

Combative Sports Commission

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Combative Sports Commission

- The Commission was created by laws of 2006, Chapter 282, Article 11, Sec. 14.
- Section 5 of the same article appropriated \$50,000 in FY 07 for the Commission
- Section 25 set forth a fee schedule, and Section 29 gave authority to the Commission to expend fees it collected

Combative Sports Commission

Commission Members appointed by
Governor

- Four members with knowledge of Boxing
- Four members with knowledge of Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)
- One retired Judge
- Executive Director
 - Operations Manager – Hired by Exec Dir

Combative Sports Commission

- The Commission has two full-time FTEs
 - Executive Director
 - Operations Manager
- Prior to 2008 staffing consisted of:
 - One .5 FTE Executive Director
 - Volunteer staff members

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The mission of the Commission is to protect the health and safety of the combatants and to ensure the fairness of boxing and Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) events

Combative Sports Commission

Core functions:

- Sanction all professional boxing, amateur and professional MMA bouts in Minnesota
- License all fighters, trainers, announcers, judges, inspectors, referees, timekeepers, and promoters
- Monitor and train judges, referees and inspectors

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Core activities continued:

- Monitor all activities during an event
- Handle grievance issues
- Hold bi-monthly public meetings
- Issue penalties and suspensions for violations
- Abide by the Association of Boxing Commissioners (ABC) rules and regulations

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The Commission monitors activities to ensure that:

- Fighters are not exposed to HIV, Hepatitis B or C viruses
- Fighters & opponents are matched appropriately
- Professional Fighters are weighed the night before bout
- Amateur fighters are weighed day of bout
- Fighters undergo a pre-bout and post-bout physical
- Physicians are at cage-side to prevent serious injury
- Inspectors are available to monitor the wrapping of fighters' hands and to ensure safety in the locker room

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Fighter Safety

- All fighters must serve a mandatory 7-day rest period
- Fighters receive 30-day suspensions for too many strikes
- Fighters are suspended 30-days following a TKO
- Fighters are suspended 60-days following a KO
- Fighters are suspended 45-60 days if they require stitches
- Suspended fighters cannot fight in another state

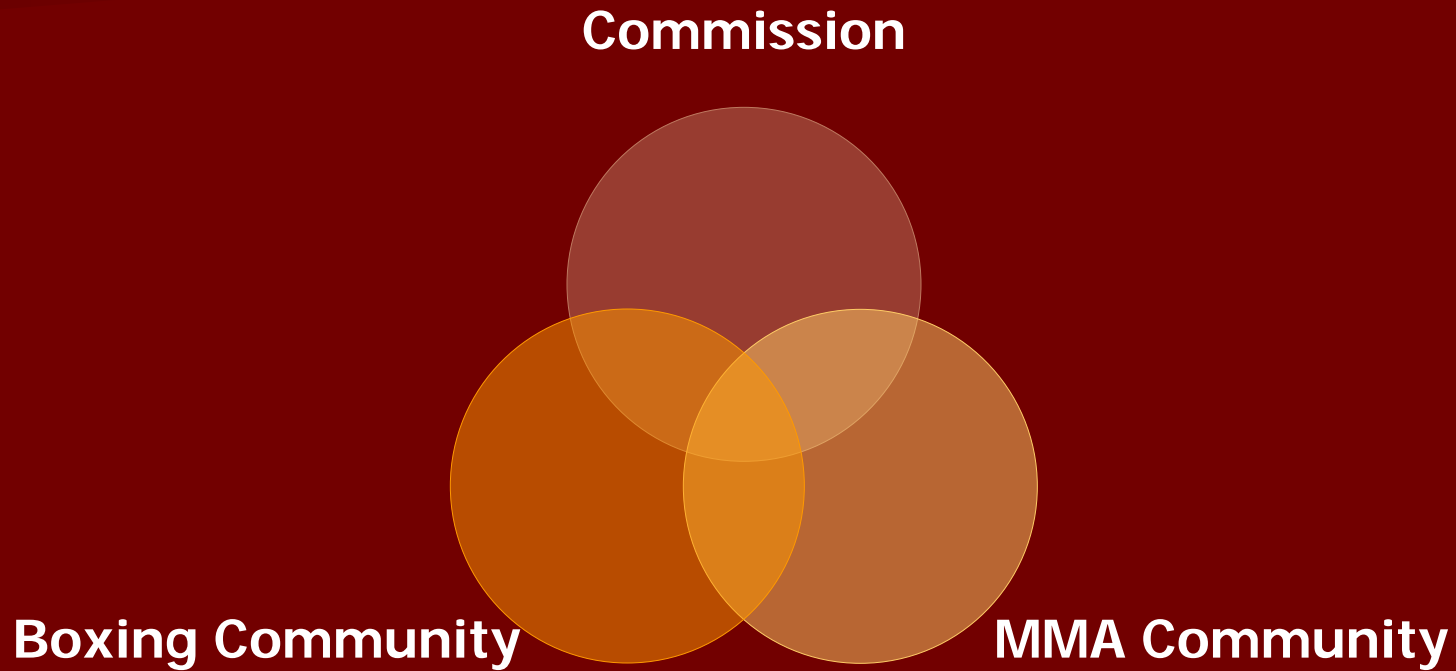
ALL SUSPENSIONS ARE MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS

