Licensed matchmakers

**Requirements and expectations**

***The Professional Boxing and Combat Sports Regulations 2018* (the Regulations) s 7(2)(e) require that each contestant is adequately matched regarding experience, competence and weight.**

The Professional Boxing and Combat Sports Board (the Board) licences matchmakers, who are responsible for proposing match-ups of contestants that are premised on protecting contestant safety and ensuring the integrity of a proposed contest.

The Board expects that all matchmaking provides a reasonable opportunity for either contestant to win. This is important to avoid putting fighters in positions where they are unable to defend themselves.

# Matchmaker declarations

Completion of a matchmaker declaration will be required for Board consideration should any of the following criteria apply:

* The contest features one or both international contestants.
* Either contestant returns to professional competition after a break of 18 months or longer.
* At least one contestant has lost 3 of their last 6 professional contests or sustained repeated losses.
* If one or both contestants are changing weight class.
* Or other factors as determined by the Board.

A declaration provides the Board with details from which an assessment can be made of the adequacy and suitability of proposed match-ups and the rationale used to safeguard contestant safety and the integrity of the contest.

# Consideration of proposed match-ups

It is expected that matchmakers will review contestant’s previous competition records and results to ensure that contestants are not subject to medical suspensions and provide explanations of proposed match-ups should any of the above criteria apply.

In considering the match-up, the Board will take into account a range of factors, including:

* The prior performances of individual contestants.
* The ability of contestants to effectively defend themselves so that safety considerations are taken into account.
* Experience.
* Skillset.
* Stylistic compatibility.
* Physical attributes.
* Conditioning.
* Overall preparation.
* Proven record at the proposed weight class and scheduled distance.

The Board will consider any other information volunteered by the matchmaker.

If the proposed contest was matched at short notice (less than 14 days before the promotion), the matchmaker must provide a detailed explanation as to why both contestants are deemed adequately prepared to compete under such circumstances.

# Code of conduct

Matchmakers are expected to exhibit exemplar standards at all times and not engage in:

* Violent, threatening, obscene, indecent or abusive language or behaviour.
* Vilification of any kind towards another person.
* Discrimination against another person based on their age, gender or sexual orientation.
* Discrimination against another person based on their race, culture, religion or any other personal characteristic (protected or otherwise).
* Sexual harassment, intimidation or victimisation of another person.
* Competition manipulation and gambling on any activity that you are directly or indirectly connected to.
* Improper use of drugs and medicines.
* Conduct that is detrimental to the reputation or interests of the boxing and combat sports industry.

The Board may make any further duties and responsibilities specific to a matchmaker’s licence and will write to matchmakers to advise of any specific additions. Failure to comply with the duties and responsibilities may result in matchmaker licence cancellation or suspension.