

# WBC MUAYTHAI AMATUER

## ADULT 18+ RULES & REGULATIONS



## WBC Muaythai Amateur is:

- Herein Referred to as the WBCMTA
- The World Boxing Council's International sanctioning body and authority for Muaythai amateur as recognized by the Sports Authority of Thailand.
- A Non-Profit International Sports Organization that is registered with the Sports Authority of Thailand.
- WBCMTA is affiliated with the World Boxing Council Muay Thai and is the Amateur Division of WBC Muaythai.

For further information, please go to:

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## WBC MUAYTHAI AMATUER / WBCMTA

WBCMTA rules are the approved rules for Muaythai Competitions internationally by the WBCMTA Global Chairman, and Vice Chairman.

All promotions sanctioned by the WBCMTA that include one off bouts are sanctioned as WBC events and utilize these rules for all one-off bouts, 4- or 8-man events. Every nation has varied legislation and the rules must be adapted for legal use/approval in each nation.

WBCMTA rules are to be utilized for any tournaments that are set for State and National Championships and selection events for international competition. WBCMTA rules are based on the WBC Muaythai (World Boxing Council Muaythai) rules for adults. This is overlaid with a class-based athlete system in order to ensure we have a progressive and safe development system from Novice to Professional.

These rules are for one-off matches, development shows, and routine competitions. Any deviation from these rules requires written permission from WBCMTA after consideration of the purpose and circumstances of the deviation. National legislation and laws must always be followed and supersede all WBCMTA rule requirements. WBCMTA is duty bound to promote Muaythai and therefore to lobby the government for permission to follow the rules of our sport.

All WBCMTA rules are to be utilized uniformly internationally. These rules are for all classes of competition, and athletes including COMPETITOR (B-Class), NOVICE (C-Class). Professional or A-Class ELITE, should refer to the professional rules for WBC Muay Thai. For all JUNIOR competitions refer to our Junior Rules and Regulations. This could also read – A-class - Professional, B-class, Amateur, C-Class – Development. Nations or regions without legislation should use A class for professional and B class for amateur delineation.

These rules are required for any WBCMTA endorsed promotion or competition. WBCMTA endorsement is contingent on the promotion always following these rules and government legislation.

WBCMTA is the sport of Muaythai with some rule adjustments for the safe and progressive development of both adults and juniors in Amateur competition.

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## **RULE 1: RING REQUIREMENTS**

**In general competitions, the ring will be as follows:**

- 1.1.** The boxing ring must be equipped with an approved safety mat and shall measure no less than 18 feet (5.5meters) nor more than 24 feet (7.3 meters) square between the ropes unless mutually agreed to by both camps and authorized by both the local combat sports commission and the WBC MuayThai supervisor. The apron shall extend a minimum of 24 inches (0.61 meters) beyond the ropes.
- 1.2.** The ring floor must be placed at least 60cm from the ground, preferably 1.2m but not more than 1.50 meters. In each of the four ring corners, one ring post of 10 to 12.5 centimeters in diameter is erected no more than 2.70 meters from the ground. A top-up of canvas must cover the entire ring area, being tightly and smoothly secured.
- 1.3.** The ring installation is to position the red corner on the left-hand side of the Supervisor of the ring official's table, the blue corner opposite to the red corner and the other two shall be neutral corners.
- 1.4.** There shall be 4 surrounding ring ropes of 3 to 5 centimeters in diameter, padded with smooth and soft material, attached tightly to the four corner posts. The ropes shall be attached at 45 centimeters, 75 centimeters, 1.05 meters and 1.35 meters from the ring floor, respectively as measured to the top of the ropes. The ropes of each side must be held by two strong pieces of cloth, 3 to 4 centimeters wide, equally spaced from each other. Such pieces of cloth must be tightly tied to hold the ropes. All four corners must be padded with cushioning or other material in good condition to protect the Athletes from any harm. There must be a set of steps for each corner. A third set of steps shall be located near the neutral corner for the referee, doctor, etc.
- 1.5.** Two boxes made of plastic or of other material shall be provided in both neutral corners: one box each (outside the ring) for the referee to dispose of cotton or fallen material. Athletes compete out of either the red or blue corner. Promoters may utilize other colors for the corners; for example, black and white, or black and red for athletes shorts and promotions. If the two corner colors are distinctive to each other.

## **RULE 2: RING EQUIPMENT FOR COMPETITION**

**The ring shall contain the following equipment:**

- Two chairs (stools) or swivel chairs for Athletes
- A mop to wipe the ring floor
- Two towels or sanitary wipes
- Tables and chairs for officials
- A bell or siren
- 2 stopwatches – timers.
- Score cards
- A locked box for scorecards
- A set of rounds, time showcase, and bout markers
- A stretcher
- A pair of safety scissors
- Other instruments essential for the competitions (e.g., an amplifier and a microphone)

### RULE:3 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR COMPETITION

- National, regional, and local legislation MUST be followed and supersedes any WBCMTA rules.
- These rules are the minimum standard for WBCMTA regardless of legislation or the lack of legislation.
- All protective equipment MUST be WBCMTA approved and checked by an official at the competition.
- Equipment can be shared if an approved cleaning station is utilized.
- Personal equipment can be approved for use by the state reps as part of a viral management plan.
- No additional padding/strapping is authorized on any part of the body, unless authorized by a WBCMTA official.
- Protective equipment should be red or blue representing the athlete's corner, black may be used if not possible.

The equipment shown is to demonstrate the standard required by WBCMTA for the Class of competition. The brands may vary by event but must be endorsed by WBCMTA; this is only a sample of the style and protection required as a MINIMUM standard. Headgear must be open faced without cheek protection, chin padding or face shield



HEAD GEAR



GLOVES



SHIN PADS



CHEST GUARD



ELBOW GUARD



HANDWRAPS



ANKLE GUARDS



MALE FEMALE  
GROIN GUARD PROTECTION



FEMALE CHEST GUARDS

## RULE 4: GLOVES

**4.1.** For gloves used in competition, the leather portion must not be heavier than one-half (1/2) of the glove's total weight and the glove's inner pads must weigh at least one-half (1/2) of the total weight. It is not permitted to change the shape of the glove's inner pads or to rub the glove's inner pads spreading them from the original shape.

**4.2.** Athletes must exclusively use gloves certified/approved by WBCMT. They must be approved by the Head Official or Supervisor at each event.

**4.3.** Gloves are preferred as lace up however Velcro gloves are acceptable if approved by the head WBCMTA official:

- Glove laces must be tied with knots behind the wrists.
- Gloves must be taped to cover any laces or strapping, the color of their respective corner.
- Gloves must be inspected and stamped by the authorized glove inspector (WBC Official) who must observe and control glove wearing to ensure that the Athletes wear gloves according to the rules until the Athlete's step into the ring.

**4.4.** The glove sizes for competitions are as follows:

### **Novice (B + C Class)**

- Between Super Featherweight and Welterweight divisions, they must wear ten (10) ounce gloves (67kg and below).
- Super Welterweight division and over must wear gloves of twelve (12) ounces (67kg and above).

### **A-Class & Professional:**

- Between Super Featherweight and Welterweight divisions, they must wear eight (8) ounce gloves (67kg and below). • Super Welterweight division and over must wear gloves of ten (10) ounces (67kg and above).

## RULE 5: HAND BANDAGES

**5.1.** All C-Class athletes are to wear cloth hand wraps only. All State and National tournaments are in cloth hand wraps only. Attached Velcro okay. NO TAPE.

**5.2.** Athletes must wrap their hands with soft hand bandages no longer than six (6) meters and no wider than five (5) centimeters for each hand.

**5.3.** B Class Athletes may use strapping tape, no longer than two and a half meters (2.5m) and no more than two and a half (2.50) centimeters wide for each hand, to top-up on the wrist or back of the hand but must be ¾' behind the tip of the knuckle with clinched fist.

**5.4.** No tape of any type is to cover the knuckles or build up the knuckles. One strip is authorized between the knuckles to tie the wraps in but must not protrude.

**5.5.** Athletes can use their own hand wraps or have their hands wrapped by their trainer.

**5.6.** All hand wraps MUST be inspected and approved by an WBCMTA (or Government) official for ALL bouts.

## **RULE 6: ATTIRE**

**6.1.** Athletes must wear Muay Thai shorts neatly at half-thigh length. An athlete's shorts must NOT be the color of the other corner. Shorts should preferably be the same as or close to the corner representing. Shorts cannot be split at the sides exposing underwear.

