

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOXING FEDERATION

SECTION 7 OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Australian Title Rules



1 November 2015



PREFACE

The Australian National Boxing Federation Ltd rules and regulations can be changed at any time by the ANBF and the changes shall apply from the time of their adoption.

The national executive and the state executive have the discretion in special circumstances to waive individual rules and regulations. State control board rules and regulations and those of recognised international organisations may be allowed to replace the federation's rules and regulations where there is conflict.

This document contains the rules of Chapter 7 from the Australian National Boxing Federation Rules and Regulations as updated at the 2015 Annual General Meeting held on 24th October 2015. These rules are also contained in the Australian National Boxing Federation Rules and Regulations dated 1 November 2015.

If for any reason there is a difference between the rules contained in this document and the full ANBF Rules and Regulations, the rules contained in the full ANBF Rules and Regulation will prevail.

NOTICE

All references to the masculine gender apply equally to the feminine gender, unless stipulated otherwise.



Table of Contents

PREFACE	1
NOTICE	1
68. NOTES TO THESE RULES	1
69. ANBF AUSTRALIAN TITLE GOVERNANCE	1
70. AUSTRALIAN TITLE CONTESTS	1
71. PRE SANCTION CONDITIONS	2
71.1 Residentially Qualified	2
71.2 Conditions and Obligations	2
72. POST SANCTION CONDITIONS	3
73. AUXILIARY CONTRACT	3
74. RATINGS	3
75. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL - VACANT TITLE	4
75.1 Sanctioning Process	4
75.2 Obligations of the new Australian Champion.....	5
76. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL - MANDATORY DEFENCE	5
77. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL - VOLUNTARY DEFENCE	6
78. PURSE BIDS FOR AN AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT	6
79. OFFICIALS AND ROLE OF THE ANBF SUPERVISOR	6
80. WEIGH-IN FOR AUSTRALIAN TITLES	7
81. DEPRIVATION OF AUSTRALIAN TITLE	7
82. DUAL AUSTRALIAN TITLES	8
83. LOSING AUSTRALIAN TITLE IN NON-TITLE CONTEST	8
84. AUSTRALIAN TITLE INELIGIBILITY DUE TO REGIONAL TITLES	9
85. AUSTRALASIAN TITLES	9
86. STATE TITLES	9



68. NOTES TO THESE RULES

- (1) In these rules:
 - (a) ANBF means the Australian National Boxing Federation Ltd.
 - (b) “Director” or “ANBF Director” means a Director of the ANBF;
 - (c) “Secretary” means the ANBF National Secretary;
 - (d) “Champion” means the person who is the Australian Title Champion in any weight division;
 - (e) “Title” or “National Title” means the Australian Title owned by the ANBF;
- (2) These rules apply to the management of the Australian Title owned by the ANBF.
- (3) These rules also apply to Australasian title bouts managed by the ANBF, the NZPBAI or other New Zealand recognised regulatory bodies. These rules should be read in conjunction to the ANBF Rules and Regulations and the ANBF Constitution.
- (4) The ANBF Directors comprise the ANBF President, ANBF Secretary, ANBF Vice President, ANBF Treasurer.

69. ANBF AUSTRALIAN TITLE GOVERNANCE

- (1) Australian title bouts shall be governed and controlled by the ANBF Directors in accordance with these rules except in instances where they conflict with the local Government authority.
- (2) All applications for title bouts are referred to the ANBF Directors for majority approval before the promoter is given sanction.
- (3) The ANBF National Ratings Officer will provide recommendations to the ANBF Directors on Australian title sanctions (vacant title, mandatory defence, voluntary defence) and the ANBF Directors may request such advice from the ANBF National Ratings Officer. The ANBF Directors, while incorporating such advice in their sanctioning decision process, are not bound by any such recommendations provided.
- (4) All issues associated with the management of Australian title contests are referred to the ANBF Directors for decision.
- (5) It is recognised that there may be circumstances that arise that are not covered by these rules. Regardless of this, parties participating in the Australian title accept that the ANBF Directors have the right to make decisions regarding the ratings, sanctioning of Australian title bouts, forfeiting of Australian titles, and the ordering of Australian title bouts.
- (6) The ANBF Directors have the right to vary from these rules as circumstances might require and as the ANBF Directors see fit.

