

**Alabama Boxing Commission**

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Boxing Commission

RULE NO. & TITLE: 165-X-13 Mixed Martial Arts Ring and Equipment

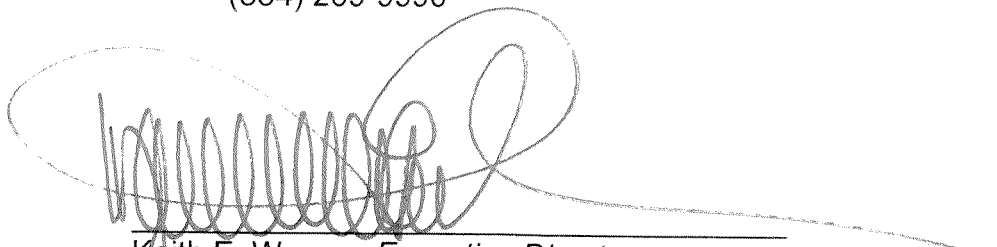
INTENDED ACTION: New

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to promulgate rules pertaining to requirements during and for mixed martial arts events.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be received by the Board until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011. Comments should be directed to Keith E. Warren, Executive Director, at 610 S. McDonough Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at [keith@warrenandco.com](mailto:keith@warrenandco.com) or via telephone at 334-269-9990.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:  
Monday, December 5, 2011.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Keith E. Warren  
Executive Director  
610 S. McDonough Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 269-9990



Keith E. Warren, *Executive Director*  
Alabama Boxing Commission

APA-1  
11/96

### TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control \_\_\_\_\_ Department or Agency: Alabama Boxing Commission  
Rule No.: 165-X-13  
Rule Title: Mixed Martial Arts Ring and Equipment  
X New \_\_\_\_\_ Amend \_\_\_\_\_ Repeal \_\_\_\_\_ Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly  
Harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's  
Police power and the protection of the public health,  
Safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation  
Available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or  
Indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services  
Involved and, if so, to what degree? No

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public  
Than the harm that might result from the absence of  
The proposed rule? No

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely  
For the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary  
Effect, the protection of the public? Yes

\*\*\*\*\*  
Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be  
accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-  
22-23, Code of Alabama, 1975.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the  
requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama, 1975, and that it conforms to all  
applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative  
Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer 

Date: October 20, 2011

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

## Chapter 165-X-13 Mixed Martial Arts Ring And Equipment

### 165-X-13-.01 Mixed Martial Art Weight Classes

### 165-X-13-.02 Fighting Area

### 165-X-13-.03 Stools

### 165-X-13-.04 Equipment

### 165-X-13-.05 Specifications For Bandages On Mixed Martial Artist's Hands

### 165-X-13-.06 Mouth pieces

### 165-X-13-.07 Protective equipment

### 165-X-13-.08 Gloves

## 165-X-3-.01 Mixed Martial Arts Weight Classes

- 1.Flyweight under 125.9 pounds;
- 2.Bantamweight 126 lbs. - 134.9 pounds;
- 3.Featherweight 135 lbs. - 144.9 pounds;
- 4.Lightweight 145 lbs. - 154.9 pounds;
- 5.Welterweight 155 lbs. - 169.9 pounds;
- 6.Middleweight 170 lbs. - 184.9 pounds;
- 7.Light Heavyweight 185 lbs. - 204.9 pounds;
- 8.Heavyweight 204 lbs. - 264.9 pounds;
- 9.Super Heavyweight over 265 pounds.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:****New Rule:** Filed August 22, 2011

### 165-X-13-.02 Fighting area

The fighting area canvas shall be no smaller than 18 feet by 18 feet and no larger than 32 feet by 32 feet. The fighting area canvas shall be padded in a manner as approved by the Commissioner, with at least one inch layer of foam padding. Padding shall extend beyond the fighting area and over the edge of the platform. No vinyl or other plastic rubberized covering shall be permitted.

- (1) The fighting area canvas shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and shall have suitable steps or ramp for use by the participants. Posts shall be made of metal not more than six inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the fighting area canvas and shall be properly padded in a manner approved by the Commissioner.

- (2) The fighting area canvas area shall be enclosed by a fence made of such material as will not allow a fighter to fall out or break through it onto the floor or spectators, including, but not limited to, vinyl coated chain link fencing. All metal parts shall be covered and padded in a manner approved by the Commissioner and shall not be abrasive to the contestants.
- (3) The fence shall provide two separate entries onto the fighting area canvas.
- (4) Instead of a fenced in area, the Commissioner may approve the use of a ring with five ring ropes and an adequate apron area outside of the fighting area.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears  
**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020  
**History:** New Rule:

**165-X-13-.03 Stools**

A ring stool of a type approved by the Commissioner shall be available for each contestant.

- (1) An appropriate number of stools or chairs, of a type approved by the Commissioner, shall be available for each contestant's seconds.
- (2) Such stools or chairs shall be located near each contestant's corner.
- (3) All stools and chairs used must be thoroughly cleaned or replaced after the conclusion of each bout.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears  
**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020  
**History:** New Rule:

**165-X-13-.04 Equipment**

For each bout, the promoter shall provide a clean water bucket and a clean plastic water bottle in each corner.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears  
**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020  
**History:** New Rule:

**165-X-13-.05 Specifications For Bandages On Mixed Martial Artist's Hands**

In all weight classes, the bandages on each contestant's hand shall be restricted to soft gauze cloth not more than 13 yards in length and two inches in width, held in place by not more than 10 feet of surgeon's tape, one inch in width, for each hand.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:** **New Rule:**

- (1) Surgeon's adhesive tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to cover and protect the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.
- a) The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.
- b) Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the inspector and in the presence of the manager or chief second of his or her opponent.
- c) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:** New Rule: Filed August 22, 2011

### **165-X-13-.06 Mouth pieces**

All contestants are required to wear a mouthpiece during competition. The mouthpiece shall be subject to examination and approval by the attending physician.

- (1) The round cannot begin without the mouthpiece in place.
- a) If the mouthpiece is involuntarily dislodged during competition, the referee shall call time, clean the mouthpiece and reinsert the mouthpiece at the first opportune moment, without interfering with the immediate action.

- b) Surgeon's adhesive tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to cover and protect the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.
- c) The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.
- d) Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the inspector and in the presence of the manager or chief second of his or her opponent.
- e) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:New Rule:** Filed August 22, 2011

#### **165-X-13-.07 Protective equipment**

Male mixed martial artists shall wear a groin protector of their own selection, of a type approved by the Commissioner.

- (1) Female mixed martial artists are prohibited from wearing groin protectors.
- (a) Female mixed martial artists shall wear a chest protector during competition. The chest protector shall be subject to approval of the Commissioner.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:New Rule:** Filed August 22, 2011

#### **165-X-13-.08 Gloves**

The gloves shall be new for all main events and in good condition or they must be replaced.

- (1) All contestants shall wear four, five or six ounce gloves, supplied by the promoter and approved by the commission. No contestant shall supply their own gloves for participation.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, § 41-9-1020

**History:New Rule:** Filed August 22, 2011