



**World Boxing Council**

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

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## **RULE 1 - CHAMPIONSHIP AND ELIMINATION RULES**

- 1.1 Applicability of Championship and Elimination Rules. These championship and elimination rules shall be applied in all WBC-recognized world championship and elimination contests, and are entitled to, and must receive the full recognition and respect from all champions and challengers of the world, provided however that under certain circumstances, as when a champion has dual recognition by more than one boxing organization as world champion, various requirements of these Rules and Regulations may be waived by the WBC.
- 1.2 Registration of Management Contracts. To be valid, all contracts between champions, challengers and their managers, and/or representatives or sports agents must be filed at the WBC offices. An acceptable alternative is a certificate confirming the filing of such contracts with the local boxing commissions/federations, and their enforceability with respect to the particular WBC championship.
- 1.3 Conflict of Interests. Subject to the provisions of Rule 1.9, no person is permitted to act concurrently both as manager of a boxer and as a promoter of a WBC championship contest involving the same boxer. It is the sole responsibility of the person who is serving both, as a promoter and as a manager of a boxer, to notify the WBC, in writing, of such dual capacity, and failure to so inform the WBC timely and properly, shall result in disciplinary action against the person who incurs in such failure.
- 1.4 Options for Title Bouts. At the request of the promoter to promote a world title fight, at the time of execution of a contract, the challenger is required to grant one (1) option for his first title defense, in the event that he is successful in his challenge. The foregoing notwithstanding, with notice to the President or Secretary General of the WBC, a challenger may voluntarily, grant the promoter additional options and these options will be valid, binding, and enforceable should the challenger not rescind them in writing, for breach of the terms as stipulated in such option contracts. In order for the option clause to be recognized by the WBC, it must be specific in its terms as to the boxer's compensation and the period during which it will be exercised under normal circumstances.
- 1.5 Procedures Related to Options. Promoters who hold a current and recognized option of a champion will be authorized to discuss and have rights to a title defense. All agreements for an option bout must be filed with the WBC and executed in compliance with Rule 1.10.
- 1.6 Exclusive Promotional Agreements. The WBC does not recognize exclusive promotional agreements between a promoter and a boxer.
- 1.7 Time Limitations on Options. There shall be a time limit of six (6) months from the date of a world title bout within which a promoter must stage a championship bout pursuant to an option granted to him, subject however, to reasonable extensions if such bout can not be promoted within the six (6) month period by reason of matters out of the control of the promoter and further, subject to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations regarding mandatory defense obligations.
- 1.8 Transfer of Option by Promoter. In the event that a promoter holding a valid and binding option for a boxer's services at a specified option purse payable to said boxer sells, assigns or transfer his interests in said option to another person or entity for valuable consideration in excess of the purse payable to the boxer under the option, then said excess amount shall be divided: 30% to the boxer and 70% to the promoter.

- 1.9 Promoter Ownership of Interest in Champion or Challenger. Except where the laws of the jurisdiction where the contest is to be held allow, no promoter or other person organizing a championship match is permitted to own or control, directly or indirectly any interest or right in any champion or challenger, except to the extent options are permitted hereunder.
- 1.10 Execution of Championship Bout Contracts. Duly authorized managers of the champion and challenger should execute a championship bout contract on the part of a boxer, provided however, that a manager shall not be authorized to sign agreements for a world title bout scheduled to take place after the expiration date of his management contract with the boxer. A boxer may execute a championship contract alone if he submits a certificate or other documentation or evidence to the WBC from his local boxing commission, or his WBC continental federation, acknowledging that he is not associated with any manager or representative and is free to sign on his own behalf under the sole responsibility of the continental federation where he is registered or where he resides.

It will be the responsibility of the promoters to ensure that bout agreements are properly signed in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

- 1.11 Filing of Official Championship Bout Contracts. All contracts for WBC-certified world championship contests shall be on the WBC official championship bout contract, (“WBC Championship Contract”) form, a copy of which is annexed as Appendix “A” to these Rules and Regulations. Championship Contracts must be submitted to and filed with the WBC, and a bout will not be recognized as a championship event until approved by the President or in his absence, by the Secretary General. If the Championship Contracts are duly filed with and approved by the WBC, they will be treated for all purposes, by the WBC as presumptively valid.
- 1.12 WBC Approval of WBC Championship and Elimination Bouts. All promoters must request in writing the approval of WBC world championship and elimination bouts, which will be approved in writing by the Executive Office of the WBC. No bout shall be considered as officially sanctioned by the WBC if it does not have such written approval.
- 1.13 WBC Discretion to Deny Certification of Bouts. The WBC reserves the right not to certify or to withdraw certification from any bout as being for a WBC recognized championship if, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, the bout jeopardizes the prestige and good standing of the WBC, or fair and uniform treatment of its own champions, or may cause confusion in the boxing community or the public. Such instances include without limitation, the following:
- a) Racial Discrimination. The WBC will not certify any match if it is to be held in any country which practices racial discrimination in boxing or any other sport.
  - b) Noncompliance of the WBC Rules and Regulations. The WBC will not certify any match as for a WBC-recognized championship if it is to be held in a jurisdiction that will not respect these Rules and Regulations and the WBC right of appointment and/or reciprocal approval of ring officials.
  - c) Boxers With the Same Managers. When the champion and the challenger have the same manager and/or representative, they must each select for their bout, two different chief seconds, and the original chief second can not be in the corner of either boxer.
  - d) Unfair Economic Value of Option. When the economic value of the option described in the fight contract is so low that could be considered unfair or abusive towards the world champion.
- 1.14 Site of a Championship Bout. The WBC will only authorize and certify world title bouts held in those locations where the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations are respected.

- 1.15 WBC Supervisor at Championship Bouts. The WBC Board of Governors shall be represented at all title and elimination contests by a person or persons appointed by the WBC President. The WBC Supervisor must be seated next to the bout commissioner in order to supervise and tally the scoring of the judges after every round and to be able to perform his other responsibilities. The President of the WBC must be seated by the apron.

The WBC Supervisor(s), particularly in mandatory bouts, should not be citizen(s) of the country where the contest is held, nor from the same country as either boxer, unless both boxers are from the same country where the contest is held. The promoter(s) shall provide up to five (5) numbered ringside seats in the technical zone immediately adjacent to the ring for the WBC officials and executives.

The promoter(s) shall pay the expenses of the WBC Supervisor(s) to championship contests, not to exceed two (2) persons, including transportation, meals, hotels and other incidental expenses. Any attendance by the WBC President at any championship contest will be in an official capacity, and all of his expenses will be paid by the promoter(s).

No person holding any office in any other world boxing organization will be eligible to serve as WBC Supervisor in any championship contest.

The WBC Supervisor is empowered to confiscate any substance present in the corner of either participant if he has cause to believe that it is unauthorized by the WBC.

- 1.16 Appointment of Judges and Referees. The President or the General Secretary of the WBC shall appoint the judges and referees for a title contest from neutral countries. The promoter must pay room and board, transportation and necessary expenses of the officials appointed to a world title bout. All continental federations must register with the WBC Headquarters, each year, a list of the most qualified officials who will then be part of the WBC Pool of Referees and Judges, subject to periodic examination and evaluation of such officials by the WBC Ring Officials Evaluation Committee; geographical neutrality, namely: city, state, nation not being the birthplace, and/or residence, and/or citizenship of the champion and challenger, which will also be considered in the appointment of WBC officials. The President may, under extraordinary circumstances, reach special agreements in regards to the appointment of ring officials.

Appointment of officials will be in accordance with the following:

a) In the case of either a mandatory or voluntary title defense, all officials, consisting of three judges and a non-scoring referee, shall be from neutral cities, states and nations. Champion and challenger born in the same nation, or of the same citizenship or residence, may have ring officials of the same nation in a championship bout, which will be considered neutral. If local commissions enforce local ring officials by law or policies, the WBC will see that the same number of ring officials of both boxer's nation are appointed, unless special circumstances exist.

b) Every official must be a member in good standing of the WBC. The appointment to officiate in a WBC contest is a privilege, not a right.

c) Ring officials at WBC-sanctioned fights will exercise their duties and responsibilities in accordance with the procedures and practices contained in the WBC Ring Officials Guide and the Procedures contained in Appendix "B" of these Rules and Regulations. Ring Officials are prohibited to make statements to the press after fights if they are not authorized by the local commission and/or the WBC representative.

