



WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE

AMATEUR - TOURNAMENT RULES

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Part 1: General Rules

Part 2: Officiating



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World Martial Arts Committee

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Introduction:

This Rulebook replaces all previously issued rules. It also reflects the official WMAC Amateur Competition Rules. These current rules are valid for all members. Consideration can be given to local legal requirements and obligations if required.

The official language of the IRC is English. This Rulebook can be translated in to other languages by the IRC. In case of any discrepancies, the official English version shall prevail.

Without the specific written consent of either WMAC or the IRC, this Rulebook shall not be copied, published or distributed. This includes electronic, digital, physical or any other duplication forms.

This Rulebook can be ordered free through the official website of the WMAC

WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Rules & Regulations



January, 2017

Dear Reader,

We are very pleased to release the 4.3 version of the Rules & Regulations governing the World Martial Arts Committee. This is definitely the most comprehensive Mixed Martial Arts Tournament Rule Book available today, and we are proud to make it available for your use. It was only made possible by the hard work and dedication of individuals from around the globe. In particular we would like to thank all individuals for their special contributions to this addition:

All rules and regulations contained within this document are intended for use at WMAC sanctioned events. In this case, they must not be deviated from, except in extraordinary circumstances and with the written permission of the IRC or Chief Referee (Supervisor) of the tournament. The Chief Referee's interpretation of these rules will be the only interpretation accepted in the event of a query/complaint regarding correct implementation of any rule (IRC).

The World Martial Arts Committee Rules and Regulations may also be used for non-sanctioned events. In this instance, we would ask that the promoter or user of these Rules & Regulations include the following line in their promotion "This tournament will be governed by the current Rules and Regulations of the World Martial Arts Committee."

The World Martial Arts Committee Movement is constantly evolving. And as we continue to grow our membership and expand our events, our need to revise the Rules and Regulations will continue. Please check back with us periodically to ensure that you have an up to date copy of our Tournament Rules and Regulations.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harald Folladori', written in a cursive style.

Harald Folladori
WMAC World President

PART 1 – GENERAL RULES

The following are General Rules which are common to all disciplines. Please read and ensure that you fully understand them. By entering any WMAC Event, you are accepting the rules as presented in this document, as well as any announced changes on the day of the event.

GENERAL STATEMENT (for more information = official Handbook WMAC)

WMAC – World Martial Arts Committee

WMAC is the World Martial Arts Committee in Bregenz / Austria. The affiliated National – International Federations are members of WMAC.

BOD – Board of Directors

The highest instance in the WMAC is the board of directors and consists of:

1. President
2. Vice-president
3. Secretary General
4. Chairmen of Directors
5. Chairmen of Rules committee
6. Sports Manager
7. Event Manager
8. Treasurer

IRC – International Rules Committee

The IRC is the International Rules Committee. The IRC consists of the WMAC Head Referee plus four appointed international Referees (minimum 5 Persons).

The IRC can make alterations or omissions to the existing rules, as well as implement new ones. The IRC can also be used as an arbitrary body in certain cases. The IRC also handles the Referee affairs at larger tournaments. The IRC Members are solely appointed from the WMAC BOD (Board of Directors).

ARTICLE 1 COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 World Martial Arts Committee events are termed "Amateur" events. In this regard, only those competitors who have retained an amateur status in the particular event/events that they wish to enter may compete. Competitors that can be termed "professional" may not compete in the events in which they earn the majority of their living from. The World Martial Arts Games Committee considers anyone who does or did earn the majority of their living from the event or related event that they wish to compete in, and or have competed in more than 1 professional bout.

For example, a professional Kickboxer or Wrestler could not compete in WMAC Combat divisions however, they could compete in WMAC Forms, Breaking or Self-defence divisions or else. If someone is unsure of their status, the National Director for that country may write to the WMAC Referee/Rules Committee to obtain an exception or special ruling.

When they don't fight 12 month in a profi event, they can come back to the amateurs.

