RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS IN CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS ORGANIZATION, INC.'S CODE OF REGULATIONS:

AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS RULES

RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING 1

CHAPTER 1 7

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISION 7

§ 101. CITATION. 7
§ 102. DEFINITIONS 7
§ 103. FILING OF APPLICATIONS AND REPORTS. 7
§ 104. FORMS. 7
§ 105. FILING OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS. 7
§ 106. AUTHORITY OF REPRESENTATIVES. 7

ARTICLE 2. LICENSES AND APPLICATIONS 8

§ 201. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE; CONTENTS, FALSIFICATION, RENEWAL. 8
§ 202. PHOTOGRAPHS. 8
§ 203. USE OF RING NAMES 8
§ 204. LICENSE REQUIRED. 8
§ 205. AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTIST LICENSE. 8
§ 206. PROMOTER LICENSE. 8
§ 207. MATCHMAKER LICENSE. 9
§ 208. SECOND LICENSE. 9
§ 209. CO-PROMOTIONS. 10
§ 210. LICENSE EXPIRATION; RENEWAL. 10
§ 211. TEMPORARY PERMITS. 10

ARTICLE 3. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS 10

§ 301. CONTRACT PROVISIONS. 10
§ 302. FAILURE TO APPEAR. 10
§ 303. AMATEUR STATUS. 10
§ 304. LIMITATIONS ON VALUE OF TROPHIES. 11
§ 305. NO PAYMENT TO AMATEUR INDIRECTLY – EXPENSES ALLOWED 11

ARTICLE 4. CONDUCT OF PROMOTIONS 11

§ 401. APPROVAL OF CONTESTS. 11
§ 402. NUMBER OF ROUNDS SCHEDULED. 11
§ 403. MATCHES BY WHOM MADE. 11
§ 404. POSTPONEMENT. 12
§ 405. SUBSTITUTIONS. 12
§ 406. DRINKS. 12
§ 407. INTRODUCTION FROM RING. 12
§ 408. ADMISSION OF CAMO AND COMMISSION MEMBERS. 12
§ 409. VIDEOTAPING. 12
§ 410. WAIVER OF REQUIREMENTS. 12

ARTICLE 5. ANCILLARY RIGHTS; SANCTIONING FEES 12

§ 501. ANCILLARY RIGHTS. 12
§ 502. EVENT FEES. 13
§ 503. CAMO PRESENCE AT BOX OFFICE. 13
§ 504. LATE FEES. 13

ARTICLE 6. HEALTH AND SAFETY 13

§ 601. AGE REQUIREMENT. 13

§ 602. Ability to Perform. 13
§ 603. Medical Requirements for Licensing. 13
§ 604. Physical Examination 14
§ 605. Blood Tests. 14
§ 606. Serious Head Injuries. 14
§ 607. Discretional Medical Testing. 14
§ 608. Report of Illness. 14
§ 609. Physicians; Certification of Physicians 14
§ 610. Licensed Physician Assigned by CAMO at Contest. 14
§ 611. Rejection and Reports. 15
§ 612. Continuous Presence of Physician. 15
§ 613. Authority of Physician to Stop Match. 15
§ 614. Presence of a Referee. 15
§ 615. Training: Referees, ... 15
§ 616. Insurance for Events. 15
§ 617. Examination Facilities. 15
§ 618. Hygienic Gloves 16
§ 619. Ambulance Required 16
§ 620. Only Authorized Persons in Dressing Rooms. 16
§ 621. Weigh-in Time. 16
§ 622. Weights and Classes. 16
§ 623. Use of Prohibited Substances; Detection; Penalties. 16
§ 624. Monsel's Solution. 17
§ 625. Contestants' Appearance. 17
§ 626. Apparel. 17
§ 627. Protective Equipment. 18
§ 628. Report of Injury. 18
§ 629. Suspension for Disability 18
§ 630. Time Between Bouts 18

ARTICLE 7. ENCLOSURE AND EQUIPMENT 18

§ 701. Compliance for Structures. 18
§ 702. Ring. 18
§ 703. Height of Ring. 18
§ 704. Ring Ropes. 19
§ 705. Cage. 19
§ 706. Stools. 19
§ 707. Water Bottles Permitted. 19
§ 708. Gloves. 19
§ 709. Gloves-Weight 20
§ 710. Hand Wraps. 20
§ 711. Gong, Bell or Horn. 20
§ 712. Timekeeping Equipment. 20
§ 713. Shinguards 20

ARTICLE 8. CONDUCT OF THE BOUT 21

§ 801. Officials. 21
§ 802. Contestants Must Report. 21
§ 803. Persons Allowed in Ring. 21
§ 804. Referee-Instruction. 21
§ 805. Fouls in MMA. 21
§ 806. Warnings: Other Conduct Prohibited. 22
§ 807. Injury Procedure During Competition. 22
§ 808. Type of Bout Results. 23
§ 809. The Referee Shall have the Power to Stop the Contest. 24
§ 810. Failure to Answer the Bell. 24

§ 811. When a Contestant Falls or is Knocked Out of the Enclosure. 24
§ 812. Knock Out. 24
§ 813. Rinsing Mouthpieces. 25
§ 814. Time Warning. 25
§ 815. Scorecard to Referee and Judges. 25
§ 816. Method of Scoring. 25
§ 817. Announcing the Winner. 26
§ 818. Abuse of Officials. 26
§ 819. Corners/Seconds. 26
§ 820. Excessive Coaching. 26
§ 821. Excessive Water Prohibited. 26
§ 822. Determining Defeat. 27
§ 823. Divisions. 27
§ 824. Rounds. 27

ARTICLE 9. OFFICIALS 27

§ 901. CAMO Shall Select Officials. 27
§ 902. Referee's License. 27
§ 903. Referee Physical Examination. 28
§ 904. Grading of Referee Performance. 28
§ 905. Judges License. 28
§ 906. Timekeepers License. 29
§ 907 Ringside Physician Approval. 29
§ 908 Inspectors License. 29
§ 909. Officials Uniform. 30
§ 910. Fees for Officials. 30
§ 911. Hearing to Remove an Official's License. 30

ARTICLE 10. STATE CHAMPIONS 30

§ 1001. Determination of State Title. 30
§ 1002. Advertising State Champion or Contender. 31

ARTICLE 11. ENFORCEMENT 31

§ 1101. Violations of Laws or Rules. 31
§ 1102. Dealing With Certain Persons Prohibited. 31
§ 1103. Dealing With Unlicensed or Suspended Persons Prohibited. 31
§ 1104. Change of Decision. 31
§ 1105. Records. 32
§ 1106. Licensees Must Report Sham Contests. 32
§ 1107. Procedure When License is Denied or Revoked. 32

CHAPTER 2. DIVISION II/PANKRATION 32

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS 32

§ 1201. Citation. 32
§ 1202. Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules And Regulations Apply. 32

ARTICLE 2. SAFETY STANDARDS 32

§ 1301. Age Requirement. 32
§ 1302. Contestant's Equipment. 32
§ 1303. Weigh-ins 33
§ 1304. Pankration Rules, Scoring and Judging. 33
§ 1305. Ambulance May Not Be Required 33
§ 1306. Hand Wraps. 33
§ 1307. Medical Requirements for Licensing. 33
§ 1307. Licensed Physician Assigned by CAMO at Contest. 33

ARTICLE 3. CONDUCT OF MATCHES AND CONTESTS **34**

§ 1401. FOULS PANKRATION. 34
§ 1402. BLOOD RULE. 34
§ 1403. FEES. 34
§ 1404. CAMO SHALL SELECT OFFICIALS. 34
§ 1405. TOURNAMENT RULES. 34

CHAPTER 3. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE **34**

INTRODUCTION **34**

§ 1501. PREAMBLE. 34
§ 1502. SCOPE. 35

ARTICLE 1. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE **35**

§ 1601. 35
§ 1602. 35
§ 1603. 35
§ 1604. 35

ARTICLE 2. MANNER OF FILING COMPLAINT **35**

§ 1701. 35
§ 1702. 36
§ 1703. 36
§ 1704. 36
§ 1705. 36

ARTICLE 3. FILING FEE AND DOCKETING OF COMPLAINT **36**

§ 1801. 36
§ 1802. 36
§ 1803. 36
§ 1804. 37

ARTICLE 4. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS **37**

§ 1901. 37
§ 1902. 37
§ 1903. 37
§ 1904. 37
§ 1905. 37

ARTICLE 5. COMPLAINT ADMINISTRATION/EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **38**

§ 2001. 38
§ 2002. 38
§ 2003. 38

ARTICLE 6. HEARING ON COMPLAINT **38**

§ 2101. 38
§ 2102. 38
§ 2103. 39

ARTICLE 7. CONDUCT OF THE PROCEEDINGS **39**

§ 2201. 39
§ 2202. 39
§ 2203. 39
§ 2204. 39
§ 2205. 39
§ 2206. 40

§ 2207. 40
§ 2208. 40
§ 2209. 40
§ 2210. 40
§ 2211. 40
ARTICLE 8. DECISION 40
§ 2301. 40
ARTICLE 9. APPEALS 40
§ 2401. 40
§ 2402. 41
§ 2403. 41
§ 2404. 41
§ 2405. 41
§ 2406. 41
§ 2407. 42

CALIFORNIA AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS ORGANIZATION, INC.'S CODE OF REGULATIONS: AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS RULES

CHAPTER 1

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISION

§ 101. Citation.

These rules, including all chapters thereof, shall be cited as the "Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules" or the "AMMA Rules."

§ 102. Definitions

As used in this chapter:

(a) "CAMO" refers to the California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Organization, Inc.;
(b) "code" means the Business and Professions Code;
(c) "rules" means the Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules.
(d) the terms "club" and "promoter" are synonymous and used interchangeably, and include any person, partnership, club, corporation, organization or association conducting, holding or giving mixed martial arts contests.
(e) the masculine gender includes the feminine gender.
(f) "MMA" means Mixed Martial Arts.
(g) "Commission" means the California State Athletic Commission.
(h) "Officials" shall mean any and all referees, judges, inspectors, and timekeepers, licensed by CAMO and/or physicians assigned to an event.
(i) "website" shall mean the official CAMO website located at www.camo-mma.org

§ 103. Filing of Applications and Reports.

Any application or report required under law or any rule herein to be filed with CAMO, unless otherwise specified, shall be filed at CAMO's general office.

§ 104. Forms.

All licensees and applicants for licenses shall submit to CAMO such forms, records and statements at such times and in such manner as directed by CAMO.

§ 105. Filing of Change of Address.

Every person, corporation, association or other organization holding a license issued by CAMO, or any such person or entity with an application on file with CAMO shall immediately notify CAMO in writing at one of its offices of any and all changes of address, giving both the old and new address.

§ 106. Authority of Representatives.

