

FLORIDA STATE BOXING COMMISSION **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

COMMISSION INFORMATION

1. What are the functions of the Florida State Boxing Commission?

The function of the Florida State Boxing Commission is to license and regulate professional boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts. The Commission is also responsible for the approval of amateur boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts sanctioning organizations.

2. What are the statutes and rules that govern professional boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts?

Chapter 548 of the Florida Statutes and Rule Chapter 61K1-1 of the Florida Administrative Code.

3. Does the boxing commission have a website?

Yes: www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts.

LICENSURE INFORMATION

4. What are the requirements for licensure as a professional fighter?

- 18 years or older
- Have an amateur background (provide proof of five (5) amateur competitions with an approved amateur sanctioning organization.)
- Have three references not including your trainer
- Negative Hepatitis B surface antigen test (good for one year from date taken)
- Negative Hepatitis C antibody test (good for one year from date taken)
- Negative HIV test (good for one year from date taken)
- Ophthalmological dilated eye examination to be performed by an Ophthalmologist (good for one year from date taken)
- Female fighters are required to have a pregnancy test at the weigh-in with a negative outcome. Female fighters will be tested by Commission Physicians at the weigh-in.

5. Can I apply and become licensed at the official weigh in?

Yes, as long as you have completed an application, paid the appropriate fee and submitted the required documentation.

6. How can I get an Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Boxer's Federal Identification card if I live in the state of Florida?

You must complete the ABC Boxer's Federal Identification Card application located on the website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses. Mail the completed application along with proof of residency in Florida, a federal issued ID picture, and two passport type photos to the Florida Boxing Commission, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee FL 32399-1016. There is no charge for first time applicants. Renewals will be issued at no cost to the participants if the original

ID is presented to the Commission. There is a \$15.00 charge to replace a lost Federal ID card.

7. Can I get an ABC Boxer's Federal ID license if I live in another state?

No, you must be a Florida-resident or a foreign-based participant who will be participating in Florida.

8. How can I get an Association of Boxing Commission (ABC) National Mixed Martial Arts Federal Identification card if I live in the state of Florida?

You must complete the ABC National Mixed Martial Arts Federal Identification Card application located on the website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses. Mail the completed application along with two passport type photos and one form of identification to the Florida Boxing Commission, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee FL 32399-1016.

Forms of identification include but not limited to drivers' license, passport, state/province issued identification or any other form of identification accepted by the Commission. There is a charge of \$25.00 application fee. Renewals or lost Federal ID's will result in a \$25.00 fee.

9. How do I become licensed as a promoter?

You are required to submit a completed application along with a non-refundable application fee of \$250.00. You will be required to deposit with the Commission a surety bond, cash, or certified check in the amount of \$15,000 prior to being issued a promoter license. If you plan on becoming licensed using your business name, an application is required for each officer of the corporation or partner of the partnership. The promoter application fee of \$250.00 will cover the officer(s) license application for corporations or partnerships. The following insurance stipulations are required by the Commission for each event:

- Minimum of \$20,000 per participant for medical, surgical and hospital care for injuries sustained while engaged in a match.
- Minimum of \$20,000 per participant for life insurance covering death caused by injuries received while engaged in a bout.
- Any deductible associated with these policies is entirely the responsibility of the promoter of record.

10. What are the requirements for promoting a live event?

In order to promote a live event, a licensed promoter will need to submit an Application for Live Event Permit. The permit can be found on our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts. The permit application fee is \$1,800 per event. The completed application must identify the name of the Florida licensed matchmaker for the proposed event. Permit applications are subject to review and approval by the Executive Director/Commission. It is recommended that the promoter secure pre-approval of the permit application by the Executive Director prior to securing a venue. Faxed application will be considered for pre-approval by the Executive Director.

NOTE: Prior to submitting the original application by mail please fax the permit application to the Executive Director for pre-approval review.

The application mailing address is: Commission at Florida State Boxing Commission, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1016.

11. Who is responsible for scheduling the weigh-in?

The licensed promoter is responsible for scheduling the location of the weigh-in. Weigh-in start time is 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the event.

