

# **RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OR TOURNAMENTS**



**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUAYTHAI AMATEUR**

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## RULE I: THE RING

1.1. Requirements: In all competitions, the ring shall conform with the following requirements:

1.1.1 Size: The minimum size shall be 4.9m and the maximum size 6.10m inside the line of the ropes. In the International championships, the size of the ring shall be 6.10 x 6.10 meters inside the ropes. The ring shall not be less than 90 cm or more than 1.20 m above the ground.

1.1.2 Platform and Corner Pads: The platform shall be safely constructed, level and free from any obstructing projections and shall extend for at least 85 cm outside the line of the ropes. It shall be fitted with four corner posts which shall be well padded or otherwise so constructed as to prevent injury to the boxers. The corner pads/posts should be arranged in the following way:

Red – in the nearer left-side of the Jury’s table

White – in the far left-side corner of the Jury’s table

Blue – in the far right-side of the Jury’s table

White – in the near right corner of the Jury’s table

1.1.3 Floor Covering: The floor shall be covered with felt, rubber or other suitable (approved) material having the same quality of elasticity, not less than 1.5 cm. and not more than 2.00 cm thick over which canvas shall be stretched and secured in place. The felt, from the rubber or other approved material and canvas shall cover the entire platform.

1.1.4 Rope: There shall be 4 ropes with a thickness of minimum of 3 cm and maximum of 5 cm tightly drawn from the corner posts at 40 cm, 70 cm, 100 cm and 130 cm high respectively. The ropes shall be covered with a soft or smooth material. The rope shall be joined on each side, at equal intervals, by two pieces of closely textured canvas 3 to 4 cm wide. The pieces must not slide along the rope.

1.1.5 Steps: The ring shall be provided with 3 sets of steps – 1 set at each of the opposite corners for the use of contestants and one set in the neutral corner for use by the referees and doctors.

1.1.6 Plastic Bag: In the 2 neutral corners outside the ring, a small plastic bag shall be fixed in which the referee shall drop the cotton or tissue pads, used by him to stop bleeding.

1.2 Additional Rings: 2 or more rings may be used in important championships.

## **RULE II: GLOVES**

2.1 Authorised Gloves: Boxers shall wear the gloves which the organiser of the competition has placed at their disposal and which have been approved by the Executive Committee of IFMA. Boxers are not allowed to wear their own gloves.

2.2 Specification: The gloves shall weigh 10 ounces (284 grams) of which the leather portion shall not weigh more than half of the total weight and the padding not less than half the total weight. The padding of the gloves shall not be displaced or broken. Only clean and serviceable gloves shall be used.

2.3 Procedures for control of IFMA Gloves: IFMA will continue to establish specification for the manufacture of competitive boxing gloves for IFMA competition. Manufacturers desiring to obtain IFMA approval for their 10 oz. gloves must submit a sample of inspection by the IFMA and final approval by the Executive committee. After such final approval, manufacturers will obtain from IFMA an official stamp or label which must be built into each glove manufactured for use in amateur competition. The IFMA organisation responsible for each competition must use the IFMA approved gloves for that competition; IFMA approves for the IFMA World Championships, the Continental Bureau for Continental Championships and National Federations approve for all competitions under their control unless the responsible IFMA organisation designates a specific manufacturer. The organiser may normally use whatever IFMA approved boxing gloves are most readily available. All boxers in any one bout must wear exactly the same gloves from the same manufacturer.

- 2.4 IFMA glove supervision: All gloves and bandages shall be fitted under the supervision of 1 or 2 knowledgeable officials appointed for the purpose who will see that all the rules have been carefully observed. They will delegate security duties to ensure that all rules are observed until the boxers enter the ring.
- 2.5 When to remove IFMA gloves: The gloves shall be taken off immediately after the bout is over and before the decision is announced.

### **RULE III: BANDAGES**

- 3.1 Specifications: A soft surgical bandaging not longer than 2.5 m and whose width does not exceed 5 cm or a “Velpeau” bandaging not longer than 2.5 m on each hand should be used - no other kind of bandage may be used. The use of any kind of tapes - rubber or adhesive plaster, as bandages, is strictly forbidden, but a single strap of achieve 7.5 cm long and 2.5 wide may be used at the upper wrists to secure the bandages.
- 3.2 Continental and World Tournament: Bandages for use at Continental and World tournaments will be provided by the organising committee.

### **RULE IV: DRESS CODE**

- 4.1 Authorised Dress: Boxer shall be dressed in accordance with the following;
- 4.1.1 Clothing: The boxer must wear muaythai shorts - red or blue according to the corner with the wording “MUAYTHAI” on the front of the shorts only (see Fig.3). Male boxers must put on a sleeveless shirt or singlet in red or blue according to the corner (see Fig.1). Female boxers must put on a cropped top (see Fig.2) or singlet (see Fig.1) in red or blue according to the corner.

**Fig.1**





**Fig.2**



**Fig.3**



- 4.1.2 Mongkon & Prajiad: Boxers must wear the sacred headband (Mong-Kon) for paying homage before entering the ring. A Krueng-Wrang (prajiad/arm band) with an amulet or charm may be put on around the upper arm, biceps or waist but must be neatly covered. The Mongkon & Prajiad are a boxer's personal belongings.
- 4.1.3 Gum shields: Gum shields shall be worn. The gum shield should be form-fitted. Form-fitted gum shields must be made available by the organizing host country for any participant who does not have their own, against payment by the boxer concerned or boxer's National Association. It is forbidden for a boxer to intentionally remove their gum shield during the contest and if the boxer does so, the boxer shall be warned or disqualified. If a boxer has his gum shield knocked out, the referee shall take the boxer to boxer's corner – have the gum shield cleaned and returned to its proper position. While this is being done, the second is not allowed to talk to his/her boxer.
- 4.1.4 Groin protectors: The use of the groin guard is mandatory. For male boxers, a metal groin protector shall be worn (see Fig.4), a jock strap (see Fig. 5) may be worn in addition. For female boxers, a female groin protector made from foam

shall be worn (see Fig.6). To observe hygiene, all boxers male and female must have their own groin protectors. Should the boxers' own groin protectors not pass official inspection before the bout, they may use one from the area where they receive the equipment.

**Fig.4**



**Fig.5**



**Fig.6**



- 4.1.5 Head-guard: The head-guard is an individual and form fitted item of the boxer's equipment. The use of the head-guard is mandatory. It shall conform to IFMA specifications. Boxers must come into the ring without their head guard - only after having been presented to the audience and Wai Kru has completed should they put it on. The head guard shall be taken off immediately after the bout is over and before the decision is announced.
- 4.1.6 Shin guards and elbow guards: The use of shin guard and elbow guard is mandatory. It shall conform with IFMA specifications as it is the responsibility of the organizing committee to provide shin guards and elbow guards to the boxer.
- 4.1.7 Body protector: The use of body protector is mandatory for B Division, Junior 17, Junior Under 17, Cadets, Kids and Tykes Divisions only. It shall conform with

IFMA specifications as it is the responsibility of the organizing committee to provide body protectors to the boxer. The body protector is a non-requirement for the A division.

4.1.8 Female Chest Protection: The use of breast protection is mandatory for all female boxers. To observe hygiene, all female boxers must have their own breast protectors. Should the boxers' own breast protector not pass official inspection before the bout, they may use one from the area where they receive the equipment (See Fig.7 & 8).

**Fig.7**

**Fig.7-2**



**Fig.8**



4.2 Prohibited objects

4.2.1 No other objects may be worn during the competition: the use of grease, vaseline, rubbing lineament or products likely to be harmful or objectionable to an opponent on the arms or any other part of the body is forbidden. A reasonable amount of Vaseline is permitted on the face only for the purpose of reducing the risk of cuts.