**6.2.** Athletes must wear groin protection for the genital organs, made of strong material capable of protecting them. The use of the groin guard is mandatory. For male athletes, a metal groin protector shall be worn, and a jock strap may be worn in addition. For female athletes, a female groin protector shall be worn (optional but recommended).

**6.3.** Athletes' fingernails and toenails must be closely and neatly cut.

**6.4.** Athletes shall wear a headband (Mongkon) only when they pay homage (Wai Kru) before the bout. During the bout Athletes may wear an inscribed cloth, amulet, or charm around the upper arm (Prajiad). If the amulet interferes with the flow of the bout, it must be removed immediately by the referee or corner.

**6.5.** Athletes may wear ankle supports, one for each ankle, but not to be shin supports, or to roll halfway down. Wrapping the ankles and legs with pieces of cloth is not permitted.

**6.6.** Ankle supports are not to be padded and may only be made of cloth. Nothing is to be worn under the ankle support.

**6.7.** Any taping MUST be approved by an WBCMTA official at the same time as hand wraps are inspected. Taping must not give an advantage to the athlete for impact.

**6.8.** Athletes shall not wear belts, jewelry or any dangerous ornaments as determined by an official.

**6.9.** Liniment is allowed on the athlete but cannot be excessive, Vaseline can be used in minimal quantities to limit cuts. Vaseline, liniment, or related products cannot be used on any attire including gloves.

**6.10.** Form fitted gum shields must be worn during the contest.

**6.11.** Additional Protective Equipment:

- Head Gear
- Chest Guards
- Shin Guards
- Elbow Guards

Are to be worn in accordance with the rules and is superseded by any government legislation.

## **RULE 7: RING ENTRY / PAYING HOMAGE (WAI KRU)**

### **7.1. Entering the Ring**

- Athletes may enter the ring over, through or under the ropes. If proceeding over the ropes the athlete should wear the Mongkon. If going through or under the Mongkon is placed on immediately after entering.
- Athletes proceed to the center of the ring to acknowledge judges upon returning to their corner they will be inspected for their equipment check by the referee.
- Athletes shall shake hands before the beginning of the first round and before the beginning of the final round, symbolizing that they will compete in the spirit of sportsmanship and in accordance with the official rules and regulations.

### **7.2. Paying Homage**

- The Mongkon is to be worn by all athletes while sealing the ring and performing the Wai Kru, the minimum an athlete can perform is sealing the ring. Exemptions can be applied for by WBCMT representatives if required for promotional reasons. Wai Kru music is played during and muay Thai music throughout the bout.
- Athletes are encouraged to perform a proper Wai Kru consisting of Starting Postures, Sitting Postures and Standing Postures. A time limit may be used for promotional reasons.



## RULE 8: WEIGHT DIVISIONS

**8.1.** Athletes must be a minimum of 16 years old to compete as an adult. 18 in some regions but never under 16. Local laws and regulations prevail.

**8.2.** Athletes competing against each other in tournaments must not be more than 2 weight divisions apart or max 5kgs.

**8.3.** Catch weights are approved for non-title bouts but not encouraged.

For Tournaments and C Class			A, B Class, WBC Title Bouts, Professionals		
WEIGHT CLASS	MAX POUNDS	MAX KILOGRAMS	WEIGHT CLASS	MAX POUNDS	MAX KILOGRAMS
Atom-weight		45	Minimum-Weight	105	47.627
Light flyweight		48	Light-Flyweight	108	48.987
Flyweight		51	Flyweight	112	50.802
Bantamweight		54	Super-Flyweight	115	52.163
Featherweight		57	Bantamweight	118	53.524
Jr Lightweight		60	Super-Bantamweight	122	55.338
Lightweight		63.5	Featherweight	126	57.153
Welterweight		67	Super-Featherweight	130	58.967
Jr Middleweight		71	Lightweight	135	61.235
Female Only		75+	Super-Lightweight	140	63.503
Middleweight		76	Welterweight	147	66.678
Super Middleweight		81	Super-Welterweight	154	69.853
Cruiserweight		86	Middleweight	160	72.575
Heavyweight		91	Supermiddleweight	168	76.204
Super Heavyweight		96+	Light-Heavyweight	175	79.379
			Cruiserweight	200	90.718
			Heavyweight	+200	+ 90.718 kilos

## **RULE 9: WEIGH IN**

### **9.1. Tournament & C Class:**

- Athletes must have at least three (3) hours of rest after the weigh-in, before the beginning of the bout. Amateurs are recommended to weigh in on the same day as the bout. Recommended time is between 3 and 6 hours from the competition. But not greater than 30 hours from the competition.
- C-class bouts on a professional event can be approved to weigh in at the 24-hr. weigh-in, by the head WBCMTA official, if both athletes are present, and neither is disadvantaged.

### **9.2. WBCMTA tournaments:**

- Athletes must weigh in on the day of each competition day.
- Night before weigh-ins can be approved to assist tournament management but must be followed up by days of competition weigh-ins for finals and subsequent days.
- Athletes must weigh-in with Muaythai shorts (& crop top for females).
- The athlete's manager or their representative may witness the weigh-in from outside the weigh-in area only. Parents and spectators are not allowed in the tournament weigh-in area.

### **9.3. B Class**

- B-class only events can have either a day before or same day weigh in as determined by the promoter and the Supervisor or Head official.

### **9.4. Professional – A Class Elite Athletes**

- Must be conducted no more than 1 day prior (24-30 hrs.) to the commencement of competition.
- Professional and Pro-Am events should have one official weigh in.

### **9.5. Medical**

- Before weigh-in, the Athletes must have their medical paperwork confirmed. This must be sighted and approved by the Head Official or Supervisor.
- Athletes must present or have evidence of serology test (including HIV and all classes of Hep) and a medical approval to compete, as governed by local laws and regulations.
- Blood tests are required for 16 and older and must be no older than 6 months.
- Medicals must be conducted annually for athletes. Medicals are valid for 12 months.
- The medicals must be on WBCMTA medical paperwork with original copies of serology.

### **9.6. Females**

- Athletes MUST be given the opportunity to weigh in in private if requested. A private female weigh in can only be conducted by other female's officials/witnesses. Tournaments cannot be conducted this way.

### **9.7. Video**

- A video weigh in can occur if conducted on an official set of scales and an WBCMTA representative is supervising.
- Video weigh-ins can only be conducted due to distance from the official weigh-in being more than 100km.
- A video weigh in must cite the individual and the scales, and only in circumstances where the amateur competition does not provide traveling allowances or accommodation for the athlete.
- WBCMTA officials may ask for the scales to be tested with a 20kg weight plate.
- No video weigh-in for Tournament, Professional (A Class), International or Title bouts but are authorized for 30-day, 14- day and 7-day weight pre-checks that are mandatory for all Title fights.

- 9.8.** All day before weighs in require a safety weight check on fight day. The weight gain cannot be above 10% of body weight or the fight will be cancelled due to safety concerns about dehydration / improper weight cutting practices.

## RULE 10: SECONDS

**10.1.** Tournaments, B and C class bouts may have a maximum of two (2) seconds. Only 1 second is allowed to enter the ring during round breaks.

**10.2.** A Class and Elite (professional) bouts a maximum of three (3) corner persons is allowed. Only one 1 second is allowed to enter the ring during round breaks.

### **10.3. Seconds Duties**

- During the bout seconds must remain seated. Before each round they must clear all towels, water bottles and other materials from the ring platform.
- The safety of the athletes and to give tactical advice to the athlete. Seconds cannot say anything about or to the opponent's corner or athlete. All advice should be sportsmanlike and professional.
- During the bout breaks seconds must correct any attire in readiness for the bout.
- If applying water on Athletes, the seconds shall not wet the ring floor. They must also towel the excess water off the Athlete. Liniment cannot be applied during the bout. Vaseline can only be applied to the face to prevent cuts or as first aid for cuts and must be minimal.
- Seconds must wear uniforms or shirts with their boxing camp symbol, which are in no way offensive or abusive. Long pants and closed toed shoes are the standard. Shorts and open toed shoes are not permissible.
- The Athlete's coach may give up for his Athlete by throwing in a towel in front of the referee (where permissible), or may signal to the Supervisor to tell referee to stop the fight where not permissible. They cannot throw in any other object and not while a count is in progress.
- Seconds cannot touch the ring during the bout. Any banging or climbing on the ring (unless to throw in the towel) will result in the referee stopping the bout. The corner will be warned, and the athlete may be penalized a point if the referee deems the interference unsportsmanlike or interferes in the conduct of the bout.

