
Saskatchewan Martial Arts Association

Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Rulebook

2009

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INTRODUCTION

This rulebook replaces all previously Saskatchewan Martial Arts Association issued rules for Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing, and Thai-Boxing. It reflects the official Saskatchewan Martial Arts Association Competition Rules as decided by at the February 2009 Annual Meeting.

1.0

GENERAL RULES AND DEFINITIONS

Non-Amateurs cannot participate in SMAA Amateur events. If the SMAA Executive Board becomes aware of a Non-Amateur participation in such events, one or more of the following consequences may be considered;

1. Disqualification of the Non-Amateur;
2. Participation ban for the athlete, the athletes coach and the athletes club with time to be determined by the SMAA Executive;
3. Revocation of any titles won;
4. Fine of \$500 each for the competitor and the coach;

1.1

DOPING

It is prohibited to use any substance to boost one's performance if such substance is banned by one of the appropriate organizations as a doping substance (IOC, Anti-Doping Agency, National Olympic Committee, etc.).

SMAA Representatives, Event Promoters, and the official event doctor can and may request collection of test samples.

Competitors who intentionally avoid or evade such controls, or try to obstruct or manipulate the testers in any way, can be disqualified and banned for a period of time, to be determined by the SMAA Executive.

Privacy, especially for children and female competitors, has to be respected. Doping tests have to be made by a qualified person of the same gender. Whenever this is not available, a SMAA Representative of the same gender shall supervise the collection of the test samples.

If the SMAA Executive Board becomes aware of a doping incident at an SMAA event, one or more of the following consequences may be considered:

1. Disqualification of the Athlete;
2. Participation ban for both the athlete, and the athletes coach with time to be determined by the SMAA Executive;
3. Revocation of any titles won;
4. Fine of \$1000 each for the competitor and the coach.

2.0

EVENT REGISTRATION & FOLLOW-UP

2.1

Conditions:

To be admitted to any event, a competitor shall fulfill the following conditions:

- a) Fill out SMAA approved fighter's contract for the SMAA event;
- b) Fill out and sign SMAA Medical and Suspension agreement;
- c) Have no medical or any other reasons preventing them from participating in the event;

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- d) Submit to a Pre-Event Medical;
- e) Show a medical proof of EEG examination in case of having experienced three head
- f) knockouts within a period of less than 12 months, whereas the EEG must be made after the banned period;
- g) Female participants must not be pregnant;
- h) Fighters must submit ECG results and HIV and Hepatitis A, B & C test results that have been done within the last year;
- i) All competitors must present a valid picture ID prior to the SMAA event.

2.2

Promoters Follow-up:

Promoters of SMAA sanctioned events are required to submit the following information to the SMAA Office within 15 days of the event:

- a) Place, Date and Name of the event
- b) List of competitors that took part in the event;
- c) Fight Results - place (1st or 2nd) of the competitors;
- d) The fact (information) of any head knockout;
- e) The fact (information) of any serious injury
- f) Copy of all Medical Reports.
- g) In the case of head knockout or serious injury the head referee, a SMAA representative, and the doctor must also submit comments.

2.3

SMAA Follow-up - Banning periods after a head knockout:

- a) 45 days after the first head knockout within 12 months;
- b) 135 days after the second head knockout within 12 months; and
- c) 365 days after the third head knockout within 12 months (EEG required).
After being banned for 365 days due to three head knockouts within 12 months, the competitor has to submit a medical attest with a negative EEG examination result before he/she can compete in any SMAA Event again;
- d) All fight results will be forwarded to the Alberta and Manitoba Fight Commissions.

3.0

AGE CATEGORIES

Juniors - Ages 14 to 17 years:

Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing - In the case of Junior competing in a Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Event, the promoter of the SMAA sanctioned events shall match the junior competitors within a 18 month age difference (date of birth to date of birth) and within a single weight class as noted below. To compete in the junior category the competitor must be aged 14-17 years old on the day of the event. All junior matches must be pre-approved by the SMAA Executive prior to the Event.

