



MUAYTHAI CANADA

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITION

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REVISION HISTORY

Version	Purpose/Change	Approval Authority	Action Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
1.00	Initial document	Board of Directors	01/09/2016
1.01	Grammatical corrections	Michael Reid General Secretary	11/04/2017
1.02	Detailed scoring examples, formatting	Michael Reid General Secretary	13/04/2017
1.03	Definition of professional athletes, prizes in single contest competition, Muaythai Canada titles	Michael Reid General Secretary	17/04/2017
1.04	Updated ring set up diagram	Michael Reid General Secretary	26/04/2017
1.05	Updated ring platform measurements, added maximum missed weight, combined Retirement & Surrender	Michael Reid General Secretary	25/09/2017

RULE 1: AMATEUR COMPETITION

1.1: DEFINITION Competition held by an Amateur Organization in which participants receive no compensation for their performance.

1.2: PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES are defined as those who, in any full contact combat sport, have received payment for athletic performance beyond a reasonable expense reimbursement, competed under a professional contract, or are on any professional ranked list.

Professional athletes are able to participate in Muaythai Canada amateur competition where it complies with the laws of the local jurisdiction and athletic commission (if applicable).

RULE 2: MEDICAL APTITUDE

2.1: MEDICAL CERTIFICATION No athlete shall be allowed to compete without having a completed Annual Medical Declaration form, which must be signed by a physician. The Medical Declaration must be dated within 12 months prior to the competition date. Additionally, on each day of competition the athlete shall be certified as fit to compete by a qualified doctor of medicine who shall be approved by MTC.

2.2: BLOOD TESTS Athletes competing in the Junior 16-17, Elite, and Master age categories must have completed HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C screening blood tests within 12 months prior to the competition date.

2.3: PROHIBITED CONDITIONS The prohibited conditions are referred in the medical handbook.

RULE 3: MINIMUM & MAXIMUM AGE LIMIT FOR ATHLETES

Age Category	Minimum Age	Maximum Age
Master	41	55
Elite	18	40
Junior 16-17	16	17
Junior 14-15	14	15
Junior 12-13	12	13

Junior 10-11	10	11
Junior 8-9	8	9

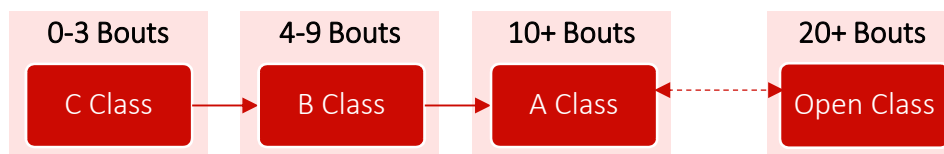
RULE 4: EXPERIENCE CLASSIFICATIONS FOR ATHLETES

4.1: TYPES OF EXPERIENCE CONSIDERED An athlete's experience across all full contact, striking based combative sports (Muaythai, Kickboxing, Sanshou, MMA, etc) is considered when determining their experience class. All levels of competition are considered, including but not limited to judged contests, demonstrations, smokers, and exhibitions.

Athletes with considerable experience outside of Muaythai may require additional review by the technical committee before determining the appropriate experience class for competition.

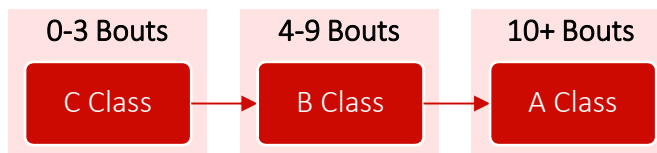
4.1.1: Professional Experience Athletes with professional combat sports experience must compete in either A Class or Open Class, regardless of their accumulated number of bouts. An athlete with minimal low level professional experience (e.g. tourist stadium competition in Thailand) and a cumulative experience of less than 10 bouts may submit an online Request for Professional Reclassification to participate in B Class- subject to review and approval.

4.2: ELITE 18-40 & MASTER 41-55

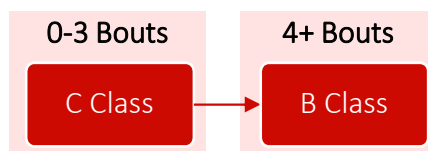


4.2.1: Open Class is an optional class of competition that Elite and Master athletes may elect to participate in once they have reached 20+ bouts of experience. Participation in Open Class does not prevent continued competition in A Class.

4.3: JUNIOR 14-15 & 16-17



4.4: JUNIOR 8-9, 10-11 & 12-13



4.5: CHANGING EXPERIENCE CLASS Please see Rule 7.

RULE 5: WEIGHT CLASSIFICATIONS FOR ATHLETES

Weight classifications for athletes apply equally across genders and ages, however not all weight classifications are available to every gender or age classification.

5.1: OFFICIAL COMPETITION WEIGHT CLASSES

Age	ELITE 18 - 40 MASTER 41 - 55			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)			45	1
	1	48	48	2
	2	51	51	3
	3	54	54	4
	4	57	57	5
	5	60	60	6
	6	63.5	63.5	7
	7	67	67	8
	8	71	71	9
	9	75	75	10
			(+) 75	11
	10	81		
	11	86		
12	91			
13	(+) 91			

Age	JUNIOR 16 - 17			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)			42	1
	1	45	45	2
	2	48	48	3
	3	51	51	4
	4	54	54	5
	5	57	57	6
	6	60	60	7
	7	63.5	63.5	8
	8	67	67	9
	9	71	71	10
	10	75	75	11
			(+) 75	12
	11	81		
	12	86		
13	91			
14	(+) 91			

Age	JUNIOR 14 - 15			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)			36	1
	1	38	38	2
	2	40	40	3
	3	42	42	4
	4	45	45	5
	5	48	48	6
	6	51	51	7
	7	54	54	8
	8	57	57	9
	9	60	60	10
	10	63.5	63.5	11
	11	67	67	12
	12	71	71	13
			(+) 71	14
	13	75		
14	81			
15	(+) 81			

Age	JUNIOR 12 - 13			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)	1	32	32	1
	2	34	34	2
	3	36	36	3
	4	38	38	4
	5	40	40	5
	6	42	42	6
	7	44	44	7
	8	46	46	8
	9	48	48	9
	10	50	50	10
	11	52	52	11
	12	54	54	12
	13	56	56	13
	14	58	58	14
	15	60	60	15
	16	63.5	63.5	16
			(+) 63.5	17
	17	67		
	18	71		
19	(+) 71			

Age	JUNIOR 10 - 11			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)	1	30	30	1
	2	32	32	2
	3	34	34	3
	4	36	36	4
	5	38	38	5
	6	40	40	6
	7	42	42	7
	8	44	44	8
	9	46	46	9
	10	48	48	10
	11	50	50	11
	12	52	52	12
	13	54	54	13
	14	56	56	14
	15	58	58	15
	16	60	60	16
			(+) 60	17
	17	63.5		
	18	67		
19	(+) 67			

Age	JUNIOR 8 - 9			
	MALE		FEMALE	
Weight (KG)	1	24	24	1
	2	26	26	2
	3	28	28	3
	4	30	30	4
	5	32	32	5
	6	34	34	6
	7	36	36	7
	8	38	38	8
	9	40	40	9
	10	42	42	10
	11	(+) 42	(+) 42	11

5.2: CATCH-WEIGHTS In standard (non-title, non-tournament) bout, a catch-weight is permitted to be arranged between the coaches of the two competing athletes. The catch-weight is an agreed upon maximum weight, and the minimum weight of a catch-weight bout uses the same spread of a standard weight class. For example:

A catch-weight of 69 kg falls in between the 67 to 71 kg weight class; a 4 kg spread. The catch-weight spread is then 4 kg, making the minimum weight of the catch-weight contest 65 kg (69 – 4 kg).