- 1.2 All players must be registered by the National WMAC Member country they are representing. The competitors from the International Members must also fight for their Nations.
- 1.3 Citizenship and positive proof of domicile will dictate the country the competitor represents. Documents such as a passport and/or drivers license will be requested. Special circumstances must receive from the Int. Rules Commission (IRC) approval prior to the Events.
- 1.4 All ranks must compete at the age they will be as of the day preceding the first official day of the Competition.
- 1.5 Each Competitor is responsible for his/her own personal safety. Team Coaches are responsible for the safety of children in their care. Under no circumstances will the Organisers of the Event, Staff, Officials or the Management and Staff of any Venue used in conjunction with any event take responsibility for any illness or injury which may occur during any event. Competitorors shall attest to their know ledge of the risks involved in participating in a martial arts tournament by completing the tournament waiver form. Persons less than 18 years of age may only participate if their parent or legal guardian signs on their behalf. No competitor will be permitted to compete without having the tournament waiver form signed and presented prior to the commencement of the tournament. All competitors must have a medical attest, not older then 12 month.
- 1.6 It is up to the referees and/or judges in each area to enforce the rules, however, it is up to each coach and competitor to ensure that he/she knows and fully understands the rules of the division which he/she is entering and also the risks of injury involved in the division he/she enters. Coach and Referee meetings must held before the competition starts.
- 1.7 By entering any WMAC Tournament, you are giving permission for Doping Testing to be carried out on yourself.
- 1.8 All uniforms should be of the representative country or style. The WMAC will not decide what uniform they must wear. The Country name should be embroidered or silk-screened on the back of uniform. It is forbidden to bring on not serious letters about Religion or nationality at the uniform.
- 1.9 Each competitor is responsible for his/her own equipment and props where required (Rubber Knives for Self Defence, Music for Musical Forms, etc.). Under no circumstances will the Organisers of the Event, Staff, Officials or the Management and Staff of any Venue used in conjunction with any event, take responsibility for any loss or damage to any equipment, prop or any personal belongings of any competitor.
- 1.10 Each competitor is responsible for the safety of themselves and others. Where physical contact with

others forms part of an event, long fingernails or toenails, if exposed, must be cut or covered.

- 1.11 Jewellery must be removed for all events.
- 1.12 For purposes of identification, a referee may require a player to wear a coloured flag or pennant, which shall be attached to the back of the contestants ranking belt.
- 1.13 Every competitor is expected to behave in a Sportsperson like Fashion. Angry and uncontrolled violent displays of behaviour will not be tolerated. If a referee believes a player is guilty of such an infraction, he or she may call a judge's conference. Following the conference, a majority vote of all judges will cause the offending player to be disqualified – without refund. Judges will not tolerate undisciplined displays of temper.
- 1.14 Intentional damage to any facility within the venue related or unrelated to the event is considered an immediate disqualifying offence from all divisions – without refund.
- 1.15.1 Misrepresentation of information by the National Director, Coaches or Athletes will result in immediate disqualification of the athlete and may result in further penalties against the country officials involved (see official handbook of WMAC).

ARTICLE 2. GENERAL CONTEST FORMAT

- 2.1 The official language of the tournament is English.
- 2.2 Competition shall consist of a 1-day event (except World Games 3-4 days).
- 2.3 In order to establish competition between an odd number of competitors, some may be given an automatic win, this is classified as a "BYE". The remaining competitors will then compete against each other in the normal manner, this may be double, or single elimination. A bye is established by means of a draw that is done during the first round of matches. If in one division are not 3 people, they must take them in the next higher division – there are no competition without min. 3 persons.

ARTICLE 3. GENERAL CONTEST AREA

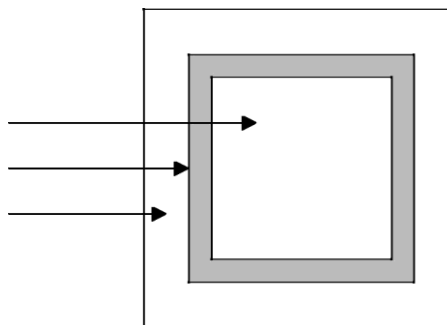
- 3.1 The competition surface must have proper floor matting, with suitable thickness to accommodate throws. Matting and Boxing rings must be laid flat and held secure. Any seams or tears must be covered with suitable tape.
- 3.2 The general mat or boxing ring area must be kept clear of spectators and other non-competitors. During a match only the two competing players and the match officials may be on the mat.

- 3.3 Unless otherwise stated, the competition area shall consist of three zones covering a total minimum area of 12 x 12 metres square (approximately 39 x 39 feet).

Contest Area - 6 x 6 metres
(Mat 6 x 6 metres & Boxing
Ring/AIBA Norm)

Safety Area - 1 metre wide

Danger Area - 2 metres wide



- 3.3.1 **Contest Area** – (Mat and Boxing Ring Area) shall be 6 x 6 metres (approximately 20 x 20 feet). Except for Forms - this Area must be 8 x 8 metres.
- 3.3.2 **Safety Area** - shall be a Red coloured area, attached and surrounding all four sides of the Contest Area by the width of 1 metre (approximately 3 feet wide).
- 3.3.3 **Danger Area** – shall be a controlled area surrounding the Safety area and shall never be less than 2 metres wide (approximately 6 feet wide).
- 3.3.4 **Mat Thickness** – Mat thickness for Forms and Sparring Divisions will be minimum 1". Grappling Divisions minimum 1" – 2".

