalent terms imposed under ECSC regulations.

c) Appeals:

- The ECSC will not hear appeals on suspensions from other sanctioning bodies and the contestant must instead appeal through the sanctioning body that issued the suspension.

3. Contestants competing while suspended

To prevent suspended contestants from competing and maintain compliance with ECSC policies.

a) Investigation:

- The ECSC investigates reports of suspended fighters participating in events.

b) Sanctions:

- The Executive Director will review the eligibility of contestants who have competed while suspended and may issue additional suspensions.

4. Post-Suspension Medical Clearance and Variable Suspensions

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To ensure contestants are medically cleared and provide flexibility for adjusting suspension durations based on individual assessments.

a) Medical Clearance:

- Contestants must provide clearance from an independent medical professional after significant injuries.
- Evaluations may include:
 - Neurological assessments (e.g., CT or MRI scans).
 - Cardiopulmonary or other specialized tests as required.

b) Variable Suspension Durations:

- ECSC physicians may extend suspensions based on medical findings, even if minimum periods are met.
- Contestants can request reviews by submitting updated medical reports.

c) Record Maintenance:

- All suspension records are logged and shared with the ABC database.

Penalties for Violating Suspensions

Contestants competing during medical suspensions may face a prohibition of up to one year from applying for ECSC licensure.

Latest Revision by the ECSC

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