

PART 206 – Commission Powers and Duties

PART 207 – Licenses, Standards and Terms

PART 208 – Special Rules for Health, Safety and Integrity

PART 209 – Contract Oversight

PART 210 – Staging of Professional Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts Events

PART 211 – Special Rules for Professional Boxing

PART 212 – Special Rules for Professional Mixed Martial Arts

PART 213 – Rules for the Promotion of Professional Wrestling

PART 214 – Authorization of Third-Party Sanctioning Entities

PART 206 – Commission Powers and Duties

Section 206.1. Power of Commission to control combative sports and professional wrestling

No combative sport or professional wrestling contest or exhibition shall be held within this State except in accordance with law and the rules of the Commission.

Section 206.2. Authority of commissioner or deputy

At all contests and exhibitions taking place within the State of New York and within the jurisdiction of the Commission, each commissioner and each deputy or acting deputy shall have the full power to act on behalf of the Commission to interpret, construe, and fully enforce all the rules of the Commission and each such Commission official has the power and authority to immediately suspend, without prior notice, any license for any violation of the rules of the Commission or of the laws of this State. Commission staff shall be deemed acting deputies of the commissioners for purposes of this section whenever on duty at a combative sport or professional wrestling contest or exhibition held within the State of New York.

Section 206.3. Authority of Commission representative at events

The representative of the Commission in charge of any professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts contest or exhibition shall have complete authority, subject only to the direction of the Commission or a higher-ranking representative of the Commission acting on behalf of the

Commission, over all phases of the weigh-in, over all entrances to the site of the event, including press and pass entrances and entrances for participants, officials, and employees; the ring and ringside, including press, radio, and television accommodations; over all the dressing rooms of participants and officials; the counting and accounting for all tickets, including working press, complimentary, participants', officials', and employees' tickets; the collection of proof of all required insurance premium payments and policies; the documenting and reporting of all accidents, injuries, and illnesses affecting persons subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, whether or not insurance coverage is involved; the collection of all fees, including special license fees, and other monies due the State; the actions of all other Commission representatives assigned to the event; the payment of purses and other monies due and payable to participants and fees and expenses due and payable to officials; and in general over all matters under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to modify the obligations of the Commission or its representatives when acting as agents of the commissioner of taxation and finance under article 19 of the Tax Law.

Section 206.4. Impounding of monies

In case of the termination of any contest or exhibition under the jurisdiction of the Commission by disqualification of one or more of the participants, as well as in other circumstances where such action shall be deemed appropriate by him or her, the Commission representative in charge shall have the authority to impound all monies otherwise due the alleged offending party or parties pending action on the matter by the Commission.

Section 206.5. Licenses required and applicable definitions

(a) No boxer, mixed martial artist, promoter, manager, second/trainer, matchmaker, referee, judge, or timekeeper, shall engage, in any way, either directly or indirectly, in professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts contests or exhibitions in this State unless he or she shall have first procured the appropriate license or permit from the Commission.

(b) No promoter shall engage, directly or indirectly, in the promotion of any professional wrestling exhibition in this State unless he or she shall have first procured an appropriate license or permit from the Commission.

(c) No sanctioning entity shall engage, directly or indirectly, in the oversight, conduct or authorization of any combative sport match or exhibition in this State unless it shall have first procured the appropriate license and authorization from the Commission.

(d) The following definitions shall be applicable:

- (1) “Professional boxing” shall mean any boxing match or exhibition featuring a combatant who is a professional, as defined in subdivision 6 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (2) “Professional mixed martial arts” shall mean any mixed martial arts match or exhibition featuring a combatant who is a professional, as defined in subdivision 6 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (3) “Professional combative sports” shall mean any match or exhibition of an authorized combative sport featuring a combatant who is a professional, as defined in subdivision 6 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (4) “Amateur boxing” shall mean any boxing match or exhibition featuring combatants who are both amateurs, as defined in subdivision 1 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (5) “Amateur mixed martial arts” shall mean any mixed martial arts match or exhibition featuring combatants who are both amateurs, as defined in subdivision 1 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (6) “Amateur combative sports” shall mean any match or exhibition of an authorized combative sport featuring combatants who are both amateurs, as defined in subdivision 1 of Section 1000 of the General Business Law.
- (7) “Match” shall mean any bout, contest, or other competition in which two combatants display their skill against each other in bona fide athletic competition with the understanding that the final result of the contest shall be counted toward their official records.
- (8) “Exhibition” shall mean an engagement in which participants display their skill against one another for other than training purposes in a format resembling that of a match with the understanding that the final result of the competition will not be counted toward their official records, and where the final outcome and maneuvers used in the display are not prohibited from being rehearsed and predetermined by the participants and the associated promoter.
- (9) “Contact sparring” shall mean practice boxing, practice mixed martial arts, or other practice combative sport conducted between two participants for training purposes in which blows are landed to the head or body of one or both participants in a manner intended to mimic those that may be attempted in a match, whether or not headgear is used.
- (10) “Card or event” shall mean all matches and exhibitions scheduled to occur as part of a program of matches and exhibitions put on by a promoter to which a single ticket authorizes entry.
- (11) “Combatant, contestant, or participant” shall mean a participant fighter in a combative sport match or exhibition.
- (12) “Purse or Ring Earnings” shall mean any financial guarantee, payments, or remuneration of any kind including prizes, win bonuses or shares of any payment received for ticket sales, broadcasting or streaming rights provided to a combatant in a match or exhibition.

Section 206.6. Violation of State laws or Commission rules by licensee

(a) Any licensee, permit holder or otherwise authorized person or entity who violates the laws of the State of New York, including the Tax Law and the regulations thereunder, or the rules, policies and directives of this Commission, may have his or her license, permit or other authorization revoked and may be fined, suspended or otherwise disciplined, and may have the official result of his or her match modified, in such manner as the Commission may direct. The Commission shall have the power, in its discretion, to declare forfeited any purse, or any part thereof, belonging to the contestants or either of them or, the share thereof of any manager, if it has reason to believe, such contestant or contestants, or manager of a contestant, as the case may be, has committed any act in violation of any rule or regulation of the Commission. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to allow modification of the obligations of a licensee under article 19 of the Tax Law.

(b) The amount so forfeited shall be paid within 48 hours to the Commission. Such monies shall be held by the Commission until there is a final determination whether such violation has in fact been committed.

Section 206.7. Suspension of license

The Commission may suspend any license, permit or other authorization it has issued by a dated notice to that effect to the suspended party, mailed or delivered to the party at the party's last known address on file with the Commission, and specifying the effective date and term of the suspension, provided however that the Commission representative in charge of a contest or exhibition may then and there temporarily suspend any license issued by the Commission without such notice. In the event of a temporary suspension, the Commission shall mail or deliver the notice to the suspended licensee within three business days after the temporary suspension. Suspension may be without any advance hearing. Upon the receipt of such notice of suspension, the suspended licensee may apply to the Commission for a hearing on the matter to determine whether such suspension should be rescinded. Such application for a hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Commission within 30 days after the date of service of the notice of suspension.

Section 206.8. Revocation of license

The Commission shall have the authority to revoke any license, permit or other authorization issued by it. Before any license is so revoked, the licensee, permit holder or otherwise authorized person or entity will be offered the opportunity at a hearing held by or on behalf of the Commission to show cause why the license, permit or other authorization should not be revoked.

Section 206.9. Fines

The Commission shall have the authority to fine any licensee, permit holder, or otherwise authorized person or entity by a dated notice to the fined party, mailed or delivered to the party at the party's last known address on file with the Commission, and specifying the effective date of such fine. Such fine may be ordered without any advance hearing. Upon the receipt of such notice of fine, the fined party may request a hearing on the matter before the Commission to show cause why the fine should be modified or rescinded. Such application for a hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Commission within 30 days after the date of service of the notice of fine. When a fine has been imposed upon a party, his or her license, permit or other authorization may, in the discretion of the Commission, be suspended until such fine has been paid.

Section 206.10. Other disciplinary and supervisory authority

Nothing in these rules shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission to supervise and discipline licensees, permit holders, or otherwise authorized persons and entities, in its discretion pursuant to law.

Section 206.11. Comity

The Commission, in its discretion, may recognize and enforce within its jurisdiction, disciplinary sanctions, disqualifications and retirements imposed by other authorities. Except as may otherwise be required by federal law, such recognition and enforcement shall be in each instance subject to petition to the Commission by the affected person(s). The Commission shall thereupon inquire into the merits of the case to an extent which the Commission, in its sole discretion, may decide. The Commission will thereafter, without formal proceedings, render a final decision in accordance with the substantial equities as these shall appear to the Commission in its sole discretion.

Section 206.12. Contracts

All contracts calling for the services of a professional in an authorized professional combative sport and entered into by licensed promoters, professionals or managers as one or more of the parties in such contracts shall be subject to Commission approval and must be filed with the Commission to be valid. All such contracts must comply with applicable provisions of New York State and federal law. The Commission shall have jurisdiction over any contracts directly related to the conduct of authorized professional combative sports in the state of New York, and shall have the authority, in its discretion, to act to invalidate, enforce, mediate, arbitrate or modify such contracts. All contracts

directly related to the conduct of professional boxing activity in the state of New York must also comply with the applicable requirements of the federal Professional Boxing Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 6301, et seq.), as amended.

Section 206.13. Inquiries

The Commission shall have the authority to inquire into the affairs of licensees, permit holders and other authorized persons or entities, and into any matter which may affect combative sports or professional wrestling in New York in its discretion and without limitations. Licensees, permit holders, and otherwise authorized persons or entities shall cooperate fully with inquiries by the Commission.

Section 206.14. Hearings

The Commission shall offer the opportunity for a hearing before taking any final action negatively affecting any person's individual privileges or property granted by a license, permit or other authorization duly issued by the Commission or a contract approved by and filed with the Commission. In all such hearings, licensees and other witnesses shall testify under oath or affirmation, which may be administered by any commissioner or authorized representative of the Commission actually present. The Commission shall be the sole judge of the relevancy and competency of testimony and other evidence, the credibility of witnesses, and the sufficiency of evidence, and shall issue the final determination of the matter. Hearings may be conducted and presided over by the Commission, representatives of the Commission, or by administrative law judges within the Department of State's Office of Administrative Hearings, in the discretion of the Commission. In such cases where hearings are conducted by Commission representatives or administrative law judges, the representative or administrative law judge conducting the hearing shall submit findings of fact and recommendations to the Commission, which shall not be binding on the Commission, for consideration and confirmation, modification, remand for additional proceedings, or rejection.

Section 206.15. Communications with licensees

All Commission bulletins and notices to any licensee, permit holder or otherwise authorized person or entity shall be addressed and sent to such licensee at the registered address of such licensee. The registered address of any licensee shall be his or her address or email address as specified in his or her application for a license, and in the event any licensee changes his or her address or email address, he or she shall promptly file with the Commission an appropriate change-of-address

rider or amendment to such application. All licensees are bound by the notices and bulletins sent to their registered addresses, and the Commission need not entertain any plea or request based upon a contention that such notice or bulletin was not sent to any other address of the licensee. Licensees shall be deemed to have received proper notice of Commission bulletins and notices so distributed.

Section 206.16. Personnel changes in business entity licensee

A business entity licensee shall notify the Commission immediately of any changes to the officers, responsible parties or directors listed in the entity's license application by filing an amendment thereto with the Commission.

Section 206.17. Papers and disclosures filed with Commission

All applications, records or other papers and documents filed or submitted to the Commission or to the medical advisory board or at any hearing, become the property of the Commission, except that any such paper or document filed with or submitted to the Commission in its role as agent of the commissioner of taxation and finance shall be furnished to such commissioner. In addition, all disclosures made to the Commission shall be considered disclosures to the State of New York, but shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public disclosure.

Section 206.18. Records of licensee available for inspection by the Commission

All the books and records of any licensee of this Commission, which directly or indirectly concern combative sports or professional wrestling, shall, at all times, be subject to the inspection of the Commission at such times and under such circumstances as the Commission may direct. Licensees shall retain records relating to licensed activities and contracts filed with the Commission for no fewer than six years.

Section 206.19. Confidentiality of medical reports

All medical reports submitted to, and all medical records of, the medical advisory board or the Commission, relative to the physical examination or condition of combative sports participants and professional wrestlers, shall be confidential, and shall be open to examination only by the Commission or its authorized representatives, by the subject combatant or the subject wrestler or his or her authorized representative upon his or her written application therefor, or upon the order of a court of competent jurisdiction in an appropriate case.

Section 206.20. Severability

Should any provision of these Commission regulations be declared by a Court to be unconstitutional, or unauthorized, or in conflict with any other superseding section or provision of law, such decision shall affect only that section or provision so declared to be unconstitutional or unauthorized and shall not affect any other section or provision of these regulations.

Section 206.21. Judicial Review

A decision by the Commission, to deny, suspend, or revoke an application, license or certificate issued or to otherwise discipline a licensee, permit holder, or other authorized person or entity pursuant to this Part shall be reviewable pursuant to Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice and Rules Law.

PART 207 – Licenses and Event Approvals

Section 207.1. Licenses required

(a) No person or entity shall act as a participant, referee, judge, manager, trainer/second, promoter, matchmaker, or timekeeper in relation to professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts within the State of New York, unless he or she possesses a valid license therefor issued by the Commission.

(b) No person or entity shall act as a promoter of professional wrestling exhibitions within the State of New York unless he or she possesses a valid license therefor issued by the Commission.

(c) No person or entity shall act as a third-party sanctioning entity overseeing and conducting combative sports matches and exhibitions consisting of amateur mixed martial arts, professional kickboxing, amateur kickboxing, professional single-discipline martial arts, amateur single-discipline martial arts, grappling or wrestling within the State of New York unless he or she possesses a valid license therefor issued by the Commission.

(d) No person or entity shall act as a gym or training facility providing contact sparring for licensed professional combative sports participants unless he or she possesses a valid license therefor issued by the Commission

(e) No one shall engage a person or entity to act in any such capacity who is not duly licensed by the Commission.

(f) No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce, or hold a professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts match or exhibition in this state unless all referees, judges,

timekeepers, combatants, seconds/trainers, and managers participating in the match or exhibition have been licensed by the Commission. No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce, or hold a professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts match or exhibition in this state unless the match or exhibition has been approved and is directly overseen by the Commission.

(g) Licensure does not guarantee authorization or assignment to participate in or officiate at any specific professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts match or exhibition.

(h) Any license issued by the Commission may be renewed within three years of its expiration by filing a renewal application in a form and manner as may be authorized and directed by the Commission.

Section 207.2. Applications for licenses and permits

Every application for a license or a permit shall:

- (a) be in writing on a form supplied or approved by the Commission;
- (b) be verified by the applicant; and
- (c) set forth such information and have attached thereto such exhibits as required by the Commission.

Section 207.3. Examinations

The Commission shall have the authority to require any applicant for any license or permit, and in the case of a business entity applicant any principal, officer, director, responsible employee or owner thereof, or any licensee, to appear before the Commission for oral and/or written examination or other demonstration as to his or her fitness and qualifications for the license or permit sought.

Section 207.4. Duration of licenses

- (a) For licenses issued prior to September 1, 2018, each license related to professional boxing and professional wrestling issued by the Commission shall be annual and shall expire on the 30th day of September next following the date on which it was issued. Thereafter, any such license shall be annual and shall expire one year after issuance.
- (b) Each license related to professional mixed martial arts and training facilities providing contact sparring for professional combative sports participants shall be annual and shall expire one year after issuance.
- (c) Each license related to recognition and authorization of a third-party sanctioning entity shall be biennial and shall expire two years after issuance.

Section 207.5. Professional boxer and professional mixed martial artist licenses

(a) To obtain a license to act as a professional boxer or professional mixed martial artist, and before each match or exhibition in which he or she fights, such person shall present to the Commission the following information as required by the Commission:

- (1) the professional combatant's name, photographic identification, social security number, date of birth, a boxer Federal ID number or mixed martial artist National ID number, as applicable, and other identifying information as may be required by the Commission;
- (2) the professional combatant's prior combative sports history including the date, location, name of opponent and decision of any such matches and exhibitions; and
- (3) the professional combatant's medical history relating to any physical condition, medical tests and procedures which relate to his ability to participate in professional combative sports, and a record of all medical suspensions.

(b) The applicant must also present the Commission with information relating to each and every license, "passbook," or other authorization to participate in combative sports issued to him or her by any state, country or amateur association.

(c) The applicant must also submit to and pass any and all medical examinations and laboratory tests as prescribed by the Commission.

