

# **Cageside Crew**

## **OFFICIAL AMATEUR MMA**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### **Authority:**

The rules and regulations within this document make up the official rules of Cageside Crew. Regulations must be followed for all Cageside Crew amateur sanctioned events.

All individuals that are associated with any Cageside Crew sanctioned event must be familiar with the rules, regulations, and state/local ordinances. Any questions or interpretations for an event should be referred to the event commissioner. Upon reaching a signed agreement, enforcement of these rules shall be the promoter, promoter representatives, officials, and the Cageside Crew representatives' responsibility.

The promoter will be responsible to ensure that authority of the officials is respected and the rules and regulations of the Cageside Crew and the instructions of the Cageside Crew representative are strictly adhered to and carried out. Foul language and or physical threats against an official of Cageside Crew will not be tolerated. No one shall interfere with the event representatives' duties. It is the promoter's responsibility to have anyone that threatens, uses foul language or interferes with an official's duty, removed from the premises before the event can continue.

Upon request free admission and or tickets must be provided to the appropriate state authority which allows total access to the competitors, officials and dressing area without restraint. Any Cageside Crew officer, representative, or official must appear before the Indiana Gaming Commission as requested. They must answer any question from an official of the Indiana Gaming Commission truthfully and to the best of their ability, including complaints, protests, and violations of the promoter, contestant, official, or Cageside Crew itself.

## **Section I**

### *Rules Governing Fighters*

#### **Definition of an Amateur MMA fighter:**

An amateur:

- 1) Has never received a purse or prize with a value greater than One Hundred Dollars (\$100) in any state, country, or tribal nation.
- 2) May not currently hold or previously held a professional license by any state, country, or tribal nation.

Any person that does not meet this criterion is considered a professional and may not compete in a Cageside Crew amateur event.

### **A) Contestant Requirements (submitted at time of weigh-ins):**

- 1) A fighter must be at least 18 years old at time of weigh-ins in order to compete in an amateur MMA event sanctioned by Cageside Crew.
- 2) Fighter must show a valid photo ID with proof of age and name to a Cageside Crew representative prior to weigh-ins. (State ID card, State Drivers License, Military ID, and Valid Passports are acceptable. All other forms of ID are at the discretion of the Cageside Crew Official)
- 3) Must possess an active mixed martial arts national identification card.
- 4) Cageside Crew will run all contestant names through the professional and amateur database at mixedmartialarts.com and any website registry certified and operated by the Association of Boxing Commissions to ensure that the contestants have not:
  - a) Had a professional fight
  - b) Been placed under medical suspension or suspension due to conduct with any other sanctioning body or commission
  - c) Fought in the last 7 days

### **B) Medical Testing Requirements**

- 1) BLOOD WORK - Required of all MMA participants and submitted at the time of weigh-ins.
  - a) HIV-1: A blood test that verifies the applicant is HIV negative.
  - b) HEPATITIS B: A blood test that verifies the applicant is Hepatitis B (HBsAg) negative.
  - c) HEPATITIS C: A blood test that verifies the applicant is Hepatitis C (HCVAb) negative.
- 2) PHYSICAL - All contestants must submit proof of completion and approval of a complete and thorough physical examination by a licensed physician (MD). The examining physician shall conduct examinations and tests necessary to attest to the fitness of the applicant to engage in contests. Within 1 year from the date of the event. If a contestant does not have this document, the contestant shall be prohibited from competing during that specific contest.
- 3) For female amateur mixed martial artists, over-the-counter pregnancy test will be taken the night of their fight. Upon a negative result they will be approved to compete at said venue and event.
- 4) Prior to engaging in a contest, all contestants must submit to a physical examination by a physician (MD) licensed under IC 25-22.5 no more than 2 hours prior to the start of the event.
  - a) The physical examination given to contestants shall include, at a minimum, the following: weight, pulse, blood pressure, examination of the lungs and heart, and general physical condition.
  - b) Contestants shall disclose all medical history and conditions to the physician during the physical examination.
  - c) The physician shall conduct examinations and tests necessary to attest to the fitness of the contestants engaged in the contest. The physician shall certify in writing on a form prescribed by Cageside Crew those contestants who are in good physical condition to compete.
  - d) If, upon physical examination, a contestant is determined by the physician to be unfit for competition, the contestant shall be prohibited from competing during that specific contest.