PART 2 – OFFICIATING

ARTICLE 4. SELECTION OF REFEREES, JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

- 4.1 Officiating is considered a prestigious position and therefore all Referees, Judges and Officials must hold the rank of Black Belt or above as issued by a recognized International Martial Arts Association. This rule does not apply where an Honorary Official is named or for special services such as Medical Officials. Except Referees with an international WMAC Seminar Certification and persons with a five year experience in Martial Arts.
- 4.2 All Referees, Judges and Officials must have completed the WMAC Certification Course. Officials must be thoroughly knowledgeable in understanding, interpreting and administrating all aspects of the rules. This can only be accomplished through diligent study of the rulebook and training under actual competition conditions. A certification course and examination will be held the day prior to the Games. This rule does not apply where an Honorary Official is named or for special services such as Medical Officials.
- 4.3 Officials shall not be chosen for the World Martial Arts Committee based solely on wishes or country equalization. These officials will coopt by their Qualification directly from the Board of Directors.
- 4.4 A "Conflict of Interest" is considered when the duty or responsibility of a Referee, Judge or Official is compromised. All Referees, Judges and Officials must ensure that no "Conflict of Interest" will exist in their participation in a particular event. Where a Competitor, Coach, Referee, Judge or Official, believes there may be a "Conflict of Interest" situation, the person with whom the conflict exists must either withdraw from the event or seek the ruling and decision of the Chief Referee. If the decision of the Chief Referee is requested, the Chief Referee will ensure that the incident and resolution is recorded on the event scorecard. (Example, Referees and Competitor from the same nation: Result must be one Referee from each Competitor-Countries and one neutral Referee or only Referees from a difficult Country)

4.5 The Chief Referee will be voted in at the WMAC BoD meeting prior to the world championships. One nomination will be accepted from each country. This must be an Supervisor with A1 Licence. At any time during the tournament the Chief Referee, in his or her wisdom may reject officials who do not meet these criteria without recourse for protest or debate.

4.6 The highest Instance for all Referees is the IRC. The Refereelicence in WMAC are International Chief Referee (Supervisor) = A1, Int. Referees (A/B/C) and national Referees and Judges (D/E). The national Referees and Judges can not be a center Referee in an International Tournament (World Games).

ARTICLE 5. OFFICIALS

5.1 WMAC National Directors, or WMAC BOD, should also sit at the head table for the administering of decisions and policy. BOD Members can also be considered for positions as Referees or Judges.

5.2 Medical personnel shall be available at all times, easily recognizable and attainable in one location only.

5.3 Official dress for all referees, judges and the officials will be chosen by the Rules and approved by the WMAC BoD prior to the event. (Black WMAC Shirt and blue tie)

5.4 The number of Referees, Judges required for an event, will be addressed in the Article covering the individual event.

5.5 Referee Licenses:

Judge

J	Junior License	judge for national events (U10, U14), has to be 16 years old At the age of 18 the license turns into an E license
E	National	judge for national events
D	National	judge for national and international events
C	International	judge for national and international events incl. local / national title and international titles
B	International	judge for all events, incl. European and Intercontinental title
A	International	judge for all events, World title

Referee

E	National	referee for national events
D	National	referee for national & international events
C	International	referee for national and international events incl. local / national title and international titles
B	International	referee for all events, incl. European and Intercontinental title
A	International	referee for all events, World title

A 1 International Supervisor the highest license in the WMAC.

5.5.2 International Judge and Referee:

Minimum age 18 years, membership of a federation representing the WMAC, completion of a seminar, basic English language skills and the National D license

5.5.3 Award and validity of licenses:

The national licenses J, E and D are awarded by the national Head referee and the NRC (National Rules Committee) by means of a majority decision and after a positive test at the end of a competition training course and are valid for a period of 1 year . They can be extended after positive application and participation in further courses.

The International C and B license is nominated by the International IRC Head referee and is awarded by means of a majority decision by the IRC "international rules committee" for 3 years after a positively concluded international competitor seminar.

The A license is only nominated by the IRC only by a majority, but it must be nominated by a member of the IRC and is also valid for 3 years.