With Commissions in Iowa, North Dakota and Wisconsin, it is not possible for fighters to cross state lines and fight in unsanctioned events

Combative Sports Commission

- Commission events are held on weekends and we have held events in the following areas
 - Twin Cities metro area
 - Alexandria
 - Albert Lea
 - Austin
 - Brainerd
 - Duluth
 - Grand Rapids
 - St. Cloud

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NUMBER OF EVENTS PER CALENDAR YEAR

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Boxing	5	4	15	7	3
MMA	8	21	32 7 amateur	39 13 amateur	41 17 amateur
Mixed (Boxing & MMA)	0	4	4	1	0
TOTAL	13	25	47	46	44

Total events sanctioned 2007-2011 **175**

Number of events currently slated through May 11, 2012 **14**

We are on track to sanction **55+** events in calendar year 2012

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Licenses

- Professional fighters: 1,500
- Amateur fighters: 350
- Trainers, seconds, managers: 500
- Promoters (Boxing & MMA): 11

We also license announcers, inspectors, judges, referees, and timekeepers

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Appropriations have been as follows

- FY08 - \$50,000 (Laws of 2007, Chapter 135, Article 1, Sec. 14)
- FY09 - \$80,000 (Laws of 2008, Chapter 363, Article 10, Sec. 8)
- FY10 - \$80,000 (Laws of 2009, Chapter 78, Article 1, Sec. 18)
- FY11 - \$80,000 (Laws of 2009, Chapter 78, Article 1, Sec. 18)
- FY12 - \$0 Appropriations ended June 30, 2011
- The Commission must rely entirely on fee and event revenue

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Revenue Generation

■ License Fees	\$76,250
■ Event Fees	\$60,000
■ Promoter Fees	\$4,400
■ Other professional's fees	<u>\$22,500</u>
■ Total Approximate Revenue	\$163,150

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Projected Expenditures FY 2012

Staff Salaries and benefits:	\$140,000
Inspector salaries:	10,000
Commissioner per diem:	4,950
Mileage:	10,000
Lodging & meals:	11,050
Rental/operating costs/supplies:	<u>13,000</u>
TOTAL	\$189,000

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<u>FY</u>	<u>Fees Collected</u>	<u>Expended</u>
2007	\$,7,415	\$0.00
2008	\$54,005	\$21,393
2009	\$141,624	\$20,358
2010	\$67,160	\$51,538
2011	\$60,135	\$93,373 to date

Combative Sports Commission

- The Commission's main focus is:
 - to protect the health and safety of the fighters and;
 - to ensure safe and fair contests for both the fighters and the fans.
- There have been no serious injuries of fighters since the Commission was created, and we continually take steps to prevent injury to fighters.

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■ Consequences of Abolishing Commission

1. Safety and health of the combatants would no longer be monitored or enforced
2. The number of unsanctioned events would dramatically increase
3. Jurisdictions that previously considered banning MMA would do so
4. Revenue (approximately \$300,000+) from license and event fees that Minnesota currently receives, would stop and would flow into Iowa, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Combative Sports Commission

Questions

Combative Sports Commission

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