5) A competitor that is under medical suspension with any state, country, tribal nation, or another sanctioning body will not be allowed to compete in a Cageside Crew Sanctioned event unless suspension is eliminated prior to the weigh-ins.

a) Cageside Crew commissioners are mandated to check recent results of all event competitors to ensure they are not listed on any medical suspension lists.

### **C) Physical Appearance**

1) Fingernails and toenails shall be sufficiently trimmed to avoid the risk of cutting or scratching an opponent.

2) Hair shall be trimmed or tied back so that the hair does not interfere with the vision of the contestant or cover the contestant's eyes. A Cageside Crew representative shall determine whether a contestant's head and facial hair presents any safety hazard to the contestant or his or her opponent or would interfere with the supervision and conduct of the bout.

3) Body grease, gels, balms or lotions applied to any part of a contestant is prohibited. Petroleum jelly or other similar petroleum based product may be applied to the mask area of the face at cage side in the presence of an inspector, referee or person designated by Cageside Crew. The referee or Cageside Crew representative shall cause any excessive petroleum jelly or other permitted substance or any foreign substance to be removed to his or her satisfaction. Any contestant applying anything to any part of his or her body outside the presence of an inspector, referee or person designated by the Cageside Crew may be penalized a point or disqualified. (This also applies to medical creams such as Icy Hot, Ben Gay, or any other substance)

4) No cosmetics shall be worn during a bout.

5) Jewelry or piercing accessories are prohibited.

6) Any cosmetic procedures that have resulted in an orifice that can fit a digit must be covered by tape to ensure they this does not interfere with the fight.

### **D) Attire and Equipment for Contestants**

1) All contestants shall wear an individually fitted mouthpiece, which shall be subject to examination and approval by the referee or Cageside Crew representative.

(a) A round will not begin until both contestants have their respective mouthpieces in place.

2) All contestants shall wear athletic shorts that do not extend below the knee, such as mixed martial arts shorts, grappling or fighting shorts, boxing shorts, kickboxing shorts or biking shorts. Shorts may not have metal parts, belt loops or pockets. Shorts with an inside thigh friction material or grip panel are not allowed.

3) Support braces are allowed for the knee, elbow, or ankle. These braces must be tight fitting and have no hard plastic, metal, or Velcro straps. Braces must be approved by the referee and/or the Cageside Crew representative.

4) Contestants must wear a protective cup or a foul proof groin protector.

5) All equipment and attire are subject to approval by the Cageside Crew. A referee or other Cageside Crew representative may direct a contestant to change any attire or equipment that he or she determines gives unfair advantage or is a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the other contestant or the public.

6) Female competitors may wear a pelvic protector with a non rigid material

(optional).

7) All female competitors must wear a tight fitting top. This includes a rash guard, spandex top or sports bra.

8) Shoes are prohibited during competition.

### **E) Bandages/Hand wraps**

In all weight classes, seconds must adhere to the following for wrapping hands:

1) The bandages/hand wraps shall consist of soft gauze type cloth that is no more than 15 yards in length and 2 inches in width and held in place by no more than 10 feet of athletic tape, provided that the tape shall be no more than 1.5 inches in width for each hand.

2) The athletic tape shall be placed directly on each hand for protection near the wrist but may not extend past the padding of the gloves.

3) All mixed martial arts contestants shall be required to gauze and tape their hands prior to all contests.

4) Substances other than athletic tape and soft gauze shall not be utilized.

***Pre-wraps shall not be allowed.***

5) The Cageside Crew official, inspector or referee shall approve all bandages and taping prior to gloves being placed on any contestant. ***Under no circumstances are gloves to be placed on the hands of a contestant before approval by referee, inspector or Cageside Crew official.***

### **F) Gloves for Contestants**

1) Contestants competing against each other in the same bout shall wear similar sized gloves.

