

INITIAL RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

TITLE 92. OKLAHOMA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

CHAPTER 10. RULES FOR BOXING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. A STATEMENT OF THE NEED FOR THE RULE AND LEGAL BASIS SUPPORTING IT:

The Oklahoma State Athletic Commission proposes amendments, additions, deletions, and consolidation of Chapter 10 requirements for boxing and other regulated activities. The proposal updates definitions and financial accountability for broadcasts, vendors, and ticket sales; revises permit, licensing, insurance, enforcement, and inspection provisions; consolidates officials' requirements; establishes post-bout examination and medical follow-up provisions; and revises elimination-tournament, professional wrestling, and mixed martial arts requirements.

These changes respond to duplicated requirements, differing sport-specific provisions, electronic event distribution, and the need for clearer event responsibility and medical oversight. They are intended to protect participants and the public while improving consistent administration. Legal authority is 3A O.S. §§ 603 and 604.2 under the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission Act, 3A O.S. §§ 601 et seq. The rulemaking process is governed by the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, including 75 O.S. § 303. Final section numbers and action labels must match the proposal issued for comment.

2. A CLASSIFICATION OF THE RULE AS MAJOR OR NONMAJOR, WITH JUSTIFICATION, ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE COSTS, AND THE INITIAL FIVE-YEAR COST DETERMINATION:

Classification: Nonmajor

The amendments are primarily administrative consolidation along with an implementation of national standard unification framework. The implementation and compliance costs to businesses, government entities, or individuals are not expected to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) within the initial five-year period. Boxing permit will have increased from \$50 to \$100, all other approved combat sports are now outlined within the rule set and their permit options have been added and fighter insurance, and life and death policy has increased. No new equipment. There are no expected annual implementation or compliance costs for the agency because of these rule changes.

3. DESCRIPTION AND DETERMINATION OF FEDERAL MANDATE, FEDERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, AND WHETHER THE PROPOSED RULE EXCEEDS APPLICABLE FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS:

The proposed amendments are not federally mandated or a condition of federal program participation. They are adopted under state statutory authority and supplement 15 U.S.C. § 6304.

No rule change is required for participation in a federal program or required by federal law.

4. CLASSES OF PERSONS AFFECTED, CLASSES BEARING COSTS, AND COST IMPACT INFORMATION RECEIVED:

Affected classes include licensed and prospective promoters, telecast/broadcast promoters, matchmakers, vendors, professional and amateur participants, professional wrestlers, referees, judges, physicians, timekeepers, announcers, seconds, inspectors, and Commission staff. Officials may bear training and travel costs. Participants may bear additional medical testing and clearance costs. Vendor now have clear rules around statutory requirements. Promoters license will bear costs regarding permit increase along with combatant insurance requirement increase.

5. PERSONS BENEFITING, VALUE OF BENEFITS, AND EXPECTED HEALTH OUTCOMES:

Participants benefit from strengthened event oversight, clearer personnel duties, post-bout identification of injuries, adequate emergency arrangements, and improved financial accountability. Officials benefit from express compensation for extended work hours at events and structured training requirements. Promoters may benefit from a clearer common rule framework and consistent enforcement.

Combatants benefit from the increase in each specified participant insurance from \$10,000 to \$25,000. That is an increase in medical coverage which will add dental coverage in case teeth are knocked out during competition. This will also increase the death benefit policy from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for them.

6. COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS, INCLUDING AGENCY STAFFING, IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE COSTS, AND FEE CHANGES:

The proposed amendments will not require additional full-time employees or additional agency expenditure. Implementation and compliance monitoring will be performed by existing staff within the Commission's current resources.

The boxing event permit fee will increase from \$50 to \$100, consistent with the existing mixed martial arts event permit fee. This represents an additional cost of \$50 per boxing permit. Based on the average of six (6) boxing permits issued, each fiscal year. The estimated additional annual cost to promoters is \$50 per event and corresponding increase in Commission revenue is \$300.

Required participant medical coverage and death-benefit coverage will each increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Promoters will bear additional insurance fees associated with these increased limits. Based on Cole Insurance Agency quotations, the estimated additional premium is \$355-\$1689 per event, actual costs vary based on the sport and deductible.

7. METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS USED TO DETERMINE ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The Commission determined the economic impact by comparing existing requirements with the proposed amendments and identifying additional costs attributable to the changes. The Commission anticipates no additional agency expenditures or full-time employees; implementation and compliance monitoring will be performed by existing staff within current resources.

8. IMPACT ON POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND THEIR COOPERATION IN IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT:

There is no anticipated economic impact on any political subdivisions, and their cooperation is not required. These rules are necessary to implement to update the agency

9. ADVERSE EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS:

The proposed rules may affect small business promoters. These increases may reduce promoter profit margins, increase ticket prices, or affect the financial feasibility of smaller es. Actual impacts will vary with event size.

10. EFFORTS TO MINIMIZE COSTS AND IMPACT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND INDIVIDUALS:

The Commission has sought to minimize unnecessary costs by consolidating duplicated requirements, aligning competition rules with nationally recognized standards, and recognizing approved national officials' training. These measures are intended to simplify compliance, improve consistency across jurisdictions, and support responsible economic development through combative sports events in Oklahoma.

11. EFFECT ON PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SIGNIFICANT RISKS AND EXPECTED RISK REDUCTION:

Potential risks addressed include undetected post-bout injury, delayed emergency response, insufficient medical follow-up, inadequately trained or overworked officials, inadequate wrestling physical requirement and over 40 requirements for wrestlers, unsafe wrestling surfaces, noncompliant equipment, unreliable event records, and unsanctioned activities. Universal post-bout examinations and physician retention may improve timely identification and referral of injuries. Insurance increases improve potential financial protection rather than proving an injury reduction.

Alignment with nationally recognized competition standards is intended to improve consistency across jurisdictions and support safe, responsibly managed events. No direct environmental effects are anticipated.

12. DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT ADOPTION:

Without adoption, existing rules would remain in effect, but the intended improvements in medical oversight, post-bout evaluations, officials' responsibilities, and event accountability would not be implemented. Duplicated or inconsistent provisions could continue to complicate compliance and the application of safety standards.

Required insurance coverage would remain at \$10,000 for medical benefits and \$10,000 for accidental death and disability benefits, providing less financial protection than the proposed \$25,000 limits when covered injuries, disability, or death occur.

Nonadoption would also forgo greater alignment with nationally recognized competition standards. Although an increase in injuries cannot be quantified, the identified risks and limitations would remain. No detrimental environmental effects are anticipated from nonadoption.

13. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES TO ADOPTING THE RULE:

Under 3A O.S. §§ 603 and 604.2, the Commission is responsible for rule promulgation to protect combative sports participants and the public. Without adoption, existing limitations in medical oversight, financial protection, and consistent safety standards would remain. No detrimental environmental effects are anticipated.

14. ESTIMATED STATE EMPLOYEE TIME AND OTHER RESOURCES USED TO DEVELOP THE RULE:

OSAC employees have spent a combined 40 staff hours on review and development. The commission and our Assistant Attorney General counsel spent combined 10 hours on review.

15. SUMMARY AND PRELIMINARY COMPARISON OF EXISTING OR PROPOSED FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

The proposed rules supplement federal professional boxing requirements under 15 U.S.C. §§ 6301–6313. Other regulated activities fall outside this federal boxing framework.

16. PREPARATION AND MODIFICATION DATES:

This rule impact statement was initially prepared on October 7, 2026.