70. AUSTRALIAN TITLE CONTESTS

- (1) Australian title bouts, and sanctions for an Australian title, will be associated with one of three types of title contests:
 - (a) Vacant title (see Section 8);
 - (b) Mandatory defence by the champion (see Section 9);
 - (c) Voluntary defence by the champion (see Section 10).



The conditions and obligation for each of these is detailed in the relevant rules below.

- (2) Australian champions must win the title by contest in the ring. No titles will be awarded without a contest taking place.
- (3) Australian titles shall be fought over 10 three-minute rounds.
- (4) Australian title contests can only be held in Australia.
- (5) The minimum purse payable to an Australian champion when competing over 10 x 3 minute round shall be \$3000.00.
- (6) An Australian champion will be presented with a belt when he/she wins the title. He/she will also be presented with a further belt each time he/she successfully defends this title on three consecutive occasions.
- (7) The sanctioning fee for an Australian title over 10 x 3 minute round is \$1,400 and for bouts of 8 rounds \$800.

71. PRE SANCTION CONDITIONS

71.1 Residentially Qualified

- (1) To contest an Australian title a boxer must be currently residing in Australia and satisfy one of the following conditions:
 - (a) Born in Australia;
 - (b) A naturalised Australian;
 - (c) A resident in Australia continuously for the previous twelve months;
 - (d) In special circumstances at the discretion of Directors of the ANBF.
- (2) The ANBF Secretary may seek proof of such (a), (b) or (c) in clauses (1) or (2) before approving the title bout.
- (3) Proof of residential qualification may be required as a condition of title-bout approval.

71.2 Conditions and Obligations

- (1) The following conditions must be met before the ANBF Directors can approve a sanction of an Australian title bout, unless permission has been granted by the ANBF Directors for other arrangements:
 - (a) Promoters must agree to abide by all ANBF rules and regulations for the title bout;
 - (b) Promoters must have completed and lodged an application for the sanction of the Australian title bout, using the standard application form available on the ANBF website, at least 14 days before the proposed title bout date;
 - (c) The application must satisfy the obligations stated in these rules associated with the contest type and any conditions that may have been specified in a previous auxiliary contract;
 - (d) Promoters should not advertise proposed Australian title contests prior to sanction approval.
- (2) The ANBF is under no obligation to consider boxers that have not informed the ANBF of their availability and contact details.



72. POST SANCTION CONDITIONS

- (1) The following conditions must be met after sanction approval for an Australia title bout to be held, unless permission has been granted for other arrangements:
 - (a) Payment of sanction fees must be lodged and cleared a minimum of seven (7) days before the proposed title bout date;
 - (b) Auxiliary contracts must be signed and lodged with the ANBF Representative prior to the contest and signatories must agree to abide by any special conditions listed subsequently in the contract; Promoters must admit all necessary officials as approved by the ANBF, free of charge, and allow for appropriate seating as required;
 - (c) Both boxers must be a member of the ANBF. No boxer can contest for an Australian Title unless that boxer is a member of the ANBF and whose membership fee has been paid for the current year.
- (2) Failure to adhere to any of the aforementioned rules may result in the Australian title sanction being withdrawn. Such action is at the discretion of the ANBF Directors.

73. AUXILIARY CONTRACT

- (1) Prior to competing in an Australian title bout, a boxer or his/her representative must complete the approved auxiliary contract and must abide by this contract to be so deemed as the champion. Failure to do so may result in withdrawal of recognition. Such action is at the discretion of the ANBF Directors.