**10.4.** Seconds are responsible for their own equipment and medical supplies for the bout consisting of:

- Water/Bucket (water bottles should have a pour spout or hole in the cap to avoid round start delay due to caps left in the ring)
- Ice (In a bag that does not leak) • Towel/s
- Adrenaline of 1/1000 solution, mixed with Vaseline or other substances as approved by the ring doctor.
- First aid equipment including: Gauze, tape, cotton buds, safety scissors, wound bandages, absorbent cotton bandages or wound soft bandages.

## RULE 11: REFEREES

The primary concern of the referees should always be the care of the Athletes.

### 11.1. Referees Attire:

Referees must wear black trousers, black flat soled shoes and shirts with WBCMTA emblem on the shirt. All officials MUST wear the same attire. Any accessories such as eyeglasses, watches, jewelry, belt with metal buckle or fastener, and headwear are prohibited. Fingernails must be closely and neatly cut.

### 11.2. Referees Duties

- To use three commands as follows:
  - YUD/STOP: To order the Athletes to stop.
  - YAK/BREAK: To order the Athletes to separate from each other. After the YAK/BREAK command both Athletes must step back at least one step before awaiting the referee's command.
  - CHOK/BOX: To order the Athletes to start/continue the bout.
- To prevent a weaker athlete from receiving undue and unnecessary punishment, this includes calling a break whenever posture is broken giving an unfair advantage in the clinch.
- Control that the rules and fair play are strictly observed.
- To interpret rules and implement the rules. Or to decide to act upon any situations not provided in the rules.
- To closely control the bout at all times.
- To inspect the Athlete's gloves, attire, protective gear and gum shields.
- Referees shall show a clear and proper signal when cautioning an athlete's foul.
- When the referee disqualifies an Athlete because of a serious rule violation or stops the bout, they must notify the Supervisor or Head of the ring officials for their reasons.
- Referees shall not allow Athletes who intentionally violate the rules to gain advantage (e.g., grabbing ropes to kick, knee his opponent, or prevent falling etc.).
- Referees shall not engage in any action which may influence the bout in any way, so that the athletes may gain or lose advantage (e.g., fast or slow counting, warning or not warning, etc.).
- At the end of the bout, or the end of each round the referee must collect the score cards from the three judges and hand them to the Supervisor or Head of the ring officials for inspection.
- At the end of the bout, the referee shall bring both Athletes to the center of the ring facing the Supervisor's table. He will then raise the winner's hand according to the announcement.
- Referees shall neither criticize nor give an interview about the future bouts or past bout results without permission from WBCMTA Executive Board.

### 11.3. Powers of the Referee

- To terminate the contest at any stage if it is too one-sided.
- To terminate the contest upon seeing that the Athlete is too seriously injured to continue the bout. They may consult the ring doctor and must follow the doctor's suggestion after consultation.
- To terminate the contest upon seeing that the Athlete is not in earnest to compete. In this case, either Athlete or both may be disqualified.
- To stop counting upon seeing that if they continue the count, the Athlete may be in danger.

- To stop the count when the opponent does not go to the furthest neutral corner or comes out from the neutral corner before the count is finished.
- To stop the bout to warn or caution the Athlete who violates the rules.
- To disqualify an Athlete who ignores, harms, or aggressively offends the referee.
- For the Athlete who severely violates rules, the referee has the power to disqualify them or may declare the bout of 'no decision' after warning or cautioning, or without a previous warning or caution.

#### **11.4. Procedure for Athletes Outside the Ring**

- When an athlete has fallen outside the ring, the referee must order the opponent to the neutral corner. If the athlete outside the ring is too slow to get back into the ring the referee shall count immediately.
- When one or both athletes fall outside the ring, the referee shall count to twenty (20). If the Athlete/s manages to get into the ring before the count of twenty, the bout shall continue. If either athlete tries to delay the referee shall warn the offender. The referee may disqualify the athlete who disobeys to lose the bout or of 'No Decision'. The athlete must return unaided without any assistance or face disqualification.
- The referee shall stop counting if the Athlete that has fallen outside the ring is obstructed or delayed in getting up into the ring by any person. The referee shall clearly warn the offender and continue the count. If the offender disobeys, the referee shall stop the bout and inform the Supervisor of the ring officials.
- If both Athletes fall outside the ring, and only one athlete proceeds to enter the ring before the count of twenty (20). The referee shall declare that Athlete the winner. However, if both Athletes cannot get back into the ring before the count of twenty, the referee shall declare a draw.

## **RULE 12: JUDGES**

Judges must dress as the referees. They may however wear eyeglasses.

### **12.1. Judges Duties:**

- Each judge must sit next to the ring on three sides with no one impeding their view. During the bout, the judges shall not speak with anyone. If necessary, they may speak with the WBC MuayThai appointed supervisor during the resting interval of rounds to inform them that there have been some incidents e.g., the second's misconduct and losing of ropes, etc.
- During the bout, judges shall not speak with the Athletes or any other people. If necessary, they may speak with the referee during the resting intervals between rounds to inform the referee in case of an incident (e.g., seconds' misconduct, loose ropes).
- Judges shall score independently, objectively, and according to the rules. They must record scores on the score cards immediately after each round and they must add up the scores of both Athletes for each round before handing them to the referee.
- Judges must identify the winner and sign the score cards before handing them to the referee.
- Judges shall not leave their seats until the referee declares the contest result.
- Judges shall neither criticize nor give an interview about the future bout results or the past bout results without permission from WBCMTA Executive Board.

## **RULE 13: HEAD OFFICIAL / SUPERVISOR**

### **13.1. Head Official/Supervisor Duties:**

- To assign referees and judges for duties within the competition program. A head official or Supervisor must be appointed for each competition.
- To monitor the performance of referees and judges as stated by the rules and regulations. In case any referee or judge performs his duty incorrectly or ineffectively, the head of the ring officials shall report his assessment to the WBCMTA board.
- For an A Class WBC Title the Head Official or Supervisor may elect to have 5 judges (if suitably qualified judges) are available for the event.
- To solve competition problems and report incidents to the competition manager.
- To advise referees and judges on any decision-making matter.
- To monitor all score cards are completed, signed and information is correct.
- To notify the ring announcer the bout results to be pronounced to the public.
- To notify the promoter and report to the WBCMTA Board for punishment considerations in case the Athlete intentionally and severely violates any rule, which is contradictory with ethics and sportsmanship.
- In case there is an unusual incident from which the referee and judges are unable to continue to work, Supervisor of the ring officials shall act immediately to continue the contest.

### **13.2. Head Official Powers:**

Supervisor of the ring officials may overrule the referee and judges by reversing the decision of the referee and judges only for the following cases:

- If the referee's decision is contradictory with the Rules and Regulations.
- If the judges have incorrectly added up scores, resulting in a different decision from factual evidence.

## **RULE 14: TIMEKEEPER / ANNOUNCER**

**14.1.** The timekeeper and the announcer must sit beside the ring at designated seats.

### **14.2. Timekeeper duties:**

- To monitor the number of rounds, competing time for each round, resting interval time between rounds and time of time-outs.
- To signal for the beginning and the ending of each round by striking the bell.
- To signal ten (10) seconds before the beginning of each round for the ring to be cleared.
- To deduct the time of interruptions or the time stopped by referee order from the total round time
- To monitor for the correct time with a stopwatch or a clock throughout the entire duration of the bout.
- The timekeeper shall not give the bell signal while the referee is counting, despite the round time expiration. The timekeeper shall strike the bell when the referee orders (CHOK) or "BOX".
- To signal to the referee 10 seconds left in the round.

### **14.3. Announcer's duties:**

- To announce athletes' names, boxing camp or nation and weights to the spectators when the Athletes enter the ring.
- To announce that the seconds must leave the ring when they hear the warning signal from the timekeeper.
- To announce the beginning and ending of each round.
- To announce the verdict of the contest and identify the winner.

## **RULE 15: DECISIONS**

### **15.1. Winning on Points:**

- At the end of the bout, the Athlete with the judge's majority decision wins the contest. When the bout ends, there are three possible outcomes for winning on points.
- Unanimous Decision (UPD), all 3 judges favor the same fighter.
- Split Decision (SPD) 2 judges favor one fighter & 1 judge favors the other fighter.
- Majority Decision (MPD) 2 judges favor one fighter & 1 judge scores a draw.

### **15.2. Win by Knockout (KO):**

- In case an Athlete is knocked down and cannot continue the bout within ten (10) seconds, his opponent wins by knockout.

