



**USA  
BOXING®**

**GUIDE**  
**TO A**  
**SUCCESSFUL**  
**SANCTION**

REV: JUNE 2022

- 1** Put together an event organizing committee. Events are a lot of work. Create an event budget. Make certain you have access to a competition ring, competition gloves, scale, and a venue (large enough for the ring, participants, and spectators). Know and follow the rules of USA Boxing, State regulations, and city regulations.
- 2** Select an open date and talk with LBC leadership to make certain your preferred date is available. Talk with coaches from other Clubs to ask them to attend your event. You need several months to plan and advertise for a successful event. Decide on times for weigh-in and physicals, bout start time, and how many bouts you want on the card. Every 4 or 5 bouts takes one hour of ring time. Most Club Shows last about two hours. Consider your audience, as well as the time required of your participants and officials.
- 3** Secure a Safe Sport compliant Ringside Doctor (M.D. or D.O.) for your date. Explain the exact time they should arrive for pre-bout physicals. Explain how long you expect the event to last. USA Boxing provides a malpractice policy for Doctors who volunteer their services, however they must contact USA Boxing yearly to renew their membership and retake Safe Sport. The Doctor may use a physician assistant or nurse to assist with the physicals, however only the Doctor may sign the boxers' passbooks.
- 4** Discuss your event with the LBC Chief of Officials. Contact registered and certified referees and judges in your area. A ring requires a minimum of 7 officials (judges, referees, timekeeper, glove table, and an Official in Charge). It's strongly advised that you also have a clerk and a couple of additional officials to rotate to avoid conflicts of interest. Talk with the Chief of Officials about your plan for officials, ringside doctor, competition gloves, score cards, stopwatches, bell/timer, and scales.
- 5** Secure your venue. The USA Boxing Certificate of Insurance can list the venue as a co-insured (the certificate is emailed after the sanction is approved). Give yourself time to set-up the ring the day before, or day of, your event. Most rings require 3 hours for set-up, with adequate number of people helping.
- 6** Apply for your event sanction. A debit or credit card is required to purchase the sanction. The sanction application requires names of your event's contact person, Ringside Doctor, Official in Charge, as well as the venue name and address. If any issues arise contact your LBC Registration Chair for assistance.

- 7** Advertise your event! Use all available media and social media to spread the word. Reach out to local clubs so they can save the date.
- 8** Order awards: trophies, medals, or other suitable give-aways. Check to make certain all officials are still able to attend your event. Confirm the venue address, start time, and parking options. Confirm with your Official in Charge if there are other requirements. Several weeks out: Obtain lists of boxers (include name, USAB number, age, weight, and experience) from other clubs so you can start making preliminary match-ups. Don't make matches too soon, because boxers change weights, get sick, get injured, etc. Stay in contact with coaches.
- 9** Secure volunteers: glove table, ticket-takers, concession stand, announcer, and any others needed for your event. Obtain supplies. Continue to make preliminary bout match-ups.

- 10** Set up the ring and the 3 sets of steps, along with tables and chairs for officials at ringside. On one side of the ring set up a station for the Official in Charge, timekeeper, and Ringside Doctor (next to the set of neutral corner steps).

### EVENT DAY

- 11** Check-in. Weigh-in. Pre-bout physicals. Coaches' check-in and get armband. Glove table with gloves, extra groin protectors, extra headgear. At least one hour before start time hold a Coaches' meeting to distribute the Bout Sheet. Make everyone aware if you plan to take an intermission.

- 12** Within 48 hours: Input all Bout Results into Match-Tracker. Turn in Event Report to LBC.

## PRE-BOUTS

- Make start-of-event announcements as needed
- Obtain an official Bout Sheet
- Approximately 15 minutes prior to start time, announce that the first three bouts should report to the Gloving Area



*NOTE: You are the voice of amateur boxing for this event.*

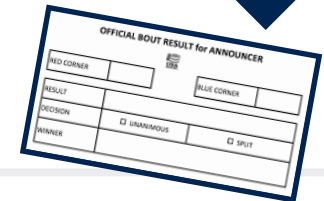
**ENGAGE THE CROWD!**

## GENERAL

- Invite fans to visit the concession stand
- Thank the ringside physician and officials...
  - “Safety is the guiding principle in amateur boxing. We would like to thank Dr.\_\_\_\_\_, for being here tonight as the ringside doctor.”
  - “Amateur boxing events are not possible without officials who dedicate their time. Officials for this event are\_\_\_\_\_.”
- Prepare to make general reminders...
  - no flash photography during bouts
  - vehicles illegally parked
- Invite people to attend the next event
- Educate the audience about amateur boxing