2) Gloves shall be appropriate in size for the contestant and shall be no less than 6 ounces in weight.

3) Gloves shall be whole, clean and in good condition. Broken gloves are prohibited during any bout or contest.

4) Gloves that are padded in the palm or fingertip area are prohibited.

5) All gloves shall be inspected and approved by the referee or Cageside Crew representative prior to each bout. The referee or Cageside Crew representative may inspect gloves at any time.

### **G) Corner Men and Seconds**

1) No more than 2 Corner Men in a fighters corner at any time.

a) Only 1 second may enter the cage in between rounds.

b) Corner Men may not enter cage prior to the start of the fight.

2) Corner Men must wear disposable latex gloves during the fight.

3) Corner Men may not apply water, by way of pouring over or upon, the fighter.

4) Corner Men are not to leave their fighters corner while the fight is in progress.

a) If they leave to give instructions to their fighter, the referee will determine what action to take. These actions include but are not limited to:

(i) Verbal Warning

(ii) Point Deduction

(iii) Disqualification

b) Corner Men may not touch cage while fight is in progress.

5) No verbal or physical abuse towards any officials will be tolerated. Corner men must follow instructions from the referee and must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. Failure to do so can result in point deductions, forfeiture of their fighter, and/or a suspension. If they have a complaint they can file it to

Cageside Crew after the fight has been completed. Cageside Crew will then forward ALL complaints to the Indiana Gaming Commission.

**H) Drug Testing - *An amateur contestant is not permitted to participate at an event if the amateur contestant has a prohibited drug in his or her possession or control.***

- 1) The promoter must ensure that all costs of obtaining a drug test laboratory result ordered by Cageside Crew are paid.
- 2) Each fighter participating in a championship bout must submit to a test for prohibited drugs.
- 3) The head Cageside Crew commissioner representative may, upon random selection or reasonable cause, order a fighter scheduled to participate in a bout to submit to a test for the detection of a prohibited drug.
- 4) Reasonable cause will be deemed to exist if one (1) or more of the following exists:
  - a) A fighter has previously tested positive for a prohibited drug.
  - b) Cageside Crew obtains information from a reliable source that a fighter is under the influence of a drug.
  - c) The fighter is observed to be acting under the influence of a drug.
- 5) At each event, a random selection of fighters for random testing for prohibited drugs may be conducted, using the following lottery system:
  - a) Each bout occurring at the event will be numbered.
  - b) The number of each bout will be written on separate pieces of paper supplied by Cageside Crew.
- 6) Both fighters who compete in the selected bout must submit to a test.
- 7) A fighter may not refuse to submit to a test ordered. A fighter will be found to have failed the test if he or she refuses to submit to the testing procedures.
- 8) A fighter participating in the event or fighter's representative may witness the selection of the bout that will be tested.
- 9) Test results must be submitted by the laboratory directly to Cageside Crew within five (5) days of the event. Cageside Crew may grant an extension of time if the results cannot be obtained within that time.

**I) Positive drug test**

- 1) If a winning fighter has a confirmed positive drug test result from a sample taken immediately following the fighter's bout or refuses to submit to a test, the official bout result shall be changed to a no contest.
- 2) If a losing fighter has a confirmed positive drug test result from a sample taken immediately following the fighter's bout or refuses to submit to a test, the bout result will remain unchanged.
- 3) All failed or refused drug tests will be reported to the Indiana Gaming Commission.
- 4) All fighters who fail a drug test will be subject to a forty-five (45) day suspension by Cageside Crew and will be reported to the Indiana Gaming Commission for further disciplinary action.

**J) Consumables Before and During the Contest**

- 1) Only water or an approved electrolyte drink by Cageside Crew may be consumed during the bout. Contestants should not consume energy drinks on the date of the contest.