12. What are the responsibilities of the promoter during the weigh-in?

The promoter is responsible for the following:

- Attendance by all participants (including seconds, trainers, etc.)
- Participant medicals accounted for.
- A quiet, clean and separated area for the purpose of pre-bout medical examinations by the ringside physicians. Each physician should be afforded a table with two chairs for their examination purposes.
- A table with good lighting for the Commission staff to perform the administrative tasks of the Commission at the weigh-in.
- Adequate seating and tables for participants and their trainers/seconds.
- The promoter is responsible for providing evidence of insurance coverage to the Commission no later than the date of the weigh-in.
 - Minimum of \$20,000 per participant for medical, surgical and hospital care for injuries sustained while engaged in a match.
 - Minimum of \$20,000 per participant for life insurance covering death caused by injuries received while engaged in a bout.
 - Any deductible associated with these policies is entirely the responsibility of the promoter of record.
- Executed copies of the Letters of Agreement between Promoter and Participant for each fighter. Opponents' maximum weight provisions must match for each pairing of opponents on the contracts/agreement.
- The appropriate number of "all access" credentials clearly indicating "Florida State Boxing Commission" or "Commission" should be provided to the Executive Director or the Assistant Executive Director at the time of the weigh-in. The number of credentials will vary for each event.
- Credentials should also be issued to working staff of the promotion, to participants and their licensed seconds, to media, and to any television production staff. Each credential should clearly denote the areas accessible to the individual being issued the credential. The promoter shall furnish the Commission representative with a complete list of all individuals issued an "all access" pass. "All access" credentials should be limited to "working" staff and the Commission.
- For boxing or kickboxing events; fighters come prepared with their ABC Boxer's Federal Identification Cards and another form of government-issued picture identification.
- For mixed martial arts events; fighters come prepared with their National Mixed Martial Arts Identification Cards and another form of government-issued picture identification.
- Fighters arriving late to the weigh-in will be penalized without a valid excuse.
- Pro debut fighters must present their Amateur Passbook. Someone capable of attesting to a pro debut's fighting skills, such as a licensed manager or trainer, must be present at the time of the weigh-in.

13. What is the deadline for submitting to the Commission for their approval the participant medical records and fight card for an upcoming event?

All matchmakers are required to submit a Proposed Bout Sheet at least ten days in advance of the date of the proposed event. Each proposed participant must have an official record. For boxing participants the fighter records must be obtained from Fight Fax, Inc. For mixed martial arts

participants the fighter record must be obtained from Battle Base website. It is the responsibility of the promoter and matchmaker to ensure that the participants required supporting documentation is received prior to the weigh-in and no later than at the conclusion of the weigh-in.

14. What are the emergency equipment and personnel requirements during an event?

Ring seating configurations should account for the requirement to have an unobstructed, clear path to the ring for emergency purposes. This path should be wide enough to allow paramedics access to the ring with an ambulance stretcher and any necessary medical equipment.

The following emergency medical equipment and personnel must be in place at all times during the event:

- Medical attendants will be placed by the Executive Director or Assistant Executive Director and will report to him or her before the start of the event.
- An ambulance with two (2) qualified attendants (EMT or Paramedics);
- A portable resuscitator with all additional equipment necessary for its operation;
- Three (3) portable oxygen supplies (to be kept at the Commission table/ringside and one in each dressing room, total of three required).
- A clean stretcher and clean blanket (to be located along with the ambulance attendants, at a location determined by the Commission).

No match shall begin or continue unless such personnel and equipment are on the premises in a state of readiness. Arrangements should be made to allow the ambulance to park as close to the building as possible with easy access to the main floor/ring. The service entrance is usually a good candidate for ambulance parking. Make sure to let the emergency personnel know that emergency transport must be permanently on-site during the event. The Commission will not allow emergency transportation that needs to be called upon when needed. If the ambulance needs to leave due to another call, the event will be stopped until such time another ambulance is on-site.

15. What miscellaneous equipment is required for an event?

- A person or persons capable of making emergency repairs, corrections and adjustments to the ring, lights and other necessary fixtures must be available at all times during the progress of an event.
- A public address system with a microphone available for use at ringside.
- Five chairs for each participant's corner.
- Three stools (counter/bar height) for judges at ringside with an unobstructed view.
- Spit bucket and three clean towels for each participant's corner.
- Mop and cleanser to remove blood from ring between rounds.
- Complete set of numbered round cards; size must be legible from all parts of the arena.

