

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control 165 Department or Agency Alabama Athletic Commission

Rule No. 165-X-6-.06

Rule Title: Ring and Equipment

 New X Amend Repeal Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? NO

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? NO

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 Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer Joseph [Signature]

Date 4/14/18

(DATE FILED)
(STAMP)

ALABAMA ATHLETIC
COMMISSION

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME:

Alabama Athletic Commission

RULE NO. & TITLE:

165-X-6-.06: Ring and Equipment

INTENDED ACTION:

Amend the AAC Rules and Regulations.

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Amends requirements for ring and cage surfaces, adds weigh-in procedures, and fixes grammatical errors and audit findings.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

The Rules Amendment was voted on by the AAC at the Regularly Scheduled Meeting on Friday, April 13, 2018. The amendment passed Unanimously

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

June 4, 2018

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

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JOSEPH B. MCCORMICK, II
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

165-X-6-.06 Ring and Equipment.

(1) The Ring

(a) Ring Size. The ring must be a square and not less than sixteen feet (16') or more than twenty feet (20') on a side within the ropes. The ring platform (floor) must extend beyond the ropes at least eighteen inches (18") on all sides (apron).

1. A ring size greater than twenty feet (20') on a side within the ropes shall only be allowed after unanimous agreement of all the kickboxers contracted to appear on the show. For purposes of the subparagraph, the term "all kickboxers" shall be limited to those boxers contracted to compete in bouts of three (3) rounds or more.

(b) Safety Padding. The ring floor shall be padded with one-inch (1") thick slow recovery foam matting, or other soft material approved by the commission or its authorized representative, and shall extend over the edge of the ring platform with a top covering of canvas, duck or similar material tightly stretched and laced to the ring platform. Padding material that tends to gather in lumps may not be used.

(c) Ring Mat. The mat and covering shall be kept clean and free from odors at all times. The corners must be covered by a pad long enough to cover all the rope joints.

(d) Platform Height. The ring platform shall not be taller than fifty-four inches (54") from the floor of the building and shall be provided with suitable steps for use by the contestants.

(e) Ringside Tables. Each promoter shall be responsible for employing a safety plan to protect kickboxers who might fall outside of elevated rings. Except where deemed impractical, the floor of those sides not so protected shall be covered with protective matting.

(f) Ring Posts. Ring posts shall be made of some strong material, preferably metal pipe, three inches (3") in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a height of at least fifty-eight inches (58") above the ring floor.

(g) Ring Certification. Rings used in professional kickboxing matches in Alabama must be certified by the chief referee and/or the commission representative in attendance at the show.

1. Any ring judged unsafe by the chief referee and/or the commission representative or not otherwise meeting basic standards as defined in commission rules, or which is deemed by the chief referee or commission representative to be improperly stabilized will not be certified.

2. Failure to obtain certification will result in immediate and summary suspension of the match permit.

(h) Cage. Cross promotional events held in a cage shall meet the cage standards established in 165-X-2-.06 or 165-X-3-.06.

(2) Ring Ropes.

(a) **Rope Dimensions.** Ring ropes shall be four (4) in number, at least one inch (1") in diameter, the lower rope eighteen inches (18") above the ring floor and the top rope fifty-two inches (52") from the ring floor. The two remaining ropes will be evenly spread between the top and bottom ropes. All four ropes shall be wrapped in soft material.

(b) **Rope Lanyards.** Each ring rope on each side of the ring shall be connected with two (2) rope lanyards.

(c) **Rope Ring Lighting.** The ring shall be amply illuminated by the overhead lights, which shall be so arranged that shadow shall be eliminated and discomfort from heat and glare minimized for persons in and near the rings.

(3) Bell.

(a) There will be a bell at the ring, no higher than the floor level of the ring. The bell will be clear in tone so that the fighters and referee may easily hear it when it is sounded.

(4) Ring Equipment.

(a) The promoter shall provide a sufficient number of water buckets for the use of all contestants. Each bucket shall be sterilized before being used. Additionally, the promoter shall provide resin, stools, and such other articles as are required for the conduct of each bout.

(5) Scales.

(a) Scales shall be furnished by the promoter. The Commission may require that the scales be certified. Residential bathroom scales of the type generally used in private residences will not meet certification requirements of the Commission and will not be allowed for use at any weigh-in.

(b) Weigh-Ins for Championship and Televised Events.

1. The scale used for the official weigh-in shall be provided by the promoter.

2. The scale used for the weigh-in shall be an NTEP Certified Scale, which shall be registered with the Alabama Department of Agriculture, Weight & Measure Division.

3. The scale used for the official weigh-in shall be certified as being accurate, on the morning of the weigh-in, by the State of Alabama, Department of Agriculture, Weight & Measures Staff.

4. Documentation verifying the scales accuracy shall be submitted to the Executive Director no later than noon (12pm) on the date the weigh-in is to occur.

5. No one shall be allowed on the scale once it is certified, until the Chief Inspector is present.

6. If a scale is moved after certification, it shall be recertified before any further weigh-ins can be performed on that scale.

7. Once certified, the promoter shall have a security member watch the scale until the time of weigh-in, to avoid tampering.

8. A "Ceremonial" scale may be used during a Ceremonial Weigh-in. The Ceremonial Scale shall not be used to record official weights and are strictly to be used for ceremonial purposes.

Authors: Joseph B. McCormick, J. Matt Bledsoe, Stan D. Frierson, Shane T. Sears

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1024

History: New Rule: Filed November 30, 2016; Effective February 13, 2017