The jurisdiction, duties and responsibilities of all CAMO representatives, licensees and employees shall be established by CAMO executives.

ARTICLE 2.
LICENSES AND APPLICATIONS

§ 201. Application for License; Contents, Falsification, Renewal.

(a) Applications for licenses shall be in writing on a form supplied by the CAMO and shall be verified under oath by the applicant. Every license issued shall be subject to the conditions and agreements set forth in the application therefore, the statutes and laws relating to MMA and the rules and regulations of CAMO.

(b) Falsification in whole or in part of a material fact or presentation on any application for a license shall result in a license being denied, and if previously granted, revoked unless otherwise ordered by CAMO.

§ 202. Photographs.

(a) An applicant for any license issued by CAMO shall furnish a digital photograph as required by CAMO to be submitted online.

(b) This rule also applies to any individual applying for a promoter's license or any shareholder, officer or director signing an application for a promoter's license in the name of a club organization, corporation, or association.

§ 203. Use of Ring Names.

Mixed Martial Artists may assume and use ring names, but the right to use any certain ring name is subject to the reasonable approval of CAMO and may be denied either at the time of presenting application for license, or later, should reason for such denial be brought before CAMO.

§ 204. License Required.

Mixed martial artists licensed in other jurisdictions scheduled to compete in this state shall have completed an application for a license with CAMO and the contestant shall have been issued a license prior to competition. Failure to comply with this rule may result in denial of any application, and/or suspension or revocation of any license.

In addition to a license issued by CAMO all mixed martial artists shall have a National ID card demonstrating proper identification in the national records database as designated by the Association of Boxing Commissions (www.mixedmartialarts.com).

§ 205. Amateur Mixed Martial Artist License.

In order to be licensed as an amateur mixed martial artist, an applicant must be approved by CAMO after submitting a CAMO application demonstrating his or her mixed martial arts experience, and shall (a) have no prior professional MMA experience (see Sections 304 – 306); (b) perform and pass all medicals as indicated by Article 6; and (c) perform the requirements hereunder all to be determined by CAMO.

Along with the online application the applicant must also submit the following:

1. Digital photo
2. Mixed Martial Artist License fee.
3. Completed medical forms as required in Article 6.

§ 206. Promoter License.

(a) In order to be issued a CAMO promoter license, an applicant must either

(1) Be a licensed promoter, in good standing with the Commission and submit an online application along with payment of the CAMO promoter fee; or

(2) Must be approved as a Promoter by CAMO after submission of an application, and completed promoter's package including a background check, along with payment of the CAMO promoter fee.

(b) In evaluating the application submitted in (1) or (2) above, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets the following requirements (if the applicant is a business entity, these requirements shall apply to its officers, directors, partners, and/or shareholders having greater than a 10% interest): Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions under the license.

(c) A license granted under this section may be suspended or revoked by CAMO following the same procedure as set forth in §911 if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules (including, but not limited to conducting promotions with insufficient staff, not complying with CAMO regulations or procedures, not turning in documentation on time, failing to conduct events with the minimum number of rounds, utilizing an improper cage, providing inadequate security, not starting on time, or making improper matches), violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(d) A license granted under this section, unless suspended or revoked, may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance.

(e) A license granted under this section, unless suspended or revoked, shall also allow a promoter to act as a licensed matchmaker.

§ 207. Matchmaker License.

(a) In order to be licensed as a matchmaker, an applicant must be approved after submission of an application indicating the applicant's experience in mixed martial arts and abilities to perform as matchmaker, along with payment of a CAMO matchmaker's license fee. In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets the following requirements: Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions under the license.

(b) A license granted under this section may be suspended or revoked by CAMO following the same procedure as set forth in §911 if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules (including, but not limited to conducting promotions with insufficient staff, not complying with CAMO regulations or procedures, not turning in documentation on time, failing to conduct events with the minimum number of rounds, utilizing an improper cage, providing inadequate security, not starting on time, or making improper matches), violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(c) A license granted under this section, unless suspended or revoked, may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance

§ 208. Second License.

(a) In order to be licensed as a Second, an applicant must be approved by CAMO after submitting an application indicating the applicant's experience in mixed martial arts and abilities to perform as a second, along with the payment of a CAMO Second's license fee. In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets the following requirements: Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions under the license.

(b) A license granted under this section may be suspended or revoked by CAMO following the same procedure as set forth in §911 if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules (including, but not limited to conducting promotions with insufficient staff, not complying with CAMO regulations or procedures, not turning in documentation on time, failing to conduct events with the minimum number of rounds, utilizing an improper cage, providing inadequate security, not starting on time, or making improper matches), violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(c) A license granted under this section, unless suspended or revoked, may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance

§ 209. Co-Promotions.

Licensed promoters may engage in promotions with other licensed promoters, so long as each promoter holds a valid, unexpired license, and receives the written approval of CAMO prior to the promotion.

§ 210. License Expiration; Renewal.

A license shall expire one year from the date of issuance. To renew an unexpired license, the license holder shall, on or before midnight of the day on which the license would otherwise expire, apply for renewal on a form prescribed by CAMO and pay the prescribed renewal fee. If the license holder is a mixed martial arts contestant, the renewal application shall also be accompanied by the required medical examinations and test results. Renewal of an unexpired license shall continue the license in effect for one additional year.

§ 211. Temporary Permits.

Pending investigation of the qualifications or fitness of an applicant for a license, CAMO may grant such applicant a temporary license to act in the capacity for which a license is required. The granting of a temporary license shall, however, carry no presumption of the qualification or fitness of such applicant having a license, and the same may at any time be summarily terminated in the event the application for a license is denied by CAMO. No such temporary permit shall be issued to any mixed martial artist whose application is not accompanied by satisfactory physical and blood examination reports from duly licensed physicians. All temporary licenses issued by CAMO shall be valid for a period not to exceed 120 days. Under no circumstances shall any temporary license extend from one license year to another.

ARTICLE 3.
CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

§ 301. Contract Provisions.

No verbal agreement or written agreement other than a contract on CAMO's official form shall be accepted by CAMO.

§ 302. Failure To Appear.

(a) Any contestant absenting himself from a bout which he has agreed to appear is subject to disciplinary action.

(b) Provided, however, any contestant who files a certificate from a physician, in advance, stating that he is unable to fulfill his obligation shall not be subject to disciplinary action.

§ 303. Amateur Status.

No person shall appear as a contestant in any amateur MMA contest who has or will receive any compensation or reward from the promoter of such contest in any form, except for actual travel and hotel expenses, and/or a per diem not exceeding $100 per day, or trophies, for competing in MMA contests.

§ 304. Limitations on Value of Trophies.

Except as provided in Section 303, only a trophy may be given to each contestant in any amateur MMA contest, but provided the value of such trophy does not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars ($500).

§ 305. No Payment to Amateur Indirectly – Expenses Allowed

Unless the written permission of CAMO is first obtained, it is strictly forbidden for any promoter to pay or cause to be paid to any coach, trainer, or representative of any amateur mixed martial artist participating in a contest, any sum of money other than the actual traveling and per diem expenses incurred by such coach, trainer, or representative and amateur mixed martial artists in traveling to and from their respective residences to the MMA contest in an amount to be approved by CAMO.

ARTICLE 4.
CONDUCT OF PROMOTIONS

§ 401. Approval of Contests.

(a) All MMA contests shall be approved by CAMO and bout cards shall be in place on the CAMO website for approval at least one week prior to the event unless an exception is made by CAMO in writing. All forms and releases pertaining to a scheduled bout must be filed with CAMO prior to weigh-ins. No promoter may release the names of contestants to the media or otherwise publicize a contest prior to an agreement between the parties and the contest is approved by CAMO. All advertisement and marketing must clearly and prominently state that the contests are amateur contests.

(b) The grounds for denial of a promoter's request to hold an amateur MMA contest are as follows:

(1) The failure of the promoter or any person connected with the promotion and under the jurisdiction of CAMO to comply with any statute or rule regulating MMA in California.

(2) The contest, in the opinion of CAMO, would tend to be a mismatch based on the record, experience, skill and condition of the contestants.

(3) CAMO does not have adequate staff to enforce the statutes and rules regulating MMA adopted to protect the health, safety and welfare of the participants.

§ 402. Number of Rounds Scheduled.

Clubs shall not schedule less than 21 rounds of MMA, nor more than 45 rounds, except with the written approval of CAMO for any one event.

§ 403. Matches By Whom Made.

No match shall be made on behalf of any club or promoter except by the promoter, or a licensed matchmaker.

§ 404. Postponement.

If, through inclement weather (in case of any outdoor show) or other happening not within the control of the club, a postponement becomes necessary, CAMO may grant an extension of the contracts and set a new date, and the action of CAMO if a show is called off shall be binding upon all parties to the contracts. A small advance sale shall not be regarded as a legitimate reason for a postponement. Indoor MMA shows shall not be canceled for any reason except with the written approval of CAMO.

§ 405. Substitutions.

Substitutions shall not be permitted in a contest except in cases where CAMO finds such action is justified and then only where the substitute has been approved by CAMO in accordance with these rules.

§ 406. Drinks.

Clubs shall be responsible to see that all drinks dispensed shall not be dispensed in glass receptacles.

§ 407. Introduction from Ring.

No person other than a mixed martial artist, or person officially identified with the sport, shall be introduced from the ring, except with specific authority from CAMO representative.

§ 408. Admission of CAMO and Commission Members.

Representative(s) of the Commission and CAMO shall have the right of admission without a ticket for value, complimentary ticket or pass, and shall have access to all areas of the venue.

§ 409. Videotaping.

Every promoter shall be responsible for videotaping each fight in the event and make available to CAMO a digital copy of that video no later than 45 days after the date of the event.

§ 410. Waiver of Requirements.

Upon adequate notice to all interested parties, CAMO may waive or supplement one or more of the requirements set forth in these Rules for any cause deemed necessary to protect the health, safety and well-being of the contestants, or to protect the confidence and trust of the public.

ARTICLE 5.
ANCILLARY RIGHTS; SANCTIONING FEES

§ 501. Ancillary Rights.

Whenever a, promoter, matchmaker, or anyone else acting for or under the management or control of the promotion is negotiating for the sale, lease, transfer, or other exploitation of broadcasting and television rights of a contest, match, or exhibition, the promotion shall file with CAMO no later than three days before the contest, match or exhibition a copy of any and all contracts which exist at the time for the sale, lease, transfer, or other exploitation of such rights. If no such contract is in existence at that time then the club shall file a statement setting forth the gross price or value which the promotion reasonably anticipates receiving directly or indirectly for such rights.

§ 502. Event Fees.

Every Promoter who conducts a contest shall pay to CAMO a non-refundable fee (“Event Fee”) pursuant to the Official Fee Schedule made available on the CAMO website or upon request from the CAMO office.

