

BOXING 2 USA BOXING RULES 13-19 STUDY GUIDE

RULE 13. REFEREES

13.1. In all USA Boxing Competitions, each Bout must be controlled by a Referee, nominated by the Draw Commission or Supervisor in AOB/USA Boxing Competitions, who will officiate in the ring and will not score the Bout, except according to Rule 3 Scoring System – in case of unavailability of one of the Judges.

13.2. The Duties of the Referee are as follows:

13.2.1. To care for both Boxers and to make safety both Boxers a primary concern throughout the Bout.

13.2.2. To see that all rules and fair play are strictly observed.

13.2.3. To maintain control of the contest at all its stages.

13.2.4. To prevent a weak Boxer from receiving undue and unnecessary punishment.

13.2.5. To use four (4) words of command:

13.2.5.1.1. "Stop" when ordering the Boxers to stop boxing;

13.2.5.1.2. "Box" when ordering the Boxers to continue boxing;

13.2.5.1.3. "Break" when breaking a clinch;

13.2.5.1.4. "Time" when ordering the Timekeeper to stop the time.

13.2.6. To indicate to a Boxer by suitable explanatory signs, verbal commands or gestures any infringement of these rules.

13.2.7. The Referee may use a touch by hand to stop and to break the Bout, or to separate the Boxers.

13.2.8. The Referee must not indicate the winner by raising a Boxer's hand or otherwise, until the announcement has been made. When the winner of a Bout is announced, the Referee must be positioned in the middle of the ring holding one hand of each Boxer and raise the hand of the winning Boxer while facing the main TV camera.

13.2.9. When the Referee has disqualified a Boxer or stopped the Bout, the Referee must first inform the Supervisor of which Boxer has been disqualified and/or the reason for which the Bout has been stopped, to enable the Supervisor to put in the result in the system and the Official Announcer to make the decision known to the public

13.2.10. The Referee may consult the Ringside Doctor in respect of any injury to a Boxer.

13.2.11. When the Referee calls the Ringside Doctor to the ring to examine a Boxer, only the Referee and the Ringside Doctor must be present in the ring or on the apron; however, the Ringside Doctor may request help.

13.2.12. If an injury occurs, and if the Referee does not clearly understand the cause of the injury, the Referee must follow the steps set out below:

13.2.12.1. Ask the non-injured Boxer to go to the neutral corner;

13.2.12.2. Ask the Ringside Doctor if the injured Boxer is fit to continue. If the Ringside Doctor informs the Referee that the Boxer is fit to continue, then the Referee may decide to continue the Bout;

13.2.12.3. If the Ringside Doctor informs the Referee that the Boxer is not fit to continue, then the Referee will stop the Bout.

13.2.12.3.1. In the event of a potential foul and if the Referee did not see the foul. The Referee must **request the opinion of each of the five (5) Judges** to see whether all or a majority have seen a foul or a correct blow and the Referee will then make one of the following decisions:

13.2.12.3.1.1. Where all or a majority of the Judges have seen a correct blow – USA Boxing Technical Rule 5.4.1 applies;

13.2.12.3.1.2. Where all or a majority of the Judges have seen an intentional foul – USA Boxing Technical Rule 5.5.2 applies;

☒ Where all or a majority of the Judges have seen an unintentional foul – USA Boxing Technical Rule 5.1.2.1. applies;

13.3. The Responsibilities of the Referee are as follows:

13.3.1. To terminate a contest at any stage if this Referee considers it to be **one-sided**.

13.3.2. To terminate a contest at any stage if one of the Boxers has **received an injury** on account of which the Referee decides the Boxer should not continue.

13.3.3. To terminate a contest at any stage if this Referee considers the Boxers **inactive and not competitive**. In such a case, the Referee may disqualify one or both Boxers.

13.3.4. To caution a Boxer or **administer a warning to a Boxer against fouls or for any other reason in the interest of fair play, or to ensure compliance with these rules.**

13.3.5. **To disqualify a Boxer who fails to comply** immediately with the Referee's command, or behaves towards the Referee in an **offensive or aggressive manner** at any time

13.3.6. **With or without previous warning, to disqualify a Boxer for committing a serious foul;**

13.3.7. To interpret these rules insofar as they are applicable or relevant to the Bout or to decide and take action on any circumstance of the Bout which is not covered by these rules.

13.4. Right to Check the Boxer

13.4.1. Once a Boxer has entered the ring, the Referee must ensure that the Boxer is wearing the appropriate equipment according to and outlined in the **USA Boxing Competitions Rules**

13.4.2. **The Boxer must be wearing no other objects except the boxing apparel specified in the USA Boxing Competitions Rules.**

13.4.3. In the event of a **Boxer's glove becoming undone during a Bout**, the Referee must stop the Bout to have the issue rectified.

13.4.4. At the end of the Bout, the Referee must check the bandages (hand wraps) of each Boxer.

13.5. The Referee must check the right positions of Judges and of the Ringside Doctors before the start of the Bout.

13.5.1. **The Referee must start the Bout only after the authorization of the Supervisor.**

RULE 14. JUDGES

14.1. Designation and Participation

14.1.1. In all USA Boxing competitions, **each Bout** will be judged by three (3) Judges out of five (5) Judges.

14.2. **Each of the five (5) Judges will be seated on the three (3) sides of the ring,** as shown in the USA Boxing Competitions Rules. No Judge will speak or give any sign to a Boxer or to another Judge or to anyone else during the Bout.

