

**Website:** www.aco.ohio.gov

## **PROMOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR EVENTS**

1. **Promoters must** have all required bonds and current Ohio promoter's license. Bond forms and license applications are located on website. The bond forms **MUST** be those posted on the website
2. Submit the name of a contact person or their matchmaker and their phone numbers and an email address, when submitting permit for the event. This will enable the INSPECTOR to contact someone to make sure that all required items are taken care of prior to the start of the event.

### **TIMES & DEADLINES THAT MUST BE MET:**

3. **TICKET MANIFEST for printed tickets may be submitted to the Commission office prior to the event if not then the TICKET MANIFEST MUST be given to the Inspector the day of the event. FAILING to submit the manifest WILL RESULT in having to appear before the commission before another PERMIT for an event will be issued.** This does not apply to tickets issued through computerized ticket venues. A generated ticket invoice for these tickets **MUST** be submitted to the Commission office within 72 hours after the event.

A 5% fee on gross ticket sales will be paid to the Treasurer of the State of Ohio. When submitting report after the event the promoter **MUST** submit:

- (1) ALL sold ticket stubs;
- (2) ALL unsold tickets. Any tickets not accounted for will be assessed the 5% tax.

All **COMPLIMENTARY** tickets must be printed in advance, by the printer and shown on the ticket manifest. A maximum of 5% of the total seating capacity will be permitted for complimentary tickets.

**\*4. A. PERMITS:** Due to the difficulty that has occurred for some promoters not having enough advanced notice when attempting to secure a venue to promote an event. The commission has changed the policy for submitting a permit to reads as follows: **A Permit for an event may be submitted within 120 days prior to the date of the event with the following exceptions:**

a). **If an event is cancelled within 21 days of the event, the permit fee is forfeited, and the Promoter must submit a new permit.**

**No more than ONE (1) permit** will be issued for the same type of event within a **45 mile** radius on the same day. This is determined from zip code to zip code. **OUTDOOR events SHALL NOT** be scheduled before Memorial Day or after Labor Day

B. Complete a PERMIT form with ALL required information submitted with permit fee to Ohio Athletic Commission office. **Promoters of any professional or pro/am events must get their permit with the names of the Professional fighters to the commission office the 10 days prior to the commission meeting. The names of All Professional for Mixed Martial Art Fighters must have been submitted to the Mixed Martial Arts LLC the National Database and All Boxers names MUST be posted on Box Rec**

The Commission meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

4. Boxing permits MUST include the names of each contestant and their opponent, the number of scheduled rounds for each contest and the minimum required rounds to conduct the event. Promoter is responsible for informing contestants of any medical requirements that they are required to have. **Be sure of contestant's age because of additional medical requirements for fighters 35 and over. There are additional medical requirements for contestants 39 and Over.**
5. **\*PRE FIGHT MEDICALS REQUIREMENTS: ALL Required Pre Fight Medicals must** be in the commission office at least **7 days** prior to ANY Fighter being **APPROVED** to fight. This includes blood work; eye exams; neurological exams or any other required medical exam.
6. **\*FINAL Cards** for events will be sent out to Inspectors and Promoters on the Wednesday by 1:00 PM for Friday events and by 1:00 PM on Thursday for Saturday events. Any bouts that DO NOT have all required medicals will be removed from the card.

Medicals may be used from another association. If the medicals are more than 30 days old and less than 1 year the fighter may use those medicals to get a 90 day license. (The only exception to this is if the medical expires in less than 90 days the license will ONLY be good until the expiration date of the medicals).

**\*IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FIGHTER TO HAVE THE PROPER REQUIRED MEDICALS SUBMITTED IN TIME, NOT THE PROMOTER NOR IS PROMOTER RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING FOR ANY REQUIRED MEDICALS**

**\* THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO MEDICALS ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT.**

**ALL DIALATED EYE EXAMS MUST BE GIVEN WITHIN A MINIMUM OF 48 HOURS PRIOR TO ANY COMPETITION.**

**NOTE: NO CHANGES TO THE CARD will be considered after 4 PM 3days prior to the day of the event.** ANY request for changes after this must be submitted directly to the Executive Director.

**NOTE: Replacing an opponent** with one that has already been approved by the Commission **MUST** have a similar or better record than the one previously approved.

7. \* The commission office will only accept contestants' names of fighters from the promoter or the designated matchmaker. **OPPONENTS WILL NOT be discussed** with anyone but the promoter or assigned matchmaker.

