

**IBF RULES GOVERNING
FEMALE, USBA, INTERCONTINENTAL
AND REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS**

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IBF Rules Governing Female, USBA, Intercontinental and International Championship Contests

These rules can be amended at any time at the suggestion of any member and upon the approval of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors. Any reference in these rules to action taken by the Board of Directors must be approved by majority vote of the Board. All references to timing refer to calendar days unless otherwise specified.

Rule 1. Weight and Weigh-Ins

Championships shall be recognized in the following listed weight divisions:

Light Mini-Flyweight (Female only)	102 lbs.
Mini-Flyweight	105 lbs.
Jr. Flyweight	108 lbs.
Flyweight	112 lbs.
Jr. Bantamweight	115 lbs.
Bantamweight	118 lbs.
Jr. Featherweight	122 lbs.
Featherweight	126 lbs.
Jr. Lightweight	130 lbs.
Lightweight	135 lbs.
Jr. Welterweight	140 lbs.
Welterweight	147 lbs.
Jr. Middleweight	154 lbs.
Middleweight	160 lbs.
Super Middleweight	168 lbs.
Light Heavyweight	175 lbs.
Cruiserweight	200 lbs.
Heavyweight	Over 200 lbs.

1.A. Timing of Initial Weigh-In

The initial weigh-in shall be no less than twenty (20) nor more than thirty (30) hours before the scheduled start of the first bout on the bout card. If either Champion or Challenger fails to make the prescribed weight at the initial weigh-in time, each will have two (2) hours thereafter to make the prescribed weight.

1. Champion’s Failure to Make Weight

If a Champion shall fail to make the prescribed weight prior to the expiration of the two (2) additional hours, the title shall be forfeited on the scale.

The contest may be staged, however, as a fight for the vacant title. If the Challenger, having made the prescribed weight, shall win, he/she will be declared the winner of the vacant title. However, should the former Champion win, the title will remain vacant.

2. Challenger’s Failure to Make Weight

If the Champion makes the weight and the Challenger fails to do so, the fight may be staged with the understanding that the Champion will retain his title whether he wins or loses the bout.

3. Failure to Make Weight in Fight for Vacant Title or Elimination Bout

If a contestant failing to make weight in a fight for a vacant title or an elimination bout wins the bout, he/she shall not be declared the winner and the title shall remain vacant. If a contestant who makes the weight defeats a contestant who did not make the weight, he/she shall be declared the winner of the vacant title or the elimination bout.

4. Both Boxers’ Failure to Make Weight

In the event both contestants in a vacant title or elimination bout fail to make the prescribed weight, the sanction of the bout will be withdrawn.

1.B. Timing of Second Day Weigh-In

There shall be a second weigh-in between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on the morning of the event, unless otherwise approved by the IBF. At this weigh-in, boxers cannot weigh more than ten (10) pounds over the weight limit. If a boxer weighs more than ten (10) pounds over the weight limit, he/she will have two (2) hours thereafter to make the prescribed weight. If after two (2) hours he/she still weighs more than ten (10) pounds over the weight limit, the fight can proceed only as described below.

1. Champion's Failure to Make Weight or to Appear for the Second Day Weigh-In

If a Champion shall fail to make the prescribed weight at the second day weigh-in or prior to the expiration of the two (2) additional hours, or in the event the Champion fails to appear for the second day weigh-in, the title shall be forfeited on the scale.

The contest may be staged, however, as a fight for the vacant title. If the Challenger, having made the prescribed weight, shall win, he/she will be declared the winner of the vacant title. However, should the former Champion win, the title will remain vacant.

2. Challenger's Failure to Make Weight or to Appear for the Second Day Weigh-In

If the Champion makes the weight at the second day weigh-in and the Challenger fails to do so or fails to appear for the second day weigh-in, the fight may be staged with the understanding that the Champion will retain his/her title whether he wins or loses the bout.

3. Failure to Make Weight or Appear at the Second Day Weigh-In in Fight for Vacant Title or Elimination Bout

If a contestant failing to make weight at the second day weigh-in or failing to appear for the second day weigh-in for an elimination bout or a fight for a vacant title wins the bout, he/she shall not be declared the winner of the title. If a contestant who makes the weight defeats a contestant who did not make the weight or did not appear for the second day weigh-in, he/she shall be declared the winner of the vacant title or the elimination bout.

4. Both Boxers' Failure to Make Weight or to Appear for the Second Day Weigh-In

In the event both contestants in a vacant title or elimination bout fail to make the prescribed weight or fail to appear for the second day weigh-in, the sanction of the bout will be withdrawn.

Rule 2. Contracts for Championship Contest

2.A. Submission of Contracts to IBF

Signed Bout Contracts between the promoter of the bout and each boxer for a Championship contest must be submitted to the IBF no later than fifteen (15) days

following tentative sanction approval. A form Bout Contract is available on the IBF website. If the Challenger does not sign the contract, the IBF will offer the bout to the leading available contender or will withdraw sanction of the bout. If the Champion does not sign the contract, disciplinary action will be taken which can include vacating the title.