### **15.3. Win by Technical Knockout (TKO):**

- In case an Athlete very clearly outclasses their opponent.
- In case the opponent cannot continue the contest immediately after the resting interval of a round.
- In case the opponent is seriously injured and cannot continue the contest.
- In case the opponent has been counted for more than two (2) times (i.e., 3 times) in one round, or more than four (4) times (i.e., 5 times) in the entire fighting contest. This is a compulsory count limit.
- In case the opponent has fallen out of the ring and cannot get back into the ring after the referee has counted to twenty (20).
- In case his opponent spontaneously withdraws from the contest due to injury or other causes.

### **15.4. Win by Disqualification:**

- An athlete's opponent severely violates the rules, and the referee disqualifies them, whether there has been any previous warning or caution.

### **15.5. Win by Walkover:**

- In tournaments if an Athletes opponent does not pass the ring doctor's physical examination, cannot make weight, or does not show up to compete as scheduled.

### **15.6. Draw Decision:**

- The majority decision is a draw (MD) Majority Draw 2 judges score it a draw one has a winner
- The Split Draw. One judge scores it a draw and 2 other judges have different winners
- ALL 3 judges score the contest a draw (UD) Unanimous Draw.
- In case both Athletes are knocked down and they have been counted out of ten (10).
- In case both Athletes have fallen out of the ring, and they have been counted out of twenty (20).
- In case both Athletes are so seriously injured that they cannot continue the contest.

### **15.7. No Decision:**

- In case the referee considers that either Athlete is not in earnest or declares that “there is no decision for this bout as the red corner / blue corner / or both Athletes compete dishonorably”.

### **15.8. No Contest:**

- In case the Athletes have been warned and cautioned by the referee and persist on continuing with the breach.
- In case a fighter does not pass the ring doctor’s physical examination, or they do not make the division weight-in, or he/she does not show up to compete as scheduled, the title will be declared a “No Contest”
  - \*In a title contest when the champion cannot make weight or pass the physical examination or fails to show then his title will be declared vacant.
  - \*If the champion is overweight (he/she loses the title on the scales) and the two fighters agree to fight, and the champion is beaten, then the challenger will be declared the new champion.
- If the challenger can’t make weight the event will be declared a no contest.

### **No Titles Contests**

\*If the challenger can’t make weight the event will be declared a no contest

\*In a title contest when the champion cannot make weight or pass the physical examination or fails to show then his title will be declared vacant.

\*If the champion is overweight (he/she loses the title on the scales) and the two fighters agree to fight, and the champion is beaten, then the challenger will be declared the new champion.

### **15.9. Cancellation of Contest:**

- In case of ring damage, a riot from spectators, or an unexpected situation causing it impossible to continue the contest.



## RULE 16: SCORING SYSTEM

**16.1.** When the fighter uses their fists, feet, knees, and elbows as effective and controlled MuayThai fighting weapons to attack their opponent powerfully, accurately, and according to the rules with effective and powerful techniques scoring higher than less effective strikes. The effective execution of any weapon will score higher than a less effective/timid execution of another weapon. The general standard for scoring the actions in a MuayThai match is to evaluate the quantity and quality of Scoring Strikes Landed, Effective Aggression and Ring Generalship (Control of the Actions). Officials are required to score each round with such criteria and to determine the winner of the round in numeric fashion. A competent judge should look for damage, domination and disruption while evaluating effective aggression, ring generalship and defense.

**16.2. Scoring advantage is awarded to the Athlete who:**

- Lands the cleaner and more effective strikes: Landing punches, elbows, knees, or kicks to the scoring area of their opponent with power, volume, and accuracy to cause damage, domination, or disruption to their opponent using more effective Muaythai strikes.
- Causes the most Damage: If a fighter is trying to hurt their opponent, evidence of damage should be considered, knocking the opponent down, staggering or off balancing the opponent, significant blows that slow the opponent's attacking prowess.
- Shows Domination: If a fighter is effectively controlling their opponent, evidence of domination to consider is, an overwhelming advantage in strikes landed, repeatedly initiating action during exchanges, repeatedly lands the last strike in exchanges.
- Causes the most Disruption: If a fighter is trying to prevent their opponent from hurting or controlling them, evidence of disruption to consider is, effective counter strikes that alter an opponent's strategy that force an opponent to grab, and hold, strikes that force an opponent into a defensive posture.
- Exhibits the most Effective Aggression: A forceful willingness to attack their opponent (either moving forward, backward or remaining stationary) where their strikes land accurately and forcefully on their opponent. \*Remember, there is a fundamental difference between effective aggression and aggression.
- Shows the best Ring Generalship: Controlling the balance, pace, positioning, and style of the fight to a greater degree than that of your opponent.
- Has the best Defense: Displaying successful evasive maneuvers to avoid being hit and showcasing defensive mechanisms as part of an offensive strategy to attack your opponent and negate their attacks
- The Athlete who can cause more physical exhaustion loss of composure, disruption and damage to their opponent by use of Muaythai skill.
- The Athlete who violates the rules the least.

**16.3. Scoring advantage is not awarded to:**

- The Athlete who violates any rule.
- Muaythai strikes on the opponent's arm(s) or leg(s) as is their self-defense techniques. (That the strike to the arms is blocked and has no effect on the opponent balance, posture and does not score damage) ● The hit is light, without power or body weight behind it.
- An Athlete is thrown on the ring floor after having their kick caught.
- Throwing the opponent on the floor without using any Muaythai weapon.
- A strike after the bell or after the referee has called break/stop.
- A strike after a foul or using a foul to strike.

**17.1. 10 Point Must System**

- The winner of a round must have 10 points
- The loser of a round will get 9, 8, 7, or a low of 6, depending on various factors in the round.
- If there is no clear winner, both fighters will get 10 points – if in doubt – score it even, point deductions by a referee for fouls in a championship fight are cumulated on the supervisor’s master sheet
- A 10-10 score shall be given when a judge’s mental computation at the end of the round is not clear enough to give a highly questionable round to either fighter.
  - \*Just because you have been instructed against scoring even rounds, it would be unfair to a fighter to score a round in favor of the other fighter if your mental computer witnessed no difference.
- A 10-9 score shall be given in a round with a slight advantage in overall action favoring one fighter.
- A 10-9 score shall be given, also, when there is a clear advantage but not an overwhelming advantage.
- A 10-8 score shall be given when there is a knockdown, and the rest of the round is a very slight advantage for the fighter who scored the knockdown
- A 10-8 score shall be given when there is an overwhelming one-sided round; even without a knockdown, a real beating by one of the fighters over the other shall be always a 10-8 round
- A 10-9 score shall be given to fighter A when fighter B takes an eight-count, but B clearly and unquestionably wins the rest of the round, before and after the knockdown
- A 10-10 score shall be given when a knocked down fighter gets up and then knocks down his rival with the rest of the round, somehow even
- A 10-9 score should be given when both fighters are knocked down – but one of them wins the rest of the round
- A 10-7 score shall be given on two knockdowns of the same fighter – but always consider what happened before and after the knockdowns
- No round should be scored lower than 10-6 (e.g., Two 8 counts and a point deduction from a foul in one round)

**17.2. Knock Down/8 Counts****Scoring a 10-8 Round:**

If the athlete receives an 8 count, one (1) point is deducted from that athlete. The point is deducted after the round has been scored. It must be kept in mind that in the developmental stage’s referees will issue 8 counts for the safety of the athlete more often and do not always constitute a 10-8 round, only if it is clearly one sided.

- An athlete has won the round (10-9), their opponent has received an 8 count (1 point deduction). The final points of this round will be 10-8.
- An athlete has won the round 10-9, the athlete who won the round received an 8 count (1 point deduction). The round becomes 9-9 but as we have the 10 must system the final points of this round will be 10-10.

**Scoring a 10-7 Round:**

- An athlete has won the round (10-9), their opponent has received two (2) 8 counts. The final points of this round will be 10-7.
- An athlete has dominantly won the round (10-8), their opponent has received an 8 count (1 point deduction). The final points of this round will be 10-7.

### 17.3. Clinch scoring/ Scoring in the clinch

- MuayThai technique must land on target with power
- MuayThai technique must be effective, or it is not scored
- MuayThai technique must not have a foul or follow a foul

### 17.4. Clinch general

- where scoring clinching techniques are applied by one or both fighters, the clinch will be allowed to run.
- where both fighters are using a nonpowerful clinch technique, then the clinch will be stopped.
- if both fighters are working for a dominant clinch position without any striking, the clinch will be allowed to run for a period, if both fighters are working and not locking, holding, or being inactive.
- if both fighters cannot work to a dominant clinch position, the clinch will be stopped immediately.
- if one fighter applies an effective lock position, for a period, the clinch is stopped.
- if one fighter applies a successful defense technique where no more scoring techniques can be applied, the clinch is stopped.
- If one fighter has broken the others posture to an advantageous or unsafe position, the clinch is stopped immediately.