74. RATINGS

- (1) Active boxers shall be rated in the Australian Ratings by the ANBF Ratings Officer.
- (2) National ratings shall be compiled each month by the ANBF Ratings Officer, who shall base his/her ratings on results of contests, quality of performances, length of bouts, quality of opposition and degree of activity and any other basis considered relevant.
- (3) Each State may have a rating person that compiles State rating and who may liaise with the National Rating Officer.
- (4) To be considered a contender in a division, a boxer must have boxed within the weight limit of that division at least once in the past twelve months. For ratings purposes only a tolerance no greater than 1% of the upper limit of a division may be applied. .
- (5) A boxer may be rated in more than one division; clauses (2) and (3) will apply.
- (6) Boxers wanting to be removed from the ratings in a particular division should have this advice expressed in writing, by themselves or by their manager, to the ANBF Secretary, who will advise the ANBF Ratings Officer to remove them from that division.
- (7) Boxers who retire should have this advice expressed to the ANBF Secretary, in writing, by themselves or by their manager, who will then advise the ANBF Ratings Officer. The boxer will then be immediately removed from the ratings.



75. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL - VACANT TITLE

75.1 Sanctioning Process

- (1) When an Australian title becomes vacant the ANBF will undertake the process outlined in this section. The intention of the process is to have the highest rated and available boxers contest for the vacant title through providing the opportunity for all interested parties to present proposals to the ANBF of either matches or interested boxers.
- (2) Irrespective of the process outlined below, these rules provide for the ANBF Directors to take any steps or actions which, in its judgement and discretion, are necessary to appropriately fill the title vacancy, including authorising as the challenger a boxer rated in a lower or higher weight division or approving one or more elimination bouts among the leading contenders.
- (3) Noting Clause 8 (2) above, the process for sanctioning a vacant title is as follows.
- (4) Upon an Australian title becoming vacant the ANBF would:
 - (a) Post notification on the ANBF website that the said Australian title has become vacant. The notice shall state that a “Registration of Interest Period” has commenced, during which time interested promoters / managers may lodge a “Registrations of Interest” with the ANBF Secretary of the boxer or boxers they wish to be considered to compete for the vacant Australian title;
 - (b) The ANBF will not consider any application until the Registration of Interest Period has expired;
 - (c) The Registration of Interest Period would normally be one week. However the ANBF Directors have the discretion to increase the one week Registration of Interest Period and any such change would be posted on the website.
- (5) During the Registration of Interest Period:
 - (a) Promoters / managers must lodge a Registration of Interest of the boxers or boxer they wish to be considered to compete for the vacant title with the ANBF Secretary;
 - (b) It is not the responsibility of the ANBF to contact boxers / managers when a Registration of Interest Rule has been advised on the website and invoked.
- (6) After the Registration of Interest Period has elapsed and based on the Registration of Interest(s) received by the ANBF Secretary, the ANBF Directors shall undertake the following:
 - (a) Select the Registration of Interest(s) that contains the two highest rated boxers. This may be one or two Registration of Interests;
 - (b) If a single Registration of Interest contains the two highest rated boxers registered in this process, and if the match is considered by the ANBF Directors as suitable for an Australian title contest, then this Registration of Interest shall be selected;
 - (c) If the two highest rated boxers are contained in separate Registration of Interests, the ANBF Secretary will communicate with the two parties that submitted the respective Registration of Interests and request that they consider a bout between these two highest rated boxers;
 - (d) In both the circumstances described in clauses (b) and c) above, one week would be provided for confirmation that the said bout can occur. Confirmation would entail promoter, date and venue. The ANBF Directors may institute Purse Bids (see Section 11) if this is considered necessary to address a deadlock;



- (e) If after one week such confirmation cannot be provided, the ANBF Directors would have the discretion to pursue other registrations of interest received or to undertake other actions as considered appropriate. This may involve the ANBF Directors selecting the next preferred Registration of Interest based on their assessment of the merits of the proposed match;
- (f) If the above process does not result in a contest considered suitable by the ANBF Directors, then the title would remain vacant until such time as a contest is submitted to the ANBF Secretary that is considered suitable.