Such Event Fees shall be payable at least three weeks prior to the event, and shall be an advance against the fees listed in Subsections (2) below.

The person shall within three working days after the determination of every amateur mixed martial arts contest for which admission is charged and received, furnish to CAMO the following:

(1) A written report executed by one of the officers, showing the amount of the gross receipts, and the gross price for the contest charged directly or indirectly and no matter by whom received, for the sale, lease, or other exploitation of broadcasting and television rights of the contest, and without any deductions, except for expenses incurred for one broadcast announcer, telephone line connection, and transmission mobile equipment facility, which may be deducted from the gross taxable base when those expenses are approved by CAMO.

(2) A fee of 5 percent of the gross price, exclusive of any federal taxes paid thereon, for the sale, lease, or other exploitation of broadcasting or television rights thereof, except that in no case shall the fee be less than one thousand dollars ($1,000) or more than twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000).

§ 503. CAMO Presence at Box Office.

A representative of CAMO shall be admitted to the box office, and is authorized to assist in the counting of tickets and in the computation of the fees due thereon, and to take any other action necessary for the administration and enforcement of this chapter.

§ 504. Late Fees.

Whenever any promoter fails to make a report of any contest within the period prescribed by this chapter, or whenever such report is unsatisfactory to CAMO, CAMO may suspend or revoke the promoter’s license.

ARTICLE 6.
HEALTH AND SAFETY

§ 601. Age Requirement.

No person under the age of 18 years shall participate as a contestant in any amateur MMA contest, match or exhibition.

§ 602. Ability to Perform.

Before a license is issued to any Mixed Martial Artist, the Mixed Martial Artist shall satisfy CAMO that he has the ability to compete. If at any time a Mixed Martial Artist's ability to perform is questionable, whether from reasons of health, mental condition or no longer possessing the ability to compete or for any other reason, CAMO may, upon being satisfied of the mixed martial artist's lack of ability to perform, suspend him from further amateur competition.

Any applicant for a Mixed Martial Artist's license or a renewal thereof shall furnish a verified record of the applicant's last five MMA contests or detailed description as to the applicants training and experience in martial arts.

§ 603. Medical Requirements for Licensing.

CAMO shall require, as a condition of licensure and as a part of the application process, a physical examination conducted by a licensed physician and a blood test for certain viruses indicating a negative result to establish both physical and mental fitness for competition.

§ 604. Physical Examination.

Any person applying for a license or the renewal of a license as an amateur mixed martial arts fighter shall complete a full physical examination documented on official CAMO forms. The physical examination, and any additional tests that are conducted, must be completed by a licensed physician. The physician may recommend whether the applicant should be licensed by CAMO or not based on his professional opinion. CAMO shall review these recommendations and report any denials of licensure to the applicant. If, as a result of these recommendations, CAMO refuses to grant the applicant a license or to renew a license, the applicant shall not compete as an amateur in California until the denial has been overruled by CAMO, if ever.

§ 605. Blood Tests.

Any person applying for a license or the renewal of a license as an amateur mixed martial arts fighter shall present documentary evidence satisfactory to CAMO that the applicant has been administered a blood test by a laboratory to detect the presence of antibodies both to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and to hepatitis C virus (HCV) and to detect the presence of the antigen of hepatitis B virus (HBV) within 30 days prior to the date of the application and that the results of all three tests are negative.

§ 606. Serious Head Injuries.

No license or renewal shall be issued to any applicant who has suffered cerebral hemorrhage or any other serious head injury.

§ 607. Discretional Medical Testing.

CAMO may require an applicant or licensee to undergo additional medical tests where, based on the totality of the contestant's records, it appears the contestant may be at risk of cognitive or physical impairment. The cost of the examination shall be the responsibility of the licensee.

§ 608. Report of Illness.

Whenever a licensed mixed martial artist is unable because of injuries or illness to take part in a contest for which he is scheduled, he (or his representative) shall immediately report that fact to CAMO, and the mixed martial artists may be required to submit to an examination by a physician to CAMO in order to return to competition. The examination fee of the physician shall be paid by the mixed martial artist, except if the promoter has requested an examination, it may pay the cost thereof.

§ 609. Physicians; Certification of Physicians.

CAMO shall maintain a list of CAMO-approved physicians who will be appointed by CAMO as ringside physicians at each MMA match. The list of certified physicians shall be maintained in the headquarters of CAMO.

§ 610. Licensed Physician Assigned by CAMO at Contest.

Every promoter shall have at its own expense in attendance at every contest, a licensed physician approved and assigned by CAMO, who shall perform the physical examination of the contestants and observe the physical condition of the contestants during the contest or match. The services of the physician shall be paid according to a Official Fee Schedule adopted by CAMO.

§ 611. Rejection and Reports.

Should any contestant examined prove unfit for competition or any referee unfit for officiating, the contestant or referee shall be rejected and immediately report of that fact made to the club and the CAMO representative.

§ 612. Continuous Presence of Physician.

A minimum of one (1) CAMO approved ringside physician shall have a seat at the immediate ringside at all MMA matches. No bout shall be allowed to proceed unless one (1) physician is seated at ringside. The physician shall not leave until after the completion of the bout, or the round is stopped. The physician shall be prepared to assist if any serious emergency shall arise, and shall render temporary or emergency treatments for cuts and minor injuries sustained by the contestants. No manager or second shall attempt to render aid to a contestant during the course of a round before the ringside physician has had an opportunity to examine the contestant who may have been injured. Time out shall be called for such examination.

§ 613. Authority of Physician to Stop Match.

A physician in attendance at any contest or match pursuant to Section 612 shall have the authority to stop any contest or match. The physician's authority, however, shall be limited to a medically related injury and the physical condition of a contestant.

§ 614. Presence of a Referee.

A referee shall be in attendance and shall direct and control every MMA contest. Referees shall enforce the rules of CAMO at every MMA contest.

§ 615. Training: Referees,

No referee shall be licensed by CAMO unless such person has participated in and successfully completed a refereeing clinic approved by CAMO, unless such person has prior experience as a referee licensed by the Commission in a professional MMA event. Clinics shall include, among other things, instruction as to the proper refereeing of amateur MMA bouts in accordance with the AMMA Rules adopted by CAMO, and the recognition of serious or life-threatening MMA-related injuries and disorders.

Additional requirements for the licensing of referees and the licensing of all other Officials are set forth in Article 9.

§ 616. Insurance for Events.

(a) A promoter shall maintain general liability and short-term medical assistance insurance policies covering each event. Both such policies shall name California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Organization, Inc. its executives, officers, employees, directors, and licensees as an additional insured. Such policies must meet or exceed the minimum policy limits set by CAMO and listed in CAMO’s Official Fee Schedule. The promoter shall be responsible for paying any deductible amounts.

(b) "Short term medical assistance insurance," as used in this section, refers to direct expenses of medical treatment, including emergency aid, medical treatment, drugs, operations and physical therapy, arising directly from injuries incurred during a MMA contest in California which has been approved by CAMO.

§ 617. Examination Facilities.

Ringside physicians shall have a suitable place or room in which to make their examinations.

§ 618. Hygienic Gloves.

Disposable Hygienic Gloves must be worn by all referees- while involved with the contestants. The hygienic gloves shall be provided by the officials.

§ 619. Ambulance Required.

The Promoter shall ensure that one ambulance equipped with a Paramedic is present at all times during the event. In the event the ambulance or Paramedic is not present for any reason the contest shall be delayed or postponed.

§ 620. Only Authorized Persons in Dressing Rooms.

No one shall be allowed in the contestants' dressing rooms and warm-up area except their licensed seconds, news media, CAMO representatives, Officials, or club representatives. The club management shall furnish a doorman in dressing rooms to enforce this rule.

§ 621. Weigh-in Time.

Contestants may be weighed within 30 hours of the scheduled match, at a time and place approved by CAMO, in the presence of a CAMO representative. All weights shall be taken with the contestants stripped on scales approved by CAMO. If a fighter fails to make weight within one hour, the fight may take place only if both contestants agree and the fighter misses weight by less than three pounds, however, following that bout the fighter may be suspended for a period of time set at CAMO's sole discretion. Weigh ins for events that have only amateur fights shall be held on the same day as the event unless otherwise directed or approved by CAMO in writing. Weigh-ins for amateur fights on an event containing both Professional and Amateur fighters may be held at the same time as the weigh-ins for the pro fighters on the event occurs.

§ 622. Weights and Classes.

The weight classes for amateur MMA shall be as follows:

1. Flyweight over 115 to 125 pounds
2. Bantamweight over 125 to 135 pounds
3. Featherweight over 135 to 145 pounds
4. Lightweight over 145 to 155 pounds
5. Welterweight over 155 to 170 pounds
6. Middleweight over 170 to 185 pounds
7. Light Heavyweight over 185 to 205 pounds
8. Cruiserweight over 206 to 230 pounds
9. Heavyweight over 230 pounds not to exceed 265 pounds
10. Super-Heavyweight over 265 pounds

Any proposed bout which does not have both contestants in the same weight class, or is a bout above or below the standard weight classes must have prior approval from CAMO and the contestants must be within ten (10) pounds of each other, or if both contestants are 200 pounds or heavier, then they must be within thirty (30) pounds of each other.

§ 623. Use of Prohibited Substances; Detection; Penalties.

(a) The use of any illegal drug, narcotic, stimulant, depressant, or analgesic of any description, or alcohol substance, by a contestant either before or during a match, shall result in the immediate disqualification of the contestant from the match and disciplinary action by CAMO.

(b) In order to detect the presence of any prohibited substance, a contestant shall submit to any pre-contest or post-contest urinalysis or other laboratory procedure that is ordered by the physician appointed by CAMO. Refusal to submit to such testing shall result in the immediate disqualification of the contestant from the match and an indefinite suspension from the amateur sport of mixed martial arts.

(c) CAMO may conduct a urinalysis as follows:

1) All contestants may be ordered to complete a pre-contest urinalysis exam to detect the presence of any drug.

2) In addition to a pre-contest analysis, CAMO may, at its discretion, decide to test for the presence of performance enhancing drugs and thereby require additional urine specimens to be produced at any time after the completion of the contest.

3) Collection of specimens for urinalysis testing shall be conducted or supervised by a CAMO official. Refusal to submit to such testing shall result in the immediate disqualification of the contestant from the match and an indefinite suspension from the sport of mixed martial arts.

(d) Penalties for use of prohibited substances shall be as follows:

1) First Offense: 90 day suspension.

2) Second Offense: 180 day suspension.

3) Third Offense: 2 year suspension and mandatory completion of a supervisory treatment program approved by CAMO.

§ 624. Monsel's Solution.

The use during a MMA match of Monsel's Solution, or any similar drug or compound for the stopping of hemorrhage in the ring or cage, is prohibited. Only preparations approved by the Commission or CAMO may be used to stop hemorrhage in the ring.