4.2.2 Boxers shall be clean-shaven: Beards and moustaches are not allowed.

4.3 Dress infraction: A referee shall exclude from the bout any boxer who is not wearing the head-guard, groin-guard, gum shield, shin guard, mong kon, elbow guard, breast protection if female and if obligatory body protector as well or who is not clean and properly dressed. In the event of the boxer's glove or dress becoming undone during the bout, the referee shall stop the contest to have it attended to.

## **RULE V: RING EQUIPMENT**

5.1 Requirements: The following ring equipment shall be available:

- Two shallow trays.
- Four seats – two seats for seconds from blue corner and two seats for seconds from red corner. We do not use seats for fighters.
- Two plastic mugs to be used for drinking and mouth wash only and where water is not piped directly to the ringside, two plastic spray bottles and two small plastic bottles for drinking. No other type of water bottles is permitted at ringside for use by the boxers or seconds.
- Table and chairs for officials.
- Gong (with striker) or bell.
- One (preferably two) stop watches.
- Pads of scoring paper conforming to the pattern drawn up by IFMA. No need for such papers if electronic judging system is used.
- One microphone connected to the loud speaker system and other back up.
- One stretcher.

## **RULE VI: MEDICAL EXAMINATION WEIGH-IN AND WEIGHT CLASSIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

6.1 Medical Examination

6.1.1 In the time fixed for the weigh-in: A competitor must be passed as fit to compete by the doctor appointed by the organizing committee before being

weighed in. To ensure a smooth running of the weigh-in, the organizing committee may decide to begin the medical examination at an earlier time.

6.1.2 At the medical examination and weigh-in, the boxer shall produce his/her international competition record book provided by IFMA.

## 6.2 Weight Classification

### Metric System

| <b>Senior A &amp; B / Female/<br/>Junior Male 15, 16 &amp; 17<br/>Weight Category</b> | <b>Over kg.</b> | <b>To kg.</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Pin <i>*Female, Junior 15, 16<br/>&amp; 17 Divisions Only</i>                         | 42              | 45            |
| Light Fly                                                                             | 45              | 48            |
| Fly                                                                                   | 48              | 51            |
| Bantam                                                                                | 51              | 54            |
| Feather                                                                               | 54              | 57            |
| Light                                                                                 | 57              | 60            |
| Light Welter                                                                          | 60              | 63.5          |
| Welter                                                                                | 63.5            | 67            |
| Light Middle                                                                          | 67              | 71            |
| Middle                                                                                | 71              | 75            |
| Light Heavy                                                                           | 75              | 81            |
| Cruiser <i>*Male Divisions<br/>only</i>                                               | 81              | 86            |
| Heavy <i>*Male Divisions<br/>only</i>                                                 | 86              | 91            |
| Super Heavy <i>*Male<br/>Divisions only</i>                                           | 91              | +             |

- Female Divisions will only go up to Light Heavy (75 and over)
- Junior 15, 16 & 17 Male Divisions are the same as Senior Male
- Junior 15, 16 & 17 Female Divisions will only go up to Light Heavy (75 and over)

**Tykes Boys & Girls Weight Category:**

| Over kg. | To kg. |
|----------|--------|
| 21       | 24     |
| 24       | 27     |
| 27       | 30     |
| 30       | 33     |
| 33       | 36     |
| 36       | 39     |
| 39       | 42     |
| 42       | +      |

**Kids Boys Weight Category:**

| Over kg. | To kg. |
|----------|--------|
| 27       | 30     |
| 30       | 33     |
| 33       | 36     |
| 36       | 39     |
| 39       | 42     |
| 42       | 45     |
| 45       | 48     |
| 48       | 51     |
| 51       | 54     |
| 54       | 57     |
| 57       | +      |

**Kids Girls Weight Category:**

| Over kg. | To kg. |
|----------|--------|
| 27       | 30     |
| 30       | 33     |
| 33       | 36     |
| 36       | 39     |

|    |    |
|----|----|
| 39 | 42 |
| 42 | 45 |
| 45 | 48 |
| 48 | 51 |
| 51 | 54 |
| 54 | +  |

**Cadets 12, 13 & 14 Boys Weight Category:**

| Over kg. | To kg. |
|----------|--------|
| 30       | 33     |
| 33       | 36     |
| 36       | 39     |
| 39       | 42     |
| 42       | 45     |
| 45       | 48     |
| 48       | 51     |
| 51       | 54     |
| 54       | 57     |
| 57       | 60     |
| 60       | 63.5   |
| 63.5     | 67     |
| 67       | 71     |
| 71       | 75     |

**Cadets 12, 13 & 14 Girls Weight Category:**

| Over kg. | To kg. |
|----------|--------|
| 30       | 33     |
| 33       | 36     |
| 36       | 39     |
| 39       | 42     |
| 42       | 45     |

|      |      |
|------|------|
| 45   | 48   |
| 48   | 51   |
| 51   | 54   |
| 54   | 57   |
| 57   | 60   |
| 60   | 63.5 |
| 63.5 | 67   |

\*\*In order to have a medal ceremony there must be at least 3 boxers in the division.

### 6.3 Weigh in

World Championships, Continental Championships, International Championships. The following shall be the regulation regarding the weigh-in:

- The contestants in all weight divisions shall be required to be ready to weigh in on the first morning of the competition or day before the first competition day as specified by IFMA or the Continental Bureau on the competition schedule at an hour appointed between 8 am and 10 am. On the following competition days only those who are drawn to box shall appear at the same time between 8 to 9 am. It shall be in the power of the Organizing Committee or other IFMA authorised delegate to relax this condition slightly if unavoidable delay occurs. Competition shall not commence earlier than three clear hours after the time appointed for the close of the weigh-in or such shorter time as the Organizing Committee or other IFMA authorized delegate after consulting the Medical Commission shall decide is suitable and not liable to be detrimental to a boxer taking part in the early bouts of the forthcoming boxing session.
- Delegates authorised by IFMA shall supervise the weigh-in. A delegate of the National Association of each contestant may be present at the weigh-in but may not in any way interfere.
- The weight registered at the official weigh-in on the first day decides the weight class of the boxer for the whole of the competition but he will still be required to weigh-in each day on which he is due to box to ensure that his actual weight on that day does not exceed the maximum of his weight class. A contestant may only box in the weight for which he has qualified at the official weigh-in.



- A competitor will be allowed to present himself at the official scales only once at the weigh-in each day. The weight recorded on that presentation is final. On the first day, it is permissible, however, for the National Team-manager of a competitor who has failed to make the weight at the original weigh-in to enter him there upon for the higher or lower weight for which he is qualified. But only if this country has a free place at that weight and the weigh-in is not yet closed. It is also permissible for a National Federation to substitute one boxer for another at any time up to the close of the first weigh-in and the medical examination, provided that in any competition where reserves are permitted, the substituted boxer has been entered as reserve for the weight or any other weight.
- The weight is the one shown by the attested scale. The male boxer being in light underwear only and female boxer in light underwear and bra top. The weight shall be in the metric scale. Electronic scale is recommended.

#### **RULE VII: THE DRAW AND BYES**

7.1 The Draw: the draw shall take place after the medical examination and weigh-in. The draw must take place in the presence of official representatives of the teams concerned and must ensure where practicable that no competitor shall box twice in the competition before all other competitors have boxed at least once. In special situations, the Executive committee of IFMA has the right to depart from this rule. The draw shall proceed first for the boxers to box in the first series and then for the byes. However, no boxer may be awarded a World or Continental Championship Medal without having boxed.