75.2 Obligations of the new Australian Champion

- (7) The ANBF may also impose such conditions as it deems proper and necessary upon a new champion, including:
 - (a) Designation of the boxer against whom the first defence will be made (who will be the next highest rated boxer or a boxer selected through an elimination bout); or
 - (b) Ordering the new champion to make his first mandatory defence within a prescribed period of acquiring the title; or
 - (c) Ordering two consecutive mandatory defences, depending on circumstances.
- (8) The mandatory defence period stated on the auxiliary contract will be 90 days unless the two highest rated eligible boxers are contesting the title.

76. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL - MANDATORY DEFENCE

- (1) The mandatory period will be 6 months only when the champion has defeated the mandatory challenger, otherwise it will be 90 days. This means that after defeating the mandatory challenger:
 - (a) Champions must make a mandatory defence within 6 months, or when ordered to do so;
 - (b) After defeating a non-mandatory challenger, champions must make a mandatory defence within 90 days if challenged, or when ordered to do so;
 - (c) Under separate conditions placed on the auxiliary contract, these defences shall be against the number one contender or highest rated available challenger nominated by the Ratings Officer. Every reasonable effort will be made by the ANBF to contact the highest rated challenger. However it shall not be the responsibility of the ANBF to communicate with boxers who have not provided the ANBF Secretary with their current email or phone number.
- (2) A boxer who wins the championship in a voluntary defence inherits the responsibility to make a mandatory defence by the time the former champion's mandatory defence was due but will not be required to make the mandatory defence within sixty days, unless this was an ANBF condition in sanctioning the bout in which he won the championship.
- (3) If the mandatory challenger is unavailable the ANBF Directors may approve an extension or a new mandatory challenger nominated.
- (4) The ANBF Directors have the power to grant extensions to the mandatory date for a title defence by up to a maximum of three months.
- (5) When the champion has been ordered to defend and the deadline is set for the bout, there shall be a seven-day period of free negotiations for the connections of champion and challenger to reach an agreement on purse and site. If there is no agreement, purse bids shall be invited (see Section 11).



- (6) Failure by the champion to defend when ordered to do so will result in the withdrawal of recognition of him as champion, provided that:
 - (a) A promoter was willing to promote the contest at terms which the ANBF Directors considered reasonable;
 - (b) The champion and challenger were medically fit.
- (7) If the mandatory contest has not taken place within the established period (including any 3 months extension granted) the title will be declared vacant unless both challenger and champion have reached agreement on a date considered acceptable by the ANBF Directors.
- (8) When a champion does not have a worthy contender, the champion will not be called upon to defend his title. If a worthy contender does appear, the champion shall be ordered to defend against him as soon as the match can be arranged.

77. AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT APPROVAL -VOLUNTARY DEFENCE

- (1) Between mandatory defences, champions may make as many voluntary defences as they wish, against a rated contender, a champion of another division or, with the sanction of the ANBF Directors, against a retired champion or another boxer considered worthy.

78. PURSE BIDS FOR AN AUSTRALIAN TITLE BOUT

- (1) The procedure for purse bids shall be:
 - (a) The ANBF Secretary shall by use of written correspondence, including electronic mediums, invite promoters to file bids within the seven day time frame. This communication must detail the names of the boxers involved, total amount offered and date and location of bout. Prior to entering into purse bids competing parties must lodge a sanction fee. If a party withdraws at any stage of the purse process including after the winning purse bid has been announced, the sanction fee is forfeited;
 - (b) At the given date and time, the ANBF Secretary and an approved witness will open the purse bids, the ANBF Secretary shall award the promotion to the highest bidder and the champion and challenger must accept the winning offer;
 - (c) In the event of two or more bidders offering the same highest total amount, the champion may choose which promoter that will stage the bout;
 - (d) The division of the purse will be sixty percent (60%) to the champion and forty percent (40%) to the challenger.