2.B. Sanction Fees

For each Championship contest, the promoter of such contest shall obtain a sanction from the IBF and pay sanction fees in the amounts listed on the schedule at Exhibit A.

Sanction fees shall be payable on the full amount of the boxers' gross purses prior to any deductions for trainers, managers, promoters and expenses. A boxer's gross purse includes all sums paid by the promoter of the event and/or by the boxer's promoter on the boxer's behalf to promotion companies, including boxer owned or controlled promotion companies, or to promoters or managers of a boxer under any agreement, including, but not limited to, a "Provision of Services Agreement", a "Bout Coordination Fee" or however else designated; all sums paid to a boxer's prior or current managers or promoters and/or promotion companies; and all sums withheld for the payment of taxes. All such sums paid on the boxer's behalf constitute the gross purse.

Each boxer shall certify by the first weigh-in that the amount of his/her purse reported to the IBF is the true amount of the gross purse being paid to him/her and is prior to any deductions for trainers, managers, promoters and expenses. The boxer further acknowledges that if he/she does not report the gross amount of the purse, he/she is subject to financial liability to the IBF and to the penalties in IBF Rule 14.

In each title contest, the promoter of the event must submit payment of the entire sanction fee for promoter and contestants to the IBF Bout Supervisor at the Rules Meeting. The promoter of the event is responsible for deducting the sanction fees from the boxers' purses and remitting the fees to the IBF.

2.C. Qualification for Official's Fees

In order to qualify for the fees listed on the Fee Schedule attached as Exhibit A, the official must be a member of the IBF. No promoter shall be required to pay the fees listed in Exhibit A to a referee or judge who is not a member of the IBF. It is the promoter's responsibility to ensure that IBF officials are paid in accordance with Exhibit A.

2.D. Limitation on Ability to Participate in Purse Bid

Only those promoters who have paid their annual registration fee to the IBF at least five (5) days prior to the initial date scheduled for the purse bid shall be allowed to participate in a purse bid. (See Purse Bid Procedure, Rule 9.A.1.)

2.E. Championship Belt

The promoter of the event must pay a fee to the IBF as determined by the IBF for the purchase of a championship belt.

Rule 3. Clauses in Championship Contracts

3.A. Purpose

The purpose of this Rule is to ensure that no contract provision interferes with the mandatory defense of a title.

3.B. Return Bouts

No contract for a Championship contest shall contain any clause or any provision, whatsoever, guaranteeing or in any way assuring or promising either contestant a return Championship contest where such clause or provision interferes with the mandatory defense of a title.

3.C. Penalties for Violation

1. Dismissal from IBF

Any member of the IBF which shall violate, or collaborate in the violation of any provision of this Rule shall be subject to dismissal from membership in the IBF.

2. Forfeiture of Title

Upon violation of this Rule, the Championship involved shall forthwith be declared vacant.

Rule 4. Failure of Champion to Fulfill Contract

If a Champion shall fail to fulfill on schedule his/her contractual obligation to engage in his/her mandatory bout, the Championships Committee shall recommend to the President and the Board of Directors that recognition of the title be withdrawn and the title be declared vacant.

Rule 5. Defense of Title

A Champion and Challenger must at all times set high ideals and act in a sportsmanlike manner. Any action by a Champion, Challenger promoter, manager or cornerman which reflects

poorly on the IBF or the sport of boxing will subject the contestant to the imposition of discipline and penalties. The provisions of Rule 14 will be applied to any such situation.

5.A. All Weight Divisions

1. Mandatory Defense Obligation

Each Champion so recognized by the IBF in his/her respective weight class from Light Mini-Flyweight to Heavyweight shall mandatorily defend his/her Championship within twelve (12) months after its acquisition by him/her in a contest scheduled for ten (10) rounds, or eight (8) rounds in a bout for the IBF China Title, against a leading available contender as designated by the Championships Chairman.

Once this initial mandatory defense obligation has been satisfied, the Champion shall defend his/her championship within intervals of no more than twelve (12) months against the leading available contender in his/her weight class as designated by the Championships Chairman.

2. Optional Defenses

In the interim periods, the Champion may enter into any contest with any rated contender in his/her weight class as set forth in the ratings of the IBF subject to the approval of the Championships Chairman and the President.

When a Regional Champion fights for a World Title or competes in a World Elimination bout, the Regional Title shall be declared vacant at the start of the bout.

All optional defenses, and any and all other bouts, by a Champion shall be concluded at least forty five (45) days prior to the date the Champion's mandatory is due and shall be subject to the approval of the Championships Chairman and the President.