Catch-weight contests are unranked, as they fall outside the official weight classes.

RULE 6: MEDICAL EXAMINATION & WEIGH-INS

6.1: MEDICAL EXAMINATION Each day of competition the athlete must be passed as fit to compete by the physician approved by the Muaythai Canada immediately before being weighed in.

6.2: WEIGH-IN A contestant may only compete in the weight for which he has qualified at each official weigh-in. Delegates authorized by MTC shall supervise the weigh-in and an athlete's coach or corner may be present at the weigh-in but may not in any way interfere.

6.2.1: Timing The weigh-in will be conducted every day of competition immediately following the medical certification, and must be completed at least **1 hour prior** to the start of competition.

6.2.2: Athlete Attire The athlete must weigh in wearing Muaythai shorts, and female athletes should also wear a sports bra or tight-fitted crop top.

6.2.3: Weigh-in Allowance In standard (non-title, non-tournament) contests, an allowance of ± 0.25 kg from the weight class minimum and maximum is permitted.

6.2.4: Failure to Make Weight An athlete who fails to make weight by more than 2% of the contest maximum (including allowance) will not be permitted a second attempt.

6.2.5: Scale A digital or medical scale is required.

6.3: TOURNAMENT FORMAT COMPETITIONS Tournament competition may allow for an additional medical examination and weigh-in the day prior to competition in order to finalize competition brackets.

The weight registered at the official weigh-in on the first day decides the weight class of the athlete for the whole of the competition but he will still be required to weigh-in each day on which he is due to compete to ensure that his actual weight on that day does not exceed the maximum of his weight class.

An athlete will be allowed to present themselves at the official scales only once at the weigh-in each day. The weight recorded on that presentation is final. For an athlete who has failed to make weight on the first day of weigh-ins it is permissible for their coach to enter them for the higher or lower weight for which they are qualified, provided that space is still available in the bracket and no other athletes from that club are registered. Fees may apply for this change in weight.

RULE 7: MATCHING ATHLETES FOR COMPETITION & ATHLETE UPGRADES

7.1: COMPETITIVE DIVISION An athlete's competitive is a combination of their gender, Age Category, Experience Classification, and Weight Classification (e.g. Female Elite C 54 kg). In judged competition, athletes may only be paired against other athletes of the same competitive division.

7.2: CHANGING COMPETITIVE DIVISION (ATHLETE UPGRADES) An athlete whose abilities are better aligned to a different Age Category or Experience Class may request an upgrade by completing and submitting an online Athlete Upgrade Form.

7.2.1: Permanency of Upgrades Approved Experience Class upgrades are permanent until the athlete's accrual of experience would naturally alter their competitive division further. Age Category upgrades do not prevent an athlete from continuing to compete at their natural Age Category.

RULE 8: WAI KRU & ROUNDS

8.1: WAI KRU Before the first round, every athlete **must** seal the ring and may opt to perform the traditional Muaythai ritual of homage "Wai Kru" per the customs of Muaythai. It is not permitted to perform any other form of martial art ritual that is not a conventional part of the art of Muaythai. The traditional Muaythai musical instruments: java pipe, small cymbals and two drums will accompany the ritual. If the live band is not available, it is permissible to use Muaythai music played from a recording. The Wai Kru is limited to two (2) minutes in duration.

8.2: ROUNDS FOR STANDARD COMPETITION

Age Category	Open Class	A Class	B Class	C Class
Master 41-55	3 rounds x 3 min		3 rounds x 2 min	
Elite 18-40	1 minute rest		1 minute rest	
Junior 16-17			3 rounds x 2 min	
Junior 14-15			1 minute rest	
Junior 12-13			3 rounds x 1.5 min	
Junior 10-11			1 minute rest	
Junior 8-9			3 rounds x 1 min	
			1 minute rest	

Stopping of the contest for warning, cautions, putting clothing or equipment into order or for any other reason is not included in the period of round. No additional round may be given.

8.3: TOURNAMENT FORMAT COMPETITIONS There is no Open Class for tournament format competitions.

RULE 9: ATHLETE EQUIPMENT & DRESS

9.1: GLOVES Athletes shall wear the gloves which the organizer of the competition has placed at their disposal and which have been approved by MTC. The gloves **must** be red and blue and coordinate with the colour of the athlete's corner. **Athletes are not allowed to wear their own gloves.**

9.1.1: Specification The gloves shall weigh 10 ounces (284 grams) of which the leather portion shall not weigh more than half of the total weight and the padding not less than half the total weight. The padding of the gloves shall not be displaced or broken. All athletes in any one contest must wear exactly the same gloves from the same manufacturer, and only clean and serviceable gloves of red and blue colour may be used.

9.1.2: Glove Supervision All gloves, wraps and bandages shall be fitted under the supervision of 1 or 2 knowledgeable individuals appointed for the purpose who will see that all the rules have been carefully observed. They will delegate security duties to ensure that all rules are observed until the athletes enter the ring.

9.1.3: When to Remove Gloves The gloves shall be taken off immediately after the contest is over and before the decision is announced.

9.2: BANDAGES & HAND WRAPS A soft surgical bandaging (see Fig. 1) not longer than 2.5 m and whose width does not exceed 5 cm or a “Velcro” hand wraps (see Fig. 2) not longer than 2.5 m on each hand should be used - no other kind of bandage may be used.



Figure 1



Figure 2

9.2.1: Tape In tournament format competitions the use of any kind of tapes - rubber or adhesive plaster - as bandages is strictly forbidden. A single strap of adhesive 7.5 cm (3 inches) long and 2.5 cm (1 inch) wide may be used at the upper wrists to secure the bandages.

In single contest competition, tape may be applied to the hand but must remain 2.5 cm (1 inch) back from the knuckles. A single, flat strip of tape is permitted between each finger. No bumpers or rolled tape is permitted.

A decision may be reversed if an athlete’s bandages or wraps do not adhere to the rules

9.3: HEAD GUARD, SHIN GUARD, & ELBOW GUARD The use of the head guard, shin guard, and elbow guards are required in the following classes.

Class	Shin Guards	Elbow Guards	Head Guard
Open	No	Yes	No
A	Optional ¹	Yes	Yes
B	Yes	Yes	Yes
C	Yes	No	Yes

1. Both competitors must agree to forgo shin guards

9.3.1: Head Guard The use of the head guard (see Fig. 3 and 4) mandatory in all classes of experience and competition except for Open Class. The head guard shall have no cheek protectors, chin guard or face shield. Athletes must come into the ring without their head guard - only after having been presented to the audience, sealing the ring, and Wai Kru has been completed should they put it on. The head guard shall be taken off immediately after the bout is over and before the decision is announced.



Figure 3



Figure 4

9.3.2: Shin Guard & Elbow Guard The shin guard (see Fig. 5) and elbow guards (see Fig. 6) for competition shall be made of cloth.



Figure 5



Figure 6

9.3.3: Tournament Format Competitions A Class athletes shall wear shin guards throughout all competition.

9.3.3: Contests in Which a Title is Contested A Class athletes competing for a title shall forgo the use of shin guards.

