

CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR SANCTIONED EVENTS

LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Promoter's Licence (Annual)

Any promoter wanting to put on professional combat sport events in the City of Vancouver must apply for a Promoter's License. The application form is available online at www.vancouver.ca/vac. The applicant must authorize a criminal record check as part of the application and is required to pay a Promoter's License fee by cheque. This cheque should be made out to the "**Vancouver Athletic Commission**" and delivered to the City Clerk's Office along with the application form. Should a Promoter's License be granted, the fee will not be refundable.

If approved by the Athletic Commission, the licence will be valid for the current calendar year.

2. Licences for fighters, managers and seconds (Annual)

Fighters, managers and seconds must all obtain licences from the Vancouver Athletic Commission before being able to participate in any sanctioned events. This permit is valid for the current calendar year. At the weigh-in for each event, Fighters, Managers and Seconds shall produce their current license issued by the Commission.

Any fighter suspended by a Commission in any other jurisdiction will not be granted a license by the Vancouver Athletic Commission until the said suspension is lifted, nor will he/she be allowed to participate in any event while the said suspension remains in effect.

APPLICATION PROCESS

3. Events that require sanctioning by the Vancouver Athletic Commission

Any professional combat sport (including, but not limited to boxing, kickboxing, wrestling, and any form of martial arts) taking place in the City of Vancouver must be sanctioned by the Vancouver Athletic Commission, pursuant to the Vancouver Athletic Commission By-law No. 2875.

The conditions and procedures below apply to all combat sport events regulated by the Vancouver Athletic Commission except for professional wrestling. Please contact the Commission for further information on the conditions and procedures for professional wrestling.

4. Application and Review

A promoter wanting to hold an event in the City of Vancouver must apply in writing to the Vancouver Athletic Commission providing notice of intent to hold a combat sport event in Vancouver. This notice must be received at least **sixty (60) days prior** to the event accompanied by a cheque for the non-refundable event fee and include the following information and such other information as may be requested by the Commission:

- Date of the event
- Location
- Type of combat sport
- Number and sequence of bouts and interval between bouts
- Intermissions
- Advertising and/or other commercial endeavours, and entertainment planned
- Expected attendance
- Names and roles of all officials at the event including referees, scorekeepers, and timekeepers
- Security and staging plan including dimensioned floor plan showing:
 - seating, locations;
 - size and location of the ring;
 - Locations of any washrooms and concession areas;
 - venue occupant load;
 - exits and entrances specifically identifying those that are being used for the event;
 - location and numbers of security staff and their duties; and,
 - the name of the security company involved or information detailing who is responsible for security for the event.
- Whether alcohol will be served at the event, and if so what type of liquor license is in use.

The security plan may require review and approval of the Vancouver Police Department and the Police Department may require at their discretion the attendance of uniformed officers, the cost of which is to be borne by the promoter.

The promoter shall meet with the Commission at least **thirty (30 days)** before the proposed engagement to review the satisfactory completion of all conditions and procedures. Once the Commission is satisfied that the necessary licences have been obtained, the necessary deposits have been made, the seat tax has been paid, the insurance and indemnities are satisfactory, and initial medical examinations and blood tests of the contestants have been submitted, then the Commission may provide written confirmation to the promoter that the event is sanctioned subject to meeting the remaining requirements of the Commission. The Commission reserves the right to cancel this sanctioning at any time, if it is not satisfied that all its conditions are met.

5. Pro-Am Events

A pro-am event may be allowed by the Vancouver Athletic Commission provided there is a clear distinction between the sanctioning of the professional and amateur cards. The professional card must be sanctioned by the Commission and the amateur card must be sanctioned separately by an amateur sanctioning body deemed acceptable by the Commission. The promoter must comply with the amateur regulations for the amateur portion and the professional portion must be run in accordance with Commission regulations. The promoter's insurance and indemnification must cover both the amateur and professional portions of the event.

The amateur bouts will be held first followed by an intermission of at least 10 minutes to allow for a changeover of medical and officiating staff, followed by the professional bouts.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

6. Event Fees

Event Fee - At the time of application for the event, the promoter must submit a cheque for the event fee.