5.B. Leading Available Contenders

For the purpose of Championship contests and Title defenses by recognized Champions as defined in these Rules, the selection and designation of "leading available contender" in each weight division shall be made by the Championships Chairman approximately forty (45) days prior to the mandatory due date, subject to the approval of the President, in accordance with the current list of contenders promulgated by the Ratings Committee of the IBF.

Any boxer who is contracted with a promoter, a network, or a state, tribal or national commission to take another fight or who is ill, injured, under a legal impediment

which could prevent the bout from taking place, or on suspension at the time the Championships Chairman and President order a bout under this rule shall be considered unavailable. The fact that a boxer and/or his/her physician may believe that a boxer may be physically able to fight on a date in the future does not make a boxer “available” for the purpose of this rule. However, if the leading available contender has a fight scheduled within the next thirty (30) days, the President and Championships Chair may, at their discretion, allow that bout to take place prior to notification of the bout under this rule. If the leading available contender loses said bout, he/she will lose the position as the leading available contender.

5.C. Notice of Mandatory Obligation

1. General

The Championships Chairman will notify the Champion and the mandatory challenger approximately sixty (60) days prior to the mandatory due date and the boxers must observe that obligation. The Champion shall negotiate with the leading available contender as designated by the Championships Chairman and the President. If they are unable to negotiate the terms of the bout within thirty (30) days, they have the obligation to proceed to a purse bid under the procedure set forth in Rule 9.

- (a) The Champion and the mandatory Challenger may not box any other contestant within 60 days of the mandatory due date.
- (b) A Champion’s failure to comply with this obligation will be sufficient cause to have the Championships Committee and Board of Directors consider withdrawing recognition of the title.
- (c) The Challenger’s failure to comply with this rule will result in the Championships Committee recognizing the next leading available contender as the mandatory challenger and moving the challenger to a position below #10 in the rankings for at least six (6) months.

2. Voluntary Early Mandatory

In the event a Champion chooses to fulfill his/her mandatory obligation prior to being advised to do so 60 days prior to the mandatory due date and, provided that either (1) this decision is made by the Champion within the 90 day period before the mandatory due date, or (2) the challenger agrees to do the mandatory early, the Championships Chairman shall advise the Champion and the mandatory challenger to begin negotiations for the terms of the bout and to complete such negotiations within 30 days. If they are unable to agree on the terms of the bout, or if one of the camps certifies in writing during the negotiation period that he is not willing to

participate in negotiations, the President of the IBF shall notify each registered promoter that a purse offer will be held. The provisions of Rule 9 will control the purse bid procedure.

3. Medical Extension

If a Champion is justifiably disabled 60 days or less before his/her mandatory due date, or continues to remain disabled from a disability incurred earlier, and such disability has been proven to and accepted by a physician approved by the President of the IBF who has certified that said disability will continue more than sixty (60) days beyond the mandatory due date, the Champion may be granted a medical extension not to exceed said sixty (60) days beyond the mandatory due date.

If a physician approved by the IBF determines that recovery from the injury or illness will extend beyond the sixty (60) day medical extension, the Champion must seek a Rule 11 Exception to extend his/her mandatory due date. There will be no fee for this Request for an Exception. If the Request for an Exception is granted, the Championships Chairman, subject to the approval of the President, may order a bout for an interim title. If the Request for an Exception is not granted, the Championships Committee, subject to the approval of the President, may vacate the title.

5.D. Unification Contests

1. Prior Approval Required

No Champion shall box or sign to box a Champion or for another championship of another sanctioning body in seeking to unify a title unless prior approval is granted by the Championships Committee. Once the IBF has sent out the notice of the date of the purse bid, or once a contract has been signed for a mandatory bout, no request for a Unification Contest will be approved. A Champion's failure to comply with this requirement will constitute sufficient cause for the Championships Committee and Board of Directors to consider withdrawing recognition of the title and to remove him from the IBF ratings.

In the event there is a request by a boxer to include an additional sanctioning organization on a scheduled title bout, the IBF reserves the right to deny said request. If a boxer chooses to participate in a bout with a sanctioning organization not approved by the IBF despite the denial of the request, the IBF may deny or withdraw sanction of the bout, vacate the title and/or remove the boxer from the IBF or USBA rankings.

2. WBA, WBC and WBO Champions

For the purpose of unification of titles, the preeminent Regional Champions of the World Boxing Association (“WBA”), the World Boxing Council (“WBC”), and the World Boxing Organization (“WBO”) may be designated as “elite contenders” and may be permitted to fight for the unified title. Any unification bout, if approved by the Championships Committee, will take priority over the mandatory. Despite the general prohibition in Rules 5 A.2.(b); B.2.; and D.1.(a), the Champion may box a WBC, WBA or WBO Regional Champion within sixty (60) days of the mandatory due date.

5.E. Purse Bid

When the mandatory comes due, the Champion shall proceed to fight the highest available ranked contender in her weight class.

If they are unable to negotiate the terms of the bout, the Champion and the number one contender have the obligation to proceed to a purse bid. Only the number one (1) contender has the right to a purse bid.