## BOUTS

- After the referee has inspected each boxer, the referee will call boxers to the center of the ring, and you can announce the bout and each boxer, beginning with the Red corner...
  - “Bout number\_\_\_\_, in the\_\_\_\_weight category, ages\_\_\_\_. Boxing out of the Red Corner, from\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_. Boxing out of the Blue Corner, from\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_.”
  - *do not announce boxers’ nicknames, records or awards*
- You may announce the round number... “Round number\_\_\_\_\_.”
- You may announce “seconds out,” if instructed by the Timekeeper.
- At the end of the Bout, the Official in charge will give you the Bout Result. Compare it to your official **BOUT SHEET**.
- Wait until the referee has brought boxers to the center of the ring and looks at you before announcing the result
- Invite the crowd to give applause for the boxers
- “The winner of Bout #\_\_\_\_; by\_\_\_\_decision, out of the\_\_\_\_corner,\_\_\_\_\_.”



OFFICIAL BOUT RESULT for ANNOUNCER			
RED CORNER		BLUE CORNER	
RESULT			
DECISION	<input type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS	<input type="checkbox"/> SPLIT	
WINNER			

This event is sanctioned by USA Boxing, the governing body for Olympic-style boxing in the United States. Boxers, coaches, and officials participating in this event are all members of USA Boxing. Thank you for supporting amateur boxers and their Clubs.

All amateur bouts are 3 rounds of 1, 1.5, 2, or 3 minutes, depending on the age and experience of the boxers. The Referee in charge of the bout enforces the rules of fair play, and may caution, warn, or disqualify a boxer for committing fouls. Safety is the priority in amateur boxing.

The judges sitting ringside are using the 10-Point-Must scoring system. After each round each judge awards 10 points to the winner of the round, and 9 or fewer points to the other boxer. Judges score clean punches to the target area, as well as technique & tactics, and competitiveness.



# CLERKING FOR USA BOXING CLUB SHOWS

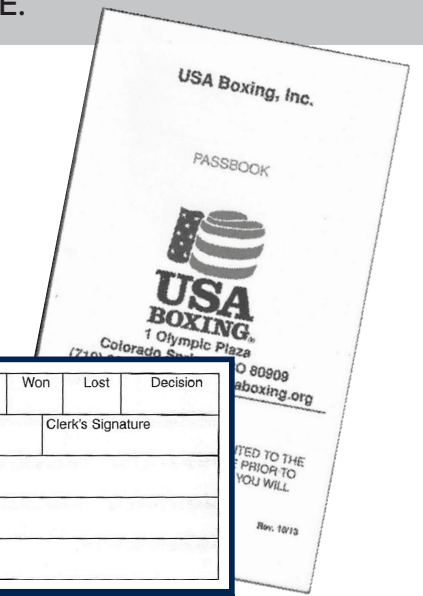
THE CLERK IS A GENERAL ASSISTANT TO THE OFFICIAL IN CHARGE.

## TYPICAL STEPS AT CLUB SHOWS

1. Check that all Boxers are registered with USA Boxing, and they possess all necessary forms and waivers
2. Verify matches on age and weight based on Appendix F
3. Fill-out preliminary Bout information in Boxers' Passbooks
4. Ensure that the Medical Doctor has noted Pre-Bout physical in Boxers' Passbooks
5. Assist Official in Charge with Official's Assignment Sheet
6. Sort Passbooks, according to Bout Sheet
7. Coordinate with Official in Charge on the following:
  - Official in Charge Report for each Bout
  - Judges' Scorecards for each Bout
8. At conclusion of each Bout:
  - Record the results in each Boxer's Passbook
  - Deliver Passbooks to Ringside Doctor for Post-Bout Physical
  - Gather Passbooks to return to Boxers/Coaches after the session

Date	Event	Wt.	Won	Lost	Decision
Bout Location		Opponent		Clerk's Signature	
Medical Pre-Bout		Doctor's Signature			
Medical Post Bout		Doctor's Signature			
Medical Remarks if any:					

USA Boxing Passbook entry for each Bout.