Section 207.6. Use of alias

Professional combatants must be licensed by the Commission under their true and legal name. Licensees shall also list any aliases that they may use as a ring name during competition and any other assumed names. During competition, the licensee may be announced by his or her ring name or alias, provided the use of such assumed name is approved by the Commission and provided further that the combatant's true and legal name is disclosed to the Commission and entered on the license.

Section 207.7. Licensing and training standards for seconds

Prior to the issuance of a license of a professional boxing or mixed martial arts second, the Commission may require any applicant to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Commission, general fitness, trustworthiness, and knowledge of the Commission's rules and regulations, treatment of injuries, physical conditioning, health care, nutrition, training, first aid, effects of drugs and alcohol, and the wrapping/bandaging/gloving of a combatant's hand, to the satisfaction of the Commission in a manner approved by the Commission in its discretion. In addition, licensed seconds of professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts shall attend seminars about the

rules and regulations of the Commission and skills as a second of professional boxers or professional mixed martial artists, as required by the Commission in its discretion.

Section 207.8. Licensing and training standards for managers

Prior to the issuance of a manager's license, the Commission may require any applicant to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Commission, knowledge of the rules of the Commission and the generally accepted rules of professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts, as well as his or her skills as a manager of boxers or mixed martial artists and knowledge of the background, skills and experience of each boxer or mixed martial artist the manager seeks to place under contract. Managers shall periodically, as required by the Commission, attend seminars relating to rules of the Commission, health and safety of participants, and skills as a manager of boxers and/or mixed martial artists.

Section 207.9. Licensed Managers as seconds

A licensed manager of a professional boxer or professional mixed martial artist may act as second to such boxer or mixed martial artist in any bout under the jurisdiction of the Commission, but, unless he or she shall also be licensed by the Commission as a second of professional boxers or professional mixed martial artists, he or she shall not be permitted to act as second to any boxer or mixed martial artist with whom he shall have no contractual relationship as manager.

Section 207.10. Licensing standards for promoters of professional boxing and mixed martial arts

Prior to the issuance of a promoter's license, the Commission may require any applicant to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commission a knowledge of the rules of the Commission, the generally accepted rules of professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts as may be applicable,, financial fitness, trustworthiness, the applicant's ability to retain appropriate venues, space, personnel and equipment necessary to conduct a combative sports event, and any other qualification as may be required by the Commission, including submission of a financial questionnaire to be provided by the Commission. In addition, an applicant for a promoter license must provide the requisite bonds and, upon demand by the Commission, shall be required to present proof of any insurance policies and related premium payments required by the Commission.

Section 207.11. Licensing standards for professional matchmakers

Prior to the issuance of a matchmakers license, the Commission may require any applicant to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Commission, a knowledge of the rules of the Commission, the

generally accepted rules of professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts as may be applicable, general fitness and trustworthiness, and any other qualification as may be required by the Commission.

Section 207.12. Licensing and training standards for professional referees

(a) Prior to the issuance of a license as a professional referee for mixed martial arts or boxing within the State, an applicant therefor shall: (i) demonstrate general fitness, trustworthiness, satisfactory skill, and knowledge of the Commission's rules and regulations, to the satisfaction of the Commission, and pass an examination in a manner and form approved by the Commission; (ii) attend a neurological seminar conducted by a physician approved by the Commission or otherwise demonstrate his or her skills at recognizing detrimental neurological symptoms of combatants to the satisfaction of the Commission in a manner approved by the Commission in its discretion; (iii) satisfy the health and physical standards, including completion of an eye examination, as may be established from time to time by the Commission; (iv) submit and certify a financial questionnaire on a form to be provided by the Commission; and (v) have refereed a minimum of, for boxing, 400 rounds, or, for mixed martial arts, 200 rounds, of any combination of officially sanctioned amateur or professional bouts, to the satisfaction of the Commission.

(b) Upon licensure, referees with no prior professional experience in boxing or mixed martial arts, as applicable, may also be required to complete a practical training program to the satisfaction of the Commission before being granted any assignment to a professional match.

(c) Upon receiving a license as a professional boxing referee, each referee shall first be assigned a minimum of no fewer than four, four-round preliminary matches, followed by a minimum of no fewer than four, six-round preliminary matches, except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. The professional boxing referee's conduct and performance may at any time be reviewed and evaluated by the Commission or a Commission representative. If it is found that said referee's conduct and performance is satisfactory, that referee may thereafter officiate matches of eight rounds or more.

(d) Licensed referees shall periodically, as required by the Commission in its discretion, attend seminars about the rules and regulations of the Commission and skills as a referee of professional boxing and mixed martial arts, as applicable.

(e) The performance of each professional referee may be reviewed and evaluated periodically by the Commission in its discretion.

Section 207.13. Licensing and training standards for professional judges

- (a) Prior to the issuance of a license of a professional boxing or mixed martial arts judge, an applicant therefor shall demonstrate general fitness, trustworthiness, experience and sufficient skill in a manner and form satisfactory to the Commission, pass an examination in manner and form approved by the Commission, provide proof of satisfactory eye examination in form acceptable to the Commission, submit and certify a financial questionnaire to be promulgated by the Commission, and shall provide proof of having completed a training program approved by the Commission.
- (b) Judges shall periodically, as may be required by the Commission, attend continuing education programs and seminars intended to refresh and enhance the licensee's skills as a professional judge.
- (c) The performance of each judge may be reviewed and evaluated periodically by the Commission, in its discretion.
- (d) In addition, annual eye examinations shall be required of all licensed judges in a manner directed by the Commission physician.

Section 207.14. Promoter licenses

- (a) Prior to the issuance of a license of a professional wrestling, professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts promoter, an applicant therefor shall demonstrate general fitness, trustworthiness and sufficient capacity to so act by filing a completed application in a manner and form satisfactory to the Commission.
- (b) An applicant for a license to promote professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts shall execute and file with the secretary of state a bond in an amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be approved as to form and sufficiency of sureties thereon by the secretary of state, conditioned for the faithful performance by said person or entity of the provisions of this Article 41 of the General Business Law and the rules and regulations of the Commission. In addition, such applicant shall execute and file with the secretary of state a bond in an amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be approved as to form and sufficiency of sureties thereon by the secretary of state, conditioned for and guaranteeing the payment of professionals' purses, salaries of club employees licensed by the Commission, and the legitimate expenses of printing tickets and all advertising material. All such bonds must be in effect on the date of licensure. Any lapse or expiration in either bond during the license period shall be cause for immediate license suspension until such bond is renewed or a new bond is filed, approved, and in effect.
- (c) An applicant for a license to promote professional wrestling exhibitions shall execute and file with the comptroller a bond in an amount not less than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be approved as to form and sufficiency of sureties thereon by the comptroller, conditioned for and guaranteeing

the payment of professional wrestler's purses, salaries of club employees licensed by the Commission, the legitimate expenses of printing tickets and all advertising material, payments to sponsoring organizations, and the applicable state and local sales and compensating use tax. Any lapse or expiration in the bond during the license period shall be cause for immediate license suspension until such bond is renewed or a new bond is filed, approved, and in effect.

Section 207.15. Event and date specific licenses/approvals for licensed promoters

(a) A licensed promoter shall make application to the Commission for approval of the date on which a professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts event is scheduled or contemplated to be scheduled at least 60 days prior thereto, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission upon good cause shown. Such application shall be made on a form provided by the Commission and shall include:

- (1) the authorized combative sport to be featured;
- (2) the location of the event, including the name, address and seating capacity of the facility;
- (3) an assurance of appropriate financial, medical, organizational and operational capacity and controls for the contemplated bouts, contests, matches or exhibitions;
- and
- (4) an assurance of timely completion and submission of all required applications, contracts and other documents or materials required by the Commission.

(b) A licensed promoter granted approval for an event date must submit timely and complete applications for match approvals and event information forms in the form and manner directed by the Commission.

(c) The Commission reserves the right, in its discretion, to limit the number of professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts events per month, the number of match proposed for any specific event, to deny requests that would result in multiple events on the same date, and to deny any request as deemed necessary to ensure the proper regulation and administration of each event.

Section 207.16. Card approvals

All matches or exhibitions proposed for a card must be submitted by the licensed professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts promoter in a form and manner as directed by the Commission. No professional boxing or professional martial arts match or exhibition shall be authorized to take place until approved by the Commission.

Section 207.17. When match or exhibition may be publicly announced

No licensed promoter may publicly announce or advertise that any specific match or exhibition will take place within the State of New York on a date certain unless such match or exhibition has been approved by the Commission or the Commission has provided written authorization to the promoter to make such an announcement. Promoters shall notify the Commission of any proposed match or exhibition, and submit same to the Commission for approval, including in such notice the full details of such contest or exhibition, at least 10 business days before the scheduled date of such contest or exhibition, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission for good cause shown.

PART 208 – Special Rules for Health, Safety and Integrity in Combative Sports

Section 208.1. Medical fitness required

(a) No one shall participate in a professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts match or exhibition, or engage in sparring unless medically fit to the satisfaction of the Commission. The Commission shall have the authority to examine licensees or require them to be examined for this purpose from time to time in its discretion. Licensees shall submit to any such examinations.

(b) No person who is subject to a medical suspension issued by the Commission or any other member of the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) in relation to any combative sport shall be authorized to participate as a combatant in any amateur or professional combative sports match or exhibition or as a wrestler in any professional wrestling exhibition in this State, except as otherwise authorized by federal law.

Section 208.2. Medical examination required for license

(a) To obtain a license or the renewal of a license as a professional boxer or professional mixed martial artist, all such persons shall submit to a thorough medical examination by a physician approved by the Commission, in such form as approved by the Commission, and shall submit to such other medical tests and examinations as may be required by such physician and/or the Commission.

(b) All boxers and mixed martial artists applying for a license must complete and submit a physical examination in a form as required by the Commission, and submit a completed electrocardiographic examination, MRI, dilated eye examination by a licensed ophthalmologist and laboratory and other

tests and examinations as may be required by the reviewing Commission physician and/or the Commission.

Section 208.3. Medical examination before contests and exhibitions

Before participating in contests or exhibitions, all boxers and mixed martial artists shall submit to medical examinations performed by a physician designated by the Commission within 36 hours before the contest or exhibition and also within three hours before the contest or exhibition, unless such times are modified by the Commission. Such examinations may include any such testing the examining physician finds necessary.

Section 208.4. Reporting of injury or illness

Any injury or illness to a participant before a scheduled contest or exhibition, or while in training for a contest or exhibition, shall be fully reported in writing to the Commission within 24 hours of its onset by the participant or the participant's manager.

Section 208.5. Ringside physicians

The number of Commission-designated ringside physicians required to be in attendance at each professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts contest or exhibition, and the type and quantity of medical and emergency equipment and instruments which shall be available at ringside or elsewhere on the premises, shall be as the Commission may prescribe.

Section 208.6. Duties of ringside physician

The ringside physician may terminate any professional combative sport contest or exhibition at any time if, in the opinion of such physician, the health or well-being of any participant would be significantly jeopardized by continuation of the contest or exhibition. In the event of any serious physical injury, such physician shall immediately render any emergency treatment deemed necessary in his or her professional medical opinion, and recommend further treatment or hospitalization as deemed required in his or her professional medical opinion, and shall fully report the entire matter to the Commission within 24 hours, and thereafter, as required by the Commission. Such physician may also require that the injured participant and his or her manager remain in the ring or on the premises or report to a hospital after the contest for such period of time as such physician deems advisable.

Section 208.7. When ringside physician may enter ring

Any contrary provisions of these rules notwithstanding, the ringside physician may enter the ring during the progress of a match or exhibition at any time to fulfill his or her official duties. A ringside physician desiring to enter the ring for this purpose shall first signal the referee of his or her intention, upon which the referee shall stop the progress of the bout by signaling the timekeeper. At any time during the progress of a bout, the referee may stop the bout by signaling the timekeeper, and require the ringside physician to enter the ring to examine a participant. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit the ringside physician from entering the ring to examine any contestant during rest periods, with or without invitation from the referee, nor shall anything herein be deemed to restrict the ringside physician's authority pursuant to any other section of this Part.

Section 208.8. Examination of combatant after injury

Any professional boxer or mixed martial artist who has sustained any severe injury or actual knockout in a match or exhibition, shall receive appropriate medical examination and treatment. Such examination may include any or all of the procedures as provided in section 208.2 of this Part or as is directed by the medical advisory board, the Commission physician, the ringside physician and/or the Commission. The Commission may suspend such boxer or mixed martial artist until he or she is fully recovered and, similarly, may extend any such suspension already imposed.

Section 208.9. Reporting of combatant's injury

In the event that a professional boxer or mixed martial artist who has suffered a knockout or any severe injury has on such account been treated by his or her personal physician or has been hospitalized, or in the event a boxer or mixed martial artist sustains any knockout, injury, accident or illness which may affect the boxer's health and/or safety whether or not such knockout, injury or accident occurs in a gymnasium, said boxer or his or her manager shall promptly submit to the Commission a full report regarding same including but not limited to any report from such a physician or hospital.

Section 208.10. Examination required due to consecutive losses

Any participant who has lost three consecutive contests by knockout or technical knockout, or who has lost six consecutive contests in any manner, may, upon recommendation of the Commission physician, be automatically suspended and may be reinstated in the discretion of the Commission

only after submitting to a medical examination of the type prescribed by the Commission. A suspension under this rule shall not be considered a suspension for any other purpose.

Section 208.11. Medical suspensions in case of knockouts, submissions and technical knockouts

(a) If a licensed combatant is rendered unconscious during a contest or exhibition, his or her seconds shall not minister to such participant until the ringside physician shall have examined such participant and given instructions for his or her care.

(b) Any licensed combatant who suffered a knockout, submission or technical knockout, or who endured significant punishment or physical trauma in a combative sport may, based upon the professional medical opinion and recommendation of the attending or reviewing Commission physician, be suspended for a fixed period of time or until proof of medical fitness is provided to the Commission and shall forfeit his or her license to the Commission during such period. Such license shall not be returned to the licensee until he or she has met all requirements, medical and otherwise, for reinstatement of such license. All such suspensions shall be recorded by a Commission official.

(c) A licensed combatant losing by way of a technical knockout resulting where there is evidence of head trauma, upon recommendation of the Commission physician, shall receive a medical suspension and shall not participate in any combative sports contact sparring, contests or exhibitions for a minimum period of thirty (30) days. A licensed combatant losing by way of a knockout where there is evidence of head trauma shall, upon recommendation of the Commission physician, receive a medical suspension and shall not participate in any combative sports contact sparring, contests or exhibitions for a minimum period of thirty (30) days. At the discretion of the Commission physician, longer suspension periods may be issued.

(d) This section shall in no manner restrict the authority of a Commission physician to issue a medical suspension any time he or she believes it necessary, in his or her professional medical opinion, in the interest of the health and safety of the combatant.

(e) A licensed combatant suspended pursuant to this section may petition the Commission in writing for the reduction or removal of any such suspension by furnishing proof satisfactory to the Commission physician demonstrating a sufficiently improved medical or physical condition and overall fitness to engage in professional combative sports activity. Upon the furnishing of such proof by the suspended combatant, the Commission may reduce or remove any such suspension in accordance with the professional medical opinion of the Commission physician.

Section 208.12. Mandatory resting period for combatants between matches

No combative sports participant shall be allowed to participate in any combative sport match or exhibition in this State until seven days have elapsed since his or her last match or exhibition, and shall not compete in any combative sport match or exhibition within seven days of competing in such a match or exhibition in this State.

Section 208.13. Required seminars

All ringside physicians and referees of professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts matches and exhibitions shall attend such neurological training seminars as specified and approved by the Commission after consultation with the medical advisory board.

Section 208.14. Weight loss

No boxer or mixed martial artist shall participate in any contest or exhibition following weight loss of two pounds or more of body weight within 24 hours prior to such contest or exhibition, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. A combatant may be disapproved for participation in a match or exhibition if, in the professional medical opinion of the reviewing physician, it would be unsafe for the combatant to compete in the match or exhibition due to a finding of dehydration or extreme weight loss.

Section 208.15. Insurance to be provided by licensed promoters.

(a) All licensed promoters of authorized combative sports and professional wrestling shall continuously provide accident insurance or such other form of financial guarantee deemed acceptable by the Commission, for the protection of licensed professionals and wrestlers appearing in authorized professional combative sports matches or professional wrestling exhibitions.