5.F. Unsanctioned contests

An unsanctioned contest is a fight which the IBF has not formally approved for sanction or where sanction has been formally withdrawn. If a Champion participates in an unsanctioned contest within his/her prescribed weight limit, the title will be declared vacant whether the Champion wins or loses the bout. The Championships Committee, with the approval of the President, will then establish a new Champion in that division in accordance with the procedures established and prescribed in these rules.

5.G. Non-Championship Contests

Nothing in these Rules shall be considered to prohibit a Champion from engaging in an over the weight limit non-championship or non-title contest so long as he/she shall otherwise be in full compliance with all other applicable requirements of these Rules. Any and all bouts shall be concluded at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the Champion's mandatory is due.

5.H. Attendance at IBF Sanctioned Championship Contests

The President of the IBF may attend any IBF sanctioned bout and shall assign a Supervisor(s) to attend each sanctioned contest. The promoter of the event shall provide the President and the Supervisor(s) with a first-class or business-class airline ticket to the site of the contest and shall provide seats on the ring apron for the Supervisor(s) and the President.

5.I. Rematch

The Championships Chairman and the President, in their discretion, may direct two contestants to engage in a rematch for the Championship within a prescribed time.

Rule 6. Procedure When Title Becomes Vacant

6.A. Fight for Title

In the event any Title becomes vacant, the Championships Committee, with the approval of the President, may cause the two (2) highest ranked contenders, according to the current ratings that are available, to box for the vacant title. If the vacancy arises unexpectedly and if one of the two leading contenders has a fight scheduled within the next thirty (30) days, the President and Championships Chair may, at their discretion, allow that bout to take place prior to notification to fill the vacancy and utilize any new ratings after the interim bout.

1. Time to Negotiate

The recognized challengers shall be given thirty (30) days to negotiate the contract for the contest. Signed contracts between the promoter of the bout and each boxer for the vacant title must be submitted to the IBF no later than fifteen (15) days following tentative sanction approval. A form Bout Contract is available on the IBF website. If either contestant does not sign the contract within the aforementioned fifteen (15) days, the IBF will offer the bout to the leading available contender or will withdraw sanction of the bout.

2. No Intervening Bout Permitted

Once each Challenger has been notified that he/she is to box for the vacant title, he/she cannot take another fight until the fight for the vacant title has been completed. If any contestant takes an interim fight, the Championships Chairman will move on and order the next leading available contender to fight and the delinquent boxer(s) shall be dropped to below the #10 position in the ranking for at least six (6) months.

3. Purse Bid

If the Challengers fail to negotiate a binding contract within the thirty (30) day period, the Championships Chairman shall request purse offers for the contest to be submitted to the President or his designee in sealed envelopes for public

opening on a specified date and time. Rights to promote the match will go to the highest bidder. Should either contestant decline to participate in the purse offer, the next available contender according to the IBF ratings will be offered the right to contract for the championship contest. See Purse Bid Procedure, Rule 9.

6.B. Unavailable Boxer

Any boxer who is contracted with a promoter, a network, or a state, tribal or national commission to take another fight or who is ill, injured, under a legal impediment which could prevent the bout from taking place in the opinion of the IBF, or on suspension at the time the Championships Chairman and President order a bout under this rule shall be considered unavailable. The fact that a boxer and/or his physician may believe that a boxer may be physically able to fight on a date in the future does not make a boxer “available” as of the date the bout is ordered under this rule.

If two boxers have contracted to fight for the vacant title and one is injured or becomes ill prior to the date of the scheduled bout, she becomes unavailable under this rule and the other contestant may commence negotiations with the next leading available contender to fight for the vacant title.

No medical extension will be granted when the title is vacant.

6.C. All Weight Divisions

1. Mandatory Defense Obligation

The winner of the vacant title must make his/her mandatory defense against the leading available contender as designated by the Championships Chairman within twelve (12) months after its acquisition by him/her in a contest scheduled for ten (10) rounds, or eight (8) rounds in a bout for the IBF China Title, against a leading available contender as designated by the Championships Chairman.

After compliance with his/her mandatory defense obligation, throughout the remaining term of a Champion’s reign, he/she shall be obligated to mandatorily defend his/her Championship within intervals of no more than twelve (12) months against the leading available contender as designated by the Championships Chairman.

2. Optional Defenses

In the interim periods, the Champion may enter into any contest with any rated contender in his/her weight class as set forth in the ratings of the IBF subject to the approval of the Championships Chairman and the President.

All optional defenses, and any and all other bouts, by a Champion shall be concluded at least forty five (45) days prior to the date of the Champion's mandatory is due and shall be subject to the approval of the Championships Chairman and the President.

