

Mississippi Athletic Commission Rules and Regulations

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Mississippi Athletic Commission Rules and Regulations

Section I. General Provisions

The following rules and regulations are adopted by the Mississippi Athletic Commission pursuant to section 75-75-101 of the Mississippi Code to govern all boxing, kickboxing, sparring, tough-man contests, submission wrestling, and wrestling matches and exhibitions except where special regulations are made for a particular bout or exhibition. The Athletic Commission has sole direction, management control and jurisdiction over all boxing, sparring and wrestling matches and exhibitions to be held in the State. No boxing, sparring and wrestling matches and exhibition for a prize or purse, or at which admission fee is charged, either directly or indirectly, in the form of dues or otherwise, shall be conducted in this State except by an individual licensed by the Commission and in pursuance of a permit granted by the Commission for each match or exhibition.

The following terms shall have the meaning assigned herein:

- **“Announcer”**- a person responsible for announcing the names of the officials, contestants, and decisions of each bout.
- **“Bout”** -one match between 2 contestants.
- **“Professional Boxing”** means the sport of attack and defense using the fists that conform to the boxing that is approved by the Association of Boxing Commissioners.
- **“Commission”**- member’s of the Mississippi Athletic Commission.
- **“Contest”** a group of bouts.
- **“Contestant”** one who has obtained a license to compete in bout as either a boxer, kick-boxer, submission wrestler, or tough-man contestant.
- **“Corner”** Trainers & seconds
- **“Deputy Commissioner”** those designated by the Commission to attend and inspect events regulated by the Commission in their absence.
- **“Inspectors”** – Shall have the same meaning as “Deputy Commissioner.
- **“Judge”**-a person serving as a member of a panel that is responsible for determining a decision in each bout.
- **“Kick Boxing”** Boxing in which contestants are allowed to kick.
- **“Matchmaker”** a person responsible for matching the contestants for a bout.
- **Mixed Martial Arts** shall mean the same as Submission Wrestling
- **“Official”** means any judges, referee, or timekeeper.
- **“Permit”** written permission to hold an event at a specific date and hour at a specific place.
- **“Professional Wrestling”** a fixed bout of wrestling skills by 2 or more wrestlers.
- **‘Promoter’** The person(s) responsible for promoting, publicizing, producing, organizing, and conducting an event. Generally the one profiting from the event.
- **“Purse”** the financial guarantee that a contestant receives for good faith participation in a bout.
- **“Referee”** the person in charge of enforcing the rules of a contest.

- **“Sparring”** means competing for practice or as an exhibition.
- **“Special Bouts”** Any type of contest that does not conform to the rules adopted by the Mississippi Athletic Commission that is approved by the Commission for a particular event.
- **“Straw Promoter”** obtaining a promoter license to represent someone else that may not have otherwise qualified.
- **“Submission Wrestling”** competition involving the use of a combination of techniques from different disciplines of martial arts, boxing, kickboxing, and wrestling. This is to include, without limitation, any throwing, striking, and grappling.
- **“Timekeeper”** a person responsible for keeping accurate time during each bout and also responsible for the knockdown count in boxing.
- **“Tough-Man Contest”** An amateur boxing elimination tournament.

1. Papers

- a. All papers filed shall be property of the Commission.

2. Permits

- a. Application for permits for all events shall be submitted to the Commission in writing at least 30 days prior to any event.
- b. Under no conditions is a promoter permitted to give publicity to an event unless it has been approved by the Commission.
- c. Each permit shall name all contestants, the number of fights, the number of rounds, and the date, place, and time of contest.
- d. The permit shall note any celebrity guest that will be advertised as part of the promotion.
- e. No permit will be issued if the Commission believes that one promotion will interfere with another on any given day. Priority will be given to the first to apply.
- f. All changes and substitutions must be approved by the Commission.
- g. The permit fee shall be \$25.
- h. All permit applications are to be mailed or emailed to the Commission.

3. Tickets and Passes

- a. No person(s) shall be admitted to any contest unless they are a ticket holder or pass holder.
- b. All ticket prices shall be approved by the Commission.
- c. The statutory 6% gate fee shall apply to all compensated tickets.
- d. Boxes for deposit of tickets must be used at the gate for collection of ticket stubs or by any other means approved by the Commission.
- e. All tickets must be sold from a box office on the premises at which such match is held, or from the place of business approved by the Commission.