Adults - Ages 18 years and older:

Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing - In the case of Adults competing in a Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Event, the promoter of the SMAA sanctioned events shall match adults with adults only (aged 18 years and older) and within a single weight class as noted below. Should a promoter match an adult with a youth or junior the promoter shall be fined \$2000 plus be banned from

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holding a SMAA sanctioned event for a period of one year. The under-age competitors coach and the under-age competitors club shall also be fined \$1,000 each. Further disciplinary action may also be taken as deemed by the SMAA Executive Board.

3.1

WEIGHT CLASSES

Junior Weight Categories are;

(Under 40kg) (40.1-43.0 kg) (43.1-46.0 kg) (46.1-50.0 kg) (50.1-54.0 kg) (54.1-58.0 kg)
(58.1- 62.0 kg) (62.1-66.0 kg) (66.1-70.0 kg) (70.1-74.0 kg) (74.1-78.0 kg) (78.1-82.0 kg)
(82.1-86.0 kg) (86.1-90.0 kg) (90.1 plus kg)

All Junior matches must be pre-approved by the SMAA Executive prior to Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Events. In Light Kick-Boxing events the SMAA Representative may combine weight classes at their discretion.

Adult Weight Categories are;

(Under 50kg) (50.1-54.0 kg) (54.1-58.0 kg) (58.1-62.0 kg) (62.1-66.0 kg) (66.1-70.0 kg)
(70.1-74.0 kg) (74.1-78.0 kg) (78.1-82.0 kg) (82.1-86.0 kg) (86.1-90.0 kg) (90.1-95.0 kg)
(95.1-100.0 kg) (100.1 plus kg)

In Light Kick-Boxing events the SMAA Representative may combine weight classes at their discretion.

3.2

Weigh-In

The weigh-in has to be completed at least four hours prior to the event. The weigh-in is to be supervised by the SMAA Representative.

There is no tolerance for Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Events. Should a competitor fail to meet the weight class they will be given two hours to make the weight. Should they fail to meet the weight in the required time the match will be dropped from the event.

In light Kick-Boxing events the SMAA Representative may combine weight classes at their discretion.

3.3

Amateurs & Professionals:

A fighter must have at least 10 fights before they can fight in a professional match.

After having signed a professional contract and having fought as a professional it is no longer possible to revert to amateur status.

4.0

Medical Examination:

A pre-fight Medical must be performed within 12 hours of the event. At the Pre-Fight Medical, the competitors must:

- a) **Fill out** and sign SMAA Medical and Suspension agreement;
- b) Show a medical proof of EEG examination in case of having experienced three head knockouts within a period of less than 12 months, whereas the EEG must be made after the banned period;

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- c) Fighters must submit ECG results and HIV and Hepatitis A, B & C test results that have been done within the last year; and undersigned by physician;
- d) All competitors must present a valid picture ID.

Failure to do or submit any of the above will result in cancellation of their match.

Otherwise the competitor has to undergo a medical check by the fight doctor who is designated by promoter of tournament. Whenever there are male and female participants, the medical examinations have to be held in separate rooms or in case of availability of one room only during different times.

If the competitor is deemed not fit to compete as determined by the fight doctor, he or she shall not be permitted to fight.

5.0 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

5.1 Fighting Area for Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing, Thai-Boxing & Light-Kick-boxing Events (Box Rings):

Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing competitions are to be held inside the rings. The box rings must meet Canadian Boxing Association norms.

The box ring's components, all side protections and ropes, must be inspected by the SMAA Representative for suitability and safety prior to the first competition.

Usually each length side of the squared box ring is minimum 4.5 meters and maximum 6.0 meters (side length of the rope). It consists of 4 ropes.

The minimum diameter of the 4 ropes is 2.5cm (1").

The lowest rope must be placed at 33cm (13") above the platform, while the top rope is placed no more than 1.3 m above the platform.

All ropes must be covered with soft tightly fitted materials. The 4 corners must be made of metal. The diagonal distance between opposite corners must not exceed 10.6 meters (outside measurement).