- 1.17 Examination for Officials. All judges and referees must complete and pass performance, medical, psychiatric, ophthalmology, cardiology, and psychological tests conducted by their local federation and the WBC Ring Officials Committee.
- 1.18 Fees for Ring Officials. A schedule of fees for ring officials will be designated by the WBC from time to time. These payments must be made directly by the local boxing commission or the WBC representative to the officials, with the ultimate responsibility to supervise such payment resting with the WBC supervisor.
- 1.19 Attire of WBC Ring Officials. All referees in world title bouts must wear the official WBC uniform consisting of black slacks, light green shirt, black bow tie, boxing shoes and the WBC emblem. Referees will not wear rings, medals or any other metallic accessory while on the ring. All Judges appointed to WBC sanctioned bouts shall wear the official WBC uniform consisting of a black suit, light green shirt, black bow tie, black shoes, and the WBC emblem.
- 1.20 Presentation of the WBC Championship Belt. The WBC representatives in a world title contest shall have the right to demand that the champion at all times enter the ring with the championship belt, and it shall be the obligation of the champion to do so under all circumstances. The WBC Representative and the chairman of the local federation will present the championship belt to the champion after every contest. Promoters of the title contest shall provide security, organize the ceremony for the presentation of the championship belt, and require boxers in their contest contracts reasonably to assist so that such presentation can occur in an organized and efficient manner.
- 1.21 Championship Defense Obligations.
- a) Voluntary Defense Obligations: All WBC recognized champions must defend their title at least three (3) times a year or twice, subject to the approval of the Board of Governors. The defenses must be against:
- i) any of the top ten (10) rated contenders,
  - ii) a boxer rated from the No. 11 to 15 position, if special circumstances prevail and upon a majority vote of the Board of Governors;
  - iii) upon a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board of Governors and subject to certification of unavailability of any contender rated in the first 15 positions, any boxer rated from 16 to 30 positions;
  - iv) Youth world champions, with the approval of 2/3 of the Board of Governors;
  - v) a champion or a rated boxer of another immediate lower or higher weight division, subject to the majority vote of the Board of Governors;
  - vi) a retired world champion or other boxer of great prestige, subject to a majority vote of the Board of Governors and after undergoing a complete physical examination acceptable to the WBC Medical Advisory Board.
  - vii) a champion of another boxing organization recognized by the WBC, may be authorized by a majority vote of the Board of Governors to contend for the WBC title in a voluntary defense.
- b) Mandatory Defense Obligations. All WBC recognized champions are obligated to make at least one yearly mandatory defense against the designated official challenger.
- i) mandatory defenses against champion of other boxing organizations recognized by the WBC, may be authorized upon a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Governors.
- ii) To become the WBC official challenger, the No. 1 rated boxer in the WBC lists must be approved by the majority vote of the Board of Governors.

No WBC champion will be authorized to fight for the title if the card includes any bout of over twelve (12) rounds.

Mandatory Defenses. A WBC champion is obligated to make at least one yearly mandatory defense against the designated official challenger.

c) Extension of Time Limits. A champion making more than one (1) defense against the No. 1 rated boxer during a year may obtain an extension of this time period corresponding to the last defense date against the no. 1 rated boxer, if approved by a majority vote of the Board of Governors.

d) The Official Challenger. The designation of the official challenger for a mandatory defense is effective only by the approval of the Board of Governors, which will have the discretion to designate the highest rated challenger of the division or the winners of elimination bouts.

e) Voluntary Defenses not Modifying Mandatory Obligations. The obligation of the champion to defend against the official challenger in a mandatory defense, as provided herein, shall not be extended nor modified by reason of such voluntary defenses, except by majority vote of the Board of Governors.

f) Time Limits. The time limits respecting title defenses provided herein shall be complied with in all cases, except when waived or extended by the Board of Governors under appropriate circumstances. Except as expressly provided in Rule 1.27 or any other section of these Rules and Regulations, in the event that a champion is in violation of either of the foregoing optional or mandatory defense obligations and has not boxed or made a definitive and binding arrangement to box against an authorized contender for a period of six (6) months after his last previous defense, the WBC may conduct a vote of the Board of Governors regarding withdrawal or suspension of the champion's recognition pursuant to Rule 1.22 herein.

g) Over-the-Weight Bouts. Champions and signed challengers must get authorization from the WBC to contend in over-the-weight non-title matches which shall never be within six (6) weeks of a scheduled title bout.

h) Extenuating Circumstances. The WBC will not cancel or otherwise delay, a title defense because of legal problems between a boxer and other parties to his bout contract. In the event of a legal dispute of this type, the WBC will sanction his participation in a championship bout if thirty percent (30% of his purse is deposited in escrow with a court of law or the Treasury of the WBC, or other authorized escrow agent, until the dispute is resolved, unless an agreement is reached between the legal disputing parties.

i) Inheritance of Mandatory Obligations. A challenger who wins in a voluntary defense shall automatically inherit the mandatory time limit of the champion he defeated, except on special circumstances, with the approval of the majority vote of the Board of Governors. Once a victorious challenger has successfully defended his title mandatorily within the time limits inherited from the champion he defeated, he shall be subject to the usual championship obligations.

#### 1.22 Withdrawal or Suspension of WBC World Championship Status.

a) Except as provided for in Rule 1.24, the Board of Governors may, by 2/3 vote, withdraw or suspend recognition of a boxer as WBC champion if he fails to defend his title in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, or for holding the title of another boxing organization without the approval or sanctioning of the WBC (Rule 1.23), or for any other reason which justifies suspension or withdrawal, such as the violation of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

b) Withdrawal or Suspension of Championship Status in Other WBC Certified Titles. In the case of other WBC certified championships, in addition to the world championship, a 2/3 voting of the corresponding committee or continental federation will be necessary for withdrawal of recognition or suspension of championship status.

- 1.23 Petition for Reconsideration. In the event that recognition is suspended or withdrawn under these Rules, it will be deemed final and the WBC may undertake steps to fill the vacant title, provided however, that the affected party may request reconsideration in accordance with Rule 5 herein.
- 1.24 Loss of WBC Championship Status. The privilege, trademark and accolade of WBC championship which is owned exclusively by the WBC, may be lost in the following cases, among others:
- a) In the event that the holder of a WBC title is convicted and imprisoned for a crime involving moral turpitude, the WBC Board of Governors shall declare the champion's title vacated and the procedure to fill the vacant title is set out in these Rules and Regulations.
- b) In the event that any boxer rated for any WBC title has been convicted and imprisoned for a crime involving moral turpitude, such boxer will be dropped from the ratings.
- 1.25 Vacant Title. If a title becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Governors may: 1) authorize and cause to be instituted a tournament or elimination contest among leading available contenders in the division of the vacant title, with the winner being recognized as the new champion; or 2) authorize or cause to be instituted a direct bout between the two top rated available boxers and recognize the winner as the champion; or 3) take any other steps or actions which in its judgment and discretion, are necessary or appropriate to fill the vacant title, such as appointing as challenger the champion of a lower or higher division to contend against the highest rated available boxer of the division of the vacant title. The Board of Governors may also impose such conditions as it deems proper and necessary upon a new champion, including: 1) designating the boxer against whom the first defense of the title must be made (who will be the next highest rated available boxer or a boxer selected through an elimination bout); 2) ordering the new champion to make his first mandatory defense within ninety (90) to one hundred and twenty (120) days of his acquiring the title; 3) if requested and feasible, to approve one voluntary defense, with the condition that the winner must meet his official challenger next.
- 1.26 Final Championship Elimination Bouts. The WBC shall order a final elimination bout to determine the mandatory challenger, except in situations where by vote of the majority of the WBC Board of Governors, it is determined that the number one rated challenger has the merits to be the mandatory challenger.
- 1.27 Inactivity of Champion. When a world champion is: a) inactive for more than six (6) months but less than one (1) year, for certified medical reasons, or
- b) for whatever legal impediment or other reason beyond his control is unable to defend his championship within the time periods prescribed by these Rules and Regulations, the WBC may determine an interim champion pursuant to Rule 1.25 hereof. When the champion returns (after having passed all medical examinations if his inactivity was a result of medical reasons), the WBC will order a bout for its undisputed world title with the interim champion entitled to forty-five percent (45%) and the champion to fifty-five percent (55%) of the purse, in the event that the bout is promoted through the WBC purse offer procedures. The Board of Governors, in its discretion, may carry out the provisions of Rule 2.11 d).
- 1.28 Penalty on Inactivity by Champion or Interim Champion. A champion or an interim champion not defending his title within one (1) year will lose his title, which will be declared vacant.
- 1.29 Penalty on Refusal to Fight. If any of both, the WBC Champion and the interim champion, is not willing to participate in a contest to have one sole undisputed champion in the division, he will lose his portion of the title, with the willing champion becoming automatically, the undisputed WBC Champion of the division.

- 1.30 Adherence to Purse Offer Procedure. The purse offer procedure adopted by the WBC and set forth in Rule 2 hereof, shall be respected at all times in title bouts and title elimination bouts, even when a promoter has options for title fights by any of the boxers participating in such bouts, when an agreement between a champion and a challenger is not reached during the free negotiations period.
- 1.31 Direct Rematch Policy. No championship contract shall be approved, and no title match shall be certified by the WBC if it contains a “return match” clause which requires or binds the challenger to meet the champion again for the title in the event that he is victorious. Further, any match between the same two boxers (i.e. champion and challenger in a WBC-recognized title match) shall not be approved if it is a direct rematch, without an intervening contest, unless the winner of the first championship bout was the champion, in which case a direct new bout may be accepted or ordered by majority vote of the Board of Governors.

In no event will the WBC approve a direct rematch between boxers if one of them has previously filed with the WBC a contract for another bout, or if the winner of the direct rematch in question would be subject to a mandatory defense obligation. A direct rematch or another contest may be approved or ordered only after the prior commitments have been fulfilled, or if there is an agreement between both parties involved.

- 1.32 Circumstances When a Direct Rematch is Ordered. Notwithstanding the rule against direct rematches, without an intervening contest, in cases where the champion has lost the initial bout the WBC may, upon a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board of Governors, order a direct championship rematch between a defeated champion and the new champion when, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, the initial match was extremely controversial or irregular, or if there is evidence of a violation of the rules governing the conduct of the bout.

