

****PLEASE FIND BELOW THE FOUR (4) ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE ABC'S MMA RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE DURING THE 2016/17 TERM****

Loss of Bodily Function Mixed Martial Arts Competition

If a combatant, during a round, visibly loses control of a bodily function (vomit, urine, bowels), the fight shall be stopped by the referee and the combatant shall lose the contest by TKO. In the event a loss of control of a bodily function occurs in the rest period between rounds, the ringside physician shall be called in to evaluate if the combatant can continue. If the combatant is not cleared by the ringside physician to continue, that combatant shall lose by TKO. If fecal matter becomes apparent at any time, the bout shall be halted by the referee, and the offending combatant shall lose the contest by TKO. In these situations, the result shall be recorded as TKO due to Medical Stoppage.

Going to the Scorecards Before the Final Round is Completed in Mixed Martial Arts Competition

If a fight is unable to reach its normal conclusion based upon a foul, equipment failure, or an act of god, the fight shall be halted at that point. If the fight is a scheduled 3 Round fight, the referee can go to the judges' scorecards if the fight has reached any part of the 2nd round. If the fight is a scheduled 5 Round fight, the referee can go to the judges' scorecards if the fight has reached any part of the 3rd round.

Please note that the current rule calls for 2 full rounds to be completed in a scheduled 3 Round fight, and 3 full rounds to be completed in a scheduled 5 Round fight.

Instant Replay Use in Mixed Martial Arts Competition

The use of Instant Replay in MMA must be set under parameters that insure fairness in the match and a proper outcome at the conclusion of the fight. Instant Replay may not be possible in some smaller shows that are not being videotaped or recorded.

Due to the complexities involved in the sport of MMA, the referee may only use Instant Replay when he/she feels that a "Fight Ending Sequence" was possibly caused by an illegal action (foul) whether intentional or unintentional. At such time the referee and only the referee may call for a review of the last moments of the fight. Once reviewing the replay the referee can either confirm or dispel whether a foul was committed that brought about the fight ending sequence and take the appropriate actions from there.

It should be noted that Instant Replay is not to be used to review the actions of the referee. Examples of this include:

1. Was the fight was stopped at the right moment?
2. Was there a tap?
3. Did a fighter commit a foul that did not bring about an end to the fight?

If a referee utilizes instant replay, the information obtained from the replay cannot be used to restart the fight as the fight is officially over and may not be resumed.

The sole purpose of Instant Replay in MMA is to allow the referee to make a correct call on the outcome of the fight in calling:

1. A winner of the match
2. Having the fight go to the judge's scorecards for a Technical Decision
3. Is the fight going to be a "No Contest"?
4. Disqualification

Instant Replay in MMA can only be used after a fight has been officially stopped, and cannot be resumed.

Hand wraps/Joint coverings in Mixed Martial Arts Competition

Taping of the hands for MMA competition:

A maximum of one roll (No more than 2 inches wide X 15 yards in length) of white soft cloth gauze (any brand) is permitted per hand. The gauze may not exceed the wrist of the competitor's gloves. The exposed thumb is an option to be protected.

A maximum of one roll (No more than 1 ¼ inch wide X 10 feet in length) of white athletic-type tape (any brand) is permitted per hand. The tape may not exceed the wrist of the competitor's gloves. Tape may be placed through the fingers but may not cover the knuckles. The exposed thumb is an option to be protected. A single layer of elastic or flex-type tape is allowed to be applied over the completed wrap.

Athletic Commission Officials will approve of hand taping materials and usage.

Joint/Body coverings for MMA competition:

Other than the competitor's hands (as previously listed), there will be no taping, covering or protective gear of any kind on the upper body. This includes but is not limited to: joint sleeves, padding, any form of brace or body tape.

A competitor may use soft neoprene type sleeves to cover only the knee and/or ankle joints. Approved sleeves may not have: padding, Velcro, plastic, metal, ties or any other material considered to be unsafe or that may create an unfair advantage. Tape, gauze or any materials other than the approved sleeves are not permitted on the lower body.

*Medical and/or Commission Staff have the ability to allow exemptions for specific situations.