



Rules of Department of Commerce and Insurance

Division 2040—Office of Athletics Chapter 4—Licensees and Their Responsibilities

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**Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
Division 2040—Office of Athletics
Chapter 4—Licensees and Their
Responsibilities**

20 CSR 2040-4.015 Promoters

PURPOSE: This rule clarifies the duties and responsibilities of promoters.

(1) No person, association, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or any other form of business entity may promote any professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate contest without obtaining a license from the Office of Athletics. Licensees shall not allow another to use their promoter's license. Promoters shall supervise their employees and may be liable for the conduct of those employees and for any violation of Chapter 317, RSMo or the rules adopted thereunder. The office shall deem any violations by an employee or representative of a promoter as a violation of the promoter.

(2) Before the office issues a promoter's license, the promoter shall provide the office a surety bond in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or an irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of at least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from a lending institution approved to do business in the United States to guarantee payment of all state athletic taxes and fees to the state as well as all expenses of the contestants and officials in the event of default by the promoter. The irrevocable letter of credit may only be released upon written approval by the office. An additional bond or irrevocable letter of credit may be required in the amount specified by the office where it may be reasonably expected that the twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) 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.

(3) The promoter shall apply for a permit for each contest. The application for permit and appropriate fee should be received by the office not later than ten (10) business days before the date of the contest for which the permit is being sought.

(4) Promoters may be liable for all contests held and for meeting all deadlines for permit and license applications. Within ten (10)

business days after a contest the promoter shall pay the state athletic tax to the office.

(5) Promoters shall be responsible for ensuring the maintenance of adequate public safety at all contests. Failure to ensure adequate public safety may result in cancellation of a contest, discipline against a promoter's license, and denial of future permits for contests.

(6) Promoters shall provide all materials necessary to conduct the contests, such as ring, stools, water buckets, bell, buzzer or whistle, timer, gloves, gauze, tape for hand wraps, and adequate scales.

(7) Promoters shall publicly announce all substitutions for contestants advertised for contests as soon as the substitutions are known.

(8) For adequate public safety, the promoter is responsible for ensuring that no bottled drinks, unless poured into disposable cups by vendors at the time of sale, are permitted in any hall or facility where any contest is being held. If the contest is staged out-of-doors disposable cups also may be used on the site of the contest.

(9) Promoters and all licensed individuals and organizations associated with the contests should have knowledge of the applicable laws and rules of the state. Any questions or interpretations should be referred to the office. If an immediate decision is needed, it should be referred to the inspector present. In the event a situation occurs at the contest and there are no regulations in place to cover the situation, the inspector of the event will make a decision on the matter. The inspector's ruling will be final. The authority of the office and the inspectors shall be respected. No one may interfere with the inspectors' duties, use foul language, or make threats of physical harm toward the inspectors.

(10) Any promoter that fails to pay a contestant his or her purse within forty-eight (48) hours of the contest may be subject to discipline by the office.

(11) The promoter shall be responsible for seeing that all the rules promulgated by the office are strictly observed and carried out.

(12) A promoter for a professional boxing professional or amateur kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, or professional or amateur mixed martial arts events shall arrange for an ambulance to be on site at each event with emergency personnel and proper

resuscitation equipment. No event may begin without the presence of a licensed medical doctor or doctor of osteopathic medicine approved by the office at ringside as provided in 20 CSR 2040-4.040.

(13) Before the office issues a permit for a professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, or professional or amateur mixed martial arts event the promoter shall provide the office with proof of insurance coverage providing for payment of each contestant in the amount of at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in case of injury and at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in case of death. No contestant may waive the insurance coverage. Promoter shall be responsible for deductible payments, if any.

*AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.015. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.015, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.020 Matchmakers

PURPOSE: This rule clarifies the duties and responsibilities of matchmakers with respect to professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, professional mixed martial arts, amateur mixed martial arts, and amateur kickboxing.

(1) A licensed matchmaker is required to be present at all professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate contests. In professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate, the office shall not allow a promoter and matchmaker to be the same person.

(2) The duties of the matchmaker shall include arranging the contest, matching the contestants as to weight and experience, and ensuring that all the equipment is in its place. While the contests are in progress, the matchmaker may work with the inspector and will be



directly liable for the promoter s/he represents.