### 17.5. Warning/Foul

A point will be deducted when an athlete has received a warning (1 point deduction), the Referee will show the judges the offending foul.

- An athlete has won the round (10-9), their opponent has received a Warning (1 point deduction). The final points of this round will be 10-8.
- An athlete has won the round 10-9, the athlete who won the round received a Warning (1 point deduction). The round becomes 9-9 but as we have the 10 must system the final points of this round will be 10-10.

## RULE 18: FOULS

**18.1.** An athlete who commits a foul can be warned, cautioned, or disqualified at the discretion of the referee depending on the severity of the foul.

**18.2.** The Athlete who commits any of the following is considered a foul:

- Biting, eye poking, spitting on the opponent, sticking out tongue to make faces, head butting, striking the groin, or any similar action.
- Throwing, back breaking, using Judo and wrestling techniques, including sweeps/ trips with the back of the leg. • Intentional rope grabbing to gain advantage over opponents.
- Falling over, going after a fallen opponent or an opponent who is getting up.
- Grabbing/Holding the ropes to fight or for other purposes.

- Using provocative manners and words during the contest.
- Disobeying the referee's command.
- Any intentional Knee strike or kick to the groin area. (An athlete may receive up to 5 min recovery time for an intentional knee strike).
- Intentional strikes to the back of the head or neck.
- Catching the opponent's leg and pushing forwards more than two (2) steps without using any Muaythai strikes.
- If an Athlete pretends to fall on the ring floor after their kicking leg is caught or in clinching.
- When both Athletes fall out of the ring and either Athlete tries to delay getting back into the ring.
- Using forbidden substances as specified by Clean Boxing, VADA. Refusing a VADA anti-doping test in or out of competition.
- Violating any of the rules

## RULE 19: KNOCK DOWN

### Procedure for a knockdown

In case a fighter is attacked, and he/she is knocked down, the referee shall count at the same time he orders the opponent to go to the furthest neutral corner. If the opponent disobeys this order, the referee must stop counting until that fighter goes to the furthest neutral corner. By then, he/she will continue to count the number next to the last counted one. When the knocked-down boxer stands up and is ready, “ชก” (CHOK). An Athlete is considered down whenever they're in any of the following states:

- Any part of their body, except feet, touches the floor. (No cart-wheel kicks)
- An athlete leans, holds, or sits on the ring ropes to not fall.

**19.2.** Following a hard hit, an athlete has not fallen and is not lying on the ropes, but is in a semiconscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, defend adequately and continue the round safely.

**19.3.** In case the knocked down Athlete manages to stand up and is ready to continue the bout before the referee has counted to eight (8). In such cases, the referee must continue counting until (8) before giving the order (CHOK) or 'fight'.

**19.4.** If the knocked down Athlete is ready to continue at the count of eight (8) and the referee commands 'Fight', but the athlete falls again without any additional strikes, the referee shall continue the count from eight (8).

**19.5.** If the referee has counted out an athlete to ten (10), the bout shall be considered finished. In such case, the referee shall declare the knocked down Athlete to have lost the bout by 'knockout.'

**19.6.** In case both Athletes fall on the ring floor simultaneously, the referee shall proceed on counting and shall keep on counting as long as there is one Athlete on the ring floor.

- If both Athletes cannot manage to stand up at the count of ten (10), the referee shall declare a 'draw.'
- In case the Athletes are trying to stand up, but have their arms or legs tangled, or one Athlete is on top of the other, the referee must stop the count and separate them. They shall then continue the count in case one of the Athletes is still on the ring floor.

**19.7.** In case of a knockdown, the referee must wait for one (1) second before beginning the count.

- Counting should be loud from one to ten with a one-second interval.
- Along with counting, the referee must show a hand signal for each second to notify the Athlete of the number of counts.

**19.7.** In case an Athlete is not ready to continue the bout following a resting interval between rounds, the referee must count, unless it is due to improper dressing.

## **RULE 20: RING DOCTOR / PROHIBITED DRUGS**

**The ring doctor's duties:** The ring doctor must be at a designated ringside seat throughout the contest until the last bout ends. The following are also the ring doctor's duties:

To check the fighter's physical examination before the weigh-in to certify that the fighter is physically fit and healthy, without any prohibited disease or sickness.

To give advice and suggestion to the referee on request and to offer medical attention to fighters who may require immediate medical treatment.

To perform random anti-doping tests in accordance with VADA rules and the rules of the World Boxing Council MuayThai.

**20.1.** The Ringside Dr has the authority to STOP a contest at any time based on his/her professional medical opinion in the interest of the safety of the athletes.

**20.2.** The ring doctor must be present at a designated seat throughout the competition until the end of the last bout.

**20.3.** The following are the ring doctor's duties:

- To check the Athlete's physical fitness to compete prior to the bout at the weigh in or before the bout at the competition. The Dr must determine the athlete is performing without any prohibited disease or sickness as specified in the Athlete's Book.
- To give advice and suggestions to the referee when requested.
- To assist an unconscious Athlete during a bout. Only the ring doctor is permitted to enter the ring. Other individuals may enter the ring if the ring doctor needs special help.
- To lend medical assistance for a knocked-out or technically knocked-out Athlete by thoroughly checking immediate treatment.

**20.4.** To check and diagnose the Athletes after their bouts, to notify them of their recovery periods before the next bout as the following regulations:

- After a five-round bout, the Athletes must rest at least fourteen (14) days before the next bout.
- The winner in round 1 or 2, must rest at least seven (7) days.
- The winner in a three-round bout or in round 3, must rest at least fourteen (14) days.
- An Athlete who loses by technical knockout (TKO) or knockout (KO) must rest a minimum of thirty (30) days. If an athlete receives a technical knockout (TKO) or knockout (KO) in two (2) consecutive bouts the athlete must rest a minimum of 90 days.
- Any loss by KO must be given a medical clearance before competing again.

- In a 4 or 8-man competition or tournament the rest period of 28 days applies. If the athlete loses in round 1 then normal rest periods apply. A tournament, 4 or 8-man competition are considered 1 event.

## **20.5. Prohibited Substances**

- It is prohibited to let the Athlete use any drugs or chemical substances, which are not part of the Athlete's usual diet. All WBC Clean Boxing prohibited substances apply.
- It is possible to use substances for local anesthesia, but only with the ring doctor's approval.
- The prohibited substances for Athletes are categorized in accordance with the VADA list of banned substances.
- An Athlete who uses a prohibited substance, or the person who gives the Athlete a prohibited substance, must be penalized by WBCMTA Executive Board and reported to and be liable to disqualification or suspension by WBC Muaythai.
- An Athlete or an official who violates regulations of drugs or prohibited substances must be penalized and prohibited from any bout or participation in any Muaythai activities for a period decided by WBCMTA Executive Board.
- Any Athlete who refuses to have a medical check-up following a bout will be prohibited from any bout. Any official who encourages the Athlete to commit such an offense will be prohibited from competitions.
- All females 16 years and over MUST have a pregnancy test or complete a pregnancy declaration (and provide evidence) of this within 72hours of the competition.

## **RULE 21: DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS SANCTIONED BY WBCMTA/WBC**

- Rules and regulations, as described in this document, shall apply to all domestic WBCMTA/WBC competitions equally.
- All International tournaments, Championships, and WBCMT Class A title bouts must follow WBC Muaythai protocols for title bouts.
- WBCMTA/WBC international competitions or titles MUST be approved by WBCMTA Board.

## **RULE 22: INTERPRETATION OF UNSTATED RULES**

- In the case of any complication or if WBCMTA official Rules and Regulations does not provide a clear statement for a given situation, the referee, or the Head officials, shall make the final decision.
- WBCMTA/WBC state representatives should provide advice on any State legislation affecting the rules.
- All title decisions must be decided by people with no 'conflict of interest' in the awarding of the title bout. At all ages and levels, WBCMTA MUST maintain credibility and set itself as the highest standard in Muaythai.

## RULE 23: FEMALE COMPETITION

Rules and regulations for female Muaythai competition will follow the rules and regulations as above, except for the following adapted supplements:

Female Athletes must wear the same attire as male Athletes (MuayThai shorts) with the addition of sleeveless, short-sleeved shirts, or a crop top.

