

Proposed Bundle of Amendments to the World Boxing Competition Rules (Approved November 2024)

1. Article 1.2 – Sanctioning of Continental/Confederation Championships Current Rule:

Continental or confederation championships are recognized as World Boxing competitions but governed by their respective organizing bodies.

Proposed Amendment:

All continental and confederation championships shall be designated as World Boxing Sanctioned Events, owned and operated by the respective continental confederations in accordance with the World Boxing Statutes, Competition Rules, and Policies.

This change ensures that all continental events are aligned under the global governance and integrity framework of World Boxing while respecting the operational autonomy of each confederation.

Rationale:

- Enhances consistency and integrity across all World Boxing-sanctioned competitions.
 - Ensures uniform application of rules, medical standards, and officiating criteria.
 - Strengthens the recognition of continental championships as integral components of the World Boxing competition structure.
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2. Article 1.6.5 – Host Selection for Continental Championships

Current Rule:

The Executive Board selects hosts for all elite-level events, including continental championships.

Proposed Amendment:

In accordance with the proposed amendment to Article 1.2, hosts of Elite Continental Championships shall be selected by their respective Continental Confederations, subject to approval by the World Boxing Executive Board to confirm compliance with World Boxing standards.

Rationale:

- Provides Continental Confederations ownership and accountability for hosting their events.
- Maintains oversight through World Boxing's sanctioning authority to ensure global standards are upheld.

3. Article 2.2.1 – Weight Categories

Current Rule:

“Elite Men’s and Women’s weight categories until 31 December 2024...”

Proposed Amendment:

Remove the phrase “*until 31 December 2024*” as it is now obsolete.

Rationale:

- The date reference is outdated and no longer applicable.
 - Simplifies and clarifies the ongoing structure of weight categories.
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4. Article 2.2.2 – Olympic Weight Category Designation

Proposed Addition:

Add a note specifying that weight categories highlighted in green are Olympic weight categories for clarity in competition documentation and draw sheets.

Rationale:

- Enhances transparency and clarity for National Federations, athletes, and officials.
 - Ensures consistent understanding of Olympic classification in all World Boxing events.
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5. Article 2.5 – Gender Testing Requirements

Proposed Addition:

Introduce updated rules regarding gender testing requirements to ensure compliance with international standards and human rights best practices. World Boxing shall adopt clear protocols aligned with the IOC Framework on Fairness, Inclusion, and Non-Discrimination and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Medical Guidelines, ensuring athlete privacy, scientific integrity, and fairness.

Rationale:

- Addresses an important regulatory gap by updating gender verification policies.
 - Promotes fairness while upholding inclusion, medical ethics, and international sport governance standards.
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6. Article 9.10 – Integration of Bout Protest/Challenge Procedure

Proposed New Rule:

Each National Federation shall begin each competition with two (2) bout challenges/protests.

A challenge must be declared within five (5) minutes of the official decision. The review will be conducted using AI-based bout analysis or judge evaluator scoring to ensure timely and objective resolution.

- If the challenge is successful, the bout decision is overturned, and the NF retains its full allotment of challenges.
- If the challenge is unsuccessful, the decision stands, and one challenge is forfeited.

Notes:

1. When using AI, overturning a round or bout requires a minimum differential of three (3) scoring blows between boxers. If the margin is three or fewer, the decision stands.
2. The AI challenge system provides a pathway to integrate technology into officiating without replacing human judges.
3. If AI cannot be used, the Judge Evaluator's scoring shall be applied to assess the bout outcome.
4. This process ensures that officiating errors can be corrected promptly, ensuring the correct boxer advances in line with scoring criteria.

Rationale:

- Introduces a transparent and technologically assisted review mechanism.
- Protects athletes from officiating errors while preserving the integrity of results.
- Encourages accountability and data-driven judging improvements.
- Aligns with modernization trends in sports officiating through AI-assisted analysis.

7. Article 13.3.3 – Headgear Requirements

Proposed Amendment:

Headgear shall be mandatory for all boxers, including elite men.

If implementation is not immediately feasible, headgear shall be optional for elite men, pending further medical evaluation and consensus.

Rationale:

- Reinforces boxer safety as the top priority.
 - Addresses growing evidence supporting the protective benefits of headgear in reducing cuts and superficial injuries.
 - Offers transitional flexibility while maintaining athlete choice and medical input.
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Rationale for the Bundle Proposal

This bundle of amendments represents a holistic update to the World Boxing Competition Rules, addressing governance alignment, safety, inclusion, and modernization.

Collectively, these proposals aim to:

1. Strengthen governance coherence between World Boxing and Continental Confederations.
 2. Enhance fairness, safety, and transparency across all competitions.
 3. Incorporate medical, technological, and social best practices.
 4. Future-proof the rulebook for continued evolution of the sport.
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Conclusion

Adopting this bundle of amendments will:

- Improve operational consistency across World Boxing and its Confederations.
- Modernize officiating and competition procedures.
- Reinforce medical safety and inclusivity standards.
- Ensure equitable, transparent, and technologically advanced competition management.

For these reasons, Congress is urged to vote in favor of this comprehensive bundle of amendments to the *World Boxing Competition Rules (Approved November 2024)*.