- (a) Should the Champion lose his/her title in an optional defense against an opponent other than the leading available contender, the new Champion shall be required to make his/her mandatory title defense against the leading available contender, as designated by the Championships Chairman, within a period of twelve (12) months after the acquisition.
- (b) Within the nine (9) month defense period set forth above, and with the prior approval of the Championships Chairman, the new Champion may engage in an optional defense of his/her title against a ranked contender in his/her weight class as rated by the IBF. However, should the title change hands as a result of such an optional contest, the newly crowned Champion must mandatorily defend the title within the nine (9) month time limit established for the champion from whom he/she won the title.

Once this initial mandatory defense obligation has been satisfied, the Champion shall defend his/her championship within intervals of no more than nine (9) months against the leading available contender in his/her weight class as designated by the Championships Chairman.

Rule 7. **Draw Decision**

If a Championship Contest shall be declared a draw, the Champion retains his/her title.

Rule 8. **Disqualification**

8.A. Challenger

When disqualification of a Challenger has occurred during or immediately after a bout, for whatever reason, the Champion shall retain his/her title provided that the Champion has not violated any rule herein.

8.B. Champion

If the Champion is disqualified during or immediately after a bout, for whatever reason, the decision shall be awarded to the Challenger provided the Challenger has not violated any rule herein.

8.C. Winner After The Bout

If disqualification of the winner occurs as a result of a positive drug test or any other violation of an IBF rule after the bout has been completed, the title shall be declared vacant.

Rule 9. Purse Bid Procedure

9.A. Notification of Purse Bid

If the camps are unable to come to an agreement as to the promotion of a title bout in the initial thirty (30) day negotiation period, or if one of the camps certifies in writing during the negotiation period that he/she is not willing to participate in negotiations, the President of the IBF shall notify each registered promoter that a purse offer will be held. The purse bid notice shall advise registered promoters of the minimum bid required under this Rule. The purses for each boxer include all expenses for the boxers and their trainers.

If no one bids on the title bout at the first scheduled purse bid, the President will order negotiations to begin with the leading available contender.

1. Promoter’s Obligation

To participate in a purse bid, all of the promoter’s annual registration fees must be paid to the IBF at least five (5) days prior to the initial date scheduled for the purse bid. See also Rule 2D.

Each promoter participating in a purse bid shall pay a non refundable fee to the IBF of \$1,000 for a bid.

2. Contents of Notification

Notification of the purse bid will include names of boxers, weight class, and the deadline date for bids to be accepted. The date set for the purse bid will be set at least 10 days after notification has been given.

9.B. Minimum Bids

Bids below the following minimum amounts will not be considered in a bout between a Champion and a challenger:

Weight class	Minimum Bid	Female Minimum Bid
102 - 122	\$ 2,500.00 (Regional)	\$ 1,000.00 (Female)
126 - 147	\$ 5,000.00 (Regional)	\$ 2,000.00 (Female)

154 – 200	\$ 7,500.00 (Regional)	\$ 4,000.00 (Female)
Heavyweight	\$ 10,000.00 (Regional)	\$ 6,000.00 (Female)

9.C. Form of Bids

To insure the integrity of the bidding process, all bids must be submitted in person by promoter or promoter’s representative, by registered or certified mail or by overnight service such as UPS, FedEx, DHL, etc. All bids will be kept confidential until the time designated in the notice for the opening of the bids.

9.D. Deposit Submitted with Bid

At the designated time for the bid, the promoter winning the bid must deliver the non-refundable sum of 10% of the total amount of the bid to the IBF by way of cash, certified check, cashier’s check, money order or wire transfer. Failure to do so will automatically cancel the bid and permit the President to recognize the next highest bidder.

The promoter must further deliver an additional non-refundable sum of 10% of the total amount of the bid to the IBF by way of cash, certified check, cashier’s check, money order or wire transfer within 5 business days following the bid.

Failure to provide said funds will automatically void the original bid and permit the President to recognize the next highest bidder. Subject to the discretion of the IBF, the defaulting bidder will be barred from participating in IBF purse bids for a period of at least six (6) months.

In the event the promoter is unable to fulfill any of the obligations under this rule, the two non-refundable 10% checks will be divided with 75% to the Champion and 25% to the challenger. In the case of a vacant title, each boxer shall receive 50%.

9.E. Disbursement of Bid Proceeds

The Champion will receive 75% and the Challenger will receive 25% of the total amount of the bid. If the offer is for a vacant title, each boxer will receive 50% of the total amount of the bid.