# **SECTION II**

## ***RULES GOVERNING PROMOTERS***

- A) A promoter in the state of Indiana must have a valid promoter license from the commission under IC 4-33-22, in order to utilize Cageside Crew sanctioning services.
- B) Promoters and organizations associated with the contests shall be deemed to have knowledge of the applicable laws and rules of the State of Indiana. Cageside Crew will enforce these rules and ensure that the promoter is in compliance.
- C) A promoter may not be a contestant, second, corner person, or any official in a contest he or she is promoting.
- D) Responsibilities of promoters shall include:
- 1) Full responsibility for all aspects of the contest and for meeting all deadlines for submission of contest permit and promoter licensure applications to the Indiana Gaming Commission and Cageside Crew.
  - 2) Supervision of their agents, employees, and representatives, the conduct of those agents, employees and representatives, and any violation of the Act or this Part related to the contest. Any violation by an agent, employee or representative of a promoter is a violation by the promoter.
- E) A promoter who wishes to promote an event must provide to the commission the following information not fewer than fourteen (14) days before the proposed event:
- 1) The proposed date and starting time of the event.
  - 2) The name of the venue, including the address, where the event will take place.
  - 3) The name of the sanctioning body that will be providing regulatory oversight at the event.
- F) The promoter is required to register, in a timely manner, their event in advance with the Association of Boxing Commissions designated national record keeper, MMA.TV, and receive approval from Cageside Crew for each specific requested bout.
- G) Fighting Facility
- 1) Public Safety:
    - a) Promoters shall be responsible for ensuring the maintenance of adequate public safety and security for all contests, event staff, and spectators. Failure to ensure adequate public safety may result in cancellation of a contest, discipline against a promoter's license, denial of future contest permits, or any combination thereof.
    - b) Promoters shall provide notification to contestants of the weigh-in time and location. The promoter shall also be responsible for notifying contestants when to report to their dressing room on the day of the contest; that time shall be determined by the sanctioning body.
  - 2) Facility must be located no further than 15 miles from the nearest hospital with 24 hour emergency staff. Hospital must be identified and confirmed with the EMTs prior to the event.
- H) Medical Staff
- 1) Promoters shall arrange for at least one advanced life support ambulance to be on-site, at all times, at each bout, along with 2 licensed paramedics, a stretcher, oxygen and proper resuscitation equipment as provided for in the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Center Code.

- a) Medical personal must be certified under IC 16-31-3.
  - b) Ambulance must meet requirements described in 836 IAC 2.
  - c) No bout shall continue without the presence of the 2 paramedics and the required equipment as provided for in area.
  - d) 72 hours prior to the event the promoter must give Cageside Crew a completed ambulance agreement letter.
- 2) There must be 1 physician present at cage-side during each fight and prior to the fight to conduct pre-fight physicals.
- a) Physician must be selected and hired by the promoter and approved by Cageside Crew.
  - b) Physician must be licensed under IC 25-22.5.
  - c) During the event the physician must be positioned immediately outside the fighting area to provide emergency medical care, while the bouts are in progress.
  - d) Immediately after a bout, the physician must enter the fighting area to examine each competitor and recommend any further medical attention or medical suspensions for the competitors.
  - e) 72 hours prior to the event the promoter must give Cageside Crew a completed physician agreement letter.

#### I) Insurance

- 1) The promoter must provide insurance for the competitors in each event should an injury occur during a bout.
- a) Each contestant's primary death and dismemberment insurance for not less than \$5,000 paid to the estate of the contestant. Any deductible is to be paid by the promoter.
  - b) Each contestant's primary medical insurance for not less than \$5,000 with any deductible paid by the promoter.
- 2) Promoter must show proof of insurance 72 hours before the event.

#### J) Promoter Must Supply And Provide:

- 1) Promoters shall provide all materials necessary to conduct the contest, including but not limited to such items as:
- a) The fighting area.
  - b) An adequate number of tables and chairs for fighting area apron seating that meet the requirements of Cageside Crew.
  - c) Stools, buzzer or whistle, bell or gong, timer, contestants' gloves, gauze, tape for hand wraps, red and blue tape for gloves, and properly calibrated scales.
  - d) Clean dressing room facilities, including washroom for contestants and officials.
  - e) Appropriate cleaning solution for cleaning the fighting area between rounds and bouts.
  - f) An adequate supply of disposable hygienic gloves to be worn by the referees, the physician and the corner men.
  - g) An acceptable means of disposing of items containing blood-borne pathogens.
  - h) An adequate supply of bottled water and ice for use by all competitors at the event.