In the event that the required two-thirds (2/3) voting majority necessary for a direct rematch is not present, whether determined by actual vote or polling of consensus, then by simple majority vote, the rematch will be ordered or accepted only after allowing an intervening championship bout between the new champion and another rated contender to be designated by the Board of Governors.

In the event of such an intervening defense match, the winner of the intervening title contest will be ordered to meet the loser of the initial title match, provided that the former champion has not lost another bout in the interim.

Any match ordered under this rule will constitute a mandatory defense under Rule 1.21 of these Rules and Regulations, without prejudice to the rights of the contender ranked in the number one (No. 1) position of his division.

A party seeking a vote under the provisions of this rule shall bear and pay all expenses incurred by the WBC in conducting such voting.

Direct rematches may be approved by a majority voting of the Board of Governors, when the first match was of such extraordinary results that it could constitute a public demand and great promotion, prestige and importance for the sport of boxing and the WBC.

## **RULE 2 - PURSE OFFER PROCEDURE**

- 2.1 General. The purse offer regulations and procedures including, without limitation, the respective percentages of the bout purses payable to the champion and challenger, may be modified in special or unusual cases when approved by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Governors.
- 2.2 Free Negotiation Period. The WBC shall notify a boxer of all mandatory championship defense and title elimination bouts. This notification shall be accomplished to the last known address of the boxer or his manager, and/or his last known promoter, and shall be signed by the President or the Secretary General. It is the sole responsibility of the champion and his manager to provide the WBC Executive Secretary with an address specifically designated for all notices required under the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations. The WBC is not, and shall not be held liable for the failure of a boxer, or his manager, to keep the WBC advised of a proper and effective address for notification purposes.

When a champion has been notified by the WBC to meet the official challenger or the highest available challenger as provided for in the WBC Championship Defense Rules, or a championship has been vacated, and the contenders have been named and notified, or a champion is otherwise mandated or ordered to defend against a challenger, there shall be a period of thirty (30) days following such notice to permit the parties to negotiate and finalize a contract for a match. Should the parties fail to execute a contract during the thirty (30) day period and if no contracts are filed by the end of such period, the period of free negotiations shall be closed, being the responsibility of the parties to file such contracts.

Upon special circumstances, the President of the WBC, in the exercise of his discretion, may shorten or extend the 30-day free negotiation period advising of such to the parties.

- 2.3 Request for Purse Offer. Should the aforesaid thirty (30) day free negotiation period not result in submission of signed bout contracts to the WBC, the WBC President or the Secretary General shall request purse offers for the championship from promoters, which must be held in 15 days from the date of expiration of the 30-day free negotiation period, unless such period is reduced or extended by the President at his discretion. Official notification of the request for purse offers shall be made by press and media release. As a courtesy to its duly registered promoters only, the WBC will send individual notification of a request for purse offers to any promoter who has indicated in writing directed to the WBC Headquarters, a desire to receive such notification. The announcement for bids will contain the date, time and place for the opening of sealed envelopes containing promoters' bids for the championship bout.

No bid will be accepted after the time and date set forth in the announcement for the opening of bids. If no bids are received by the time and date specified in the announcement, the period for receipt of bids shall be extended for an additional fifteen (15) days, and the boxer or his manager of record shall be immediately so notified.

- 2.4 Right to Participate in a Purse Offer.

a) Promoters, matchmakers and other persons who are in arrears in the payment of the yearly licensing/authorization fees, championship match fees or WBC certification fees provided herein, or who have been suspended or expelled from participation in the activities of the WBC, shall not be permitted to present bids or purse offers.

b) Rejection of Commonality of Bidders. No bid will be accepted from any person, association, partnership, corporation, or any other legal entity, in case there is commonality in any manner, between the identities of the person, partners, stockholders or associates of any of the other participants. In such a case, only the offer made by the highest bidder will be considered and the other discarded, if the commonality was not made evident until after the opening of the purse offers.

- 2.5 Content of Purse Offer Bids. Promoters wishing to participate in bidding for the championship contest must be in good standing as registered promoters with the WBC, and shall include in their bid the following:
- a) The total amount offered to the participants in US dollars with an acknowledgment that said total purse offer shall be net and completely free of any tax in excess of the national and/or local taxes payable by the visiting boxer in his home country. If demanded by a boxer, the dollar offer and payment by a promoter of said amount to the boxers will be fully guaranteed by a letter of credit of a bank or performance bond acceptable in form and substance to the WBC.
  - b) The promoter must guarantee that the boxing authorities where the fight shall take place will respect the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations, as a condition for the championship bout, to be approved by the WBC.
  - c) A representation that he will pay travel and accommodation expenses for four (4) persons for each participant (the four persons include the boxer).
  - d) A statement as to whether he will attend the opening of sealed bids at the time, date and place established by the WBC announcement. If the person submitting the bid does not attend the opening of the bids, he must name his representative, who will be present at the opening of the purse offer. He can also contact the WBC Headquarters directly by telephone, fax, or mail, to present his bid in a confidential manner.
- 2.6 Submission of Purse Offer Bid. All purse offer bids must be filed with the World Boxing Council within the date set forth in the announcement of the solicitation of said bids. The President, in his discretion, may accept written telexes, telegrams and confirming phone calls from participating promoters who must be in good standing, in lieu of letters containing and confirming purse offer bids. This period may be shortened by the President or Secretary General of the WBC at their discretion.
- 2.7 Obligations Regarding Purse Offer Bids.
- a) The licensed promoter making the highest fixed money offer of compensation shall be awarded the championship match. Income projections that are contingent, or statements that a promoter will bid a percentage or dollar amount over the bid by other promoters, will not be accepted. The interested boxers are compelled to accept the winning bid and to participate in the championship match or forfeit their rights to participate as either champion or challenger. A confirmation of the forfeiture of the champion will need a vote of the Board of Governors, as provided in Rule 1.21.
  - b) The winning promoter of the purse offer must, within eight (8) working days after the bids are opened, shall deposit with the WBC ten percent (10%) of the total amount of his offer. The deposit will be returned to the promoter or credited at the time of the title bout. In the event the promoter does not promote the bout according to the terms of his winning bid, he will forfeit the ten percent (10%) deposit to the boxers, which will be distributed seventy-five percent (75%) to the champion and twenty five percent (25%) to the challenger, (50% each boxer in the case of a vacant title); 55% to the champion and 45% to the interim champion, both amounts net of all expenses incurred by the WBC in the purse offer process. The ten percent (10%) deposit may be made with the local WBC affiliated continental federation, with express authorization of the President or Secretary General and with the agreement of said continental federation, which will in turn send it to the WBC. If such 10% deposit is not made by the winning promoter within said 8 (eight) days, he shall forfeit his right to promote the bout, which will be granted to the second highest bidder.
  - c) If a visiting boxer will be taxed in his home country, the promoter must provide him with a certified tax receipt or certificate from the national or local tax authority where the bout takes place for representation as a credit to the tax authority in the boxer's home country.

- 2.8 Winning of Purse Offer. The WBC President or Secretary General shall notify the winning promoter and his continental and local federation of his winning bid. Minutes of the purse offer procedure shall be written, signed and delivered by and to the participating parties, including the local federation and boxing commission of the boxers.
- 2.9 Purse Offer Contracts. The promoter winning the purse offer shall have the championship bout contracts properly signed and delivered to the WBC President or Secretary General within fifteen (15) working days after the opening of the sealed bids.
- 2.10 Failure to Sign Purse Offer Contracts.
- a) If the champion or his manager, the successor or his manager, do not sign the bout contracts within the 15-working day period after the purse offer, or refuse to participate in the bout for the promoter who won the purse offer under the terms set forth in said offer they shall be subject to discipline, including, without limitation, title forfeiture, which title shall be declared vacant. The WBC may designate a substitute and take such other measures and invoke such discipline as appropriate under the circumstances.
- b) If the challenger or his manager refuse to sign the contract within the 15-working day period after the purse offer, or refuse to participate in the bout for the promoter who won the purse offer under the terms set forth in said offer, the challenger will forfeit his rights as such and the WBC will designate a substitute as well as take such other measures and invoke such discipline as appropriate under the circumstances.
- c) In the event a manager refuses or fails to sign the championship bout contract when required, because of a dispute with the boxer or otherwise, then the boxer may sign the contract on his own behalf, but only if he agrees that the manager's share is withheld and deposited in escrow, until the time that the dispute is resolved, and agrees in a manner satisfactory to the WBC, to indemnify the WBC and hold it harmless from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, and liabilities of any kind or nature with respect to the manager.
- 2.11 Division of Proceeds in a Purse Offer. The net purse offer (after deduction of the WBC certification fees) shall be divided as follows:
- a) 75% for the champion and 25% for the challenger.
- b) 50% to each contender in the case of vacant titles or elimination bouts.
- c) 55% to the champion and 45% to the interim champion, in the event of such a bout.
- d) Notwithstanding the terms of subparagraphs a), b) and c) above, the Board of Governors may, in its discretion and by a two thirds (2/3) vote, modify the division of purse offer proceeds between boxers in a purse offer in unusual or special cases, like the consideration of the outstanding marketing value of one of the boxers.
- 2.12 Rights of Promoters Holding Options. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary which may be contained in these Rules and Regulations, if a promoter holds a duly registered, binding and approved option for a championship bout with a champion, an successor, or, in the case of a vacant title, with a championship contender, but is: 1) unable to finalize a contract for a mandatory championship bout within the time period prescribed in Rule 2.2; or 2) unsuccessful to win the purse offer for the bout, such promoter shall be entitled to payment of an amount equal to 25% of the sum by which the purse from the bid guaranteed to the boxer with whom the promoter holds an option, exceeds the purse that was guaranteed to the boxer under the option or any higher amount that had been offered to such boxer by the promoter during free contract negotiations.