9.4: BODY PROTECTOR The use of a corner colour coordinated body protector is mandatory for all athletes competing in the Junior 8-9, Junior 10-11, Junior 12-13 Age Categories, in addition to athletes competing in the Junior 14-15 and Junior 16-17 C Class divisions. It shall conform with MTC specifications as it is the responsibility of the Event Host/Promoter of an event to provide body protectors to the athlete.

Age Category	Open Class	A Class	B Class	C Class
Master 41-55		No body protector		
Elite 18-40		No body protector		
Junior 16-17		No body protector		Body protector
Junior 14-15		No body protector		Body protector
Junior 12-13		Body protector		
Junior 10-11		Body protector		
Junior 8-9		Body protector		



Figure 7



Figure 8

9.5: MOUTH GUARD Mouth guards (see Fig. 9) shall be worn by all athletes before the commencement of a round. The mouth guard should be form-fitted. It is forbidden for an athlete to intentionally remove their mouth guard during the contest and if the athlete does so, the athlete shall be warned or disqualified. If an athlete has their mouth guard knocked out, the referee shall take the athlete to the athlete's corner to have the mouth guard cleaned and returned to its proper position. While this is being done, the second is not allowed to talk to his/her athlete.



Figure 9

9.6: ANKLE PROTECTION In tournament format competition no ankle protection (cloth anklet, tape, etc) may be worn. In single contest competition, anklets are permitted.

9.7: GROIN GUARD The use of a groin guard by male athletes is mandatory, and strongly recommended for female athletes. Male athletes shall wear a metal (see Fig. 10) or polycarbonate (see Fig. 11) groin guard, and a jock strap may be worn in addition. For female athletes, a polycarbonate (see Fig. 12) or foam (see Fig. 13) groin guard shall be worn. To observe hygiene, all athletes male and female must have their own groin protectors.



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13

9.8: FEMALE CHEST PROTECTION The use of chest protection is recommended for all female athletes so as to guard against hematoma formation within soft tissue areas of the breast proper.



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17

9.9: CLOTHING & DRESS Athletes shall be dressed in accordance with the following:

9.9.1: Mong-Kon & Prajiad Athletes must wear the sacred headband (Mong-Kon) for paying homage before entering the ring. A Krueng-Wrang (Prajiad/arm band) with an amulet or charm may be put on around the upper arm, biceps or waist but must be neatly covered. The referee may request that a Prajiad is removed if the strings are too long or delay competition by becoming undone/falling.

9.9.2: Shorts Muaythai shorts must be worn for competition and the belt line clearly demarcated. The substitute use of a swimming costume is not permitted.

9.9.3: Tops If worn, tops or shirts must be close fitting and approved by the referee as fit for competition. At minimum, a sports bra is required for female athletes.

9.9.4: Shoes Athletes are not permitted to wear shoes.

9.9.5: Hair Hair length of the frontal scalp area should see no interference with the vision of the athlete. Hair may be secured with rubber bands or allied banding devices. Hair must be secured within the head guard so as not to obscure the face of the athlete and prevent risk to either athlete from its movement.

9.9.6: Head & Body Cover Head and body covers may be worn by athletes to comply with cultural requirements and shall consist of the following:

- A head covering such as a full sport hijab similar to the ResportOn design or an individual skull cap of white or black fabric.
- An optional body suit (two piece, tights and upper body) of white or black fabric covering of the legs to the ankles and covering the arms to the wrists.
- Only MTC approved attire can be used to participate in the competitions (see Fig. 18).

Note that in International competition, only white fabric may be used.



Figure 18

9.9.7: Facial Hair Beards and moustaches are allowed provided that they do not provide impact protection, do not interfere with competition and are clean.

- Short beard or stubble in the chin or lower face area is permissible: the athlete should be trimmed to 1/2 inch in length or face disqualification;
- A moustache is permitted insofar as its terminal ends do NOT extend the angle of the mouth, the moustache hairs themselves, must be less than 2 cm and not extend downwards into the upper lip and mouth area: In this case it should be trimmed to regulation;

- Facial sideburns are permitted insofar as the sideburn hairs themselves, must be less than 2 cm; in this case it should be trimmed to regulation;

9.9.8: Prohibited Dress No other object may be worn during the competition. In the case of cultural traditions, some latitude is to be given such that the athlete or opponent shall not be rendered susceptible to injury which may result from article of dress, hair style, skin jewel carried by a given athlete. The final decision will be rendered by the Chief Official after discussion with the Chief Physician.

9.10: LINEAMENT & VASELINE Rubbing lineament is permitted in moderation and may only be used on the body of the athlete. A reasonable amount of Vaseline is permitted only on the face for the purpose of reducing the risk of cuts. A mixture of Vaseline and lineament is not permitted.

9.11: EQUIPMENT & DRESS INFRACTIONS The referee shall exclude from the bout any athlete whose equipment or dress does not conform to the standards set above. In the event of the athlete's glove or dress becoming undone during the bout, the referee shall stop the contest to have it attended to.

RULE 10: SECONDS

10.1: NUMBER OF SECONDS Each competitor is entitled to 2 seconds (one coach and one corner.)

10.2: CONDUCT The seconds shall abide the following rules:

- Only the two seconds shall mount the apron of the ring and only one may enter the ring;
- During the contest, the seconds shall remain seated away from the platform of the ring. Before a round begins, they shall remove from the platform of the ring any seats, towels, buckets, water bottles, etc;
- The second, while in the corner, shall be in possession of a towel for the athlete. A second may give up for a competitor, and may, when he considers his athlete to be in difficulties, throw the towel into the ring - except when the referee is in the course of counting;
- The Chief Official at each competition shall arrange a joint meeting of the officials and the seconds who are going to work in each tournament and emphasize that MTC rules will be followed. A second whom is in violation of the rules will be disqualified and/or may cause the athlete to be warned or disqualified; and
- No bad advice, bad assistance or bad encouragement shall be given to an athlete by a second during the progress of the rounds. If a second violates the rules, they may be warned or disqualified. Their athlete may also be cautioned, warned or disqualified by the referee for offences committed by their seconds. Any second encouraging or inciting spectators by words or signs to advise or encourage an athlete during the progress of a round shall not be permitted to continue to act as a second at the tournament where the offense is committed. If a second is removed by the referee from the corner, they shall not assist for the remainder of competition.

10.3: CORNER AND COACH ATTIRE Seconds may wear flat heeled athletic shoes. Seconds should be in non-offensive athletic apparel. Jeans, shorts, hats, and open toe footwear are not permitted.

10.4: CORNER SUPPLIES Each corner is required to have their own towel, sponge, squeeze bottle and water with the corner bucket. These items are not to be lent for use any other athlete to prevent the spread of bacterial-viral illnesses.

Between rounds, only ice/water and Vaseline may be used. No other substances may be used on the athlete between rounds.

RULE 11: SHAKING OF HANDS

11.1: PURPOSE Before beginning and after a bout, athletes shall shake hands in a proper manner, as a sign of a purely sporting and friendly rivalry in accordance with the rules.

11.2: AUTHORIZED TIMES The shaking of hands takes place before beginning the first round and after the announcing of the bout results. **Any further shaking of hands between the rounds is prohibited.**

RULE 12: ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS, ETC.

12.1: DOPING The administration to an athlete of drugs or chemical substances not forming part of the usual diet of an athlete is prohibited. The doping regulations of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) shall be applied.

12.2: PENALTIES Any athlete or official violating this prohibition shall be liable to disqualification or suspension by MTC.

12.3: LOCAL ANESTHETICS The use of local anesthetics is permitted only by the MTC Medical Doctor.