Notwithstanding the purse bid percentages described herein, if the circumstances so warrant, the Championships Chairman or the President may make a recommendation to the Board of Directors that a different purse bid split be employed. Any variation in the purse bid percentages from those set forth in this rule must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

9.F. Notification of Scheduled Bout/Obligations to Comply

1. Promoter's Obligation

It is the responsibility of the winning promoter to prepare and provide to the IBF a copy of the contract(s) for the bout signed by both camps as soon as possible, but not later than fifteen (15) days following the bid procedure. This contract shall contain the amount of the purse, the site, the date, the location of the bout and provide for a minimum of three (3) round trip coach air travel to the site of the bout (unless local to the fighter), accommodations for not less than three (3) persons for four (4) nights, payment for all required visas, and for the reasonable cooperation of the contestants to promote the bout. Other terms may be negotiated between the parties and included in the contract, but are not required. The IBF has a standard form Bout Contract for use by the camps after a purse bid. The boxing event must be scheduled to take place not less than 28 days and not more than 90 days from the date of the bid award, unless a different date is agreed to in writing by the boxers and/or approved by the Championships Committee. The winning promoter shall promptly make travel arrangements for the participants and inform them and the IBF of these arrangements.

2. Failure of Promoter to Comply with Obligation

Failure to provide the above listed information to the IBF, or to schedule the bout within 90 days of the purse bid in accordance with this rule, will automatically cancel the bid and permit the President to recognize the next highest bidder. Subject to the discretion of the IBF, the defaulting bidder will be barred from participating in IBF purse bids for a period of at least six (6) months.

3. Failure of Champion to Comply

The Champion must sign the contract referred to in Rule 9.F.1 above within fifteen (15) days of the bid and must comply with all of the terms and conditions set by the winning bidder. Failure to so comply will result in the title being vacated and the fighter being removed from the ratings for at least six (6) months.

4. Failure of Challenger(s) to Comply

The Challenger in a championship title fight, and both contestants in a fight for a vacant title, must sign the contract(s) referred to in Rule

9.F.1 above within fifteen (15) days of the bid and must comply with all of the terms and conditions set by the winning bidder. Failure to comply will result in the boxer being removed from the rankings for at least six (6) months.

5. Limitation on Request for Exception; Unavailability after Purse Bid due to Illness or Injury

No Exception to Regulation can be requested once the IBF has sent out the notice of the date of the purse bid or a contract has been signed for a mandatory bout. In the event the Challenger becomes unavailable due to injury or illness after the purse bid has been held, the Champion will be ordered to begin negotiations under this rule with the next highest leading available contender. In the event the Champion becomes unavailable due to injury or illness after the purse bid has been held, and such disability has been proven to and accepted by a physician approved by the President of the IBF, he/she may be granted a medical extension not to exceed sixty (60) days. If it is determined by the physician that the Champion will be disabled for a period to exceed sixty (60) days, the Championships Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may vacate the title.

6. No Intervening Bouts

The boxers are not permitted to take any intervening bouts. If the Champion takes an intervening bout, he/she will forfeit the title and if the Challenger takes an intervening bout, he/she will be dropped to below position #10 in the rankings for at least six (6) months.

9.G. Procedure when Winning Bidder Defaults

In the event the winning bidder defaults under 9.D. or 9.F., the bid falls to the next highest bidder ("Bidder #2"). Bidder #2 must deliver to the IBF within 5 days of notification by the IBF a non-refundable check in an amount representing 20% of its bid. The second bidder may withdraw its bid within five (5) days of being notified by the IBF if, due to the passage of time, its ability to promote the bout has been adversely affected.

If less than 30 days from the original bid date have passed when Bidder #2 is notified that it has won the bid, Bidder #2 shall comply with 9.F. and stage the fight within the time remaining in the initial 90 day period.

If more than 30 days have passed when Bidder #2 is notified that it has won the bid, it must comply with 9.F. and it will be given 90 days from notification to stage the fight.

If Bidder #2 does not comply with the terms above, the President will order the champion/mandatory challenger, or the two leading available contenders in the case of a

vacant title, to negotiate for the promotion of the bout. If no deal is reached within thirty (30) days, notice will be given to all registered promoters of a purse offer. See Rule 9.A.

Rule 10. Exception to Regulations

10.A. Request for Exception

A request for an Exception to the enforcement of any IBF rule may only be made by a reigning Champion and must be in writing setting forth the reasons for making such a request. Once the IBF has sent out the notice of the date of the purse bid, or once a contract has been signed for a mandatory bout, no Request for an Exception can be made.

10.B. Fee for Requesting an Exception

Said written request shall be accompanied by a certified, non-refundable Exception application fee of \$20,000.00. However, in the event the Exception requested is due to an injury, disability or illness which has been proven to and accepted by a physician approved by the President of the IBF, no fee is required.

10.C Pregnancy Extension

Female boxers will be allowed a pregnancy extension not to exceed 9 months past child birth. If it is determined that the recovery from the pregnancy will extend past the 9 month pregnancy extension, the Championships Committee, subject to the approval of the President, may vacate the title.

10.D. Notice to Affected Boxers

Upon receipt of a written request and fee by the applicant for an Exception, a copy of the written request will be forwarded to the affected participant and he/she will have seventy-two (72) hours to respond as to whether he/she is in agreement or has any objection, and if so, to state said objection in writing.

10.E. Notice to Board of Directors

After receiving an objection from the affected participant, the President shall then distribute a copy of the request for an Exception and any objection thereto to the Board of Directors and poll said members to determine whether the request for an exception shall be granted or denied, and if it is granted, what conditions shall apply.