(b) Pursuant to subdivision a of this section, the following accident insurance coverage must be provided by a licensed promoter of authorized combative sports to all licensed professionals participating in any match, exhibition, or bout in this state promoted by or held under the control of such promoter:

- (1) coverage for medical, surgical and hospital care, with a minimum limit of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for injuries sustained while participating in any program operated under the promotion or control of such licensed promoter;
- (2) coverage for payment of a death benefit of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) payable to the estate of the licensed professional for death occasioned by injuries received during the course of a program

in this state in which such licensed professional participated under the promotion or control of the licensed promoter; and

(3) coverage for medical, surgical and hospital care with a minimum limit of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the treatment of any life-threatening brain injury sustained in a program operated under the control of such licensed promoter, where an identifiable, causal link exists between the professional licensee's participation in such program and the life-threatening brain injury.

(c) Pursuant to subdivision a of this section, a licensed promoter of professional wrestling shall provide the following accident insurance coverage to all wrestlers participating in any professional wrestling exhibition in this state promoted by or held under the control of such promoter:

(1) coverage for medical, surgical and hospital care, with a minimum limit of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for injuries sustained by the wrestler while participating in a professional wrestling program operated under the promotion or control of such licensed promoter; and

(2) coverage for payment of a death benefit of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) payable to the estate of the wrestler for death occasioned by injuries received during the course of a professional wrestling program in this state in which such wrestler participated under the promotion or control of the licensed promoter.

(d) All such accident insurance as required in subdivisions a, b and c of this section shall, up to the maximum limits of the policy: (1) provide coverage for all medically necessary care and treatment for covered injuries; and (2) provide benefits on an expense incurred basis. Such coverage may be primary or secondary to any other applicable insurance coverage held by the licensed professional or wrestler participant. The covered participant shall not be required to pay any deductible, co-payment or co-insurance costs in relation to the insurance required pursuant to subdivisions b and c of this section.

(e) Pursuant to subdivision a of this section, in the event a licensed promoter provides the Commission with proof that a professional licensee has health insurance coverage that meets or exceeds the terms of the applicable minimum coverage required by paragraph 3 of subdivision b of this section, proof of such insurance may be accepted by the Commission in advance of an authorized covered combative sport event as constituting an acceptable alternative in lieu of the accident insurance otherwise required by paragraph 3 of subdivision b of this section.

(f) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) “continuously” shall mean at all times during a licensed professional’s or wrestler’s participation in an authorized covered combative sports or professional wrestling match or exhibition held in this state under the promotion or control of the licensed promoter;
- (2) “identifiable, causal link” shall mean that the injuries sustained by the licensed professional during his or her participation in the authorized covered combative sports program were the direct and proximate cause of the life-threatening brain injury;
- (3) “life-threatening brain injury” shall mean an acute brain injury that, in the opinion of the professional licensee’s treating physician, would result in the death of the professional licensee if left untreated;
- (4) “physician” shall mean an individual licensed in New York State to engage in the practice of medicine as defined in section 6521 of the Education Law;
- (5) “program” shall mean any authorized covered professional combative sports or professional wrestling match or exhibition; and
- (6) “sustained in a program operated under the control of such licensed promoter” shall mean that the symptoms of the life-threatening brain injury must first manifest themselves during, or within twenty-four hours after the end of, the licensed professional’s participation in the covered program, and the injury must be diagnosed by a physician during, or within forty-eight hours after the end of, the licensed professional’s participation in the covered program.

Section 208.16. Minimum safety standards for all combative sports matches and exhibitions held within the state

No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce, or hold a combative sports match or exhibition or a professional wrestling exhibition within the state of New York without meeting each of the following minimum requirements for the health and safety of participants:

- (a) a physical examination of each combatant must be conducted by a physician certifying that the combatant is physically fit to safely compete in the combative sport;
- (b) at least one ambulance with medical personnel consisting of at least one paramedic with appropriate resuscitation equipment must be continuously present, and no match or exhibition may proceed unless such ambulance and paramedic are available and on site;
- (c) at least one physician continuously present at ringside; and
- (d) (1) for authorized amateur combative sports matches and exhibitions, the promoter must provide accident insurance coverage for each amateur combatant covering medical, surgical and hospital care, with a minimum limit of ten thousand dollars for injuries sustained in the match or exhibition; (2) for authorized professional combative sports matches and exhibitions, except as otherwise provided in section 218.15 above, the promoter or organizer of an authorized professional combative sports

match or exhibition conducted under the oversight of an authorized sanctioning entity provided for pursuant to Part 214 of these rules must provide the following accident insurance coverage to all professional combatants participating in any match, exhibition, or bout in this state promoted by or held under the control of such promoter or organizer: (i) coverage for medical, surgical and hospital care, with a minimum limit of fifty thousand dollars for injuries sustained while participating in any program operated under the promotion or control of such promoter or organizer; and (ii) coverage for payment of a death benefit of fifty thousand dollars payable to the estate of the professional combatant for death occasioned by injuries received during the course of a program in this state in which such professional participated under the promotion or control of the promoter or organizer; (3) All such accident insurance as required herein shall, up to the maximum limits of the policy: (i) provide coverage for all medically necessary care and treatment for covered injuries; and (ii) provide benefits on an expense incurred basis. Such coverage may be primary or secondary to any other applicable insurance coverage held by the licensed professional or wrestler. The covered participant shall not be required to pay any deductible, co-payment or co-insurance costs in relation to the insurance required herein.

(e) As used in this section, “physician” shall mean an individual licensed in New York State to engage in the general practice of medicine and surgery.

Section 208.17. Honest competition

Licensees and permit holders shall perform to the best of their abilities and in good faith in all contests or exhibitions in which they participate.

Section 208.18. Managers' records

Managers shall keep accurate records of the receipts and expenses of the professional combatants under their management and control. Such records shall be available to such professional combatants and the Commission.

Section 208.19. Manager forbidden to act as matchmaker

Managers and assignees are prohibited from acting in any direct or indirect way as a matchmaker of bouts, except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 208.20. Manager's interest in combatants

No manager of a professional boxer or professional mixed martial artist shall sell, assign, transfer, or in any way encumber or attempt to sell, assign, transfer, or in any way encumber any interest, in whole or in part, which he shall hold in any contract for the services of such boxer or mixed martial

artist without notice to and written consent of such boxer or mixed martial artist and approval by the Commission.

Section 208.21. Promoter not to act as manager

No principal, director, officer, agent or owner of a promoter shall, directly or indirectly, serve or act as the manager, assignee or second of any boxer or mixed martial artist, or be employed by or be in any way commercially connected with the manager, assignee or second of any boxer or mixed martial artist unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 208.22. Matchmakers not to employ boxers

No matchmaker shall employ or be in any way commercially connected with any boxer, mixed martial artist, manager or second except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 208.23. Matchmaker not to act as manager

No principal, director, officer, agent or owner of a matchmaker shall, directly or indirectly, serve as or act as the manager, assignee or second of any boxer or mixed martial artist, or be employed by or be in any way connected with the manager, assignee or second of any boxer or mixed martial artist unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 208.24. Restrictions on officials

(a) No licensed referee, judge or timekeeper shall officiate at any combative sports program within the State of New York, which is not conducted under the authority or supervision of the Commission, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

(b) A judge or referee shall not be entitled to receive any compensation, directly or indirectly, in connection with a professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts match until he or she provides the Commission with a statement of all consideration, including reimbursement for expenses, which he or she will receive from any sources for participation in the match.

Section 208.25. Duty of licensee to report offer to conduct sham or collusive contest

Whenever any licensee is approached with a request or a suggestion that any person participate in, contribute to, aid or abet a sham or collusive contest or a contest that is not to be conducted honestly and fairly, such licensee shall immediately report the entire matter and full circumstances to

the Commission. Any licensee who learns of any such attempt to effect a sham or collusive contest shall immediately report the entire matter and full circumstances to the Commission.

Section 208.26. Required disclosures for boxing promoters

(a) A licensed boxing promoter shall not be entitled to receive any compensation directly or indirectly in connection with a boxing match held in this state until it provides to the Commission:

(1) a copy of any agreement in writing to which the promoter is a party with any boxer participating in the match;

(2) a statement made under penalty of perjury setting forth: (i) that there are no other agreements, written or oral, between the promoter and the boxer with respect to that match; (ii) all fees, charges, and expenses that will be assessed by or through the promoter on the boxer pertaining to the event, including any portion of the boxer's purse that the promoter will receive, and training expenses; (iii) all payments, gifts, or benefits the promoter is providing to any sanctioning organization affiliated with the event; and (iv) any reduction in a boxer's purse contrary to a previous agreement between the promoter and the boxer or a purse bid held for the event.

(b) A licensed boxing promoter shall not be entitled to receive any compensation directly or indirectly in connection with a boxing match, until it provides to the boxer it promotes: (1) the amounts of any compensation or consideration that a promoter has contracted to receive from such match; (2) all fees, charges, and expenses that will be assessed by or through the promoter on the boxer pertaining to the event, including any portion of the boxer's purse that the promoter will receive, and training expenses; and (3) any reduction in a boxer's purse contrary to a previous agreement between the promoter and the boxer or a purse bid held for the event.

(c) A licensed boxing promoter shall make information required to be disclosed under paragraph (b) of this section available to the Commission upon request.

Section 208.27. Required disclosures for boxing sanctioning organizations

A professional boxing sanctioning organization shall not be entitled to receive any compensation directly or indirectly in connection with a boxing match held in the state until it provides to the Commission a statement of: (a) all charges, fees, and costs the organization will assess any boxer participating in that match; (b) all payments, benefits, complimentary benefits, and fees the organization will receive for its affiliation with the event, from the promoter, host of the event, and all other sources; and (c) such additional information as the Commission may require.

Section 208.28. Authority of Commission to search and inspect before entry into dressing rooms

Representatives of the Commission may search and inspect any persons, parcels, bags or items prior to their entry into a combatant's dressing room or once inside a combatant's dressing room. Any prohibited substances or items found may subject the combatant to disqualification or other disciplinary action, and may result in the possessor of the prohibited item or substance being immediately removed from the venue.

Section 208.29. Authority of Commission to require drug testing of licensed athletes

The Commission may, in its discretion, at any time require a licensed professional boxer or licensed professional mixed martial artist to submit to drug and/or prohibited substance testing at a date and time and in such manner as directed by the Commission. Any finding of prohibited substances or drugs may subject the combatant to disqualification or other disciplinary action. A schedule of prohibited substances and/or impermissible drugs shall be posted and maintained by the Commission on its official website. The use of any prohibited performance enhancing drug (PED) during training or competition shall be considered unsportsmanlike conduct, a failure to engage in good faith in honest competition and an act detrimental to the interests of combative sports, and shall subject any licensee found to be in violation of this prohibition to potential purse forfeiture, fine, change of bout result and license revocation.

PART 209 – Contract Oversight

Section 209.1. Approval and filing

All contracts calling for the services of a professional in an authorized professional combative sport and entered into by licensed promoters, professionals or managers as one or more of the parties in such contracts, including those contracts which relate to the rights to distribute, televise, broadcast or otherwise transmit in any manner any authorized professional combative sport match or exhibition held in the State of New York shall be subject to the approval of the Commission. Copies of all such contracts shall be filed with the Commission by such licensed promoter, professional or manager within forty-eight hours after the execution thereof and at least ten business days prior to any bouts, or the first of any series of bouts, to which they relate. The Commission may waive such filing deadline for good cause shown.

Section 209.2. Form of certain contracts

(a) Bout contracts between professional boxers, professional mixed martial artists or their managers and promoters for matches or exhibitions to be held within the state of New York shall be executed on forms approved by the Commission, and approved forms for such contracts shall be provided by the Commission upon request to boxers, managers and promoters. All such contracts shall be filed with the Commission by such promoter within 48 hours after execution of such contract, and at least 10 business days prior to the contest or exhibition to which they rely, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission for good cause shown. All such contracts must be filed with and approved by the Commission to be valid.

(b) (1) Management contracts between professional boxers or professional mixed martial artists and their managers shall be executed in person before the Commission on forms approved by the Commission, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and all such contracts must be approved by and filed with the Commission.

(2) The Commission may approve a management contract entered into in another jurisdiction if it is demonstrated that the contract is valid, on file with and approved by a state Commission that is a member of the Association of Boxing Commissions. Any such contract, if approved by the Commission shall be given effect with regard to activities in the State to the extent that the terms of the contract do not conflict with the requirements of applicable federal law, New York State law, and the rules and policies of the Commission. If the terms of the contract fail to comply with these limitations, the Commission may honor the contract to the extent it complies with applicable law and rules.

(3) A copy of all such management contracts must be filed with and approved by the Commission.

(c) Promotional contracts between professional combatants and licensed promoters, including those contracts which relate to the rights to distribute, televise, broadcast or otherwise transmit in any manner any authorized professional combative sport match or exhibition held in the State of New York, must be disclosed to and filed with the Commission within 48 hours of execution by the parties and no later than 10 business days prior to the to the date of participation by the professional combatant in any match or exhibition held in the State of New York to which they relate, or within such other time as the Commission may for good cause establish in a particular case.

(d) All contracts for activities within the jurisdiction of the Commission must conform to the requirements of federal and New York State law, including, as applicable, the provisions of the federal Professional Boxing Safety Act and Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act, as amended (15 USC § 6301, et seq.).

Section 209.3. Compliance with contracts

All parties shall carry out the terms and conditions of contracts to which they are parties. Parties failing to faithfully perform and discharge their respective contractual obligations shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Commission, in the discretion of the Commission, including fine, license suspension, or license revocation. Managers may be disciplined by the Commission for failure of their principals to carry out the terms and conditions of contracts to which they are parties.

Section 209.5. Duration of management contracts

Management contracts shall not exceed three years, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. Management contracts between professional combatants and managers so contracting together for the first time may in the discretion of the Commission allow either party to cancel said contract without penalty by written notice to the other party and the Commission before the expiration of the 11th month of said contract. Contractual commitments scheduled after a management contract is canceled in this manner, but within the original maximum duration of said contract, shall be honored by the parties. A manager may not contract to receive the services of a professional combatant under their management for a match or exhibition that is scheduled to take place after the expiration of the contract.

Section 209.6. Voiding management contracts

A management contract may be voided, in whole or in part, in the discretion of the Commission, if either party ceases to possess a valid license issued by the Commission, or upon an adjudication by the Commission that either party has substantially breached the terms thereof or as a result of a determination by the Commission that a party has violated the law or rules of the Commission.

Section 209.7. Assignments of management contracts

No assignment of any part or parts of the combatant's or manager's interest in a contract will be permitted without the approval of the Commission, and the consent to assign will not be granted unless a copy of the proposed assignment is submitted to the Commission for its approval.

Section 209.8. Services after contract term

No manager shall enter into any contract purporting to bind a combatant under his or her management to perform services after the termination of the management relationship between them, nor shall any boxer or mixed martial artist, while under contract to a manager, enter into a commitment, written or oral, to perform such services, without Commission approval.

Section 209.10. Provisions in management contracts

Every contract between a manager and a combatant shall contain provisions governing its duration and the division of the combatant's purses. Each such contract shall further provide that the contract shall be automatically terminated if the license of either party is revoked by the Commission or if the manager fails to renew his or her license within 30 days after the expiration thereof. If the license of either party is suspended, the contract shall not be binding upon the other party during the period of such suspension.

Section 209.11. Manager to be combatant's exclusive representative

All professional contact with a boxer or mixed martial artist who is represented by a manager shall be through the manager of record, and no one is permitted to negotiate or work to broker future matches or exhibitions with a boxer or mixed martial artist who is represented by a manager without the written consent of the manager of record, which shall be filed with the Commission within three business days of its execution and the approval of the Commission, except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 209.13. Contracts for contests and exhibitions

Contracts for professional boxing or professional mixed martial arts contests and exhibitions must be approved and filed with the Commission. Such contracts will not be approved by the Commission unless both boxers or mixed martial artists, as applicable, have signed contracts for the contest or exhibition with the same promoter. All such bout contracts must include, but shall not be limited to, the following information: the date, time and location of the event; the date of the weigh-in; the combatant's contracted weight; the amount of purse; any/all fees that will be deducted; and the number of rounds in the bout.

Section 209.14. Boxer-promoter contracts--mandatory provisions

(a) No contract between a promoter and a boxer entered into on or after the effective date of this regulation shall be for a fixed term of more than three years, excluding any time that a boxer is unable to compete due to injury or other cause.