The height of the corners must not be more than 1.3 meters (52") above the platform of the ring. All corners must be covered with commonly used cushions in order to avoid possible injuries. The platform itself may not be placed higher than 1.2 m above the ground level. It must be covered with a shock absorbent (Mat Puzzles) or similar material below the ring floor layer. Stairs are placed in the red and the blue corners and one on the white corner.

Sufficient chairs have to be provided for the coaches.

The referee-tables must be equipped with the following items:

- Pool lists or Fight List
- Score cards/Announcer cards
- Table stop watch and hand stop watch as a reserve

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- Acoustic signal (Bell, Whistle or Horn)
- Rubber Gloves
- Paper Towels and disinfectant
- PC and printer are allowed
- Water for the Officials in clear plastic bottles- no other beverages shall be allowed at any of the referee or judges tables
- Spare papers and pencils

Judges tables and chairs are located along the other three sides of the ring box.

Sufficient space for the ring doctor, medics and/or emergency personnel is to be provided at ringside.

To avoid possible injuries, camera-men and spectators are not allowed on or near the platform during the rounds.

Promoters may apply to use a cage in place of a ring. Promoters must submit specifications for the cage 4 weeks prior to the event. The SMAA Executive will advise the promoter if the cage is acceptable. Other than the cage itself, all of the above is still applicable.

5.2 Officials

All provisions in this article set the basic duties of officials for Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing, Thai-Boxing and Light-Kickboxing. Officials also have to fulfill other conditions, requirements and duties set in other SMAA official documents related to referees.

Officials Categories:

The SMAA has 4 levels of Officials for Full Contact Sports.

Level I Officials – Must have attended and passed a SMAA Level 1 Full Contact Officiating Seminar. Level I Officials can time keep and score keep at SMAA sanctioned events.

Level II Officials - Must have attended and passed both the SMAA Level I and Level II Full Contact Officiating Seminars. Level II officials can judge at SMAA sanctioned events.

Level III Officials - Must have attended and passed a Level I, Level II and Level III Full Contact Officiating Seminar. Level III Officials can referee at SMAA sanctioned events.

Level IV Officials - Will be a Level III Full Contact Official appointed by the SMAA Executive Board. Level IV Full Contact officials can be a SMAA Representative at SMAA sanctioned events.

SMAA certified officials are registered in the SMAA database. Their Name, Level and Contact information will be published on the official SMAA Website. (www.saskmaa.com)

It is the responsibility of the Promoter to arrange all of the officials with the exception of the SMAA Representative which shall be arranged by the SMAA Executive.

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5.3

Conflict of Interest:

At SMAA sanctioned events where provincial title or national title matches are held. Only time-keepers and score-keepers can be associated with either of the competitors clubs. All other officials must be neutral.

Note: This rule about conflict of interest can be broken only by decision of the SMAA Representative and only in the case when there is not enough number of referees from different clubs at the event.

It is the referee's responsibility to report any possible conflict of interest. In case of an omission, the SMAA Representative may impose one or more of the following measures:

- a) Warning;
- b) Exclusion of further participation as a referee on the event;
- c) Reduction of the referee's compensation; and/or
- d) Withdrawal of the referee's certification for a period of time determined by the SMAA Executive.

5.4

SMAA Representative:

A SMAA Representative will be designated by the SMAA Executive for every event.

The SMAA Representative can replace referees who have been obviously not neutral or who violate the official SMAA competition rules. In such cases the SMAA Executive Board will review a video of the fight to determine if the fight results are to be overturned.

5.5

Head Referee:

A Head Referee shall be designated by the Promoter. The Head Referee must be a certified SMAA Level III Official.

The Head Referee is responsible that all SMAA rules will be correctly applied. It is also the responsibility the Head Referee to place the officials at the ring according to their affiliations with school, club or particular competitor.

The Head Referee is responsible for managing all the officials and supervising the ring. He takes care that the time schedule will work and the safety of the fighter is provided (the compulsory attendance of doctor and first aid team).

Prior to the fight, the Head Referee must advise the SMAA Representative of the Officials for each fight.

The Head Referee must chair an officials meeting prior to the fight to discuss the upcoming event and also chair a post event meeting to discuss any issues that may have arise during the event. The SMAA Representative must be in attendance for these officials meetings.