The A1 Supervisor license is nominated by the IRC but has to be confirmed by an unanimous decision since it is the highest license at WMAC. This also applies for 3 years and must be renewed afterwards.

All campers must extend their licenses with the appropriate Referee seminars on a timely basis.

5.5.4 Training of Campaigners:

The training of the National Campaigners for the J, E and D licenses are carried out by members of the NRC in national competitor seminars.

The training of the International Campaigners for the C, B and A licenses are carried out by members of the IRC in international competitor seminars. If necessary, however, campers with the A and A1 license can also be included in the training as a learner.

5.5.5 Minimum Commitment of a Referee

National Referee: minimum 2 commitments per year, as well attending a referee seminar once a year

International Referee: minimum 3 commitments per year, as well attending a international referee seminar every 3 years.

ATTENTION: An Upgrade for your license can be done only after referee seminars!

ARTICLE 6. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE REFEREE

6.1 The Referee is charged with the supervision of the match and his or her prime goal is the safety of the players. The Referee administers and controls the tempo of the contest, enforces the rules and insures fair play.

6.2 The Referee starts and stops the match, counts the time when a hold is taken, calls penalty decisions, administers the voting of the judges, communicates clearly with the scorekeeper and timekeeper and announces the winner of each match. The Referee shall announce in a loud clear voice, all official decisions, and shall indicate with voice and gestures, the player affected by his or her decisions.

6.3 Only the Referee may call a time out, which maybe for any of the following reasons:

- 6.3.1 To allow equipment adjustment
- 6.3.2 To administer voting among the judges
- 6.3.3 To award points, assess penalties and administer warnings
- 6.3.4 To return contestants to the centre, neutral area of the ring
- 6.3.5 To attend an injured player
- 6.3.6 To hear a legal protest

ARTICLE 7. GENERAL CALLS BY THE REFEREE

7.1 **Commence the round** – After the Referee has confirmed that the players, judges, scorekeeper and timekeeper are all ready, he or she shall call “BEGIN” or “FIGHT” to start the time and the contest.

7.2 **End of round** - Upon completion of each round, the Referee calls “STOP” to halt the match and returns the players to the centre of the mat. Scoring = the Referee shows her votes with hand signs and awards the win to the appropriate player.

7.3 **Infraction** - The referee stops the contest and give the competitor which made the Mistake a warning or a minus Point. The Referee can also stop the Contest, speak with the side-referees to make a decision. For this situation he make a break = Time Out!

7.5 **Player out of bounds** - When a player is out of bounds the Referee calls “STOP - EXIT” to hold the match and returns the players to the contest area and then starts again.

7.5.1A Judge can not base his or her scoring, if a competitor is out of bounds. Attention: he must be with both feet out of bounds. Then he can not make a Score. If he is only with one foot out – he can score with his hands and the other competitor can score him legal.

7.6 **Time-out** - When voting on all penalty calls, the Referee must call “TIME-OUT”.

7.7 **Excessive Force** - If there is not a majority vote by the judges on excessive force, the Referee may issue a warning on his or her own.

7.8 **Judges majority** - The Referee may not under any circumstances overrule a “MAJORITY” of judges for any cause or condition.

7.9 **Scoring Signs**

Point sparring = see the Pictures on 12.3 and the Referee Seminar documents
Continuous sparring and Kick-Light = see the Referee Seminar documents.

ARTICLE 8. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE JUDGES

8.1 **Certification** - All judges are required to be certified in the event that they are judging. (Art.4.6)

8.2 **Restrictive Movements** - Judges are required to limit their motions to their respective areas of the ring.

8.3 **Conflict of Interest** – Because of the nature of this duty, all Judges must ensure that no conflict of interest exists. In these instances all Judges must follow the procedure outlines in Article 4.4. Failure to do so may result in future disqualification.

ARTICLE 9. POINTS AWARDED BY JUDGES

9.1 Each Judge is to award points based on their own observations and should not be swayed by the actions or voices of others. The only exception is following an instruction from a Referee. Points must awarded in accordance with the criteria for each event.

ARTICLE 10. DUTIES OF THE TIMEKEEPER

- 10.1 The timekeeper shall be seated adjacent to the playing area and shall stop and start time according to the Referee's or Head Judge's signal to do so. The timekeeper, may by a verbal and visual signal (such as a bean bag or suitable substitute) thrown into the centre of the mat area, inform the Referee when time has run out, or when he or she has received a formal protest from the Chief Referee, or his or her designate (Scoreboards with acoustic signal).
- 10.2 Time runs out officially only when the judges and players have been verbally informed of the fact by the Referee (only the Doctor or the Supervisor can stop the fight).