10.F. Requirements for Approval of Request for Exception

Any Exception to these Championship Rules must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

10.G. Indemnification Agreement

As a condition of granting an Exception, the Champion requesting said Exception shall agree in writing to indemnify, hold harmless and otherwise reimburse the IBF for any legal fees or other expenses related to the granting of said Exception, including, but not limited to, the costs attendant to any resultant litigation.

10.H. Right to Appeal

If the Exception is granted, it will be granted conditioned upon the affected participant reserving the right to file an Appeal under the procedure in Rule 11 prior to a final decision. There shall be no additional fee for the appeal. Upon notification that the affected participant does not intend to file an Appeal, the decision of the Board of Directors shall become final.

10.I. Composition of Panel to Hear Appeal

The committee under Rule 11 appointed to hear an Appeal from the grant of an Exception under this rule shall not consist of any members of the Championships Committee or Board of Directors. The panel shall be appointed by the President from the general membership of the organization.

10.J. Compliance with Terms of Exception

The Champion must comply with all conditions contained in the grant of an Exception. In the event that an Exception has resulted in a delay of the reigning Champion's mandatory obligation, the reigning Champion, or the newly crowned Champion if the title changes hands, will not be permitted to further delay the mandatory by seeking an Exception or to unify the title.

10.K. Limitation on Requests for Exception

A reigning Champion shall not be permitted to request more than one Exception to delay a mandatory obligation. Once the Champion has complied with all conditions of the Exception and fulfilled his mandatory obligation, she will not be precluded from seeking another Exception. A Champion may not participate in a unification bout immediately following an Exception.

10.L. Limitation on Power to Grant Exception

Neither the President, the Chairperson of the Championships Committee nor any other member of the Board of Directors shall have the authority to grant an Exception under this rule unilaterally.

Rule 11. Appeal Procedure (Exclusive of Ratings- for Ratings Appeals See Rule 12 below)

11.A. Grounds for Appeal

1. Miscalculation of the score where the correct score would change the outcome of the fight;
2. Inappropriate conduct by the referee which is alleged to have affected the outcome of the fight;
3. Misconduct on the part of the judges or referee which is alleged to have had a material effect on the outcome of the fight;
4. Imposition of penalties under Rule 13; and
5. Any other alleged violation of the rules of the IBF that may have a detrimental effect on the rights of the complainant.

11.B. Form and Timing of Appeal

All Appeals shall be in writing from the complainant or his designated representative and shall be sent to the President of the IBF within ten (10) business days from the date of the subject fight or any alleged infraction of the rules. Failure to appeal within ten (10) business days shall constitute a waiver of the right to Appeal.

11.C. Contents of Notice of Appeal

The Appeal shall list with specificity each alleged discrepancy/ground for Appeal and/or infraction of a rule of the IBF and explain the effect of said infraction or claimed discrepancy on the complainant.

11.D. Fee

All requests for a hearing before the Appeals Committee by any complainant must be in writing and accompanied by a certified check payable to the IBF, cash, cashier's check, money order or wire transfer in the amount of 5,000.00. The 5,000.00 fee is non-refundable and shall be delivered to the President of the IBF at the time the Appeal is filed. In the event an affected participant under Rule 11 files an Appeal from the decision granting the Exception, there is no fee required.

11.E. Notification of Hearing

The President shall notify the complainant of the time, place, and date set for the hearing. The President shall further provide all interested parties with a copy of the written appeal and inform them of the time, place and date of the hearing. All interested parties may be heard at the hearing.

11.F. Panel to Hear Appeal

The President of the IBF will appoint a Chairperson and two additional members to the Committee to hear Appeals. They will be selected according to the type of Appeal under consideration. Each panel must be approved by the Board of Directors of the IBF. After completion of the hearing, the panel will present its findings to the President, who, after consultation with the Championships Committee, shall take that action deemed appropriate based upon said recommendation.

11.G. Notification of Result

The complainant shall be notified in writing of the result of the hearing within ten (10) business days of the hearing.

11.H. Exhaustion of Remedies

Any person(s) aggrieved must file and exhaust this internal Appeal procedure prior to taking other actions, including commencing litigation under Rule 14.

Rule 12. Ratings Appeals

12.A. Informal procedure

Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit a boxer or his/her designated representative from questioning the boxer's rating, either orally or in writing, within seven (7) business days from the date the ratings are posted on the official IBF web site at IBF-USBA-BOXING.COM. Nor shall anything in this Rule prohibit the Ratings Chairman, either on his own or upon consultation with the Ratings Committee, from proposing a resolution to any ratings issue presented by a boxer or his camp.

In the event there is no resolution on an informal level, the complainant shall be permitted to file a formal Appeal pursuant to 12.B. within three (3) business days of receipt of the decision on the informal appeal.