(3) All bouts shall be approved or disapproved by the office. A bout deemed to be a mismatch based on the record, experience, skill, and condition of the contestants as known or represented to the office at or before the bout, which could expose one (1) or both contestants to serious injury, will be denied. In addition all bout contestants must meet the following criteria to be approved:

(A) Any contestant who has lost their last ten (10) bouts by decision, technical knockout, or knockout will not be approved to box in a bout;

(B) Any contestant who has lost their last six (6) bouts by technical knockout or knockout will not be approved to box in a bout; and

(C) All contestant's records, skill, and experience must be verified through the national registry for their respective sport, which is appointed by the Association of Boxing Commissions or a similar organization.

(4) The office reserves the right to question any applicant for a matchmaker's license, and, if in its judgment, the applicant does not have sufficient knowledge of the sport or is otherwise not deemed responsible to act, the license may be denied.

(5) No matchmaker in a specific contest may act in the capacity of a licensed second for that specific contest either directly or indirectly.

*AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.020. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.020, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.030 Referees

PURPOSE: This rule clarifies the duties and responsibilities of professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional kickboxing, and professional full-contact karate referees.

(1) The referee is charged with the enforce-

ment of all office rules that apply to the conduct of the contest and the conduct of the contestants and contestant's second(s) while s/he is in the ring. Before the office issues a referee's license:

(A) The applicant must—

1. Certify that s/he has read and understands Missouri laws and rules. Upon such certification the applicant shall be deemed to have full knowledge and understanding of said laws and rules; and

2. Have two (2) years of documented experience refereeing boxing, wrestling, kickboxing, full-contact karate, or mixed martial arts matches. It is not necessary that this experience be obtained by refereeing professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate;

(B) The office may require—

1. The applicant take and pass a written test covering professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate; and

2. The applicant may be required to have a physical examination by a licensed physician to determine fitness to perform.

(2) The office may deny a referee's license if, in its judgment, the applicant does not have sufficient knowledge or expertise in the sport and is otherwise not deemed responsible to act.

(3) Referees may not wear spectacles while refereeing.

(4) The referee selected for each bout will be at the sole discretion of the office and such determination may be final. The promoter is responsible for all compensation for the referee. The office will set the amount of compensation to be provided to the referee.

(5) Before starting each bout, the referee will check with each judge and timekeeper to determine if each is ready, and also will ascertain the name of the chief second in each corner and may hold the chief second responsible for all conduct in his/her corner. The referee shall also verify that the physician is present at ringside.

(6) The referee shall inspect the gloves of the contestants in all bouts and make sure that no foreign substances detrimental to an opponent have been applied to the glove or bodies of the contestants. In the event the referee detects a problem with the gloves or other

equipment, the problem must be fixed to the satisfaction of the referee and inspector before the bout continues.

(7) The use of rubber or plastic gloves by the referee is not mandatory but will be left to the discretion of the referee for his/her use during the bout.

(8) The referee may stop the bout for any of the following reasons:

(A) The referee determines that one (1) of the contestants is clearly less experienced and/or skilled than his/her opponent to the extent that allowing the bout to continue would pose a substantial risk of serious harm or injury to the less-experienced/skilled contestant;

(B) The referee decides that a contestant is not making his/her best effort; or

(C) For any other reason the referee deems sufficient.

(9) In the event of serious cuts or injuries, the referee shall summon the physician who shall make a recommendation to the referee if the bout should be stopped.

(10) The referee shall warn the second(s) of violations of any rules relating to seconds. If after such a warning the second(s) does not conduct him/herself in accordance with the rules, the referee may warn the second(s) that further violations may result in disqualification of his/her contestant and/or removal from the corner.

(11) The referee shall instruct judges to mark their scorecards accordingly when s/he has assessed a foul upon one (1) of the contestants. The referee delivers the official scorecards to the inspector. When picking up the scorecards from the judges, the referee may see to it that the cards are computed and the winners and judges names are recorded. If not, the judges shall be instructed to complete scorecards correctly.

(12) The referee shall ensure that a bout moves to its proper completion. Delaying or avoiding tactics, or both, should be avoided and the contestant who employs these tactics should be penalized in scoring or disqualified.