7.2 Byes: In competitions where there are more than four competitors, a sufficient number of byes shall be drawn in the first series to reduce the number of competitors in the second series to 4, 8, 16 or 32. Competitors drawing a bye in the first series shall be the first to box in the second series. If there are an odd number of byes, the boxer who draws the last bye will compete in the second series against the winner of the first bout in the first series. Where the number of byes is even, the boxer drawing byes shall box the first bouts in the second series in the order in which they are drawn. No medal shall be awarded to a boxer who has not boxed at least once.

7.3 Order of the program: in the World Championships and Continental Championships, the order of the program should be arranged so far as practicable in the order of weights so that in each series the lightest weights will be run off first and thence in order of weights up to the heaviest in arranging the daily programs, the wishes of the hosts may be accommodated as long as this does not call into question the results of the draw.

7.4 Bouts Per Competition Day: A boxer is only permitted to compete in a maximum of one (1) bout per day. In special circumstances, IFMA or the Continental Bureau has the authority to allow a boxer to compete in more than one (1) bout per day.

#### **RULE VIII: WAI KRU AND ROUNDS**

8.1 Wai Kru: Before the first round, every boxer must perform the traditional muaythai ritual of homage “Wai Kru” according to the customs of muaythai. It is not permitted to perform any other form of martial art ritual that is not a conventional part of the art of muaythai. The boxers must at a minimum complete the basic fundamental elements of Wai Kru. The traditional muaythai musical instruments: java pipe, small cymbals and two drums will accompany the ritual. If the live band is not available, it is permissible to use muaythai music played from DVD or any other electronic source.

8.2 Rounds: World and Continental Championships, Cups or Tournaments: In World and Continental Championships or Cups or Tournaments, there shall be:

➤ **A CLASS:**

- For seniors, it will be 3 rounds of 3 minutes each for both male and female competitors. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds.

➤ **B CLASS:**

- For seniors, it will be 3 rounds of 3 minutes each for both male and female competitors. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds.

➤ **JUNIORS:**

- For Junior 17 and Junior Under 17, it will be 3 rounds of 2 minute each. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds.

- For Cadets it will be 3 rounds of 1 minute and 30 seconds each. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds
- For Kids it will be 3 rounds of 1 minute each. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds.
- For Tykes, it will be 2 rounds of 1 minute each. A full 1 minute of rest shall be given between the rounds.

Stopping of the contest for warning, cautions, counting, putting clothing or equipment into order or for any other reason is not included in the period of round. No additional round may be given.

## **RULE IX: THE SECOND**

9.1 Rules: Each competitor is entitled to 2 seconds who shall be governed by the following rules:

- 9.1.1 Only the two seconds shall mount the apron of the ring and only one may enter the ring.
- 9.1.2 During the boxing, none of the seconds shall remain on the platform of the ring. Before a round begins, they shall remove from the platform of the ring, seats, towels, buckets, etc.
- 9.1.3 The second, while officiating in the corner, shall be possession of a towel for the boxer. A second may give up for a competitor, and may, when he considers his boxer to be in difficulties, throw the towel into the ring - except when the referee is in the course of counting.
- 9.1.4 The chairman of the R/J commission at each tournament shall arrange a joint meeting of the R/Js and the seconds who are going to work in each tournament and emphasize that IFMA rules will be followed. A second whom is in violation

of the rules will be disqualified and/or may cause the boxer to be warned or disqualified.

9.1.5 No bad advice, bad assistance or bad encouragement shall be given to a boxer by a second during the progress of the rounds. If a second violates the rules, he/she may be warned or disqualified. His/her boxer may also be cautioned, warned or disqualified by the referee for offences committed by his/her seconds. Any second or official encouraging or inciting spectators by words or signs to advise or encourage a boxer during the progress of a round shall not be permitted to continue to act as a second at the tournament where the offense is committed. If a second is removed by the referee from the corner, he/she shall not officiate any more in that session of the competition. Once such an official is removed from the corner by the referee, he/she shall leave the boxing hall for the remainder of the session. If, this happens during a tournament he/she is removed as a second for that tournament.

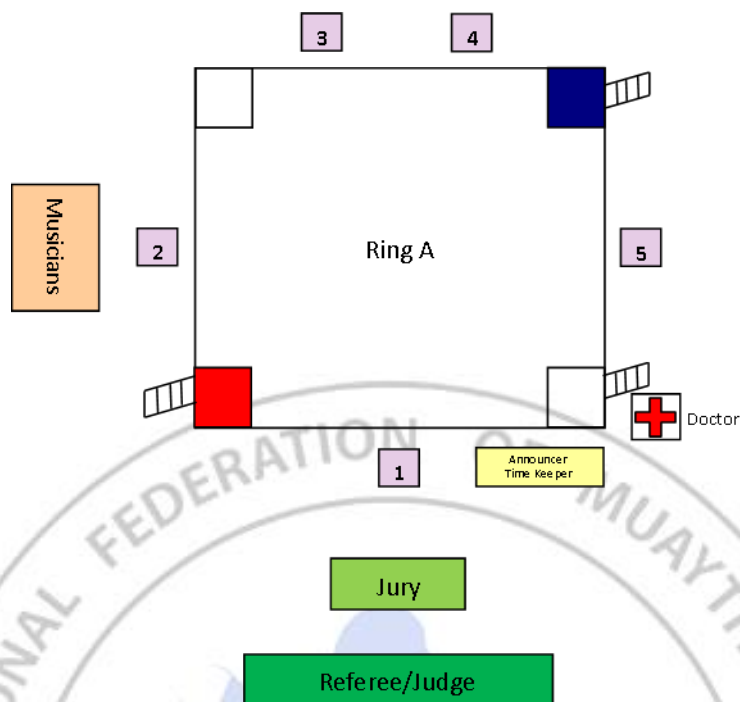
9.2 Seconds Attire: No shorts, jeans, leather jacket, hat (cap), open-toed shoes, vests or other inappropriate clothing is allowed. The tracksuit of the National Association is recommended.

## **RULE X: REFEREES AND JUDGES**

10.1 Referee: In the World Championships, World Cup, Continental Championships, Continental Cup and other international tournaments each contest shall be controlled by an IFMA or Continental approved Referee who shall officiate in the ring but shall not mark a scoring paper.

10.2 Judges: each contest shall be marked by five IFMA Judges who shall be seated separately from the public and immediately adjacent to the ring. Two of the judges shall be seated on the same side of the ring at a sufficient distance from one another, and each of the other three judges shall be seated at the centre of one of the other three sides of the ring. When the number of officials available is insufficient, 3 judges instead of 5 may be used, but this shall not apply to the World Cup competition, World Championships or Continental Championships (see Fig.9).

Fig.9



10.3 Neutrality: to ensure neutrality, the names of the referee and the 5 judges for each contest shall be selected by the Panel of Jury in accordance with the following directives:

10.3.1 That each such official shall be an approved referee/judge.

10.3.2 That each such official shall be of different country and association from each other and from each of the boxers taking part in the contest.

10.3.3 That each such official shall not be a national of or resident in any country which is a Dominion, Colony or Dependency of the country of any of the boxers taking part in the contest.

10.3.4 That in the event of a change of country of any official, such official shall not officiate in any contest in which a boxer of his original country is taking part or a referee or judge of that country is acting.

10.3.5 In no case shall more than 2 officials in one and the same contest come from the same continent.

10.3.6 The referees and judges for the finals shall be approved by the Panel of Jury as a whole as being IFMA authorised persons.

