

Chapter RL 114

CONDUCTING A PROFESSIONAL BOUT

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RL 114.005 Authority. The rules in this chapter are adopted pursuant to ss. 227.11 (2), 444.02, 444.09 and 444.12, Stats.

History: Cr., Register, September, 1997, No. 501, eff. 10-1-97.

RL 114.01 Inspection of gloves and bandages. The inspector or the inspector's designee shall inspect the bandages, gloves and dress before a boxer enters the ring.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85.

RL 114.02 Referee's duties. In addition to the general responsibilities of s. RL 111.02, a referee shall:

(1) Indicate to a boxer by suitable explanatory signs or gestures any infringement of the rules.

(2) Caution, warn or disqualify a boxer for committing a foul. Before issuing a warning, the referee shall order the boxers to stop. The warning shall be clearly given and describe the reason and purpose for the warning. After giving the warning, the referee shall order the boxers to "Box". A boxer who is given 3 warnings in a bout shall be disqualified.

(3) Caution a boxer by advice or admonishment to check or prevent an undesirable practice or a less serious violation of the rules.

(4) Interrupt a bout and warn a boxer against fouls or for any other reason in the interests of fair play, or to ensure compliance with the rules.

(5) Terminate a bout at any stage:

(a) To prevent a weakened, outclassed or injured boxer from receiving excessive punishment.

(b) If one of the boxers has received an injury which, in the opinion of the referee, would result in harm or an unreasonable risk of harm to a boxer if the bout were to continue.

(c) If the referee considers one or both of the contestants are not in earnest.

(6) Disqualify a boxer who fails to comply immediately with the referee's orders or behaves toward the referee in an offensive or aggressive manner at any time.

(7) Disqualify a second or assistant who has violated the rules and disqualify the boxer if the second or assistant does not comply with the referee's orders.

(8) Stop a bout if a boxer is down 3 times in one round as a result of blows.

(9) Call the ringside physician into the ring to examine an injured boxer whenever the referee believes an examination is necessary.

(10) Use commands as necessary to control the bout, including:

(a) "Stop" when ordering the boxers to stop boxing.

(b) "Box" when ordering them to continue.

(c) "Break" when breaking a clinch, upon which command each boxer shall step back before continuing boxing.

(11) Interrupt or stop a bout at the order of the ringside physician who mounts the apron of the ring and signals to the referee that the bout shall be interrupted or stopped.

(12) Raise the hand of the winning boxer when the winner of a bout is announced.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85; am. (11), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; am. (7), Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93.

RL 114.03 Low blows. (1) A referee may penalize any boxer who deliberately fouls an opponent during a contest with a loss of points and round. If the referee determines that a low blow foul was deliberate and that it severely impairs the boxer who was fouled, the referee may award a bout to a boxer who received a low blow foul. The boxer responsible for the low blow foul shall be disqualified.

(2) In the case of a low blow foul when the referee determines that the low blow was not intentional, the referee shall determine whether the boxer who has been fouled is able to continue. If the referee determines that the boxer is able to continue, the referee may order the bout to continue after an interval of not more than 5 minutes. If the boxer who was fouled refuses to box, the referee shall declare that boxer to be the loser of the bout. If the referee determines that the boxer is not able to continue, the referee shall review the judges' cards and award the bout to the boxer who was ahead at the time of the low blow.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85; r. and recr., Register, September, 1997, No. 501, eff. 10-1-97.

RL 114.04 Fouls. The following are fouls:

(1) Hitting below the belt; and holding, tripping or kicking.

(2) Hits or blows with the head, shoulder, forearm, elbow, knee, or foot; pressing with arm or elbow in an opponent's face or neck; or pressing the head of the opponent back over the ropes.

(3) Hitting with an open glove, the inside of the glove, or the wrist or side of the hand.

(4) Hits which land on the back of the opponent, and especially any blow on the back of the neck, or head or kidney caused by the boxer administering the punch.

(5) A blow which is delivered during or at the end of a 360-degree pivot.

(6) Attacking while holding the ropes or making any unfair use of the ropes.

(7) Wrestling, clinching or leaning on an opponent.

(8) Attacking an opponent who is down or who is in the act of rising.

(9) Holding.

(10) Holding and hitting, or pulling and hitting.

(11) Holding or locking of the opponent's arm or head, or pushing an arm underneath the arm of the opponent.

(12) Ducking below the belt of the opponent in a manner dangerous to the opponent.

(13) Defending one's self passively by means of double cover or falling intentionally to avoid a blow.

(14) Not stepping back when ordered to break.

(15) Attempting to strike an opponent immediately after the referee has ordered "Break" or before taking a step back.

(16) Assaulting or behaving in an aggressive manner towards a referee.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85; am. (2) and (5), Register, September, 1997, No. 501, eff. 10-1-97.

RL 114.05 Procedures after knock-downs.

(1) WHEN DOWN. A boxer is considered down:

- (a) If the boxer touches the floor with any part of the body other than the feet as the result of a blow or series of blows, or
- (b) If the boxer hangs helplessly on the ropes as the result of a blow or series of blows, or
- (c) If the boxer is outside or partly outside the ropes as the result of a blow or series of blows, or
- (d) If, following a hard punch, the boxer has not fallen and is not lying on the ropes, but is in a semi-conscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, continue the bout.