It is the duty of the Head Referee to collect and submit all reports to the SMAA Executive Board regarding a Head Knockout or serious injury.

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5.6

Protests:

A registration fee of \$500 must be submitted by the Coach of the competitor to the SMAA when registering a protest. Should the protest be validated the \$500 will be returned, if it is not validated the SMAA will keep the registration fee.

The SMAA has a limit of 30 days to submit a Protest.

5.7

Clothing:

In the case of a Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing or Thai-Boxing Event Officials must wear black pants and a black shirt.

To minimize injuries, it is forbidden for referees to wear any jewelry, watches, pens, etc. Judges are accepted from this rule since no body contact with competitors is possible.

The use of medical gloves by referees is mandatory.

6.0

RULES AND REGULATIONS

6.1

ATTENDANCE OF EMT/DOCTOR

The attendance of a doctor (physician) in Full-Contact, Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing is recommended. The attendance of EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) is mandatory.

The Referee has the authority stop or terminate a match at his or her discretion should he have a concern for the safety of the fighters. The referee may consult the EMTs or Doctor in attendance before making this decision.

The Referee may stop the match and have the EMTs or Doctor attend to a competitor at any time during the match.

The SMAA Representative has the authority stop or terminate a match at his or her discretion should he have a concern for the safety of the fighters. The referee may consult the EMT or Doctor in attendance before making this decision. The SMAA Representative may stop the match by having the time-keeper ring the bell.

The SMAA Representative may stop the match and have the EMTs or Doctor attend to a competitor at any time during the match. The SMAA Representative may stop the match by having the time-keeper ring the bell.

No match may start or proceed before the attending EMTs or Doctor is in place, and they may not leave their place until to the decision in the match has been made. If EMTs or the Doctor is attending to an injured competitor the event must be delayed until they are back in place.

The EMTs or Doctor shall be ready to assist if a serious emergency arises, and to administer first aid in the event of less serious injuries.

Nobody, even seconds, may attempt to aid a competitor during a round before the attending EMTs or Doctor has had the opportunity to see the injured competitor.

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If the Referee calls upon the EMTs or Doctor to enter the ring to examine a presumed injury, the examination must take place in the ring and have duration of not more than one minute. Should this time not be sufficient, the Referee shall stop the match and declare a winner. Should any treatment be required in the ring the Referee shall stop the match and declare a winner.

6.2 ROUNDS

All Amateur (men and women) **Non-Title Bouts** shall be conducted over 3 rounds of 2 minutes for adults and over 3 rounds of 1.5 minutes for juniors. There is a break of 1 minute duration between rounds.

All Amateur (men and women) **Title Bouts** shall be conducted over 5 rounds of 2 minutes for adults and over 3 rounds of 2 minutes for juniors. There is a break of 1 minute duration between rounds.

6.3 RULES OF CONDUCT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE RING

It is the duty of *every* competitor to show fair play in the ring. Should a competitor not be ready to continue the match, because his/her safety equipment is not working properly or for other reasons, he shall retreat one step and raise one arm.

Should a competitor be sent down for the count or in any other way be incapacitated, his/her opponent shall immediately retreat to the nearest neutral corner and wait for the referee to signal that the match can proceed again.

When a competitor receives a warning or a reprimand from the referee, he/she must bow in the direction of the referee to indicate that he/she has understood the reason why.

At the conclusion of the fight the competitors shall approach the referee, standing in the centre of the ring, and there, one on each side of the referee, await the speaker's announcement of the verdict. The referee then raises the arm of the winner.

After the fight, the competitors congratulate each other and the opponent's seconds for a job well done, after which both competitors shall bow to the referee in recognition of his/her efforts. Violation of SMAA rules and regulations, or infringements of the unwritten laws of good sportsmanship and fair play may lead to a warning or disqualification for a shorter or longer duration of time, depending on the seriousness of the violation or infringement.

6.4 THE COMPETITOR

Full-Contact Clothing - Males must wear traditional martial arts pants with a bare upper body, females must wear traditional martial arts pants with a sports halter top.