(13) When a fallen contestant rises and falls again without being hit again in a boxing, kickboxing, or full-contact karate bout, the referee may continue the original count, rather than starting a new count. If the bell rings ending the round during the count, the count shall continue. A contestant is deemed to be down when any part of his/her body,



with the exception of his/her feet, is on the floor or if s/he is hanging helplessly on or over the ropes. A referee can count a contestant out either on the ropes or on the floor. During the eight- (8-) count, the referee should assess the condition of the contestant and either allow him/her to continue or stop the bout. During any count, the opponent should immediately go to the neutral corner and remain there until the referee signals the bout is to be continued. In the event the contestant who has scored the knockdown fails to go to the neutral corner, the referee may stop the count until the contestant who scored the knockdown returns to the neutral corner.

(14) In assessing fouls, the referee must weigh the cause as well as the effect. If the referee has seen a low blow (punch below the belt line) delivered and if the blow had a damaging effect, s/he may permit a rest period to the victim not to exceed five (5) minutes. During the rest period, seconds may not assist or coach the injured contestant. The offending contestant shall go to a neutral corner and shall not be coached during the period. If the injured contestant refuses to continue after a five- (5-) minute rest period, the opponent may be named the winner. The referee shall give an official warning for a low blow to the offending contestant, and then s/he will give the command to continue after the end of the rest period if the contestant who received the low blow indicates s/he is ready to continue the bout. Additional low blows shall be penalized with deduction of points from the offending contestant or disqualification of the offending contestant. A contestant cannot be named the winner of a bout as the result of receiving a low blow unless, in the opinion of the referee, the blow was delivered deliberately and of enough force to seriously incapacitate the injured contestant so that s/he could not continue the bout. Under this condition, the offender shall be disqualified immediately.

(15) The referee shall warn or penalize a contestant with a deduction of points who uses the ropes or other unfair means to gain advantage.

(16) Whenever a contestant has been injured, knocked out, or technically knocked out, the referee shall immediately summon the attending physician to aid the stricken contestant. Except at the request of the physician, no second(s) may be permitted to aid the stricken contestant.

AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.030.*

Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed July 25, 1994, effective Jan. 29, 1995. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.030, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.040 Physicians

PURPOSE: This rule defines the responsibilities of physicians for professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, professional mixed martial arts, amateur mixed martial arts, and amateur kickboxing.

(1) Any physician, applying for licensure with the office, must hold a current license to practice medicine pursuant to Chapter 334, RSMo and be in good standing with the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts. Any such physician/applicant shall not be currently or have been under discipline from the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts for a period of five (5) years preceding his/her application with the office.

(2) A physician licensed pursuant to sections 317.001 to 317.021, RSMo is in charge of all physical examinations. S/he is at ringside during all professional boxing, professional and amateur kickboxing, professional and amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate contests and, if called upon, ready to advise the referee.

(3) Within forty-eight (48) hours before a contest, contestants for professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate shall be given a physical examination by a physician appointed and licensed by the office. Contestants shall disclose all medical history and conditions to the physician during the physical examination, including, whether or not the contestant is pregnant.

(4) The physical examination given to contestants shall include the following: weight, pulse, lungs, blood pressure, heart, and general physical condition.

(5) If, upon physical examination, a contestant is determined to be unfit for competition,

the contestant shall be banned from competing during that specific contest.

(6) The physician must certify in writing on a form prescribed by the office those contestants who are in good physical condition to compete.

(7) The physician selected for each contest will be at the sole discretion of the office and such determination may be final. The promoter is responsible for all compensation for the physician. The office shall set the amount of compensation to be provided to the physician.

AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.040. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.040, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Aug. 2, 2006, effective Feb. 28, 2007. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.050 Timekeepers

PURPOSE: This rule defines the duties and responsibilities of timekeepers.

(1) The timekeeper sounds the bell at the beginning and end of each round. The timekeeper shall also indicate by pounding the ring when there is ten (10) seconds remaining in the round to warn the referee of the end of the round. When there is ten (10) seconds remaining in the rest period between rounds the timekeeper shall sound a whistle or buzzer to warn the referee, contestants, and seconds of the beginning of the next round.

(2) It is the duty of the timekeeper to keep accurate time of all bouts. The timekeeper keeps an exact record of time taken out at the request of a referee for an examination of a contestant by the physician, or the replacement of a glove or adjustment of any equipment during a round and the timekeeper reports the exact time of a bout being stopped.