(b) No contract between a promoter and a boxer shall contain a provision permitting the contract to be automatically renewed or extended. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such contracts may contain a provision granting the promoter an option to renew for a period not to exceed one year, excluding any time that a boxer is unable to compete due to injury or other cause. Such contracts may not contain more than two such options.

(c) In the event that a boxer's execution of an agreement with a specific promoter is a condition of the boxer being allowed to participate in a specific bout, the term of the contract shall be limited to one year, and shall not contain an option to renew.

Section 209.15. Time for filing contracts for specific bouts

All contracts between a licensed promoter and any boxing or mixed martial arts combatant requiring the combatant to participate in any contest or exhibition to be held within the State of New York on a specific date (the bout contract) shall be filed with the Commission by such promoter within 48 hours after execution of such contract, and at least 10 business days prior to the contest or exhibition to which they rely, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission for good cause shown.

Section 209.16. Compensation of professional boxers and mixed martial artists

The minimum compensation to any licensed professional boxer or mixed martial artist who competes in a bout shall be no less than \$150 after all approved purse deductions, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. Licensed professional boxers and mixed martial artists who are under contract and ready, willing and able to participate in a scheduled contest or exhibition on the date of the official weigh-in or contest and who suffer cancellation of such contest at that time due to no fault of their own, as determined by the Commission, shall be paid no less than 50 percent of the agreed upon compensation, irrespective of whether they actually participate in such scheduled contest or exhibition, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. All payments of any nature to be paid each boxer or mixed martial artist shall be specified in all relevant contracts.

Section 209.17. Ring earnings of combatants

No licensed professional boxer or mixed martial artist shall actually receive less than fifty percent (50%) of his or her ring earnings after all authorized purse deductions, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 209.18. How payment for services must be made

All compensation to licensed professional boxers or mixed martial artists shall be paid by the promoter by check payable to the participating combatant, who shall sign receipts for such payment, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. No boxer or mixed martial artist shall be paid or receive any portion of his or her purse, except for training expenses, prior to the conclusion of the contest or exhibition, except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. No boxer or mixed martial artist shall be paid or receive compensation in the form of an irrevocable letter of credit or other such form of payment which might preclude the Commission from withholding that combatant's purse should it determine that he or she gave or participated in a sham or collusive boxing, mixed martial arts or sparring contest or exhibition or for other valid reason. No payment shall be made to any person or party other than as set forth herein unless the Commission has approved the transaction.

Section 209.19. “Low-blow” clause mandatory in professional boxing

All contracts between a professional boxer and a licensed promoting corporation for the services of a male boxer in a boxing contest or exhibition, shall contain the following paragraph:

“The boxer agrees to equip himself with a foul-proof guard of his own selection, type to be approved by the Commission, which will obviate the necessity of any claim being made for a low blow during the contest. It is expressly understood that this contest or exhibition is not to be terminated by a low blow, as the protector selected by the boxers, is, in his opinion, sufficient protection to withstand any so-called low-blow which might incapacitate the said boxer.”

Section 209.20. Broadcast or telecast of bout

All contracts entered into by any licensee or any and all amendments, changes or modifications calling for or referring to any motion picture, telecast, streaming, or radio broadcast of any contest or exhibition must be promptly filed with the Commission, and no one may announce or conduct any such broadcast, streaming, or telecast of any contest or exhibition without first obtaining the approval of the Commission.

Section 209.21. Promotional contracts

No promoter shall have the right to assign any contract with a professional boxer or mixed martial artist without first obtaining the boxer's or mixed martial artist's written consent. Such consent shall

not be required if the promoter assigns less than all the rights under any such contract with respect to a particular bout.

PART 210 – Staging of Professional Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts Events

Section 210.1. Approval by the Commission

All contests and exhibitions shall be approved in advance by the Commission. Before approving any contest or exhibition, the Commission may inquire into the relative merits of the combatants, their past records, and whether or not they are suitable opponents, and the Commission may disapprove any contest or exhibition which is not in the best interest of boxing or mixed martial arts or of the health of any of the participants.

Section 210.2. Cancellation of programs

No boxing or mixed martial arts program for which a license has been issued shall be canceled or postponed without the consent of the Commission.

Section 210.3. Duty to safeguard premises

All promoters shall safeguard the premises where weigh-ins, contests or exhibitions are conducted to insure to the Commission's satisfaction that adequate protection against disorderly conduct has been provided. Any disorderly act, assault or breach of decorum on the part of any licensee at such premises is prohibited.

Section 210.4. Private room for use of judges, referees, timekeepers and Commission staff

Licensed promoters shall provide, at each of the premises where matches or exhibitions are conducted, a special private room for the exclusive use of the judges, referees, timekeepers and Commission representatives. No other persons shall be allowed to enter such rooms, unless otherwise directed or authorized in writing by the Commission.

Section 210.5. Admission to events

No person shall be admitted to any contest or exhibition unless he or she holds a ticket of admission, with the exception of:

- (a) members of the Commission;
- (b) people designated by the Commission for official duty;
- (c) officials required to attend under provisions of State laws or the Commission's rules;
- (d) promoters, combatants, managers and seconds who are involved in the contests or exhibitions;
- and
- (e) police officers, firefighters, medical personnel and other public officials actually on duty.

Section 210.6. Standing room or roll tickets

No standing room, seating or roll tickets shall be sold for any contest or exhibition in an amount resulting in attendance exceeding the authorized capacity of the venue in which the match or exhibition takes place.

Section 210.7. Reserved seating chart

Promoters shall have available in the main box office a chart which plainly indicates the location of all reserved seats.

Section 210.8. Press tickets

All tickets issued to the working press shall be appropriately marked. The rows of working press tickets shall be consecutively lettered and each seat numbered. There must be adequate aisle space between the end of the working press section and the beginning of the ringside section. Distribution of working press tickets shall be limited in accordance with the actual number of seats provided at ringside for the accommodation of actively engaged representatives of news media. Such seats shall be occupied only by persons thus actively engaged.

Section 210.9. Complimentary tickets

All complimentary tickets shall be clearly so designated.

Section 210.11. Tickets for employees and participants

Distribution of employees' and participants' tickets shall be limited strictly to persons in these classifications, and such tickets shall not be transferable.

Section 210.12. Persons to whom tickets may not be issued and entry shall be denied

No person whose license has been revoked or suspended by the Commission for conduct detrimental to the best interests of boxing or mixed martial arts shall be issued a ticket for, or be admitted to or remain at, any boxing or mixed martial arts contest or exhibition, except as otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. Any such person found in attendance at any boxing or mixed martial arts contest or exhibition may be removed therefrom.

Section 210.13. Reports

The authorized representative of any promoter holding a contest or exhibition shall submit in writing to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance within ten days after the close of the contest or exhibition, an “Athletic Tax Report” or other applicable tax form showing the number of each class of tickets sold, unsold or unused, and permit the Commission or the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance to examine all sold, unsold or unused tickets, stub coupons, the financial records of the event, and cooperate with and assist the Commission or the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance to investigate any other matters relating to the receipts and conduct of the box office and ticket takers. The ticket tally must conform to the manifest issued by the ticket printer and shall be signed by the authorized representative of the promoter. Each promoter shall prepare the necessary and proper tax returns as are required by law. Promoters shall comply with the various requirements imposed under article 19 of the Tax Law, such as paying tax, filing returns and keeping records.

Section 210.14. Distribution of receipts of contest or exhibition

All promoters, in distributing the receipts of any contest or exhibition, shall first deduct all sums due for Federal and State taxes and then deduct all sums due for payments to the referee, judges, physicians and other assigned officials, and for insurance premiums. Thereafter, the balance may be distributed in accordance with the amounts or percentages agreed upon and approved for the compensation of the participants.

Section 210.15. Changes in announced or advertised cards

Changes in the announced or advertised programs for any main bout contest shall be filed with and approved by the Commission at least 48 hours before the weighing-in time of the contest, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. Notices of such change or substitution shall also be included in any public announcement or advertisement relating to the card, and shall be

conspicuously posted at all box offices on the premises and announced from the ring before the opening bout. If any of the patrons apply for refunds on tickets already purchased, the promoters shall make such refunds upon demand, provided such tickets are presented at the box office on the date of the program and before the commencement of the second bout or the main bout, whichever comes first.

Section 210.16. Postponements for inclement weather

In the event of rain or other inclement weather occurring immediately before or during the course of any outdoor contest or exhibition, except during the course of the main event or a co-main event, the promoter may postpone the card with the approval of the Commission to such time and at such place as is approved by the Commission. An announcement giving the full details of the postponement shall forthwith be made by the promoter, and any patron desiring a refund of the purchase price of his or her ticket may apply for and shall receive the same at the box office of the promoter on the premises, except when the main bout or co-main bout is held on a rain-out date indicated on the ticket. All contestants who have fulfilled their contracts before the advent of the inclement weather shall be paid in full, and on the postponed date, substitute bouts in such number and of such duration as are approved by the Commission shall be provided by the promoter.

Section 210.17. Rearrangement or shortening of program

In the event of threatening weather or rain, an outdoor contest or exhibition may be rearranged or shortened by the promoter with the approval of the Commission.

Section 210.18. Stopping main event

In the event that inclement weather occurs during the progress of the main event at an outdoor card, such card shall be continued, postponed or stopped in the discretion of the Commission. If a card is stopped before the main event has concluded, the provisions of this Part shall apply as to postponements and refunds.

Section 210.19. Reimbursements of expenses to participants

All participants and officials in contests or exhibitions other than a main event or co-main event who were unable to perform because of weather conditions, a rearrangement, cancellation or shortening of a contest or exhibition, shall have such of their expenses and other fees paid by the promoter as the Commission may direct.

Section 210.20. Approval of premises

Weigh-ins, contests and exhibitions shall be held only at premises approved by the Commission.

Section 210.21. Seating for ring officials and Commission representatives

The promoter shall provide suitable separate ringside seats for the judges, timekeepers, physicians, Commission representatives, and any other person designated by the Commission which shall be approved by the Commission before the commencement of any card. The promoter shall also provide seats in each combatant's corner for the occupancy of the inspectors and deputy commissioners on duty at the program, which shall be approved by the Commission before the commencement of any card.

Section 210.22. Emergency medical facilities and equipment

All professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts promoters shall provide medical information, facilities and equipment, including but not limited to a stretcher and emergency oxygen, adequate for emergency occasions, and all such medical facilities and equipment shall be approved in advance by the Commission. Specifications of the Commission for such medical information and equipment, and for the platform, padding and the covering may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time and forwarded by the Commission to each promoter. The promoters at all professional boxing and professional mixed martial arts contests or exhibitions shall have attending physicians at ringside, in such number as required by the Commission in its discretion, and at least one ambulance with medical attendants consisting of at least one paramedic available at the site of the event at all times during competition and until such time as the attending physicians' completion of all post-bout medical evaluations and all combatants in the program have exited the venue, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 210.23. Combatant's dressing room

No one shall be allowed in a combatant's dressing room except his or her manager, seconds, Commission representatives, and such other persons specifically authorized by the Commission in accordance with Commission policy. The promoter shall post a sign to this effect conspicuously at the entrance to all dressing rooms.

Section 210.24. The professional boxing ring

(a) No professional boxing contest or exhibition shall be permitted in any ring unless it has been inspected and approved by the Commission. No ring shall be less than 18 feet square nor more than 22 feet square, nor have an apron of less than two feet, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. The ring platform shall be elevated no more than four feet and shall have a smooth, firm surface covered with clean canvas, duck or other resilient material stretched taut and laced tightly to the ring platform, and shall be completely padded both inside and outside the ropes to a thickness of at least one inch or as the Commission may authorize or direct, with ensolite or a similar material approved by the Commission.

(b) The ring posts shall be four in number, shall extend above the ring platform no more than five feet, and shall be at least 18 inches distant from the ring ropes, which shall be attached to the ring posts by adjustable turnbuckles. All ring posts, post tops and turnbuckles shall be suitably padded. Corners shall have protective padding extending from the top to the bottom rope.

(c) Steps shall lead to the ring platform at least two diagonally opposite corners of the ring platform.

(d) The ring ropes shall be four in number and shall be not less than one inch in diameter. Ring ropes shall be suitably covered with soft material and shall be securely fastened to the ring posts. The lowest rope shall be 13 inches from the floor of the ring, the second rope shall be 26 inches from the ring floor, the third rope shall be 39 inches from the floor, and the fourth rope shall be 52 inches from the floor of the ring. The ropes shall be readily adjustable and shall be kept a proper and safe degree of tautness.

(e) The ring shall be amply illuminated by overhead lights, which shall be so arranged that shadow shall be eliminated and discomfort from heat and glare minimized for persons in and near the ring.

Section 210.25. The professional mixed martial arts ring or fenced area

(a) Professional mixed martial arts contests and exhibitions must be held in a ring or in a fenced area inspected and approved by the Commission.

(b) A ring used in a contest or exhibition of mixed martial arts must meet the following requirements:

(1) The ring must be at least 20 feet square and no larger than 32 feet square within the ropes. One corner shall have a blue designation and the corner directly opposite must have a red designation.

(2) The ring floor must extend at least 24 inches beyond the ropes and must be padded with ensolite, vinyl or similar closed-cell foam, with at least a 1-inch layer of foam padding. Padding must extend beyond the ring ropes and over the edge of the platform, with a top covering of canvas, duck or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the ring platform. Material that gathers in lumps or ridges may not be used. There shall not be any obstruction or object on any part of the ring floor.

(3) The ring platform must not be more than 4 feet above the floor of the building and must have suitable steps for the use of the contestants.

(4) Ring posts must be four in number and made of metal, not more than 3 inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the ring floor, and must be properly padded in a manner approved by the Commission. Ring posts must be at least 18 inches away from the ring ropes.

(5) There must be five ring ropes, at least 1 inch in diameter and wrapped in soft material. The lowest ring rope must be 12 inches above the ring floor.

(c) A fenced area (also referred to as the “octagon” or “cage”) used in a contest or exhibition of mixed martial arts must meet the following requirements:

(1) The fenced area must be circular or have at least six equal sides and must be at least 20 feet wide and no larger than 32 feet wide.

(2) The floor of the fenced area must be padded with ensolite or another similar closed-cell foam, with at least a 1-inch layer of foam padding, with a top covering of canvas, duck or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the platform of the fenced area. Material that gathers in lumps or ridges may not be used. There shall not be any obstruction or object on any part of the ring floor.

(3) The platform of the fenced area must not be more than 4 feet above the floor of the building and must have suitable steps for the use of the contestants.

(4) Fence posts must be at least six in number and made of metal, extending from the floor of the building to between 6 and 8 feet above the floor of the fenced area, and must be properly padded in a manner approved by the Commission.

(5) The fencing used to enclose the fenced area must be made of a material that will not allow a contestant to fall out of the fenced area or break through the fenced area onto the floor of the building or onto the spectators; including, but not limited to, chain link fence coated with vinyl.

(6) Any metal portion of the fenced area must be covered and padded in a manner approved by the Commission and shall not be abrasive to the contestants.

(7) The fenced area must have at least two entrances and egresses.

(8) No obstruction may be placed on a part of the fence which surrounds the area where contestants compete.

(d) The promoter of the event shall be responsible to thoroughly clean the ring or fenced area after each match.

(e) The ring or fenced area shall be amply illuminated by overhead lights, which shall be arranged so as to eliminate shadow and minimize discomfort from heat and glare for persons in and near the ring or fenced area.

Section 210.26. Repairs

The promoter shall have an attendant capable of making emergency repairs, corrections and adjustments to the ring, cage or fighting area, the lights and other necessary fixtures available at all times during a contest or exhibition.

Section 210.27. Equipment supplied by promoter

In addition to the ring and ring equipment, the promoter shall supply the following items, which shall be available for use as needed:

- (a) a public address system in good working order;
- (b) judges, timekeepers and ringside physicians chairs elevated sufficiently to assure unobstructed view of the ring and the ring floor;
- (c) a stool or chair, a clean bucket, clean towels, a clean, an adequate supply of sealed clear water bottles, and an adequate supply of water and fresh ice for each combatant's corner;
- (d) a complete set of numbered round-cards, clearly legible from all parts of the arena;
- (e) a clean stretcher and a clean blanket, placed under or adjacent to the ring throughout each program;
- (f) first aid oxygen apparatus or equipment;
- (g) Commission-approved gloves and back-up gloves for each combatant in each contest or exhibition.
- (h) other articles as may be required by the Commission.

Section 210.28. Scales

Scales used for any official Commission weigh-in shall be provided by or approved in advance by the Commission.