12.4: PROHIBITED DRUGS The current World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CSES) lists of prohibited substances shall constitute MTC's list of prohibited substances. Any athlete taking such substances or any official administering such substances shall be subject to the penalties. MTC may ban additional substances upon the recommendation of the MTC or IFMA Medical Commissions.

RULE 13: AWARDING OF POINTS

13.1: SCORING A score will be awarded whenever the athlete hits the opponent by punching, kicking, kneeing or elbowing with force, lands on a scoring target without being blocked, guarded against, or fouling.

13.1.1: Non-scoring Targets The gloves, forearms, foot, and shin are not scoring targets, unless a strike is applied with enough force to have an effect on a scoring target (e.g. a high kick against the gloves of a blocking opponent off-balances them.)

13.2: TEN POINTS SYSTEM 10 points shall be awarded for each round. No fraction of points may be given. At the end of each round, the better (more skillful in Muaythai) athlete shall receive 10 points and the opponent proportionately less. When athletes are equal in merit, each shall receive 10 points.

13.2.1: Steps for Awarding Points

- An athlete wins the round when hitting more **with Muaythai skills** than the opponent;
- An athlete wins the round when using a **more forceful Muaythai skill** than the opponents;
- An athlete wins the round when showing **less exhaustion or less bruising**;
- An athlete wins the round when **showing more aggression or willingness to lead off**;
- An athlete wins the round when **having a better execution of Muaythai skill**;
- An athlete wins the round when **executing better ring generalship**;
- An athlete wins the round when **having better defense** (blocking, parrying, side-stepping, etc.) by which the opponent's attacks have been made to miss; and
- An athlete wins the round when having **less infringement of the rules**.

13.2.2: Non-Awarding of Points

- Hitting with lack of Muaythai skills;
- Hits which are appropriately blocked by the opponent's arms or legs;

- Hitting with lack of force even when those hits have landed on target;
- Throwing the opponent without hitting; and
- Hitting while infringing any of the rules.

13.2.3: Scoring System

- 10 points will be awarded to the athlete who wins the round, and the opponent proportionately less (9-8-7 respectively);
- 10 points will be awarded to each athlete if they are even in the round;
- The athlete who wins the round by a **small margin** will receive 10 points, **the opponent will receive 9 points**;
- The athlete who wins the round by a **large margin** will receive 10 points, **the opponent will receive 8 point or 7 points** respectively;
- When an athlete receives an 8-count;
 - The athlete who receives **an 8-count** in a round will receive 8 points, **the opponent will receive 10 points**;
 - The athlete who receives **two 8-counts** in a round will receive 7 points, **the opponent will receive 10 points**;
 - The counted athlete may receive lower scores if the opponent is winning by a large margin;
 - If both athletes receive an 8-count, scoring continues as if each count did not occur; and
- The athlete will lose one (1) point for each warning received.

13.3: END OF CONTEST At the end of a contest each Judge will tally the athlete's points and nominate the athlete with the greater number of points as the winner. The Judge will then remit their scorecard to the Referee for submission to the Chief Official.

RULE 14: FOULS

14.1: TREATMENT OF FOULS The athlete who commits fouls can at the discretion of the referee be cautioned, warned, or disqualified without warning.

14.1.1: Cautions A referee may caution with or without stopping a contest. A caution shall be accompanied by the appropriate physical signal for the offense committed. Three (3) cautions of the same type of foul will mandate a warning be issued.

14.1.2: Warnings If the referee intends to warn an athlete for a repeated or serious infraction of the rules they shall stop the contest, send the opponent to the neutral corner, and demonstrate the infringement. The Referee will then lead the athlete to the centre of the ring and signal to each of the 3 judges that a special warning has been given.

A referee having once administered a warning for a particular foul cannot issue a caution for the same type of offense. If an athlete is given three (3) warnings in a contest they will be disqualified.

14.1.3: Disqualifications For major/dangerous infractions of the rules the Referee may opt to immediately disqualify an athlete.

14.2: TYPES OF FOULS

- Biting, head-butting, spitting at an opponent, pressing on opponent's eyes with the thumb;
- Intentionally spitting out mouth guards;
- Bending the back of opponent
- Throwing with Judo or Wrestling techniques;
- Using the bottom of the foot to trip an opponent;
- Using the heel or calf to hook around an opponent's leg to trip them;

- Falling on to an opponent who is lying on the floor;
- Attacking the opponent who is down or who is in the act of rising;
- Attacking while holding the ropes or making any unfair use of the ropes;
- Locking of the opponent’s arm or head;
- Holding the back of an opponent’s head while striking repeatedly to the face (“feeding”);
- Completely passive defense by means of double cover and intentionally falling to avoid a hit;
- Useless, aggressive, or offensive utterance during the contest;
- Not stepping back when ordered to “YAEK” (“Break”). Attempting to hit the opponent immediately after the referee has ordered “YAEK” and before taking a step back;
- Assaulting or behaving in aggressive manner towards the referee at any time;
- Striking the groin of the opponent, if the athlete is unintentionally hit by Muaythai skill and unable to continue the fight, the referee will pause the fight for up to 5 minutes to allow the hit athlete to take a rest. If athlete refuses to resume the fight after 5 minutes rest they will be declared as “loser”;
- Holding the opponent’s leg and pushing forward more than one step without striking with any one of the Muaythai skills (Plowing);
- Obstructing an opponent from re-entering the ring;
- Striking an opponent after the round has ended; and
- Using any kind of forbidden substance acknowledged by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) or MTC Anti- Doping Code.

14.3: RESTRICTED STRIKES BY EXPERIENCE CLASSIFICATION AND AGE Use of a restricted strike in a given competitive division is considered a foul

Age Category	Open Class	A Class	B Class	C Class
Master 41-55	All legal Muaythai techniques		No knees or 12-to-6 (spiking) elbow to head	No knees or elbows to head
Elite 18-40				
Junior 16-17		All legal Muaythai techniques	No knees or elbows to head	No knees or elbows to head
Junior 14-15				
Junior 12-13			No knees or elbows to head	
Junior 10-11			No strikes to the head	
Junior 8-9			No strikes to the head	

14.4: SECONDS Each athlete can be held responsible for their seconds’ actions.

14.5: REFEREE CONSULTS JUDGES If a referee has any reason to believe that a foul has been committed which referee has not seen, he/she may consult the judges and Chief Official.

RULE 15: THE DOWNED ATHLETE

15.1: DEFINITION An athlete is considered “down”

- If athlete touches the floor with any part of his body other than his/her feet;
- If athlete hangs helplessly on the ropes; or
- If athlete is outside or partly outside the ropes.

It is a foul for an athlete to strike an opponent who is “down”. When an athlete is considered “down” the referee will stop and reset the competitors inside the ring.

15.2: KNOCKDOWN If an athlete fails to recover from a “down” position, they are considered to be knocked down. In addition, the athlete may be considered knocked down if

- The athlete is no longer actively defending themselves (the athlete has turtled);
- The athlete is in need of protection by the referee to prevent excessive damage from accumulating; or
- Following a hard hit the athlete has not fallen and is not lying on the ropes, but is in a semi-conscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, continue the round.

