

523 CMR 5.00: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section

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5.01: Definitions

As used in 523 CMR, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in 523 CMR 5.01.

Amateur. An unarmed combatant who has never accepted money or other remuneration for participating in an unarmed combat competition and has not previously been licensed as a professional in Massachusetts or any other jurisdiction.

Back of the Head. The nape of the neck area up until the top of the ears, and above the ears in the mohawk area from the top of the ears up until the crown of the head. The crown of the head is where the head begins to curve downward.

Commission. The Massachusetts State Athletic Commission as established by M.G.L. c. 22, § 12.

Exhibition. Organized presentation or demonstration of unarmed combat, the results of which are not officially recorded or recognized as part of a participating unarmed combatant's record.

Kickboxing. A form of unarmed combat that includes punching and kicking above the belt only.

Manager. A person who:

- (a) for compensation, undertakes to represent the interests of another person, by contract, agreement or other arrangement, for purposes of procuring, arranging or conducting a professional contest or exhibition in which such person is to participate as an unarmed combatant or in directing or controlling the unarmed combat activities of an unarmed combatant.
- (b) Manager does not include a duly licensed attorney if his or her participation in such activities is restricted solely to his or her legal representation of the interests of an unarmed combatant as his or her client.

Match. A contest of combat between two unarmed combatants, the results of which are officially recorded and recognized as part of a participating unarmed combatant's record.

Medical Board. The Medical Advisory Board.

Mixed Martial Arts. As defined in M.G.L. c. 147, § 32, any form of unarmed combat involving the use of a combination of techniques including, but not limited to, grappling, kicking and striking, commonly associated with boxing, kickboxing, wrestling and various disciplines of the martial arts including, but not limited to, karate, kung fu, tae kwon do, Jiu-Jitsu or any combination thereof.

Prize. Something offered or won as an award for superiority or excellence in competition such as a belt, trophy, or other tangible award.

Program. An event at which one or more unarmed combat competitions are scheduled which require licensure pursuant to M.G.L. c. 147, § 32.

Promoter. Any person who produces or stages any match or exhibition.

Purse. The financial guarantee or any other remuneration for which unarmed combatants are participating in a match or exhibition and includes the unarmed combatant's share of any payment received for the exploitation of the radio broadcasting, television, pay-per view, motion picture, or other broadcasting rights.

5.01: continued

Respondent. A person against whom a complaint has been filed pursuant to 523 CMR.

Ring Official. Any person who performs an official function during a match or exhibition.

Southeast Asian Kickboxing. A form of unarmed combat that includes punching and kicking above and below the belt; *e.g.* Muay Thai, Kun Khmer, Tomoi, and Lethwei.

Sparring Match. Unarmed combat wherein the participants may or may not wear protective gear, the results of which are not officially recorded or recognized as part of a participating unarmed combatant's record.

Trainer. Any person primarily responsible for the teaching, conditioning, and instructing of an unarmed combatant.

Unarmed Combat. As defined in M.G.L. c. 147, § 32, boxing, mixed martial arts, karate, or any form of competition in which a blow is usually struck which may reasonably be expected to inflict injury and no weapon is used; provided that "unarmed combat" shall not include professional wrestling.

Unarmed Combatant. Any person who engages in unarmed combat in a match or exhibition, whether or not the person receives remuneration.

5.02: Application

The provisions of 523 CMR shall apply to all matches, exhibitions, and programs of unarmed combat that require licensure pursuant to M.G.L. c. 147, § 32 and sanctioned by the Commission. Unless expressly limited to professional or amateur contests, all provisions are presumed to apply to both professional and amateur contests or contestants. Amateur sanctioning organizations approved by the Commission are subject to 523 CMR 19.00: *Amateur Contests and Exhibitions Held by Amateur Sanctioning Organizations* requirements unless the Commission directs otherwise.

5.03: Variances

The Commission may, at its sole discretion, grant a variance from any provision of 523 CMR for any cause deemed sufficient by the Commission. Variances must be requested in writing on a form approved by the Commission, and each request must specifically cite those provisions of 523 CMR from which the applicant is requesting relief.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

523 CMR 5.00: M.G.L. c. 147, § 46.