Under such circumstances, it shall be the obligation of the promoter who wins the purse offer, to pay all monies payable to a promoter under the Rules and Regulations, if any, directly to such promoter at the same time that purses are paid to the boxers for the championship bout. For example, if a promoter has a valid option of a champion for a guaranteed US\$100,000 purse and no higher purse was offered to the boxer by the promoter during the contract negotiations, and if the champion is guaranteed US\$200,000 in the purse offer won by another promoter, the promoter holding the option would be entitled to payment of US\$25,000 which is 25% of the excess of the purse offer (\$200,000) over his option (\$100,000).

- 2.13 Single Purse Offer Bids. If only one promoter presents a bid in a purse offer, he will be allowed to promote the bout unless the Board of Governors considers the offer so low that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the boxers, in which case the WBC will undertake efforts to improve the boxers' purses.
- 2.14 Failure to Promote a Bout. If a promoter who won the purse offer relinquishes the right or refuses to promote the championship bout, the promotion will be approved for the promoter who made the second highest bid, provided however, that if in the discretion of the Board of Governors, the offer is too low, or there was no other participant, the WBC shall order initiation of another purse offer procedure.
- 2.15 Timing of a Bout. The match shall take place within ninety (90) days from the date of the opening of the purse offer, unless said time limit is changed or modified by a majority vote of the WBC Board of Governors. A promoter unable to comply with the time limit will lose his right to promote the bout.
- 2.16 Amount of Purse Offer Bids and New Bids.

a) The WBC Board of Governors reserves the right to refuse any purse offer if deemed to be too low. In the event of identical high bids, new purse offers will be taken from those promoters who submitted the identical high bids, or they may agree to co-promote. New bids may be taken at the same purse offer meeting if the interested parties are present. If one or more of the promoters who submitted identical higher bids are not present, new sealed bids shall be submitted to the WBC President or Secretary General within five (5) days from the original opening of the bids, which shall otherwise comply with these Rules and Regulations.

b) Only challengers who have no contractual or legal obligations or restrictions, shall be accepted as available rated boxers to negotiate WBC title bouts as official challengers, as such restrictions would prevent the fighter to negotiate in compliance with the free negotiations as per Rule 2.2. It will be the sole responsibility of the challenger to inform the WBC of such contractual restrictions.

The WBC will assume that there are no contractual or legal obligations that impede the fighter to negotiate the bout. In the event that a boxer fails to timely notify the WBC of any contractual or legal obligation or restriction, as mentioned herein, he will be subject to a fine for such failure and further, he will be removed as a challenger for the WBC title.

- 2.17 Authority of the President/Secretary General in Purse Offers. The WBC President or the Secretary General have the authority to resolve, consider and determine all matters or problems regarding purse offers not otherwise provided for in these Rules and Regulations, or in their discretion, to take any other action not otherwise provided for in these Rules and Regulations, or render decisions, in any other circumstances relating to purse offer procedures.
- 2.18 Non Applicability of Purse Offer Procedure. The purse offer procedure herein will not be applicable in a situation where a challenger is offered a purse of 10 (ten) times the highest purse made by the challenger and based on the contracts registered at the boxing commission where the bout took place, and/or the WBC. In the event that a challenger is offered 10 (ten) times the highest purse as

herein mentioned and he refuses to accept it, the champion will be entitled to enter into negotiations with the next highest rated available challenger.

### **RULE 3 - REGULATIONS FOR WBC CHAMPIONSHIP BELT**

- 3.1 Belts Provided for Each Division. The World Boxing Council will provide championship belts for the world champions of each weight division.
- 3.2 Ownership of Belt. The championship belts will be provided through donations from promoters of world championship bouts or other donors and will be the property of the World Boxing Council, which will, in turn, present them to the champions.
- 3.3 Special Belt and Plaque. Any world champion who holds the world title for five (5) years or makes twelve (12) defenses of his title, will be presented in a special ceremony, with the luxurious official excellency WBC championship belt, with the cost to be paid by his promoter, to be kept permanently by him. Three (3) years or ten (10) defenses of a world championship will merit a special WBC honor plaque.
- 3.4 Champion Bringing His Belt Into the Ring. The world champion in each division must bring his championship belt when he goes in the ring for every defense of his title. If he does not bring his championship belt, he will be subject to fine and o other disciplinary measures by the WBC and his local continental federation. The champion will give the championship belt to the WBC Representative before the beginning of the bout.
- 3.5 Presentation of Belt. At the end of the contest, the WBC representative(s), the WBC President, and the president of the local commission where the bout took place, will go into the ring to present the belt to the world champion on behalf of the WBC Board of Governors.
- 3.6 Championship Rings. The WBC will provide championship rings to the world champions of each division, at the cost of the promoter of the champion or the champion himself.

### **RULE 4 - MEDICAL AND ANTIDOPING REGULATIONS**

- 4.1 WBC Medical Advisory Board. The WBC will have a Medical Advisory Board consisting of one or more chairmen and one or more vice-chairmen from each of the continental federations. The Medical Advisory Board shall study and make recommendations regarding, and prepare rules to implement, safety measures for boxers. This Board shall attempt to have a representative in every nation, state or city where professional boxing matches are held. The WBC and the Medical Advisory Board will attempt to hold a yearly medical congress and seminars to update safety rules and regulations.
- 4.2 Yearly Examination for Licensing. In order to promote the safety and protection of the boxers, all boxers must submit themselves to a complete medical examination at their corresponding affiliated boxing commission, in order to obtain their license, as well as the right to be rated in the WBC Ratings, and also have the certification of the WBC for any world title under the WBC. These medical examinations must be repeated each year thereafter for renewal of license and continued right to be included in the WBC Ratings and the right for WBC's certification. The WBC shall have no responsibility, whatsoever, for any consequence or outcome resulting from non compliance of these rules by promoters, boxers, managers, trainers, or boxing commissions. Such examinations must be in accordance with the WBC Universal Standard Physical Annual Exam Protocol and the Appendix C hereto, which include:
  - General: Blood type, allergies, pulse, blood pressure, temperature, weight
  - Ears: Othoscopy
  - Mouth: Pharynx, teeth;

- Eyes: visual screening, acuity, fields, intraocular pressures, dilated funduscopy
  - Adenopathies, lungs, heart (abdominal palpitation)
  - Hernia, testicles, tendon reflexes
  - Upper extremities and lower extremities
  - Skin or suppurative wounds or lesions; urinalysis
  - Screening for blood born pathogens such as HIV\*, Hepatitis B and C
  - MRA for arterial abnormalities
  - Blood test (HB and hematocrit)
  - Serology, electrocardiogram and Echocardiogram if cardiac risk factors are present;
  - skull, neck and chest X-ray (form attached).
  - yearly testing for 10 top ranked with MRI and neuro-psychological testing.
  - CAT scan/PET when issuing licenses, after defeats by KO, or when ordered by Commission doctors.
  - a questionnaire on present and past health, recent and past injuries, as well as drugs, alcohol and smoking habits.
- \* HIV testing must be performed 2-4 weeks previous to the fight.

b) All WBC world-rated boxers must have such medical examinations each year and submit them to the WBC, or be subject to loss of their world rating by the WBC, and thus unable to compete for a world title match.

c) Conditions Jeopardizing a Rated Boxer. It is the sole responsibility of the medical committee of each local commission, to determine whether the safety of a boxer will be jeopardized by allowing him to fight in a WBC title contest.. If the boxers do not submit their medical examinations to the WBC, prior to their title bout, the corresponding promoters and/or boxers will be subject to a fine to be determined by the Board of Governors. It will be the sole responsibility of the local boxing commission, in regards to medical matters, to approve or disapprove a boxing title match. The medical committee of the local commission must consider the following conditions:

1. Any congenital or acquired neurological abnormality, including both, minor and major epilepsy (Grand Mal and Petit Mal), migraine, or any congenital or acquired abnormalities observed in CT or MRI scans, or in an EEG tracing.
2. Any psychological disorder such as depression, schizophrenia, or hypomania.
3. Any pathology in the eye, including cataracts, detachments, holes or tears of the retina, retinal hemorrhages and exudates, and any other intraocular pathology which, in the opinion of the WBC Medical Advisory Board, would endanger a boxer's sight or health. In principal, any boxer with uncorrected visual standards of less than 6/9 in the best, and 6/18 in the worst, would not be considered for a world title bout.
4. Blood pressure higher than 140/90 after prolonged rest. Any congenital or acquired cardiovascular disorder, or any congenital or acquired circulatory problem.
5. Chest problems such as chronic asthma, emphysema, active tuberculosis and acute chest infections.
6. Any acute or chronic gastrointestinal abnormalities, hernias, etc.
7. Any acquired or congenital genitourinary abnormalities including hematuria other than that caused by effort, proteinuria, and active venereal infections, including AIDS.
8. Acute perforations of the eardrum, and acute sinusitis, acute or chronic infections of the middle or inner ear, including labyrinthitis, vertigo and deafness.