- 10.3.7 In the event of it being impossible for the Panel of Jury to apply the above directives in a particular case they shall resolve the difficulty by ensuring as far as it may be possible the neutrality and impartiality of the officials appointed, and shall report the matter as soon as convenient to the Executive committee of IFMA or Continental Bureau.
- 10.3.8 In the event of it being found impossible by the Panel of in any case to comply with the above directives, the name or names of an official or officials may be drawn by lot by the Chairman of the Panel of, or someone acting on his/her behalf, for the contest in question.
- 10.4 Conflict of interest: person acting as referees or judges in any contest or tournament shall not at any time during the same contest or series of contests act as team manager, trainer or second to any boxer or team of boxers taking part in such contest or series of contest or so act in a contest in which a competitor of their nationality is taking part.
- 10.5 Disciplinary Action: the Executive Committee of IFMA or Continental Bureau, or its duly authorised representative may, upon the recommendation of the Panel of Jury, may dispense (temporarily or permanently), with the services of any referee who, in its opinion, does not efficiently enforce the rules of the IFMA, or any judge whose marking or scoring of contests it considers not to be satisfactory.
- 10.6 Replacing the referee during the bout: if a referee is incapacitated in the course of a bout, the timekeeper shall strike the gong to stop the bout and the next available neutral referee on the IFMA international list shall be instructed to control the bout and order boxing to be resumed.
- 10.7 Obligation of attendance: the Association of which an international referees/judges selected by the Executive Committee is a member shall be under obligation to send him/her to the World Championships and Cups, or Continental Championships and Cups to carry out the duties for which he/she has been selected unless such person for adequate reasons personally refuses such invitation. In Nations where the responsibility of financing their teams or similar tournaments is handled by another

organisation, that organisation will be responsible to transport and maintain officials selected to the tournaments under their responsibility.

## **RULE XI: INTERNATIONAL LIST OF REFEREES AND JUDGES**

- 11.1 International Referee and Judges: the title of “international referee and judge shall be the highest title for a referee and judge of amateur Muaythai. A person admitted to the international list shall be given a diploma of “International Muaythai Referee and/or Judge”. He/she shall also be given a badge of IFMA corresponding to his/her title and an identity card.
- 11.2 Rules and regulations for qualifying as international Muaythai referee/judges stipulated by the IFMA Executive Committee.
- 11.3 Honorary Referee and Judge: the Executive Committee may award for life, the title of “Honorary Referee and Judge of Amateur Muaythai” to international officials who have retired, and have displayed the requisite qualifications in a highly satisfactory manner.

## **RULE XII: THE JURY AND TECHNICAL OFFICIALS**

- 12.1 Appointment: During the World Championships or World Cup, the Executive Committee of IFMA shall appoint a Jury. During the Continental Championship, the Jury shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of Continental Association, or in case there is not a Continental Association, by the Continental Bureau concerned. At each boxing session the Jury shall consist of not less than 3 persons, including the chairman. Three of them shall either be members of the Commission of Refereeing and Judging or used to be in the international list of R/J. No other member of the Jury shall sit at the Jury table during that session.
- 12.2 Duties: Wherever the electronic judging system is not used, each acting member of the Jury shall record his score of each bout witnessed by him and these scores shall be available for comparison with those of the Judges functioning in those bouts.

- 12.2.1 The Jury shall check the scoring papers of the 5 (3) judges to ensure that:
- (a) the points are correctly totalled
  - (b) the names of the boxers are correctly entered
  - (c) a winner is nominated
  - (d) the scoring papers are signed before the decision is announced
- 12.2.2 The chairman of the Jury shall then inform the announcer the name of the boxer awarded the majority of points from the 5 (3) score sheets.
- 12.2.3 The Jury members at each session will meet on the following morning to consider the officiating done by the Referee & Judges on the previous day and will make recommendations to the Executive Committee with regard to any referee or judge whom they consider not to have performed at the required standard on the preceding day. Any referee or judge that performed official duties on the preceding day is required to be available for interview by the Jury.
- 12.2.4 The Jury members shall inform the Executive Committee of IFMA in writing, about any referee or judge whom in their opinion does not effectively enforce the rules and regulations of IFMA and judge whose scoring of contest they consider unsatisfactory.
- 12.2.5 The Jury members shall submit to the Executive Committee of IFMA, the Continental Association, or in case there is no Continental Association, the Regional Bureau concerned, any amendment to the panel of referees and judge that they consider necessary.
- 12.2.6 The Jury members shall bring to the notice of the Executive Committee any Referee or Judge of the International Panel who, having been nominated to act as such by his association and who, being present at, World Championships or Continental Championships, fails to be available for such duties without previously notifying the IFMA General Secretary of his absence and giving adequate reasons.
- 12.2.7 If an official appointed for a contest is absent, the Jury may appoint from the roll of approved officials a suitable member to replace the absent member, reporting this change to the Executive Committee or Continental Bureau concerned as soon as it may be possible.



- 12.2.8 If circumstances should arise which would prevent the holding of a contest under proper conditions and if a Referee should take no efficient action concerning the situation, the Jury may order competition to cease until it may be satisfactorily resumed.
- 12.2.9 The Jury, may also take any immediate action they consider necessary to deal with circumstances which would prevent proper conduct of competition at any session.
- 12.2.10 The acting Jury will consult the commission of refereeing and judging with regards to any decisions or recommendations they may be required to take.
- 12.2.11 Should a boxer commit a serious and deliberate offense that is contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship, the Jury has the right to recommend and the Executive Committee to declare him/her ineligible for competition for a specific period of time. The Executive Committee or Continental Bureau may deprive him/her of a medal or prize already won in that competition.
- 12.2.12 Overruling the Referee and/or Judges: Decisions of a referee and/or judge may be overruled by the Jury in the following ways;
- (a) When the referee has given a decision which is clear it against the Articles and Rules of IFMA (when considering such an incident, the Jury may use a videotape recorder or any other electronic equipment/recording device etc.)
  - (b) When it is obvious that the judges have made a mistake on their score sheets which results in a wrong verdict.

12.3 Protests: A protest can be lodged by the manager of a team within thirty (30) minutes after the decision has been announced. As for the Final, the protest must be lodged within five (5) minutes. After the decision is announced, the protest shall be made in writing and handed to the Chairman of the Jury, along with a protest fee of \$500 USD. If the Jury agrees to review, necessary action may be taken on the matter. If the protest is upheld, the money will be refunded with a deduction of \$100 USD for administration. If the decision is upheld, the protest fee will not be refunded and will remain with IFMA or the Continental Bureau.

12.4 Conflict of Interest: Members of the Jury officiating at the World Championships, World Cup Competitions and Continental Championships shall not officiate as referees and judges at those Games or Championships.

12.5 Neutrality: The members of the Jury at international tournaments shall come from different countries.

### **RULE XIII: THE REFEREE**

13.1 Primary concern: The care of the boxer is the primary concern of the referee.

13.2 Duties: The referee shall officiate in the ring. He/she shall be dressed in dark blue or black trousers, light blue shirt and light shoes or boots without raised heels, bow tie (black or dark blue) shall be worn, but in tropical climates it may be dispensed with if the Chairman of Jury or Chairman of R/J commission agrees. The Referee may use surgical gloves when officiating. The referee shall:

13.2.1 See that the rules and fair play are strictly observed

13.2.2 Maintain control of the contest at all its stages.

13.2.3 Prevent a weak boxer from receiving undue and unnecessary punishment.

13.2.4 Check the gloves and dress.

13.2.5 Referee shall use 3 words of command:

- "Yoot" ("Stop") when ordering the boxers to stop fighting
- "Chok" ("Box") when ordering them to continue.
- "Yak" ("Break") when breaking a clinch, upon which command each boxer shall step back before continuing fighting.

13.2.6 Referee shall indicate to a boxer by suitable explanatory signs or gestures any infringement of the rules.

13.2.7 At the end of a contest collect and check the papers of the 5(3) Judges where applicable; after checking Referee shall hand these papers to the President of the Jury, or on occasions when there is no Jury, to the announcer.

13.2.8 The Referee shall not indicate the winner, by raising a boxer's hand or otherwise, until the announcement has been made. When the winner of the bout is announced, the referee shall raise the hand of the winning boxer.