ARTICLE 11. DUTIES OF THE SCOREKEEPER

- 11.1 The scorekeeper shall record all scores and penalties awarded to players, as instructed by the Referee or Head Judge.
- 11.1.1 Wins, loses and rounds are scored by the Scorekeeper
- 11.1.2 Wins only decide the winner
- 11.1.3 Rounds are tallied and kept to break a tie should it occur
- 11.2 The scorekeeper will call up each player before a match, including those already on deck.
- 11.3 The scorekeeper must have at the table all required score sheets, hand counters, stopwatches and scoreboards digital.
- 11.4 The scorekeeper must provide a method of visual scoring to inform the Referee, judges and players of the score.

ARTICLE 12. STANDARDISATION OF VERBAL CALLS BY OFFICIALS

12.1 Referee:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| "Begin" or "Fight" | - To start the competition and the timekeeper's clock |
| "STOP" | - To stop the competition |
| "Hold down" | - A hold down has commenced |
| "Exit" | - To indicate the competitors are out of bounds |
| "Score" | - To request a show judge's gestic (points) |
| "Time Out" | - To stop the timekeeper's clock |
| "Time" | - To begin the timekeeper's clock |
| "Fight" | - To begin after a stoppage |
| "Break" | - To stop the fight shortly and step one step back and fight again |

12.2 Judges:

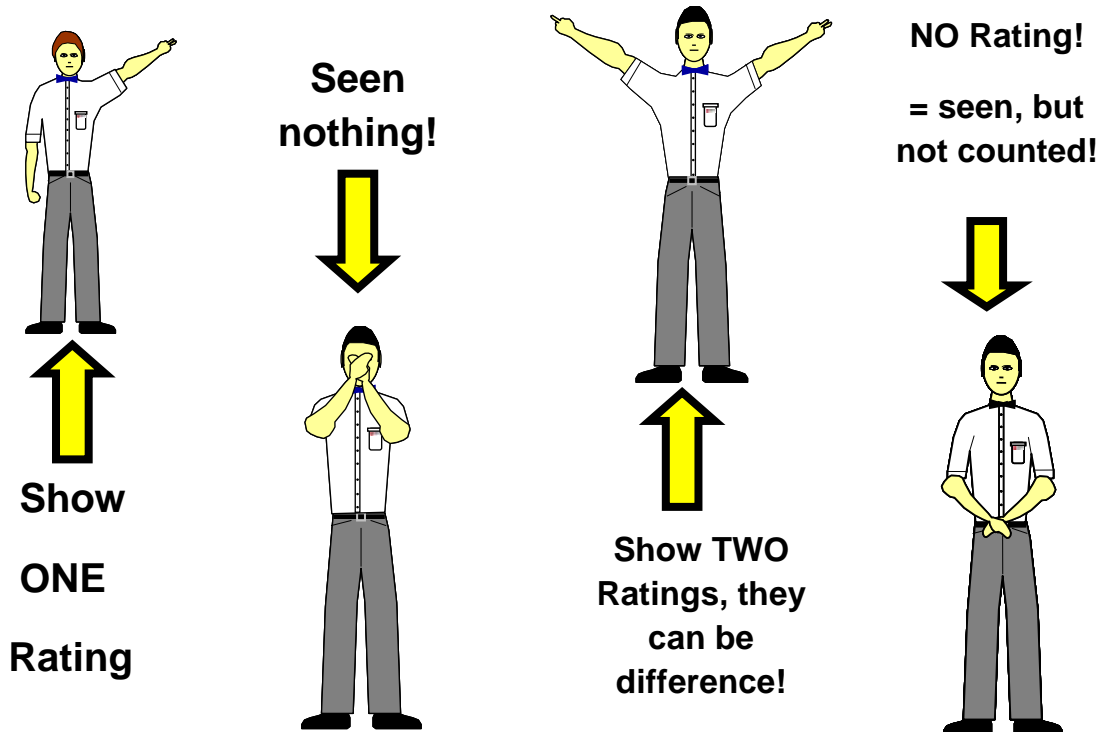
- | | |
|--------------|--|
| "Stop/Score" | - To signal the Referee to stop the match and give the votes |
|--------------|--|

12.3 **Official Dresscode:**

For all Referees and Judges = black classic shirt (WMAAC Emblem in the back or on the front) blue tie and black trousers.