Kick-Boxing and Thai-Boxing Clothing -Males must wear shorts with a bare upper body, females must wear shorts with a sports halter top.

The competitors must be in good physical shape and have a good sportsmanlike attitude.

The competitors must be well groomed and presentable. The nails of hands and feet must be cut short.

All competitors shall be clean and proper.

It is forbidden to wear any jewelry of any type.

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It is the sole prerogative of the SMAA referee to decide whether the length of the hair poses a safety hazard to the competitors or an obstacle to the unhindered observation of the match. In such cases the hair must be contained by a net or tied back.

Excessive use of grease or similar substances is prohibited. The referee can insist that any Vaseline, grease or any other similar substances be removed before the fight can start or proceed.

The Competitor's Equipment

All competitors must be equipped in all divisions with approved safety equipment in the form of padded protectors:

Full-Contact Equipment:

1. All Females Competitors in all age categories must wear individually fitted breast-protectors,
2. All Competitors (Females and all Males) must wear individually fitted groin-protectors,
3. All competitors must wear padded foot protectors that cover the toes in their entirety and also cover the heels,
4. All competitors must wear shin protectors,
5. All competitors must wear head-protectors (provided by the promoter); the top of the head and the back of the head must be protected too,
6. All Competitors must wear individually fitted tooth-protector (gum shield),
7. All competitors must have their hands wrapped- tape cannot cover the knuckles- all wraps must be approved and signed by the Head Referee or SMAA Representative prior to the fight,
8. All competitors must wear Gloves (provided by the promoter). Both competitors must wear the same weight and brand of gloves. Adults (both male & females) under 78.0 Kg and under must wear 10 OZ gloves, 78.1 Kg and over must wear 12 OZ gloves. All Youth and Junior divisions must wear 12 OZ gloves,
9. Other than Head-protectors and Gloves, the competitors have the responsibility of bringing their own personalequipment and that of their seconds to all SMAA sanctioned events. The promoter may provide tape and gauze at their discretion.

Kick-Boxing & Thai-Boxing Equipment:

1. All Females Competitors in all age categories must wear individually fitted breast- protectors,
2. All Competitors (Females and all Males) must wear individually fitted groin-protectors,
3. All competitors must wear shin-instep protectors,
4. All competitors must wear head-protectors (provided by the promoter); the top of the head and the back of the head must be protected too,
5. All Competitors must wear individually fitted tooth-protector (gum shield),
6. All competitors must have their hands wrapped- tape cannot cover the knuckles —all wraps must be approved and signed by the Head Referee or SMAA Representative prior to the fight,
7. All competitors must wear Gloves (provided by the promoter). Both competitors must wear the same weight and brand of gloves. Adults (both male & females) under 78.0 Kg and under must wear 10 OZ gloves, 78.1 Kg and over must wear 12 OZ gloves. All Youth and Junior divisions must wear 12 OZ gloves,
8. Other than Head-protectors and Gloves, the competitors have the responsibility of bringing their own personal equipment and that of their seconds to all SMAA sanctioned events. The promoter may provide tape and gauze at their discretion.

6.5 SECONDS

The second may give up on behalf of the competitor if they deem it irresponsible to let the fight continue. This is indicated by the second throwing a white towel into the ring.

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Prior to every tournament the head referee shall call a meeting with all the judges, referees and seconds to clear up any questions about rules, regulations and the general proceedings of the tournament. No rules can be changed during this meeting. The SMAA Representative must be present at this meeting.

Seconds shall support and advise their competitors during the intermission between rounds. Each competitor may have 2 Seconds, however only one of these may enter the ring at any time.

During the rounds, neither of the seconds may enter the ring or in any other manner hinder or disturb the proper proceeding of the fight. Seconds shall comply with any and all directions by the referee.

Prior to each round the seconds must remove buckets, stools, towels and the like from the ring, and if necessary wipe the floor clean of water. The seconds shall have at their disposal a towel, a sponge, water and grease for the competitor. Seconds must wear rubber gloves at all times.

During the rounds the seconds may give advice and encourage the competitor in a respectful manner. Should a second violate this rule the referee can issue a warning or expel the second or disqualify the competitor.