§ 625. Contestants' Appearance.

All contestants shall be clean and present a tidy appearance. It shall be at the sole discretion of an inspector to determine whether facial adornments (mustaches, goatees, excessive sideburns) and length of hair presents any potential hazard to the safety of the contestant or his or her opponent, or will interfere with the supervision and conduct of the contest. The excessive use of petroleum jelly or other similar substances shall not be permitted and such substances shall be applied to the face only. Referees or the inspector shall cause any such excessive substance to be removed.

§ 626. Apparel.

(a) The ring costume for each contestant on a program shall be approved by CAMO, and shall include mixed martial arts shorts, compression shorts, or kick-boxing shorts.

(b) In addition to the items described in subsection (a), the costume for each female contestant shall also include a short-sleeved (above the elbow) or sleeveless form fitting rashguard and/or sports bra. No loose fitting tops are allowed.

(c) In certain situations, a CAMO approved rashguard may be worn by both male contestants during competition with prior written approval of CAMO.

(d) Shoes are prohibited during competition.

(e) No offensive language or image is allowed on any apparel, including without limitation, any drug related images or wording.

§ 627. Protective Equipment.

(a) Male mixed martial artists, only, shall wear a groin protector of their own selection, of a type approved by CAMO.

(b) All contestants shall wear an individually fitted mouthpiece.

§ 628. Report of Injury.

All CAMO physicians shall report all cases where contestants have been injured during a bout, or have applied for medical aid after a contest.

A contestant who has suffered a knockout or any other serious injury, whether or not arising from MMA, and who has been treated for such injury by his personal physician or has been hospitalized, shall, promptly submit to CAMO a full report from the physician.

§ 629. Suspension for Disability.

Any licensee rejected by an examining physician shall be suspended until it is shown that he is fit for further competition or officiating. The physician may require any other diagnostic procedures if indicated.

§ 630. Time Between Bouts.

Unless prior written approval is obtained from CAMO, a contestant who has competed anywhere in a bout shall not be allowed to compete in this State until five days have elapsed.

ARTICLE 7.
ENCLOSURE AND EQUIPMENT

§ 701. Compliance for Structures.

All buildings or structures used or intended to be used to conduct, hold, or host a contest or match, or exhibition shall be safe and shall conform to the laws, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to the buildings in the jurisdiction where the building or structure is situated.

§ 702. Ring.

The ring shall be not less than 17 feet square within the ropes and no larger than 32 feet within the rings. The ring floor shall extend beyond the ropes not less than 18 inches. The ring floor shall be padded in a manner as approved by the Commission. Padding must extend beyond the ring ropes and over the edge of the platform.

§ 703. Height of Ring.

The ring platform shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building, and shall be provided with suitable steps for use of contestants. Ring posts shall be of metal, not more than four inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a height of 58 inches above the ring floor, and shall be properly padded.

§ 704. Ring Ropes.

Ring ropes shall be at least five in number, not less than one inch in diameter; the lower rope 12 inches above the ring floor. The lower rope shall have applied around it a padding of a thickness of not less than one-half inch and of a type and construction to be approved by CAMO.

§ 705. Cage.

(a) The fighting area canvas shall be no smaller than 18 feet by 18 feet and no larger than 32 feet by 32 feet. The fighting area canvas shall be padded in a manner as approved by CAMO, with at least one inch layer of foam padding. Padding shall extend beyond the fighting area and over the edge of the platform.

(b) The fighting area canvas shall not be more than four feet above the floor of the building and shall have suitable steps or ramp for use by the participants. Posts shall be made of metal not more than six inches in diameter, extending from the floor of the building to a minimum height of 58 inches above the fighting area canvas and shall be properly padded in a manner approved by CAMO.

(c) The fighting area canvas area shall be enclosed by a fence made of such material as will not allow a fighter to fall out or break through it onto the floor or spectators, including, but not limited to, vinyl coated chain link fencing. All metal parts shall be covered and padded in a manner approved by CAMO and shall not be abrasive to the contestants.

(d) The fence shall provide at least one entry onto the fighting area canvas which shall open in an outward direction away from the fighting area.

§ 706. Stools.

(a) A ring stool of a type approved by CAMO shall be available for each contestant.

(b) An appropriate number of stools or chairs, of a type approved by CAMO, shall be available for each contestant’s seconds. Such stools or chairs shall be located near each contestant’s corner.

(c) All stools and chairs used must be replaced after the conclusion of each bout.

§ 707. Water Bottles Permitted.

For each bout, every fighter shall be allowed a water bucket and a clear plastic water bottle in the corner.

§ 708. Gloves.

(a) Gloves shall be examined by the CAMO representative and the referee. If padding is found to be misplaced or lumpy, or if gloves are found to be imperfect or clearly ill-fitting, they shall be changed before the contest starts. No breaking, skinning, roughing or twisting of gloves shall be permitted.

(b) If gloves used in bouts have been used before, they shall be whole, clean, in sanitary condition and subject to inspection by the referee or CAMO representative as to condition. Any such gloves found to be unfit shall be immediately discarded and replaced with gloves meeting the above requirements.

(c) All clubs shall have on hand an extra set of official CAMO gloves to be used in case gloves are broken or in any way damaged during the course of a bout.

§ 709. Gloves-Weight.

All contestants shall wear CAMO approved gloves weighing a minimum of approximately 6 ounces that are black in color with white tops or knuckles. A list of gloves approved for competition by CAMO will be available on the CAMO website (www.camo-mma.org) and by written request.

§ 710. Hand Wraps.

(a) In all weight classes, the bandages on each contestant's hand shall be restricted to soft gauze cloth not more than 13 yards in length and two inches in width, held in place by not more than 10 feet of surgeon's tape, one inch in width, for each hand.

(b) Surgeon's adhesive tape may be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist. The tape may cross the back of the hand twice but shall not extend within one inch of the knuckles when the hand is clenched to make a fist.

(c) The bandages shall be evenly distributed across the hand.

(d) Bandages and tape shall be placed on the contestant's hands in the dressing room in the presence of the inspector.

(e) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

§ 711. Gong, Bell or Horn.

There shall be a bell, gong or horn at the ring no higher than the floor level of the ring. The bell, gong or horn shall be of a clear tone so that the contestants may easily hear it.

§ 712. Timekeeping Equipment.

Timekeepers shall provide themselves with such equipment as prescribed by CAMO and shall carry out such duties as directed by the CAMO representative.

§ 713. Shinguards

All contestants who have less than three (3) amateur MMA fights shall wear shinguards approved by CAMO during competition that meet the following specifications:

(a) Shinguards shall be made of neoprene construction and be tightly fitted to the shin and free of buckles, straps, or exposed Velcro.

(b) Shinguards shall be black and/or white in color only.

(c) Shinguards that are unduly obtrusive, cumbersome or in such poor condition that CAMO or its representative determines that it will not effectively protect the contestant and/or his or her opponent, shall not be approved.

Any contestant with three (3) or more verifiable amateur MMA fights shall not be required to wear shinguards during competition.

ARTICLE 8.
CONDUCT OF THE BOUT

§ 801. Officials.

The Officials referred to in the rules consist of those CAMO licensed referees, judges, timekeepers, and inspectors and physicians assigned by CAMO and in attendance at a contest. In addition to such Officials, CAMO representatives, who have been selected and assigned by CAMO, will also be present and will have the same access throughout the venue as is given to the Officials. All Officials shall be selected and assigned by CAMO, but shall be retained and compensated by Promoter in accordance with current CAMO Officials Fee Schedule.

§ 802. Contestants Must Report.

Contestants shall report to the CAMO inspector in charge of dressing rooms at least one hour before the scheduled time of the first match.

§ 803. Persons Allowed in Ring.

No persons other than the contestants and the referee may be in the ring during the progress of a round.

§ 804. Referee-Instruction.

The referee shall call contestants together, either in the ring or in another appropriate location before each bout for final instructions, at which time each contestant shall be accompanied by his or her designated chief second only.

§ 805. Fouls in MMA.

(a) The following are fouls and will result in penalties if committed:

1. Butting with the head;
2. Eye gouging of any kind;
3. Biting or spitting at an opponent;
4. Hair pulling;
5. Fish hooking;
6. Groin attacks of any kind;
7. Intentionally placing a finger in any opponent's orifice;
8. Downward pointing of elbow strikes;
9. Small joint manipulation;
10. Strikes to the spine or back of the head;
11. In the standing position, a fighter that moves their arm(s) toward their opponent with an open hand with fingers pointing at the opponent's face/eyes;
12. Throat strikes of any kind;
13. Clawing, pinching, twisting the flesh;
14. Kicking the head of a grounded fighter;
15. Stomping of a grounded fighter;
16. The use of abusive language in fighting area;
17. Any unsportsmanlike conduct that causes an injury to opponent;
18. Attacking an opponent on or during the break;
19. Attacking an opponent who is under the referee's care at the time;
20. Timidity (avoiding contact, or consistent dropping of mouthpiece, or faking an injury);
21. Interference from a mixed martial artists seconds;
22. Throwing an opponent out of the fighting area;
23. Flagrant disregard of the referee's instructions;
24. Spiking an opponent to the canvas on his or her head or neck;
25. Elbow strikes to the head.

26. Rotational Leg Locks (i.e. heal hooks or toe holds)
27. Kneeing to the head of an opponent; provided, however, if both contestants have more than 10 fights, they can elect, if both agree in writing, to allow knees to the head of a non-grounded opponent only.

(b) Disqualification may occur after any combination of three or more of the fouls listed in (a) above or after a referee determines that a foul was intentional and flagrant.

(c) Fouls may result in a point being deducted by the referee from the offending mixed martial artist's score pursuant to Subsection (f).

(d) Only a referee can assess a foul or disqualify a participant. If the referee does not call the foul, judges shall not make that assessment on their own and cannot factor such into their scoring calculations.

(e) A fouled fighter has up to five minutes to recuperate.

(f) If a foul is committed, the referee shall:

1. call time;
2. check the fouled mixed martial artist's condition and safety; and
3. assess the foul to the offending contestant, deduct points if the referee deems appropriate, and notify each corner's seconds, judges and the lead inspector.

(g) If a bottom contestant commits a foul, unless the top contestant is injured, the fight shall continue, so as not to jeopardize the top contestant's superior positioning at the time.

1. The referee shall verbally notify the bottom contestant of the foul.
2. When the round is over, the referee shall assess the foul and notify both corners' seconds, the judges and the lead inspector.
3. The referee may terminate a bout based on the severity of a foul. For such a flagrant foul, a contestant shall lose by disqualification.

(h) If a top contestant commits a foul, unless the bottom contestant is injured, the fight shall continue after the contestants have been placed on their feet, as to forfeit the top contestant's superior positioning at the time of the foul.