8. \* **All Boxing events must be posted on the BoxRec website for the approval and non-approval of the bout. Once the bout is approved then all medical requirements for your event will be posted on Boxrec. For information on how to post the card on Boxrec email [John@Boxrec.com](mailto:John@Boxrec.com). Your event can be blocked by checking a box that will only permit viewing by you and the Commission.**

9. \* **EVENT INSURANCE:** Event insurance must be submitted to the Athletic Commission no later than 10 days prior to the start of the event, **a minimum of \$20,000.00 medical and \$20,000 death.** Any deductible payments shall be made by the promoter.

**##Failure to have the event insurance submitted to the Athletic Commission Office within the required time period may result in the cancellation of the event.**

10. **NO event shall be scheduled to start later than 8:00 PM. All events must start at the scheduled time.** The inspector or commission representative may permit a limited time extension of not more than twenty minutes, unless there is an emergency.

NOTE: There **shall not** be any prolonged delay between bouts. The only delay time should be the scheduled intermissions. All intermissions must be approved by the inspector or executive director. **Intermission may not exceed twenty (20) minutes.** This intermission period is the only time when any additional entertainment may occur.

12. No bout shall begin without a physician at ringside or cage side. An **ambulance must be on site or in transport,** with proper medical personnel prior to starting any bout. Promoter is responsible for providing appropriate ambulance service.

NOTE: A minimum of **2 PHYSICIANS** will be assigned when there are more than **14 scheduled bouts,** or the event is being **televised live.** If only 1 physician is available, the physician will be paid an additional fee.

## **BOUT AND ROUND REQUIREMENTS:**

### 13. Boxing, Mixed Martial Arts, Kick Boxing, Muay Thai Etc.

- a. Professional Boxing- a minimum of twenty-four (24) rounds with a minimum of five (5) bouts. A Minimum of 6 bouts should be turned in for commission approval. Pro/Am Boxing – a minimum of twelve (12) rounds and three (3) professional bouts and a minimum of five (5) amateur bouts. Professional bouts will follow all scheduled amateur bout, no intermixing professional and amateur.
- b. Professional and Amateur MMA bouts a minimum of twenty-four (24) rounds and eight (8) bouts.
- c. **\*PRO/AM Boxing Events** will require a minimum of three (3) professional bouts and minimum of five (5) amateur bouts. **A letter from the Amateur Sanctioning Body MUST** be submitted to the Commission Office with the permit stating they will be sanctioning a minimum of five (5) Amateur bouts.
- d. Pro/Am MMA a minimum of three (3) professional and five (5) amateur bouts, or a minimum five (5) professional bouts and three (3) amateur bouts. The professional bouts will follow all scheduled amateur bouts, no intermixing professional and amateur bouts.
- e. Kickboxing/Boxing events (1). PRO/AM requires a minimum of 2 Pro bouts and 5 Amateur bouts for Kickboxing; (2). Must be conducted in a Boxing ring; (3). Boxing and Kickboxing event -Minimum of 4 boxing and 3 kickboxing or 4 kickboxing and 3 boxing. (4). NO intermixing bouts.
- f. **THE START OF ANY ROUND MUST BE KNOWN PRIOR TO THE STARTING OF THAT ROUND. This can be done with ring card persons or the ringside announcer shall announce the upcoming round to the crowd after the 10 seconds warning signal is sounded**
- g. **TITLE FIGHTS** – Promoters must notify commission when a bout is advertised or scheduled as a TITLE fight. ALL opponents for title fights must be approved by commission. Debut fighters and fighters with losing records WILL NOT be considered as opponents for a title fight.
- h. **AMATEUR MMA TITLE FIGHTS MAY ONLY BE SCHEDULED FOR 3 ROUNDS**

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

- **THE PROMOTER WILL BE ISSUED A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$500 FOR FAILING TO HAVE THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF REQUIRED BOUTS FOR AN EVENT**

14. **It is imperative to have contracts with contestants signed as early as possible.** This means that if the fighter did not fulfill their obligation under the contract

then they would be subject to suspension instead of the promoter. Before any suspension can be issued, the contract must be filled out properly be signed by the fighter and contain the name and complete address of the fighter. MAKE Sure the contract forms are the ones that are posted on the Commission website

15. **CANCELLATION OF ANY EVENT:** The promoter will be responsible for payment of ALL assigned officials in the event is cancelled within 6 days of the date of the event.