## FORMS & WAIVERS NEEDED AT RINGSIDE

- Officials' Assignment Sheet
- Judges' Scorecards
- Announcer Sheets
- Official in Charge Report Forms
- Medical Release Forms
- Non-Pregnancy Forms
- Breast Implant Waiver Forms
- Restrictions Affidavits
- Code of Conduct Forms for Event

## DECISION CODES

- WP** | Winner on Points
- RSC** | Referee Stops Contest
- RSC-I** | Referee Stops Contest due to Injury
- DSQ** | Disqualification
- ABD** | Abandon
- KO** | Knockout
- WO** | Walkover
- NC** | Extraordinary Rescheduling
- DEV** | Developmental Bout



## CONFIRM ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

- **Valid Membership**
- **Annual "Fit to Box" verification**
- **Braces Release** (if necessary)

## CHECK-IN & MATCH-MAKING

- Coaches and Boxers check in with the Official in charge for instructions, status of bouts, bout order, etc.
- Present necessary documents, including proof of membership and certification to USA Boxing.
- For Matched Bouts, Boxers must adhere to the competition rules of the lower age division.

## WEIGHT CONTROL (SCALE)

- Facial Hair
  - Local and Regional Events - beards cannot extend past the collarbone
  - National Events - Must be clean shaven
- No jewelry on the body.
- Boxers weigh in undergarments, and by official of the same sex.
- Boxers under 18 may not weigh-in naked

### MANDATORY PRE-BOUT PHYSICAL



All health forms and documents must be presented at the Pre-Bout Physical.

## EQUIPMENT CONTROL (UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT CHECK)

- Uniform shirt must be sleeveless. Waistband of Shorts must be different color than shirt.
- Wearing the color of your corner is strongly recommended.
- Men must wear groin protector. Women may wear groin and/or breast protector. No protector may conceal target areas.
- Mouthguard is mandatory.
- Bandages can be Handwraps or Gauze & Tape.
- Headguard must have USAB or AIBA-approved label and listed on the approved equipment list.  
Boxers with long hair must wear hair cap/net underneath.
- Gloves will be issued by Equipment Official. Tape may be used to secure glove cuffs.

### MAXIMUM BANDAGES PER HAND

#### HANDWRAP:

stretchy cotton material with velcro closure

2" x 98"—177"

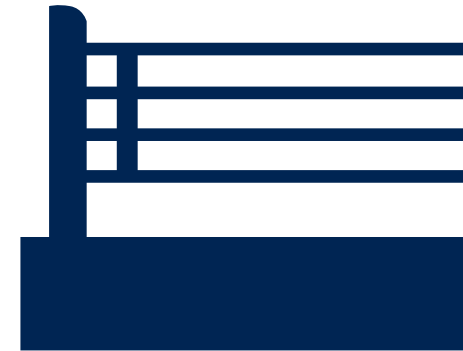
#### GAUZE/TAPE:

2" x 49' + gauze pad of 4"x16' for knuckles  
Tape = 1" x 16'



# THE BOUT

- A Referee may touch and talk to the Boxers. The Referee may give an unlimited number of Cautions for fouls.
- Soft contact lenses are allowed. If a Boxer loses a contact and cannot continue, they will lose by ABD.
- Spitting out the mouthguard intentionally = Warning (1 point deduction).
- Losing the mouthguard due to a blow = Caution. The 3rd Caution = Warning (1 point deduction).
- 3 Warnings = automatic Disqualification.
- A Boxer cannot be saved by the Bell.
- If the Referee stops the Bout due to an injury caused by unintentional foul, the partial round will be scored.
- If a Boxer cannot continue due to an injury (dislocated shoulder, twisted ankle), they will lose by RSC-I.
- If a Boxer cannot continue after the referee gives recovery time for a Low Blow, the Boxer will lose by RSC-I.



## COACHES/SECONDS

- Coach must use a clear water bottle. Coaches must be in possession of a towel.
- The Second may have the following in the corner: towels, ice bags, cold compress (no-swell), vaseline, swabs, medical gloves, Adrenaline 1/1000, small bag to hold items. Oxygen and inhalers are not permitted.
- Each Boxer may have up to 3 Seconds in their corner. During the rest interval, 2 Seconds may go up the steps. Only 1 Second may enter the ring.
- A registered Boxer may work as a Second, but only as an assistant, and they may not enter the ring.
- The Seconds must clear the ring and steps at least 10 seconds prior to start of next round.
- A Second can talk to their Boxer during the Bout, but may not yell loudly, may not clap, may not touch the ring or steps, may not stand, and may not incite the crowd. A Second may be Cautioned or Warned by an Official in Charge. The use of communication devices in the corner is prohibited.
- A Second may stop the Bout by throwing in the towel. The Boxer will lose by ABD.
  - After the Bout, Boxers must immediately remove gloves and headgear. Boxers report to the center of the ring for the announcement of the winner.
  - After the Bout, Boxers immediately report to the Ringside Doctor for post-bout physical.
  - There are no protests of Judges' decisions. A Second may view the Judges' scorecards after the session.