A second who has been expelled may not function as second in the remaining part of the event. A match starts when the referee gives the command "fight" to begin the first round, and it finishes when the Referee stops the fight in the last round. Only the competitors and the referee may be present in the ring during the match. If any other person enters the ring, the referee may decide that the fight is immediately over and cannot continue again.

7.0

LEGAL TECHNIQUES

Full-Contact

All forms of boxing combined with kicks are allowed to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Rear or spinning kicks to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Spinning backhands are allowed providing contact only is made to the head with the back of the glove only. Contact made with the forearm or elbow is a foul.

Foot sweeps, are permitted.

Kick-Boxing

All forms of boxing combined with kicks are allowed to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Rear or spinning kicks to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Spinning backhands are allowed providing contact only is made to the head with the back of the glove only. Contact made with the forearm or elbow is a foul.

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Low kicks to the thighs between the thigh joint and the knee, inside and outside (kicks directly to the joints are a foul).

Low kicks to the shins between the ankle joint and the knee, inside and outside (kicks directly to the joints are a foul).

Thai-Boxing

All forms of boxing combined with kicks are allowed to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Rear or spinning kicks to the body above the waist and to the head with full contact to knock out the opponent.

Spinning backhands are allowed providing contact only is made to the head with the back of the glove only. Contact made with the forearm or elbow is a foul.

Low kicks to the thighs between the thigh joint and the knee, inside and outside (kicks directly to the joints are a foul).

Low kicks to the shins between the ankle joint and the knee, inside and outside (kicks directly to the joints are a foul).

Knee attacks to the body above the waist are allowed (knees to the head are a foul).

Kicks with the shin to the thighs, body and the head.

Clinching (holding) for 5 seconds and attacking at the same time with knees and elbows or any strikes.

Flat throws below the waist line, only in clinching situations.

7.1

ILLEGAL TECHNIQUES

Full-Contact

- All forms of biting are prohibited.
- All strikes, blows and punches executed with the palm side of the gloves are prohibited.
- All kicks to the back and the back of the neck are prohibited.
- Any form of butting with the head is prohibited.
- All attacks (strikes, punches, kicks) against the joints are prohibited.
- Kicks to the groin are prohibited.
- Attacking a downed opponent or an opponent who touches the floor with his /her gloves is prohibited.
- Spitting out one's tooth protector (gum-shield) is prohibited.
- Any kind of throwing above the waistline.
- Holding the opponent's leg while executing striking or punching techniques
- Holding the ropes and attacking an opponent, also in clinching situations
- Any form of throwing (excluding foot sweeps) is prohibited.
- Any form of clinching or holding the opponent is prohibited.
- All types of strikes with the elbows are prohibited.

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- Any form of kicking with the knees is prohibited.
- All kicks against the thighs or under the waistline are prohibited, excluding foot sweep.
- Any un-sportsmanship behavior by the competitor or the coach.

Kickboxing

- All forms of biting are prohibited.
- All strikes, blows and punches executed with the palm side of the gloves are prohibited.
- All kicks to the back and the back of the neck are prohibited.
- Any form of butting with the head is prohibited.
- All attacks (strikes, punches, kicks) against the joints are prohibited.
- Kicks to the groin are prohibited.
- Attacking a downed opponent or an opponent who touches the floor with his /her gloves is prohibited.
- Spitting out one's tooth protector (gum-shield) is prohibited.
- Any kind of throwing above the waistline.
- Holding the opponent's leg while executing striking or punching techniques
- Holding the ropes and attacking an opponent, also in clinching situations
- Any form of throwing (excluding foot sweeps) is prohibited.
- Any form of clinching or holding the opponent is prohibited.
- All types of strikes with the elbows are prohibited.
- Any form of kicking with the knees is prohibited.
- Any un-sportsmanship behavior by the competitor or the coach.