12.4 Officials' gestic signals, Example Pointsparing (see referee seminar):

Scoring „Pointsparing“:



ARTICLE 13. DISPUTES AND GRIEVANCES

13.1 Informal Grievance Procedures

Should the need arise to make a complaint on the day of an event regarding the implementation of the rules, or with regard to any official on any area the following is the only method of informal complaint which will be accepted.

1. Attract the attention of the main referee/judge on the area.
2. He/She will suspend the match and call for the Chief Referee (Supervisor)
3. Explain calmly and clearly the nature of the complaint.
4. Await the Chief Referees decision.
5. The Chief Referees decision will be final.
6. Only the registered National Head Coach may initiate a complaint.
7. The protest costs 100 USD/ 100 EUR.

13.2 Formal Grievance Procedures

Formal Grievances will lead to an investigation by the WMAC Committee into the Grievance, and will only be accepted when given in Written Form to the Chief Referee or Supervisor at the Event accompanied by the names and contact details of all witness to the event and with a fee of €100.00 or its equivalent in the respective currency of the WMAC Rules committee. If the claim is substantiated, the €100.00 will be returned.

ARTICLE 14. WEIGHT DIVISIONS / CLASSES

**OFFICIAL WEIGHT CLASSES OF ALL AMATEUR KICKBOXING/COMBAT DISZIPLINS OF
WORLD MARTIAL ARTS COMMITTEE (WMAC)**

U10 Kids (6-9 years)		U14 Juniors (10-13 years)		U18 Kadetts (14-17 years)		+18 Adults (18-34 years)		+35 Veterens (35-44 years)		+45 Masters (+45 – Open)	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
-25	-25	-40	-40	-40	-40	-60	-50	-75	-55	-75	-55
-30	-30	-45	-45	-45	-45	-65	-55	-80	-60	-80	-60
-35	-35	-50	-50	-50	-50	-70	-60	-85	-65	-85	-65
-40	-40	-55	-55	-55	-55	-75	-65	+85	+65	+85	+65
-45	-45	-60	-60	-60	-60	-80	+65				
-50	-50	-65	+60	-65	+60	-85					
+50	+50	-70		-70		-90					
		+70		+70		+90					

The WMAC Amateur Weight Divisions have a weight tolerance of "0" kg / pounds.

Except: Children Division have a tolerance of 1 kg (Kids U10). All others have no Tolerance!

If the Competitors have a different weight upper the limit the Supervisor have 2 decisions to do:

1. He cancels the Fight and set the Fighter/Athlete in a new weight division. He must pay a second Starting-Fee.
2. He gives him the Starting-Fee back and put him out of the Tournament.

OFFICIAL WEIGHT CLASSES OF ALL PROFESSIONAL KICKBOXING/COMBAT DISZIPLINS OF WMAC

The WMAC Professional Weight Divisions have a weight tolerance of "0" kg / pounds.

Except: If the Fighter has a different weight upper the limit the Supervisor have 2 decisions to do.

1. He cancels the Fight and set a new date.
2. He gives a "non official weight agreement" (NOWA)

NOWA: that means that the Supervisor can give more tolerance out. (max.3kg/6,6lb it belongs to the weight class !) The Competitor which have more weight have to pay money for this Situation. He must pay for each 0,1kg/15€ maximum 450€ - this money goes to the Opponent and to the Federation (50%). If both Competitors have the wrong weight. The money must be paid directly before the Fight goes on.

Male (15 – 55 years)			Female (15 – 55 years)		
Weight class name	Upper limit		Weight class name	Upper limit	
	in kilograms (kg)	in pounds (lb)		in kilograms (kg)	in pounds (lb)
Flyweight	50.5	111.3	Lightweight	50	110.7
Super Flyweight	52	114.6	Welterweight	55	121.3
Bantamweight	53.5	117.9	Middleweight	60	132.3
Super Bantamweight	55.5	122.4	Light Heavyweight	65	143.3
Featherweight	57	125.7	Heavyweight	No weight limit	
Super Featherweight	59	130.1			
Lightweight	61.5	135.6			
Super Lightweight	63.5	140			
Welterweight	67	147.7			
Super Welterweight	70	154.3			
Middleweight	72.5	159.8			
Super Middleweight	76	167.6			
Light Heavyweight	79	174.2			
Super Light Heavyweight	83.2	183.4			
Cruiserweight	85.9	189.4			
Super Cruiserweight	90	198.4			
Heavyweight	95	209.4			
Super Heavyweight	No weight limit				