## AFTER THE BOUT

- Coaches must watch for changes in physical or mental behavior of Boxers, and Report to Ringside Doctor if Boxer experiences any symptoms of illness or injury
- Coaches or Boxers may retrieve passbook at the end of the session

## EQUIPMENT TABLE CHECKLIST

1. **Review** Bout Sheet and **prepare** equipment for distribution.
2. **Greet** each boxer, **check** their name, and **issue** authorized equipment.
  - Boxers gloved in view of Equipment Officials.
  - Tape may be used on the cuff of the gloves to secure the closure.
3. **Retrieve** gloves (and other borrowed equipment) after bout.
  - Wear medical gloves when collecting/cleaning boxing equipment.
  - Clean equipment w/ 10% bleach mixture, or Comparable wipes disinfectant wipes.
  - Dry gloves with clean towel or paper towels.
4. **Collect, clean, and return** all equipment to storage.

### AUTHORIZED GLOVE WEIGHTS FOR CLUB SHOWS\*

Below 139lbs	10oz, 12oz, or 16oz
139lbs, and above	12oz or 16oz
Master's Division	16oz
Developmental Bouts	12oz or 16oz

Both boxers must wear same weight gloves in a match.  
16oz gloves are not used in advancing Tournaments.



### HEADGEAR

Inspect the fit of the headgear. Headgear style may have cheek protectors or be open face.

\* **Headgear & Gloves must have visible "USAB- or AIBA-approved" label.** In the case of 16oz. gloves, refer to approved equipment list.



## BOXER CHECK-IN WITH EQUIPMENT OFFICIAL

### HEAD

- Head should be free of metal (no pins or barrettes). No earrings.
- Boxers with long hair must use a hair cap underneath headguard.
- Hair must be secured and remain at the back of the boxer's head.
  - Beards cannot extend past the boxer's collarbones. LBC events only.
  - Form-fitted mouthguard.
  - Thin layer of Vaseline may be used on the face, only.

### BODY

- Sleeveless shirt.
- Waistband different color from shirt.
- Groin protector mandatory for males.
- Tape is allowed to secure the uniform at the Club and LBC level.
- Tights or compression garments may not be visible.
- Shoelaces tied securely.

## AUTHORIZED BANDAGES

### HANDWRAP:

stretchy cotton material with velcro closure  
2" x 98"—177"

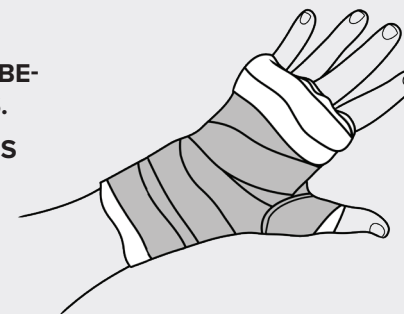
### GAUZE/TAPE:

2" x 49' + gauze pad of 4"x16' for knuckles

**MAXIMUM:** Tape = 1" x 16'

**1/4" TAPE OKAY BETWEEN FINGERS.**

**NO TAPE ACROSS THE KNUCKLES.**



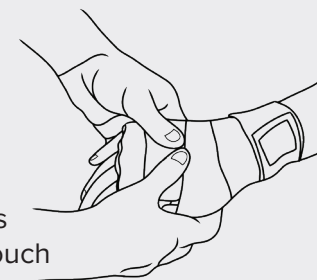
## BANDAGE INSPECTION

### ✓ Visual

- material within maximum allowance
- no tape across the knuckles

### ✓ Physical

- no foreign substances
- nothing solid to the touch







# BOXER EVENT FLOW

## CHECK-IN

Coaches and Boxers check in with the Official in charge for instructions, updates on status of bouts, bout order, etc.

Present necessary documents, including proof of membership to USA Boxing.