79. OFFICIALS AND ROLE OF THE ANBF SUPERVISOR

- (1) All officials (i.e. supervisor, judges, referee, timekeeper) shall be members of the ANBF.
- (2) The ANBF Directors shall appoint a supervisor for each Australian Title fight. The role of the ANBF supervisor entails matters associated with the management of the Australian Title that is being contested. This shall include (but not be limited to):
 - (a) Attending the weigh-in and adjudicating any matters associated with failure to make the specified weight in accordance with these rules;
 - (b) Auxiliary contracts including having thee signed;



- (c) Collection of sanction fees;
 - (d) Signing up the contestants if not all ready ANBF members;
 - (e) Recording the score using a scoresheet (which may involve sitting next to the appointed Government recorder);
 - (f) Awarding or arranging of the awarding of the belt to the winner;
 - (g) Post fight writing a brief account of the fight including photos if this can be arranged;
 - (h) Noting any issues associated with the fight that may need later consideration.
- (3) Supervision associated with the conduct of the title fight, that include matters such platform and mat, anti-doping test, medical record books, scorecards, cut eye, weigh-ins, disputes would be undertaken by the government body in those States where boxing is controlled by a government body, and by an ANBF Supervisor where this is not the case. The duties of the ANBF supervisor associated with the conduct of a title fight are described in the ANBF Rules – Conduct of Boxing.

80. WEIGH-IN FOR AUSTRALIAN TITLES

- (1) Weigh-in times for Australian title bouts must be within 24 hours of the time the promotion is due to start and must be conducted with an ANBF appointed supervisor in attendance.
- (2) Boxers must submit to a weight check by ANBF officials up to half an hour prior to the start of a promotion if requested by the ANBF. This will not be regarded as the official weight.
- (3) In the event of a dispute relating to the official weigh-in time, when an agreement cannot be reached by both parties, the matter will be referred to and decided by, the controlling body (which would be the government appointed party in States where boxing is controlled by a government body, ANBF Queensland branch in Queensland, and an ANBF Supervisor in other circumstances). This must be done prior to any contracts being signed or verbal agreements being made.
- (4) The contestants will be allowed two hours after the first weigh-in (at the announced time) to make the required weight, and will be allowed any number of times on the scales during that period.
- (5) If the champion cannot make the weight in that period of time, he will lose the title on the scales. If the challenger makes the weight, and wins the bout, he is the new champion. If the ex-champion wins, the title remains vacant.
- (6) In the case of a vacant title, if a contestant cannot make the prescribed weight and wins, he shall not be declared the champion and the title shall remain vacant. If the other contestant makes the prescribed weight and wins he shall be declared the champion.
- (7) If at the weigh-in for an Australian title fight the champion weighs within the limit and the challenger fails to make the weight at the final weigh-in, the contest shall proceed as a non-title fight.

81. DEPRIVATION OF AUSTRALIAN TITLE

- (1) An Australian champion will be deprived of his/her Australian title and the Australian title will automatically be declared vacant if he/she:
 - (a) Announces his retirement in writing to the ANBF;
 - (c) Fails to defend his title when ordered to do so by the ANBF Directors. This includes failure to defend against the mandatory challenger when ordered to do so by a particular date;



- (d) Fails to defend against the nominated contender;
 - (e) Leaves Australia with the intention of residing in another country and not returning within six months;
 - (f) Leaves Australia and remains away from Australia until after his defence is due, and there is a worthy contender;
 - (g) If injuries or illness preclude him/her from a defence within a time considered by ANBF Directors to be reasonable;
 - (h) Is jailed for a period of time which would preclude him from defending the title in the defined time or when so ordered;
 - (i) demands an excessive purse and refuses to fight for a purse which is considered by the ANBF to be adequate;
 - (j) Wins a world title or regional title;
 - (k) Has not defended the title within a given time – to be decided by the ANBF Directors considering all aspects of the situation;
- (2) An Australian champion becomes inactive for a period of nine months they will be notified by the ANBF Secretary that the title will be declared vacant unless he becomes active within 90 days of notification.
- (3) If a champion fails to meet his obligations under these rules the ANBF Secretary is required to notify the relevant party (such as the champions manager) that the ANBF no longer recognises him/her as Australian titleholder. The ANBF Secretary is authorised to notify the relevant authorities, media, affiliated organisations and relevant parties of this decision.
- (4) In the event the Australian title is declared vacant, the rules listed in the Section 8 “Australian Title Bout Approval – Vacant Title” will be implemented.