The Promoter's license will be suspended until ALL assigned officials have been paid

### **WEIGH IN PROCEDURES:**

16. The contracts must be given to the Inspector prior to any contestant weighing in for the event. Fighters not honoring signed contract may be suspended for up to 6 months. If a fighter weighs in and then refuses to fight, they may be suspended for up to 1 year.

17. The Inspector shall provide **All fighters the opportunity to Pre-Weigh** a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the start of the OFFICIAL Weigh-In. There will be no recording of these weights.

18. **WEIGH-INS:** The location MUST be in an area where there is ample lighting for Inspectors to be able to conduct weigh-in and licensing of contestants. Notify the commission office with the time and location of weigh-in a minimum of 72 hours prior to the event. **Make sure contestants are made aware that they may be fined, suspended or both for being late for weigh-in or failing to make weight.**

19. **Opponents will be weighed in together, if both are available.** This makes it possible for opponents to verify the weight of their opponent.

After a fighter weighs in that fighter may LOSE WEIGHT to make the required weight. They have up to 1 hour to lose weight. They **MAY NEVER** add weight after their weight is first recorded.

\* Additional fees will be charged for Inspector(s) when a weigh-in is conducted the day prior to the event or prior to 3:00 PM the day of the event.

### **REQUIREMENTS AT THE EVENT:**

20. ALL officials will be assigned by the executive director and approved by the commission. A sanctioning body may submit a list of a minimum of four names to be considered as an official for the event. The commission is not required to select any of the names submitted.

21. The VENUE **MUST** provide clean and adequate dressing facilities with chairs for ALL Fighters and Officials. Opponents must be in separate dressing areas. If these can't be provided, Venues WILL NOT be permitted to host the event.

22. **SECURITY: There MUST be a minimum of 1 uniformed Police Officer at the event. No event will start without a police officer present. All other security personnel should be able to be identified.**

**23. PROMOTER MUST PROVIDE APPROVED GLOVES FOR ALL EVENTS.**

**ALL GLOVES MUST BE APPROVED BY INSPECTOR:**

(1). MMA EVENTS:

a) **MMA grappling gloves** must weigh minimum of 4oz and maximum of 8oz.

b) Provide Red gloves for Red Corner and Blue Gloves for Blue Corner. If gloves are other than RED or BLUE the PROMOTER must supply RED & BLUE DUCT taping the outside of gloves at the wrist.

c). Gloves may not have tears and must be in very good condition. Gloves should not be used for more than 2 or 3 events. Gloves not approved by Inspector will be marked by the Inspector so that they are not used for any future events.

d) Must have a ample amount of gloves for the event. There should be enough gloves to be prepared to have a minimum of 3 bouts ready to go in advance.

e. **Boxing Gloves:** 8oz gloves for 112 thru 147; 10oz gloves 148 thru Super HW

**\*ALL CONTESTANTS MUST WEAR GLOVES PROVIDED BY PROMOTER**

**\* NEW GLOVES MUST BE USED FOR ALL TITLE FIGHTS.**

24. \* the Promoter must supply Physician with pregnancy test to be given at pre-fight physical, for Female contestants. Have a female in attendance who will be available to issue test.

25. Inform all contestants, seconds and managers who need licenses, that they can download the license forms and fill them out prior to coming to the weigh-in. This will expedite the time at the weigh-in. **ALL CORNER PEOPLE MUST BE LICENSED.** A Corner man must have a valid license or a valid receipt to work the corner. If not they can chose not to work the corner or purchase another license.

26 Any fighter, manager, or second listed as suspended in MMA LLC (the National MMA Database), Fight Fax (The National Boxing Database), or any other database or by any state or tribal commission may not participate in any event in the state of Ohio.

27. **There must be a physical barrier separating the ring or cage and the officials from the audience.**

The barrier should be made of a solid material, such as metal, wood, fencing etc. When using any other types separating barriers, such as ropes, security tape, etc a **uniformed police officer** must also be stationed in the vicinity of the ring or cage. Venues not able to provide this type of barrier or security could be prevented from hosting an event.

28. Notify the arena where the event is occurring that all beverages must be served in **paper or plastic containers** and all food served on paper plates with plastic utensils.