- f. The value of each ticket shall be printed on the ticket stub.
- g. The promoter shall issue passes to the following:
 - i. Members and employees of the Commission;
 - ii. Competitors on the program and their respective licensed managers, trainers, and seconds;
 - iii. Officials connected with the contest;
 - iv. Ushers and ring attendants;
 - v. Promotion staff;
 - vi. Fireman in uniform as may be required by state law and local ordinances;
 - vii. Local or state law enforcement officers as may be required by state law or local ordinances;
 - viii. Passes for others may be issued only by authority and at the discretion of the Commission.

4. License

- a. Application licenses for promoter, director, boxer, manager, matchmaker, tough-man contestant, promoter, wrestler, referee, timekeeper, trainer-second and judge shall be made in writing on a form prescribed by the Commission, accompanied by the license fee set by the Commission.
- b. Promoter licenses are \$100.
- c. License for director, boxer, tough-man contestant, manager, matchmaker, promoter, wrestler, referee, timekeeper, trainer-second and judge shall be \$25. Any of the licenses pertaining to professional wrestling shall be \$30.
- d. Each license shall expire on June 30th after issue.
- e. Each applicant must use their legal name when applying for a license.
- f. No individual shall perform any position without being licensed.
- g. Each applicant shall put true and correct information on their application.

5. Promoter

- a. To qualify for a promoter license the applicant shall have 2 years of experience with the event they are promoting and must have participated in a minimum of 6 events in a licensed position.
- b. Applicant must provide the Commission with proof of sufficient financial resources to hold their event.
- c. Applicant must have a track record of honest and quality promotions with all former promotions.
- d. Additional background information from the applicant may be required.
- e. The applicant shall be required to interview with the Commission.
- f. The applicant must be thoroughly familiar with the rules and regulations of the event being promoted.
- g. Each promoter license is specific to the event being promoted. Any other type events require a separate application.
- h. The promoter must have a valid telephone number, address, and email address.
- i. The promoter shall have full control over the event being promoted.
- j. All events shall be held in a non-smoking venue.

- k. Promoter shall not permit drinks to be dispensed on the floor of the arena nor on the premises except in approved containers.
- l. The promoter is the person(s) responsible for promoting, publicizing, producing, organizing, and conducting an event and shall be the one to obtain the license.
- m. The promoter shall be responsible for verifying to the Commission the identity, ring record, and suspensions of all contestants. A promoter shall be responsible for the accuracy of the names and records of the participants in all publicity or promotional material.
- n. Promoters are prohibited from competing on cards which they are promoting unless specific permission is granted by the Commission.
- o. No licensed promoter shall operate or attempt to operate as a straw promoter. The person(s) responsible for promoting, publicizing, producing, organizing, and conducting an event shall be the one to obtain the license.
- p. Promoter must produce quality events.
- q. Promoter must provide security for the event.
- r. Surety Bond- Every promoter, as a condition for conducting an event, shall file with the Commission a surety bond in an amount to be determined by the Commission. Said surety bond is conditioned upon the faithful performance by the promoter of the provisions of the payment of the Commission fees, officials, and contracts as provided for herein and the observance of all rules and regulations of the Commission. A cash deposit with the Commission may suffice.
- s. All contracts relating to the event must be made with the promoter.
- t. Each promoter shall be automatically suspended upon the completion of their event by the Commission until all fees and costs are paid to the Commission and all financial obligations are met.
- u. The promoter is responsible for all travel costs and payments to all contestants and officials unless otherwise stated.
- v. Promoters are responsible for all the following equipment.
 - i. Ring. The ring shall be no less than sixteen (16) or more than 20 feet square when measured inside the line of the ropes. The apron of the ring shall extend beyond the ropes not less than two feet. The ring shall be equipped with four ropes with two spacer ties on each side of the ring to secure the ropes. The ring floor shall be padded with not less than a 5/8 inch base of foam padding or material with similar or superior shock absorbing and deceleration characteristics which is capable of reducing initial impact and which is approved by the Commission. The padding shall be placed on 3/4 inch or thicker building board or its equivalent. The padding shall extend beyond the ring ropes and over the edge of the platform and shall be covered with canvas, duct tape or a similar material that is tightly stretched and secured in place under the apron. The corners of the ring shall have all hard objects in reach of the competitors securely padded.
 - ii. A sufficient number of buckets for use by the contestants shall be available.
 - iii. Stools for use of the seconds and contestants shall be available.
 - iv. Spit buckets for each corner shall be available.
 - v. Tables with seats surrounding the ring shall be required for the exclusive use of the Commission.