14.3. No Judge will leave his/her seat until the results have been announced to the public.

RULE 16. RINGSIDE DOCTORS

16.1. Ringside Doctors have the authority and responsibilities given to them in the USA Boxing Medical Handbook.

RULE 17. TIMEKEEPER & BELL OPERATOR

17.1. The Duties of the Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator are as follows:

17.1.1. The main duty of the Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator is to regulate the number and duration of the rounds and the intervals between rounds. The intervals between rounds must be of one (1) minute.

17.1.2. The Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator must start and end each round by striking the gong/bell.

17.1.3. Ten (10) seconds before the end of each round, the Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator must signal the approaching end of the round.

17.1.4. The Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator must regulate all periods of time and counts by a watch or clock, but must only stop the clock when instructed by the Referee with the command "time" resuming after the Referee gives the command "box".

17.1.5. Following a Knockdown, the Timekeeper and Gong/Bell Operator must give the sound signal to the Referee indicating the elapsing seconds while the Referee is counting.

17.1.6. If, at the end of a round, a Boxer is knocked down and the Referee is in the course of counting, the gong/bell indicating the end of the round must not be sounded. The gong/bell must be sounded only when the Referee gives the command "box" indicating the continuation of the Bout.

17.1.7. The Timekeeper and Bell Operator must regulate the time when a Low Blow or LOC occurs and if a Boxer falls out of the ring.

17.2. The Timekeeper will be seated directly at the side of the ring next to the Gong/Bell Operator.

RULE 18. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCER

18.1. The Duties of the Official Announcer are as follows:

18.1.1. Before the Bout, the Official Announcer may announce the kind of Bout, Weight Category, duration of the Bout, names, city, state or region, of each Boxer, as well as names and city, state or region of the Referee & of the Judges.

18.1.2. The Official Announcer may announce the number of each round right after the start of each round.

18.1.3. The Official Announcer must reveal the final results and the winner of the respective Bout in the ring after having received the final results from the Supervisor.

18.1.4. Ten (10) seconds before the start of each round, the Official Announcer may clear the ring by ordering "Seconds out", except in the first round.

RULE 19. COACHES / SECONDS

19.1. Eligibility

19.1.1. Only USA Boxing certified Coaches can work as Seconds in all USA Boxing Competitions. A registered Boxer may serve as a second however in the presence of two certified coaches he/she may not enter the ring or mount the ring apron. In the event that there is only one certified coach in the corner, the Boxer may mount the ring apron.

19.1.2. The following rule is only mandated for international AIBA AOB competitions. Any Coach active in professional boxing will not be allowed to be a Coach and/or Second in AIBA Competitions at any level unless this Coach has resigned

from any involvement in professional boxing for a period of at least six (6) months and is certified by AIBA as a registered Coach.

19.1.3. Each Boxer will be entitled to be accompanied to the ring by up to three (3) Seconds. However, only two (2) Seconds may mount the apron of the ring and only one (1) may enter the ring.

19.2. The Duties of Seconds are as follows:

19.2.1. Seconds must leave the ring and the apron prior to the start of each round, and must remove seats, towels, buckets, etc., from the platform of the ring.

19.2.2. Seconds must be in possession of a towel for the Boxer during the Bout. A Second may indicate retirement of the Boxer by throwing the towel into the ring when this Boxer is considered to be unfit or unable to continue boxing, except when the Referee is in the course of counting.

19.2.3. Seconds can only use a transparent water bottle. In the case of a cut, the Seconds can use Avetine, Vaseline, Collodion, Thrombin Solution, Micro Fibrillar Collagen, Gelfoam, Surgicel and Adrenaline 1/1000. Ice bags, No-Swell and Swabs are permissible.

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19.3. Prohibited Activities

19.3.1. Seconds will not be permitted to shout loud, to clap to the Boxer and/or the Referee, to encourage or incite spectators by words or signs during the progress of a round. Seconds will not be allowed to touch the ring during the Bout, yell, cause a scandal or disturb the competition.

19.3.2. Seconds' seating area must be 3 feet away from the ring corner within 6 feet squared. Seconds will not be permitted to walk off Second's designated area with disagreed actions against the Referee.

19.3.3. Seconds will not be permitted to throw any item into the ring to demonstrate a disagreement or to kick any chair or water bottle or to take any other action that may be deemed as unsportsmanlike behavior.

19.3.4. The use of any communication device will not be permitted in the FOP such as but not limited to mobile telephones, walkie-talkies, smart phones, headsets, shortwave radios, etc.

19.3.5. Under no circumstance will Seconds be allowed to administrate supplemental oxygen to a Boxer during a Bout.

19.4. Penalties of Prohibited Activities

19.4.1. For a 1st violation on any of above prohibited activities, Seconds will receive a caution.

19.4.2. For a 2nd violation on any of above prohibited activities, Seconds will receive a warning and be placed just outside of the FOP area but be allowed to remain in the Competition Venue.

19.4.3. For a 3rd violation on any of the above prohibited activities, Seconds will be removed by the Supervisor for the rest of the day.

19.4.4. If Seconds are removed for a second time, Seconds will be completely suspended from the competition.

19.4.5. The Supervisor and R/J evaluators may remove a Second without prior warning due to the nature of the offense during any stage of the bout.