## WEIGHT CONTROL (SCALE)

Boxers weigh in undergarments, and by official of the same sex

## MEDICAL CONTROL (PRE-BOUT PHYSICALS)

Pre-bout physical with M.D. or D.O.

## EQUIPMENT CONTROL

Equipment Officials check each boxer's name on bout sheet Uniform, bandages, mouthguard, protectors, and headgear inspected Gloves issued by Equipment Official

## WARM-UP

Prep for bout

## REPORT TO THE RING

Report to the steps of the appropriate corner immediately after previous bout Enter the ring when the Referee is ready

Coach should have clean towel and water

Maximum 3 Coaches permitted in the corner (two may go up the steps)

## AT CONCLUSION OF THE BOUT

Boxers immediately report to the Ringside Doctor for post-bout physical Gloves must be returned to Equipment Control official

## COOL-DOWN

Report to Ringside Doctor if Boxer experiences any symptoms of illness or injury

Coaches or Boxers retrieve passbook at the end of the session



## AS USED IN USA BOXING EVENTS

### SCORING CRITERIA

#### 1. Number of **quality blows** on the **target area**

A punch that is visible and ...

- 1) connects with knuckle surface of glove,
- 2) is thrown with weight of body or shoulder,
- 3) connects in the Target Area,
- 4) lands cleanly (without being blocked), and
- 5) lands without infringing a rule.

#### 2. Domination by **technical & tactical superiority**

- Skilled Command of Offense & Defense  
- Body Shots, Counters, etc. while avoiding punches
- Control the Style of the Bout
- Ring Generalship (control pace & space)
- Superior Defense
- Effective Aggression

#### 3. **Competitiveness**

- Strategy adaptation
- Will to win

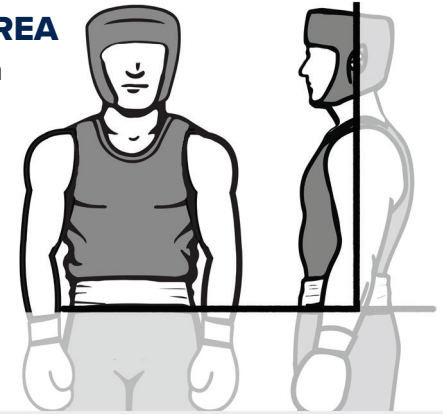
**The Number of Quality Blows landed on the Target Area** is the most important aspect of the Scoring Criteria.

#### General Judging Reminders:

- Most rounds will be decided simply by the number of quality blows landed on the Target Area.
- Point deductions are only recorded by the bout Official in Charge. \*
- Knockdowns do not necessarily impact the score.
- Judge each round independently. \* Be fair and impartial: these are keys to recruitment & retention in our sport.
- Stay focused — One exchange of punches can determine the winner of a close round.
- For manual scoring, select the overall winner of the bout after scoring the last round, in case the bout is tied. In computer scoring, your keypad will blink if you are required to select a bout winner for a tied bout.

### THE TARGET AREA

Front of the body, from the navel to the top of the forehead (not including arms). Punches to the back of the body or head, or below the belt, are fouls.

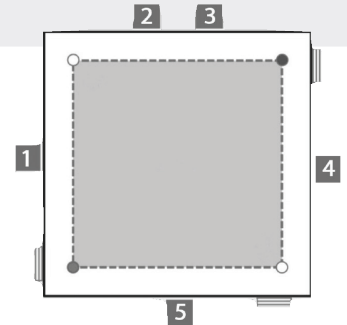


### POINT ALLOCATION

10 Points go to the winner of the round, and 9 or fewer points go to the loser:

- 9 | Close round
- 8 | Clear winner
- 7 | Total dominance

Five judges seated around four sides (3 judges may be used in club shows). Judges remain seated until after the winner is announced.



### ELECTRONIC OR MANUAL SCORING SYSTEM

For Manual Scoring, the Referee will collect the scorecard from each Judge after each round, and deliver them to the Official in Charge.