- vi. Approved scales for weigh-in shall be provided.
- vii. A gong or bell for the time keeper must be provided.
- viii. A public address system must be provided.
- ix. 3 high stools for the judges are required.
- x. Sufficient bout sheets for ring officials are to be provided.
- xi. Ring cards numbered for each round shall be used.
- xii. Separate dressing rooms for men and women are required.
- xiii. Electricity supplied at the ring for the commission is required.
- xiv. There shall be an ambulance and duly licensed EMT's or paramedics with appropriate resuscitation equipment at ringside at all times.

6. Contracts

- a. All agreements must be in the form of a written contract approved by the Commission.
- b. The promoter shall contract with all competitors and officials. There shall be 3 copies of all contracts. One each for the promoter, contestant or official, and Commission.
- c. There shall not be a contract between a promoter and a manager. However, a contract may be signed by a contestant's manager on behalf of the contestant. If a contestant does not have a licensed manager, the contestant shall sign the contract. The contract between a promoter and a contestant shall embody all of the agreements between the parties.
- d. Secret contracts that contradict the terms of other contracts filed with the Commission are strictly prohibited.
- e. Each contract made with a venue, sponsor, investor, or any other must be submitted to the Commission upon request.
- f. No contestant shall be paid before the competition.
- g. All contracts relating to the holding or staging of any boxing, wrestling, or sparring match or exhibition in Mississippi, or relating to any participation therein, shall contain a provision to the effect that all rules passed or adapted by the Commission, either before or after the execution of the contract, shall be considered as a part of the contract, the same as if said rule were fully set out of the body of the instrument.
- h. If it should be determined by the referee or any member of the Commission present or any deputy Commissioner that such contestant did not give a good faith effort of their skills they shall not be paid their purse.
- i. At the discretion of the Commission a contestant may not be paid their contract purse if they are disqualified.

7. Contestant - Boxer, Kickboxer, Tough-Man & Submission Wrestler

- a. An individual applying for a license as a contestant of boxing, kickboxing or submission wrestling must at least age 18.
- b. Each contestant applicant shall furnish the Commission with the following information;
 - i. Copy of a State or federal issued identification;
 - ii. Boxer Federal identification card.(for Professional Boxing Only);

- iii. A written statement as to training and experience;
 - iv. Previous competitive record as an amateur and professional;
 - v. Medical fitness report with any information required by the Commission;
- c. The Commission shall evaluate the information given and determine if the contestant applicant is qualified to be licensed.
 - d. A contestant shall not be licensed as a timekeeper, judge, referee or matchmaker.
 - e. A contestant shall report any change in their medical condition which may affect their ability to safely compete.
 - f. The Commission may, at any time, require current medical information on any contestant.
 - g. The use of strong smelling ointments or lubricants on a contestant shall be prohibited unless approved by the Commission.
 - h. Each contestant shall put forth a good faith effort in each competition.
 - i. Contestants may be disciplined for violations by their manager, trainer, or second.
 - j. Each contestant must wrap their hands in the presence of an inspector designated to approve hand wraps.
- 8. Managers**
- a. A manager shall have his fighter under written contract.
 - b. Managers shall not hold a license as a promoter.
 - c. Any contestant may act as their own manager. Managers are also qualified as seconds.
- 9. Matchmaker**
- a. Matchmaker applicant must have sufficient experience with matchmaking.
 - b. Promoters may act as matchmaker.
 - c. The matchmaker shall be responsible for making fairly matched bouts.
 - d. No match shall be made with any contestant with 10 straight losses or 6 consecutive TKO's or KO's or any contestant that has lost 17 of his last 20 bouts.
 - e. Shall supply the Commission with updated records of contestants from the record registry approved by the Commission.
- 10. Trainers and Seconds**
- a. Every person serving as a second must be licensed.
 - b. No individual may be in the corner other than licensed trainers and seconds.
 - c. Competitors may be fined and/or disqualified for bringing unlicensed trainers and seconds to the ring.
 - d. Licensed contestants and managers shall qualify as seconds.
 - e. All seconds and trainers shall be responsible for maintaining good conduct before, during, and after the contest.
 - f. The number of seconds used shall be determined by the Commission. No more than four seconds and not less than two seconds can assist a contestant for any bout. One may be inside the ring, two on the ring apron, and one at ground level. A contestant may lose points or be disqualified for the conduct of his/her second(s).
 - g. Any Commission member or referee may eject a second for violations.