Part 211 – Special Rules for Professional Boxing

Section 211.1. Compliance with federal boxing laws

- (a) Boxers must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and possess a current Federal ID Card in order to compete in a professional boxing match or exhibition.
- (b) There shall be full compliance with the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 and the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act (15 USC § 6301, et seq.) and any amendments made thereto.

Section 211.2. Number of boxing contests or exhibitions

There shall be no fewer than 30 rounds of contested boxing on any one program, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 211.3. Time of main event

All main event contests or exhibitions shall start no later than 10:00 p.m., unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 211.4. Duration of contests

Boxers shall compete for no more than 12 rounds in any contest or exhibition.

Section 211.5. Age of boxers

Unless special permission otherwise is granted by the Commission, boxers under 19 years of age are permitted to box no more than six rounds; boxers 19 years of age, eight rounds; boxers 20 years of age 10 rounds; and for all bouts over 10 rounds, each boxer in such bout shall be at least 21 years of age.

Section 211.6. Weighing in

(a) The times and places of all weighing in ceremonies shall be as determined by the Commission and all participants shall be weighed in on scales approved by the Commission and in the presence of their opponent and representatives of the Commission, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. In the event of a postponement of a contest or exhibition for more than 24 hours for any reason, a second weigh-in and additional physical examination may be required by the Commission on the day of or day prior to the date to which the contest or exhibition has been adjourned.

(b) The following Weight Classes, Weight Differences and Glove Weight guidelines shall be used for all professional boxing contests unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission prior to commencement of the official weigh-in:

Weight Class	Weight Difference Allowance	Glove Weight	
Junior Flyweight	Up to and including 108 pounds.	Not more than 3 pounds.	8 oz.

New York State Athletic Commission – Proposed Regulations –19 NYCRR Parts 206–214

Flyweight	Over 108 to 112 pounds.	Not more than 3 pounds.	8 oz.
Junior Bantamweight	Over 112 to 115 pounds.	Not more than 3 pounds.	8 oz.
Bantamweight	Over 115 to 118 pounds.	Not more than 3 pounds.	8 oz.
Junior Featherweight	Over 118 to 122 pounds.	Not more than 4 pounds.	8 oz.
Featherweight	Over 122 to 126 pounds.	Not more than 4 pounds.	8 oz.
Junior Lightweight	Over 126 to 130 pounds.	Not more than 4 pounds.	8 oz.
Lightweight	Over 130 to 135 pounds.	Not more than 5 pounds.	8 oz.
Junior Welterweight	Over 135 to 140 pounds.	Not more than 5 pounds.	8 oz.
Welterweight	Over 140 to 147 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.	8 oz.
Junior Middleweight	Over 147 to 154 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.	10 oz.
Middleweight	Over 154 to 160 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.	10 oz.
Super Middleweight	Over 160 to 168 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.	10 oz.
Light Heavyweight	Over 168 to 175 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.	10 oz.
Cruiserweight	Over 175 to 200 pounds.	Not more than 12 pounds.	10 oz.
Heavyweight	Over 200 pounds.	No limit.	10 oz.

(c) The Commission may, in its discretion, waive the weight difference allowance for a bout as provided in paragraph b above, so long as the official weight of both competitors is within the range allowed for the same weight class and both competitors consent to the waiver in writing.

(d) In nontitle bouts, boxers overweight under the terms of the contract may be suspended after the match for such period as the Commission may decide.

(e) Whenever a recognized holder of a championship engages in a championship contest in this State, he must be at the weight required by the class for which he holds the championship except when a champion of one class competes as a contender for the championship in another class.

Section 211.7. Reporting to dressing rooms

All boxers participating at a boxing program shall report to the designated dressing room of the premises no later than one and one half hours before the scheduled commencement of the first bout, except the contestants in the main bout, who may report at or before one hour before the scheduled commencement of the first bout. All boxers shall remain in their dressing rooms until directed to the ring by the Commission representative in charge.

Section 211.8. Bandages

All boxers shall wear bandages on their hands during all contests and exhibitions, in accordance with the following:

(a) Bandages on the hand of a boxer may not exceed one winding of surgeon's adhesive tape, not over 2 inches wide, placed directly on the hand to protect the part of the hand near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice, but may not extend within three-fourths of an inch of the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.

(b) Each boxer shall use soft surgical bandage not over 2 inches wide, held in place by not more than 10 feet of surgeon's adhesive tape for each hand. Up to one 20-yard roll of bandage may be used to complete the wrappings for each hand. Strips of tape may be used between the fingers to hold down the bandages.

(c) All bandages must be applied in the dressing room before any contest or exhibition in which the boxers participate in the presence of a representative of the Commission and, upon request, an authorized representative of the boxer's opponent. Either boxer may waive his or her privilege of witnessing the bandaging of his or her opponent's hands by failing to timely request such privilege or by failing to attend at the time of bandaging. A Commission representative shall sign the bandages to indicate approval. Gloves shall not be placed on the hands of a participant until approval of the bandages by the Commission.

Section 211.9. Gloving

Boxing gloves for professionals shall weigh not less than eight ounces and not more than ten ounces, shall be professional grade with thumb attached, and must be approved by the Commission

prior to use in any contest or exhibition. Gloves shall be promoter-supplied and new, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

In all boxing contests and exhibitions, the gloves of each boxer shall be put on in the dressing room under the supervision of a Commission representative, and the laces of each glove shall be knotted on the back of the wrists and there shall be placed on the wrists of the gloves, over the laces, a strip of one-inch adhesive tape. Gloves must be whole, clean, sanitary, free of debris, and in good condition. Gloves found to be twisted, manipulated, altered, unfit or ill-fitting, shall not be approved and must be replaced by the promoter. A Commission representative shall sign the tape to demonstrate approval of the gloving process. The gloves shall be removed after the bout under the supervision of a Commission representative.

Section 211.12. Boxer Appearance

Before entering the ring, boxers must have a clean appearance, facial hair must be trimmed, and their hair must be trimmed or tied back with soft and non-abrasive materials in such a way as not to interfere with the vision of either boxer or cover any part of the boxer's face. Boxers shall wear no facial cosmetics. The Commission, in its discretion, may require a boxer to wash, trim hair, tie-back hair or shave prior to a contest or exhibition to the extent deemed necessary to ensure health, safety and the integrity of the athletic competition.

Section 211.13. Ring costumes

Each participant shall provide him or herself with the ring costume prescribed or approved by the Commission, and for males such costume shall include a foul-proof guard of the boxer's own selection, type to be approved by the Commission, adequate as determined by the Commission in its discretion to satisfactorily reduce the risks of the boxer being disabled by a low blow or blows received during the contest. Each participant shall provide him or herself with two mouthpieces of a type approved by the Commission, and shall wear one of such mouthpieces while participating in a contest or exhibition. No shoes with spikes, cleats, hard soles or hard heels shall be worn in the ring.

Section 211.14. Position of judges and physicians

The judges shall be stationed at separate sides of the ring as directed by the Commission, and the physicians shall be stationed at places designated by the Commission.

Section 211.15. Items in boxer's corner

A bucket with ice, plastic water bottle, water, sponge, and surgical tape shall be available in each boxer's corner at all times during the contest or exhibition. Without specific permission of the Commission, the only other material which may be present or used at ringside are vaseline, adrenalin (in a sealed manufacturer's vial, premeasured in a 1/1,000 solution) and anticoagulant (either Avitene, Thrombin, Thrombinplastin or Fibroplastic). Scissors for the removal of gloves and tape may also be in the possession of a boxer's second while in the boxer's corner.

Section 211.16. People in boxer's corner

Each boxer shall submit to the Commission for approval the name of his or her chief second and assistant seconds and no one other than approved seconds shall be permitted in the corner of the boxer.

Section 211.17. Number of seconds

Each contestant shall have no more than three seconds, each of whom shall be licensed by the Commission, and each such second while assisting in the boxer's corner shall wear only such costume approved by the Commission. Provided, however, that each contestant in a championship bout may have no more than four licensed seconds. Only one second may be inside the ring ropes between rounds.

Section 211.18. Conduct of seconds

During the progress of any round, seconds shall remain seated and shall not engage in disruptive behavior. No second shall enter the ring between rounds and assist a boxer back to his or her corner unless the bout has been terminated by the referee or ringside physician.

Section 211.19. Throwing towel into ring

No one shall throw any towel into the ring as a signal of defeat or for any other reason.

Section 211.20. Application of substances to boxers between rounds

All substances applied to or into the body of a boxer between rounds shall be approved in advance by the Commission. No substance not so approved by the Commission shall be applied to or into the body of a boxer between rounds.

Section 211.21. Excessive spraying of water on boxer

No excessive or undue spraying or throwing of water on any boxer between rounds is permitted.

Section 211.22. Referee's instructions

Before the start of each bout the referee shall call the participants together for final instructions, at which time each participant shall be accompanied by his or her chief second only, except in the case of a boxer who also requires the services of an interpreter. After receiving the referee's instructions, the boxers shall shake hands or touch gloves and return to their corners to await the gong for the first round.

Section 211.23. Start of each round

In all boxing contests and exhibitions, each boxer shall come to the center of the ring at the start of each round.

Section 211.24. Duration of rounds

Rounds shall be 180 seconds long, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 211.25. Intermission between rounds

There shall be a 60 second intermission between rounds, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. The referee, at the request of the ringside physician, may extend this intermission, if necessary to examine a participant, for up to 30 additional seconds.

Section 211.26. Coaching

The promoter or associates and employees of the promoter and the matchmaker shall not coach any participant at any time during the progress of any contest or exhibition.

Section 211.27. Remaining in ring

All participants and their seconds shall remain in or near the ring until the conclusion of a contest or exhibition and until the decision is announced in a contest, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission.

Section 211.28. Completion of contest

After the decision of any contest has been announced, participants and their seconds shall leave the ring at once and retire to their dressing rooms, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission.

Participants and seconds are prohibited from indicating in any way to the officials or to the spectators their opinions as to who won or lost the contest or exhibition.

Section 211.29. Prohibited practices - Boxing

The following foul, dangerous, and unsportsmanlike practices are prohibited in all boxing matches: hitting below the belt; tripping; kicking; butting; kneeing; throttling; elbowing; striking with the head, shoulder, or forearm; hitting with open glove, or the inside, side or wrist of the glove; hitting on the back, especially the kidneys or the back of the neck; pivot blows; pressing an opponent's face with arm or elbow; attacking while holding the ropes and making use of the ropes in any other unfair way for attack purposes; pressing an opponent's head over the ropes or against the turnbuckles or ring posts; wrestling, lying on, and throwing while in a clinch; attacking in any way a fallen opponent; clinching, holding or locking an opponent's arms or head; pushing a stiff arm underneath an opponent's arm; holding and hitting; pulling and hitting; hitting on the break after a clinch; ducking low to upend an incoming opponent; thumbing and gouging of an opponent's eyes; rubbing an opponent's face with laces, adhesive tape, or any abrasive area of or substance on the gloves; use of any ointment, powder, or other substance intended or likely to cause danger or discomfort to an opponent.

Section 211.30. Appointment, compensation and substitution of ring officials

All timekeepers, judges and referees for contests and exhibitions shall be appointed by the Commission. All ring officials shall be approved by the Commission. The number of ring officials required to be in attendance, or the substitution of ring officials for any reason at any time is solely within the power and discretion of the Commission. All ring officials shall be compensated and provided with travel and meal reimbursement in such amounts and in such a manner as directed or otherwise approved by the Commission. The Commission shall determine the amount of the compensation and reimbursements of ring officials in accordance with reason and equity in the circumstances of the respective contests and exhibitions to which they shall be appointed. Ring officials appointed by the Commission who are ready, willing and able to perform their assigned duties at any scheduled contest or exhibition, as determined by the Commission, shall be entitled to compensation in an amount determined by the Commission irrespective of whether such officials actually perform their assigned duties at such scheduled contest or exhibition. Compensation due ring officials shall be paid in full in each case by the promoter through the Commission. The

promoter of an event shall be given notice of the judges that are selected by the Commission for assignment to judge at each contest at that event. Promoters shall be responsible for providing such information to all combatants and their managers participating in the promoter's event. Any participant or his or her manager may protest the prospective assignment of a judge to their contest by a writing delivered to the Commission office, and the participant or manager may be heard in writing by the Commission or its designee if such protest is received by the Commission within three days of the Commission's service of notice to the promoter of record. If the protest is untimely it shall be summarily rejected.

Section 211.31. Persons disqualified from officiating

No boxer, manager, second, matchmaker, promoter, nor any employee or agent of any promoter, matchmaker, boxer, second or manager, shall officiate as a referee, judge, knockdown counter or timekeeper at any boxing contest or exhibition.

Section 211.32. Officials in attendance

At every contest or exhibition the ring officials in attendance shall consist of at least one referee, three judges, one timekeeper, one knockdown counter and one announcer, unless otherwise directed or specifically approved by the Commission. In addition, for all boxing contests or exhibitions, there shall be at least two physicians in attendance at ringside, unless a greater number is directed by the Commission.

Section 211.33. Referee

The Commission shall appoint at least one referee to officiate at each contest or exhibition.

Section 211.34. Referee's powers and duties

The referee shall exercise immediate authority, direction and control over contests and exhibitions to which he or she has been appointed. Before the start of each contest or exhibition under his or her direction, the referee shall ascertain the identity of the chief seconds of the respective participants and shall hold such chief seconds responsible for their own conduct and for the conduct of their respective assistant seconds in all matters pertinent to the contest or exhibition; the referee shall give such instructions to the participants and their seconds in the dressing room as he or she shall deem appropriate; the referee shall have and exercise in his or her discretion, the authority to remove or cause to be removed from the ring and or the vicinity thereof any person who interferes or

attempts to interfere with the conduct of the contest or exhibition; before the start of each such contest or exhibition and from time to time, as he or she shall see fit, during the course thereof, he or she shall check the participants' gloves, equipment, and persons to assure that no unsafe or improper condition or conditions shall be permitted to exist; he or she shall observe carefully and continually the physical condition of the participants and shall have full and final responsibility, either at his or her own discretion or upon recommendation from the attending ringside physician for the immediate halting of any contest or exhibition wherein, for any reason, the safety of a participant would be jeopardized by continuance. The referee shall have exclusive authority in the event of injury to a participant, to interrupt the progress of a round by directing the timekeeper to stop the clock and calling the ringside physician into the ring to examine and advise upon the condition of the injured participant. If it shall be decided by the referee upon advice of the physician that such participant is fit to continue, the referee shall direct the timekeeper to start the clock and the round shall be resumed from the point of interruption, provided, however, that no such interruption of a round shall be ordered when the condition of the distressed party is such as would be materially remedied by an unscheduled rest period, except where the injury involved shall have resulted from a foul action by the opposing participant, when the referee, upon advice of the attending physician, shall order such reasonable rest period as shall be appropriate. The referee shall enforce the rules of boxing, as set forth by the Commission, as well as those rules generally recognized in the sport under the traditional title of the Marquis of Queensbury Rules, as modified to current date by usage and written authority; the referee shall be authorized, in the event of foul tactics by a participant, to take away a point or points from the score of such participant at the end of the round in which such foul tactics shall have occurred, and when the referee has taken such action, he or she shall inform the judges and the chief seconds of the participants of the ruling prior to the start of the next round; the referee shall have the exclusive authority to stop a contest or exhibition at any stage because of a major foul being committed by either participant and to award the decision, under the circumstances, to the fouled participant; the referee shall have the exclusive authority to stop a contest or exhibition at any stage if he or she considers that one or both participants are failing to perform according to due standards of effort, ability or conduct, and in such event may disqualify one or both participants and if only one participant is disqualified the referee may award the contest or exhibition to the other by technical knockout; the referee shall have the exclusive authority to stop a contest or exhibition at any stage on the grounds that it is too one-sided. In such event, he or she may award the contest or exhibition to the superior participant as a technical knockout; the referee shall have the exclusive authority to decide whether or not a boxer is knocked down during the course of a round and shall indicate such decision to the timekeeper or alternate referee whose count shall be accordingly continued or discontinued, and, if the count is to be continued, the referee shall pick it up orally and by gesture after first assuring that the opponent of the fallen participant

shall have retreated to the most distant neutral corner of the ring; at the conclusion of each contest or exhibition under his or her direction, the referee shall confirm to the announcer and to the Commission, the official result and whether it shall have been by decision on points, by knockout, by technical knockout, or by disqualification.

Section 211.35. Judges

The Commission shall appoint three judges to officiate at each contest or exhibition, except exhibitions conducted solely for training or instruction purposes.