(3) The timekeeper shall be impartial. Any timekeeper who signals interested parties at



any time during bouts may be subject to discipline.

(4) The timekeeper shall be responsible for the knockdown count during boxing, kickboxing, and full-contact karate. The timekeeper begins counting each second during the knockdown count. If the knockdown occurs within ten (10) seconds of the end of the round, the timekeeper shall not ring the bell until the referee indicates the contestant is ready.

(5) When officiating at professional wrestling contests, the timekeeper records the exact time of all falls. The timekeeper also notifies wrestling contestants between falls when it is time for them to return to the ring. Ten (10) minutes may be the maximum time allowed for rest periods between falls. Any delay on the part of a contestant in returning may be reported to the office.

(6) The timekeeper selected for each bout is at the sole discretion of the office and such determination may be final. The promoter is responsible for all compensation for the timekeeper. The office shall set the amount of compensation to be provided to the timekeeper.

AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.050. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.050, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.060 Announcers (Rescinded August 30, 2019)

AUTHORITY: sections 317.006 and 317.015, RSMo 2016. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.060. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.060, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Rescinded: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.

20 CSR 2040-4.070 Seconds

PURPOSE: This rule defines the duties and responsibilities of seconds.

(1) The office will not issue a license to any person to act as a second unless the applicant has reached the age of eighteen (18).

(2) Unless special permission is given by the office, there shall be no more than three (3) seconds, one (1) of whom will announce to the referee at the start of the bout that s/he is the chief second. Only one (1) second may be inside the ring between rounds for boxing, kickboxing, or full-contact karate, the other two (2) may be on the ring platform outside the ropes. For mixed martial arts a maximum of two (2) seconds may be in the cage or ring. The promoter at their discretion may reduce the number of seconds to two (2) for any bout.

(3) Seconds shall not enter the ring until the timekeeper indicates the end of the round. Seconds shall leave at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle or buzzer before the beginning of each round. If the chief second or anyone for whom s/he is responsible enters the ring before the bell ending the round has sounded, his/her license may be subject to discipline and the contestant whom s/he is handling may be disqualified. While the round is in progress, the chief second may mount the apron of the ring and attract the referee's attention indicating the retirement of the contestant. S/he shall not enter the ring unless the referee stops the bout and shall not interfere with a count that is in progress.

(4) Seconds shall not stand or lean on the ring apron or cage during the round.

(5) The second shall equip him/herself with:

- (A) A clear plastic bottle;
- (B) A bucket containing ice;
- (C) Adhesive tape;
- (D) Gauze;
- (E) Scissors;
- (F) Extra mouthpiece;
- (G) Cotton swabs;
- (H) Petroleum jelly; and
- (I) Pressure plates.

(6) Only the following substances may be used to stop hemorrhaging:

- (A) A solution of adrenaline 1/1000;
- (B) Avitene; and
- (C) Thrombin.

(7) Before leaving the ring at the start of each round, the seconds shall remove all obstructions, buckets, stools, bottles, towels, and

ropes from the ring floor and ropes.

(8) Seconds violating any provisions of this rule may be immediately ejected from the ring corner.

(9) The use of rubber or plastic gloves is not mandatory, but will be left to the discretion of the seconds for their use during the bout.

(10) All seconds must report to the dressing room area and check in with the inspector in charge of the event at least sixty (60) minutes before the scheduled start time of the event. If a second does not arrive prior to this timeframe, their ability to work as a second for this event may be denied.

AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.070. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.070, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.080 Judges

PURPOSE: This rule defines the duties and responsibilities for judges for professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, professional mixed martial arts, amateur mixed martial arts, and amateur kickboxing.

(1) There will be three (3) judges for each bout. A bout will be scored on a "ten- (10-) point must system." The winner of the round is awarded ten (10) points and the loser of the round may be awarded nine (9) points or less, except for rare instances of an even round where each contestant may be awarded ten (10) points. Judges will judge mixed martial arts techniques, such as effective striking, effective grappling and control of the opponent, effective aggressiveness, and effective defense to determine a winner of the round.

(2) The judges shall reach their decisions without conferring in any manner with any other official or person including the other judges of the panel. Each judge shall make out his/her scorecard in accordance with provisions of the rules governing professional



boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate. At the end of the round, the score shall be totaled and signed or initialed by each judge. The referee working the bout may collect the scorecards after each round and hand them to the inspector.