1. The referee shall verbally notify the top contestant of the foul.
2. The referee shall assess the foul and notify both corners' seconds, the judges and the lead inspector.
3. The referee may terminate a bout based on the severity of a foul. For such a flagrant foul, a contestant shall lose by disqualification.

§ 806. Warnings: Other Conduct Prohibited.

The referee shall issue a single warning for the following infractions. After the initial warning, if the prohibited conduct persists, a penalty will be issued. The penalty may result in a deduction of points or disqualification.

1. Holding or grabbing the fence or ropes;
2. Holding opponent's shorts, gloves or rashguard; or
3. The presence of a corner person or supporter on the fighting area perimeter.

§ 807. Injury Procedure During Competition.

(a) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of a legal maneuver is severe enough to terminate a bout, the injured contestant loses by technical knockout.

(b) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul is severe enough to terminate a bout, the contestant causing the injury loses by disqualification.

(c) If an injury is sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul and the bout is allowed to continue, the referee shall notify the judges to automatically deduct one point from the contestant who committed the foul.

(d) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul causes the injured contestant to be unable to continue at a subsequent point in the contest, the injured contestant shall win by technical decision, if he or she is ahead on the score cards. If the injured contestant is even or behind on the score cards at the time of stoppage, the outcome of the bout shall be declared a technical draw.

(e) If a contestant injures himself or herself while attempting to foul his or her opponent, the referee shall not take any action in his or her favor, and the injury shall be treated in the same manner as an injury produced by a fair blow.

(f) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an accidental foul is severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout shall result in a no contest if stopped before two rounds have been completed in a three round bout or if stopped before three rounds have been completed in a five round bout.

(g) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of an accidental foul is severe enough for the referee to stop the bout immediately, the bout shall result in a technical decision awarded to the contestant who is ahead on the score cards at the time the bout is stopped only when the bout is stopped after two rounds of a three round bout, or three rounds of a five round bout have been completed.

(h) There will be scoring of an incomplete round, provided such round has completed at least one minute of action prior to being stopped. If the referee penalizes either contestant, then the appropriate points shall be deducted when the final score is calculated.

§ 808. Type of Bout Results.

(a) Submission by:

1. Tap Out: When a contestant physically uses his hand to indicate that he or she no longer wishes to continue; or
2. Verbal tap out: When a contestant verbally announces to the referee that he or she does not wish to continue;

(b) Technical knockout by:

1. Referee stops bout;
2. Ringside physician stops bout; or
3. When an injury as a result of a legal maneuver is severe enough to terminate a bout;

(c) Knockout by failure to rise from the canvas;

(d) Decision via score cards:

1. Unanimous Decision: When all three judges score the bout for the same contestant;
2. Split Decision: When two judges score the bout for one contestant and one judge scores for the opponent; or
3. Majority Decision: When two judges score the bout for the same contestant and one judge scores a draw;

(e) Draws:

1. Unanimous Draw - When all three judges score the bout a draw;
2. Majority Draw - When two judges score the bout a draw; or
3. Split Draw - When all three judges score differently, one score being a draw, and the score total results in a draw;

(f) Disqualification: When an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul is severe enough to terminate the contest;

(g) Forfeit: When a contestant fails to begin competition or prematurely ends the contest for reasons other than injury or by indicating a tap out;

(h) Technical Draw: When an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul causes the injured contestant to be unable to continue and the injured contestant is even or behind on the score cards at the time of stoppage;

(i) Technical Decision: When the bout is prematurely stopped due to injury and a contestant is leading on the score cards; and

(j) No Contest: When a contest is prematurely stopped due to accidental injury and a sufficient number of rounds have not been completed to render a decision via the score cards.

§ 809. The Referee Shall have the Power to Stop the Contest.

The referee shall have the power to stop a contest at any stage if he or she considers it too one-sided, or if either contestant is in such condition that to continue might subject him or her to serious injury, and in either case to render a decision in the manner prescribed by Section 808.

In cases where a contestant receives a cut from a fair blow or an unintentional butt or any other injury which the referee believes may incapacitate the contestant, the referee shall call into the ring the ringside physician for examination of the contestant before the referee renders a decision in the matter. A mandatory time out shall be called whenever the ringside physician enters the ring to examine a contestant.

§ 810. Failure to Answer the Bell.

No contestant shall leave the ring during any one minute rest period between rounds. Should any contestant fail or refuse to resume competing when the timekeeper indicates the start of the next round, the referee may either disqualify that contestant or award a (T)KO decision to his or her opponent as of the round which has last been finished, unless the circumstances indicate to the referee the requirement for investigation.

§ 811. When a Contestant Falls or is Knocked Out of the Enclosure.

A contestant who has been wrestled, pushed, or has fallen through the ropes during a contest may be helped back by anyone and the referee shall allow a reasonable time for the return. When on the ring platform outside the ropes, the contestant shall enter the ring immediately. Should the contestant stall for time outside the ropes, the referee may penalize.

When one contestant has fallen through the ropes, the opponent shall retire to a designated corner and stay there until ordered to continue the contest by the referee. When both contestants are wrestled through the ropes, the referee may stop the action and replace the contestants within the ring in a manner which does not compromise the superior position of a contestant, if any.

A contestant who deliberately wrestles or throws an opponent from the ring, or who hits him when he is partly out of the ring, and prevented by the ropes from assuming a position of defense may be penalized.

§ 812. Knock Out.

A contestant who has been knocked out shall be kept in a prone position until he has recovered. When a contestant is knocked out, no one is to touch him or her, except the referee who may remove his mouthpiece, until the ring physician enters the ring and personally attends to the fallen contestant, and issues such instructions as he sees fit to the contestant's handlers. If a contestant has been knocked out -, such contestant shall be placed on CAMO ill and unavailable list for such a period of time as may be recommended by the ringside physician or

any approved CAMO physician who may examine him or her but such period of time shall not be less than 30 days.

An amateur mixed martial artist shall not be permitted to engage in any contact training during this period without the approval of a physician.

§ 813. Rinsing Mouthpieces.

When a mouthpiece is knocked out, the referee may allow the exchange to continue until there is a break in the action. Timeout shall then be called and the mouthpiece rinsed and replaced. No contestant shall be permitted to continue to compete without a mouthpiece.

§ 814. Time Warning.

Ten seconds before the beginning and ending of each round the timekeeper shall give warning to the seconds of the contestants by suitable signal. No second shall be in contact with the ring/cage apron prior to the sounding of the bell ending the round.

§ 815. Scorecard to Referee and Judges.

Before the start of each bout, an inspector shall give the judges and/or referees, when the latter are used as judges, a regulation scorecard. The judges shall score each round of the bout on the card and sign it. At the discretion of the inspector, individual round scorecards may be used in contests and, if so used, shall be picked up at the end of each round by the referee and delivered to the ringside inspector. At the conclusion of the contest, the inspector may then show the cards to accredited press representatives and immediately thereafter mail or deliver the score cards with the rest of his or her reports to the CAMO office.

§ 816. Method of Scoring.

(a) All bouts will be evaluated and scored by three judges. At the discretion of an inspector, the referee may serve as one of the three judges.

(b) The 10-Point Must System will be the standard system of scoring a bout unless otherwise directed by CAMO. Under the 10-Point Must Scoring System, 10 points must be awarded to the winner of the round and nine points or less must be awarded to the loser, except for a rare even round, which is scored (10-10).

(c) Judges shall evaluate the following mixed martial arts techniques: effective striking and effective grappling, effective aggressiveness, and fighting area control.

(d) Evaluations shall be made in the order in which the techniques appear in Subsection (c) above, giving the most weight in scoring to, first, effective striking and effective grappling, second to effective aggressiveness, and third to fighting area control.

(e) Effective striking is judged by determining the impact of legal strikes landed by a contestant solely based on the results of such legal strikes.

(f) Effective grappling is assessed by the successful execution and impactful result coming from: takedowns(s), submission attempt(s), achieving advantageous positions(s), and reversals(s).

(g) Effective aggressiveness means aggressively making attempts to finish the fight. Chasing around an opponent with no result or impact should not render in the judge’s assessments.

Effective aggressiveness is only to be assessed if effective striking and grappling is 100% equal for both contestants.

(h) Fighting area control is judged by determining who is dictating the pace, place, and position of the bout.

Fighting area control is only to be assessed if effective striking and grappling and effective aggressiveness is 100% equal for both contestants.

(i) The following objective scoring criteria shall be utilized by the judges when scoring a round:

1. A round is to be scored as a 10-10 Round when both contestants have competed for whatever duration of time in the round and there is no difference or advantage between either fighter;
2. A round is to be scored as a 10-9 Round when a contestant wins by a close margin;
3. A round is to be scored as a 10-8 Round when a contestant wins by a large margin
4. A round is to be scored as a 10-7 Round when a contestant completely overwhelms their opponent in effective striking and/or grappling and a stoppage is warranted.

(j) Judges shall use a sliding scale and recognize the length of time the fighters are either standing or on the ground, as follows:

1. If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round on the canvas, then:
    i. Effective grappling is weighed first; and
    ii. Effective striking is then weighed
2. If the mixed martial artists spent a majority of a round standing, then:
    i. Effective striking is weighed first; and
    ii. Effective grappling is then weighed
3. If a round ends with a relatively even amount of standing and canvas fighting, striking and grappling are weighed equally.

§ 817. Announcing the Winner.

At the termination of all MMA bouts the winner shall be announced by the announcer and the referee shall raise the winner's hand.

§ 818. Abuse of Officials.

No licensee shall verbally or physically abuse any Official or CAMO representative.

§ 819. Corners/Seconds.

Each contestant shall have at least one, but not more than two seconds working the contestant’s corner. The seconds used will be selected by the contestant, but all seconds must hold current CAMO licenses. Each second while assisting in the contestant's corner shall present a neat and tidy appearance. Only one of the seconds may be inside the ring ropes or two seconds inside of the cage, as applicable, between rounds. In the case of a ring, the additional second, if one is working, may be on the apron. No other persons except for Officials may be on the apron.

§ 820. Excessive Coaching.

A second shall not excessively coach a contestant during a round and shall remain seated and composed when so directed by an inspector. Excessive coaching may lead to point deduction by the referee, ejection from the venue, and/or disciplinary action by CAMO.

§ 821. Excessive Water Prohibited.

Excessive use of water and/or ice between rounds is prohibited. The designated chief second shall be responsible to assure that the corner is dry at the start of each round.

§ 822. Determining Defeat.

A representative or chief second in the corner of a contestant may toss a towel into the ring or cage in token of defeat. However, such representative or chief second shall follow the towel into the ring as soon as it is possible to do so.

§ 823. Divisions.