Section 211.36. Judges powers and duties

Judges shall observe carefully and expertly the performance of the participants in each contest or exhibition to which they are appointed; to appraise each such contest or exhibition fairly and accurately in the light of these rules and the generally recognized rules of boxing; to inscribe the results of such appraisal after each round on the Commission scorecard according to the scoring system adopted by the Commission; and to deliver said scorecards to the referee or to such other official as designated by the Commission.

Section 211.37. Timekeepers

The Commission shall appoint a timekeeper to officiate at each contest or exhibition, except exhibitions conducted solely for training or instruction purposes.

Section 211.38. Timekeepers powers and duties

Each timekeeper shall have and maintain an accurate stop-watch or stop-clock, and also a whistle or buzzer, which shall be approved by the Commission before each contest or exhibition to which the timekeeper has been appointed. The timekeeper shall sit outside the ring platform and close to the gong. The timekeeper shall keep the time of each round and intermission by means of an accurate stop-watch or stop clock. He or she shall sound the gong to begin and to end each round by striking it with a metal hammer or by other means approved by the Commission. The timekeeper or alternate referee shall count for knockdowns by striking the floor of the ring or a suitable wooden striking board with a substantially constructed hammer or mallet or other means approved by the Commission. The timekeeper shall signal by striking the floor of the ring or a suitable wooden striking board with a substantially constructed hammer or mallet or other means approved by the Commission to indicate when only ten seconds remains in a round. The timekeeper shall also signal

by whistle or other means approved by the Commission when ten seconds remain before the beginning of a round, and at such signal all seconds shall leave the ring immediately and shall remove all stools and equipment from the ring immediately. Except as above, the timekeeper shall give no signal or other information during a contest or exhibition.

Section 211.39. Counting for knockdowns

When a boxer falls to the floor of the ring or leaves the ring during the progress of a round, the timekeeper or alternate referee shall immediately begin the official count and shall continue to the count of 10 at the rate of one stroke per second, unless the referee shall direct that the count be suspended.

Section 211.40. Early termination of contest or exhibition

When a boxing contest or exhibition terminates before completion of the final scheduled round, the timekeeper shall record the exact time of termination and shall inform the announcer and the Commission of the exact duration of the bout. When a boxing contest or exhibition terminates between rounds, the contest or exhibition shall be ruled to have ended in the round just terminated.

Section 211.41. Announcers

The promoter shall engage an announcer for each contest or exhibition, who shall be approved in advance by the Commission. The promoter may be held responsible by the Commission for the actions or omissions of their announcer.

Section 211.42. Announcers duties and authority

The announcer shall be the master of ceremonies at each contest or exhibition. No announcements from the ring shall be made except by the announcer unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission, and no announcements from the ring shall be made except as approved by the Commission in advance. Introductions from the ring of individuals in attendance shall precede the announcement of the names and correct weights of the participants, and any other matters the announcer is directed to announce by the Commission. The announcer shall announce the winner of each contest or exhibition at its conclusion.

Section 211.43. Applicability of the Uniform Rules of Boxing

All boxing contests and exhibitions shall be contested according to the Uniform Rules of Boxing as adopted and amended by the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC), unless otherwise directed by the Commission. Under no circumstances, however, shall the broad powers of any physician as provided for in State law and the rules of the Commission be restricted in any manner by application of the Uniform Rules of Boxing. The authority to render final determinations based on the application and interpretation of the Uniform Rules of Boxing for contests held within the State of New York shall be vested in the Commission.

Section 211.44. Scoring and points

All boxing contests and exhibitions shall be scored by three judges.

(a) Unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission, the following scoring system shall be used by the judges in each boxing contest or exhibition to determine which, if any, participant has won a round. In each round, such judges shall observe (1) clean hitting, (2) effective aggressiveness, (3) defense, and (4) ring generalship. At the conclusion of each round, each judge shall score each participant's performance on these four items, using the Ten-Point-Must system. (b) The basic scoring concepts, which are non-exclusive and provided herein for guidance purposes of example only, are: (1) Round ends, no clear winner 10-10 (Rare); (2) Close round/Winning of the round by effective boxing – 10-9; (3) One knockdown and a winning of the round – 10-8; (4) No knockdowns, but a clear dominating winning of the round – 10-8; (5) Two knockdowns – 10-7; (6) One knockdown and one point deduction to the same boxer – 10-8 (minus 1) = 10-7; (7) More than two knockdowns – 10-6; and (8) Two knockdowns and one point deduction – 10-7 (minus 1) = 10-6.

Section 211.45. Knockdowns

The judges shall score a knockdown only when a knockdown is so ruled by the referee.

Section 211.46. Scorecards

At the end of each round, each judge shall mark his or her scorecard with the score of each boxer in such round along with a brief explanation of such judge's reason for the score, and shall deliver the scorecard to the referee, who shall in turn deliver the scorecards of all judges to the Commission. Thereafter, the Commission representatives shall be the only persons authorized to view the judge's scores until such time as the final tally is presented to the referee at the conclusion of the match in accordance with section 211.47 of this Part.

Section 211.47. The tally and decision

At the conclusion of a contest or exhibition, except a contest or exhibition which has been concluded by knockout, technical knockout, disqualification or a declaration of “No Decision,” the Commission shall tally the total points awarded to each participant and shall communicate same to the announcer.

Section 211.48. The announcer

The announcer shall announce the decision of the judges from the ring, and shall call out the total points awarded by each judge. The boxer who has more points on the scorecard of the official is the winner on that judge's scorecard. The boxer who has been awarded the decision on at least two of the three judges' scorecards is the winner of the bout. In the event that neither boxer has been awarded the decision on at least two of the three judges scorecards, the decision shall be a draw.

Section 211.49. Major and minor fouls

(a) Upon the occurrence of any major foul in any round, the referee may disqualify the offending boxer and award the bout to the fouled boxer or may deduct one or more points from the offending boxer. Major fouls are:

- (1) hitting an opponent who is down or who is rising from down;
- (2) using the knee against the opponent;
- (3) failure to heed the referee's warnings concerning low blows or other minor fouls;
- (4) any dangerous and unsportsmanlike conduct in the ring; and
- (5) intentional butting; and/or low blows, intentional or unintentional.

(b) It is within the discretion of the referee as to whether the offending boxer should merely be warned or should be deducted one or more points because of the commission of the following minor fouls:

- (1) holding an opponent;
- (2) deliberately maintaining a clinch;
- (3) hitting with the inside or butt of the hand, the wrist or the elbow;
- (4) backhand blows;
- (5) low blows;
- (6) hitting or “flicking” with the open glove;
- (7) wrestling or roughing at the ropes;
- (8) deliberately striking at that part of the body over the kidneys;
- (9) use of pivot blow or rabbit punch;

(10) hitting on a break.

Section 211.50. Injuries sustained by fouls

(a) Intentional fouls:

(1) If an intentional foul causes an injury, and the injury is severe enough to terminate the bout immediately, the boxer causing the injury shall lose by disqualification.

(2) If an intentional foul causes an injury and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee will notify the authorities and deduct two (2) points from the boxer who caused the foul. Point deductions for intentional fouls causing injury will be mandatory.

(3) If an intentional foul causes an injury and the injury results in the bout being stopped in a latter round, the injured boxer will win by TECHNICAL DECISION if he is ahead on the score cards or the bout will result in a TECHNICAL DRAW if the injured boxer is behind or even on the score cards. Partial or incomplete rounds will be scored. If no action has occurred, the round should be scored as an even round.

(4) If boxer injures himself while attempting to intentionally foul his opponent, the referee will not take any action in his favor, and this injury will be the same as one produced by a fair blow.

(5) If the referee feels that a boxer has conducted himself in an unsportsmanlike manner he/she may stop the bout and disqualify the boxer.

(b) Accidental fouls:

(1) If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout will result in a “No Decision” if stopped before three (3) completed rounds in bouts scheduled for four rounds. Rounds are complete when the bell rings signifying the end of a round. If a bout is scheduled for more than four (4) rounds and an accidental foul occurs causing an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout will result in a “No Decision” if stopped before four (4) completed rounds.

(2) If an accidental foul causes an injury severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, after three (3) rounds have occurred in bouts scheduled for four rounds, the bout will result in a “Technical Decision,” awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped. If a bout is scheduled for more than four (4) rounds and an accidental foul causing an injury severe for the referee to stop the bout immediately, after four (4) rounds have occurred, the bout will result in a “Technical Decision,” awarded to the boxer who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped.

(3) A fighter who is hit with an accidental low blow must continue after a reasonable amount of time but no more than five (5) minutes or he/she will lose the fight.

Section 211.51. Loss of mouthpiece

In the event that a boxer loses his or her mouthpiece, the referee shall call time during a lull in the action of the contest and cause such boxer's seconds to install a backup mouthpiece or promptly wash and reinstall the same mouthpiece. If a referee determines that a boxer has deliberately spit out his or her mouthpiece for any reason, the referee may issue a warning to such boxer or deduct one or more points from such boxer and, upon any subsequent such infraction, may disqualify the boxer by declaring the opponent a winner.

Section 211.52. When a boxer is down

A boxer is down if (a) any part of his or her body other than his or her feet is on the ring floor, (b) the boxer is being held up by the ring ropes, or (c) the boxer is rising from a down position.

Section 211.53. Counting

When a participant is down, the timekeeper or alternate referee shall at once commence calling off the seconds, indicating the count with a motion of his or her arm. The referee shall immediately order the other participant to a neutral corner and shall thereafter pick up the count from the timekeeper or alternate referee and indicate it with a motion of his or her arm. If a participant is unable to continue at the count of 10, the referee shall declare the other participant the winner by a knockout.

Section 211.54. Additional circumstances when referee shall count boxer out

The referee shall count out a boxer who falls to the floor claiming foul because of a low blow. If a participant who has been knocked or has fallen through the ropes and onto the ring apron fails to be on his or her feet in the ring before the expiration of 10 seconds, the referee shall count him or her out as if he or she were down. If a participant who has been knocked or has fallen out of the ring and off the ring apron fails to be on his or her feet in the ring before the expiration of 20 seconds, the referee shall count him or her out as if he or she were down. A participant who has fallen or has been knocked out of the ring shall return to the ring unassisted. The referee may count out or deem counted out a boxer rendered unconscious or unable to rise during such time as medical attention is being provided to the boxer, and award a knockout.

Section 211.55. Knockout

If the contestant taking the count is still down when the referee calls the count of ten, or, if in the opinion of the referee, the contestant who was knocked down is in no condition to continue, the referee shall wave both arms to indicate a knockout.

Section 211.56. Technical knockout

The referee may stop a contest or exhibition at any time if he or she considers it too one-sided, or if either participant is in such condition that to continue would, in the judgment of the referee, be too dangerous to his or her health and safety. In the event the referee stops a contest or exhibition as aforesaid, the referee shall award the other participant the victory by technical knockout. In any contest or exhibition, the awarding of a victory therein for any reason other than a knockout, disqualification or decision on points shall be deemed a technical knockout.

Section 211.57. When contest terminates

If the contest is terminated between rounds, it shall be recorded as having concluded in the round just terminated. However, if the bell for the subsequent round has already sounded, the contest shall be recorded as having ended in the subsequent round.

Section 211.58. How championship can be lost

A championship may be lost by default, forfeit, or inability to pass the scale, but a championship shall only be won by a contender in a contest.

Section 211.59. Exclusivity of rules for championships

No championship bout may be held in the State of New York, except one held in accordance with these rules.

Section 211.60. Preliminary filing requirements for championships

In order to sanction a championship bout to be held within the State of New York, a sanctioning body must have filed the following with the Commission:

- (a) a copy of its constitution and by laws;
- (b) the names and addresses of its current officers and directors;
- (c) a certified financial statement for its last complete fiscal year; and
- (d) its current criteria for ranking boxers in each weight class.

Section 211.61. Criteria for ranking boxers

The Commission shall not accept for filing any criteria for ranking boxers that:

- (a) do not provide objective and consistent criteria for ranking professional boxers in each weight class;
- (b) exclude professional boxers who are not affiliated with the sanctioning body, or whose promoters are not affiliated with the sanctioning body, from being ranked; and
- (c) do not provide a procedure whereby a professional boxer who is either aggrieved by not being ranked by the sanctioning body in the top 15 boxers in his or her weight class, or by his or her ranking within said top 15 boxers of his or her weight class may appeal to the sanctioning body to be ranked either within or higher within the top 15 boxers for that weight class.

Section 211.62. Pre-bout filing requirements

Within 10 days after a contract to hold a championship bout in New York has been signed, the sanctioning body shall file with the Commission:

- (a) a statement setting forth all fees and charges (including amounts) that it has or will impose on the boxers and promoters with respect to the championship bout being sanctioned;
- (b) all contracts it enters into with respect to the championship bout being sanctioned; and
- (c) an affidavit certifying that, other than the fees and charges identified in response to this section, neither the sanctioning body, nor any officers or directors have or will receive any payment, compensation or other benefit from promoter(s) or those affiliated with the promoter(s) with respect to the championship bout being sanctioned.

PART 212 – Special Rules for the Conduct of Professional Mixed Martial Arts

Section 212.1. Application of the unified rules of mixed martial arts

All professional mixed martial arts contests and exhibitions shall be contested according to the rules of the Commission and the Unified Rules of Mixed Martial Arts as adopted and amended by the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC), unless otherwise directed by the Commission. Under no circumstances, however, shall the powers of any physician, as provided for in State law and the rules of the Commission, be restricted in any manner by application of the Unified Rules of Mixed Martial Arts. The authority to render final determinations based on the application and interpretation of the Unified Rules of Mixed Martial Arts for contests held within the State of New York shall be vested in the State Athletic Commission.

Section 212.2. General requirements for professional mixed martial arts contests and combatants.

- (a) Professional contests and exhibitions of mixed martial arts must be conducted under the direct supervision and authority of the Commission.
- (b) Professional combatants and all professional matches or exhibitions shall be approved by the Commission. The Commission may review the combatant's experience, qualifications, medical records, win-loss record and training record, including any footage of the combatant's prior experiences, as part of its determination whether to issue or renew any professional mixed martial arts license or whether to approve a specific match or exhibition.

Section 212.3. Number and Length of rounds.

- (a) A non-championship contest of professional mixed martial arts may not exceed three (3) rounds of five (5) minutes per round with a one (1) minute rest period following each round, unless otherwise directed or authorized in writing by the Commission.
- (b) A championship contest of professional mixed martial arts shall be five rounds of 5 minutes per round with a one (1) minute rest period following each round.
- (c) For all contests, a warning bell shall sound fifteen seconds prior to the start of each round.

Section 212.4. Weight classes of contestants.

- (a) The times and places of all weighing in ceremonies shall be as determined by the Commission and all participants shall be weighed in on scales approved by the Commission and in the presence of their opponent and representatives of the Commission, unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Commission. In the event of a postponement of a contest or exhibition for more than 24 hours for any reason, a second weigh-in and additional physical examination may be required by the Commission on the day of or day prior to the date to which the contest or exhibition has been adjourned.
- (b) Except as otherwise directed by the Commission, the weight classes for contestants competing in professional mixed martial arts contest or exhibitions are as follows:

Weight Class

Weight Difference Allowance

New York State Athletic Commission – Proposed Regulations –19 NYCRR Parts 206–214

Strawweight	Up to and including 115 pounds	Not more than 3 pounds
Flyweight	Over 115 to 125 pounds.	Not more than 4 pounds.
Bantamweight	Over 125 to 135 pounds.	Not more than 5 pounds.
Featherweight	Over 135 to 145 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.
Lightweight	Over 145 to 155 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.
Welterweight	Over 155 to 170 pounds.	Not more than 7 pounds.
Middleweight	Over 170 to 185 pounds.	Not more than 9 pounds.
Light Heavyweight	Over 185 to 205 pounds.	Not more than 12 pounds.
Heavyweight	Over 205 to 265 pounds.	Not more than 25 pounds.
Super Heavyweight	Over 265 pounds.	No limit.

(c) In non-championship matches there shall be a one (1) pound weight allowance from the specified contract weight. In championship matches the participants must weigh no more than the maximum weight allowed for the relevant weight class.

(d) The Commission may, in its discretion, waive the maximum weight difference allowance as provided in paragraph (b) above, so long as the official weight of both competitors is within the same weight class and both competitors consent to the waiver in writing.

Section 212.5. Proper attire of contestants.

(a) *Trunks.* Each contestant shall wear mixed martial arts shorts, biker shorts, boxing or kickboxing shorts during competition as approved by the Commission. Trunks shall not contain metal zippers or other sharp or hard objects.

