

523 CMR: STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

523 CMR 9.00: CONTRACTS AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN PROFESSIONAL UNARMED COMBAT

Section

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9.01: Contract Between Manager and Unarmed Combatant

- (1) No amateur unarmed combatant may enter into a management contract. The Commission may refuse to honor a contract between a manager and an unarmed combatant unless it is filed with the Commission at least 72 hours before a scheduled contest or exhibition and it complies with the requirements of 523 CMR 9.00. The Commission will not honor a contract between a manager and an unarmed combatant if the term of the contract is for a period of more than three years.
- (2) A manager may not contract to receive the services of an unarmed combatant under their management for a contest or exhibition which is scheduled to take place after the expiration of the contract.
- (3) The Commission may honor a contract that is not executed and notarized on a form provided by the Commission if the terms of the contract comply with the requirements of 523 CMR 9.01. If the terms of the contract exceed the limitations contained in 523 CMR 9.01, the Commission may honor the contract to the extent of those limitations.
- (4) A manager may not negotiate or sign for contests or exhibitions for an unarmed combatant who is not under contract to him or her. An unarmed combatant who does not have a contract with a licensed manager must sign for his or her own contest or exhibition and sign the receipt for his own purse.
- (5) A manager or managers may not participate separately or collectively in more than 33% of the earnings of the unarmed combatant in the ring.

9.02: Promoter and Certain Others Prohibited from Acting as Manager of Unarmed Combatant and from Holding Certain Financial Interests

An unarmed combatant may not have a promoter or any of its members, stockholders, officials, matchmakers or assistant matchmakers:

- (1) Act directly or indirectly as his or her manager; or
- (2) Hold any financial interest in his or her management or their earnings from contests or exhibitions.

9.03: Bout Agreement Between Promoter and Unarmed Combatant: Form; Prohibited Provision

- (1) Unless given leave by the Commission to do otherwise, the bout agreement between a promoter and an unarmed combatant must be executed on a form provided by the Commission.

9.03: continued

(2) A bout agreement which provides that an unarmed combatant is to pay for the services of his or her opponent is prohibited.

(3) The Commission will not recognize bout agreements that violate 15 U.S.C.A. § 6307b.

9.04: Filing Bout Agreements; Contracts for Rights to Broadcast, Televisive or Take Motion Pictures

(1) A bout agreement between a promoter and an unarmed combatant must be placed on file with the Commission at least three working days before the program unless the Commission or its designee gives special approval for filing the bout agreement closer to the time of weighing in.

(2) Contracts for the sale, lease or other exploitation of the television, pay-per-view, motion picture or other broadcasting rights of an event must be filed with the Commission at least 48 hours prior to the event in accordance with M.G.L. c. 147, § 40.

9.05: Limitations on Promoter Creating Debt on Behalf of or Advancing Money to Unarmed Combatant or Manager

(1) A promoter licensed by the Commission shall not directly or indirectly make any loan or advance to an unarmed combatant or a manager without the express written permission of the Commission.

(2) A promoter shall not, directly or indirectly, create any indebtedness that becomes the obligation of an unarmed combatant or a manager unless the promoter has the express written permission of the Commission for that action.

9.06: Failure of Unarmed Combatant to Appear for Contest or Exhibition

An unarmed combatant who fails to appear for and participate in a contest or exhibition in which they signed a bout agreement to appear, without a written excuse determined to be valid by the Commission or a certificate from a physician approved by the Commission in case of physical disability, is subject to disciplinary action. The Commission will not take action to enforce a bout agreement on behalf of an unarmed combatant that has failed to appear without justification.

9.07: Payment of Unarmed Combatant

An unarmed combatant must be paid in full according to his or her bout agreement and no part of his or her remuneration may be withheld except by order of the Commission pursuant to M.G.L. c. 147, § 36, nor may any part of his or her remuneration be returned through arrangement with their manager to any matchmaker or promoter, except as otherwise provided 523 CMR 9.00.

9.08: Payment of Officials and Purse

(1) All payment of purses must be made:
(a) Immediately after the contest or exhibition; or
(b) If the unarmed combatant is to receive a percentage of the net receipts, immediately after that percentage is determined, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

(2) Before the start of a contest or exhibition, the promoter shall pay the Commission, all monies owed to ring officials.

(3) Immediately after the contest or exhibition, the Commission or its designee will release the payments to ring officials and will obtain their signatures on a list in which they acknowledge the payment.

9.09: Withholding Payment of Purse Pending Disciplinary Action Against Unarmed Combatant; Duties of promoter

(1) At any time before the award of a purse to an unarmed combatant, the Commission may specify any amount which must be retained from the purse of the unarmed combatant and transferred from the promoter to the Commission. The money transferred to the Commission will not be given to the unarmed combatant until the Commission determines that no penalty will be prescribed pursuant to 523 CMR for any action or condition of the unarmed combatant. Any amount so specified is not a limitation upon the amount of a penalty which may be prescribed pursuant to 523 CMR.

(2) If the Commission orders any amount of the purse of the unarmed combatant to be transferred from the promoter to the Commission pursuant to 523 CMR 9.09(1), the promoter shall transfer the money to the Commission by use of a cashier's check made payable to the Commission, unless the Commission approves another method for the transfer of the money.

9.10: Payment of Certain Fees for Tickets Sold

(1) In accordance with M.G.L. c. 147, § 40, every promoter holding or conducting a program shall, before the commencement of the final feature bout of the event, pay to the state treasurer via the Commission a sum equal to 4% of the total gross receipts from the sale of tickets or from admission fees.

(2) In accordance with M.G.L. c. 147, § 40A, every promoter holding or conducting a program shall, before the commencement of the feature bout of the event, pay to the state treasurer via the Commission, in addition to the payment required under 523 CMR 9.10(1), a sum equal to 1% of the total gross receipts from the sale of tickets or from admission fees, subject to the exceptions and requirements of M.G.L. c. 147, § 40A.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

523 CMR 9.00: M.G.L. c. 147, § 46.