16. What are the requirements for food and beverage during an event?

All food and beverages should be dispensed in paper or plastic plates or cups. Only plastic utensils may be used. Cans, glass bottles or plates and metal utensils are prohibited. Venues that have box seating or membership areas that are not a part of the main floor or stadium seating are exempt from this as long as precautions are taken to restrict the glass or metal objects in the prohibited areas. These requirements are true whether the concessions are handled directly by the promoter, the venue or subcontracted to a separate vendor. Upon failure to meet these requirements, the Commission will look to the licensed promoter for compliance.

17. What are the requirements for the ring layout for an event?

The officials' seating at the Commission table should always be opposite the primary television camera, if the event is televised.

Three (3) Judges' stools should be counter-height instead of table-height.

There should always be three different sets of steps for access to the ring. One set in each blue and red corner and another set in a neutral corner.

Electrical power (110-V) should be provided on two sides of the ring, these include at the position of the timekeeper and the official Commission table at ringside.

18. Who is responsible to assign and schedule the event officials?

The Commission will assign and schedule the Referees, Judges, and Ringside Physicians. It is the responsibility of the promoter to pay for their services and associated travel expenses for the Judges, Referees, and Ringside Physicians. If a hotel room, air travel or a car rental is required for an official, the Commission will notify the promoter to make reservations. Lodging for the officials must not be at the same hotel as the participants and or managers.

The officials pay associated with non-title fights are \$150 per Referee, \$125 per Judge, and \$600 per Ringside Physician. A typical-sized show should have two Referees, four Judges and two Ringside Physicians per event. The official's fees are more for title fights and televised fights.

19. I would like to advertise an upcoming event. How do I accomplish this task?

Bouts may be advertised publicly once approved by the Commission. Any bouts not yet approved may be advertised as a certain fighter being featured on the fight card. For example, if John Smith is approved to fight John Doe, then Smith vs. Doe can be advertised. However, assume the same fight is not yet approved by the Commission. In this case, "featuring John Doe" may be advertised. Should tickets be purchased while relying on erroneous advertising, the consumer is entitled to a refund under Florida law. If you have questions about bout approval contact the Commission.

20. Can a promoter be licensed as a manager?

No manager will be licensed as a promoter and shall not act as a promoter. A manager may be licensed as a promoter if the licenses are held in different sports, and participants under contract to the manager are not also being promoted by the same licensee within the same sport.

21. Who is responsible for the taxation of ticket sales and complimentary tickets?

Arrangements may be made between the venue and promoter concerning ticket sales. Included in

these arrangements may be provisions on who is responsible for payment of taxes to the Commission for tickets. It is important to be aware that taxation of tickets sold as well as complimentary tickets issued will be taxed at a rate of five (5) percent of the face value.

22. What are the required contractual arrangements with venues?

The promoter is responsible for the following:

- File any contracts requested thereof by the Commission concerning television, broadcast or motion picture rights with the Commission.
- Filing the Post-Event Tax Form with the Commission within 72 hours after the live event (5 additional days allowed for mailing time).
- Marketing
- Food and Beverage
- Emergency Equipment and Personnel
- Ring, Ring Layout, Stools
- Seating Configuration
- No blocking the view of the public
- Ticket Sales
- Security Personnel
- Taxation

23. How do I become a licensed professional referee?

You must submit a completed application along with a non-refundable application fee a professional resume along with a well body physical from your physician, stating that you are able to perform the duties of a professional referee.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE AND FEES

24. How can I obtain assistance on completing my application?

If you have any questions or need assistance completing your application, please contact the Commission office at 850.488.8500.

25. Can you mail an application for license to me?

Yes, you may request an application for license by calling the Commission office at 850.488.8500. The application and various other forms relating to licensure are available online at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses.

26. Where do I mail my application?

Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Florida State Boxing Commission
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1016

27. What are the required fees?

The applicable fees for licensure are:

- Promoter/Foreign Co-promoter - \$250
- Announcer - \$50
- Booking Agent - \$75
- Judge/Trailing Judge \$100
- Ringside Physician - \$0
- Manager - \$100
- Matchmaker - \$100
- Referee - \$100
- Second - \$20
- Concessionaire - \$100
- Participant - \$25
- Timekeeper - \$50
- Trainer - \$20
- Representative of Booking Agent - \$25

RENEWAL INFORMATION

28. How often do I reapply for my license?

All licenses expire each year on December 31st. You are required to submit a new application with supporting document and fee to the Commission office.