Seat Tax – The seat tax is based on the capacity of the facility and must be paid at least **thirty (30) days prior to the event.**

7. Deposit to cover expenses

The promoter shall remit to the Office of the City Clerk, at least **thirty (30) days prior** to the event, a certified cheque in an amount satisfactory to the Commission and payable to the Commission in an amount deemed necessary by the Commission to cover the following expenses:

- Fees of the Medical Director and Ringside Physicians
- Seat Taxes
- Medical expenses including testing required by the Medical Director
- Ambulance charges including medical transportation if required
- Policing costs (if a deposit is required by the City or Commission)
- Costs related to judges and other officials
- Purse money payable to the fighters competing in the event
- Any other costs or expenses estimated by the Commission that are or will be payable to the Commission or the City in regulating, sanctioning or permitting the event to take place

Following the event, the promoter will provide a financial statement of the costs and payouts for the event to the Commission to submit for reimbursement of the financial deposit. The Vancouver Athletic Commission will provide the promoter with a statement of its expenses related to the deposit. Any unused funds will be refunded to the promoter. The promoter bears responsibility for any costs not fully covered by the deposit.

8. Payment of purse

At the discretion of the Commission, the promoter will provide either:

- a. Deposit to cover purses— as noted in section 7 above (Deposits), the amount of the fighter purses will be included in the deposit. After the fight, the Commission will designate a Commissioner(s) to witness payouts directly to the fighters from the promoter. On confirmation of the payouts, the Commission will return the deposit amount to the promoter.

OR

- b. Certified cheques – certified cheques made out in the names of each fighter based on the agreed payout amounts will be provided to the Commission. After the event, the Commission will provide these cheques to each fighter.

If a mismatched bout is cancelled, the fighter meeting his/her contractual obligations shall be entitled to not less than fifty percent (50%) of his/her purse.

The Commission may withhold or direct the Promoter to withhold payment of the purse payable to any fighter if in the judgment of the Commission the fighter is not competing honestly or to the best of his or her skill and ability or the contestant otherwise violates any provisions of the conditions and procedures.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

9. Medical Director

The Commission will appoint a Medical Director who will be responsible for oversight of the medical requirements set by the Commission for each event. The Medical Director must:

- carry a full license issued by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia
- carry a Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) assistance plan; and
- carry additional malpractice or professional errors & omissions insurance to cover those duties and responsibilities not eligible for CMPA assistance (if applicable)

The Medical Director will

- review medical forms submitted by fighters in advance of an event to determine if they can participate in the event and if any further investigations are required;
- contact BC Ambulance Services for paramedics to attend the event (see section 12);
- oversee the activities of the ringside physicians;
- physically examine fighters (see sections 11.b and c) and provide medical treatment at his/her discretion on the day of the pre-fight physical exam, during

- the event, and immediately following the event;
- determine and advise in the lifting of medical suspensions (see section 11.c);
- coordinate urine drug testing on fighters selected by the commission;
- keep appropriate documentation of all the above
- submit a summary report to the commission indicating
 - injuries of fighters and their medical suspensions
 - results of any drug testing
 - any recommendations or feedback the Medical Director has for the commission in general

10. Ringside Physicians

The Medical Director, in collaboration with the Vancouver Athletic Commission, will appoint at least two ringside physicians for each event. The ringside physicians must:

- carry a full license issued by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia
- carry a Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) assistance plan; and
- carry additional malpractice or professional errors & omissions insurance to cover those duties and responsibilities not eligible for CMPA assistance (if applicable).

The ringside physicians and Medical Director will conduct pre-fight and post-fight medical examinations (see 11b and 11c), provide assessment and immediate treatment of any injuries during a fight, and may stop a fight to prevent serious injury to a fighter. All physicians’ seats should provide unobstructed viewing and access to the ring or cage.

11. Medical Examinations

a. Initial Medical Examination

By thirty (30) days prior to each event, the promoter shall submit to the Medical Director a completed and signed medical examination form for each fighter and stand-by fighter. The Vancouver Athletic Commission medical form is available on the web site. Completion of this form by a licensed physician is mandatory and this medical examination must have been completed **within sixty (60) days prior** to the event.

Note: the Medical Director requires sufficient time to review the medical forms; therefore, incomplete or late forms may result in a fighter not being permitted to participate in the event.

Fighters who have fought within **sixty (60) days** of the event must be **re-examined** by a licensed physician and submit an updated medical form.

