

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

Control No. 165 Department or Agency Alabama Athletic Commission  
Rule No. 165-X-12  
Rule Title: Bout Results  
         New          Amend                   X          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?          N/A         

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         

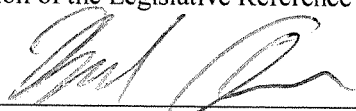
.....  
Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?          No         

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.

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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          9/19/2013

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

**ALABAMA ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Athletic Commission

RULE NO. & TITLE:

165-X-1	Professional Boxing	Repealed & New
165-X-2	Professional Mixed Martial Arts	Repealed & New
165-X-3	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts	Repealed & New
165-X-4	Medical Requirements	Repealed
165-X-5	Conduct of Promotion	Repealed
165-X-6	Ring and Equipment	Repealed
165-X-7	Officials: Corner Inspectors, Referees, Judges and Timekeepers	Repealed
165-X-8	Officials: Conduct of Contest, Match, or Exhibition	Repealed
165-X-9	Forms	Repealed
165-X-10	Functions of Commission	Repealed
165-X-11	Martial Arts Definition	Repealed
165-X-12	Bout Results	Repealed
165-X-13	Mixed Martial Arts Ring and Equipment	Repealed
165-X-14	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Standards	Repealed
165-X-15	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Competition Rules	Repealed
165-X-16	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Additional Competition Guidelines	Repealed
165-X-17	Foul Procedures	Repealed
165-X-18	Injuries Sustained During Competition That will Terminate the Bout	Repealed
165-X-19	Types of Bout Results	Repealed
165-X-20	Licensing for Amateur MMA Sanctioning Organizations	Repealed
165-X-21	Officials Responsibilities	Repealed
165-X-22	Medical Requirements	Repealed
165-X-23	Match Permits	Repealed
165-X-24	Additional Requirements	Repealed
165-X-25	Mixed Martial Arts Licensing Procedures	Repealed
Appendices		Repealed

INTENDED ACTION: Repealed and New

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Commission will repeal rules that are redundant and condense these rules into 3 chapters.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Oral or written comments should be addressed to the Alabama Athletic Commission at the address or phone number below and must be received no later than ~~November 7, 2013~~, 2013.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: November 7, 2013

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Ashley McGhee  
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Montgomery, AL 36104  
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Brandon Owens  
Executive Director

REPEAL

Athletic Commission

Chapter 165-X-12

STATE OF ALABAMA  
ALABAMA ATHLETIC COMMISSION  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 165-X-12  
BOUT RESULTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

165-X-12-.01	Warnings
165-X-12-.02	Types Of Bout Results
165-X-12-.03	Judging
165-X-12-.04	Fouls

165-X-12-.01 Warnings.

(1) The referee shall issue a single warning for the following infractions. After the initial warning, if the prohibited conduct persists, a penalty will be issued. The penalty may result in a deduction of points or disqualification.

(a) Holding or grabbing the fence;

(b) Holding opponent's shorts or gloves; or

(c) The presence of more than one second on the fighting area perimeter.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

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

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; Effective March 16, 2012.

165-X-12-.02 Types Of Bout Results

(1) The following are the types of bout results:

(a) Submission by:

1. Tap Out: When a contestant physically uses his hand to indicate that he or she no longer wishes to continue; or

2. Verbal tap out: When a contestant verbally announces to the referee that he or she does not wish to continue;

(b) Technical knockout by:

1. Referee stops bout;
2. Ringside physician stops bout; or
3. When an injury as a result of a legal maneuver is severe enough to terminate a bout;

(c) Knockout by failure to rise from the canvas;

(d) Decision via score cards:

1. Unanimous: When all three judges score the bout for the same contestant; ii. Split Decision: When two judges score the bout for one contestant and one judge scores for the opponent; or iii. Majority Decision: When two judges score the bout for the same contestant and one judge scores a draw;

(e) Draws:

1. Unanimous - When all three judges score the bout a draw;
2. Majority - When two judges score the bout a draw; or
3. Split - When all three judges score differently and the score total results in a draw;

(f) Disqualification: When an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul is severe enough to terminate the contest;

(g) Forfeit: When a contestant fails to begin competition or prematurely ends the contest for reasons other than injury or by indicating a tap out;

(h) Technical Draw: When an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul cause the injured contestant to be unable to continue and the injured contestant is even or behind on the score cards at the time of stoppage;

(i) Technical Decision: When the bout is prematurely stopped due to injury and a contestant is leading on the score cards; and

(j) No Contest: When a contest is prematurely stopped due to accidental injury and a sufficient number of rounds have not been completed to render a decision via the score cards.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

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

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; Effective March 16, 2012.

**165-X-12-.03 Judging.**

(1) All bouts will be evaluated and scored by three judges.

(2) The 10-Point Must System will be the standard system of scoring a bout. Under the 10-Point Must Scoring System, 10 points must be awarded to the winner of the round and nine points or less must be awarded to the loser, except for a rare even round, which is scored (10-10).

(3) Judges shall evaluate mixed martial arts techniques, such as effective striking, effective grappling, control of the fighting area, effective aggressiveness and defense.

(4) Evaluations shall be made in the order in which the techniques appear in (c) above, giving the most weight in scoring to effective striking, effective grappling, control of the fighting area and effective aggressiveness and defense.

(5) Effective striking is judged by determining the total number of legal heavy strikes landed by a contestant.