- h. The referee may deduct points from the fighter or disqualify the fighter for violations caused by the trainer-second.
- i. Before a contest begins the seconds and trainers shall:
 - i. Be identified for the inspector and the referee. Only those identified and licensed shall be allowed in the corner.
 - ii. Before putting on gloves, the trainer shall present the fighters wrapped hands for inspection by the supervising Commission inspector.
 - iii. The corner shall present the contestant, ready to fight, when the referee calls the contestants to ring center for final instructions.
 - iv. Sealed sport drinks must be presented to the Commission for examination before the bout or they may not be used.
- j. During the round, seconds:
 - i. Must remain seated.
 - ii. Must not mount the stairs or apron or enter the ring until the bell indicates the end of a round.
 - iii. Must refrain from excessive coaching.
 - iv. A contestant's corner shall not heckle or in any manner annoy the opponent of the contestant or the referee, before during and after the contest.
 - v. Seconds shall not enter the ring to assist or move a contestant who has been knocked-down or injured until instructed to do so by medical personnel.
 - vi. The seconds may not assist a contestant that has been knocked out of the ring.
 - vii. Shall signal the referee to stop the fight by mounting the ring apron and verbally notifying the referee and using a waving hand signal rather than throwing towels, sponges or anything else into the ring. Only the referee can stop the contest, and he/she may consult with the ringside physician on the physical condition of either contestant at any time.
 - viii. Shall not assist during the round.
 - ix. The referee may halt time and warn a corner for violations. The referee may have the judges deduct points from the contestant for violations from their trainer or second.
- k. During the one minute rest period, a second:
 - i. May coach his/her fighter.
 - ii. May treat cuts, abrasions and/or swelling.
 - iii. May provide water, ice, approved sports drinks, or other cooling-down techniques.
 - iv. Must leave the ring at the sound of the timekeeper's whistle that is given ten seconds before a round begins and shall wipe the floor clean.
 - v. Shall remove all items in the ring and on the ring platform prior to the bell sounding the beginning of the round and shall wipe the floor clean of debris and water.
 - vi. A second shall not administer alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or stimulants to a contestant.
 - vii. Must insure that the tape on the glove lace is secure before the sound of the start bell.

11. Officials (Referee, Judge, Timekeeper)

- a. Officials for each contest shall consist of a referee, 3 judges and a timekeeper.
- b. The officials shall be appointed by the Commission Chairman.
- c. Officials shall be thoroughly experienced to qualify for licensing.
- d. Officials may be required by the Commission to obtain specific certifications.
- e. Judges must be impartial and discreet at all times.
- f. Officials are subject to alcohol and drug testing.
- g. Officials may be required to pass a pre-fight physical.
- h. Officials shall not discuss their decisions with anyone except the Commission.

12. Deputy Commissioners

- a. The Commission Chairman shall designate Deputy Commissioners as it deems necessary to represent the Commission whenever necessary. Deputy Commissioners are the direct representatives of the Commission.
- b. The Deputy Commissioner in charge shall have exclusive regulatory control of the event.

13. Prompt Appearance

- a. Contestants must report to the place of contest and place of weigh-in at the time set by the Commission.
- b. A contestant shall have up to five minutes to enter the ring once the previous contestants have exited the ring.

14. Failure to Appear

- a. Any contestant who has entered into a contract to participate in a bout, who shall for any reason be unable to carry out his contract and does not notify the promoter and the Commission of his incapability to do so and the reason or cause therefore, or whose reason or cause therefore is not considered by the Commission as satisfactory, shall be penalized by the Commission by suspension for a period of not less than six 6 months and not more than 1 year and/ or fined by the Commission.
- b. They contestant may also be required to compensate the promoter for any and all cost related to the failure to appear. This shall include the opponents travel and purse cost.
- c. A letter of intent to fight may be considered as an agreement between a contestant, his manager and a promoter.

15. Replacement opponent

- a. Anytime that a fighter's opponent fails to appear or cannot compete a replacement opponent may be used if it is stated in the contract. The replacement opponent must be considered equal in quality by the Commission.

16. Revocation, Denial & Suspension of Licenses

- a. The Chairman of the Commission shall be ex officio the recorder of permits and licenses as per Mississippi code section 75-75-107. Each license application shall receive initial approval or denial from the Chairman. Each applicant that is

denied a license from the Chairman may appeal the decision to the entire Commission within 15 days of notice of denial. Any applicant who has been denied a license by the Commission may not file a similar application until one (1) year after the denial by the Commission. Any application for license filed within the one (1) year period may be denied without a hearing.