Athletes must neatly tie their hair to not interfere with the bout, clinching or cause any disadvantage to the opponent. Hair must not obscure vision at any time. Hair accessories may be rubber or made of elastic cloth. Bands should be of a suitable size and should not contain metal or rigid plastic parts.

Hair must be placed inside of the head gear. A hair net is recommended.

Female Athletes have the option to wear a breast (chest) protector. Juniors with a developed breast **MUST** wear a breast protector unless wearing a chest guard. Groin protectors are optional for A-class and mandatory for juniors, 14+ and C, B class. The Athlete may use her personal protectors if they are approved by WBCMTA.

Head & Body Cover Head and body covers may be worn by Athletes to comply with cultural requirements and shall consist of the following:

- A head covering such as a full sport hijab like the ResportOn design or an individual skull cap of black or white fabric.
- An optional body suit (two piece, tights, and upper body) of black or white fabric covering the legs to the ankles and covering the arms to the wrists.



Female Athletes must weigh-in wearing clothes of no altering effect upon the Athlete's weight. Weigh-in officials must offer females a restricted area to weigh in or a weigh-in room that must be a completely covered room or a completely curtained area.

All female bouts follow the same round times as males.

In female competitions Head officials should endeavor to include female officials who are appropriately qualified.

## **RULE 24: FOUR/EIGHT MAN COMPETITIONS**

Four (4) & Eight (8) man tournaments/competitions are allowed under the following circumstances:

- All athletes are present at the weigh in.
- A Dr MUST approve the continuance of each athlete after each bout.
- The 8-count limit is 4 for the entire tournament.
- An athlete who loses a bout cannot fill in for an athlete who is out. If an athlete has lost > he is out.
- That the weight division spread is not greater than 4kg, except for 95kg+
- 8-man tournaments can have a reserve bout (not a reserve athlete) so the winner of that bout can replace an injured (winning) athlete who cannot continue. Must be approved by the head official for circumstances of replacement. An athlete cannot be replaced in the final.

## **SECTION 2 RULE 25: GENDER IDENTIFICATION**

### **World Boxing Council Statement/Guidelines Regarding Transgender Athletes participation in professional Combat Sports**

1. The World Boxing Council (WBC) firmly and unequivocally supports transgender rights and recognizes the gender identity of an individual athlete. This commitment is grounded in the WBC values of inclusion.
2. The WBC shall continue to champion to protect transgender individuals against discrimination at their workplace, in employment, education and access to healthcare.
3. The WBC is committed to its value of fair competition. A combat sport bout should occur between two equally matched competitors. At present there is no consensus whether a bout between a transgender woman against a cisgender (biological) woman is a fair bout between two equally matched competitors. Metrics such as testosterone level less than 10 nanomoles per liter (achieved by using testosterone suppression medication in the transgender woman), in isolation is inadequate to ensure fairness at the time of the bout. It can be argued that by the time a transgender woman combatant launches her professional career she has already gone through male puberty thus conferring her with the musculature and bony structure of a male. So, a transgender woman combatant may have an unfair advantage over her cisgender woman combatant.
4. The WBC is committed to its value of fair competition. A combat sport bout should occur between two equally matched competitors. At present there is no consensus whether a bout between a transgender man against a cisgender (biological) man is a fair bout between two equally matched competitors. Metrics such as testosterone level in isolation are inadequate to ensure fairness at the time of the bout. It can be argued that by the time a transgender man combatant launches his professional career he has already gone through female puberty thus conferring him with the musculature and bony structure of a female. So, a cisgender male combatant may have an unfair advantage over his transgender male combatant.
5. Combat sports such as boxing are unique since every punch thrown at the head is thrown with the intention of winning by causing a knockout (which is nothing but a concussive head injury). Resulting these sports carry an exceedingly high risk for both acute and chronic neurological injuries. Boxers have died during a bout or in the immediate aftermath due to traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) such as an acute subdural hematoma (SDH), epidural hematoma (EDH), subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH), intracranial hematoma and injury to the great vessels of the neck such as carotid or vertebral artery dissection. The WBC advocates for two equally skilled and matched athletes



competing in the cage or ring, on a level playing field and to keep matches fair, competitive, entertaining, and most importantly safe for all combatants. At present level of scientific knowledge, the WBC consensus is that allowing transgender athletes to compete raises serious health and safety concerns.

**The WBC will keep researching with the leading professionals in healthcare to have a greater understanding of the matter and will keep looking for fairness in the sport and equality**

## **RULE 26: ATHLETE CLASS SYSTEM**

### Athlete Class registration and development pathways.

For adults on WBCMTA/WBC events athletes can be distinguished by class. Promotions can be one or more classes and athletes can compete at the class which provides a fair match. All bouts must be in accordance with National, regional, and local legislation, as athlete registration requirements.

### C-Class (Development/Novice):

- All athletes required to start in C-class, with a minimum of 5 bouts before transitioning to B Class.
- Once an athlete commences C-Class bouts they are part of WBCMTA athlete system of development. C Class is an amateur/novice level. Distinguished by padding requirements and optional elbows.
- Promoters can have C-class bouts on any level event; however, C-class is designed for novice/development days.
- Rounds are 3 by 2 min. 90 sec rounds can be approved by the State Head official.
- **Mandatory Equipment** – Headgear, Shin Pads, Elbow Pads, Gloves, Groin Protection, Mouthguard.

### B-Class (Amateur):

- Athletes must advance to B-class once they have reached the experience level.
- Athletes must have 5 bouts in C-class before transitioning to B-class.
- An athlete's trainer is required to approve starting competition in B-class. B-class could be amateur or professional depending on government legislation requirements.
- Rounds are 2 min over 3 or 5 rounds with 1 min breaks. Elbows optional, distinguished by elbow guards and 10oz gloves, even if athletes are on professional shows or a registered Pro.
- Athletes should transition to A-Class after they have a minimum 15 bouts of experience. Transition to A class must be approved by the athletes WBCMTA registered trainer.
- B-class is for athletes ready to compete after developing from a novice.
- Athletes should remain at B-class until they are ready to be a professional A-class athlete.
- All amateur (B-class) titles are 5 by 2 min rounds with 1 min break.
- At National/International WBCMTA/WBC tournaments B-class athletes may compete either 2 or 3 min round bouts and may compete with A Class athlete's where legislation allows for this.
- **Mandatory Equipment** – Elbow Pads, Gloves, Groin Protection, Mouthguard.

### A-Class (Professional/Elite):

- This is the Elite Performance Level.
- Round time is 3 min over 3 or 5 rounds with 1- or 2-min breaks. • A-class is for experienced athletes, 15 plus bouts are required.
- All titles are 5 by 3 min rounds with 2 min break. 5 by 3 min round bouts with 1 min break can be approved by head state officials.
- A-Class transition - An athlete (and their camp) is recommended to seriously consider the implications and level of being an A-class athlete. This level is considered professional. Minimum of 15 bouts is required.
- **Mandatory Equipment** – Gloves, Groin Protection (male), Mouthguard.

### PADDING REQUIREMENTS BY CLASS 18+

- Groin protection for males is mandatory for all classes.
- Groin protection for females is optional for all classes.
- Breast protection for females is mandatory for all classes, as governed by local laws and regulations.
- Cloth Hand Wraps only for C class.
- WBCMTA gauze and tape hand wraps for A and B class.

CLASS	MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED
C	Head Gear – Shin Pads – Elbow Pads Gloves – Mouthguard – Groin Protection	Chest Guards
B	Elbow Pads - Gloves – Mouthguard Groin Protection	Head Gear – Shin Guard
A	Gloves – Mouthguard Groin Protection (male)	Groin Protection (female)

### BOUTS BY CLASS 18+

- Bout numbers are required before moving class system

CLASS	BOUTS	ROUNDS	BREAK	RULES
C	0-5	3x 90sec/2min	1min	Full Rules Muaythai
B	6-15	3/5x 2min	1min	Full Rules Muaythai
A	15+	3/5x 3min	2min	Full Rules Muaythai

Athletes are classed based on their experience but can compete in another class if the match is fair and local regulation is consistent with the match. All registered competitors are in the Athlete Class system. The Athlete Class system overlaps the Professional and Amateur system in all respects. The system runs in conjunction with or parallel to Combat Sports National, regional, or local legislation.

Where legislation requires registration of an athlete by Professional or Amateur status, that registration is to be based on the requirements of the class status by which an athlete wishes to compete. Government requirements are to be followed but cannot be downgraded to fall below WBCMTA Athlete Class requirements.

National, Regional, or local WBCMTA bodies should have a database of registered athletes and to list which class each athlete is competing in. C-B-A class bouts are defined as the type of competition.