Thai-Boxing

- All forms of biting are prohibited.
- All strikes, blows and punches executed with the palm side of the gloves are prohibited.
- All kicks to the back and the back of the neck are prohibited.
- Any form of butting with the head is prohibited.
- All attacks (strikes, punches, kicks) against the joints are prohibited.
- Kicks to the groin are prohibited.
- Attacking a downed opponent or an opponent who touches the floor with his /her gloves is prohibited.
- Spitting out one's tooth protector (gum-shield) is prohibited.
- Any kind of throwing *above* the waistline.
- Holding the opponent's leg while executing striking or punching techniques
- Holding the ropes and attacking an opponent, also in clinching situations
- The use of spinning back fist only with focus on the opponent.
- All types of strikes with the elbows are prohibited.
- Any form of kicking with the knees to the head is prohibited.
- Any un-sportsmanship behavior by the competitor or the coach.

7.2

Warnings and minus-points

In case of a serious violation of the *above* noted fouls the Referee shall stop the fight with the command "stop" and issue a warning. The warning shall be issued clearly and in such a manner that the competitor in question understands the reason for the warning.

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The referee shall clearly indicate which competitor has received the warning by pointing his hand. The Referee shall then visit each judge and directly inform them of the foul. The judges shall deduct 1 point from the offending competitors score and shall note on the score sheet the nature of the foul.

Should a competitor receive 3 warnings in one match, they shall be immediately disqualified from the match.

The warnings and penalty (minus) points are given for using any illegal technique or doing prohibited actions, also for violations by a coach.

8.0

AMATEUR SCORING RULES

The judges shall base their evaluation of the fight on the following guidelines:

- Number of knock downs
- Number of minus points
- Number of points scored
- Fighting spirit and initiative
- Effective parries and counterattacks

To score points all effective legal kicks or punches must hit directly without being blocked or parried on any legal area. For punches and blows the technique must be delivered with the striking zone of the closed glove.

8.1

Scoring and Points in Full-Contact, Kickboxing & Thai-Boxing

Decisions shall be made after the following guidelines:

1. When neither competitor dominates the other and a round is even: 10:10 points. Should a 10:10 round happen Judges are to consider the number of effective kicks thrown. If one opponent has thrown significantly more effective kicks than his opponent then the Judges should award him/her the round as 10:9 round.
2. The winning competitor of a round gets 10 points; his/her opponent gets 9 points.
3. If an official warning is given because of a "foul", the judges shall immediately deduct 1 point from this competitor. If a competitor gets three official warnings, they will be disqualified from the match.
4. The judges shall always note the warnings on the scorecard to indicate that the competitor has received a warning.
5. If a competitor gets knocked down, *each* judge must deduct 1 point from the scorecard, immediately when the round is over (i.e. 10:9). The judges shall always mark this knockdown with the letter K (for knockdown) on the scorecard to indicate that the competitor has received a knockdown.
6. If a competitor is knocked down three times in a fight the Referee must immediately end the match and declare the opponent a winner.
7. If a competitor gets a standing 8 count, each judge must deduct 1 point from the scorecard, immediately when the round is over (i.e. 10:9). The judges shall always mark this standing 8 count with the letters S-8 (for standing 8 count) on the scorecard to indicate that the competitor has received a standing 8 count.

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8. If a competitor receives 3 standing 8 counts in a round the Referee must immediately end the match and declare the opponent a winner.
9. A score with less than 8 points can only happen if the judge gives a 10:9 or a 10:8 score for the round and points were deducted as well.
10. At the conclusion of the match all rounds are added up for each judge to the final score (i.e. 30:27). Final scores from each judge shall be compiled to determine the winner.
11. Should a judge observe a violation that has apparently escaped the notice of the referee, and if he/she subsequently imposes a reasonable sanction upon the competitor committing the violation, he/she shall indicate that he/she has done just that by marking the points of the violating competitor with the letter J (for judge's minus) and in writing state his/her reasons for the sanction.
12. Upon completion of each round the Referee shall gather the score cards from each judge, review the cards and then pass them on to the official score-keeper for tallying.

8.2

STOPPING THE CONTEST DUE TO AN INJURY

If one of the competitors is injured and the fight is over because of a foul, the innocent competitor is declared the winner.

In case of an accident the judges have to finish their scorecards and the competitor with the highest number of points is declared the winner. Should this situation occur in the first round the match shall be declared "no contest" and no winner is declared.