9. Any severe skeletal abnormality or deformity which may impair the performance of a boxer, such as rheumatoid or osteoarthritis, or recurrent dislocations.
10. Any infectious skin condition.
11. Diabetes, thyroid, or other endocrinological abnormalities or diseases.
12. Anemia, or other chronic or acute blood disorders, reticulosis, or any malignant disease even when in remission.
13. Boxers with a positive MRA for arterial abnormalities, shall not be licensed to box nor will be rated or authorized to participate in a WBC title bout.
14. Boxers that suffered concussion by KO, should not participate in sparring sessions for 45 days and no less than 30 days after consussive trauma, including but not limited to KO's, and should not compete in a boxing match in less than 75 days.
15. Boxers under the age of 18 shall not be licensed for professional boxing nor shall be included in the WBC Ratings neither certified to participate in WBC title bouts.

4.3 Extensive Examinations for High Risk Boxers. This category includes:

- a) Boxers over 35 years of age,
- b) Boxers with high exposure bouts,
- c) Boxers with poor performances, such as 3 consecutive losses secondary to TKO/KO, or six consecutive losses.
- d) Boxers with history of severe concussions,
- e) Boxers who have not boxed in 3 years.

And should undergo extensive examinations on an annual basis and/or special occasions, at least on the following:

- a) General physical examination
- b) Neurological exam by a neurologist or neurosurgeon
- c) Stress EKG and Echocardiogram if cardiac risk factors are present (family history of heart attack under the age of 50, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, a stress ECG (EKG).
- d) Evidence of no injury on annual MRI
- e) Screen for age-related diseases
- f) Ophthalmological exam including dilated funduscopy,
- g) Evidence of NO deterioration on annual neuropsychiatric testing.
- h) In addition to the above, possible indicators for performance testing, perhaps by an impartial panel of trainers, which might include:
  - badly beaten boxers, specially by blows to the heart in the last bout;
  - if boxer has lost prior 3 bouts;
  - if boxer has not shown boxing activity in prior 3 years;
  - if boxer has been inactive for prior 3 years, he should not be allowed to fight for a title bout without at least one prior tune-up bout.

4.4 Examination Prior to Bouts Outside Boxer's Jurisdiction. The local boxing commission is the sole responsible for administering medical exams before the boxer travels outside his home boxing jurisdiction to participate in a WBC-certified boxing match. The local medical officer should issue a certificate, preferably attached to or recorded in the International Boxers Traveling License, including the following exams:

- a) Ophthalmology: perfect vision; eye fundi; campimetria
- b) Neurology: osteondinose reflexes, Rhomberg, Nistagemus
- c) Maxilar: teeth, abnormalities to prevent possible inferior maxilar fractures.
- d) Weight, blood pressure, heart rate and heart rate time recovery.

4.5 Examinations Before WBC Title Bouts: Within four to six weeks before a WBC championship bout, the promoter has the responsibility to have administered, through the local commission's medical officer or a doctor or institution approved by the WBC, examinations to both boxers, in accordance with the WBC Medical Form, that will include:

- HIV test;
- A thorough questionnaire about his present and past health, both physical and mental.
- A thorough examination, with special attention to the nervous and skeletal system
- A thorough examination of the eyes with special attention to visual acuity and eye fundi with dilated pupil examination.
- Notation of any allergies, drug or otherwise.
- Blood tests for hemoglobin, serology and blood grouping.
- Chest X-ray, CAT scan if necessary or if not taken within the current year, and complete microureanalysis.

The local boxing commission's medical exams, will be accepted as valid at the request of the boxer, if they contain the same exams as listed above.

The WBC requires that such medical examinations are sent to the WBC Executive Office in Mexico City 30 days prior to the date of the bout.

4.6 Safety Weigh-Ins. Boxers shall have the final and official weigh-in no less than 24 hours but not more than 30 hours prior to the bout. Due to the possible adverse results of dehydration and subsequent rehydration of a boxer who is required to lose more than a safe amount of weight to make the required weight limit for the bout, the WBC expects extra official weigh-ins to be held 30 and 7 days prior to the official 30-24-hour weigh-in.

a) 30-day weigh-in: 4 weeks prior to the bout, the boxer's weight must not exceed 10% of the weight limit for the bout, and

b) 7-day weigh-in: 7 days prior to the bout, the boxer's weight must not exceed 5% of the weight limit for the bout.

Boxers, managers and trainers are solely responsible for the pre-fight safety weigh-ins and medical examinations required by the WBC and the failure by the boxer, manager and trainer to comply with this rule, is their sole responsibility and not that of the WBC.

In the event that the boxer exceeds the weight qualifications stated above, the WBC may, for the safety of the boxer, refuse to sanction the bout.

4.7 Medical Examination at Weigh-In. The local boxing commission has the responsibility to conduct physical examinations during weigh-ins before all WBC-certified bouts. These exams shall include:

- a) blood pressure and heart rate: heart and lungs listened to;
- b) thorough examination of the eyes, ears and throat;
- c) tests for rhombergism, reflexes, power and coordination;
- e) verbal questionnaire about medicines or drugs or any artificial means for weight reduction, that have been used, or other symptoms.
- d) direct questioning about any recent symptoms such as headaches, visual disturbances, loss of concentration, general fatigue or other symptoms.

The local commission medical panel and/or the WBC representative(s), on medical advice, will have the right to take or order blood and/or urine samples or any other exam if, in the pre-bout medical examination, signs of serious dehydration or drugs are detected or are suspected.

4.8 Post-Bout Examinations. The local ringside doctors should follow the contestants back to the dressing rooms or to the antidoping test special area, if any, to check that both boxers are in satisfactory condition or institute any treatment that may be required. The doctor(s) must issue a written report of the post-bout examinations

4.9 Antidoping Regulations.

a) Doping in Boxers. Boxers contending in any WBC world title bout, elimination bout, or any title bout recognized by the WBC, shall not be under the influence of any drug during the contest that will in any manner affect their performance in the ring.

Should a boxer be taking any form of medication, this must be reported immediately, but no later than the Rules Meeting for the championship bout, to the WBC, the medical panel, the WBC and local supervisors before they get engaged in a title match.

b) Contractual Obligations. The contracts for championship and elimination bouts certified by the WBC shall include a clause setting forth an agreement by champion and challenger, that neither of them will take, imbibe, or have administered to him any substance, medicine or drug that may enhance or reduce his performance and which are prohibited by the WBC in these Rules and Regulations.

c) Antidoping Test Required. The antidoping tests are mandatory for every world title or elimination bout. When a site for a title bout has no antidoping facilities, a nearby city will be used. The WBC may print a form setting forth the antidoping tests and procedures and attach it to registered contracts of champions and challengers. An official WBC laboratory may also be established by the WBC. Both champion and challenger shall adhere to these procedures and policies, and mandatory drug testing will be performed pursuant to the WBC Rules and Regulations herein.

d) Doctors. The local commission will specifically appoint a doctor to supervise and administer the antidoping test. Where there is no local laboratory available, or when necessary, the WBC will order a neutral doctor to supervise the antidoping tests and take all necessary samples.

The WBC has the right to select primary laboratories around the world for the antidoping program and conduct of the testing under approved protocols.

e) Procedures for Administration of Antidoping Tests. Each local commission will determine the mechanics for implementation of antidoping tests, but the following measures are required:

1) The antidoping tests shall be taken from the urine of the contending boxers immediately after the bout, at the dressing room or place designated by the doctor. The WBC may authorize the samples to be taken before the bouts only in places where a law or a rule so requires.

2) The urine of each boxer shall be placed in two (2) separate bottles perfectly clean and sterilized, marked "A" and "B" or "1" and "2", before the boxer and his representative, the doctor in charge and/or any neutral doctor that may be chosen by the WBC. All bottles shall be sealed.

3) All sealed bottles shall have the signatures of the boxer and his representative, if he wishes, the doctor, the local or WBC commissioner affixed to them.

4) Before each WBC title or elimination bout, the local commission shall inform each boxer that the testing of his urine is mandatory immediately after each bout, and that failure or refusal to submit to such testing may result in disciplinary action, including, without limitation, disqualification, suspension or a fine.

5) The first bottle, "A" or "1", will be used for a first test performed independently by the laboratory specifically appointed by the local boxing commission or the WBC. If the test results, which shall be presented within a week after the contest, are negative, the result shall be reported as such and filed and the second bottle, "B" or "2", destroyed.

6) If the first bottle, "A" or "1" is found positive, the WBC shall be immediately informed by the local commission or directly by the laboratory. The WBC will immediately contact the affected boxer, or his representative, to inform them of their right to select a representative to witness a second test. The positive result of bottle "A" or "1" shall be kept in strict confidence within the laboratory, the local commission, the WBC headquarters, its official representative during the bout and the offending boxer.

7) The responsibility for conducting a second test, when the first is found positive, will be that of the WBC, and bottles "B" and "2" shall be sent to the laboratory officially and expressly appointed by the WBC where the boxer's representative, if he wishes, may supervise the second testing.

Another laboratory may be agreed upon by the WBC and the boxer. The local boxing commission and the WBC may agree on the laboratory to perform the second test.