13.2.9 When the Referee has disqualified a boxer or stopped the bout, he/she shall first inform the President of the Jury which boxer has been disqualified or the reason for which he has stopped the bout, to enable the President to instruct the announcer to make the decision correctly known to the public.

### 13.3 Powers of the Referee. The Referee is empowered:

13.3.1 To terminate a contest at any stage if he/she considers it too one-sided.

13.3.2 To terminate a contest at any stage if one of the boxers has received an injury on account of which the referee decides he/she should not continue.

13.3.3 To terminate a contest at any stage if he/she considers the contestants are not in earnest. In such case he may disqualify one or both contestants.

13.3.4 To caution a boxer or to stop the fight during a contest and administer a warning to a boxer against fouls or for any other reason in the interests of fair play, or to ensure compliance with the rules.

13.3.5 To disqualify a boxer who fails to comply immediately with his orders, or behaves towards him in an offensive or aggressive manner at any time.

13.3.6 To disqualify a second who has infringed the rules and the boxer himself/herself if the second does not comply with the referee's orders.

13.3.7 With or without previous warning, to disqualify a contestant for committing a serious foul.

13.3.8 In the event of a knock-down, to suspend a count, if a boxer deliberately fails to retire to a neutral corner or delays to do so.

13.3.9 To interpret the rules insofar as they are applicable or relevant to the actual contest to decide and take action on any circumstance of the contest which is not covered by a rule.

13.4 Warning: if a boxer infringes the rules but does not merit disqualification for such infringement, the referee shall stop the contest and shall issue a warning to the offender. As a preliminary to a warning, the referee shall order the boxers to stop.

The warning shall be clearly given and in such a way that the boxer understands the reason and the purpose of the warning. The referee shall signal with his hand to each of the judge that a special warning has been given and shall clearly indicate to them the boxer whom he has warned. After giving the warning, the referee shall order the boxers to “CHOK”. If a boxer is given 3 warnings in a contest, he/she shall be disqualified.

13.5 Cautions: a referee may caution a boxer. A caution is in the nature of advice or admonition given by the referee to a boxer to check or prevent undesirable practices of the less serious infringements of the rules. To do so Referee will not necessarily stop the contest but may avail of a suitable safe opportunity during a round to admonish a boxer for an infringement of the rules.

13.6 Medical Considerations: a referee, before officiating in any international tournament conducted under these rules shall undergo a medical examination as to his/her physical fitness for carrying out these duties in the ring. His/her vision shall be at least 6 dioptres in each eye. The wearing of spectacles by a referee during the progress of a bout is not permitted, but contact lenses are allowed. It will be compulsory for the referee to take part in a meeting before each Championship, arranged by the Medical Jury.

#### **RULE XIV: JUDGES**

14.1 Dress: the judges shall be dressed as same as referee. Appropriate jackets may be worn when authorised. Eye glasses can be used if required.

14.2 Duties

14.2.1 Each Judges shall independently judge the merits of the 2 contestants and shall decide the winner according to the rules.

14.2.2 A Judge shall not speak to a contestant (or competitor. see point 3) or to another Judge, nor to anyone else except the referee during the contest, but may, if it is necessary, at the end of a round, bring to the notice of the referee

any incident which (the referee) may appear not to have noticed, such as the misconduct of a second, loose ropes etc.

14.2.3 The number of points awarded to each competitor shall be entered by a Judge on his/her scoring paper immediately after the end of each round.

14.2.4 At the end of the bout a Judge shall total the points, nominate a winner and sign his/her scoring paper and his /her verdict shall be made known to the public.

14.2.5 Judge shall not leave his/her seat until the verdict has been announced to the public.

## **RULE XV: TIMEKEEPER AND ANNOUNCER**

### 15.1 Duties of Timekeeper:

15.1.1 The main duty of timekeeper is to regulate the number and duration of the rounds, the intervals between rounds. The intervals between rounds shall be of a full (1) minute duration.

15.1.2 Timekeeper shall commence and end each round by striking the gong or bell.

15.1.3 Indicate or give a signal of 10 seconds to clear the ring before the commencement of each round.

15.1.4 Timekeeper shall take off time for temporary stoppages or when instructed to do so by the referee.

15.1.5 Timekeeper shall regulate all periods of time and counts by a watch or clock

15.1.6 At a "Knock-down" Timekeeper shall signal to the referee with his/her hand the passing of the seconds while the referee is counting.

15.1.7 If, at the end of a round, a boxer is "down" and the referee is in the course of counting, the gong indicating the end of the round will not be sounded. The gong will be sounded only when the referee gives the command "CHOK" indicating the continuation of the match.

### 15.2 Duties of Announcer:

15.2.1 Announce the name, club or country, weight and corner of both boxers to the public whenever they appear in the ring.

15.2.2 10 seconds before commencing of each round he/she shall clear the ring by ordering “clear the ring” or “seconds out”.

15.2.3 Announce for the starting and ending of each round.

15.2.4 Announce the result of the competition and name of the winner.

15.3 Position: they shall be seated directly at the ringside.

## **RULE XVI: DECISIONS**

Decisions shall be as follows:

16.1 Win on points: At the end of a contest, the boxer who has been awarded the decision by a majority of the judges shall be declared the winner. If both boxers are injured, or are knocked-out simultaneously, and cannot continue the contest, the Judges shall record the points gained by each boxer up to its termination, the competitor with the most points shall be declared the winner.

16.2 Win by Retirement: if a boxer retires immediately after the rest between rounds, his/her opponent shall be declared the winner.

16.3 Win by Referee Stopping Contest (RSC):

(a) Outclassed: RSC is the term used to stop a bout when a boxer is outclassed or is unfit to continue. If a boxer, in the opinion of the referee is being outclassed or is receiving excessive punishment, the bout shall be stopped and his/her opponent declared the winner.

(b) Injury:

i. If a boxer, in the opinion of the referee, is unfit to continue due to injury sustained from correct hits or other action or is incapacitated for any other physical reasons, the bout shall be stopped and his/her opponent declared the winner. The right to make this decision rests with the referee, who may consult the Doctor. Having consulted the doctor, the referee must follow his/her advice. It is recommended that the referee checks the other boxer for injury also before he/she makes this decision.

ii. When a referee calls a doctor into the ring to examine a boxer, only these 2 officials should be present. No seconds should be allowed into the ring or on the apron.

iii. If the injury should happen in the final round, the winner will be decided on majority points scored from all preceding rounds only.

(c) RSCH: When a boxer has received hard head blows or hits to the head rendering the boxer defenceless and incapable of continuing the contest. The term RSCH is not to be used when a boxer is simply outclassed and is receiving too many scoring hits without scoring himself/herself.

(d) RSCB: When a boxer has received a hard hit to any part of the body except the head rendering the boxer defenceless and incapable of continuing the contest.

(e) Compulsory Count Limits (CCL): When a boxer has received 3 counts in the same round or 4 counts for the whole bout. For Junior competitors the CCL will be 2 counts in the same round or 3 counts for the whole bout. For Cadets, Kids, Tykes, the CCL will be 2 counts no matter in the same round or for a whole bout.

16.4 Win by Disqualification: If a boxer is disqualified, his/her opponent shall be declared the winner. If both boxers are disqualified, the decision shall be announced accordingly. A disqualified boxer shall not be entitled to any prize, medal, trophy, honourable award or grading, relating to any stage of the competition in which the boxer has been disqualified, provided that in exceptional cases, it shall be open to the Executive Committee (or in their absence, the jury and where there shall be no Jury, to the person or persons responsible for the conduct of the event in which the disqualification occurs), to rule otherwise. But, all such decisions, where not made by the Executive Committee, shall be subject to review and confirmation by it on receiving such report of the incident as it may require.