12.B. Formal Procedure

In accordance with the mandate of the Muhammad Ali Act, and with the approval of the Association of Boxing Commissions, the IBF adopts the following formal procedures for a boxer to appeal the ratings:

1. Form and Timing of Appeal

All Appeals shall be in writing from the boxer or the designated representative and shall be sent to the Chairman of the Ratings Committee within ten (10) business days from the date the ratings are posted on the official IBF web site at IBF-USBA-BOXING.COM.

2. Waiver of Right to Appeal

Failure to Appeal within ten (10) business days shall constitute a waiver of the right to appeal.

3. Consideration of the Appeal

The President of the IBF shall notify the members of the Board of Directors of the Appeal and provide each member with all documentation received by the Ratings Chairman regarding the appeal, as well as a copy of the written justification for the rating provided by the Ratings Chairman.

4. Requirements for Changing a Rating

Any Appeal to change a rating under this Rule must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

5. Notification of Results

The complainant will be notified in writing of the results of the Appeal within seven (7) business days after submission of the Appeal to the Ratings Chairman.

Rule 13. Penalties

Should any Champion or Challenger be found in violation of any of the rules of the IBF, he/she may be removed from the rankings for a period of not less than one (1) year. Should any Champion, Challenger, promoter, cornerman or manager be found to have acted in an unsportsmanlike or unprofessional manner as provided in Rule 5 by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, the Champion or the Challenger may be subject to fine, forfeiture of monies, vacation of title, lowering or removal from the ratings or any other discipline directed by the Board of

Directors. Any boxer, promoter, cornerman or manager subjected to discipline under this rule has a right to appeal the finding of a violation or the imposition of discipline, or both, under Rule 11, Appeal Procedure.

Rule 14. Litigation

14.A. Applicable Law

In all cases filed against the IBF in state court or federal court by any party, the laws of the State of New Jersey shall apply.

14.B. Venue

Any promoter or boxer requesting sanction for a bout from the IBF and all boxers, seconds and any and all other representatives of the boxers participating in a fight sanctioned by the IBF (hereinafter “Party” or “Parties”) hereby consent to submit to the jurisdiction of the federal or state courts in New Jersey in the event the IBF files suit against them.

All actions filed by any Party against the IBF shall be filed in the State of New Jersey.

14.C. Duty to Protect, Defend, Hold Harmless and Indemnify

If the IBF becomes a party to any legal proceeding as a result of any Party’s action or omission, the Party shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the IBF its employees, officers, directors, and agents, for all claims, damages, costs and expenses incurred therein by the IBF, including attorneys’ fees. If the IBF is made a party defendant in a lawsuit and the case is dismissed or resolved in favor of the IBF, the plaintiff(s) shall pay all of the costs and expenses of the litigation, including, but not limited to, attorney’s fees incurred by the IBF.

14.D. Limitation of Liability and Disclaimer

In no event shall the IBF be liable to any Party for punitive, consequential, direct, or indirect damages, including, but not limited to, lost profits, loss of earning capacity, delay, interest or attorneys’ fees, directly or indirectly resulting from any act or omission of the IBF, its employees, officers, directors, or agents.

14.E. Exclusive Remedy

The sole and exclusive monetary remedy, both pre litigation and post litigation, for any Party for alleged acts or omissions of the IBF shall be limited to the return of the reasonable fees, expenses, or costs the Party has paid to the IBF for the underlying event

giving rise to the Party's claim.

Rule 15. Interim Championships

15.A. When permitted

In the event a Champion is advised that he/she has an illness or injury that may interfere with completing his/her mandatory within the sixty (60) day time period as set forth in Rule 5.C.3., he/she must seek a Rule 10 Exception to extend his/her mandatory due date. If the request for an Exception is granted, the Championships Chairman, subject to the approval of the President, may order a bout for an interim title. If the request for an Exception is not granted, the Championships Committee, subject to the approval of the President, may vacate the title.

15.B. Contestants/Result

The contestants for the interim title will be the mandatory challenger and the next highest ranked available contender according to the latest published IBF ratings for each division. If an interim bout cannot be negotiated, no purse offer will be held. The contestants must agree on the terms of the bout. The winner of the interim title will become the mandatory challenger for the Champion.

15.C. Purse Offer

If the bout between the Champion and the interim Champion cannot be negotiated, a purse offer will be called. The purse offer split will be 65% to the Champion and 35% to the interim champion.

15.D. Defenses

An interim champion may make defense(s) of the interim title during the time period that the Champion is not prepared to mandatorily defend the title as determined by the terms of the Exception. All optional defenses must be completed not less than 90 days prior to the date provided in the Exception granted to the Champion.

15.E. Champion unable to defend

If the Champion is unable to defend the title against the interim champion by the end of the time permitted under the Exception, then the interim champion shall become the Champion.

15.F. Term

In no event shall an interim champion hold the title for a period longer than twelve (12) months.

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