There will be two Divisions of fighters:

(a) Novice Division – for amateur fighters with two (2) or less approved and verified amateur contests on their record;
(b) Open Division – for amateur fighters with three (3) or more approved and verified amateur contests on their record.

§ 824. Rounds.

(a) Each non-championship mixed martial arts contest is to be for 3 rounds, each round no more than
(i) 2 minutes duration for Novice Division fighters; and
(ii) 3 minutes duration for Open Division fighters.
There shall be a rest period of 1 minute between each round for both divisions.

(b) Each championship mixed martial arts contest shall be no more than 5 rounds.

ARTICLE 9.
OFFICIALS

§ 901. CAMO Shall Select Officials.

CAMO shall select and assign all Officials as well as CAMO representatives to each event. The Officials assigned shall be retained and compensated by Promoter in accordance with current CAMO fee schedules.

§ 902. Referee's License.

(a) In order to be licensed as a referee, an applicant must submit an application indicating the applicant's experience and abilities to perform such function, along with payment of the appropriate CAMO license fee.

(b) In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets each of the following requirements:
1. Has successfully undergone the training described in §615.
2. Is found after examination by a licensed physician to be physically and mentally fit to referee a MMA contest.
3. Is in good physical condition with the speed and reflexes in the ring necessary for the protection of the contestants.
4. Requirements (1) through (3) above may be waived for any applicant who has a license in good standing with the Commission.
5. Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions in an exemplary manner.

(c) A license granted under this section may be later suspended or revoked by CAMO, pursuant to §911 or otherwise, if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, fails to attend or properly perform his or her role at any event to which the applicant has been assigned as an Official, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules, violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(d) A license granted under this section may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance with the above requirements.

(e) A person who possesses a valid CAMO or Commission license as a referee may also act as a judge without the need to obtain a separate judge's license.

§ 903. Referee Physical Examination.

(a) In addition to any other qualifications for referees established by CAMO, each applicant for a MMA referee's license who has not been previously licensed and examined shall submit to and pass an initial physical examination which shall include all tests necessary to determine an applicant's physical fitness, agility, reflexes, and reaction time as specified by CAMO which examination shall be taken at a facility and by a physician or physicians which may be specified by CAMO. The cost of the examination shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

(b) All referees, in addition to being examined by a physician prior to officiating, shall submit to an annual regular examination to establish their physical fitness to perform as a referee upon license renewal.

§ 904. Grading of Referee Performance.

It shall be the duty of the assigned CAMO representative to grade each MMA referee's performance for each contest presided over by the referee. The grade shall be either satisfactory or unsatisfactory and shall be arrived at by considering, among other things, the referee's reflexes, and overall ability to direct and control the contest in a manner designed to ensure the protection of the participants and to obtain the contestants' compliance with the statutes and rules of CAMO applicable to the particular contest. The grader may include written comments where a satisfactory grade is rendered but shall make specific written comments where a grade of unsatisfactory is rendered. The grade and any comments pertaining thereto shall be filed with CAMO executives.

§ 905. Judges License.

(a) In order to be licensed as a judge, an applicant must submit an application indicating the applicant’s experience and abilities to perform such function, along with payment of the appropriate CAMO license fee.
(b) In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets each of the following requirements:

1. Has successfully passed an examination administered by CAMO or a CAMO approved training program on the fundamentals of MMA, judging MMA contests and knowledge of California law and regulations relating to MMA. Provided, however, this requirement may be waived for any applicant who possesses a current and valid license as a MMA judge in California or another state, and has not been the subject of any disciplinary action; and
2. Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions in an exemplary manner.

(c) A license granted under this section may be later suspended or revoked by CAMO, pursuant to §911 or otherwise, if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, fails to attend or properly perform his or her role at any event to which the applicant has been assigned as an Official, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules, violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(d) A license granted under this section may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance with the above requirements.

§ 906. Timekeepers License.

(a) In order to be licensed as a timekeeper an applicant must submit an application indicating the applicant's experience and abilities to perform such function, along with payment of the appropriate CAMO license fee.

(b) In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets each of the following requirements:
1. Has successfully demonstrated to a representative of CAMO his or her competence to perform such functions. Provided, however, this requirements may be waived for any applicant who possesses a current and valid license as a MMA timekeeper in California or another state, and has not been the subject of any disciplinary action; and
2. Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions in an exemplary manner.

(c) A license granted under this section may be later suspended or revoked by CAMO, pursuant to §911 or otherwise, if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, fails to attend or properly perform his or her role at any event to which the applicant has been assigned as an Official, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules, violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(c) A license granted under this section may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance with the above requirements.

(d) A license granted under this section shall allow a timekeeper to perform all duties and responsibilities associated with the license of Inspector.

§ 907 Ringside Physician Approval.

(a) In order to be approved as a ringside physician, a physician shall notify CAMO of his/her experience and abilities to perform such function, and in addition, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets each of the following requirements:
1. possess a current and unrestricted license issued by the Medical Board of California or the Board of Osteopathic Examiners.
2. A physician who is not a member of the California Association of Professional Ringside Physicians shall hold staff privileges in medicine, surgery, or emergency medicine in a general acute care facility accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Organizations.
3. Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions in an exemplary manner.

(c) Approval granted under this section may be later suspended or revoked by CAMO, pursuant to §911 or otherwise, if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, fails to attend or properly perform his or her role at any event to which the applicant has been assigned as an Official, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules, violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to this organization.

(e) Approval granted under this section may be renewed annually upon compliance with the above requirements.

§ 908 Inspectors License.

(a) In order to be licensed as an inspector, an applicant must submit an application indicating the applicant's experience and abilities to perform such function, along with payment of the appropriate CAMO license fee.

(b) In evaluating the application, CAMO shall determine in its sole discretion whether or not the applicant meets each of the following requirements:

1. Has passed an examination administered by CAMO, the Commission or a CAMO approved training program on the fundamentals of being an MMA inspector and knowledge of California law and regulations relating to MMA. Provided, however, these requirements may be waived for any applicant who possesses a current and valid inspector's license, or who has ever held a position as an inspector, in California or other state with a state athletic commission that regulates MMA and has not been the subject of any disciplinary action.

2. Be found to be of good moral character, with the temperament, work-habits and professionalism necessary to properly perform his or her functions in an exemplary manner.

(c) A license granted under this section may be later suspended or revoked by CAMO, pursuant to §911 or otherwise, if the applicant fails to meet any of the above requirements, fails to attend or properly perform his or her role at any event to which the applicant has been assigned as an Official, violates or fails to enforce the AMMA Rules, violates any state or federal statutes, or commits any act which, in the judgment of CAMO brings discredit to its organization and/or the sport of mixed martial arts.

(c) A license granted under this section may be renewed annually upon payment of the license fee and compliance with the above requirements.
(d) A license granted under this section shall allow a timekeeper to perform all duties and responsibilities associated with the license of Timekeeper.

§ 909. Officials Uniform.

Officials shall wear such apparel as may be approved by CAMO.

§ 910. Fees for Officials.

At all MMA events each Official assigned by CAMO shall be paid by the promoter such fee as set forth in the current CAMO fee schedule. The time and manner of such payment shall be in accordance with directions given by CAMO.

§ 911. Hearing to Remove an Official's License.

At any time during the course of a MMA contest should it become apparent to any duly authorized representative of CAMO that any Official is not discharging his responsibilities in a manner which ensures the safety of the participants or a fair outcome to such contest, or if any Official violates any section of the AMMA rules, a written report shall be filed with CAMO executives. The Official shall be notified that he/she is suspended and shall not be assigned as an Official to another contest until a hearing is held. The hearing shall be held within thirty days, or such later date as may be agreed upon. Any CAMO officer may conduct the hearing, or it may delegate this responsibility to any duly authorized representative of CAMO. The hearing shall be held to determine whether the Official's license shall be revoked or suspended for a period of time or other appropriate action be taken by CAMO. The decision made at the hearing shall be final and binding.

ARTICLE 10.
STATE CHAMPIONS

§ 1001. Determination of State Title.

CAMO may name a State amateur MMA champion in each weight class pursuant to the State Championship Rules made available on the CAMO website (www.camo-mma.org) or upon request to the CAMO office.

§ 1002. Advertising State Champion or Contender.

No person shall advertise a mixed martial artist as a State Champion or Contender in any manner without the prior written consent of CAMO.

ARTICLE 11.
ENFORCEMENT

§ 1101. Violations of Laws or Rules.

In addition to the procedures set forth under Article 9, any licensee who violates the laws of the State of California, with the exception of minor traffic violations, or the rules and/or regulations of CAMO or the Commission, or who fails or refuses to comply with a valid order of a CAMO representative, or who conducts himself or herself at any time or place in a manner which is deemed by CAMO to reflect discredit to MMA, may have his or her license revoked, or may be fined, suspended or otherwise disciplined in such manner as CAMO may direct.

§ 1102. Dealing With Certain Persons Prohibited.

CAMO may deny an application, or suspend or revoke any license if it finds that at any time the licensee or any partner, officer, director, stockholder, or employee thereof, in this state or elsewhere,

1. has engaged in illegal bookmaking or other illegal gambling activities,
2. has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the regulations of MMA,
3. is a reputed underworld character,
4. is under suspension or revocation in any other state, or
5. is engaged in any activity or practices which are detrimental to the best interests of MMA.

§ 1103. Dealing With Unlicensed or Suspended Persons Prohibited.

No licensee shall enter into any agreement or perform any services in connection with amateur mixed martial arts or Pankration with any unlicensed person, nor shall any licensee have any such dealings related to MMA with any person or club whose license is currently under suspension, or revoked, or whose application for a license has been denied in any jurisdiction, unless pre-approved in writing by CAMO.

§ 1104. Change of Decision.

A decision rendered at the termination of any MMA contest is final and shall not be subject to change unless within five (5) calendar days from the date of the decision either CAMO on its own motion elects to review the decision; or a written Petition for Change is filed with CAMO by either contestant or a representative of such contestant.

If an election to review is timely undertaken or such Petition for Change is timely filed, the decision shall be reviewed by CAMO to determine if any one of the following occurred:

1. There was collusion affecting the result of any contest;
2. The compilation of the scorecard of the judges, and the referee when used as a judge, shows an error which would mean that the decision was given to the wrong contestant; or
3. There was a violation of the laws or rules and regulations governing MMA which affected the result of any contest.

If, following such review, CAMO determines that any of the above occurred with regards to any contest then the decision rendered may be changed as CAMO shall determine.

If, and only if, timely election to review or a timely Petition to Change has been filed, the determination following such review is further subject to the Grievance Policy set forth in Chapter 3 of these rules.

§ 1105. Records.

Every promoter shall maintain a full, true and accurate set of books and records in connection with all licensed activities. These records and any other records required by the Commission or CAMO rule shall be kept for at least five years and shall be open to inspection and audit by representatives of the CAMO upon reasonable notice.