If both competitors are accidentally injured simultaneously, the judges have to finish their scorecards and the competitor with the highest number of points is declared the winner. Should this situation occur in the first round the match shall be declared "no contest" and no winner is declared.

If both competitors are knocked-out simultaneously, the match shall be declared a draw.

In cases where a competitor voluntarily gives up because of injuries or for any other reason, or if he or she does not resume fighting immediately after the intermission between rounds, the opponent shall be declared the winner. In these cases the second shall throw a white towel into the ring to signal that his/her competitor gives up.

8.3

REFEREE STOPPING THE CONTEST

The referee may stop a match if a competitor is clearly outmatched or if he/she is a hazard to his/her own safety after the following guidelines:

1. If a competitor in the judgment of the referee is clearly overmatched and will face unnecessary punishment in the ring the match should not be allowed to go on.
2. If a competitor in the judgment of the referee is unable to continue the match due to injuries or for any other physical reasons, the referee must stop the match. The Referee has the authority stop or terminate a match at his or her discretion should he have a concern for the safety of the fighters. The referee may consult the EMTs or Doctor in attendance before making this decision.

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8.4

NO CONTEST

A match may be stopped immediately by the referee before the prescribed time due to circumstances beyond the control of the competitors or the referee:

1. The safety equipment of the ring has been damaged.
2. The ring is unsafe for use.
3. The lighting over the ring is failing
4. Weather conditions force the referee to stop the match.

Under such circumstances the match shall be stopped and a "no contest" no winner is declared.

8.5

WALKOVER

If one competitor is present in the ring and ready to fight and his/her opponent fails to show after his/her name has been called over the loudspeaker, the referee shall signal the referee's table to start with the running of 2 minutes. If the opponent has not entered the ring within a time limit of 2 minute, the timekeeper shall strike the gong to signal that the match has been stopped. The referee shall then announce the competitor who was first in the ring and declare him/her the winner by "walk-over".

The judges shall note this on their scorecards, which are then collected. The judges shall then summon the competitor who has won on walk-over to the centre of the ring, and thereafter the announcement of the decision, raise his/her hand and declare him/her the winner.

8.6

OFFICIAL DECISIONS

KO - Knock-out shall be awarded if one competitor knocks another competitor down and they are unable to rise before the Referee has completed their 8 count.

TKO - Technical Knock-out is awarded if the Referee stops the fight for any other reason than for a knock-out, injury or foul.

Majority Decision - The fight is completed and the judge's scores are tallied and all Judges vote for one competitor.

Split Decision - The fight is completed and all judges' scores are tallied and two Judges vote for one competitor and one judge votes for another competitor.

Draw - The fight is completed and all judges' scores are tallied and one judge votes for one competitor, one judge votes for the other competitor and one judge calls it a draw, or both competitors knock each other out simultaneously.

Disqualification - If the Referee disqualifies one opponent at any time during the match.

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8.7

PROTESTS AND ALTERATION OF DECISIONS

The scoring of the referee and judges is final.

Protests against the decisions of a referee or judge can only be accepted in the event that the competition rules have not been correctly applied.

A judge's verdict, given at the conclusion of any match shall be binding and may be altered only in the event that the Head Referee and the SMAA Representative deem that one of the following circumstances has occurred:

1. A conspiracy has taken place or an illegal agreement has been entered into to affect the result of the match.
2. The addition of the scorecards is faulty; one judge has mixed up the corners, resulting in the victory being given to the wrong competitor.
3. There has been clear violation of the rules and regulations of the SMAA, directly affecting the outcome of the match.

Protests shall be directed to the SMAA Representative and shall state the reason in a proper manner for the complaint along with any supporting evidence that a wrong decision has been made. The protest must be accompanied by a processing fee of \$500. Should the protest be validated the \$500 will be returned, if it is not validated the SMAA will keep the registration fee.

After hearing evidence from the protesting side, the referees and judges concerned, the SMAA Representative will forward all information to the SMAA Executive for review. The SMAA Executive's decision is final. **Note:** Video recordings can and will be used to justify a protest.