15.3: THE COUNT In the case of a knockdown, the referee shall immediately begin to count the seconds elapsing. When an athlete is “down” the referee shall count aloud from one (1) to ten (10) in the Thai language:

#	THAI	ENGLISH	FRENCH
1	NUENG	ONE	UN
2	SONG	TWO	DEUX
3	SAAM	THREE	TROIS
4	SII	FOUR	QUATRE
5	HAH	FIVE	CINQ
6	HOK	SIX	SIX
7	JED	SEVEN	SEPT
8	BAED	EIGHT	HUIT
9	KOUW	NINE	NEUF
10	SIB	TEN	DIX

Referee shall have intervals of one second between the numbers, and leading with their index finger shall indicate each second with their hand in such a manner that the athlete who has been knocked down may be aware of the count. Before the number “NUENG” (One) is counted, an interval of one second must have elapsed from the time when the athlete has fallen to the floor, and the time of announcing “NUENG” (One).

If the opponent does not go to the neutral corner on the command of the referee, the referee shall stop counting until the opponent has done so. The counting shall be then continued where it has been interrupted. The judge shall note a “KD” (Knockdown) on their scoring sheet when the referee had given a count to an athlete. When an athlete is considered knocked down due to a hit to the head, the judge shall then enter “KD+H” (Knockdown to the head) on their scoring sheet

15.4: OPPONENT’S RESPONSIBILITIES If an athlete is knocked down, the opponent must at once go to the neutral corner as designated by the referee, waiting with their arms at their side. They may only continue against the opponent who is knocked down after the latter has gotten up and the referee resumes the bout on the command “CHOK”.

15.5: MANDATORY 8 COUNT When an athlete is “down” as the result of being hit, the bout shall not be continued until the referee has reached the count of “BAED” (8), even if the athlete is ready to continue before then.

15.6: THE KNOCK-OUT If the athlete is unable to continue by the count of “BAED” (8) the referee shall continue to count to “SIB” (10). At “SIB” (10) the bout ends and shall be decided as a “knock-out”.

15.7: COUNTING AT THE END OF A ROUND In the event of an athlete being knocked down at the end of a round, the referee shall continue to count. Should the athlete recover by the count of “BAED” (8) the referee shall immediately use the command “CHOK”.

15.8: THE SECOND TIME AN ATHLETE GOES DOWN WITHOUT A FRESH HIT If an athlete is “down” as the result of a hit and the bout is continued after the count of “BAED” (8) has been reached, but the athlete falls again without having received a fresh hit, the referee shall continue the counting from the count of “BAED” (8).

15.9: BOTH ATHLETES DOWN If both athletes go down at the same time, counting will be continued as long as one of them is still down. If both athletes remain down until “BAED” (8) the bout will be stopped and the decision given in accordance with the points awarded up to the time of the knock-down.

15.10: ATHLETE FAILS TO RESUME An athlete who fails to resume boxing immediately after the termination of the rest interval, or who when knocked down by a hit, fails to resume within 10 seconds, shall lose the contest.

RULE 16: DECISIONS

16.1: WIN ON POINTS At the end of a bout, the athlete who has been awarded the decision by a majority of the judges shall be declared the winner. If both athletes are injured, or are knocked-out simultaneously, and cannot continue the contest, the Judges shall record the points gained by each athlete up to its termination, the competitor with the most points shall be declared the winner.

16.2: WIN BY REFEREE STOPS CONTEST (RSC)

16.2.1: Outclassed If an athlete, in the opinion of the referee is being outclassed or is receiving excessive punishment, the bout shall be stopped and his/her opponent declared the winner;

16.2.2: Injury If an athlete, in the opinion of the referee, is unfit to continue due to injury sustained from correct hits or other action or is incapacitated for any other physical reasons, the bout shall be stopped and his/her opponent declared the winner.

- The right to make this decision rests with the referee, who may consult the Doctor. Having consulted the doctor, the referee must follow their advice. It is recommended that the referee checks the other athlete for injury also before they make this decision;
- When a referee calls a doctor into the ring to examine an athlete, only these 2 officials should be present. No seconds should be allowed into the ring or on the apron; and
- If the injury should happen in the final round, the winner will be decided on majority points scored from all preceding rounds only.

16.2.3: Head (RSCH) When an athlete has received hard head blows or hits to the head rendering the athlete defenseless and incapable of continuing the contest. Special consideration is paid to athletes who receive a RSCH;

16.2.4: Body When an athlete has received a hard hit to any part of the body except the head rendering the athlete defenseless and incapable of continuing the contest; and

15.2.5: Compulsory Count Limit The Referee stops the bout when a prescribed limit of 8 counts has been reached, depending on the age category of competition.

- Elite and Master: 3 counts in the same round or 4 counts in the whole bout.
- Junior 16-17: 2 counts in the same round or 3 counts in the whole bout.
- Junior 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, and 14-15: 2 counts in the whole bout.

16.2.6: Doctor If the doctor perceives that the health, safety or medical wellbeing of an athlete is at risk, the doctor reserves the right to signal the referee to stop the contest with or without an exam. The opponent shall be declared the winner.

16.2.7: Win by Retirement If an athlete does not leave their corner after the rest between rounds, does not wish to continue after an 8-count, or the athlete's second throws in the towel, the opponent shall be declared the winner.

16.3: WIN BY DISQUALIFICATION (DQ) If an athlete is disqualified, the opponent shall be declared the winner. If both athletes are disqualified, the decision shall be announced accordingly. A disqualified athlete shall not be entitled to any prize, medal, trophy, honourable award or grading, relating to any stage of the competition in which the athlete has been disqualified; in exceptional cases it shall be open to the Board of Directors (or in their absence, the Chief Official) to rule otherwise. All such decisions, where not made by the Board of Directors, shall be subject to review and confirmation by it on receiving such report of the incident as it may require.

16.4: WIN BY KNOCK-OUT (KO) If an athlete is "down" and fails to be in the "ready" position **by** the 8-count, the referee shall continue the count to 10 and the athlete's opponent shall be declared the winner by a knock-out.

16.5: NO CONTEST (NC) A bout may be terminated by the referee inside the scheduled duration owing to a material happening outside the responsibility of the athletes or the control of the referee such as the ring becoming damaged, the lighting has failed, exceptional weather conditions, etc. In such circumstances, the bout shall be declared "no contest" and in the case of Championships, the Jury shall decide the necessary further action.

16.6: WIN BY WALK-OVER Where an athlete presents themselves in the ring fully attired for boxing and the opponent fails to appear after their name has been called out by the public address system and a maximum period of 5 minutes has elapsed, the referee shall declare the first athlete to be the winner by a "Walk-over". Referee shall first inform the judges to mark their papers accordingly, collect them and then summon the athlete to the center of the ring and after the decision is announced, raise the athlete's hand as winner.

16.7: DRAW Occurs when

- All three judges score a tie (Unanimous Draw);
- Two judges score for separate athletes and the third judge scores a tie (Split Draw); or
- Two judges score the bout a tie (Majority Draw).

16.7.1: Title & Tournament Format Competitions Draws are not permitted tournament format competitions, nor in bouts contesting for a vacant title; should a draw occur any judges who scored the bout a draw must elect a winner on their scorecard.

If a draw occurs in a bout where one athlete already holds the title being contested, that athlete retains the title.

16.8: INCIDENTS IN THE RING OUTSIDE THE CONTROL OF THE REFEREE If an event occurs that does not allow the bout to continue within 1 minute after the bell has rung for the beginning of the first or second round (e.g. power failure), the bout shall be stopped and the athletes will box again in the last bout of the same day of competition.

If the incident occurs in the last round of a bout, the contest shall be terminated and the judges are asked to give a decision as to the winner of the bout.

16.8.1: Tournament Format Competitions If the incident occurs in the last three bouts of a bracket on the program, the athletes shall be asked to box the first bout on the program of the next bracket. The athlete shall only need to be weighed and medically examined again if their bout is moved to the next tournament day.