(b) *Shirt or gi.* Male contestants may not wear a shirt or gi during competition. Female contestants shall wear a body shirt and chest protection during competition.

(c) *Shoes.* Contestants may not wear shoes or padding on their feet during competition.

Section 212.6. Physical appearance of combatants.

- (a) Each contestant shall present a clean appearance.
- (b) The use of grease or any other foreign substance, including grooming creams, lotions or sprays, may not be used on the hair or any portion of the body of a contestant. The use of excessive amounts of water on the hair or any portion of the body is also prohibited. The referee or the Commission will cause any excessive water, or grease or foreign substance to be removed. A light coating of petroleum jelly is permitted on the face (forehead and cheekbones only) and must be applied at cage side or ring side in the presence of the referee and the Commission. This coating is at the discretion of the referee and the Commission.
- (c) The Commission will determine whether head or facial hair presents a hazard to the safety of the contestant or the opponent or will interfere with the supervision and conduct of the contest or exhibition. If the head or facial hair of a contestant presents a hazard or will interfere with the supervision and conduct of the contest or exhibition, the contestant may not participate in the contest or exhibition unless the circumstances creating the hazard or potential interference are corrected to the satisfaction of the Commission. Without limiting the standard in this subsection, head hair must be trimmed or tied back in a manner that it will not interfere with the vision of either contestant or cover any part of a contestant's face.
- (d) Contestants may not wear any jewelry or other piercing accessories while competing.
- (e) Taping of the hands, wrists and ankles are permitted at the discretion of the Commission.
- (f) Finger and toe nails must be trimmed.

Section 212.7. Equipment.

- (a) Combatants shall wear open finger gloves weighing no less than four (4) and no more than eight (8) ounces. Gloves must be appropriate in weight for the combatant's hand size. The gloves used in professional mixed martial arts contests and exhibitions must be promoter-supplied, of a brand and model approved by the Commission, and shall be new unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. No combatant may supply his or her own gloves. All gloves must be approved by the referee and the Commission prior to and during use in any contest or exhibition, or they must be replaced. The gloves used for all contests or exhibitions must be clean, sanitary, free of debris, and in good condition. Gloves found to be twisted, manipulated, altered, unfit or ill-fitting, shall not be approved and shall be required to be replaced by the promoter.
- (b) Male contestants shall provide and wear a foul-proof groin protector during competition. The groin protector is subject to examination and approval by the referee and the Commission.
- (c) Female contestants shall provide and wear a chest protector during competition. The chest protector is subject to examination and approval by the referee and the Commission. Female contestants may, in their own discretion and at their own risk, provide and wear a foul-proof groin

protector during competition. The groin protector is subject to examination and approval by the referee and the Commission prior to use in competition.

(d) For each contest or exhibition, the licensed promoter shall provide each contestant's corner with a clean water bucket, a plastic water bottle, and a ring stool approved by the Commission. An appropriate number of stools or chairs, of a type approved by the Commission, shall be available for each contestant's seconds. Such stools or chairs shall be located near each contestant's corner. All stools and chairs used must be thoroughly cleaned or replaced after the conclusion of each bout.

(e) The chief second shall equip himself or herself with: a clear plastic water bottle; a bucket of ice; a solution or product of kind approved by the Commission for stopping hemorrhaging; adhesive tape; gauze; scissors; and one extra mouthpiece. No ammonia may be used in the ring. The ringside physician, the referee or a Commission representative may, at any time, inspect the contents of the chief second's first-aid kit.

(f) All contestants are required to wear a mouthpiece during competition. The mouthpiece shall be subject to examination and approval by the attending physician. No round shall begin without the mouthpiece in place. If the mouthpiece is involuntarily dislodged during competition, the referee shall call time, clean the mouthpiece and reinsert the mouthpiece at the first opportune moment, without interfering with the immediate action.

Section 212.8. Method of judging and scoring.

(a) The method of judging professional mixed martial contests or exhibitions must comply with the Ten-Point-Must System of scoring professional matches.

(b) Under the 10-Point Must Scoring System, 10 points must be awarded to the winner of the round and 9 points or less must be awarded to the loser, except for a rare even round, which is scored 10-10.

(c) Judges shall evaluate mixed martial arts techniques, such as effective striking, effective grappling, control of the ring/fighting area, and effective aggressiveness and defense.

(d) Evaluations shall be made in the order in which the techniques appear in paragraph c above, giving the most weight in scoring to effective striking, effective grappling, control of the fighting area, and effective aggressiveness and defense.

(e) Effective striking is judged by determining the total number of legal strikes landed by a contestant.

(f) Effective grappling is judged by considering the amount of successful executions of a legal takedown and reversals. Examples of factors to consider are take downs from standing position to mount position, passing the guard to mount position, and bottom position fighters using an active threatening guard.

(g) Fighting area control is judged by determining who is dictating the pace, location and position of the bout. Examples of factors to consider are countering a grappler's attempt at takedown by remaining standing and legally striking, taking down an opponent to force a ground fight, creating threatening submission attempts, passing the guard to achieve mount, and creating striking opportunities.

(h) Effective aggressiveness means moving forward and landing a legal strike.

(i) Effective defense means avoiding being struck, taken down or reversed while countering with offensive attacks.

(j) The following objective scoring criteria shall be utilized by the judges when scoring a round, and is provided as a general non-exclusive guideline for purposes of illustration: (1) a round is to be scored as a 10-10 round when both contestants appear to be fighting evenly and neither contestant shows clear dominance in a round; (2) a round is to be scored as a 10-9 round when a contestant wins by a close margin, landing the greater number of effective legal strikes, grappling and other maneuvers; (3) a round is to be scored as a 10-8 round when a contestant overwhelmingly dominates by striking or grappling in a round; (4) a round is to be scored as a 10-7 round when a contestant totally dominates by striking or grappling in a round.

(k) Judges shall use a sliding scale and recognize the length of time the fighters are either standing or on the ground, as follows: (1) If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round on the canvas, then: (i) Effective grappling is weighed first; and (ii) Effective striking is then weighed; (2) If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round standing, then: (i) Effective striking is weighed first; and (ii) Effective grappling is then weighed; and (3) If a round ends with a relatively even amount of standing and canvas fighting, striking and grappling are weighed equally.

Section 212.9. Hand wrapping.

(a) In all weight classes, the bandages on each contestant's hand shall be restricted to soft gauze cloth of not more than 15 yards in length and two inches in width, held in place by not more than 10 feet of surgeon's tape, one inch in width, for each hand.

(b) Surgeon's adhesive tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to cover and protect the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.

(c) The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.

(d) Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the Commission and in the presence of the manager or chief second of his or her opponent.

(e) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the Commission is received.

Section 212.10. Acts constituting fouls.

(a) Disqualification from a mixed martial arts contest or exhibition occurs after any combination of fouls or after a flagrant foul as determined by the referee.

(b) The following acts constitute fouls in a professional mixed martial arts contest or exhibition:

- (1) Butting with the head.
- (2) Eye gouging of any kind.
- (3) Biting.
- (4) Hair pulling.
- (5) Fishhooking.
- (6) Groin attacks of any kind.
- (7) Putting a finger into any orifice or into any cut or laceration on an opponent.
- (8) Small joint manipulation.
- (9) Striking to the spine or the back of the head.
- (10) Striking downward using the point of the elbow.
- (11) Throat strikes of any kind, including, without limitation, grabbing the trachea.
- (12) Clawing, pinching or twisting the flesh.
- (13) Grabbing the clavicle.
- (14) Kicking the head of a grounded opponent.
- (15) Kneeing the head of a grounded opponent.
- (16) Stomping a grounded opponent.
- (17) Kicking to the kidney with the heel.
- (18) Spiking an opponent to the floor surface on his head or neck.
- (19) Throwing an opponent out of the ring or fenced area.
- (20) Holding the shorts or gloves of an opponent.
- (21) Spitting at an opponent.
- (22) Engaging in any type of unsportsmanlike conduct, especially that which may cause an injury to an opponent.
- (23) Holding the ropes or the fence.
- (24) Using abusive language in the ring or fenced area.
- (25) Attacking an opponent on or during the break.
- (26) Attacking an opponent who is under the care of the referee.
- (27) Attacking an opponent after the bell has sounded the end of the period of competition.

(28) Disregarding the instructions of the referee.

(29) Timidity, including, without limitation, avoiding contact with an opponent, intentionally or consistently dropping the mouthpiece, or faking an injury.

(30) Interference by the corner, including throwing in the towel. Team members including cornermen and trainers shall stay in their designated area at all times during an event.

(31) Applying any foreign substance to the hair, body, clothing or gloves immediately prior to or during a contest or exhibition that could result in an unfair advantage.

Section 212.11. Deduction of points for fouls; effect of low blow.

(a) If a combatant fouls his opponent during a contest or exhibition of professional mixed martial arts, the referee may penalize him by deducting points from his score, whether or not the foul was intentional. Except as otherwise provided by the rules of the Commission, the referee may determine the number of points to be deducted in each instance and shall base his determination on the severity of the foul and its effect upon the opponent.

(b) When the referee determines that it is necessary to deduct a point or points because of a foul, he shall warn the offender of the penalty to be assessed.

(c) The referee shall, as soon as is practical after the foul, notify the judges and both combatants of the number of points, if any, to be deducted from the score of the offender.

(d) Any points to be deducted for any foul shall be deducted in the round in which the foul occurred and may not be deducted from the score of a subsequent round.

(e) A combatant may not be declared the winner of a contest or exhibition of professional mixed martial arts on the basis of his claim that his opponent accidentally fouled him by hitting him in the groin. If a combatant falls to the floor of the ring or fenced area or otherwise indicates that he is unwilling to continue after a maximum of a 5-minute rest period, because of a claim of being hit in the groin, the contest or exhibition shall be declared to be a technical knockout in favor of the contestant who is willing to continue.

Section 212.12. Accidental fouls.

(a) If a contest or exhibition of professional mixed martial arts is stopped because of an accidental foul, the referee, with advice from the ringside physician, shall determine whether the combatant who has been fouled can continue or not. If the contestant's chance of winning has not been seriously jeopardized as a result of the foul, the referee may order that the contest or exhibition continue after a recuperative interval of not more than 5 minutes. Immediately after separating the contestants, the referee shall inform the Commission's representative of a determination that the foul was accidental.

(b) If the referee determines that a contest or exhibition of professional mixed martial arts may not continue because of an injury suffered as the result of an accidental foul, the contest or exhibition shall be declared a no contest if the foul occurs during either of the following:

(1) The first two rounds of a non-championship contest or exhibition.

(2) The first three rounds of a championship contest or exhibition.

(c) If an accidental foul renders a combatant unable to continue the contest or exhibition after the completed second round of a non-championship contest or exhibition, or after the completed third round of a championship contest or exhibition, the outcome shall be determined by scoring the completed rounds and the round during which the referee stops the contest or exhibition.

(d) If an injury inflicted by an accidental foul later becomes aggravated by fair blows and the referee orders the contest or exhibition stopped because of the injury, the outcome shall be determined by scoring the completed rounds and the round during which the referee stops the contest or exhibition.

Section 212.13. Results of contests.

(a) A mixed martial arts contest may end under the following results:

(1) Through submission by:

(i) Physical tap out.

(ii) Verbal tap out.

(2) Technical knockout by the referee stopping the contest.

(3) Decision by means of the scorecards, including unanimous decision, split decision or majority decision.

(4) Draw.

(5) Technical decision.

(6) Technical draw.

(7) Disqualification.

(8) Forfeit.

(9) No contest.

(b) The referee is the immediate arbiter of the contest. The referee and the ringside physician are the only individuals authorized to enter the ring or fenced area at any time during competition, and either shall be authorized to stop a contest at any time.

Section 212.14. Use of prohibited substances; detection and penalties.

The use of any illegal or Commission prohibited substance, drug, narcotic, stimulant, depressant, analgesic of any description, or alcohol substance by a contestant, either before or during a match, will result in the immediate disqualification of the contestant from the match and may result in

disciplinary action in accordance with Article 41 of the General Business Law and the rules of the Commission (relating to fines, purse forfeiture, and the suspension or revocation of licenses and permits).

Section 212.15. Appointment and compensation of officials.

- (a) All timekeepers, judges and referees shall be licensed, designated and approved by the Commission for each event, pursuant to standards of qualification and fitness established by the Commission.
- (b) Officials shall be compensated in accordance with a fee and reimbursement schedule set by the Commission.
- (c) The promoter of an event shall be given notice of the judges that are selected by the Commission for assignment to judge at that event. Promoters shall be responsible for providing such information to all combatants and their managers participating in the promoter's event. Any participant in a professional combative sport or his or her manager may protest the prospective assignment of a judge to their contest by a writing delivered to the Commission office, and the participant or manager may be heard in writing by the Commission or its designee if such protest is received by the Commission within three days of the Commission's service of notice to the promoter of record. If the protest is untimely it shall be summarily rejected.

PART 213 – Rules for the Promotion of Professional Wrestling

Section 213.1. Purpose.

The purpose of this Part is to establish a process by which entities may be recognized and approved by the Commission as promoters of professional wrestling to oversee and conduct professional wrestling events in the State of New York.

Section 213.2. Definitions

As used within this Part, the following terms shall have the meanings provided herein:

- a) "Commission" means the New York State Athletic Commission or a duly authorized representative thereof.
- b) "Professional Wrestling" means an activity in which participants struggle hand-in-hand primarily for the purpose of providing entertainment to spectators and which does not comprise a bona fide athletic contest or competition. Professional wrestling is not a "combative sport." Wrestling constituting bona fide athletic contests and competitions,

which may be professional or amateur combative sport, shall not be deemed “professional wrestling” under this part. “Professional wrestling” as used in this Part shall not depend on whether the individual wrestlers are paid or have been paid for their performance in a “professional wrestling” exhibition. All engagements of “professional wrestling” shall be referred to as exhibitions, and not as matches.

- c) “Promoter of Professional Wrestling” means an entity licensed by the Commission to promote and conduct exhibitions of “professional wrestling” as defined herein.
- d) “Entity” means a person, organization, partnership, limited liability company or corporation.
- e) “Physician” shall mean an individual licensed in New York State to engage in the general practice of medicine and surgery.

Section 213.3. License Required

No entity shall promote or conduct a professional wrestling exhibition without having been licensed to do so by the Commission. A licensed promoter shall be responsible to the Commission for the activities of all participants in professional wrestling exhibitions promoted or conducted by such licensed promoter. No licensed promoter shall avail its license to another for any purpose.

Section 213.4. Application for License

- a) Upon application therefor, the Commission may license an entity as a promoter of professional wrestling. Such application shall be made on a form prescribed by the Commission and affirmed by the applicant as true under penalties of perjury. Such application may include for review, upon request by the Commission, among other things required by the Commission:
 - 1) The entity’s policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the termination of any professional wrestling match or activity when any participant has endured severe punishment of is in danger of suffering serious physical injury;
 - 2) The entity’s policies, protocols and requirements to effectuate the appropriate and timely medical treatment of injured persons.
 - 3) The entity’s policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the presence and responsibilities of a licensed physician at each exhibition;
 - 4) The entity’s policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the use of performance enhancing drugs and illegal substances by participants;

- 5) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to pre-exhibition physical examination by a licensed physician, including but not limited to cardiac and neurological evaluation;
 - 6) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to pre-competition medical testing for blood and bodily fluid borne communicative diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis;
 - 7) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the availability of appropriate emergency medical personnel, equipment, and ambulance transportation;
 - 8) The entity's prior experience and expertise in the oversight, supervision and conduct of professional wrestling;
 - 9) The entity's trustworthiness and competence to promote, organize and conduct professional wrestling;
 - 10) Documentation, data, policies, rules, and other exhibits as may be requested by the Commission.
- b) The Commission may deny an application for improper past performance, lack of trustworthiness, lack of general fitness, failure to provide information and representations sufficient to assure the establishment, exhibition and maintenance of appropriate financial, medical, organizational and operational capacity and controls at exhibitions, a failure to timely render any application or license fee due to the Commission, the failure to file approved bonds with the Office of the State Comptroller, or the failure to pay taxes required pursuant to the laws of the State of New York.