Fighters may be required to undergo further medical testing before a fight, and may be prohibited from competing at the discretion of the Medical Director or Commission.

b. Pre-fight physical exam

On the day before the fight, a pre-fight physical examination of all fighters will be done at a location in the City of Vancouver by the Medical Director and ringside physician(s). Based on findings, the Medical Director may prohibit a fighter from participating. If a fighter is deemed unfit to fight, he/she must follow up with a physician for further assessment.

c. Post-fight physical exam and medical suspensions

Prior to leaving the dressing room after an event, all fighters will undergo a post-fight physical examination by the Medical Director and/or ringside physician(s). The Medical Director will decide if fighters need to be sent to hospital for urgent investigations (e.g. CT scan of brain).

In the event that any treatment is required after the fight, such as stitching of cuts or splinting, the Medical Director and/or ringside physician(s) shall treat any injuries within their scope of expertise or direct the fighter to the nearest hospital emergency department to receive such treatment as necessary. The Medical Director and/or ringside physician(s) will ensure that the fighter is stabilized, that all cuts have been cleaned and properly covered, and that the fighter is safe for transport before allowing the fighter to leave for the hospital.

The Medical Director will determine and recommend minimum medical suspension periods for the fighters. Such suspensions will be in the public domain. All fighters will be advised to follow up with a qualified physician for clearance to participate in any future combat sport event.

Example: The Medical Director issues a medical suspension indicating that a fighter should rest for X number of days and obtain radiological investigations and a clearance letter from a specialist. In the meantime, the Vancouver Athletic Commission will keep record of the suspension. Once the Medical Director has received all required reports, he decides whether to advise the commission to lift the suspension or not. Lifting of a suspension is a necessary administrative step before a fighter can participate in another event. However, the fighter will still need to pass medical procedures required by the commission of the next event he wishes to participate in.

12. Ambulance and Paramedics

The Medical Director will arrange for an ambulance and paramedics through BC Ambulance Services Special Operations Department (604-660-1759) to be in attendance. An ambulance must be on-site at all times while any bout is taking place to be available immediately if an injury occurs.

13. Lab Testing

- (a) At least **thirty (30) days prior** to the event, all fighters are required to submit results for tests indicated on the Vancouver Athletic Commission medical form (including CBC, HIV, Hepatitis B and C). These tests must have been performed within 90 days of the event.
- (b) On the recommendation of the Medical Director, the Commission reserves the right to exclude a fighter from the event.
- (c) In addition to (a), all female fighters must submit a pregnancy test within seven days of the event.

14. Drug Testing

All fighters will be required to sign a declaration confirming their understanding that random and/or targeted drug testing will be carried out. (See section 17).

After the weigh-in or after the bouts, fighters may be chosen at random by the Commission to undergo a urine drug test on site witnessed by a commission representative. Commissioners will be the only parties to know of the selected fighters in advance. Fighters will not be paid after the bout until the urine sample has been provided.

If fighters refuse to provide a sample, or if the test result is positive, further participation in an athletic event sanctioned by the Commission may be prohibited for a time period as determined by the Commission, and other athletic commissions and sport governing bodies may be notified of any suspensions.

Fighters will be informed of positive test results with a letter from the Commission outlining any action to be taken. Positive drug tests are based on the World Anti-Doping Agency's most current list of prohibited substances. (Refer to WADA's website at: www.wada-ama.org). Results of drug testing will be in the public domain.

Sections 14 and 15 of these Conditions and Procedures are provided solely as a summary of the applicable anti-doping rules in effect. In the event of any conflict between (i) the terms of section 14 and/or section 15 of these Conditions and Procedures and (ii) the terms of any anti-doping rules or anti-doping policy determined by the Commission to be applicable to a given event, the latter will prevail.

15. Procedure for Drug Testing

- a) The fighters to be tested post-bout will be informed of such immediately following the bout.
- b) The fighter will be allowed to select a test kit, from a selection of at least 3 test kits.

- c) The fighter will be asked to provide a urine sample, in view of a Commissioner or designate of the same sex.
- d) The sample will be sealed and signed by both the fighter and the Commissioner, as per the chain of custody instructions.
- e) The chain of custody and consent document will be completed.
- f) The sample will be placed in the bag and sealed as per the chain of custody instructions.
- g) The sample will be placed in the box and will be transported to a Canadian lab for testing by the most appropriate means.
- h) The Medical Director is responsible for following up on urine results, and hence, his/her name must be placed on lab requisition forms. The Medical Director will share results with the Commission.

