

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

Control No. 165 Department or Agency Alabama Athletic Commission  
Rule No. 165-X-13  
Rule Title: Mixed Martial Arts Ring and Equipment  
       New        Amend        X Repeal        Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?        Yes       

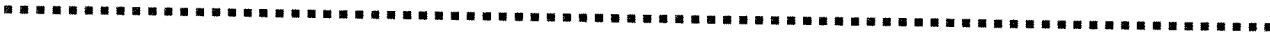
Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?        Yes       

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?        No       

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?        No       

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?        N/A       

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?        Yes       



Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?        No       

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer 

Date 9/19/2013

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

ALABAMA ATHLETIC COMMISSION

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Athletic Commission

RULE NO. & TITLE:

165-X-1	Professional Boxing	Repealed & New
165-X-2	Professional Mixed Martial Arts	Repealed & New
165-X-3	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts	Repealed & New
165-X-4	Medical Requirements	Repealed
165-X-5	Conduct of Promotion	Repealed
165-X-6	Ring and Equipment	Repealed
165-X-7	Officials: Corner Inspectors, Referees, Judges and Timekeepers	Repealed
165-X-8	Officials: Conduct of Contest, Match, or Exhibition	Repealed
165-X-9	Forms	Repealed
165-X-10	Functions of Commission	Repealed
165-X-11	Martial Arts Definition	Repealed
165-X-12	Bout Results	Repealed
165-X-13	Mixed Martial Arts Ring and Equipment	Repealed
165-X-14	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Standards	Repealed
165-X-15	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Competition Rules	Repealed
165-X-16	Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Additional Competition Guidelines	Repealed
165-X-17	Foul Procedures	Repealed
165-X-18	Injuries Sustained During Competition That will Terminate the Bout	Repealed
165-X-19	Types of Bout Results	Repealed
165-X-20	Licensing for Amateur MMA Sanctioning Organizations	Repealed
165-X-21	Officials Responsibilities	Repealed
165-X-22	Medical Requirements	Repealed
165-X-23	Match Permits	Repealed
165-X-24	Additional Requirements	Repealed
165-X-25	Mixed Martial Arts Licensing Procedures	Repealed
Appendices		Repealed

INTENDED ACTION: Repealed and New

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Commission will repeal rules that are redundant and condense these rules into 3 chapters.

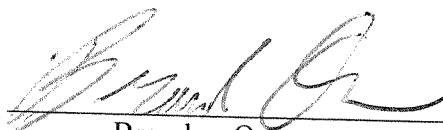
TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Oral or written comments should be addressed to the Alabama Athletic Commission at the address or phone number below and must be received no later than ~~November 7~~, 2013.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: November 7, 2013

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Ashley McGhee  
260 Commerce St Fourth Floor  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334-245-4374)



Brandon Owens  
Executive Director

REPEAL

Athletic Commission

Chapter 165-X-13

STATE OF ALABAMA  
ALABAMA ATHLETIC COMMISSION  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 165-X-13  
MIXED MARTIAL ARTS RING AND EQUIPMENT

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165-X-13-.01 Mixed Martial Arts Weight Classes.

- |     |                   |                          |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) | Flyweight under   | 125.9 pounds;            |
| (2) | Bantamweight      | 126 lbs. - 134.9 pounds; |
| (3) | Featherweight     | 135 lbs. - 144.9 pounds; |
| (4) | Lightweight       | 145 lbs. - 154.9 pounds; |
| (5) | Welterweight      | 155 lbs. - 169.9 pounds; |
| (6) | Middleweight      | 170 lbs. - 184.9 pounds; |
| (7) | Light Heavyweight | 185 lbs. - 204.9 pounds; |
| (8) | Heavyweight       | 204 lbs. - 264.9 pounds; |
| (9) | Super Heavyweight | over 265 pounds.         |

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; Effective  
March 16, 2012.

**165-X-13-.02 Fighting Area.**

(1) The fighting area canvas shall be no smaller than 18 feet by 18 feet and no larger than 32 feet by 32 feet. The fighting area canvas shall be padded in a manner as approved by the Commissioner, with at least one inch layer of foam padding. Padding shall extend beyond the fighting area and over the edge of the platform. No vinyl or other plastic rubberized covering shall be permitted.

(a) The fighting area canvas shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and shall have suitable steps or ramp for use by the participants. Posts shall be made of metal not more than six inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the fighting area canvas and shall be properly padded in a manner approved by the Commissioner.

(b) The fighting area canvas area shall be enclosed by a fence made of such material as will not allow a fighter to fall out or break through it onto the floor or spectators, including, but not limited to, vinyl coated chain link fencing. All metal parts shall be covered and padded in a manner approved by the Commissioner and shall not be abrasive to the contestants.

(c) The fence shall provide two separate entries onto the fighting area canvas.

(d) Instead of a fenced in area, the Commissioner may approve the use of a ring with five ring ropes and an adequate apron area outside of the fighting area.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; Effective March 16, 2012.

**165-X-13-.03 Stools.**

(1) A ring stool of a type approved by the Commissioner shall be available for each contestant.

(a) An appropriate number of stools or chairs, of a type approved by the Commissioner, shall be available for each contestant's seconds.

(b) Such stools or chairs shall be located near each contestant's corner.

(c) All stools and chairs used must be thoroughly cleaned or replaced after the conclusion of each bout.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

**165-X-13-.04 Equipment.** For each bout, the promoter shall provide a clean water bucket and a clean plastic water bottle in each corner.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

**165-X-13-.05 Specifications For Bandages On Mixed Martial Artist's Hands.**

(1) In all weight classes, the bandages on each contestant's hand shall be restricted to soft gauze cloth not more than 13 yards in length and two inches in width, held in place by not more than 10 feet of surgeon's tape, one inch in width, for each hand.

(a) Surgeon's adhesive tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to cover and protect the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.

(b) The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.

(c) Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the inspector and in the presence of the manager or chief second of his or her opponent.

(d) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

165-X-13-.06 Mouth Pieces.

(1) All contestants are required to wear a mouthpiece during competition. The mouthpiece shall be subject to examination and approval by the attending physician.

(a) The round cannot begin without the mouthpiece in place.

1. If the mouthpiece is involuntarily dislodged during competition, the referee shall call time, clean the mouthpiece and reinsert the mouthpiece at the first opportune moment, without interfering with the immediate action.

2. Surgeon's adhesive tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice and extend to cover and protect the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.

3. The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.

4. Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the inspector and in the presence of the manager or chief second of his or her opponent.

5. Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

165-X-13-.07 Protective Equipment.

(1) Male mixed martial artists shall wear a groin protector of their own selection, of a type approved by the Commissioner.

(a) Female mixed martial artists are prohibited from wearing groin protectors.

1. Female mixed martial artists shall wear a chest protector during competition. The chest protector shall be subject to approval of the Commissioner.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.

**165-X-13-.08 Gloves.**

(1) The gloves shall be new for all main events and in good condition or they must be replaced.

(a) All contestants shall wear four, five or six ounce gloves, supplied by the promoter and approved by the commission. No contestant shall supply their own gloves for participation.

**Author:** Casey C. Sears

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §41-9-1020.

**History: New Rule:** Filed February 10, 2012; effective March 16, 2012.