Section 213.5. Grounds for denial and disciplinary action

- (a) An application for licensure as a promoter of professional wrestling may be denied and a license issued by the Commission may be suspended or revoked and a fine may be issued for any of the following:
- (1) A violation of Article 41 of the General Business Law and any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder;
 - (2) In recognition of any suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary action taken by the State of New York or any other state against any license, certificate, or other approval held by the entity;
 - (3) A failure to have appropriate legal authority to conduct business in New York State;

(4) A failure to satisfy, comply or fully cooperate with a Commission review, request for information, inquiry, or inspection;

(5) For sanctioning any event or exhibition that involve activities beyond the scope of the license issued by the Commission;

(6) A failure to adhere to the assurances or representations contained in the entity's application for certification or renewal of certification;

(7) A material misstatement or omission within the entity's application for certification or renewal of certification;

(8) A failure to exhibit or maintain appropriate financial, medical, organizational and operational capacity and controls at exhibitions;

(9) A failure of the Authorized Sanctioning Entity to maintain a satisfactory record of integrity and safety;

(10) Engaging in fraud or fraudulent practices, or for dishonest or misleading advertising, including representing a professional wrestling event as anything but an exhibition, availing the entity's license to another, or for demonstrated untrustworthiness or incompetency in relation to the promotion or conduct of professional wrestling exhibitions;

(11) For engaging in or permitting to be conducted at a promoted exhibition any activity which is detrimental to the health, safety and well-being of a professional wrestling participant, or which is detrimental to the public's health, safety and welfare.

Section 213.6. Recordkeeping

A promoter of professional wrestling shall maintain appropriate records of events or exhibitions sanctioned, including but not limited to the following: descriptions and documentation of each promoted exhibition: all associated advertising copy; the legal name and ring name of each participant; the name and address of the venue at which the match or exhibition is held; a record of whether any injuries were sustained by participants; and the completed form documenting the results of each and every examination conducted by the licensed physician as required by this Part.

Section 213.7. General requirements

a) Insurance

A promoter of professional wrestling shall continuously provide accident insurance or such other form of financial guarantee deemed acceptable by the Commission for the protection of

professional wrestlers appearing in wrestling exhibitions as required pursuant to section 208.15 of the Commission regulations.

b) Attendance by Physician

A promoter of professional wrestling shall insure that a physician is in attendance at each exhibition. Such physician shall examine each wrestler prior to and after each performance and record his or her findings on a form prescribed by the Commission. No prospective participant may engage in the exhibition until authorized to do so by the attending physician.

c) Availability of Emergency Services

A promoter of professional wrestling shall insure the presence of appropriate emergency medical personnel, equipment, and ambulance transportation on site at each exhibition.

d) Intentional Cutting Prohibited

A promoter of professional wrestling shall not permit “cutting,” “blading,” or “gigging,” whereby one or more wrestlers intentionally cut their own skin or the skin of another during the exhibition.

e) Safety

A promoter of professional wrestling shall ensure that all areas in which wrestling takes place during an exhibition are matted, equipped, or otherwise maintained in such a manner as necessary to assure a reasonable degree of safety to the participants in light of the professional wrestling activities to be performed. In no event shall a participant be permitted to threaten, molest, hit or abuse, physically or verbally, any spectator, or engage in any conduct endangering the health, safety, or well-being of any spectator during the course of a professional wrestling exhibition. A licensed promoter shall not permit any prospective participant wrestler to engage in a professional wrestling exhibition while subject to a medical suspension issued by the Commission or by any member of the Association of Boxing Commission (ABC) in relation to any combative sport, except as otherwise authorized by federal law.

Section 213.8. Physical examination of wrestler.

(a) The licensed promoter of a professional wrestling exhibition shall provide for a physician to be present at each exhibition. Such physician shall examine all participants engaging in the professional wrestling exhibition prior to performance. Such examination shall include an assessment of, at minimum, the participants' blood pressure, pulse, head, eyes, ears, nose, throat, pupils, vertebral column and extremities, cardiac and neurological health, as well as evidence of other injuries, illness or disability. No prospective participant shall be permitted to engage in the professional wrestling exhibition if, in the professional medical opinion of the examining physician, such participant has any

medical condition, illness, lack of physical fitness or other condition that prevents him or her from giving a full, complete and satisfactory performance, or endangers his or her health and safety or the health and safety of his or her opponent. Upon completion of the examinations, the examining physician shall provide the Commission and the licensed promoter with a signed written report, in form and manner acceptable to the Commission, certifying that the requisite examinations were performed.

(b) No participant requiring examination pursuant to this section shall intentionally mislead the physician or conceal from the physician any facts known to the participant with regard his or her medical history, including any prior or existing medical condition, illness or injury relevant to the examination and evaluation performed by the physician.

(c) All participants must present themselves for such physician-conducted examination prior to the commencement of the exhibition. No exhibition may commence until all such examinations have been completed. No participant disqualified by the physician shall be allowed to participate in the exhibition.

Section 213.9 Commission access to records and exhibitions

A promoter of professional wrestling shall make its records available to the Commission for review and copying at any time and without limitation. An inspector, deputy or other Commission employee shall be permitted entry to any event at any time without limitation.

Section 213.10. Prior notification of exhibitions and Commission attendance

A promoter of professional wrestling shall inform the Commission of all exhibitions to be held within the State of New York at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the scheduled match or exhibition. Such notice shall be completed and submitted in a form and manner required by the Commission. Such notice shall include the name or title given to the exhibition, the address of the venue at which the exhibition is to be held, the start time and anticipated duration of the exhibition, the number of participants anticipated to perform during the exhibition, the name and business address of the promoter(s) of the exhibition to be held, the legal name and business address of the physician(s) who will be present at the exhibition, the name and business address of the entity providing the ambulance service for the exhibition, and the name of the promoter's official representative who will be present at the exhibition.

PART 214 – Authorization of Third-Party Sanctioning Entities

Section 214.1. Purpose.

The purpose of this Part is to establish a process by which entities may be licensed as recognized and approved by the Commission to serve as Authorized Sanctioning Entities to supervise and oversee the conduct of certain authorized combative sports in the state of New York.

Section 214.2 Definitions

As used within this Part, the following terms shall have the meanings provided herein:

- a) “Commission” means the New York State Athletic Commission or a duly authorized representative thereof.
- b) “Authorized Sanctioning Entity” shall mean an entity licensed as such by the Commission to supervise and oversee the conduct of one or more specific authorized combative sport(s).
- c) “Entity” means a person, organization, partnership, limited liability company or corporation.

Section 214.3. License required

No entity shall sanction or hold a match, exhibition or otherwise oversee or conduct a combative sport without having been authorized to do so by the Commission.

Section 214.4. Application for License

(a) An entity may make an application for a license to supervise and oversee the conduct of matches and exhibitions of one or more of the following authorized combative sports: wrestling, kickboxing (including muay thai), amateur mixed martial arts, and the single discipline martial arts of Judo, Tae Kwon Do, Karate and Kempo.

(b) Upon application therefore, the Commission may license an entity as an Authorized Sanctioning Entity for one or more of the authorized combative sports listed in paragraph (a) above, as deemed appropriate by the Commission based on the results of the Commission’s review of such application. The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the Commission and affirmed by the applicant as true under penalties of perjury. Such application shall include, among other things required by the Commission:

- 1) The entity’s stated mission and primary purpose;
- 2) The entity’s business address and the names of each principle, officer; partner or member thereof
- 3) The authorized combative sport(s) for which the entity seeks authorization and the rules and protocols associated therewith;
- 4) The entity’s policies, protocols and requirements with regard to the combatants’ use of hand, foot and groin protection, or other safety gear;

5) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the termination of any combative sport when any participant has endured severe punishment or is in danger of suffering serious physical injury;

6) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements to effectuate the appropriate and timely medical treatment of injured persons.

7) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the presence and responsibilities of a licensed physician at each bout, contest, match or exhibition;

8) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the use of performance enhancing drugs and illegal substances by participants;

9) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to pre-competition physical examination by a licensed physician, including but not limited to cardiac and neurological evaluation;

10) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to pre-competition medical testing for blood and bodily fluid borne communicable diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis;

11) The entity's policies, protocols and requirements with respect to the availability of appropriate emergency medical personnel, equipment, and ambulance transportation;

12) The entity's prior experience in the oversight, conduct of combative sport(s) or its expertise with respect thereto;

13) The entity's trustworthiness and competence to oversee or conduct a combative sport;

14) The entity's requirements with respect to the provision of accident insurance covering combatants, and a demonstration that the entity's requirements are in compliance with the minimum requirements for the conduct of combative sports as set forth in section 208.16 of the Commission's regulations;

15) A description of the entity's operational history and past performance overseeing and conducting combative sports matches or exhibitions of the type being applied for, including a list of matches or exhibitions the entity has sanctioned or overseen in New York State and any other state within the past 5 years;

16) Other documentation, data, policies, rules, and other exhibits as may be required by the Commission; and

17) A non-refundable application fee as prescribed by the Commission.

(c) In addition to the grounds stated in section 214.7 of this Part, the Commission may deny an application upon a finding that the entity has failed to demonstrate sufficient trustworthiness and integrity, or based upon the entity's failure to provide information and representations sufficient to demonstrate and assure the establishment, exhibition and maintenance of appropriate financial,

medical, organizational and operational capacity and controls at matches or exhibitions to be overseen by such entity.

(d) An applicant for an Authorized Sanctioning Entity license seeking to engage in the oversight and conduct of an authorized professional combative sport shall execute and file with the secretary of state a bond in an amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be approved as to form and sufficiency of sureties thereon by the secretary of state, conditioned for the faithful performance by said person or entity of the provisions of this Article 41 of the General Business Law and the rules and regulations of the Commission. In addition, such applicant shall execute and file with the secretary of state a bond in an amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be approved as to form and sufficiency of sureties thereon by the secretary of state, conditioned for and guaranteeing the payment of professionals' purses, salaries of club employees licensed by the Commission, and the legitimate expenses of printing tickets and all advertising material. All such bonds must be in effect on the date of licensure. Any lapse or expiration in either bond during the license period shall be cause for immediate license suspension until such bond is renewed or a new bond is filed, approved, and in effect

Section 214.5. Commission action on application and term

(a) The Commission shall grant or deny a complete, original application for such a license within 120 days of its receipt thereof. A failure of the Commission to observe the time limitations of this subpart shall be reviewable in a proceeding in the nature of mandamus under article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules and shall in no event be construed as an application approval.

(b) Unless revoked or suspended, a license as an Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall be valid for a term of two years from its date of issuance. Such license may be renewed by application therefor for an additional two year term. Such renewal application must be received by the Commission not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the expiration date of the license.

Section 214.6. Scope of Authorization

(a) An Authorized Sanctioning Entity may oversee or conduct only those specific authorized combative sport(s) for which it is licensed by the Commission.

(b) Upon application therefore, the Commission may modify the scope of a license to include additional authorized combative sports other than those initially applied for upon the application of an approved Authorized Sanctioning Entity at any time during the organization's period of licensure.

(c) Upon request of an authorized sanctioning entity, or upon a finding by the commission of a ground listed in section 214.7, the Commission may modify the scope of a license to remove one or more authorized combative sports.

Section 214.7. Grounds for Denial and Disciplinary Action

An application for license as an Authorized Sanctioning Entity may be denied, and a license issued by the Commission may be suspended or revoked and a fine imposed, for any of the following:

- (a) A violation of Article 41 of the General Business Law and any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder;
- (b) In recognition of any suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary action taken by the State of New York or any other state against any license, certificate, or other approval held by the entity;
- (c) A failure to have appropriate legal authority to conduct business in New York State;
- (d) A failure to satisfy, comply or fully cooperate with a Commission review, request for information, inquiry, or inspection;
- (e) For sanctioning any match or exhibition that involve activities beyond the scope of the license issued by the Commission;
- (f) A failure to adhere to the assurances or representations contained in the entity's application for license or license renewal;
- (g) A material misstatement or omission within the entity's application for license or license renewal;
- (h) A failure to exhibit or maintain appropriate financial, medical, organizational and operational capacity and controls at bouts, contests, matches or exhibitions;
- (i) A failure of the Authorized Sanctioning Entity to maintain a satisfactory record of integrity and safety;
- (j) A failure to require or enforce all generally accepted rules applicable to the combative sport sanctioned;
- (k) Engaging in fraud or fraudulent practices, or for dishonest or misleading advertising, availing the entity's license to another, or for demonstrated untrustworthiness or incompetency in relation to professional matches and exhibitions involving combative sports; and
- (l) Engaging in any activity which is detrimental to the health, safety and well-being of a martial arts participant, or which is detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare.

Section 214.8. Recordkeeping

An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall maintain appropriate records of matches and exhibitions sanctioned, including but not limited to the following: descriptions and documentation of each

sanctioned event, match or exhibition, which shall include information regarding: the martial art involved; the legal name and ring name of each participant; the name and address of the venue at which the match or exhibition is held; the name and business address of the promoter(s) of the match or exhibition; the results of the individual matches held; the rules under which the event, match or exhibition was conducted; a record of whether any injuries were sustained by participants; and the medical and emergency personnel, vehicles and equipment present. For amateur mixed martial arts matches, the authorized sanctioning entity shall ensure and require that all combatants must be registered with the national mixed martial arts registry and/or database as officially designated by the Association of Boxing Commissions, and all match results must be reported to such registry and/or database within 48 hours of the match by the authorized sanctioning entity.

Section 214.9. General requirements

a) Insurance:

For each bout, contest, match or exhibition, an Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall assure or maintain accident insurance conforming to the requirements set forth for combative sports at section 208.16 of these regulations.

b) Attendance by Licensed Physician:

An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall ensure that at least two physicians are in attendance at ringside for the duration of each professional bout, contest, match or exhibition, and shall otherwise ensure that all matches or exhibitions overseen or conducted shall conform to the requirements of section 208.16 of these regulations.

c) Availability of Emergency Services:

An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall insure the presence of appropriate emergency medical personnel consisting of at least one paramedic, equipment, and the presence of at least one ambulance on site to provide emergency transportation at all times during the conduct of any professional bout, contest, match or exhibition, and shall otherwise ensure that all matches or exhibitions overseen or conducted shall conform to the requirements of section 208.16 of these regulations.

Section 214.10 Commission access to records and assessment authority

An Authorized Sanctioning Entity's books and records shall be available to the Commission for review and copying at any time and without limitation. The Commission and its authorized representatives shall be entitled to attend any match, exhibition or weigh-in overseen or conducted by an authorized sanctioning entity at any time and without limitation for the purpose of observing and assessing compliance with the laws of the State of New York and the rules, policies, and

directives of the Commission. An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall fully cooperate with any inquiries or inspections conducted by the Commission.

Section 214.11. Prior notification of sanctioned events and Commission Attendance

(a) An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall inform the Commission of any combative sports matches or exhibitions that it will sanction within the State of New York at least ten (10) business days prior to the date of the scheduled match or exhibition. No such matches or exhibitions may be advertised until such notice is filed with the Commission. Such notice shall include a description of the event, including the following information: the date and time of the scheduled weigh-in; matches or exhibitions; the authorized combative sports involved; the name and address of the venue at which the match or exhibition is to be held; the name and business address of the promoter(s) of the match or exhibition to be held; the names and business address of the physicians to be in attendance; the name and business address of the entity providing the ambulance service for the matches or exhibitions; a statement identifying and providing contact information for the Authorized Sanctioning Entity's chief representative who will be present at the match or exhibition and responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of the rules of the Authorized Sanctioning Entity; and such additional information as the Commission may require.

(b) An Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall provide written notice to the Commission of the true legal names and addresses of all combatants participating in any such matches or exhibitions that it will sanction within the State of New York at least one business day prior to the date of the scheduled matches or exhibition.

(c) Within 48 hours of the conclusion of each such match or exhibition, the Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall provide written notice to the Commission reporting the results of each match or exhibition conducted, including the names and weights of each competitor, the type of authorized combative sport for each match or exhibition conducted, the exact time and round in which the match or exhibition ended, and each bout decision, with winner, loser, and outcome noted (KO, TKO, Decision, DQ, etc.).

(d) Within 48 hours of the conclusion of each such match or exhibition, the Authorized Sanctioning Entity shall provide written notice to the Commission reporting in detail any injuries and hospitalizations that resulted from injuries sustained during such matches or exhibitions, and any disciplinary actions or suspensions that were imposed on any persons in relation to such matches or exhibitions.

(e) The Commission may at any time and in its discretion, direct an inspector, deputy or other Commission representative to attend any weigh-in, match or exhibition within the State of New York sanctioned by an approved Sanctioning Entity, for the purpose of auditing, evaluating, and

assessing the Sanctioning Entity's performance and compliance with this Part, the Commission's rules, and the laws of the State of New York. The Sanctioning Entity shall cooperate with and provide access to Commission representatives in relation to any such audit, evaluation or assessment conducted by the Commission.