16.5 Win by Knock-out: if a boxer is "down" and fails to resume boxing within 10 seconds, the boxer's opponent shall be declared the winner by a knock-out.

16.6 No Contest: a bout may be terminated by the referee inside the scheduled distance owing to a material happening outside the responsibility of the boxers, or the control of

the referee, such as the ring becoming damaged, the failure of the lighting supply, exceptional weather conditions, etc. In such circumstances, the bout shall be declared “no contest” and in the case of Championships, the Jury shall decide the necessary further action.

16.7 Win by Walk-over: where a boxer presents himself/herself in the ring fully attired for boxing and his/her opponent fails to appear after his/her name has been called out by the public address system, the bell sounded and a maximum period of 2 minutes has elapsed, the referee shall declare the first boxer to be the winner by a “Walk-over”. Referee shall first inform the judges to mark their papers accordingly, collect them and then summon the boxer to the centre of the ring and after the decision is announced, raise the boxer’s hand as winner.

16.8 A draw (Dual Matches only): 2 clubs or 2 nations in a friendly Dual Match may agree to a draw decision, when the majority of the Judges have scored the competition equally.

16.9 Incidents in the ring outside the control of the referee:

16.9.1 If something happens that does not allow the bout to continue within 1 minute after the bell has rung for the beginning of the first or second round (e.g. power failure), the bout shall be stopped and the boxers will box again in the last bout of the same session.

16.9.2 If the incident occurs in the third round of a bout, the contest shall be terminated and the judges are asked to give a decision as to the winner of the bout.

16.9.3 If the incident occurs in the last 3 bouts of a session on the program, the boxers shall be asked to box the first bout on the program of the next session. The boxer shall be weighed and medically examined again for that bout.

## **RULE XVII: AWARDING OF POINTS**

17.1 Awarding of points: the points will be awarded whenever the boxer hits the opponent by punching, kicking, kneeing or elbowing with force, lands on target, no infringement without being blocked or guarded against. The target for muaythai means any part of the body except for the groin.



- 17.2 Ten Points System: 10 points shall be awarded for each round. No fraction of points may be given. At the end of each round, the better (more skillful in Muaythai) boxer shall receive 10 points and his/her opponent proportionately less. When boxers are equal in merit, each shall receive 10 points.
- 17.3 Steps for awarding points:
- 17.3.1 A boxer wins the round when hitting more with Muaythai skills than the opponent.
  - 17.3.2 A boxer wins the round when using a more forceful Muaythai skill than the opponents.
  - 17.3.3 A boxer wins the round when showing less exhaustion or less bruising.
  - 17.3.4 A boxer wins the round when showing more aggression.
  - 17.3.5 A boxer wins the round when having a better Muaythai style.
  - 17.3.6 A boxer wins the round when having less infringement of the rules.
- 17.4 Non awarding of points
- 17.4.1 Hitting with lack of Muaythai skills
  - 17.4.2 Hits which are blocked by the opponent's arms or legs.
  - 17.4.3 Hitting with lack of force even when those hits have landed on target.
  - 17.4.4 Throwing the opponent without hitting
  - 17.4.5 Hitting while infringing any of the rules.
- 17.5 Scoring system:
- 17.5.1 10 points will be awarded to the boxer who wins the round, and the opponent proportionately less (9-8-7 respectively).
  - 17.5.2 10 points will be awarded to each boxer if they are even in the round.
  - 17.5.3 The boxer who wins the round by a small margin will receive 10 points, the opponent will receive 9 points.
  - 17.5.4 The boxer who wins the round by a big margin will receive 10 points; the opponent will receive 8 point or 7 points respectively.
  - 17.5.5 The boxer will lose 1 point if he received 1 warning. That warning point may be awarded to the opponent if the judges are in agreement.

## 17.6 Concerning Fouls:

17.6.1 Referee warning: if the referee warns one of the boxers, the Judges may award a point to the other competitor. When a Judge decides to award a point to a boxer for a foul committed by his/her opponent for which the latter has been warned by the referee, he shall place a "W" in the appropriate column against the point of the warned competitor to show that he/she has done so. If he decided not to award a point, he/she shall in the appropriate column, place the letter "x" against the points allotted for that round to the warned boxer indicating the reason he/she has done so.

17.6.2 Other: during each round a judge shall assess the seriousness of and shall impose an appropriate scoring penalty for any foul witnessed by him/her whether or not the referee has observed such foul. If a Judge observes a foul apparently unnoticed by the referee, and imposes an appropriate penalty on the offending boxer, he/she shall indicate that he/she has done so by placing in the appropriate column the letter "J" against the points of the offending boxer, and indicating the reasons why he/she has done so.

17.7 End of Contest: if, at the end of a contest and having marked each round in accordance with directives, a judge finds that the boxers are equal in points, the judge shall award the decision to the boxer:

17.7.1 Who has showed the most aggression or who has shown the better style of Muaythai or if equal in that respect.

17.7.2 Who has shown the better defence (blocking, parrying, side-stepping, etc.) by which the opponent's attacks have been made to miss.

17.7.3 A winner must be nominated in all Tournaments. In Dual Matches, a draw decision may be awarded.

## **RULE XVIII: FOULS**

18.1 Cautions, Warning, and Disqualifications: The boxer who does not obey the instructions of the referee, acts against the competition rules, boxes in any

unsportsmanlike manner, or commits fouls, can at the discretion of the referee, be cautioned, warned or disqualified without warning.

A referee may, without stopping a contest, caution a boxer at some safe opportunity. If referee intends to warn a boxer, he/she shall stop the contest, and will demonstrate the infringement. Referee will then point to the boxer and to each of the 5(3) judges. A referee having once administered a warning for a particular foul cannot issue a caution for the same type of offense. Three (3) cautions of the same type of foul will mandatorily require a warning to be issued.

Only 3 warnings may be given to the same boxer in one contest. The third warning brings automatic disqualification.

## 18.2 Types of fouls:

18.2.1 Biting, head-butting, spitting at an opponent, pressing on opponent's eyes with the thumb.

18.2.2 Intentionally spitting out gum shield.

18.2.3 Throwing, bending the back of opponent with Judo or Wrestling techniques.

18.2.4 Falling over while the opponent is lying on the floor.

18.2.5 Attacking the opponent who is down or who is in the act of rising.

18.2.6 Attacking while holding the ropes or making any unfair use of the ropes.

18.2.7 Locking of the opponent's arm or head.

18.2.8 Completely passive defence by means of double cover and intentionally falling to avoid a hit.

18.2.9 Useless, aggressive, or offensive utterance during the round.

18.2.10 Not stepping back when ordered to "Yak". Attempting to hit the opponent immediately after the referee has ordered "Yak" and before taking a step back.

18.2.11 Assaulting or behaving in aggressive manner towards the referee at any time.

18.2.12 Kneeing at groin of the opponent, if the boxer is unintentionally hit by Muaythai skill and unable to continue the fight, the referee will pause the fight for 5 minutes to allow the hit boxer to take a rest. If boxer refuses to resume the fight after 5 minutes rest he (she) will be declared as "loser".

18.2.13 Holding the opponent's leg and pushing forward more than 2 1 step without attacking with any one of Muaythai skills.

18.2.14 Intentionally falling down to avoid being hit while his/her leg is held by the opponent.

18.2.15 When both boxers fall out of the ring, it is a foul if one boxer tries to obstruct the other getting back into the ring.

18.2.16 Using any kind of forbidden substance acknowledged by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) or IFMA Anti- Doping Code.

18.3 Seconds: each boxer can be held responsible for his/her seconds' actions.

18.4 Referee consults Judges: if a referee has any reason to believe that a foul has been committed which referee has not seen, he/she may consult the judges.