§ 1106. Licensees Must Report Sham Contests.

Any person, licensed by CAMO who is approached with a request or suggestion that a sham or collusive contest be entered into or that the contest shall not be conducted honestly and fairly shall immediately report the matter to the commission.

§ 1107. Procedure When License is Denied or Revoked.

Any applicant who has been denied an application for a license may not file a similar application until one year from the date of the last previous denial by the commission. Any application filed within the one year period may be denied without the necessity of a hearing.

Anyone who has had his license revoked may not petition for reinstatement or apply for a new license until one year after the date of such revocation. Any petition for reinstatement filed within the one year period may be denied without the necessity of a hearing.

Complaints regarding denial or revocation are subject to review as set forth in the Grievance Policy (Chapter 3).

CHAPTER 2.
DIVISION II/PANKRATION

ARTICLE 1.
GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1201. Citation.

The rules in this chapter shall be cited and referred to as the "Division II/Pankration Rules."

§ 1202. Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules And Regulations Apply.

The Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules and Regulations (Chapter 1) shall apply to Division II/Pankration, unless they are clearly inconsistent with the rules and/or regulations contained in this chapter, or unless otherwise waived by CAMO in writing.

ARTICLE 2.
SAFETY STANDARDS

§ 1301. Age Requirement.

No person under the age of 18 years shall participate as a contestant in any contest or match or exhibition.

§ 1302. Contestant’s Equipment.

In addition to that equipment required in Sections 626, 627 and 708 of these regulations, every contestant shall wear CAMO approved shin guards that extend from the ankle or instep to the top of the shin.

§ 1303. Weigh-ins

Contestants shall be weighed prior to the scheduled match, at a time and place approved by CAMO, in the presence of a CAMO representative. All weights shall be taken with the contestants stripped on scales approved by CAMO.

CAMO shall not approve any bout where opponent's weight is more than ten pounds apart if outside a standard CAMO weight class.

§ 1304. Pankration Rules, Scoring and Judging.

Recognizing that different methods or scoring and judging exist, CAMO may, in its discretion, authorize alternate rules or provisions from time to time for Pankration so long as the safety and welfare of the contestants and the public are not jeopardized.

§ 1305. Ambulance May Not Be Required

If the promoter, in CAMO's sole and reasonable opinion, provides an acceptable evacuation plan and a hospital with a level one trauma center and an ambulance service is located within a reasonable distance from the venue for the event, then the requirement for an ambulance at such Division II and/or Pankration event may be waived.

§ 1306. Hand Wraps.

(a) Hand wraps shall be allowed but not required to be placed on the hands of a fighter. No tape and/or gauze shall be allowed on the hands of a fighter.

(b) Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant until the approval of the inspector is received.

(c) Gloves shall be placed on the hands of a fighter in the presence of a CAMO inspector immediately before entering the competition enclosure.

§ 1307. Medical Requirements for Licensing.

CAMO shall require, as a condition of licensure and as a part of the application process, a physical examination conducted by a licensed physician to establish both physical and mental fitness for competition. Blood testing for certain viruses is not mandatory for Division II and/or Pankration competition.

§ 1307. Licensed Physician Assigned by CAMO at Contest.

Every promoter shall have at its own expense in attendance at every contest, a licensed physician approved by CAMO, who shall perform the physical examination of the contestants and observe the physical condition of the contestants during the contest or match. If assigned by CAMO, the services of the physician shall be paid according to a schedule of fees adopted by CAMO.

ARTICLE 3.
CONDUCT OF MATCHES AND CONTESTS

§ 1401. Fouls Pankration.

In addition to the fouls listed in Section 805, the following are fouls and will result in penalties or disqualification if committed:

1. All strikes placed above the collar bone, including strikes to the head;
2. Strikes to the back;
3. Strikes to the joints;
4. Up-kicking an opponent;
5. Kicking a downed opponent other than a controlled leg;
6. Neck cranks or any submission which involves dynamic twisting of the neck;
7. Any submission that involves dynamic twisting of the knee;
8. Slamming an opponent to the canvas;
9. All allowed submissions that are not executed with applied pressure.
10. Guillotine and rear naked chokes for all participants wearing head gear.

§ 1402. Blood Rule.

When an impact to the face causes immediate swelling or bleeding, the contest shall be terminated. If the bleeding was caused by an illegal technique utilized by the opponent a disqualification of the opponent is mandatory.

§ 1403. Fees.

All event and officials' fees shall be determined in accordance with the current CAMO fee schedule.

§ 1404. CAMO Shall Select Officials.

CAMO shall select and assign all Officials as well as CAMO representatives to each event. The Officials assigned by CAMO shall be retained and compensated by Promoter in accordance with current CAMO fee schedules. The Promoter may assign CAMO licensed judges for his/her event provided the assignments are approved in writing by CAMO.

§ 1405. Tournament Rules.

No event shall involve a tournament structure without prior written approval of CAMO.

CHAPTER 3. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

INTRODUCTION

§ 1501. Preamble.

This policy shall be governing as to all complaints arising out of the application of the CALIFORNIA AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS ORGANIZATION, INC.'S CODE OF REGULATIONS: AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS RULES (hereinafter referred to as "AMMA RULES" or "Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules."

§ 1502. Scope.

All applicants for licenses under the AMMA Rules have agreed that that all **c**omplaints or grievances about policies, procedures, or practices of CAMO regarding the enforcement of the AMMA Rules shall be heard and resolved of in accordance with this policy providing an administrative remedy. In furtherance of this policy, any and all disputes concerning licensure, denial, revocation, or suspension of amateur mixed martial arts artists, promoters, matchmakers, seconds, referees, judges, inspectors, and timekeeper, and any and all disputes concerning authorization of contests and promotions, and any and all disputes concerning the conduct and/or judging of contests and promotions, and any and all disputes concerning any other matters set forth in the Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rules shall be submitted for final determination in accordance with this policy, which shall be known as the "Grievance Policy."

ARTICLE 1. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

§ 1601.

The Board of Directors of CAMO shall create a committee to be known as the Judicial Committee, and the Board shall also appoint an individual to serve as Chair of the Judicial Committee. The appointment shall be for a term of two years, or until such Chair is replaced by majority vote of the Board of Directors, whichever occurs first. The Chair shall thereafter appoint the individual Members of the Judicial Committee, subject to approval of the Board of Directors. Members of the Judicial Committee shall serve during the period of the Chair's term, unless removed with or without cause by the Chair or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Should the Chair resign or be unable to otherwise serve, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor, who shall complete the term originally assigned to the former Chair. Should any of the Members of the Judicial Committee resign or be unable to otherwise serve, the Chair shall appoint a successor to complete the term originally assigned to the former member.

§ 1602.

The Chair of the Judicial Committee shall have been a practicing attorney, judicial bench officer, or arbitrator for five consecutive years before serving on the Judicial Committee.

§ 1603.

The Members of the Judicial Committee need not have a legal background, but should be familiar with the AMMA Rules, and the practices and policies of CAMO.

§ 1604.

The Judicial Committee shall have the responsibilities as follows:

A. Generally administer and adjudicate all complaints or grievances as delineated in the Preamble and Scope in the manner described in this Grievance Policy;

B. Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 2. MANNER OF FILING COMPLAINT

§ 1701.

A complaint or grievance (which terms are synonymous as used in the Grievance Policy) under this Grievance Policy shall be initiated by the filing of a written complaint at CAMO's executive office.

§ 1702.

The complaint shall set forth in clear and concise language in NUMBERED paragraphs:

A. The exact nature and factual basis for any alleged violation, grievance, denial or threat to deny, including the date(s) of the alleged violation and the name of the person/respondent alleged to be responsible for the alleged violation;

B. The specific Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Rule or Rules alleged to be violated, along with any federal or California statute alleged to have been violated; and

C. The remedy requested.

§ 1703.

The complainant shall sign and verify the truth of the complaint, mail it to CAMO via Certified, Return Receipt Requested, U.S. Mail. Filing may also be effectuated by personal delivery of any complaint to CAMO's executive offices.

§ 1704.

The date of official filing shall be, at CAMO's option, the postage marked date of the envelope containing the complaint or other materials, or the date received at CAMO's offices.

§ 1705.

If, in CAMO's sound discretion, the complaint should be read as specifically identifying one or more persons or organizations as respondents (other than CAMO itself), CAMO shall notify such persons or organizations by regular mail promptly upon CAMO's review of the complaint. Within thirty (30) days of being so notified (or by such later date as may be agreed to by CAMO), any respondent may file a response to the complaint. The response shall admit or deny each of the allegations set forth in the complaint. The failure, however, to file a response shall not be deemed to be an admission of the accuracy of any of the allegations in the complaint.

ARTICLE 3. FILING FEE AND DOCKETING OF COMPLAINT

§ 1801.

Every complaint shall be accompanied by a $250.00 filing fee made payable to CAMO.

§ 1802.

A complainant may request that the filing fee be reduced or waived for reasons of significant financial hardship. The request must be made in writing. CAMO shall determine whether or not to waive or reduce the filing fee, and in making that determination may require that the complainant provide proof of indigence.

If CAMO determines not to waive the fee, or not to reduce the fee to a level acceptable to complainant, the complainant may seek review of that decision from the Judicial Committee.

§ 1803.

A complaint shall be considered as having been filed for purposes of the Statute of Limitations (as discussed below) only when the filing fee has been paid or a written request for a waiver or reduction has been made.

§ 1804.

If CAMO receives a complaint complying with the requirements of Articles 2 and3 above, including the payment of the filing fee or a reduced fee as set by CAMO, or no fee if the fee is waived by CAMO, it shall docket the complaint, and refer it to the Judicial Committee for adjudication.

If CAMO receives a complaint complying with the requirements of Articles 2 and3 above, except that the filing fee was not paid, and a waiver or reduction has been requested, and CAMO has refused to waive that fee, or a reduced fee as set by CAMO was not paid, it shall nevertheless docket the complaint, and refer it to the Judicial Committee for adjudication of the fee issue, and thereafter to determine the complaint upon compliance with the Committee's ruling on the fee issue

If CAMO receives a purported complaint which does not meet the requirements set forth in Articles 2 and 3, including failure to pay the filing fee without a request for a waiver or reduction, CAMO shall inform the complainant of any deficiencies and request that such deficiencies be corrected within such reasonable time as may be set by CAMO. If the deficiencies noted are not corrected within such reasonable time, CAMO may reject the complaint as improperly filed. If such rejection occurs, CAMO shall promptly notify the complainant by regular mail. That determination is subject only to appeal under the terms of Article 9.

ARTICLE 4. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

§ 1901.

A complaint filed under this Grievance Policy shall be filed within FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS of the occurrence of the alleged violation of the AMMA Rules, other grievance, denial of alleged legal rights, or alleged threat to deny legal rights.