(3) Any erasures or changes on the scorecard must be approved and initialed by the judge and inspector.

(4) Official scorecards from the office shall be used and retained in the custody of the inspector who will transmit them to the office for safekeeping.

(5) The judges selected for each bout shall be at the sole discretion of the office and such determination may be final. The promoter is responsible for all compensation for the judges. The office sets the amount of compensation to be provided to the judges.

(6) Before the office issues a judge's license:

(A) The applicant must:

1. Certify that s/he has read and understands Missouri laws and rules. Upon such certification the applicant is deemed to have full knowledge and understanding of said laws and rules; and

2. Have two (2) years of documented experience judging amateur boxing, professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate matches.

(B) The office may require:

1. The applicant take and pass a written test covering professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate; and

2. The applicant may be required to have a physical examination by a licensed physician to determine fitness to perform.

(7) The office may deny an application for licensure as a judge if the applicant fails to meet the qualifications specified herein or fails to pass the written examination if such an examination is given by the office.

*AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.080. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed July 25, 1994, effective Jan. 29, 1995. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002.*

Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.080, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018.*

20 CSR 2040-4.090 Contestants

PURPOSE: This rule outlines the procedures for applying for and renewal of a license and clarifies the duties and responsibilities of contestants.

(1) An applicant applying for a professional license or renewal as a contestant shall—

(A) Complete an application pursuant to section (2) of 20 CSR 2040-2.011. Any person who provides incorrect information in an application for license as a contestant may be disciplined by the office;

(B) Be at least eighteen (18) years of age except amateur kickboxing contestants;

(C) Disclose in writing on a form provided by the office a complete medical history including any prior or existing medical conditions;

(D) Within sixty (60) days of application for licensure successfully complete a physical examination by physician with the designation “medical doctor” or “doctor of osteopathy” and submit a written statement from the physician attesting to the physical and mental health of the applicant. The office may increase the sixty-(60-) day limit under special circumstances approved by the office; and

(E) Submit a certified copy of medical tests performed by a certified laboratory verifying the applicant is not infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B or C virus. The medical tests shall not be dated more than three hundred sixty-five (365) days before the application is submitted.

(2) An applicant applying for an amateur license or renewal as a contestant shall—

(A) Complete an application pursuant to section (2) of 20 CSR 2040-2.011. Any person who provides incorrect information in an application for license as a contestant may be disciplined by the office;

(B) Be at least eighteen (18) years of age, except for amateur kickboxing.

(C) Disclose in writing on a form provided by the office a complete medical history including any prior or existing medical conditions;

(D) Within sixty (60) days of application for licensure successfully complete a physical

examination by a physician with the designation “medical doctor” or “doctor of osteopathy” and submit a written statement from the physician attesting to the physical and mental health of the applicant. The office may increase the sixty (60) day limit under special circumstance approved by the office; and

(E) The office may require a contestant to submit a certified copy of medical tests performed by a certified laboratory verifying the applicant is not infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B or C virus. The medical test shall not be dated more than three hundred sixty-five (365) days before the applicant is submitted or participates in a bout.

(3) An applicant or contestant who does not pass the physical examination or receives positive results from any of the tests required in section (1) may be denied the right to fight for that bout.

(4) All fees involved with medical examinations and/or tests required in section (1) in addition to any drug test required in section (11), shall be the responsibility of the promoter, contestant, or applicant.

(5) Within forty-eight (48) hours before competing in any bout or contest, each contestant shall—

(A) Each professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional wrestling or professional mix martial arts contestant shall submit certified copies of medical tests performed by a laboratory verifying that the applicant is not infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis B or C virus. The medical tests shall not be dated more than three hundred sixty-five (365) days before the scheduled bout or contest in which the contestant will compete. A statement from a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy indicating that the applicant has successfully completed a full course of vaccinations for hepatitis B may be submitted in lieu of the medical tests required by this rule for hepatitis B;

(B) All female contestants, including amateur mixed martial arts and amateur kickboxing, shall verify in writing that the contestant has taken a reliable means of pregnancy testing and that the contestant is aware of her pregnancy status; and

1. For purposes of this rule, a “reliable means of pregnancy testing” is a pregnancy test administered by a state or local health department or a licensed medical doctor or licensed doctor of osteopathy. A “reliable means of pregnancy testing” may also include a self-administered pregnancy test that has



been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or that is able to detect or determine the presence of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG).