8) If bottle "B" or "2" is found positive, confirming the first test, the WB shall proceed immediately to schedule a hearing, inform the boxer of same and appoint a WBC investigating committee, whose report shall be presented to the WBC Board of Governors for a determination of appropriate sanctions.

f) Failure to Take Antidoping Tests. If, after being notified by the local commission about the mandatory testing of their urine, a boxer does not submit to such a testing, he will be disqualified, fined or suspended.

g) Prohibited Drugs and Procedures.

1. Classes of Prohibited Drugs:

- a) Stimulants (amphetamine, fencamfamine, cocaine, etc.)
- b) Narcotic analgesics (heroin, morphine, etc.)
- c) Diuretics (furosemide, thalazide, etc.)
- d) Sedative hypnotics (barbiturates, phenobarbital, secobarbital, etc.)
- \*e) Hallucinogens (marijuana, LSD, mescaline, etc.)

\*A trace of 100 up to 200 nanograms will result in a warning and severe fine.

\*A trace of 200 or more nanograms will result in disqualification or suspension as stated in these Rules and Regulations, including Section h) of this Rule.

f) Restricted use of aspirin. Due to the blood thinning effects produced by aspirin, the WBC Medical Board strongly recommends that all boxers contending for any WBC title, do not take aspirin within fourteen days previous to their title bout.

2. Banned Procedures:

- a) Infusions of blood, red cells or plasma expanders;
- b) Alterations in the integrity and validity of urine (substitution probenecid)

A violation of this Rule will subject the boxer to disqualification or a severe fine, in accordance with the results of an investigation.

#### h) Sanctions for Positive Antidoping Test Results

1) If the world champion wins the bout and his antidoping test results prove positive, the title will be declared vacant and the challenger (whose antidoping tests were negative) will be appointed to meet another contender chosen by the WBC for such vacant title, unless the challenger's performance was unworthy.

The WBC may order any other contest at its discretion.

2) If the challenger loses the championship bout and his antidoping tests are positive, he will not be allowed to fight for a WBC title during a period of one (1) year, during which he will be taken off the ratings.

3) If the challenger wins the title bout and his drug tests results prove positive, and the losing champion's test results prove negative, the title will be declared vacant, with the offending boxer being disqualified and not allowed to compete for a WBC title during a period of one (1) year, during which he will be taken off the ratings.

The losing champion will then be appointed to fight the highest rated available challenger for the vacant title.

4) If the results of the antidoping tests of champion and challenger are both positive, the title will be declared vacant and the WBC will appoint two (2) contenders to fight for the vacant title or will fill such vacant title in any other manner that the Board of Governors deems appropriate. Both boxers, shall not be allowed to fight for a WBC title during the following one (1) year.

5) The WBC requires that the offending boxers undergo a rehabilitation treatment or a medical certificate. The WBC also reserves the right to order doping tests at random before including the boxers in the ratings and approve them to compete in title bouts.

6) Antidoping tests by laboratories and local commissions must follow the procedures as stated in these Rules and Regulations, to be accepted as valid and legal by the WBC.

7) All cases where the tests results are positive, must be handled following a procedure that guarantees a sanctioned boxer a hearing, an investigation and a final ruling by the WBC Board of Governors.

4.10 Post Knock-Out Examinations. In order to protect the health and welfare of boxers, boxers shall be subjected at least to the following examinations, either by the medical body of the local commission where the bouts are held, or at the boxing commission of the residency of the boxers, or at any medical institute approved by the WBC or his affiliated boxing commission. The local boxing commission where a WBC title bout is held, must perform, at least, the following examinations on boxers who suffer a knock-out or when the referee stops a fight after a boxer has been seriously punished in the ring.

- 1) A physical examination, including a complete neurological examination with particular reference to the pupils and optic fundi;
- 2) MRI/CAT Scan
- 3) Electro-nistamography, and
- 4) Any other medical exam recommended by the WBC Medical Advisory Board, or the neurologist or neurosurgeon in charge.

- 4.11 Report of Knock-Outs. The local boxing commission and the manager of the knocked-out boxer must immediately report same to the boxing commission or federation which extended the boxing license to the boxer.
- 4.12 Rest Periods After Knock-Out. A boxer suffering a knock-out must take a sixty (60) day rest period. A boxer suffering two (2) consecutive knock-outs must take a one hundred twenty (120) day rest period. A boxer suffering three (3) consecutive knock-outs must take a one hundred eighty (180) day rest period, and his license must be confiscated pending special thorough medical examinations by the Medical Advisory Board or the local boxing medical board, after which other necessary medical measures might be taken.
- 4.13 Role of Medical Officers at WBC-Certified Bouts. Even though local boxing commissions are responsible for providing medical attention at bouts, including WBC-certified title fights, it is the WBC's desire and strong recommendation that the following recommendations be adopted in boxing matches of all kinds and especially in WBC title bouts:
- a) There must be two (2) doctors present at each WBC title contest, one (1) of whom (the senior doctor) must be and remain at ringside throughout the bout, while his assistant or colleague must be ready to go back to the dressing rooms should any medical problems arise during a bout. If the doctors deems necessary for the fight to be stopped because of serious damage to the boxer's health, he must hand the red card over to the referee as an indication of the need to stop the bout; however, the decision of stopping the bout will be the referee's responsibility.
  - b) Both doctors should attend the boxing arena fully equipped, including sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, auriscope, ophthalmoscope, suturing material, patella hammer, an emergency airway, and an adequate portable resuscitator in case of emergency. Both doctors must be skilled in the management of the unconscious patient.
  - c) Doctors should visit the boxers prior to the contest to advise and ensure that no stimulant or any kind of prohibited drug is used before or during the contest. No prohibited hemostatics or artificial coverings should be used to stop bleeding, and no liniments or other astringent lotions (which could damage wounds on boxers or the doctor's own eyes) should be applied to boxers before or during the contest. Also, the use of smelling salts, amylnitrite, or similar substances is not permitted under these Rules and Regulations.
  - d) Should anything untoward occur or any problems arise concerning prohibited substances, the doctor, or the WBC representative or the local boxing commissioner should instruct the referee to confiscate, or may on his own, confiscate such substance or substances. This shall also be done at the discretion of the referee himself, if he detects a questionable substance.
  - e) At the referee's invitation, the ring doctor should give his opinion of a wound during a round of the bout, or go on his own to the boxer's corner during the sixty (60) second resting period, although he should be careful not to interfere with the second's work.
  - f) After a boxer is counted out, or a bout is stopped and the boxer fails to stand up, doctors should immediately enter the ring, with or without the referee's call, remove the boxer's mouthpiece if still in the mouth, establish adequate ventilation, and have the boxer lying on his left side.
- 4.14 Permitted Accessories in Corners During Bouts. The local boxing commission and the ring doctors should make sure that nothing but the following is used by the cornermen to take care of boxers during a bout: a) water; b) vaseline; c) ice; d) adrenaline 1/1000 or other WBC approved hemostatic; e) gauze pads; f) cotton tips; g) blunted scissors; h) adhesive tape; i) towels; j) cotton wads, and/or soft bandages.

- 4.15 Emergency Equipment at the Ring During Bouts. The local boxing commission is responsible of ensuring that the following emergency equipment is at the ring before commencement of the boxing program:
- a) a portable resuscitator or similar equipment in working order;
  - b) a stretcher under the ring apron for easy availability;
  - c) an ambulance parked in a freely accessible place outside the boxing arena for one (1) hour before and after the program, staffed with paramedics skilled in resuscitation;
  - d) a telephone at ringside only for the use of medical officers; a local hospital with an approved accident, emergency, and neurosurgical unit, as well as a neurosurgeon on call, must be under agreement.
- 4.16 Medical Facilities. Each venue must have a room set aside for medical purposes only. This should be adequately lit, have an examination table, hot and cold running water and a treatment trolley, all this being the responsibility of the doctor in conjunction with the promoter of the program
- 4.17 Manager and Trainer Education. Managers and trainers shall take courses and obtain certificates of attendance at seminars and programs of paramedicine, nutrition, physiology, drugs, dangerous hemostatics, diuretics, and other dangerous substances, as well as boxing rules and training programs.
- 4.18 Rights of WBC Regarding Medical Examination of Boxers. The WBC Medical Advisory Board will have the right to order or conduct an examination of any boxer rated by the WBC when necessary, for example, when a boxer claims to be injured and unable to fulfill a contract or obligation under these Rules and Regulations; or, when a boxer whose physical condition is doubtful, desires to fight in a WBC-certified bout or as a WBC-rated boxer.
- 4.19 Boxers Suffering from Detached Retinas. No boxer will be authorized to box for a WBC championship if he has had a retina detachment, even if he has had an operation to correct such detachment, unless his participation in the bout is authorized by two independent ophthalmologists chosen by the WBC Medical Advisory Board after an examination.
- 4.20 Extraordinary Medical Weight Measures. When necessary, the WBC Medical Advisory Board may require fat tissue laboratory exams on boxers with weight problems, in order to allow their rating in certain weight divisions and more important, to protect their health by not allowing their participation in bouts in weight divisions which could put their health in danger.
- 4.21 Medical Advisory Board to Investigate Fatal Injuries. The WBC Medical Advisory Board shall be responsible for studying the history of boxers who have had fatal accidents which appear to be related to boxing activity, including:
- a) Review of childhood nutritional reports,
  - b) Review of private life behavior reports,
  - c) Use of drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, V.D. investigation,
  - d) Review of boxing record, knock outs received, boxing style and difficult contests during the boxer's life,
  - e) Review of physical record and medical file,
  - f) Review of pre-contest reports of private life and training for the fatal bout,
  - g) Preparation of a report regarding the conduct of the fatal bout,
  - h) Review of autopsy reports.