§ 1902.

If a complaint is not timely filed as provided by Section 1901 of this Article, the complainant may, by written motion directed to the Chair, seek leave to file a late complaint based upon excusable neglect, mistake, fraud, undue influence, or some other legal reason as would be commonly recognized of the type which might provide relief under *California Code of Civil Procedure* § 473 or *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure*, Rule 60.

§ 1903.

Any motion for leave to file a late compliant shall be accompanied by the fee or a request for reduction or waiver as described in Article 3 as well as a copy of the proposed complaint.

§ 1904.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 1902 of this Article, in no event shall any complaint be filed more than SIX (6) MONTHS after the alleged date of any alleged violation. Any complaint, filed more than six months after the alleged violation, shall be rejected for docketing by CAMO.

§ 1905.

If a motion for leave to file a late complaint is made in accordance with this Article, CAMO shall initially determine whether or not to allow a late filing. If CAMO determines to allow the late filing, the complaint shall be docketed, and then forwarded to the Judicial Committee for determination of the merits of the claim. If CAMO determines

not to allow the late filing, the complaint shall nevertheless be docketed and forwarded to the Judicial Committee to initially determine whether or not to allow such late filing. If the Committee determines it will allow the late filing, the Committee shall then determine the merits of the complaint. If the Committee determines that it will not allow the late filing, it shall dismiss the complaint, however, that dismissal is subject to appeal under the terms of Article 9.

If CAMO receives a purported motion for leave to file a late complaint which does not meet the requirements set forth in this Article, including failure to pay the filing fee without a request for a waiver or reduction, CAMO shall inform the complainant of any deficiencies and request that such deficiencies be corrected within such reasonable time as may be set by CAMO. If the deficiencies noted are not corrected within such reasonable time, CAMO may reject the complaint as improperly filed for docketing. If such rejection occurs, CAMO shall promptly notify the complainant by regular mail. That determination is subject to appeal under the terms of Article 9.

ARTICLE 5. COMPLAINT ADMINISTRATION/EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

§ 2001.

The Judicial Committee shall generally administer and oversee all grievances or complaints docketed pursuant to this Grievance Policy. The Judicial Committee shall ensure that all complaints are heard in a timely, fair and impartial manner. Requests for continuances shall be made to and determined by the Judicial Committee.

§ 2002.

Upon the request of a party, and provided that it is necessary to expedite the proceeding in order to resolve a matter relating to a competition that is so scheduled that compliance with regular procedures would not be likely to produce a sufficiently early decision to do justice to the affected parties, the Chair, or such other Member of Judicial Committee as the Chair shall select, is authorized to order that the complaint be heard and decided within whatever expedited time line would be fair under the circumstances. That determination is subject to appeal under the terms of Article 9.

§ 2003.

Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of CAMO, the Judicial Committee may promulgate procedures in addition to those set forth in this Chapter for the effective administration of complaints.

ARTICLE 6. HEARING ON COMPLAINT

§ 2101.

After the docketing of a complaint, the Chair of the Judicial Committee shall appoint either the Chair himself or herself, or another of the Members of the Judicial Committee to act the Hearing Officer to hear and adjudicate any fee, late filing, or similar preliminary issues. If such preliminary issues are not present, or if present, are resolved in favor of the complainant, then the Hearing Officer shall then adjudicate the merits of the complaint.
If the preliminary issues are resolved against the complainant, the Hearing Officer shall determine if that resolution is such that the complainant can then comply with the decision. If that is possible, and such compliance thereafter promptly occurs, the Hearing Officers shall then decide the complaint on the merits.

§ 2102.

The Chair shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the Hearing Officer is acceptable to all parties both before and after any disclosure is made pursuant to §2103 below. Prior to any hearing, the parties will be required to agree in writing to waive all claims or causes of action against the Hearing Officer. Should the parties not be able to agree on any of the Members of the Judicial Committee serving as the Hearing Officer the Chair

shall consult with the parties to select an outside Hearing Officer, whose fees will be paid one-half by CAMO and one-half by the complainant. Should the parties fail or refuse to agree in writing to the waiver of claims against the Hearing Officer, the complaint will be dismissed for failure to follow the AMMA Rules. There shall be no appeal from a dismissal under such conditions.

§ 2103.

Any Hearing Officer selected by the Chair to hear a matter shall promptly disclose any potential conflicts of interest with respect to their/his/her ability to hear the matter impartially. Such information, along with the identity of the Hearing Officer shall be promptly disclosed to the complainant and the responding party.

ARTICLE 7. CONDUCT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

§ 2201.

The Hearing Officer shall rule on all motions and other matters raised by the complaint and in the proceedings, and shall adjudicate the complaint. In accepting evidence, unless otherwise indicated, the rules set forth in California Government Code Sections 11513 and 11514 shall be followed.

§ 2202.

The following motions may be made as pre-trial motions or during the hearing itself:

1. Motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim;
2. Motion to dismiss on the grounds that the complaint is barred by the Statute of Limitations
3, Motions to exclude evidence;
4. Motions to exclude witnesses;
5. Motions concerning bifurcation of issues or severability of claims.

§ 2203.

If any party wishes to conduct pre-trial discovery, such request shall be made first to the opposing party. If the parties can reach an agreement as to the type and scope of discovery, they shall thereafter conduct discovery as agreed. If the parties cannot agree on the issue of discovery, or having agreed thereafter reach a disagreement, the matter shall be put to the Hearing Officer for determination. The Hearing Officer shall only permit such minimum amounts and types of discovery as may be absolutely necessary to allow a party to present its claim or defenses. In granting, restricting, or denying the right to discovery, the Hearing Officer's over-riding concern shall not be to approximate the proceedings found in a normal law suit, but to allow the complaint to be adjudicated with maximum speed and with minimum expense to the parties.

§ 2204.

All pre-trial motions shall state the legal basis for the motion and be accompanied by a declaration of the moving party or representative as to the need for the relief sought. Prior to drafting such motion, the moving party shall apply to the Hearing Officer for a date for the hearing. At the discretion of the Hearing Officer, all motions may be heard at the time of the contested hearing on the complaint. The motions shall set forth the date of the hearing, and be served on the opposing side ten (10) business days before the date set for the hearing on the motion. Any response to the motion shall be filed five (5) business days prior to the hearing of the motion. Responses to motions are optional, and the failure to file a response shall not prevent the responding party from arguing against the motion at the time of the hearing.

§ 2205.

The Hearing Officer shall set such timelines and other rules regarding the proceeding and the conduct of the hearing as that Officer deems necessary. The hearing shall be informal, except that testimony shall be taken under oath.

§ 2206.

The hearing may be conducted by teleconference, if necessary or convenient to the parties or the Hearing Officer.

§ 2207.

Each party shall have the right to appear personally or through a legal representative. If the hearing is conducted by telephone, the right to appear shall mean the right to take part in the teleconference.

§ 2208.

All parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present and examine evidence, cross-examine witnesses and to present argument.

§ 2209.

The Hearing Officer shall have the right to question witnesses or the parties to the proceeding at any time.

§ 2210.

Any party may have a tape recording made of the hearing. The cost of that recording and arrangements for it being made shall be borne by the party electing to have a recording made, but copies of the recording shall promptly be made available to CAMO and the opposing party without charge. CAMO may elect to record the hearing, but is not obligated to do so.

§ 2211.

A court reporter may be present at the hearing at the request of a party. The court reporter shall be paid for by the party requesting the court reporter, or if mutually agreed, the cost may be equally divided. Any transcript shall be paid for by the party requesting the transcript.

ARTICLE 8. DECISION

§ 2301.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall take the matter under submission, and thereafter render a decision in writing and distribute it to the parties and to CAMO. All decision may be appealed as set forth in Article 9.

ARTICLE 9. APPEALS

§ 2401.

Only the following appeals shall be allowed to be taken during the pendency of the adjudication process, and in which event the adjudication of the complaint shall be stayed until the determination of the appeal:

A.) Appeal of the denial of a motion to reduce or waive the filing fee;
B.) Appeal of the denial of a motion to recuse a Hearing Officer; and
C.) Appeal of the denial of a motion for an expedited hearing, or an appeal by either side after the granting of such expedited procedure.

If a party intends to take any of these previously described appeals during the pendency of the action, written Notice of Interlocutory Appeal shall be filed by such party at CAMO's offices within 10 days of the ruling in question. If such Notice of Interlocutory Appeal is not given during this period, the issue is waived. At the time of giving such Notice of Interlocutory Appeal, the appealing party shall also file an Appeal Brief as described in Section 2403 below.

§ 2402.

All appeals other than those specified in Section 2401 may be taken only after a decision on the merits of the complaint has been made by the Hearing Officer. Within thirty (30) days of a decision of the Hearing Officer on the complaint, any party and/or CAMO may appeal the decision to CAMO's Chief Executive Officer by filing written Notice of Appeal at CAMO's offices. In the event no Notice of Appeal is filed during this 30 day period, the decision of the Hearing Officer is final.

§ 2403.

In addition to the Notice of Interlocutory Appeal and Notice of Appeal, the appeal itself must be in writing and shall state with specificity: (a) the reasons for the appeal, including citations to specific portions of the decision or to the record of the proceedings and (b) the relief sought. The notice and the appeal itself may be contained in the same document.

§ 2404.

The appeal shall be accompanied by any record of the proceedings held by the Hearing Officer, including any documents to be considered or reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer. If there is no record, then a summary of the evidence prepared by the appealing party shall accompany the appeal. Thereafter, the responding party as well as the Hearing Officer may also individually submit summaries.

§ 2405.

Upon receipt of the written appeal, the Chief Executive Officer shall cause copies of the written appeal and any summaries to be mailed or delivered to the opposing parties and any other person(s) against whom the written appeal seeks specific relief.

Those parties will then have twenty (20) days from the date the appeal was mailed to them to mail or deliver to the Chief Executive Officer a written response to the written appeal and summaries.

§ 2406.

The Chief Executive Officer will then conduct a review of the parties' submissions, the ruling on any motion subject to interlocutory appeal, and the decision of the Hearing Officer to determine if there was substantial evidence to support the decision.

If the decision being appealed is one made by the Chief Executive Office, or if for any reason the Chief Executive Officer is unable or unwilling to conduct that review, the review shall be conducted by the President of CAMO, or such other CAMO officer or other individual as the Chief Executive Officer shall direct.

Thereafter, the Chief Executive Officer, President, designed officer, or other individual shall within a reasonable time period issue a written decision affirming, modifying, remanding, or reversing the ruling on the interlocutory

appeal, or the decision of the Hearing Officer.

§ 2407.

Decisions of the Hearing Officer become final 30 days after they are rendered unless a Notice of Appeal is filed during that period. Decisions on appeal become final once they are issued.