2. Verification may be in a form approved by the office.

3. The office strongly cautions against participating in any professional full-contact sport regulated by the office while pregnant;

(C) A contestant who fails to comply with the requirements of this rule shall not be allowed to compete as a contestant in any professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional full-contact karate, professional wrestling, professional mixed martial arts, amateur mixed martial arts, or amateur kickboxing bout or contest. The office may discipline any contestant who fails to provide truthful and accurate information pursuant to this section.

(6) The office will issue an identification card to each contestant for the purpose of registration pursuant to the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, 15 U.S.C. section 6301 et seq., to each contestant who so applies. The contestant shall provide a recent photograph for the identification card and any other information that is requested by the office. An identification card cannot be substituted for the license to engage in professional boxing. All professional and amateur mixed martial arts, kickboxing, and full-contact karate contestants will be issued a picture identification card as approved by the Association of Boxing Commissions or other like organization's officially approved registry for their respective sport.

(7) Each contestant for professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate, will be weighed in the presence of the public, his/her opponent, a representative of the office, and an official representing the promoter on scales approved by the office at any place designated by the office. If a contestant cannot be present at the designated time set by the office, a contestant may waive his/her rights under this section.

(8) The contestant for professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate must have all weights stripped from his/her body before he/she is weighed in, but male contestants may wear shorts. Female contestants may wear shorts and a sports bra.

(9) The office may require contestants to be

weighed more than once for any cause deemed sufficient to the office.

(10) Immediately preceding the contest, at a time designated by the office, all contestants must pass a physical examination given by a physician licensed by the office, in accordance with the office's rules and regulations. A contestant who does not pass the physical examination cannot fight in that bout.

(11) The office may require a contestant to submit to a drug test. Failure to submit to a drug test upon notification by an inspector may result in disciplinary action being taken against the contestant's license. All fees involved with a drug test are the responsibility of the contestant.

(12) A contestant licensed by the office may have to submit to any medical examination or test ordered by the office prior to participation in a bout.

(13) A contestant shall present his/her identification card to the office representative at weigh-in for a bout and at any other time ordered by the office or its representative. Failure to possess the card may result in the contestant being disallowed to participate in a bout.

(14) A contestant licensed by the office is subject to disciplinary action by the office if the contestant knowingly:

(A) Provides false information for an identification card or falsifies or attempts to falsify an identification card, or aids in such acts;

(B) Uses or attempts to use an identification card in an unlawful manner or in a manner that is not in the best interests of their respective sport; or

(C) Otherwise violates the provisions of this section.

(15) Each contestant must report to the representative of the office in charge of dressing rooms at least sixty (60) minutes before the scheduled time of the first bout of professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate contest. Failure to do so may result in the contestant being disallowed to participate in the bout.

(16) Contestants shall at all times abide by the statutes and rules of Missouri governing professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate.

(17) Contestants shall at all times observe the directions and decisions of all officials and inspectors.

(18) A contestant of boxing may not have a promoter or any of its members, stockholders, officials, matchmakers, or assistant matchmakers—

(A) Act directly or indirectly as his/her manager; or

(B) Hold any financial interest in his/her management or his/her earnings from each contest.

(19) Contestants for professional wrestling may include anyone participating in any wrestling activities whether inside or outside the ring during a contest.

(20) The belt of the trunks cannot extend above the waist line for professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, or professional full-contact karate.

(21) Each boxing, full-contact karate or kickboxing contestant must wear—

(A) A mouthpiece which has been individually fitted; and

(B) An abdominal protector which will protect him against injury from a foul blow.

(22) The excessive use of petroleum jelly may not be used on the face or body of a contestant. The referees or the office's representative in charge may cause any excessive petroleum jelly to be removed.

(23) The office's representative may determine whether head and facial hair presents any hazard to the safety of the contestant or his/her opponent or would interfere with the supervision and conduct of the bout. If the head and facial hair of the contestant present such a hazard or would interfere with the supervision and conduct of the bout, the contestant may not compete in the bout unless the circumstances creating the hazard or potential interference are corrected to the satisfaction of the office's representative.