16.9: PROTESTS A protest must be verbally lodged by the coach of an athlete within thirty (30) minutes after the decision has been announced, followed by a written/electronic protest provided to the Chief Official(s). If the Chief Official(s) agree to review, necessary action will be taken on the matter and protest fee of \$300 CAD must be submitted to Muaythai Canada within 24 hours. If the protest is upheld, the money will be refunded with a deduction of \$100 CAD for administration. If the decision is upheld, the protest fee will not be refunded and will remain with MTC.

RULE 17: MEDICAL DOCTOR & PROCEDURES

17.1: DUTIES OF THE DOCTOR A doctor for Muaythai should be a well-trained doctor in this sport.

17.1.1: Required Attendance The officiating doctor should be seated next to ring beside the Chief Official, closest to the steps to enter. The doctor shall sit close to the ring at a provided place and stay until they have examined the two (2) athletes who participated last bout of the session.

17.1.2: Physical Examination The doctor shall check the health of athlete and certify that the athlete is fit to fight before the weigh-in.

17.1.3: Advise the Referee The doctor shall give instruction to the referee upon his/her request.

17.1.4: Attend an Unconscious Athlete If an athlete is rendered unconscious, then only the referee and the doctor summoned should remain in the ring unless the doctor needs extra help.

17.1.5: Provide Medical Attention An athlete who has been knocked out as a result of a head hit in a bout or wherein the referee has stopped the bout due to the athlete having received hard hits to the head rendering the athlete defenseless or incapable of continuing, shall be examined by a doctor immediately afterwards and official suggestions of aftercare shall be given to the corners of the athlete.

RULE 18: KNOCK-OUT & RSCH

18.1: MANDATORY PROBATION PERIODS

- One (1) RSCH: An athlete for whom the referee has stopped the contest due to the athlete having received hard hits to the head rendering the athlete defenseless or incapable of continuing, shall not be permitted to take part in competition of Muaythai or sparring for a period of at least thirty (30) days after the RSCH;
- One (1) Knock-out: An athlete who has been knocked out as a result of a head hit during a contest shall not be permitted to take part in competition of Muaythai or sparring for a period of at least forty-five (45) days after the athlete has been knocked out;
- Two (2) Knock-outs or RSCH: An athlete who has been knocked out as result of head hits or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to an athlete having received hard hits to the head rendering the athlete defenseless or incapable of continuing twice within a period of ninety (90) days, shall not be allowed to take part in Muaythai competition or sparring for a period of ninety (90) days from the second Knock-out or RSCH;
- Three (3) Knock-outs or RSCH: an athlete who has been knocked out as a result of head hits or wherein the referee has stopped the contest due to the athlete having received hard hits to the head rendering the athlete defenseless or incapable of continuing three (3) times in a period of twelve (12) months, shall not be allowed to take part in Muaythai competition or sparring for a period of twelve (12) months from the third Knock-out or RSCH;

Each knock-out suffered as a result of head hits and each RSCH must be recorded in the athlete's medical record.

18.2: EXTENDED PROBATION Any athlete having lost a hard bout with many hits to the head or having been knocked down several times in some consecutive contests, may not be permitted to take part in Muaythai competition or training for a period of at least 4 weeks after the last contest on the advice of the Medical Officer should they decide that it would be necessary.

18.3: MEDICAL CERTIFICATION FOLLOWING PROBATION Before resuming Muaythai after any of the periods of rest prescribed in the preceding paragraphs, an athlete must be certified by a doctor in writing to MTC as fit to take part in Muaythai competition. The results of examinations as well as the permission to resume fighting shall be entered in the medical record.

All protective measures apply equally if a head injury occurs during training.

RULE 19: OFFICIALS

19.1: CHIEF OFFICIAL Each contest shall have one (1) appointed Chief Official who presides over the three (3) judges and shall be seated at the head table.

19.2: REFEREE Each contest shall be controlled by an MTC approved Referee who shall officiate in the ring but shall not mark a scoring paper for the same bout.

19.3: JUDGES Each contest shall be marked by three (3) MTC Judges who shall be seated separately from the public and immediately adjacent to the ring.

19.4: TIMEKEEPER Each contest shall have one (1) timekeeper who shall be seated at the head table.

19.5: NEUTRALITY The names of the Referee and the Judges for each contest shall be selected by the Chief Official in accordance with the following directives:

- Each official shall be an approved Referee/Judge; and
- That each official shall not be associated with the athletes taking part in the contest.

19.6: CONFLICT OF INTEREST A person acting as Referees or Judges shall not act as team manager, trainer of or second to any athlete or team of athletes at the same time as the athlete's contest or bout.

19.7: IMPAIRMENT No MTC official shall operate under the influence of alcohol or illicit substances.

19.8: DISCIPLINARY ACTION The MTC Board of Directors or its duly authorized representative may, upon the recommendation of Chief Official, may dispense (temporarily or permanently), with the services of any referee who, in its opinion, does not efficiently enforce the rules of the MTC, or any judge whose marking or scoring of contests it considers not to be satisfactory.

19.9: DRESS MTC Officials are to wear black trousers, black shoes, and their MTC Official's shirt. Appropriate jackets may be used when authorized.

RULE 20: THE CHIEF OFFICIAL(S)

20.1: APPOINTMENT The MTC Board of Directors shall appoint a Chief Official for each competition or delegate that decision to an appropriate party.

20.2: DUTIES The Chief Official shall record their score of each bout witnessed and these scores shall be available for comparison with those of the Judges functioning in those bouts.

- The Chief Official shall check the scoring papers of the judges to ensure that:
 - The points are correctly totaled;
 - The names of the athletes are correctly entered;
 - A result is decided;
 - The scoring papers are signed before the decision is announced; and
 - The Chief Official shall then inform the announcer the result of the competition.
- The Officials shall inform the MTC Board of Directors in writing, about any referee or judge whom in their opinion does not effectively enforce the rules and regulations of MTC and judge whose scoring of contest they consider unsatisfactory;
- Overruling the Referee and/or Judges: Decisions of a referee and/or judge may be overruled by the Chief Official in the following ways:
 - When the referee has given a decision which is clear it against the Rules of MTC; or
 - When it is obvious that the judges have a made a mistake on their score sheets which results in a wrong verdict.
- If an official appointed for a contest is absent, the Chief Official may appoint from the roll of approved officials a suitable member to replace the absent member, reporting this change to the Board of Directors as soon as it may be possible;
- If circumstances should arise which would prevent the holding of a contest under proper conditions and if a Referee should take no efficient action concerning the situation, the Chief Official may order competition to cease until it may be satisfactorily resumed;
- The Chief Official, may also take any immediate action they consider necessary to deal with circumstances which would prevent proper conduct of competition at any session; and
- Should an athlete commit a serious and deliberate offense that is contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship, the Chief Official has the right to recommend and the Board of Directors to declare the athlete ineligible for competition for a specific period of time. The Board of Directors or may deprive the athlete of a medal or prize already won in that competition.

20.3: SEATING ARRANGEMENTS The Chief Official shall sit between the doctor and the timekeeper at ringside.

RULE 21: THE REFEREE

21.1: DRESS The referee is to wear flat soled shoes without a raised heel, and is recommended to wear surgical gloves while officiating. Any accessories such as eye glasses, jewelry, belt, and headwear are prohibited.

21.2: PRIMARY CONCERN The care of the athlete is the primary concern of the referee.