(2) NEUTRAL CORNER. When a boxer is down, the referee shall immediately begin to count the seconds. When a boxer is down the opponent shall go at once to the neutral corner as designated by the referee. The bout may not continue until the command "Box" is given by the referee. If the opponent does not go to the neutral corner on command the referee shall stop counting until the opponent has done so. The counting shall then be continued where it has been interrupted.

(3) COUNT. When a boxer is down the referee shall count aloud from one to 10 with intervals of one second between the numbers, and shall indicate each second with his or her hand in a manner such that the boxer who has been knocked down is aware of the count. Before the number "one" is counted, an interval of one second shall have elapsed from the time the boxer went down and the time of announcing "one".

(4) MANDATORY 8 COUNT. When a boxer is down as the result of a blow, the bout may not be continued until the referee has reached the count of 8, even if the boxer is ready to continue before then.

(5) CONTINUED COUNT. If a boxer is down as the result of a blow and the bout is continued after the count of 8 has been reached, but the boxer immediately falls again without having received a fresh blow, the referee shall continue the counting from the count of 8.

(6) BOTH BOXERS DOWN. If both boxers go down at the same time, counting shall be continued as long as one of them is still down. If both boxers remain down until the count of "10", the bout shall be stopped and the decision given in accordance with the points awarded up to the time of the knock-down.

(7) FAILURE TO BOX. A boxer who fails to resume boxing immediately after the termination of the rest interval, or who, when knocked down by a blow, fails to resume within 10 seconds, shall lose the bout.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85; am. (5), Register, September, 1997, No. 501, eff. 10-1-97.

RL 114.06 Head blows. (1) PROCEDURE. If a boxer has been knocked out in a bout as the result of head blows or received serious head blows, the boxer shall be examined by a ringside physician immediately. If the ringside physician determines that the boxer may have received head injuries, the ringside physician shall give the boxer a head injury slip and explain its meaning. A head injury slip is illustrated in s. RL 114.08.

(2) PERIODS OF REST REQUIRED AFTER KNOCK-OUT OR HEAD BLOWS. (a) A boxer who has been knocked out as a result of head blows during a bout or who has received hard blows to the head, making the boxer defenseless or incapable of continuing, may not take part in competitive boxing or sparring for a period of at least 30 days from the date of the bout.

(b) A boxer who, twice in a period of 3 months, has either been knocked out as a result of head blows during a bout or who has received hard blows to the head, making the boxer defenseless or incapable of continuing, may not take part in competitive boxing or sparring during a period of 6 months from the second bout.

(c) A boxer who has been knocked out as a result of head blows three times in a period of 12 months or who has, in 3 consecutive

bouts, received hard blows to the head, making the boxer defenseless or incapable of continuing, may not take part in competitive boxing or sparring for a period of one year from the third knock-out.

(d) Before resuming boxing after any of the periods of rest prescribed in the pars. (a) to (c) a boxer shall be given a special examination by a qualified physician which includes an electroencephalogram (EEG), a computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan, a magnetic resonance imaging scan (MRI), or any other scan which a physician believes is as reliable or more reliable than an EEG or a CAT scan for determining the presence of brain damage. The special examination shall include a certification by the examining physician that the boxer is fit to take part in competitive boxing.

(e) The requirements and conditions enumerated in this subsection apply to knock-outs and hard blows to the head regardless of whether the bouts occurred in Wisconsin or another jurisdiction.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85; cr. (2) (e), Register, July, 1993, No. 451, eff. 8-1-93; am. (2) (d), Register, September, 1997, No. 501, eff. 10-1-97.

RL 114.07 Attending a boxer injured or knocked out.

(1) In the event of a knockout or serious injury, the referee shall immediately request the ringside physician to check the boxer's condition and to render aid if necessary. A ringside physician shall enter the ring immediately if a bout ends in a knock-out or if it is stopped because of an injury.

(2) The attending ringside physician may on his or her own initiative enter the ring between rounds and, at the request of the referee, during the round for the purpose of examining an injured boxer. If in the opinion of the ringside physician a boxer is in danger of further physical injury, the ringside physician shall notify the referee to terminate the bout.

(3) In the event of any serious injury, the ringside physician shall immediately render treatment and prescribe further treatment if necessary.

(4) Any boxer who sustains a severe injury or a knock-out in a bout shall follow the instructions of the attending ringside physician until the boxer's personal physician is available.

(5) A boxer who has been knocked out may not be touched, except for removal of the mouthpiece, until the attending ringside physician enters the ring and personally attends the boxer and issues any instructions the ringside physician deems necessary.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85.

RL 114.08 Head injury slip. The following shall be included in a head injury slip:

"If any of the following symptoms occur, contact a physician immediately:

- (1)** Headache or dizziness lasting over 2 hours.
- (2)** Increasing drowsiness or loss of consciousness following the bout, awaken every 2 hours during the night following the bout to check for alertness.
- (3)** Vomiting.
- (4)** Blurred vision.
- (5)** Mental confusion or irrational behavior.
- (6)** Convulsive seizure.
- (7)** Inability to move a limb.
- (8)** Excessive restlessness.
- (9)** Oozing of blood or watery fluid from the ears or nose.
- (10)** Inability to control urine or feces."

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85.

RL 114.09 Stimulants prohibited. No manager or second may give stimulants of any kind to boxers before or during a bout.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1985, No. 356, eff. 9-1-85.