All athletes are required to start in C class. C Class athletes can commence at B-class competition depending on experience, the match available and the competition.

The Class system is specific to WBCMTA and does not mirror the WBC International Tournament system. WBC International Tournament rules are for international elite competition tournaments

The system is designed as a developmental system. A-Class athletes should not step back to B-Class bouts, however B-class athletes can compete with an A-class and C-class can compete in B-Class in a fair match where legislation allows. WBCMTA NATIONALS AND WBCMTA TOURNAMENTS- Classes for WBCMTA National and State title events. may vary for each event as required for the fair conduct and matching of an event.

## **RULE 27: TITLE BOUTS & CHAMPIONS**

### **Title Bouts/Championships-**

State bodies can approve WBC Amateur Titles. Promotion Titles – WBCMTA may endorse a ‘Promotion Title’ if a promoter is following this model of competition and not using any other professional sanctioning body. All promotional Titles must follow WBCMTA rules, be officiated by WBCMTA approved officials and only suitably ranked athletes to be endorsed.

- WBCMTA can approve amateur WBC titles in accordance with the titles policies. These titles are in accordance with WBC weight Divisions for one off bouts and must follow the policies of WBCMTA and be approved by WBCMTA Titles Commission.
- Athletes must be the top ranked, active, and available athletes for the level of the title. Titles policies determine the procedures for titles. State bodies can organize or endorse state titles. All National titles are for passport holders or permanent residence only.

### **WBC TITLES (A-Class)**

**WBC Professional Titles:** Only for A-class, registered professional, ranked and experienced athletes.

**Regional Title:** Athletes must rank and be approved by the Titles Commission.

**WBC International:** Top ranked Athlete (WBC National title holder) vs. International top ranked\International opponent and must be approved by the Chairman.

### **WBC AMATUER TITLES (B-class athletes only)**

**State/Provincial Title:** Athletes must be from the same State or province. **State Title – Additional Guidelines to Policy.**

State titles are determined by the state WBCMTA/WBC representative/board and overseen by the national executive. For State titles, the athletes should reside in that state or compete regularly in that state and be known to

come from that state. State titles cannot be held for states that do not incorporate athletic regulatory bodies with a functioning board.

**Regional-** Must be two State champions from the same region competing for a regional title such as West Coast, East Coast, Central, etc.

**National-** Top ranked Athlete (WBC State/Regional title holder) vs. top ranked (WBC State/Regional title holder) opponent and must be approved by the Chairman. Permanent Residency or passport holders only.

#### ALL TITLES

All titles must follow WBCMTA state and national title policies for WBCMTA. Exemptions can be given if approved by WBCMTA executive for all titles. For example: 2 athletes from the same state could compete for a national title if they are the unquestionably best 2 in and ranked in the top 3 and that the bout doesn't preclude any state title holder from an opportunity to compete for the title. All avenues of athlete availability and athletes have been exhausted before this option can even be requested.

#### OFFICIATING NATIONAL/PROFESSIONAL TITLES

All National titles must have an official approved by the Director of Officials officiating the title bout. The expense of this will be negotiated with the promoter and state body on a case-by-case basis. An interstate (approved) Official acting as a supervisor is REQUIRED for ALL National Titles.

National and International Titles must have all officials for the bout approved by the Director of Officials. All National and International titles MUST be filmed professionally for later viewing in the event of an appeal. Any appeal must be made within 24 hours of the bout. Social media publication/comment of the bout by an applicant for the appeal automatically rules the appeal invalid.

#### WEIGHT CUTTING / WEIGH-IN GUIDELINES. (Additional to rules)

- WBCMTA athletes in regions with Athletic commissions MUST follow the government medical guidelines.
- All WBCMTA athletes are to complete an WBCMTA Medical, every 12 months, in all states with no government registration requirements. WBCMTA medical is to be on a WBCMTA medical form. ● All WBCMTA Athletes must complete a weight cut declaration if requested at a weigh in.
- Novices can weigh in on the same day of the competition or the night before if 1 day is not exceeded and both athletes weigh in at the same time under the same conditions.
- State Representatives can approve an event weigh in at the event for C-class events.
- Weigh-ins are to be conducted in Muaythai shorts (+ crop top for females). Weigh-ins should be public with consideration for privacy. There is to be NO naked weigh ins. Clothing is included in the weight.
- All athletes must cut weight safely and not follow any rapid weight loss or dehydration methods. Professional advice must be sought for any weight reduction program to ensure it is healthy, safe and follows medical guidelines for safe weight loss over a multi week period. Multiple safety pre-weight checks will be done for all Title fights at 30 days no more than 10% over, 14 days no more than 5% over and 7 days no more than 3% over prior to weigh in day. For all day before weigh-ins there will be an additional weight check on the day of the event and weight gain/loss cannot exceed 10% of athlete's previous weight or the athlete cannot compete.

## Vacated Titles

- If a current WBC MuayThai champion fights in any MuayThai contest, in or under his/her championship weight category, and loses by KO and TKO, his/her WBC MuayThai title will be declared vacant.
- Accidental Injuries from Head Butts or other causes
- If a fighter cannot continue in a championship after sustaining a fight ending injury caused by an accidental clash of heads or other causes, the outcome of the fight will be decided by a TKO loss for the fighter who cannot continue.
- If a fighter fails to defend their title within the specified 6-month period, the title will be declared vacant.

## CHAMPIONSHIP DEFENSES & APPEALS

### 27.1 Timing of Defenses

The WBC MuayThai's policy is to offer opportunities to ranked fighters to compete for its titles, and thus the WBC MuayThai seeks to prevent titles from being frozen due to inactivity by champions. Therefore, where possible, a WBC MuayThai champion should strive to defend their title at least twice a year, with the following rules being strictly enforced unless otherwise authorized by the president of the WBC MuayThai.

### 27.2 World Champions

World champions have an obligation to defend their titles within a period of six months, from the date of their first championship win, or from the date of their most recent championship defense. After the six-month period expires, a world champion will receive a further 60-day period of grace (at the sole discretion of The WBC MuayThai) in order to accommodate the champion to have a championship defense or for the champion or champion's representative to notify the WBC MuayThai of a planned title defense. Upon or during the grace period of 60-days, should the WBC MuayThai not receive any communication from the champion or the champion's representative to notify of a planned defense, the WBC MuayThai has the right to vacate the relevant champion of their world title without any prior written or oral notice. If a champion or champion's representative refuses a world title defense, The WBC MuayThai in its sole discretion has the right to immediately vacate a WBC MuayThai world champion of their status as world champion.

### 27.3 International Champions

International champions have six months from the day they win their title, to either defend their championship or notify the WBC MuayThai of a confirmed title defense (within a reasonable timeframe), failure to do so allows the WBC MuayThai to vacate the champion at any time thereafter the six-month period, without prior written or oral notification.

It is the responsibility of a champion or champions representative to communicate to the WBC MuayThai head office or a WBC MuayThai representative their intention to defend their title before the expiration of the six-month period.

### 27.4 Regional champions

All regional champions may keep their title for a period of 6 months, with a further 2-month notification of the planned defense period. When the 6-month period expires, a regional, national, or state champion must notify the local WBC MuayThai representative of a planned defense. If no direct communication takes place, from the champions team to the local WBC MuayThai representative, the WBC MuayThai, or an authorized person acting on behalf of the WBC MuayThai has the right to vacate the title without any prior written or verbal notice, 8 months from the date of a champion winning their title.

## **27.5 Champions Belt**

A champion, when defending his/her WBC MuayThai belt, must bring their belt to the weigh-in for publicity and must bring their belt to the ring for the fight – for the duration of the fight the belt will be kept with the WBC MuayThai fight supervisor. Should a defending champion lose their title in the contest, the belt will be presented to the new champion in the ring, for the purpose of publicity, only, the belt will be returned to a losing champion immediately after the publicity photos are completed on the day of the fight. All new champions will receive a new belt from the WBC MuayThai within one month of winning a title. The promoter of a WBC MuayThai championship is responsible for purchasing a new champion's belt.

A defending champion is not entitled to receive a new belt when they make a successful title defense, however, upon request, a promoter may purchase a new belt for a successful defending champion, however, this belt is a replica, as only when a vacant title is won on more than one occasion is a champion then recognized a multi-time WBC MuayThai champion.