(24) A contestant will not wear any jewelry or other piercing accessories while competing in a bout.

(25) Any professional or amateur mixed martial arts contestant who has competed as a boxer, kickboxer, wrestler, martial arts, or mixed martial arts contestant anywhere in the world will not be allowed to compete as a contestant in any professional or amateur mixed martial arts bout in Missouri until seven (7) days have elapsed from the date of



the previous bout.

(26) Any person who has competed as a professional boxer, professional kickboxer, professional wrestler, professional martial arts, or professional mixed martial arts contestant may not participate as an amateur contestant in a mixed martial arts event in the state of Missouri. The office may discipline the license of any contestant, promoter, matchmaker, or second who violates, or assists or enables another to violate, the provisions of this section.

(27) The office may honor the suspension of a contestant by an agency that regulates professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate in another jurisdiction if the suspension is ordered for:

(A) Medical safety;

(B) A violation of a law or regulation governing professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate which also exists in this state; or

(C) Any other conduct which discredits professional boxing, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, and professional full-contact karate, as determined by the office.

(28) The office may deny a contestant a license if their license to participate or compete as a boxer, wrestler, kickboxer, or full-contact karate participant has been denied, refused, or disciplined for a medical condition by another state, tribal athletic commission, territory, federal agency, or country. The office shall not issue a license to a contestant who has suffered a cerebral hemorrhage of any type.

(29) No amateur kickboxing contestant under eighteen (18) years of age may participate in a bout against a contestant who is more than two (2) years older.

*AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018, and section 317.015, RSMo 2016. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-4.090. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept. 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Rescinded and readopted: Filed May 13, 2005, effective Nov. 30, 2005. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-4.090, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Aug. 2, 2006, effective Feb. 28, 2007. Amended: Filed March 27, 2007, effective Sept. 30, 2007.*

Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Amended: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018 and 317.015, RSMo 1996, 2007.*

20 CSR 2040-4.100 Inspectors

PURPOSE: This rule defines the duties and responsibilities of inspectors.

(1) The office shall assign inspectors as it deems necessary.

(2) In all contests, contestants, promoters, matchmakers, judges, referees, timekeepers, seconds, and physicians are under the direction of the office or its inspector(s) at all times.

(3) Employees and inspectors of the office cannot have any interest in or connection with, either directly or indirectly, any promotion of either professional boxing, professional wrestling, professional or amateur kickboxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts, or professional full-contact karate, in this state or have any interest, directly or indirectly, in any contest or contestant.

(4) The office and its inspectors may supervise the sale of tickets, check the counting of receipts, and enforce all rules of the office.

(5) The ticket taker immediately must deposit every admission ticket, pass, or complimentary ticket in a securely locked box. It may be opened only in the presence of the office's inspector to see that all tickets or passes are carefully counted and reported to the office, along with the price of admission charged for each class of tickets and exchanges and the gross receipts of all tickets and exchanges. In lieu of collecting ticket stubs the office will accept a third party box office print out on the sales of all tickets including complimentary tickets to calculate the athletic tax due.

(6) Before the start of a contest, an inspector must check all contestants, promoters, matchmakers, seconds, timekeepers, referees, and physicians for licenses issued by the office. Any of those persons without a current license issued by the office may not participate in the contest, until an application and fee has been received and the application is approved by the office.

(7) An inspector must be present in the dressing rooms at the designated time for weighing in contestants and inspecting all equipment.

(8) An inspector must examine and approve all hand wrappings being placed on contestants. After approval, all handwraps will be initialed by the inspector present.

(9) An inspector must be present when each contestant is being gloved. After approval of the gloving, the tape around the strings must be initialed by the inspector present.

*AUTHORITY: section 317.006, RSMo Supp. 2018. * This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 40-5.010 and 20 CSR 2040-5.010. Original rule filed April 30, 1982, effective Sept 11, 1982. Rescinded and readopted: Filed March 2, 1989, effective May 11, 1989. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2001, effective May 30, 2002. Moved to 20 CSR 2040-5.010, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 20, 2018, effective Sept. 30, 2018. Rescinded as 20 CSR 2040-5.010 and readopted as 20 CSR 2040-4.100: Filed Jan. 25, 2019, effective Aug. 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 317.006, RSMo 1983, amended 1996, 2007, 2018.*