

# ATHLETIC COMMISSION

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## Commission Bulletin 2015-5

### Ring and Locker Room Access:

The New York State Athletic Commission (Commission) is empowered with the authority to regulate and control access to the locker rooms (dressing rooms) and the ring at all professional boxing events within the State of New York, for the purpose of assuring the safety and well-being of all participants, to prevent corruption, and to promote the best interests of boxing (*see* 19 NYCRR §§ 206.5, 209.38, 210.26). In furtherance of this responsibility and in order to best maintain order, preserve safety, and ensure fair competition, the Commission hereby enacts the following locker room and ring access policy, effective for all professional boxing events held within the State of New York on or after October 15, 2015.

### I. LOCKER ROOM ACCESS POLICY:

Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, other than Commission personnel and the licensed referee designated to officiate the applicable bout, only the following persons shall be allowed in a boxer's locker room:

1. The licensed boxer;
2. The boxer's licensed/permitted seconds (up to three (3) for a non-title bout/up to four (4) for a title bout);
3. The boxer's licensed manager(s);
4. Commission-designated physicians, as necessary;
5. The New York State licensed promoter(s) of the event;
6. Members of the broadcast team where event is being live broadcast or recorded;
7. Members of the press/media (e.g. documentary filmmakers or print journalists; not to exceed four (4) individuals at any one time);\*
8. Police officers, venue security, EMT's and other public officials, actually on duty, as needed;
9. Staff of the promoter and/or venue may enter the locker room to perform necessary maintenance, custodial and attendant tasks (such as replenishing ice, assisting with clean-up, supplying chairs and towels, etc.);
10. Up to two (2) other individuals requested by the boxer may be authorized for locker room entry, in the sole discretion of the Commission, upon the express prior written approval of the Commission;\*\*
11. One licensed/permitted second or manager of the opposing boxer may be permitted entry, upon prior request and in the sole discretion of the Commission, for the limited purpose of observing the boxer's hand wrapping and/or gloving. Any such person granted entry must exit immediately upon completion of the hand-wrapping and/or gloving.

\* Members of the press/media must obtain prior written authorization from the Commission to access a boxer's locker room. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, such authorization may be obtained, in the sole discretion of the Commission, only upon written request, and such written request must be received by the Commission at least five (5) business days in advance of the boxing event. If granted, evidence of such approval must be presented to a Commission representative at the time of entry.

\*\* A maximum of two (2) other individuals requested by the boxer may be authorized for locker room entry, in the sole discretion of the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, such authorization may be obtained, in the sole discretion of the Commission, only upon written request, and such written request must be received by the Commission at least five (5) business days in advance of the boxing event. If granted, evidence of such approval must be presented to a Commission representative at the time of entry.

*Any person directed by the Commission to exit a locker room must do so immediately.*

## II. RING ACCESS POLICY

Other than Commission personnel and designated ring officials, only the following persons shall be allowed in-ring access prior to the commencement and at the completion of a professional boxing bout:

1. The licensed boxers;
2. The boxers' licensed/permitted seconds, as follows: all seconds (up to three (3) for a non-title bout/up to four (4) for a title bout) may be ringside and on the ring apron prior to the commencement and at the completion of a bout; however, only the chief second for each boxer may be inside the ring ropes. In addition, only one (1) second for each boxer may be inside the ropes between rounds (19 NYCRR 210.15);
3. Each boxer's licensed manager (where a boxer has more than one manager, only one manager will be permitted in the ring);
4. The New York State licensed promoter(s) of the event;
5. Personnel hired/contracted/authorized by the promoter to display round cards;
6. For a title bout, one representative of each sanctioning body conferring a title(s) or belt(s);
7. Members of the broadcasting team covering the bout;
8. Commission-designated physicians, as needed;
9. Police officers, venue security, EMT's and other public officials, actually on duty, as needed.

After the decision of any contest has been announced, the participants and their seconds/managers shall leave the ring at once and retire to their locker rooms, unless otherwise authorized or directed by the Commission. There will be no "entourages" allowed in the ring or locker room before, during or after a bout.

*Any person directed to exit the ring by the Commission must do so immediately.*

*Implemented by vote of the Commissioners on August 25, 2015, revised by vote of the Commissioners on October 15, 2015. This policy shall be effective immediately.*

October 15, 2015