- b. Any licensee who is determined by an examining physician to be unfit to compete or officiate, must be suspended until it is shown that he is fit for further competition or officiating.
- c. Any contestant suspended for their medical protection may be required to furnish the Commission with any requested medical reports to be reinstated.
- d. Anyone on administrative or medical suspension by another commission shall be denied a license.

17. Disciplinary Procedure

- a. The Chairman of the Commission shall make the initial official decision as to any disciplinary action that may be taken against a licensee. Any disciplinary decision made by a Deputy Commissioner in charge shall not be made official until approved by the Chairman. Any decision made by the Chairman may be appealed to the entire Commission and a hearing may be requested. All appeals must be made within 15 days of receiving notice from the Commission regarding the disciplinary action taken. The decision made by the entire Commission shall be final.

18. Appeals of results

- a. Any contestant that disputes a decision made at any event by the referee or judges must be appealed to the Commission within 7 days. No decision will be overturned by any referee or judge unless there is very strong evidence to suggest there was foul play or gross negligence.

19. Exempt Matches

- a. Pursuant to Mississippi code section 75-75-123, all boxing, sparring and wrestling matches in colleges, universities or high schools shall be exempt from the jurisdiction of the Commission and shall only be permitted and supervised by the governing body of such high school, college or university.
- b. Amateur events sanctioned by USA Boxing shall be exempt from permit and license.
- c. Contest considered karate or martial arts by the Commission that do not allow full contact and continuous action shall be exempt from Commission jurisdiction.

20. Insurance

- a. The Commission may require a promoter to purchase accidental medical insurance for any or all contestants competing in an event. If accidental health insurance is required by the promoter the first \$500 of the insurance deductible may be paid by the competitor if stated in the contract. If the competitor is paid less than \$500 it shall not exceed the purse amount.
- b. Liability insurance may be required from the promoter.

21. Record Registry

- a. The registry for boxing records and suspension shall be Fightfax at www.fightfax.com.
- b. The registry for submission wrestling shall be Sherdog at www.sherdog.com.
- c. All records shall be obtained from these sources and reported to these sources.

22. Medical Requirements

- a. Each contestant shall take a pre-fight physical within 24 hours of the beginning of the contest given by a medical professional. Any contestant deemed unfit shall not compete.
- b. No contestant shall compete that is under the influence of alcohol or drugs that mentally or physically hinder performance.
- c. No contestant that tests positive for HIV or hepatitis C shall be allowed to compete.
- d. A ringside physician shall be present during each bout.
- e. An ambulance with emergency medical technicians must be present at each contest.
- f. Each female contestant must provide the Commission with a negative pregnancy test before competing. The test must be taken within 7 days of contest.
- g. At anytime upon being licensed by the Commission a licensee may be subject to drug test.

23. General

- a. Any violation of State or Federal law by a licensee shall be considered a rule violation.
- b. No profanity shall be used by a licensee.
- c. No music used shall contain profanity.
- d. There shall be a rope or gate border approximately 6 feet from the sides of the ring. Only licensed participants, Commission members and guests, promotional staff, security, medical personnel, and others approved by the Commission shall be allowed. All seats within the border shall be assigned by the Commission. No seats shall be sold in this area unless approved by the Commission.

24. Waiver of Requirements

- a. The Commission, upon its choosing may waive any requirements set forth in these rules.
- b. Any rules adapted by the Commission in this section shall supersede any rules of any sanctioning body rules adapted or approved by the Commission.

Section II.

Professional Boxing Rules

1. Rules established by the Association of Boxing Commissioners
 - a. The Mississippi Athletic Commission shall use the current Regulatory Guidelines and Unified Championship Rules of the Association of Boxing Commissioners as their Professional Boxing Contest Rules. Any additions or deletions to these rules shall be noted in this section.
 - b. The follow exclusions to the Regulatory Guidelines shall apply.
 - i. The Commission may allow a standing 8 count for professional boxing bouts.
 - ii. The promoter is required to purchase accidental medical insurance for any or all contestants competing in an event for the minimum amount of \$2,500. The first \$500 of the insurance deductible may be paid by the competitor if stated in the contract. If the competitor is paid less than \$500 it shall not exceed the purse amount.
2. Federal Identification Card
 - a. Each application for a federal identification card must be received 15 days prior to the issuance of the card.
 - b. The application must include 2 color photo copies of the applicants Driver license or State issued identification card.
 - c. The application must be accompanied with a Mississippi boxer application.
 - d. The fee to replace a Federal Identification Card shall be the same as a license.
 - e. Each identification card shall be valid for 4 years.
3. General
 - a. Each boxing card must have a minimum of 30 scheduled rounds.
 - b. No more than 10 minutes may elapse between bouts.