29. Will I receive a reminder or form in the mail to reapply for my license?

Yes, a courtesy notice will be mailed approximately 30 days prior to the license expiration date of December 31 to your last know address of record. You are required to submit a new application, any required documents and fee to the Commission office.

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

30. What are the continuing education requirements for renewal of my license?

There are no continuing education requirements for licensure.

COMPLAINTS

31. I have a complaint. Whom do I contact?

Contact the Commission at 850.488.8500 or obtain the complaint form online at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts > To File a Complaint.

SPECIAL NOTES

32. Can I change my address online?

Yes. Visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Apply For/Update Licenses. You can also change your telephone number and email address here.

33. How can I change my address if I do not have a computer?

You may submit the change in writing or by fax to:

Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Florida State Boxing Commission
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1016
Fax: 850.922.2249

34. How can I get a list of all the Florida licensed boxers, kickboxing and mixed martial Arts participants?

You may contact the Commission at 850.488.8500 or e-mail us with your request. The e-mail address is Florida.Boxing@DBPR.STATE.FL.US.

35. Is there a penalty issued to a fighter if he or she arrives late for the weigh-in?

Any fighter arriving more than one-half hour late to a weigh-in without either first clearing with the Commission or providing an acceptable excuse will be penalized as follows:

- First occurrence - \$25
- Second occurrence - \$50
- Third occurrence - License suspension and unable to participate in the program of matches
- Fourth occurrence - License revocation

36. What are the glove requirements for boxing and kickboxing?

When the lighter of the two (2) participants in a boxing or kickboxing match weights 154 pounds or less, both participants shall use eight (8) ounce gloves. When the lighter of the two participants in a boxing or kickboxing match weights more than 154 pounds, both participants shall use ten (10) ounce gloves. In boxing and kickboxing, both participants shall use the same manufacturer of gloves. Participants are not allowed to bring their own gloves to the event for use in the match.

37. Does the letter of agreement between manager and participant have to be filed with the Florida State Boxing Commission?

Yes, the letter of agreement between the manager and participant shall be filed with the Commission within seven (7) days of the implementation of the agreement. All letters of agreement are reviewed for compliance and filed with the Commission.

38. How can I be released from the letter of agreement?

If a release from the letter of agreement is a mutual agreement between the participant and manager a letter of release shall be signed by the participant and manager and shall be submitted to the Commission for consideration. If the participant wants to be released from the letter of agreement without the manager's consent; then a complaint form needs to be completed by the

participant and submitted to the departments' Complaint Office; in order to open an investigation.

39. I fought this week. How long should I wait until I engage in my next match?

No participant whose most recent match was four (4) to six (6) rounds in duration, shall engage in a match with less than ten (10) calendar days between matches. If the match was eight (8) rounds in duration the participant cannot engage in a match with less than fifteen (15) days between matches. If the match was ten (10) to twelve (12) rounds in duration the participant cannot engage in a match with less than one (1) month between matches.

40. How long does my surety bond last?

One year from the date it was signed.

41. Where can I see the upcoming events?

You may visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts.

42. Where can I review the event results?

You may visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts.

43. How can I get a list of all the approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization's in the state of Florida for boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts?

You may visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Our Businesses & Professions > Boxing, Kick Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts.

44. What are the steps in becoming an approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization with the state of Florida?

- Complete an "Application for Approval: Amateur Sanctioning Organization"
- Submit the application with related documentation which includes handbook of rules and standards of your organization.
- Complete applications will be presented to the Florida State Boxing Commission for approval or denial.
- Following the review of the application a written communication regarding the status of approval or denial will be sent.

45. Can my amateur sanctioning organization be approved for more than one pugilistic sport?

Yes, but you must complete an application for each sport and seek approval for each sport.

46. I have been approved as an amateur sanctioning organization and would like to hold an event. What documentation is required by the Commission before the event?

In order to facilitate inquiries from the public concerning the approval status of amateur events, we ask that the Commission be notified prior to each event via facsimile at 850.922.2249 or by email at Florida.Boxing@dbpr.state.fl.us no later than one week prior to the event.