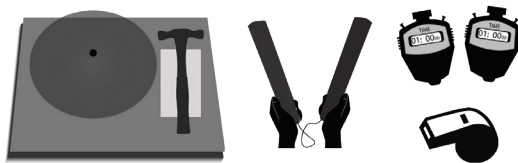
## TIMEKEEPER DUTIES

- Start the Round, and regulate Round and Rest Intervals.
- Only stop the clock if the Referee calls “Time.”
- Sound 10-Second warning as Round ends.
- Signal elapsing seconds to Referee during a Referee’s count.
- Do not sound the Bell during a Referee’s Count or while giving a caution. If Time expires, sound the bell after the Referee says “Box.”  
*A Boxer cannot be saved by the bell.*
- Regulate time for Low Blow recovery and if a Boxer falls out of the ring.
- Keep time for Referee & Doctor if a Boxer loses consciousness.
- Sound “Seconds Out” 10 seconds before the next Round begins.
- Maintain communication with the Referee.  
*Exaggerate signals and sounds, as needed, in case of a loud venue.*

## MAXIMUM ROUNDS

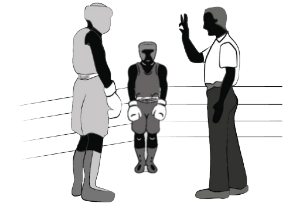
3X	<b>1:30</b>	Ages 8-12
3X	<b>2:00</b>	Ages 13-16
3X	<b>3:00</b>	Ages 19-40 Elite Boxers

## TIMEKEEPER EQUIPMENT

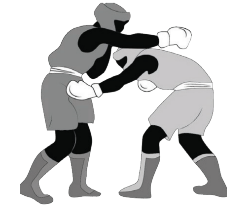


**THE TIMEKEEPER & REFEREE  
ARE TEAMMATES IN  
MANAGING THE BOUT.**

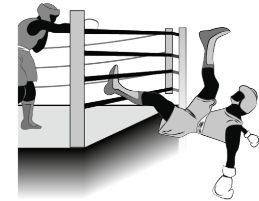
Signal elapsing seconds  
on all Referee Counts.



Recovery time for a Low Blow  
(at Referee request)  
**1:30 Maximum**



Allowable time for Boxer to return  
to ring if they fall out  
**:30 Maximum**

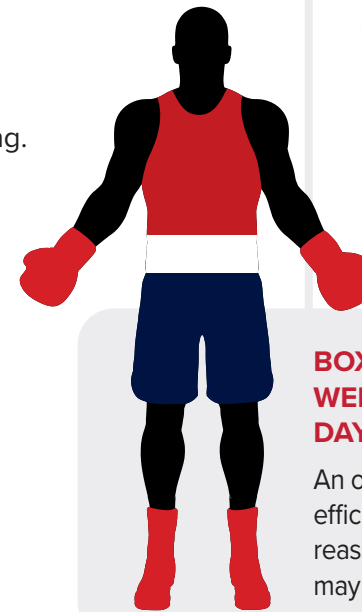


Keep elapsed time if a Boxer  
loses consciousness



## WEIGH-IN CHECKLIST

1. Meet with Sanction Holder and Official in Charge to decide location and officials responsible for weight control process.
  - The official scale must be available as a trial scale, prior to the official weigh-in.
  - Weigh-in area must be private. (Separate weigh area for women and men Boxers.)
  - Scale(s) must be digital. Use a pen to record weights to the ounce (e.g., 151.2).
  - Decide protocol for recording weights, and collecting passbooks.
  - Review Bout Sheet or make a list of names of all participating Boxers.
  - Announce location and time of weigh-in to Boxers and Coaches.
2. Greet each boxer, introduce yourself, and confirm spelling of their name and city/gym.
  - Beards cannot extend past the natural line created by the Boxer's collarbones while head is facing straight forward.
3. Boxers may step on the scale one time.
  - Boxers are weighed by an official of the same sex.
  - Boxers weigh in underwear or swimsuit. No Boxer under the age of 18 may weigh-in naked.
  - Record actual weights.
4. Review general rules with Boxers, as needed:
  - No body piercings or accessories allowed in the ring.
  - Boxers with long hair must use a hair cap or net underneath headgear.
  - Sleeveless uniform shirt. Shorts must have waistband of different color than shirt
5. Inform Boxers of the next step in Event Flow:
  - Location of Pre-Bout Physical.
  - Health forms and Releases must be presented to the Medical Doctor.
  - Location of Equipment Control (Glove Table).
  - Start time of Bouts.



Digital Scales  
are mandatory.

**BOXERS MUST  
WEIGH-IN EACH  
DAY THEY BOX.**

An orderly weigh-in is more efficient for everyone, and reassuring to Boxers who may be nervous.