CONTRACT RESPONSIBILITIES

16. Promoter-Fighter Contract

The promoter shall supply the Commission with a completed copy of the Promoter-Fighter Contract for each and every participant in the event **seven (7) days prior** to the event. All copies of the Promoter-Fighter Contract must be signed by 1) the individual holding the Promoter’s License and 2) the fighter or manager. The promoter must provide fighters and/or their managers with copies of their contract(s).

17. Drug Testing Consent Form

Each fighter in an event must sign a drug consent form that must be submitted at least **seven (7) days prior** to the event or at such later time as specified by the Commission. This form provides consent for drug testing as required by the Commission.

18. Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement

Each fighter is required to sign a waiver (release of liability) in a form provided by the City. The signed forms must be provided to the Commission at least **seven (7) days prior** to the event or at such later time as specified by the Commission. The promoter must provide copies of the waivers to fighters with sufficient opportunity for participants to review waivers and have them translated, if necessary, prior to fighters signing the documents. The Commission and City at their discretion may require that the waivers be signed in front of a lawyer and may require written confirmation that the each fighter has obtained legal advice from a lawyer.

19. Governing Law and Jurisdiction Agreement (GLJA)

All out-of-country fighters must sign a GLJA agreement that confirms the fighters’

agreement that the Courts of B.C. have jurisdiction to hear any complaint, demand, claim proceeding or cause of action in connection with medical treatment provided by the Medical Director and Ringside Physicians.

20. Indemnity Agreement/Financial Security (Promoter – City)

The promoter will sign an indemnity agreement and provide financial security in a form satisfactory to the City’s Director of Legal Services.

INSURANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

21. Commercial General Liability Insurance

Promoters must provide evidence of **commercial general liability insurance** with limits of not less than \$2 million or such higher amount as may be required by City and Commission. The policy is to be issued in the promoter's name and shall name the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Athletic Commission, their officials, officers, employees and agents and the Medical Director and the Ringside Physicians as additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of the activities and operations conducted in respect of the event.

Promoters are to provide proof of the insurance in the form required (see “Liability Insurance Certificate” form on the Commission web site) at least **thirty (30) days** prior to the event.

22. Medical Insurance

Out-of-province competitors - The promoter is to provide the Commission with evidence of a minimum limit of \$100,000 **medical insurance** coverage for each out-of-province competitor or such higher amount as may be required by the City and the Commission.

BC Competitors – The promoter is to provide the Commission with proof of valid BC medical coverage for BC competitors participating in the event or additional insurance in an amount as may be required by the City and the Commission.

RULES

23. Number of rounds/bouts

There will be a **minimum of:**

- **6** bouts of mixed martial arts (MMA) or kick-boxing
- **30** rounds of boxing, or
- **15** rounds of professional boxing if the event is a pro-am card.

The Commission reserves the right to cancel a card if the number of rounds is not met. Should the Commission permit a reduced card, the promoter will be fined.

24. Rules of the governing body for the sport

The applicant (promoter) must undertake to comply with existing rules and regulations of the governing body or association for the applicant's sport.

25. Equipment

The promoter is responsible for supplying the number, size and type of gloves or other equipment as required by the Vancouver Athletic Commission.

FIGHT PROCEDURES (PRE, DURING, and POST)

26. Pre-Fight (Weigh-in)

Pre-fight medical examinations and Weigh-in shall take place on the day prior to the event at a place located in the City of Vancouver approved by the Commission. The promoter will provide an approved scale for the weigh-in.

Any fighters over their contracted weights may be subject to a fine, and in all cases the opponent of an overweight fighter has the right to refuse to fight.

Fighters, Managers and Seconds shall produce their current license issued by the Commission at the weigh-in.

27. During

The promoter shall be subject to a fine if the card does not commence at the designated time.

All fighters must undergo a hand wrap inspection by a Commission official prior to entering the ring.

Fighters may not bring in their own food, drink or medication to the event.

The Commission will advise the promoter of names of individuals requiring access to the event for the fulfilment of their roles. The promoter shall allow those individuals to enter the event at no charge and provide appropriate ringside or other seating as directed by the Commission.

28. Post-fight

A post-fight medical assessment will be done by the physicians as noted under Medical Requirements. Fighters will be paid their purses by the Commission representative or the Promoter after completion of post-fight medicals and any required urine testing. The promoter will provide the Commission with a financial statement of the costs and payouts for the event, which will be reviewed for the purposes of calculating any refund owed on the financial deposit.

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