

TITLE 14B – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.2 that the Boxing and Combat Sports Commission intends to amend the rules cited as 14B NCAC 10 .0605 and .0810.

Link to agency website pursuant to G.S. 150B-19.1(c): <https://www.ncdps.gov/boards-and-commissions/nc-boxing-and-combat-sports-commission>

Proposed Effective Date: September 1, 2025

Instructions on How to Demand a Public Hearing: (must be requested in writing within 15 days of notice): Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.2(e), a public hearing can be requested within 15 days of this notice of text being published by sending a written request to Alvin Coley at alvin.coley@ncdps.gov or 4235 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

Reason for Proposed Action: The Boxing and Combat Sports Commission seeks to amend Rules 14B NCAC 10 .0605 and .0810 to remove the required time for weigh-ins. This change is in response to requests by the regulated community, as this has created a hazard to combatants. Additional minor changes have been proposed for each rule to respond to pre-review notes following review by RRC counsel.

Comments may be submitted to: Alvin Coley, 4235 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699; email alvin.coley@ncdps.gov

Comment period ends: July 14, 2025

Procedure for Subjecting a Proposed Rule to Legislative Review: If an objection is not resolved prior to the adoption of the rule, a person may also submit a written objection to the Rules Review Commission. If the Rules Review Commission receives written and signed objections after the adoption of the Rule in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) from 10 or more persons clearly requesting review by the legislature and the Rules Review Commission approves the rule, the rule will become effective as provided in G.S. 150B-21.3(b1). The Commission will receive written objections until 5:00 p.m. on the day following the day the Commission approves the rule. The Commission will receive letters via U.S. Mail, private courier service, or hand delivery to 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina, or via email to oah.rules@oah.nc.gov. If you have any further questions concerning the submission of objections to the Commission, please review 26 NCAC 05 .0110 or call a Commission staff attorney at 984-236-1850.

Fiscal impact. Does any rule or combination of rules in this notice create an economic impact? Check all that apply.

- ☐ State funds affected
- ☐ Local funds affected
- ☐ Substantial economic impact (\geq \$1,000,000)
- ☐ Approved by OSBM
- ☒ No fiscal note required

CHAPTER 10 - BOXING AUTHORITY

SECTION .0600 - KICKBOXING

14B NCAC 10 .0605 AMATEURS - KICKBOXING

(a) In addition to compliance with ~~14A 14B~~ NCAC ~~12 10~~ .0201, .0301, .0402, ~~.0502~~ .0502, and .0601 through ~~.0604~~ .0604, the following requirements shall apply to amateur kickboxing matches.

- (1) Any contestant competing as an amateur ~~may~~ shall not currently ~~be~~, or have ever ~~been~~ been, a professional fighter in any ~~unarmed combat sport~~ striking sport. This includes mixed martial arts, boxing, karate, or any other form of a striking sport.
- (2) ~~Amateur weigh-ins must be scheduled no earlier than 12 Noon the day of the event.~~
- (3)(2) Contestants ~~must~~ shall wear footpads and shinguards ~~as meeting that comply with~~ the requirements of Rule .0602 in this Chapter.
- (4)(3) Contestants ~~must~~ shall wear ~~10-ounce~~ 10-ounce competition headgear with no jar bar or excessive ear padding. Training headgear is not allowed.
- (5)(4) Foot wrappings: For each foot, contestants ~~may~~ shall use ~~soft surgical gauze~~ bandage ~~not over more than~~ not over more than two inches wide, held in place by surgical adhesive tape, ~~not over more than~~ not over more than one and a half inches wide. Foot wrappings shall not exceed ~~three to~~ four windings of ~~soft surgical gauze~~ bandages around the sole and instep and no more than four windings around the ankle.
- (6)(5) Kicks below the waist are not permitted.

(b) Matches shall be three, two minute ~~rounds~~ rounds, with a one-minute rest period between rounds that includes a ~~10-second~~ 10-second warning signal.

(c) Kick counters that comply with the requirements of this Rule shall be in neutral corners only. Each contestant ~~must~~ shall score at least ~~6~~ six hard kicks per round.

(d) The promoter of record must provide to the Division the name, address, date of birth, and social security number of every amateur contestant scheduled to compete in ~~a program of matches~~ an event. This information ~~must~~ shall be submitted no later than seven calendar days prior to the event.

(e) A contestant shall have competed in a minimum of five recorded amateur matches prior to being submitted to compete as a professional kickboxing contestant.

(f) Contestants under 18 years of age may compete only in matches supervised by an Amateur Sport Organization that has been recognized by the Division. To obtain recognition, any Amateur Sports Organization shall establish and ~~provide~~ enact rules for the implementation of health and safety standards and all requirements related to the conduct of matches that are at least as restrictive as the applicable standards and requirements of the Division. Events open to the public where admission is charged for viewing must be conducted by a promoter licensed in accordance with the provisions of Rule .0402 of this Chapter.

History Note: Authority G.S. 143-652.1;

Eff. March 1, 2008;

Transferred from 14A NCAC 12. 0605 Eff. June 1, 2013;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018.

SECTION .0800 - MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

14B NCAC 10 .0810 AMATEUR-MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

(a) In addition to compliance with Rules .0201, .0301, ~~.0402~~ .0402, and .0801 through .0809 of this Chapter, the following requirements apply to amateur mixed martial arts matches:

(1) Any contestant competing as an amateur ~~may~~ shall not currently be or have ever ~~been~~ been, a professional fighter in any ~~unarmed combat~~ striking sport. This includes mixed martial arts, boxing, karate, or any other form of a striking sport;

~~(2) Amateur weigh-ins must be scheduled no earlier than 10 AM the day of the match;~~

~~(3)~~(2) Grappling shin guards are optional;

~~(4)~~(3) Elbow strikes to the head ~~are~~ shall not be allowed;

~~(5)~~(4) Striking with the point of the elbow ~~is~~ shall not be allowed;

~~(6)~~(5) Knees to the head at anytime ~~are~~ shall not be allowed;

~~(7)~~(6) Kicks of any type to the head ~~are~~ shall not be allowed; and

~~(8)~~(7) A contestant ~~may~~ shall only strike to the head with his or her fist.

(b) The promoter of record that comply with the requirements of this Rule shall provide to the Division the name, address, date of ~~birth~~ birth, and social security number of every amateur contestant ~~s~~ scheduled to compete in ~~a program of matches~~ an event. This information shall be submitted no later than seven calendar days prior to the event.

(c) A contestant shall have a minimum of five recorded amateur matches prior to being submitted to compete as a professional mixed martial arts contestant. This five match requirement shall be waived by the Division representative if the contestant has previously ~~completely competed~~ in at least five professional boxing or kickboxing ~~matches~~ matches, or any combination thereof.

(d) Contestants under 18 years of age ~~may~~ shall compete only in matches supervised and regulated by an Amateur Sports Organization that has been recognized by the Division. To obtain recognition, any Amateur Sports Organization shall establish and provide rules for the implementation of health and safety standards and all requirements related to the conduct of matches that are at least as restrictive as the applicable standards and requirements of the Division. Events open to the public where admission is charged for viewing shall be conducted by a promoter licensed in accordance with the provisions of Rule .0402 of this Chapter.

History Note: Authority G.S. 143-652.1;

Eff. March 1, 2008;

Transferred from 14A NCAC 12 .0810 Eff. June 1, 2013;

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