21.3: DUTIES The referee shall:

- Control the safety of the bout;
- See that the rules and fair play are strictly observed;
- Maintain control of the contest at all its stages;
- Prevent a weak athlete from receiving undue and unnecessary punishment;
- Check the gloves and dress of the athletes;
- Referee shall use 3 words of command in either Thai:
 - “YOOT” (“Stop”) when ordering the athletes to stop fighting;

- “YAEK” (“Break”) when breaking a clinch, upon which command each athlete shall step back to await the referee’s command to continuing the competition; and
- “CHOK” (“Fight”) when ordering them to continue.
- Referee shall indicate to an athlete by suitable explanatory signs of gestures any infringement of the rules;
- Stop each round at the strike of the bell by obstructing the athletes and sending them to their corner;
- At the end of a contest collect and check the papers of the 3 Judges where applicable; after checking Referee shall hand these papers to the Chief Official(s);
- The referee will inspect the bandages of both athletes before the decision is made and report any infringement of the rules to the Chief Official for evaluation;
- The Referee shall not indicate the winner, by raising an athlete’s hand or otherwise, until the announcement has been made. When the winner of the bout is announced, the referee shall raise the hand of the winning athlete; and
- When the Referee has disqualified an athlete or stopped the bout, he/she shall first inform the Chief Official which athlete has been disqualified or the reason for which he has stopped the bout, to enable the Chief Official to instruct the announcer to make the decision known to the public.

21.4: POWERS OF THE REFEREE The referee is empowered to

- Terminate a contest at any stage if he/she considers it too one-sided (RSC: Outclassed);
- Terminate a contest at any stage if one of the athletes has received an injury on account of which the referee decides they should not continue (RSC: Injury);
- Terminate a contest at any stage if they consider the contestants are not competing in earnest. In such case he may disqualify one or both contestants;
- Caution an athlete or to stop the fight during a contest and administer a warning to an athlete against fouls or for any other reason in the interests of fair play, or to ensure compliance with the rules;
- Disqualify an athlete who fails to comply immediately with his orders, or behaves towards him in an offensive or aggressive manner at any time;
- Disqualify a second who has infringed the rules and/or the athlete themselves if the second does not comply with the referee’s orders;
- With or without previous warning, disqualify a contestant for committing a serious foul;
- In the event of a knock-down, suspend a count, if an athlete deliberately fails to retire to a neutral corner or delays to do so; and
- Interpret the rules insofar as they are applicable or relevant to the actual contest to decide and take action on any circumstance of the contest which is not covered by a rule.

21.5: CAUTIONS A referee may caution an athlete. A caution is in the nature of advice or admonition given by the referee to an athlete to check or prevent undesirable practices of the less serious infringements of the rules. To do so Referee will not **necessarily** stop the contest but may find a suitable safe opportunity during a round to admonish an athlete for an infringement of the rules. A caution shall be accompanied by the appropriate physical signal for the offense committed. **If an athlete is given 3 of the same caution in a contest, they shall receive a warning.** No further cautions of the same type will be issued once a warning has been issued; only further warnings.

21.6: WARNINGS If an athlete infringes the rules but does not merit disqualification for such infringement, the referee shall stop the contest and shall issue a warning to the offender. The referee shall order the athletes to stop prior to delivering the warning. The warning shall be clearly given and in such a way that the athlete understands the reason and the purpose of the warning. The referee shall signal with his hand to each of the judge that a special warning has been given and shall

clearly indicate to them the athlete whom he has warned and that a point is to be deducted. After giving the warning, the referee shall order the athletes to “CHOK”/“Fight”. **If an athlete is given 3 warnings in a contest, they shall be disqualified.**

21.7: REPLACING THE REFEREE DURING THE BOUT If a referee is incapacitated in the course of a bout, the timekeeper shall strike the gong to stop the bout and the next available neutral referee on the MTC list shall be instructed to control the bout and order boxing to be resumed.

21.8: MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS The referee shall be free any conditions or ailments that may compromise their ability to perform their duties. The use of contact lenses for corrective vision is permitted.

RULE 22: JUDGES

22.1: DUTIES

- Each Judge shall independently evaluate the merits of the 2 contestants and decide the winner according to the rules;
- A Judge shall not speak to an athlete or to another Judge, nor to anyone else except the referee during the contest, but may, if it is necessary, at the end of a round, bring to the notice of the referee any incident which (the referee) may appear not to have noticed, such as the misconduct of a second, loose ropes, etc;
- The number of points awarded to each competitor shall be entered by a Judge on their scoring paper immediately after the end of each round;
- At the end of the contest a Judge shall total the points, nominate a winner, sign their scoring paper and submit their scorecard to the referee; and
- Judge shall not leave his/her seat until the verdict has been announced to the public.

22.3: SEATING ARRANGEMENTS The judges shall sit individually in the middle of each side of the ring.

RULE 23: TIMEKEEPER & ANNOUNCER

23.1: DUTIES OF TIMEKEEPER

- The main duty of timekeeper is to regulate the number and duration of the rounds, the intervals between rounds. The intervals between rounds shall be of one (1) full minute in duration;
- Timekeeper shall commence and end each round by striking the gong or bell;
- Indicate or give a signal of 10 seconds to clear the ring before the commencement of each round;
- Timekeeper shall take off time for temporary stoppages or when instructed to do so by the referee;
- Timekeeper shall regulate all periods of time and counts by a watch or clock;
- At a “Knock-down” Timekeeper shall signal to the referee with his/her hand the passing of the seconds while the referee is counting; and
- If, at the end of a round, an athlete is “down” and the referee is in the course of counting, **the gong indicating the end of the round will not be sounded.** The gong will be sounded only when the referee gives the command “CHOK” indicating the continuation of the match.

23.1.1: Seating Arrangements The timekeeper shall sit beside the Chief Official, opposite the doctor.

23.2: DUTIES OF ANNOUNCER

- Announce the name, club or country, weight and corner colour of both athletes to the public whenever they appear in the ring;

- Order “seconds out” 10 seconds before the commencement of each round;
- Announce for the starting and ending of each round; and
- Announce the result of the competition and name of the winner.

23.3: SEATING ARRANGEMENTS Both the announcer shall be seated directly at the ringside during the competition.

RULE 24: THE RING

24.1: SPECIFICATIONS In all competitions, the ring shall conform to the following requirements:

24.1.1: Setup The competition area shall be arranged as per the following diagram (see Fig. 19).

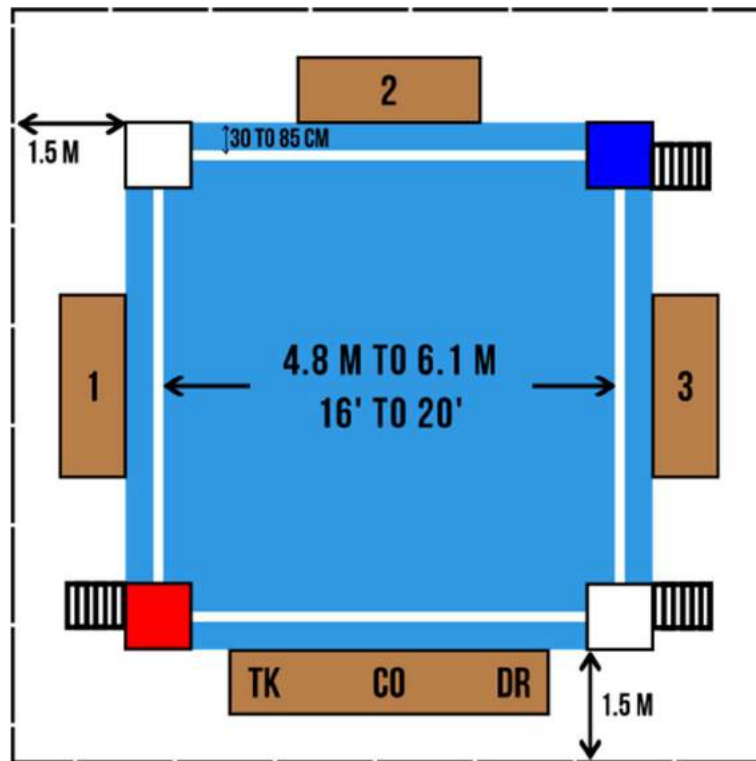


Figure 19 Ring Setup

24.1.2: Size The minimum size shall be 4.9m (16') and the maximum size 6.1m (20') inside the line of the ropes. The ring shall not be less than 90 cm (2' 11") or more than 1.20 m (3' 11") above the ground.

