



MALTA BOXING COMMISSION

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TIMEKEEPER GUIDELINES

Timekeepers can only be appointed by the head office of the Malta Boxing Commission (MBC)

Introduction: Quick Guide

Dress Code: Black Shoes, Black Trousers, White Shirt, MBC Tie or Bow Tie and Black Jacket.

The Timekeeper will ensure that there is a Bell or some form of Acoustic Instrument to sound the rounds.

The Timekeeper will have Two Stop watches, or some form of telling the time. (MBC Approved)

The Timekeeper is to Liaise with the Supervisor, and be positioned next to him or her at the Officials Table Ringside.

In all Contests the number of rounds shall be specified. No contest shall exceed 12 rounds nor be less than 8 minutes of actual Boxing.

Rounds shall be of 3 minute duration with an interval between each round of 1 minute. In Female Boxing Contests of 10 rounds or less the rounds may be of 2 minute duration.

It is the recommendation of the Malta Boxing Commission (MBC) that two timekeepers should be used, but one may suffice - One to keep the time of the rounds, the other is utilized for the knockdown call.

Two stopwatches are to be used.

At the commencement of the bout, after the MC introductions, the referee will call both contestants to the centre of the ring and instruct them “to touch gloves” before sending

them back to their respective corners and then he will signal the timekeeper to ring the bell for the first round.

The Timekeeper then announces 'Round One' and shall ring the opening bell.

At the 2 minutes and 50 seconds (or if a two minute round 1 Minute and 50 seconds) of a round the time keeper will bang the gavel twice and raise his left arm in order to signal to the corners that there are ten (10) seconds of the round remaining.

At the three (3) Minute mark, or if a female bout the two (2) minute mark the Timekeeper shall ring the round end bell.

At the fifty (50) second mark of the interval between rounds, the Timekeeper will announce (**Corners Ten Seconds**), then on the fifty five (55) second mark will announce "**Seconds Out, Round 2**" and then on the sixty (60) second mark ring the bell to commence the round and continue to throughout the contest for the amount of rounds specified for the bout.

The Seconds must leave the ring when called upon to do so by the Timekeeper and it shall be the Referee's duty to see that they do

During the bout if the Referee calls or signals for a "Time Out" the Timekeeper shall stop the clock and wait until instructed by the Referee to restart.

Prior to the last round of the bout, the Timekeeper will announce the aforementioned "corners ten seconds) on the fifty (50) second mark but at the fifty five (55) second mark announce "Seconds out (Number of Round) and Final Round"

In the event of a knockout or the referee stops the fight, the Timekeeper will note down time of stoppage and inform the event Supervisor the time and round of the stoppage

REGULATION

(Regulation 1.32)

When a boxer is down the timekeeper shall immediately start counting the elapsed seconds in a loud, clear voice. He shall indicate to the referee each elapsed second with progressive upraised fingers until the referee has either taken up his count or told the boxers to box.

Regulation 1.32 Should a Boxer go down to the floor as the result of a legitimate blow, the Timekeeper shall count off the seconds strictly in accordance with his watch.

The opponent shall retire immediately to the furthest neutral corner and neither Boxer shall resume boxing until ordered to do so by the Referee.

Regulation 1.32.1 In this Regulation 1.32, "down" shall mean one or more of the following:-

- (a) When a Boxer falls from the boxing ring beyond the ring apron as a result of a

legitimate blow; or

- (b) When a Boxer is on one foot or both feet and at the same time any other part of his body is touching the floor of the boxing ring; or
- (c) When a Boxer is supported on the ropes of the boxing ring and, in the opinion of the Referee, is unable to defend himself; or
- (d) When a Boxer is in the act of rising

And in all of the above cases, a Boxer shall be considered to be down until he has regained his feet within the boxing ring and is in a position and a condition to defend himself.

It is entirely up to the referee to determine if a knockdown has occurred. If the referee ignores or waves away the timekeeper, then that is the official ruling.

If the referee is in the course of applying a count and the round has been completed, the bell indicating the end of the round will not be sounded. If the boxer rises before ten (10) is counted and the referee gives the command box, the bell will be sounded to end the round.

When the referee orders and signals time, the timekeeper shall stop the watch and only restart it when the referee orders box.

The timekeeper must always be alert to accept any signals from the referee.

A Referee shall have the power to interrupt the count where he considers that a fallen Boxer is in need of urgent medical attention and in such cases the opponent shall be declared the winner by a technical count out (T.C.O.).

In the event of the count being interrupted by the bell signifying the end of a round, the Contest and the count shall continue either until the Boxer who is down regains his feet within the boxing ring when the end of the round is declared, or until after the full count is reached when the Contest will terminate.

This shall apply in every round including the final round and any Promoter/Boxer Agreement will be deemed to have included this requirement within its terms

If, for any reason, a Referee decides that a Contest shall be stopped temporarily, he shall call upon the Boxers to “stop Boxing” and then instruct the Timekeeper to take “Time out”.

If, during a Contest the Timekeeper is taken ill at any time before the last round, the Referee shall stop the Contest until another official has been appointed by the Malta Boxing Commission official in charge, or the Inspector.

The Referee shall then use his discretion as to whether the Boxers shall continue an unfinished round or declare that round completed.

If for any reason a Referee is unable to continue to act during a Contest the following action shall be taken:-

- (a) If a round is in progress the Timekeeper shall ring the bell and stop the contest.
- (b) Malta Boxing Commission representative in charge, or the Inspector, shall hand the score card for the Contest to another appointed Referee who shall continue to supervise the Contest from the last completed round.
- (c) At the conclusion of the Contest, should it go the full distance, the Referees decision shall be in accordance with the score sheet?
- (d) If no other Referee is available the Malta Boxing Commission representative may appoint the Inspector to act as Referee.