## **RULE XIX: KNOCK-DOWN**

19.1 Definition: A boxer is considered "down":

19.1.1 If boxer touches the floor with any part of his body other than his/her feet as the result of a hit or series of hits, or

19.1.2 If boxer hangs helplessly on the ropes as the result of a hit or series of hits, or

19.1.3 If boxer is outside or partly outside the ropes as the result of a hit or series of hits, or

19.1.4 If following a hard hit boxer has not fallen and is not lying on the ropes, but is in a semi-conscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, continue the round.

19.2 The Count: in the case of a knock-down, the referee shall immediately begin to count the seconds. When a boxer is "down" the referee shall count aloud from one(1) to ten(10) in Thai language:

|       |   |       |
|-------|---|-------|
| NUENG | = | ONE   |
| SONG  | = | TWO   |
| SAAM  | = | THREE |
| SII   | = | FOUR  |

|      |   |       |
|------|---|-------|
| HAH  | = | FIVE  |
| HOK  | = | SIX   |
| JED  | = | SEVEN |
| BAED | = | EIGHT |
| KOUW | = | NINE  |
| SIB  | = | TEN   |

Referee shall have intervals of a second between the numbers, and shall indicate each second with his/her hand in such a manner that the boxer who has been knocked down may be aware of the count. Before the number “NUENG” is counted, an interval of one second must have elapsed from the time when the boxer has fallen to the floor, and the time of announcing “NUENG”.

If the opponent does not go to the neutral corner on the command of the referee, the referee shall stop counting until the opponent has done so. The counting shall be then continued where it has been interrupted. The judge shall enter on his/her scoring sheet “KD” when the referee had given a count to any of the 2 boxers. When the boxer is considered “down” due to a hit to the head, the judge shall then enter “KD+H” on his/her scoring sheet.

- 19.3 Opponent’s responsibilities: if a boxer is down, his/her opponent must at once go to the neutral corner as designated by the referee. He/she may only continue against the opponent who is knocked down after the latter has gotten up and on the command “CHOCK”.
- 19.4 Mandatory 8 count: when a boxer is “down” as the result of being hit, the bout shall not be continued until the referee has reached the count of PAED (8), even if the boxer is ready to continue before then.
- 19.5 The Knock-out: after the referee has counted to “SIP” (10) the bout ends and shall be decided as a “knock-out”.

- 19.6 A Boxer down at end of round: in the event of a boxer being “down” at the end of a round, the referee shall continue to count. Should the referee count up to 10, such boxer shall be deemed to have lost the bout by a “knock-out” if the boxer is fit to resume boxing before the count of 10 is reached, the referee shall immediately use the command “CHOCK”
- 19.7 The Second time a boxer goes down without a fresh hit: if a boxer is “down” as the result of a hit and the bout is continued after the count of PAED (8) has been reached, but the boxer falls again without having received a fresh hit, the referee shall continue the counting from the count of PAED (8) at which the boxer has stopped.
- 19.8 Both boxers down: if both boxers go down at the same time, counting will be continued as long as one of them is still down. If both boxers remain down until “SIP”(10) the bout will be stopped and the decision given in accordance with the points awarded up to the time of the knock-down.
- 19.9 Boxer fails to resume: a boxer who fails to resume boxing immediately after the termination of the rest interval, or who when knocked down by a hit, fails to resume within 10 seconds, shall lose the contest.

## **RULE XX: MEDICAL DOCTOR AND PROCEDURE, AFTER KNOCK-OUT AND R.S.C.H**

A doctor for Muaythai should be a well-trained doctor in this sport. The Doctor shall sit close to the ring at a provided place and stay on till the end of the last bout of the session.

The duties of the doctor are as follows:

- 20.1 Check the health of boxer and certify that the boxer is fit to fight before the weigh-in
- 20.2 Give instruction to the referee upon his/her request.
- 20.3 Unconscious Boxer: if a boxer is rendered unconscious, then only the referee and the doctor summoned should remain in the ring, unless the doctor needs extra help.

20.4 Medical Attention: a boxer who has been knocked out as a result of a head hit in a contest or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to the boxer having received hard hits to the head rendering the boxer defenceless or incapable of continuing, shall be examined by a doctor immediately afterwards and accompanied to his/her home or suitable accommodation by one of the officials on duty at the event. The ringside doctor shall call a neurologist as soon as possible and within 24 hours, who will decide on the further treatment of the boxer and will keep him/her under observation for a period of 4 weeks.

20.5 Probation Periods:

20.5.1 One knock-out or R.S.C.H: a boxer who has been knocked out as a result of a head hit during a contest or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to the boxer having received hard hits to the head rendering the boxer defenceless or incapable of continuing, shall not be permitted to take part in competition of Muaythai or sparring for a period of at least 4 weeks after the boxer has been knocked out.

20.5.2 2 knock-outs or R.S.C.H: a boxer who has been knocked out as result of head hits or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to a boxer having received hard hits to the head rendering the boxer defenceless or incapable of continuing twice within a period of 3 months, shall not be allowed to take part in Muaythai competition or sparring for a period of 3 months from the second knock out or R.S.C.H.

20.5.3 3 knock-out or R.S.C.H: a boxer who has been knocked out as a result of head hits or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to the boxer having received hard hits to the head rendering the boxer defenceless or incapable of continuing 3 times in a period of 12 months, shall not be allowed to take part in Muaythai competition or sparring for a period of 1 year from the third knock-out or R.S.C.H.

20.5.4 Each knock-out suffered as a result of head hits and each R.S.C.H must be recorded in the boxer's book.

- 20.6 Medical Certification Following Probation Period: before resuming boxing after any of the periods of rest prescribed in the 3 preceding paragraphs, a boxer must be certified by a neurologist as fit to take part in Muaythai competition following, if possible, a special examination, EEG and , if necessary, CCT. The results of that examination as well as the permission to resume fighting shall be entered in the boxer's book.
- 20.7 R.S.C.H: the referee will indicate to the Jury and Judges to annotate the scorecard "R.S.C.H" when the referee has stopped the contest as a result of a boxer being unable to continue as a result of hits to the head. RSCH is a term to be used only when a boxer is being saved from a knockout after having received hard hits rendering the boxer defenceless and incapable of continuing (the term RSCH is not to be used when a boxer is simply outclassed and is receiving too many scoring hits without scoring himself/herself).
- 20.8 Protective Measures: any boxer having lost a hard bout with many hits to the head or having been knocked down several times in some consecutive contests, may not be permitted to take part in Muaythai competition or training for a period of at least 4 weeks after the last contest on the advice of the Medical Officer should he/she decide that it would be necessary.

All protective measures should also apply if a knock-out occurs during training.

## **RULE XXI: SHAKING OF HANDS**

- 21.1 Purpose: before beginning and after a bout, boxers shall shake hands in a proper manner, as a sign of a purely sporting and friendly rivalry in accordance with the boxing rules.
- 21.2 Authorised Times: the shaking of hands takes place before beginning the first round and after the announcing of the results. Any further shaking of hands between the rounds is prohibited.



## **RULE XXII: ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS, ETC.**

22.1 Doping: the administration to a boxer of drugs or chemical substances not forming part of the usual diet of a boxer is prohibited. The doping regulations of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and/or the IFMA Anti-Doping Code shall be applied.

22.2 Penalties: any boxer or official violating this prohibition shall be liable to disqualification or suspension by IFMA.

22.3 Local Anaesthetics: the use of local anaesthetics is permitted according to the discretion of a doctor of the Medical Commission.

22.4 Prohibited Drugs: the current WADA list of prohibited substances shall constitute IFMA's list of prohibited substances. Any boxer taking such substances or any official administering such substances shall be subject to the penalties. IFMA may ban additional substances upon the recommendation of the IFMA Medical Commission.