The WBC Medical Advisory Board shall prepare a report, containing the conclusions of its investigations, and an examination of accidents and the boxer's physical condition should be done in order to approve or disapprove a boxer's participation in a bout.

- 4.22 Boxing Injuries in Gyms. All injuries in boxing gyms should be reported to the local boxing commissions, and an examination of accidents and the boxer's physical condition should be done in order to approve or disapprove a boxer's participation in a bout.

All injuries, either during the boxer's normal life or while boxing, must be reported to the boxing commission of his jurisdiction by the boxers, their trainer(s), manager, and/or personal doctor.

- 4.23 WBC Referees and Judges. Referees and judges for WBC title events should pass a yearly medical examination including neurological, psychological and ophthalmological testing. Referees must have a pre-bout examination during the weigh-in, for reflexes, rhomberg, nistagemus, blood pressure, and heart rate. Ensuring that these requirements are satisfied is the responsibility of the various boxing commissions.
- 4.24 WBC Sports and Medicine Foundation. The WBC Sports Medicine Foundation sponsors programs for permanent medical research for the prevention and treatment of injuries in boxing and to assist in the development of adequate safety rules.
- 4.25 The 12-Round Rule. Bouts recognized by the WBC for world title contests shall not exceed 12 rounds.

## **RULE 5 – RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES**

- 5.1 Exhaustion of Remedies. Any boxer, promoter, manager or other person or organization that participates in the activities or events of the WBC, or who avail themselves, or claim any right arising on the WBC Constitution or these Rules and Regulations, must fully exhaust the administrative remedies and the dispute resolution procedures provided for herein, before initiating any legal action against the WBC in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Nevada Federal District Court as provided for in Rule 5.5.

- 5.2 Administrative Remedies.

a) Upon payment of a filing fee of \$US500.00, except in the case of changes in ratings, any claim, complaint or protest against the WBC, or any controversy, appeal or dispute concerning the WBC Constitution, or these Rules and Regulations, must first be presented to the WBC for consideration by the President and, if appropriate, the Board of Governors.

The claim, controversy, or dispute must be submitted to the WBC President in writing within fifteen (15) days after the claim, controversy or dispute first arose.

b) Any person who makes, files or presents a complaint, protest or appeal to the WBC on behalf of a boxer, promoter, person or entity, must submit to the WBC at least 10 days after such complaint, protest or appeal has been received by the WBC, a signed and authenticated letter from the person or entity who is the subject matter of such complaint, protest or appeal and who the aforementioned person claims to represent.

Upon reception of the claim, dispute or controversy, the President, in his discretion, will either: a) attempt to resolve the controversy, or b) designate a person or persons to attempt to resolve the controversy, or c) refer the matter to the Board of Governors, which will have thirty (30) days after receiving referral of the controversy or claim, to render a decision. The President must notify all interested parties of the decision in writing. The administrative procedures as provided in these Rules, must be fully complied with before the provisions of Rule 5.3 are invoked.

- 5.3 **Compulsory Mediation.** Any unresolved claim against the WBC or any ongoing controversy or dispute concerning the WBC Constitution, or these Rules and Regulations, must be submitted to non-binding mediation in accordance with the following procedures, within 30 days after exhaustion of the administrative procedures outlined in Rule 5.2:
- a) The parties must, in good faith, attempt to select a neutral mediator to conduct the mediation. The eligible candidate must be neutral and have experience in the sport of boxing or in resolving boxing disputes.
  - b) In the event that the parties are unable to agree on a mediator, each party shall nominate two qualified candidates from the WBC Mediation Pool.
  - c) The mediator shall be selected at random from the four (4) candidates selected by the parties from the WBC Mediation Pool.
  - d) The mediation shall be conducted in accordance with procedures prescribed by the selected mediator and at a convenient location designated by the mediator. The mediator's expenses shall be shared equally by the parties who participate in the mediation.
  - e) The mediation shall be completed within thirty (30) days after the mediator is selected, in accordance with the procedures in this Rule.
  - f) The parties to the mediation agree to mediate in good faith in a meaningful attempt to resolve the controversy, claim or dispute.
- 5.4 **Mandatory Arbitration.** Any dispute arising on the occasion of, or in connection with, a WBC sanctioned fight or any decision made by the WBC, which the parties have been unable to resolve pursuant to the procedures provided for in Rules 5.2 and 5.3, will then be settled exclusively by mandatory arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sports ("CAS"), pursuant to the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration.
- The WBC and all boxers involved in WBC sanctioned fights, as well as all related parties, acknowledge that these provisions concerning alternatives to dispute resolution are an essential part of these Rules and Regulations.
- 5.5 **Waiver of Challenge to Arbitration.** The party asserting any such claim or action to be solved by the provisions and remedies of Rules 5.2, 5.3 and/or 5.4 of the WBC Rules and Regulations, expressly waives any and all questions or challenges to the CAS arbitration procedure and therefore agrees to strictly submit to mediation and, if necessary, to CAS arbitration as mandated herein.

## **RULE 6 - RATINGS STANDARDS**

- 6.1 **General Requirements.** Boxers will be rated by the Ratings Committee according to monthly bout results and the WBC Ratings standards as follows:
1. The members of the Committee will take notice of boxing matches reported daily, weekly or monthly, in the newspapers of the world, the monthly reports from the boxing commissions, the continental federations and the WBC, to inform on them and extend recommendations to the Secretary and Chairman every month.
  2. Fight and record reports sent by boxers' representatives, shall be considered but they must be certified by their corresponding boxing commissions.

3. Being the ratings very subjective, the Committee will require the thorough, unbiased opinion of its members, specially on their meetings at annual conventions, or at any other time, expecting their absolute impartiality for the sake of justice, with the decisions on different opinions, taken by majority voting.
4. The Ratings Committee shall be presented for review and consideration of the attendants of the WBC annual convention every four years, and submitted as well for approval by a majority voting by the Board of Governors.
5. The Ratings Committee shall abide by Rule 6 of the WBC Rules and Regulations, called "Ratings Standards". Following are some of them:
  6. No boxer imprisoned as a result of a conviction for a crime, shall be rated until he is released.
  7. No boxer who has been suspended by boxing commissions or the WBC itself, shall be rated until he is reinstated.
  8. No boxer of a nation where race discrimination is practiced, shall be rated.
  9. Boxers must have at least: 1) 15 pro-bouts; 2) at least 2 victories over two rated boxers; 3) medals, either Olympic or world amateur competitions; 4) combats as meritorious as a successful career as Thai Kick boxer, or 5) extraordinary and special circumstances for him to be considered for ratings in any division and also receiving a recommendation by the continental federation where they are licensed.
  10. No boxer who participates in bouts where racial discrimination is practiced, shall be rated for the following two (2) years.
  11. No champion of any other recognized boxing organization shall be rated in the first 10, due to their career obligations which make them unavailable to fight for a WBC title, since they would be taking away opportunities from deserving and meritorious boxers who are available, fit and ready to fight for a WBC title.

Ratings Additional Criteria. The ratings committee shall use the additional criteria in consideration for their rating of boxers:

- a) Their career records
- b) The results on their last 5 to 10 bouts
- c) The class of boxers they have contended against
- d) The importance and decisiveness of their victories
- e) A consensus of hometown decisions
- f) Victories at hometown or as a visitor
- g) Current physical and boxing condition
- h) Championships in important confederations
- i) Meritorious national championships
- j) Olympic medal winners
- k) Top Thai Kick boxing professional records
- l) Losses being by a cut in close bouts
- m) Gate, marketing, or national boxing heroism in assumed equal boxing circumstances with others.
- n) In accordance with strong or weak divisions in regard to boxers
- o) Lack of knowledge of merits gained through boxing results

p) Intuition of the ratings panel regarding the boxers' world position in ratings, in the cases of very difficult estimates in comparisons among boxers, but always with a majority voting.

6.2 Inactivity. Any rated boxer who is inactive for six (6) months (except when caused by certified and legitimate medical or legal reasons) shall ordinarily decline in the ratings as his inactivity lengthens thereafter, and shall not be rated if he is inactive for any reason for over one (1) year, except on special circumstances and with the approval of the Board of Governors.

6.3 Reporting. It shall be the responsibility of all boxers to advise the WBC of their boxing activity.

6.4 Appeal Procedure. In the event that a boxer rated in the top ten (10) of the WBC Ratings is dissatisfied with his rating, after notification of such dissatisfaction in writing to the WBC, the President of the WBC will appoint a committee of three (3) members of the Board of Governors to consider the boxer's complaint, and after consideration, inform the boxer of the decision of the Committee. If the boxer is not satisfied with the decision of the Committee, he may appeal to the WBC Legal Committee for final determination. The WBC Legal Committee, after a hearing, will advise the boxer of its decision.

