



Regulation #1

Edmonton Combative Sports Regulation #1: Licensing – Contestants and Seconds

Description

The Edmonton Combative Sports Commission (the Commission) governs all combative sports contests licensed by the City of Edmonton and conducted in the City.

This Regulation ensures that all Contestants and Seconds participating in a Commission-sanctioned event are licensed in accordance with City of Edmonton Bylaw 15594.

Rationale

To oversee Contestant safety by ensuring that Contestants and Seconds who are licensed by the City can participate in combative sports events, and that the licences are issued in accordance with the City of Edmonton Bylaws and Commission Regulations and Policies.

This Regulation is to be used in conjunction with Bylaw 15594. Terms not defined here have the same meaning as in the Bylaw. Defined terms begin with an upper-case letter. Headings are for clarity.

In a dispute between the contents of Bylaw 15594 and this Regulation, the Bylaw supersedes this Regulation.

I. DEFINITIONS

1.1 In this Regulation:

- (a) “ABC” means Association of Boxing Commissions;
- (b) “Fighter” means a Contestant;
- (c) “Fighter Identification” is a common term in other jurisdictions which, here, means the Annual Contestant Licence provided to a Contestant upon meeting the criteria established by the Commission;
- (d) “Good Standing” means all criteria from the Sanctioning Body are met and the Contestant is not under suspension by the Sanctioning Body;

(e) “Medical Fitness” means criteria that a Contestant must meet which are established by the Commission and set out in Regulation 8: Medical;

(f) “PerEventContestantLicence” means a Licence issued to a Contestant for an Event sanctioned by the Commission and that is also referred to as a Licence;

(g) “Qualified Gym” means a gym that meets standards that are at the discretion of the Executive Director;

(h) “Qualified Trainer” means a trainer who meets standards that are at the discretion of the Executive Director;

(i) “Sanctioning Body” means a body that licenses Contestants and that is outside of the City of Edmonton and may include provincial, municipal, tribal, or state Commissions and bodies.

II. PROCEDURE

Residency Requirement

2.1 A Contestant who lives outside the City and who wishes to obtain a Licence to fight in the City must be In Good Standing with their own Sanctioning Body at the time of licensing.

Rules Governing Contests

2.2 The ABC rules and safety code govern all professional boxing, MMA, and muaythai contests, licensed by and conducted in the City.

2.3 The Commission may also, by resolution, substitute or add rules if a written request is made and the timeline to action the request is reasonable.

2.4 The Commission recognizes the following rules:

(a) The ABC Rules for boxing events;

(b) The Unified Rules of Mixed Martial Arts for MMA events; and

(c) The Muaythai World Council Rules and Regulations for Muay Thai events.

Application for a Per Event Contestant Licence

2.5 To apply for a Licence, a Contestant must meet the requirements of Bylaw 15594 Section (6) Contestant Licence. Application for a Per Event Contestant Licence

Extent of Licence and Fee

2.6 A Licence issued to a Contestant covers the Fighter and the number of Seconds described in Bylaw 15594 Section (6) Article (4).

2.7 Licences are valid only for the Event date specified in the Licence.

Contestants Making Their Professional Debut

2.8 All contestants wishing to make their professional debut in combative sport in Edmonton must be licensed to fight by approval from the Executive Director.

The promoter must also submit all of the following additional information to the Executive Director for approval:

1. The fighter's official birth name and any aliases, age, home town and amateur fight record (if one exists, including dates, locations, opponents and outcomes for the most recent five (5) amateur fights).
2. Video footage of at least 2 recent combative competitions.
3. Letters confirming the result of at least 2 combative competitions by the sanctioning body of those events.
4. The name and address of the gym where the contestant has been training.
5. A statement from the qualified trainer/coach stating that he/she considers the contestant to be in sufficiently good cardiovascular shape, with both offensive and defensive skills in their fight discipline, to fight professionally in that discipline.
6. A statement from the qualified trainer/coach stating his/her own coach/trainer qualifications.
7. The contact information (address, phone, fax, e-mail address) of the coach/trainer.
8. For contestants who do not have an amateur record in their discipline, the promoter must also include proof that the contestant has been training regularly for a minimum of six (6) months (minimum three (3) days a week) with a qualified trainer/coach in the discipline in which they wish to compete.
9. The coach/trainer must be recognized as a qualified coach/trainer by the Executive Director before the recommendation of the coach/trainer will be considered.
10. Promoters who provide inaccurate fight records for contestants/fighters on their fight cards may lose their licenses and they will be assessed a financial penalty against their performance bond.

All licensing decisions are at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Contestants Age 40 and Above

2.9 To ensure Contestant safety, Contestants age forty (40) and above require additional proof of medical fitness in accordance with Regulation 8: Medical.

Application for Licence After A Period of Inactivity

2.10 If a Contestant applies for a Licence one (1) year or more since the date of their last professional fight:

- (a) The Contestant must show proof of training in a Qualified Gym, with a Qualified Trainer, for at least three (3) months, three (3) times a week; and
- (b) The Contestant's first fight after the retirement or inactivity will not be longer than eight (8) rounds.

Refusing, Suspending, or Revoking a Licence

2.11 If the Executive Director believes that the Contestant is not qualified to engage in the Contest, the Executive Director may refuse to issue a Licence or suspend or revoke a Licence that has been issued.

2.12 The Executive Director will provide written reasons to the Contestant for any refusal, suspension, or revocation of a Licence.

2.13 No Contestant will receive a Licence if they have not met the suspension requirements as set out in Policy 9: Suspensions and Rest Periods for Combative Sports Contestants.

Appealing a Decision

2.14 A Contestant whose application for a Licence has been refused, suspended, or revoked may appeal the decision in accordance with the Appeals Regulation.

General Rules

2.15 No Licensed Contestant shall compete in the City where the Contest is not sanctioned by the Commission.

Regulation #1 Approval Date: November 14, 2022 (updated October 21, 2024)