



**BOXING  
SOUTH  
AFRICA**

**Criteria for Recognition  
Of  
International Boxing Bodies**

# CRITERIA FOR THE RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL BOXING BODIES

## DRAFT GUIDELINES

### INTRODUCTION

These guidelines are aimed at creating a framework for the recognition of International Boxing Bodies working in the country. The object of the South African Boxing Act, Act No.11 of 2001 is to provide, among other objects, [in 2(q)] for the recognition of all International Boxing Bodies or organisations and their boxing champions.

### 1. KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Boxing South Africa's considerations in respect of interaction with the International Boxing Bodies is that:

- 1.1 There should be a "free market" situation in the country regarding the operations of International Boxing Bodies. This approach implies that each and every International Boxing Body is free to operate in the country and that our boxers are free to contest the various World Titles offered by the various International Boxing Bodies. This approach certainly will protect Boxing South Africa being exposed to the hostile attention of promoters and boxers who may clash with Boxing SA when their vested interests in such world bodies are not recognised.
- 1.2 The association with these International Boxing Bodies must, however, not compromise the credibility of Boxing SA through being associated with a world boxing organisation which has no credibility, is financially mismanaged, is undemocratic or of questionable integrity in the conduct of its activities, rankings, etc.
- 1.3 Another important consideration is that Boxing SA, as many other people and organisations out there, hold the view that the proliferation of world titles, as offered by the various World Boxing Bodies, dilutes the value and importance of world titles. Boxing SA therefore holds the view that, in the ideal situation, there should be one World Boxing organisation in the world and one World Boxing Champion per division. Boxing SA, as a player in the world of boxing, will do everything in its power to work for the establishment of such a dispensation (a single world

boxing organisation and a single world champion per division). This will be done without undermining any of the existing World Boxing organisations and their world champions.

- 1.4 A key consideration of Boxing SA with regard to membership and activity in world boxing bodies is in the fulfilment of the interests and aspirations of our licensees. At present the public and television channels want to see "title fights" and it is, in the main, money from television which pay our boxers as well as give profits to our promoters. The boxing public makes little or no differentiation at all between the WBC, WBA, IBF, WBO, IBO, WBF, titles provided that the fights promoted are credible. To the extent that there is a demand from the general public for world title fights, the world bodies have now introduced international, intercontinental, Pan-Africa and Commonwealth titles, etc. This development, good as it may be on the one hand, on the other hand it has a tendency of diminishing the role of the national titles. Boxing SA has a responsibility to guard and protect the national title as the pride of the nation.
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- 1.6 Boxing SA will therefore approach the matter of the recognition of World Boxing Bodies cautiously with the aim of protecting the image and credibility of boxing as a sport.
- 1.7 For purposes of the protection of the South African boxing licensees, boxing teams participating in out-of-the-country competitions may be accompanied by a Board member. This arrangement will benefit the country in many aspects including keeping in touch with the World Boxing Bodies at the highest level for better collaboration in the advancement of the sport of boxing.

- 1.8 The South African Boxing Act, Act No.11 of 2001, Section 7(w) emphasises that Specialised programmes regarding the training of all persons involved in the sanctioning of tournaments should be conducted. It is the considered view of Boxing SA that a close and formal relationship with the International Boxing Bodies will be mutually beneficial between Boxing SA and the International Boxing Bodies.
- 1.9 For purposes of attaining the objects of the South African Boxing Act, Act No.11 of 2001 all the Members of the Board of Boxing South Africa are not allowed to represent any of the International Boxing Bodies operating in South Africa as this may lead to a conflict of interest.
- 1.10 To formalise the existing relations between Boxing SA and the World Boxing bodies recognised to operate in the country, a Memorandum of Understanding must be signed between Boxing SA and these World Boxing Bodies.

## **2. KEY CRITERIA**

The criteria listed here-under will be used by Boxing SA in determining whether a World Boxing Body has sufficient standing to operate in the arena of professional boxing in the Republic of South Africa:

- 2.1 A World Boxing Body must recognise and respect the South African Boxing Act, Act No.11 of 2001 and the South African Boxing Regulations of 2004 as amended in 2005.
- 2.2 The organisation, having duly applied for recognition through the Chairperson of the Board, must be duly recognised by Boxing SA before it can operate in the country.
- 2.3 The World Boxing Body operating in the country must use the sport of boxing as a tool for achieving outcomes in health, development and fair play.
- 2.4 Evidence of operating across the globe.
- 2.5 The organisation must accept the joint sanctioning of fights between itself and Boxing SA.
- 2.6 The organisation must be of high repute, stable legally and financially as well as operate on democratic principles.
- 2.7 It must periodically publish a credible ranking system to determine when a boxer may fight for a title if he/she is a contender or against whom he/she will defend his/her title if he/she is a champion.

- 2.8 The World Boxing Body must be committed in improving and expanding the system of safety precautions for the protection of the welfare of the boxers.
- 2.9 The organisation must be prepared to initiate development programmes working jointly with Boxing SA.
- 2.10 The representative of the organisation in the country must be chosen within the licensees of Boxing SA for accountability, stability, and enhancement of credibility of the sport.

Mr. Luthando Jack

Chairperson of the Board

Date: 19 May 2022

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