## **27.6 Championship Appeals**

Only World title and international title contest results can be appealed through the Bangkok head office, all regional and national titles contest results must be appealed through the relevant regional WBC MuayThai committee or representative. Appeals must be received within 7-days of the completion of a title contest with the following information attached, (a). high-definition unobstructed footage of the fight and a written reason for the appeal sent to [muaythai@wbcmuaythai.com](mailto:muaythai@wbcmuaythai.com). All decisions by the 3-person (for world and international titles only) championship review committee are final.

# **RULE 28: MEDICAL PROTOCOLS & TIMING OF BOUTS**

## **RULE 28: MEDICAL PROTOCOLS & TIMING OF BOUTS**

No fighter will be allowed to fight for a WBC MuayThai title should they lose via TKO within a 45-days of a proposed WBC MuayThai title contest and 60-days if losing via KO (suspension may be longer depending on the severity of the KO).

No fighter can contest for a WBC MuayThai championship contest having fought inside of 30-days before the scheduled date for a WBC MuayThai championship contest, on the grounds of safety – any fighter violating this rule automatically gives the WBC MuayThai the right to revoke sanctioning for a WBC MuayThai championship when a fighter takes a fight inside the 30day period of contesting for a WBC MuayThai championship.

Any fighter being considered for a WBC MuayThai championship who has lost their most recent fight via KO or TKO within 90-days of the proposed date for a WBC MuayThai championship must undergo a full medical exam by a registered physician, be fully cleared by a locally registered physician (documentation of clearance to be provided to the WBC MuayThai) before any consideration is given by the WBC MuayThai to sanction a bout.

Post Knockout/Technical Knockout Examinations. To protect the health and welfare of fighters, a fighter who has been knocked out (KO) or (TKO) must undergo a medical examination as quickly as possible after the bout. Such examinations should be conducted under the authority of the local combat sports commission where the bout occurred, the fighter's local commission, or any medical authority approved by the WBC MuayThai. The following examinations should be conducted on a fighter who suffers a knockout, technical knockout, or other circumstance in which the fighter has sustained extraordinary severity of blows in a contest: a physical examination, but not limited to include a complete neurological examination, MRI/CAT Scan, or any other medical examination or tests recommended by the WBC MuayThai medical advisory board, or the attending fight physician, or local combat sports commission medical requirements.

Rest Periods after Knockout. Fighters that suffered a concussion or any other serious trauma or injury by knockout should not participate in sparring sessions for a minimum of 45 days and no less than 30 days after any other concussive trauma, including but not limited to knockout.

Suspension after Knockouts. A fighter suffering a knockout will be suspended for a minimum period of sixty (60) days. A fighter suffering two (2) consecutive knockouts will be suspended for one hundred twenty (120) days and must not be considered for a WBC MuayThai championship contest. No fighter will be allowed to fight for a WBC MuayThai title should they lose via TKO within 45-days of a proposed WBC MuayThai title contest. The minimum 60-day suspension after suffering a KO will be enforced.

No fighter should be approved to fight for any WBC MuayThai title bout should that fighter have a fight scheduled to take place before the date of a proposed WBC MuayThai title bout, as the outcome of any impending fight may affect the sanctioning of the upcoming WBC MuayThai title contest on the grounds of medical safety.

WBCMT can sanction/approve amateur and professional State and National title Bouts. All titles for one-off events are WBC Titles. State and National Championships (tournaments) will determine the WBCMTA Champion in each division.

## **RULE 29: TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES**

Class combinations or levels can be adjusted by WBCMTA depending on entrants and available pool of athletes. The priority is fair matching based on record, ability, and experience.

Tournaments may also follow a seeded draw to ensure matches are fair and allow athletes a fair chance to progress. Athletes can then progress through the event after performing (proving themselves) in their first round.

Even in an open draw tournament seeding can be approved by WBCMTA Executive to allow for fair matches. For example, if there are only 4 entrants, 1 can compete with 3 and 2 can compete with 4 to give the top 2 ranked athletes a fair shot at the championship. If there are only 3 athletes, the top ranked athlete should be given preference to go to the final, so the other athletes must earn the right to compete for the championship. Seeding may be done inside a class or overall.

Classes for these events are determined to promote participation in the competitions. To have a fair tournament for all that includes a developmental system of development. Rules for National Tournaments are WBCMTA rules.

Classes for tournament entry. Divisions may be combined based on numbers. Permission may be given to compete in the open division for suitable athletes. National WBCMTA Champion is the OPEN division only. Depending on entries and time available for the tournament, round times may vary per class.

Note: The class break up can vary depending on the number of entries.

- Athletes can compete up 1 class or 1 weight division. They must select this on entry.
- One off matches at tournaments can follow rules for one off bouts as required on the approval of WBCMTA Executive. This would be for a Professional title or main event type bout.
- B class entrants can enter A class (open) if they want to compete for the Championship.
- It does not matter in a tournament if you are registered as a professional or amateur if your total record determines your class entry. Local governmental regulations must allow for this.
- 17+ years can compete against an adult under adult conditions if approved by their parents and trainer.

### **18 + Tournament Requirements:**

EXPERIENCE	ROUND	CLASS	PADDING
0 - 3	3 x 2	C - Novice	gloves, head gear, cloth shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
4 - 10	3 x 2	B - Intermediate	gloves, head gear, cloth shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
11 +	3 x 3	A - Open	gloves, head gear, cloth shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
20 +	3 x 3	Elite	A-class padding – bouts will be matched.

## ABOUT WBC MUAYTHAI

World Boxing Council Muaythai is the WBCMTA International body. It is registered and recognized by the Sports Authority of Thailand. WBC Muaythai is an international governing body of Muaythai for amateur and professional. National representatives pay an annual license fee to be licensed and a member country of WBCMTA.

- International WBC competitions can be attended by selected WBCMTA athletes and officials only. All athletes that represent are selected by WBCMTA selection committee.
- WBC competitions internationally are A-class (Elite) with an under 23 division available. All bouts at WBC International Tournaments are counted towards an athlete's domestic record.

## RULE 30: RANKINGS

Rankings nationally are for athlete promotion and for promoters to view an athlete's status for matching. Titles are intended for the top ranked athletes only. Refer to the Titles policy for more information. Weight categories are in accordance with WBC weight Divisions. Athletes will be able to update their records on the National WBCMTA web page portal and rankings will be published on the web page (depending on the National body).

### Rank Seeding

	PROFESSIONAL (3MIN ROUNDS)	AMATUER (2MIN ROUNDS)
WIN	<b>4 POINTS</b>	<b>3 POINTS</b>
DRAW	<b>3 POINTS</b>	<b>2 POINTS</b>
LOSS	<b>2 POINTS</b>	<b>1 POINT</b>

### Competition Records:

An athlete's competition record includes ALL bouts from their first competition. This includes inter club matches, sparring days, junior bouts, international bouts. It also includes kickboxing and K-1 Bouts. All athletes and trainers MUST disclose EVERY combat sports bout the athlete has had when providing an athlete record. This should stipulate how many bouts at any other combat sports and ALL Muaythai bouts at any level. Other factors such as other martial art experience like Kyokushin competitions etc. MUST be disclosed. Bouts should be distinguished between Junior and Senior bouts if an athlete has had both.

WBCMTA clubs should support and conduct WBCMTA competitions and WBCMTA should support clubs and grow Muaythai as a unified sport.



## WBCMTA OVERVIEW

WBCMTA is the international sporting organization for WBC Muaythai Amateur and has a unified international set of rules. The class base system is an effective way to manage athlete pathways and develop a system that allows for a stronger base and quality Professional athletes. Amendments can be made based on the regional local governing body regulations or laws but must be submitted to WBC Muay Thai headquarters in Bangkok for approval and record keeping purposes.

This ruleset should give more options to a promoter and make WBCMTA a more attractive body for promoters. The class base registration and athlete system are an enhancement to a rule-based system. It is an effective way to grow a true international sport and represent WBCMTA to local, state and National legislators. It is critical to the National Sports Commissions that WBCMTA appears as a national sport and this system meets that criterion. Above all, it is about developing athletes, creating a clear progression model and keeping them safe as they progress.

State registration requirements and legislation will always make our national approach varied; however, WBCMTA MUST set the agenda and not have it set for them. The aim is to take ownership of our sport. The policies and regulations of WBCMTA are the base standard for all WBCMTA events. WBCMTA requirements are the minimum standard for all Nations. National and Regional legislation supersedes WBCMTA requirements on a case-by-case basis, however, do not alter the minimum requirements of WBCMTA.

Individual legislation can determine the registration requirements and conditions of an athlete, but that applies to that region only and does not make it a mandatory requirement for other regions or influence WBCMTA policies and rules as an international organization.