(6) Effective grappling is judged by considering the amount of successful executions of a legal takedown and reversals. Examples of factors to consider are take downs from standing position to mount position, passing the guard to mount position, and bottom position fighters using an active, threatening guard.

(7) Fighting area control is judged by determining who is dictating the pace, location and position of the bout. Examples of factors to consider are countering a grappler's attempt at takedown by remaining standing and legally striking; taking down an opponent to force a ground fight; creating threatening submission attempts, passing the guard to achieve mount, and creating striking opportunities.

(8) Effective aggressiveness means moving forward and landing a legal strike.

(a) Effective defense means avoiding being struck, taken down or reversed while countering with offensive attacks.

(9) The following objective scoring criteria shall be utilized by the judges when scoring a round:

(a) A round is to be scored as a 10-10 Round when both contestants appear to be fighting evenly and neither contestant shows clear dominance in a round;

(b) A round is to be scored as a 10-9 Round when a contestant wins by a close margin, landing the greater number of effective legal strikes, grappling and other maneuvers;

(c) A round is to be scored as a 10-8 Round when a contestant overwhelmingly dominates by striking or grappling in a round.

(d) A round is to be scored as a 10-7 Round when a contestant totally dominates by striking or grappling in a round.

(e) Judges shall use a sliding scale and recognize the length of time the fighters are either standing or on the ground, as follows:

1. If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round on the canvas, then:

(i) Effective grappling is weighed first; and

(ii) Effective striking is then weighed

2. If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round standing, then:

3. Effective striking is weighed first; and 2. Effective grappling is then weighed

4. If a round ends with a relatively even amount of standing and canvas fighting, striking and grappling are weighed equally.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

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

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

165-X-12-.04 Fouls.

- (1) The following are fouls and will result in penalties if committed:
- (a) Butting with the head;
  - (b) Eye gouging of any kind;
  - (c) Biting or spitting at an opponent;
  - (d) Hair pulling;
  - (e) Fish hooking;
  - (f) Groin attacks of any kind;
  - (g) Intentionally placing a finger in any opponent's orifice;
  - (h) Downward pointing of elbow strikes;
  - (i) Small joint manipulation;
  - (j) Strikes to the spine or back of the head;
  - (k) Heel kicks to the kidney;
  - (l) Throat strikes of any kind;
  - (m) Clawing, pinching, twisting the flesh or grabbing the clavicle;
  - (n) Kicking the head of a grounded fighter;
  - (o) Kneeing the head of a grounded fighter;
  - (p) Stomping of a grounded fighter;
  - (q) The use of abusive language in fighting area;
  - (r) Any unsportsmanlike conduct that causes an injury to opponent;
  - (s) Attacking an opponent on or during the break;

(t) Attacking an opponent who is under the referee's care at the time; 21. Timidity (avoiding contact, or consistent dropping of mouthpiece, or faking an injury);

(u) Interference from a mixed martial artists seconds;

(v) Throwing an opponent out of the fighting area;

(w) Flagrant disregard of the referee's instructions;

(x) Spiking an opponent to the canvas on his or her head or neck.

(y) Disqualification occurs after any combination of three or the fouls listed in (a) above or after a referee determines that a foul was intentional and flagrant.

(z) Fouls will result in a point being deducted by the official scorekeeper from the offending mixed martial artist's score.

(aa) Only a referee can assess a foul. If the referee does not call the foul, judges shall not make that assessment on their own and cannot factor such into their scoring calculations.

(bb) A fouled fighter has up to five minutes to recuperate.

(cc) If a foul is committed, the referee shall:

1. call time;

2. check the fouled mixed martial artist's condition and safety; and

3. assess the foul to the offending contestant, deduct points, and notify each corner's seconds, judges and the official scorekeeper.

(dd) If a bottom contestant commits a foul, unless the top contestant is injured, the fight shall continue, so as not to jeopardize the top contestant's superior positioning at the time.

1. The referee shall verbally notify the bottom contestant of the foul.

2. When the round is over, the referee shall assess the foul and notify both corners' seconds, the judges and the official scorekeeper.



3. The referee may terminate a bout based on the severity of a foul.

(2) For such a flagrant foul, a contestant shall lose by disqualification.

(3) Injuries sustained during competition

(a) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of a legal maneuver is severe enough to terminate a bout, the injured contestant loses by technical knockout.

(b) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul is severe enough to terminate a bout, the contestant causing the injury loses by disqualification.

(c) If an injury is sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee shall notify the scorekeeper to automatically deduct two points from the contestant who committed the foul.

(d) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul cause the injured contestant to be unable to continue at a subsequent point in the contest, the injured contestant shall win by technical decision, if he or she is ahead on the score cards. If the injured contestant is even or behind on the score cards at the time of stoppage, the outcome of the bout shall be declared a technical draw.

(e) If a contestant injures himself or herself while attempting to foul his or her opponent, the referee shall not take any action in his or her favor, and the injury shall be treated in the same manner as an injury produced by a fair blow.

(f) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an accidental foul is severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout shall result in a no contest if stopped before two rounds have been completed in a three round bout or if stopped before three rounds have been completed in a five round bout.

(g) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an accidental foul is severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout shall result in a technical decision awarded to the contestant who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped only when the bout is stopped after two rounds of a three round bout, or three rounds of a five round bout have been completed.

(h) There will be no scoring of an incomplete round. However, if the referee penalizes either contestant, then the appropriate points shall be deducted when the scorekeeper calculates the final score.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

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

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.