

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

BOARD 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 within the State of Florida.

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

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

3. Does the boxing commission have a website?

Yes: www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Doing Business With Us > Boxing Commission.

LICENSURE INFORMATION

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

Any person may be considered for licensure provided that the applicant is:

- 18 years or older
- Have an amateur background
- Have three references not including your trainer
- Negative Hepatitis B surface antigen test
- Negative Hepatitis C antibody test
- Ophthalmological dilated eye examination (To be performed by a Licensed Ophthalmologist within the last year)
- Female fighters are required to have a pregnancy test with a negative outcome within the past 30 days.

5. Can I be licensed at the weigh in?

Yes, as long as you have the required documents.

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 a License. Mail the completed application along with proof of residency in Florida and a federal issued ID picture to the Florida Boxing Commission, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee FL 32399-0783. 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. Lost Federal ID's will result in a \$15.00 replacement fee.

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

To be issued a Federal ID card in Florida, you must be a Florida-resident or a foreign-based participant who will be participating in Florida.

8. How can I become a licensed promoter?

The first step in becoming a promoter is to obtain a license from the Commission. You are required to submit an application along with a non-refundable application fee of \$250.00. At this time 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.

9. What are the requirements for scheduling 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 > Doing Business With Us > Boxing Commission. The permit fee for a professional match is \$1,800 per event. When submitting the Application for Live Event Permit, the promoter will also identify a Florida-licensed matchmaker for the proposed event. Permit applications are subject to review and approval by the Commission. You must submit the permit application to the Commission at Florida State Boxing Commission, 1940 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0783.

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

The event promoter is responsible for scheduling the weigh-in. The promoter shall identify the time and place of the weigh-in on the application for Live Event Permit and submit to the Commission for approval.

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

The promoter must ensure the following is provided and/or scheduled:

- Attendance by all participants (including seconds, trainers, etc.)
- 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.
- Fighters come prepared with their ABC Boxer's Federal 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.

12. 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 boxing participant must have an official record from Fight Fax, Inc. and each mixed martial arts or kickboxing participant must have an official record from ABC Mixed Martial Arts.com.

13. 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;

- Portable oxygen supply (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.

14. 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.
- Complete set of numbered round cards; size must be legible from all parts of the arena.

15. 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.

16. 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.

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.

17. 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 the fees 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. The standard fees 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.

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. 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

22. How do I become a licensed professional referee?

The first step in becoming a licensed professional referee is to obtain a license from the Commission. You are required to submit an application along with a non-refundable application fee of \$25.00. You must attach 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

23. 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.

24. 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 a License.

25. Where do I mail my application?

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

26. What are the required fees?

The applicable fees for licensure are:

- Promoter/Foreign Co-promoter - \$250
- Announcer - \$25
- Booking Agent - \$50
- Judge/Trailing Judge \$25
- Ringside Physician - \$0
- Manager - \$50
- Matchmaker - \$100
- Referee - \$25
- Second - \$15
- Concessionaire - \$100
- Participant - \$15
- Timekeeper - \$25
- Trainer - \$15
- Representative of Booking Agent - \$25

RENEWAL INFORMATION

27. How often do I reapply for my license?

All licenses expire each year on December 31st. You are required to submit a new application, any required documents and fee to the Commission office.

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

Yes. Notices are mailed approximately 30 days prior to the license expiration date of December 31st. You are required to submit a new application, any required documents and fee to the Commission office.

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

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

There are no continuing education requirements for licensure.

COMPLAINTS

30. 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 > Doing Business With Us > Boxing Commission > To File a Complaint.

SPECIAL NOTES

31. Can I change my address online?

Yes. Visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Renew/Maintain A License. You can also change your telephone number and email address here.

32. 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

33. How can I get a list of all the Florida licensed boxers, kickboxers and mixed martial arts?

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.

34. 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

35. 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.

36. Where can I file a management contract?

All notarized manager/participant contracts shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Commission within ten (10) days and no less than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled event. All contracts must be approved by the Commission.

37. How can I get a release from a management contract?

A notarized release shall be signed by the participant and manager and shall be submitted to the Commission for review and approval.

38. 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.

39. How long does my surety bond last?

One year from the date it was signed.

40. Where can I see the upcoming events?

You may visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Doing Business With Us > Boxing Commission.

41. Where can I review the event results?

You may visit our website at www.MyFloridaLicense.com > Doing Business With Us > Boxing Commission.