29. BOXING Events MUST provide 3 higher backed seats for judges.

30. Must supply plastic water bottles, buckets and towels in each corner.

31. **Have a cleaning substance in a spray type container to be used to clean blood and debris in cage or ring. (A solution of 10% Bleach and 90% water is an acceptable solution). Provide personnel with towels and mop available to dry up wet spots on ring or cage floor.**

**32. The cage or ring floor must be cleaned with the above substance or similar substance when there is any noticeable blood or sweat on floor for Mixed Martial Art bouts.**

33. Be sure to complete the evacuation form and give it to the Inspector prior to the start of the event.

34. All assigned officials' pay MUST be given to Inspector prior to start of the event. If payment is made by check and check is not valid, the promoter's license will be suspended immediately until all financial matters are cleared and all payments have been made.

35. The promoter will withhold payment of any purse when requested to do so by the inspector or commission representative for non performance or for failing any initial drug test. The executive director will notify the promoter and the contestant of when and how to make payments following any possible hearing.

36. Promoters or their delegates shall be restricted from consuming any alcoholic beverages during the event and must be available for Inspector throughout the event. The Inspector will only deal with the promoter or their delegate at an event.

37. \*Inform any Disc Jockey or anyone playing music at the event that there will be NO PROFANITY or ETHNICS verses played at anytime during the event. The Promoter's license is subject to suspension if this occurs.

**\* NEW PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING ALL MMA EVENTS TO MIXED MARTIAL ARTS LLC – (OFFICIAL RECORD KEEPER).**

In order to officially register your event, go to:

<http://abc.mixedmartialarts.com> and

Click the Request Promoters Credentials link

This takes you to <http://abc.mixedmartialarts.com/?fa=login.Requestcreds>

After you have registered with Mixed Martial Arts LLC, you will be provided with details on registering your events, developing your bouts, and the fee structure. This system will be a benefit to you in the future. Since Mixed Martial Arts LLC is the only official mixed martial arts registry, it is imperative for the safety and progress of the sport, that all information is supplied to and received from their database.

1. Events are not considered official until approved by the commission.
2. A permit form listing the location date, time and promoter's information (email address) must be submitted with the \$50 permit fee to the Commission office no earlier than 60 days prior to the date of the event.
3. The promoter will be notified if that date is available and it will be assigned to them for their event. In the event 2 events arrive at the same time for same vicinity the commission will select the one event that is permitted by coin toss.
4. \* ONCE EVENT has been approved by the Executive Director the PROMOTER must register the event with Mixed Martial Arts LLC, this is the recognized National Database for MMA. This event will then be placed into the list of events for approval. Fighters names should be posted no later than the Monday prior to the start of the event. **If a BOUT is denied remarks will be placed as to why it was denied**

**NOTE:** If a fighter's last fight is listed as NSF in the National database, (not entered by a commission) the fighter **WILL NOT** be permitted to compete in Ohio for **60 days following the NSF bout.**

5. Information needed from fighter to enter name into database for approval of bout:

- a) Fighter's National ID number if they have one.
  - \*b) Fighter's First, Middle, and Last Name
  - \*c) Fighter's Date of Birth (**Entering a false DOB, will result in a suspension and possible criminal charges**) Bout will be denied if there is no Date of Birth for fighter is listed.
  - \*d) Fighter's height and weight
- \*MANDATORY INFORMATION**

6. If a fighter has **NO NATIONAL ID they may not fight. They can get their National ID and Ohio License at the event. They must provide photo identification.**

7. ALL PROFESSIONAL bouts and fighter's names must be listed on the official bout sheet in the National Database for Commission approval. The names MUST be submitted no later than the 10 days prior to the regular scheduled Commission



meeting. ALL Commission Meetings are scheduled FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> Tuesday of each month, unless posted different on website.

**\*8. A MAXIMUM of 18 BOUTS may be scheduled.**

9. Inspectors **WILL NOT** match up fighters at the event if opponents do not show for event. ANY changes MUST go through Executive Director.

**\*10. NO CHANGES TO THE CARD WILL BE CONSIDERED AFTER BOUT SHEET HAS BEEN SENT TO PROMOTER AND INSPECTOR. ANY request for changes after this time must be submitted directly to the Executive Director.**

11. Amateur MMA Fighters 35 years and over MUST compete in the Masters 35 and Over Division for a minimum of 3 fights. If they have a winning record after 3 fights they may apply to the Commission to fight in any age group. Fighters MUST compete in their own age groups.

**12. MAKE SURE of contestant's age because of additional medical requirements for contestants 35 and over.**

**IMPORTANT:**

- MAKE sure fighters know they are responsible for their actions prior to, during and after the event. This includes any damage that they may cause at the arena or hotel venue.