

# Summary of proposed changes to the World Boxing Competition Rules

**1 October 2024**

## **1. Removal of limitation on minimum number of boxers in Oceania Continental Championships**

- The restriction on the minimum number of boxers in a draw for Oceania Continental Championships has been removed (Article 1.6.5). This change accommodates the realistic number of entries observed at the recent continental Olympic qualifier and avoids situations where World Boxing cannot comply with its own rules.

## **2. Ranking point transfer regulation for weight category changes**

- A new article (1.10.4 adjusted) has been added to regulate the transfer of ranking points when World Boxing changes weight categories. This accommodates the expected weight category changes at the end of 2024, allowing boxers to transfer points under specific conditions that are not dependant on them.

## **3. New weight categories for Elite Men and Women (Effective 1 January 2025)**

- **10 new weight categories** for both Elite Men and Women are proposed, replacing the previous categories (12+12). This change is based on the consensus from the Sports and Competition Committee and related Commissions that an equal number of weight categories for men and women is essential, while more than 10 categories are unsustainable. Key factors considered:
  - Cost for National Federations (NFs) and teams
  - Competition duration and session lengths
  - Availability of Technical Officials (TOs) and maintaining high-quality officiating
  - The need to prevent the dilution of the status of champions
  - Practices of successful Olympic combat sport IFs.
- **Olympic Weight Categories:** Both men and women are expected to compete in **7 weight categories** at the next Olympic Games if World Boxing is successful in its mission, and these categories will be selected from within the 10 elite categories. These categories have been coordinated with stakeholders in Lausanne.
- The Congress should allow the Board to remove the old Elite categories after 31 December 2024, without additional Congress approval.



#### 4. Refinement of Scoring Criteria and Scoring Allocation

- **Scoring Criteria:** Clarity has been added, emphasizing:
    - 1) Quantity of scoring blows (primary), and quality of scoring blows in cases when the quantity is near equal
    - 2) Technical and tactical superiority (secondary, if no clear winner on primary criteria)
    - 3) Competitiveness (used only if other criteria are equal)  
+ Scoring allocation also slightly more clarified
  - **Future Testing:** Based on the recommendations from the IOC not to proceed with more radical changes to the scoring criteria until sufficient data is collected and testing conducted, the Congress will be asked to approve the testing of a more substantially altered scoring system that removes subjective criteria like technical and tactical superiority and competitiveness, focusing solely on:
    - Number of scoring blows
    - High-impact blows if the number of scoring blows is close to equal.
- And differently defined Scoring Allocation:**
- **10-9:** fewer than 6 scoring blows difference
  - **10-8:** 6-11 blow difference, or slightly fewer than 6 + a knockdown/standing eight count
  - **10-7:** 12+ blow difference or slightly fewer than 12 + knockdown/standing eight count
- The Congress will be asked to give the Board the authority to sanction test events, where these changes are thoroughly tested before full implementation throughout 2025.

#### 5. Removal of the R&J Observer Role

- The **Referee & Judges Observer** role has been removed as a separate role/position. Evaluation of R&J performance falls under the responsibility of R&J Evaluators as per the current rules, even when it is done from a position of an Observer.

#### 6. Additional Changes

- Various terminology fixes and edits to ensure compliance with World Boxing's own rules.

**It is asked that the Executive Board approves these changes before they are sent to National Federations for review ahead of the World Boxing Congress.**