## **RULE XXIII: MEDICAL APTITUDE**

23.1 Medical Certification: a boxer shall not be allowed to compete in an International Competition unless the boxer produces his/her Boxer's Book in which he/she must be certified as fit to box by a qualified doctor of medicine. One each day the boxer is required to box, the boxer shall be certified as fit to compete by a qualified doctor of medicine who shall be approved by the association under whose jurisdiction the competition is taking place, or in the World Championships, World Cup, Continental Championships, Continental Cup by the medical commission of IFMA or Continental Bureau.

23.2 Medical Certificate: every boxer competing outside his/her own country must have in his/her possession, a certificate signed by an authorised doctor of medicine, stating that prior to leaving his/her country boxer was in good physical condition and not suffering from any injury, infection or disability liable to affect boxer capacity to box in the country being visited. Such certificate must be in English language and

incorporated in boxer's book which must be produced at the medical examination before the general weigh-in.

- 23.3 Prohibited Conditions: the prohibited conditions are referred in the medical handbook.
- 23.4 Cut and Abrasions: no boxer shall be allowed to take part in any contest if the boxer is wearing a dressing on a cut, wound, abrasion, laceration or blood swelling on the boxer's scalp or face including the nose and ears. A boxer is allowed to box if an abrasion is covered with collision or steri-strip. The decision should be made by the doctor examining the boxer on the day of boxer's competition.
- 23.5 Medical Aptitude: No boxer shall be allowed to start boxing without having medical aptitude certified in his/her boxer's book, which may only be done by approved doctor. The medical aptitude test should, if possible, include the following exams, or their equivalent.
- 23.5.1 A complete clinical examination with particular attention to the organs of sight and hearing, the sense of balance and the nervous system.
- 23.5.2 A biometrical examination including measurement of height and weight, at least.
- 23.5.3 A biological examination including blood and urine tests.
- 23.5.4 A neurological examination including an electroencephalogram.
- 23.5.5 A skull x-ray.
- 23.5.6 A cardiovascular examination, including an electrocardiogram.
- 23.5.7 An examination by cranial computerized tomography, if possible.
- 23.5.8 Any other obligatory examination according to the laws of the country from which the boxer is from.

A medical examination should be repeated at least once a year and should include the points 1, 2 and 4 above.

- 23.6 Medical flow Sheet: Adoption of a Medical Flow Sheet to medically document a bout, before during and after.

## **RULE XXIV: ATTENDANCE OF DOCTOR**

- 24.1 Required Attendances: a qualified doctor of medicine, so approved, shall be in attendance throughout the competition and should not leave the place where it is held before the end of the last bout and until the doctor has seen the 2 boxers who participated in said bout. The doctor may use surgical gloves in the bouts.
- 24.2 Seating Arrangements: the officiating doctor should be seated next to ring.

## **RULE XXV: MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM AGE LIMIT FOR BOXERS**

### 25.1 Tykes

Minimum: not less than 8 years

Maximum: not more than 9 years

\*The Tykes Division spans from his/her 8th birthday until the day before his/her 10th birthday

### 25.2 Kids

Minimum: not less than 10 years

Maximum: not more than 11 years

\*The Kids Division spans from his/her 10th birthday until the day before his/her 12th birthday

### 25.3 Cadets 12

Minimum: not less than 12 years

Maximum: not more than 12 years

\* The Cadets 12 Division spans from his/her 12<sup>th</sup> birthday until a day before his/her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday

### 25.4 Cadets 13

Minimum: not less than 13 year

Maximum: not less than 13 year

\*The Cadets 13 Division from his/her 13th birthday until the day before his/her 14th birthday

- 25.5 Cadets 14  
Minimum: not less than 14 year  
Maximum: not less than 14 year  
\*The Cadets 14 Division from his/her 14th birthday until the day before his/her 15th birthday
- 25.6 Junior 15  
Minimum: not less than 15 years  
Minimum: not less than 15 year  
\*The Junior 15 Division spans from his/her 15th birthday until the day before his/her 16th birthday.
- 25.7 Junior 16  
Minimum: not less than 16 years  
Minimum: not less than 16 year  
\*The Junior 16 Division spans from his/her 16th birthday until the day before his/her 17th birthday.
- 25.8 Junior 17  
Minimum: not less than 17 years  
Maximum: not more than 17 years  
\*The Junior 17 Division spans from his/her 17th birthday until the day before his/her 18th birthday
- 25.9 Senior  
Minimum: not less than 17 years  
Maximum: not more than 35 years  
\*The Senior Division spans from his/her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday until the day before his/her 36<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## **RULE XXVI: REPORTS BY OFFICIALS**

- 26.1 Reports to the Media: Executive members, members of the Medical Jury, IFMA Commission members, and Referees/Judges acting as officials shall not make reports

to the press, or make statements on Television or Radio, on matters relating to the boxing or officiating at those events. Only the President or any person authorised by the president shall be entitled to speak to the media.

## **RULE XXVII: CONFORMITY**

27.1 Uniformity: all affiliated associations shall adapt their rules to those of the IFMA, so as to ensure the uniformity of the rules of amateur Muaythai throughout the world, unless the rules of the affiliated associations are more stringent than IFMA's.

## **RULE XXVIII: INTER-NATION TROPHIES OR CHALLENGE CUPS**

28.1 Prizes: in international competition, cups or prizes of honour may be presented.

28.2 Team Standings: the team standings shall be determined in the following:

28.2.1 The winner of each bout in the preliminary rounds or quarter finals shall receive 1 mark.

28.2.2 The winner of each bout in the semi-finals shall receive - 2 marks.

28.2.3 The winner of the final bout shall receive – 3 marks.

28.2.4 The marks shall be awarded also reasons a bout cannot take place

28.2.5 In the case of 2 or more teams obtaining an equal number of marks, the placing shall depend on:

- The number of victories in the finals and if this is equal,
- The number of second places, and if this is equal too,
- The number of third places.

28.3 Awarding of Point in Team Competitions:

28.3.1 For every match won, each boxer shall gain two points for their team,

28.3.2 For every match lost, each boxer shall gain one point for their team,

28.3.3 Except in the case of disqualified boxer who shall gain no points.

## **RULE XXIX: RULES FOR BOUTS OF TYKES, KIDS & CADETS DIVISIONS**

- 29.1 For Tykes division, bouts will be for demonstration only. All strikes are to be semi-contact only. Strikes to the head are strictly prohibited.
- 29.2 For Kids division strikes to the head are strictly prohibited.
- 29.3 For Cadets division only punches and kicks to the head are permitted. Knees and elbows to the head are strictly prohibited. Knee and elbow strikes are permitted to the body only.

## **RULE XXX: JUNIOR WAI KRU COMPETITION**

### 30.1 Age Categories:

The Junior Wai kru Competition will be competed in the following 2 age groups:

- Under 10 years
- 10 – 13 years

### 30.2 Draw: Opponents will be randomly drawn.

### 30.3 Competition Format:

- Opponents shall perform a Wai Kru demonstration in the ring of no more than 2 minutes.
- Five judges shall score and award points to the competitors.
- Points must be awarded: from 9.1 to 10.0

### 30.4 Points per section: 4 sections:

- 0.4 points maximum for quality, perfection and inclusion of fundamental skills of the Wai Kru techniques of muaythai.
- 0.2 points maximum for power and coordination
- 0.2 points maximum for extraordinary techniques including very difficult figures.
- 0.2 points for proper attire

30.5 Decision:

- a. Five scorecards are collected. Highest and lowest results are rejected. The arithmetic mean of the three results left is the official result.
- b. The competitor with the most points will be announced as the winner. If two or more opponents have the equal results then the arithmetic mean of all five scorecards is calculated.

**These rules shall rescind all previous rules of IFMA.**