Section III.

Tough-man Contest

1. License Entry Requirements

- a. Contestants must be at least 18 years of age to compete.
- b. No contestant with professional experience, 5 or more amateur wins in the last 5 years or more than 1 championship victory in a similar contest shall be allowed to compete.

2. Contest rules

- a. No round shall exceed 2 minutes in length and no round shall be less than 45 seconds. Maximum of 4 rounds per bout.
- b. Rest period between rounds shall be between 1 minute and 1 minute 30 seconds.
- c. Boxing gloves must be 14 to 18 oz.
- d. Properly fitted headgear must be worn by all contestants. All headgear must be tagged USA Boxing approved.
- e. Properly fitted groin protection must be worn.
- f. No contest shall last more than 2 consecutive days.
- g. No contestant may fight more than a total of 12 rounds in any single day of competition or 15 total rounds in a 2 day competition.
- h. The standing 8 count rule shall be used for all bouts.
- i. The 3 knock-down rule shall be in effect for all bouts.
- j. The physician may stop a bout at any time.
- k. The promoter may appoint seconds for each contest.
- l. All weight classes must be approved by the Commission.
- m. Elimination procedure must be approved by the Commission.
- n. All other boxing contest rules shall apply.

3. General

- a. Cash prizes may be awarded to the winner of each division.

Section II.

Kickboxing Rules

1. All kickboxing contest shall use the same rules as boxing with the use of the legs and feet to score points in the same manner as the hands unless a different set of rules is submitted and approved by the Commission.

Section V.

Wrestling Exhibition Rules

1. General Rules

- a. Anyone serving or acting as a promoter, director, wrestler, boxer, manager, matchmaker, referee, timekeeper, trainer, second and judge shall be licensed.
- b. No one shall enter the ring area except licensed participants, medical personnel, security, Commission members, and others approved by the Commission.
- c. The ring area shall consist of the ring and its border.
- d. Promoters must be present at all events or have a licensed director present as their representative.
- e. Promoters are responsible for having a fire extinguisher at their event.
- f. Promoters are responsible for making sure each participant is licensed.
- g. Fireworks, fires, and pyrotechnics may only be used if approved by the Commission and the local fire department.
- h. There shall be border at least 6 feet from the ring separating spectators from the ring.
- i. Wrestlers in all exhibitions or bouts must be properly trained and in good physical condition to participate. If it is deemed by a Commission member, doctor, medical tech, or promoter that a wrestler is not physically fit to perform, the wrestler shall not be allowed to perform.
- j. Wrestlers appearing in exhibitions or bouts must be properly clothed in neat and clean apparel. No hard sole shoes will be allowed. Wrestlers must be clean and free from foreign substance.
- k. No wrestler's license shall be issued to any person under 18 years of age. Applicants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the application along with applicant.
- l. No foreign objects may be used in a wrestling exhibition unless approved by the Commission.
- m. All performance outside of the ring must be done on a padded surface approved by the Commission.
- n. There must be a referee present for all exhibitions.
- o. It is the responsibility of the referee to insure safety of participants.
- p. The ring shall be inspected by the promoter or director before each event.
- q. Wrestling rings may contain only 3 ropes.
- r. All medical requirements shall be waived for exhibition wrestling.

Section IV.

Submission Wrestling Rules

1. The Mississippi Athletic Commission shall use the most current version of the “Unified Mixed Martial Arts Rules” for each contest. Each deletion or addition to the rules shall be noted in this chapter.
2. **Contestant Requirements**
 - a. No contestant shall compete that does not have a minimum of 6 months training and be in good physical condition.
3. **Rule Additions to the Unified Mixed Martial Arts Rules.**
 - a. No contestant shall intentionally move their opponent to the ropes or fence. Intentional fencing shall be considered a foul. In the event that a contestant commits intentional fencing the referee shall call time and restart the bout in the center of the ring.
 - b. Each non-championship contest is to be for a minimum of 2 rounds and not to exceed 3 rounds, each round no more than 5 minutes duration, with a rest period of 1 minute between each round. Each championship contest can be held for a maximum of 5 rounds.
 - c. A submission wrestling card shall consist of a minimum of 8 bouts. 50 percent or more of the contestants must have a prior competition record on the Commission’s official registry.