82. DUAL AUSTRALIAN TITLES

- (1) A boxer may only hold one ANBF Australian title. If the champion in a weight division wishes to contest an ANBF Australian title in another weight division, either higher or lower, this must be approved by the ANBF Directors.
- (2) Should the champion successfully win that title, he/she will be given 7 days to notify the ANBF Secretary of the Australian title he/she wishes to be recognised. The title advised by the boxer that he/she does will relinquish, or in the case of no communication by the boxer within the 7 day period in which case the title previously held by the boxer, will be declared vacant and the ANBF Secretary will notify the relevant authorities, media, affiliated organisations and relevant parties of this decision.

83. LOSING AUSTRALIAN TITLE IN NON-TITLE CONTEST

- (1) An Australian champion will automatically lose his/her title in a non-title contest if he/she is knocked out by an opponent, provided that all of the following conditions exist:
- (a) The opponent is residentially qualified to contest for the title held by the champion;
 - (b) The champion and his opponent each weigh, at the accepted time of weigh-in, within the weight limits of the division in which the champion holds the title, except in a case where a titleholder was contracted to make a weight limit within the division;



- (c) The contest is conducted over three-minute rounds, irrespective of the scheduled number of rounds;
- (d) The opponent must sign an ANBF auxiliary contract before he is officially recognised as the champion.

Definition –For the purpose of this rule, ‘knocked out’ shall mean the bout being stopped by the referee for any reason other than injury.

84. AUSTRALIAN TITLE INELIGIBILITY DUE TO REGIONAL TITLES

- 1) If an Australian champion contests any regional title, in any weight division his recognition as Australian champion will be withdrawn.

Note: In the definition above regional titles exclude the Commonwealth Title.

- 2) A boxer who holds a world title or a regional title recognised by the ANBF as defined in this Rule 17 will not be permitted to contest or hold an Australian title in any weight division. To be considered as a challenger and have sanction for such a bout the following conditions must be complied with:
 - (a) The boxer, his manager or trainer must notify the ruling world organisation, in writing, that he has relinquished that title;
 - (b) A copy of this correspondence must be sent to the ANBF Secretary prior to his challenge being accepted by the ANBF Secretary.

85. AUSTRALASIAN TITLES

- (1) Australasian champions must win the title by contest in the ring. No titles will be awarded without a contest taking place.
- (2) Australasian title bouts must be over 10 rounds of three minutes between the professional boxing champions of Australia and New Zealand.
- (3) Eligible boxers are persons who comply with the residency requirements (to contest for the respective Australian and New Zealand titles) of the ANBF, NZPBAI, or other New Zealand recognised regulatory bodies.
- (4) If the title of one or both countries is vacant, the number one or highest rated available contender (according to the ANBF and recognised New Zealand ratings) for the vacant title may meet the champion of the other country, or the number one or highest rated available contender for the vacant national title of the other country, for the Australasian title.
- (5) Australasian title bout conditions are outlined in a joint agreement signed by the ANBF and New Zealand Professional Boxing Association (NZPBA). If the contest is held in Australia, the contest is held under the rules of the ANBF. If the contest is held in New Zealand then the contest is held under the rules of the NZPBAI.

86. STATE TITLES

- (1) The management of State titles in those States that have an ANBF branch is the responsibility of that State branch. The sanctioning rules of those States that have an ANBF branch are developed and published by those States.
- (2) State titles in those States that have an ANBF branch would be contested under the ANBF Rules and Regulation.