24.1.3: Platform and Corner Pads The platform shall be safely constructed, level and free from any obstructing projections and shall extend for 30 to 85 cm (12" to 2' 9") outside the line of the ropes. It shall be fitted with four corner posts which shall be well padded or otherwise so constructed as to prevent injury to the athletes. The corner pads/posts should be arranged in the following way:

- Red – in the nearer left-side of the Chief Official's table
- White – in the far left-side corner of the Chief Official's table
- Blue – in the far right-side of the Chief Official's table
- White – in the near right corner of the Chief Official's table

24.1.4: Floor Covering The floor shall be covered with felt, rubber or other suitable (approved) material having the same quality of elasticity, not less than 1.5 cm and not more than 2 cm thick over which canvas shall be stretched and secured in place. The felt, from the rubber or other approved material and canvas shall cover the entire platform.

24.1.5: Rope There shall be 4 ropes with a thickness of minimum of 3 cm and maximum of 5 cm tightly drawn from the corner posts at 40 cm, 70 cm, 100 cm and 130 cm (15.7", 27.5", 39.25", 51.25") high respectively. The ropes shall be covered with a soft or smooth material. The rope shall be joined on each side, at equal intervals, by two pieces of closely textured canvas 3 to 4 cm wide. The pieces must not slide along the rope.

24.1.6: Turnbuckles The turnbuckles shall be covered by foam no less than 2cm thick and securely fastened with a Velcro cover or tape.

24.1.7: Steps The ring shall be provided with at minimum 1 set of steps set in the neutral corner for use by the referees and doctors.

24.2: CORNER ACTIVITY The corner area inside the ropes shall be kept clean of water and debris. Bottles under compression are not permitted ringside.

24.3: TOURNAMENT FORMAT COMPETITIONS Two or more rings may be used in tournament format competitions.

RULE 25: RING EQUIPMENT

25.1: REQUIREMENTS The following ring equipment shall be available:

- Six (6) Seats – Four (4) seats for seconds, with two (2) in each coloured corner. Two (2) stools for athletes, one (1) in each coloured corner;
- Table and chairs for officials;
 - Ensure that there are tables located on three sides of the ring with two chairs at each. (One table and two chairs, on 3 sides);
 - Ensure a larger table(s) on the additional 4th side with chairs to allow for the Chief Official, doctor, timekeeper etc.; and
 - Ensure there is a barrier at least a 1.5 m from the judges/tables around the ring to the spectators.
- Steps beside the doctor's seat at the table for quick access to the ring;
- Gong (with striker) or bell;
- Wooden clapper for 10 second warning;
- One (preferably two) stop watches;
- MTC score cards; and
- One stretcher or access to a cot/gurney.

RULE 26: THE BALLOT AND BYES IN TOURNAMENTS

26.1: THE BALLOT The ballot shall take place ahead of time in the MTC office. No competitor of the same weight classification and experience class shall box twice in the competition before all other competitors have boxed at least once. In special situations, the Board of Directors of MTC has the right to depart from this rule.

26.2: BYES Where there are more than 4, 8, 16 etc. competitors, a sufficient number of byes shall be drawn in the first series to reduce the number of competitors in the second series. Competitors drawing a bye in the first series shall be the first to box in the second series. If there are an odd number of byes, the athlete who draws the last bye will compete in the

second series against the winner of the first bout in the first series. Where the number of byes is even, the athlete drawing byes shall box the first bouts in the second series in the order in which they are drawn.

25.3: BOUTS PER COMPETITION DAY An athlete is only permitted to compete in a maximum of two (2) bouts per day. In special circumstances, the Board of Directors has the authority to allow an athlete to compete in more than two (2) bouts per day.

RULE 27: TOURNAMENT AWARDS

27.1: PRIZES In national competition, cups or prizes of honour may be presented. **No medal shall be awarded to an athlete who has not competed at least once.**

27.2: TEAM STANDINGS The team standings shall be determined in the following manner

- 1 mark - The winner of each bout in the preliminary rounds or quarter finals bout;
- 2 marks - The winner of each bout in the semi-finals bout; and
- 3 marks - The winner of the final bout.

The marks shall be awarded if a bout cannot take place as an athlete **MUST** progress through the tournament bracket to proceed to the next bout.

In the case of 2 or more teams obtaining an equal number of marks, the placing shall depend on:

- The number of victories in the finals; and if this is equal
- The number of second places; and if this is equal too
- The number of third places.

RULE 28: SINGLE CONTEST COMPETITION AWARDS & TITLES

28.1: PRIZES In non-tournament competition, Event Hosts may present cups, trophies, medals, plaques, and other prizes of honour to athletes in recognition of their performance. Belts and event titles may not be awarded except as follows.

28.2: EVENT TITLES Event Hosts may present a belt and/or event title to the winner of a contest in which at least one athlete is not a resident of Canada.

28.3: MUAYTHAI CANADA TITLES may be contested by two athletes where following requirements are met:

- Both athletes are residents of Canada;
- The athletes are competing in the Elite or Master age category;
- The athletes are competing in either A or Open Class;
- The athletes are competing in an official Muaythai Canada weight class (see Rule 5.1); and
- Both athletes have won their two most recent contests.

28.3.1: Defending a Title Athletes who have been awarded a Muaythai Canada title must defend the title once every 14 months. If the result of a contest in which a title is being defended is a Draw, the title is successfully defended and remains with the title holder.

A title may not be defended more than once per 30 days.

28.3.2: Vacating a Title An athlete vacates a title when

- The title holder fails to defend their title within 14 months of it being last contested;
- The title holder is scheduled to defend a title and withdraws from competition within 5 calendar days of competition without providing a valid doctor's note prohibiting the athlete from competition;
- The title holder fails to make the scheduled weight on a title defense; or
- The title holder communicates their intent to voluntarily vacate a title in writing to Muaythai Canada.

28.4: PROVINCIAL TITLES may be awarded by Muaythai Canada in any jurisdiction in which there is not a recognized provincial sport organization with equal or more stringent rules than those of Muaythai Canada's national titles (28.3). In doing so the same rules will apply to the provincial title, with the requirement that both athletes be residents of the same province or members of a gym located in that province.

RULE 29: CONFORMITY

29.1: UNIFORMITY All affiliated associations shall adapt their rules to those of MTC, so as to ensure the uniformity of the rules of amateur Muaythai throughout the country, unless the rules of the affiliated associations are more stringent than MTC's.

THESE RULES SHALL RESCIND ALL PREVIOUS RULES OF MUAYTHAI CANADA