The meeting of the Committee above mentioned may be by telephone and voting may be by fax or E-mail. There is no charge to the boxer for his original complaint or an appeal.

## **RULE 7 - FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS**

- 7.1 In General. Employees and independent contractors will be reimbursed for fees, salaries, and expenses incurred for WBC business. Further, the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and all other members of the Board of Governors of the WBC, the Chairman of each committee and other persons specifically designated by the President and Treasurer, will be reimbursed for expenses incurred for WBC business.
- 7.2 Expenses Connected with WBC-Sponsored Events. In addition, the members of the Board of Governors of the WBC shall be entitled to reimbursement of their transportation, hotel and meal expenses incurred in connection with an event sponsored by, or involving the WBC, except for annual WBC conventions, which are defined in Article X.1 of the Constitution.

Any employees or independent contractors whose services are required by the WBC, and any other individuals whom the President, the Secretary General, or the Treasurer agree should be present at WBC conventions, shall be entitled to reimbursement of their transportation, hotel and meal expenses.

7.3 Bout Promotional Fees.

The following fees are established in conjunction with all bouts sanctioned by the WBC, subject to modification by a majority voting of the Board of Governors. This includes all sums of money paid from all national or international sources.

- a) Promoters Annual Fee: US \$7,000.00, with a deduction of \$2,000.00 if payment is made before March 31 of each fiscal year. No further payments are required for subsequent bouts during that one (1) year.
- b) Promoters Bout Certification Fee. US\$5,000.00 for bouts in weight categories up to and including the superbantam division; US\$6,500.00 for all other weights up to and including the cruiserweight; and US\$15,500.00 for fights in the heavyweight division and any other championship bout where total gross purses of champion and challenger combined equal or exceed US\$1.5 million.
- c) Boxers and General Bout Certification Fee. Three percent (3.0%) of any amount of the gross purse earned by the boxers. This percentage of 3.0% applies to all the sums of money paid to the boxers, including those sums retained by the promoter(s) as his (their) promotional fees, as well as any amounts paid to the manager or any other party acting on their behalf.
- d) On gross purses up to US\$100,000.00 a minimum of US\$3,000.00 shall be due from the champion, and US\$1,000.00 shall be due from the challenger.

In the event of a vacant title, a minimum of US\$2,000.00 shall be due from each boxer.

***\*Amended during the WBC Board of Governors meeting held in Kiev, Ukraine, on July 4, 2004, to be reviewed during the WBC 2004 convention in Phuket.***

#### 7.4 Payment Procedures and Obligations of the Parties.

Promoters obligations:

- a) The promoter who registers the bout contracts shall pay the boxer and general bout certification fee, together with the submission and registration of the championship bout contracts with the WBC, even if a champion or challenger will be paid by way of bank letters of credit or other form of commercial or negotiable instrument. Certification fees may be paid by a bank certified or cashier check, or US cash money, or be otherwise guaranteed, unless for good cause, another method of payment is permitted by the WBC. Promoter will be liable to the WBC for payment of all fees outlined in Rule 7.3.
- b) The WBC reserves the right to require documentation from promoters or boxers, in order to certify and establish the official purse of a championship bout on which certification fees are measured and based in accordance to rule 7.3.
- c) All certification fees shall be completely tax free to the WBC and it shall be the responsibility of the promoter, registering the bout contracts to pay by withholding additional sums from the purses of the boxers, all such local, state, or national tax liabilities, if any, imposed by the country, state or locality where the bout takes place, and to hold the WBC harmless from same.

Boxers Obligations

- a) The champion and challenger must accept the deduction of the aforesaid boxer certification fees from their respective purses. No bout shall be recognized as a WBC-certified title bout, if either the champion or the challenger does not agree to and allow the deduction of the boxer certification fees from his purse.
- b) In the event that a WBC champion fights for another organization's title in a non unification fight, the champion must pay to the WBC 50% (fifty percent) of the WBC sanction fee, as stated herein, in view of the market value and standing attained as a WBC champion.

#### 7.5 Rights of Registered and Authorized Promoters.

- a) All promoters who are registered and authorized by the WBC, shall have the right to register contracts for championship bouts with the WBC, promote any WBC recognized championship or championship elimination match, participate in the WBC purse offer procedures, register bout options with the WBC, and participate in any other pertinent activity within the WBC's operating procedures.
- b) In the cases of promotions of bouts won in purse offers, If a promoter has presented to boxers the bout contracts within the deadline, but boxers have not signed and returned, it will not be the promoters fault and his compliance with contracts registration dates will be valid.
- c) The WBC holds the right to deny certification to promoters whose actions might be detrimental to the WBC and boxing, by promoting in opposition to expressed policies against apartheid or safety and any measures to protect boxers.

- 7.6 WBC Expenses. The Board of Governors may, from time to time, and for payment of lawful expenses of the WBC, assess its members for payment, or request payment by promoters on a non discriminatory basis, of such amounts as may be necessary to defray such expenses. The Board of Governors may take such other lawful actions or pursue any lawful project with which it may raise funds for the WBC.

7.7 Convention Expenses.

a) Meeting Expenses. The host federation shall be responsible for the following expenses:

- 1) Expenses for the total number of the hotel rooms at the convention site, for use by all the members of the WBC Board of Governors.
- 2) Expenses for the opening and closing awards gala dinners.
- 3) Expenses for simultaneous translation of official languages: English, Spanish and French.
- 4) All meeting expenses and stationery requirements.

The host convention member may voluntarily absorb any other expenses of the convention.

b) Officers, and Committee Chairmen. The WBC shall pay for the hotel, meals and agenda expenses of all WBC officers and committee chairmen incurred exclusively in connection with the convention.

c) Delegate Expenses. The delegates to the convention shall pay fifty percent (50%) of their transportation expenses and the WBC shall pay fifty percent (50%). No other expenses of delegates will be paid unless otherwise agreed in advance by the WBC President and Treasurer, with advice from the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

d) Employer/Independent Contractor Expenses. Any employees or independent contractors of the WBC whom the President, Treasurer, and the Finance Committee, believe should be present at the convention to further the purposes of the WBC, shall be reimbursed for transportation, hotel and meal expenses incurred in connection with attendance to the convention, provided however, that payment of said expenses has been approved in advance by the WBC President and Treasurer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

e) Non Delegate/Non Employee Expenses. The WBC President and Treasurer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance Committee, may designate persons, other than those above specified, whose convention expenses will be reimbursed, either in whole or in part.

7.8 Report on Convention Budget and Expenses. The WBC Treasurer shall prepare and present to the WBC President and the Finance Committee, a budget for annual convention expenses for which the WBC is responsible. Upon approval of the budget by the Finance Committee, the expenses set forth therein may be paid by the President or Treasurer. Unexpected convention-related expenses which arise subsequent to approval of convention budget, may be paid at the discretion of the President and Treasurer, provided that a complete accounting of said expenses is presented to the Finance Committee within three (3) months after the convention. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the President or Treasurer may pay those expenses described in Rule 7.7 b), regardless of whether or not they have been included in the convention budget.

7.9 Convention Procedures. The following practices and procedures shall be followed in connection with any convention:

- a) The convention site shall reconfirm the intent to host the convention six (6) months before the event, and if possible, shall present economic guarantees for the convention.
- b) Unless otherwise extended or shortened, notice of any convention shall be given to the member federations at least nine (9) weeks prior to the date of the convention.
- c) The agenda for any convention shall be sent to the member federations at least three (3) weeks before the date of the convention.

d) No member federations can be represented by proxy at any convention, by members of other continental federations.

e) Member federations who wish to have matters placed on the agenda for any convention, for discussion and/or vote, must submit such matters to the WBC Executive Office/the Office of the President at least six (6) weeks before the date of the convention, provided that any item not submitted within the period above mentioned, may still be included in the agenda of the annual convention upon the consent of the majority of the member federations present and voting at such convention.

f) official awards for recognition of officers, boxers and other boxing personalities, shall be presented at conventions.

- 7.10 Miscellaneous. The payment of any individual expenses not specifically listed in the foregoing, must be approved by the Finance Committee. If any non convention transportation, hotel and meal expenses are reimbursed and such reimbursement has not been authorized under the foregoing Rule, the reasons for taking such action shall be well documented by the individual making the decision to reimburse said expenses.

## **RULE 8 – EXPRESS AGREEMENT**

All parties involved in reaching an agreement as to a WBC contest, shall sign a document stating their full acceptance to abide by the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations and Championship Rules.

The WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations and Championship Rules are available on the WBC Web page on the Internet. Upon request to the WBC Executive Offices, a copy of the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations and Championship Rules will be furnished.

All boxers, managers, promoters, trainers, and all other entities transacting business with the WBC, expressly agree to be bound by the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations in all matters pertaining to the conduct of such business, in order to participate in any dealings with the WBC. The expression of the parties mentioned in this rule, of a lack of knowledge on the WBC Constitution, Rules and Regulations, will not be a cause for any exception in regards to this rule.

## **RULE 9 – AMENDMENTS**

These Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Governors. The proposal for amendment shall be submitted to the voting members of the Board of Governors at an annual convention or by any of the alternate procedures outlined in Article IV.7 of the WBC Constitution.

**REVISED, AMENDED AND APPROVED BY THE WBC BOARD OF GOVERNORS,  
IN MOSCOW, RUSSIA OCTOBER, 2003**