# SECTION III

## *Officials Rules*

A) This section contains names of Officials and the descriptions of said officials. All officials will be directly appointed by Cageside Crew.

1) **Cageside Crew Representative** - The Cageside Crew Representative shall oversee all officials and ensure they are abiding by rules and regulations pertaining to this document.

2) **Referee** - The Referee will oversee the entire match from within the cage in order to ensure the safety of the fighters. If a fighter looks helpless and receives repeated blows but does not tap out or call out a signal to quit or end the bout, he may be called "out" by the referee and the bout stopped if the referee feels it is necessary for the safety of the fighter in question.

a) Referees must be licensed through the state of Indiana and be in good standing.

3) **Judge** - The 10-Point Must System will be the standard system of scoring a bout. Under the 10-Point Must 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).

a) Judges shall evaluate mixed martial arts techniques, such as effective striking, effective grappling, control of the fighting area, effective aggressiveness, and effective defense.

b) Evaluations shall be made in the order in which the techniques appear in a) above, giving the most weight in scoring to effective striking and grappling, control of the fighting area, effective aggressiveness and effective defense.

c) Effective striking is judged by determining the total number of legal heavy strikes landed by a contestant.

d) Effective grappling is judged by considering the amount of successful executions of a legal takedown and reversals. Examples of factors to consider are take downs from standing position to mount position, passing the guard to mount position, and bottom position fighters using an active, threatening guard.

e) Fighting area control is judged by determining who is dictating the pace, location and position of the bout. Examples of factors to consider are countering a grappler's attempt at takedown by remaining standing and legally striking; taking down an opponent to force a ground fight; creating threatening submission attempts, passing the guard to achieve mount, and creating striking opportunities.

f) Effective aggressiveness means moving forward and landing a legal strike.

g) Effective defense means avoiding being struck, taken down or reversed while countering with offensive attacks.

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

- i) A round is to be scored as a 10-10 Round when both contestants appear to be fighting evenly and neither contestant shows clear dominance in a round;
- ii) A round is to be scored as a 10-9 Round when a contestant wins by a close margin, landing the greater number of effective legal strikes, grappling and other maneuvers;
- iii) A round is to be scored as a 10-8 Round when a contestant overwhelmingly dominates by striking or grappling in a round;
- iv) A round is to be scored as a 10-7 Round when a contestant totally dominates by striking or grappling in a round.

i) Judges must have judged at least one (1) event and be knowledgeable in the 10 Point Must System.

4) **Timekeeper** -The timekeeper is to begin the clock for the start of each round, as initiated by the referee. Start and stop the match clock for time stoppages as called by the referee.

a) Timekeepers must have served as a timekeeper for at least one (1) previous event and be knowledgeable of his/her duties.

5) **Physician** - The Physician is to be at cage side for all active matches and cannot leave until the completion of the final match. They will also examine all fighters after their bouts to determine if a medical suspension should be placed on fighter.

a) Physicians must be licensed under IC 25-22.5 and be in good standing.

# **SECTION IV**

## ***EVENT RULES***

### **A) Weigh-Ins**

- 1) The weigh-in shall be conducted by a Cageside Crew representative at a time and place approved by Cageside Crew.
- 2) The scale used for the weigh-in shall be provided by the promoter and approved by Cageside Crew. Cageside Crew may, in its discretion, use the scales furnished by the promoter or use its own scales. All scales furnished by the promoter shall be thoroughly tested and approved by the representative of Cageside Crew prior to being used in connection with any contest.
- 3) Each contestant shall be weighed in the presence of his or her opponent, a representative of Cageside Crew, and an official representing the promoter. Weigh-ins shall be open to the public.
- 4) Contestants shall have all weights stripped from their bodies before weigh in.
- 5) Contestants who fail to make the weight for their designated weight class shall be given up to 2 hours to make required weight. Any contestant who fails to make the weight shall be disqualified unless both contestants consent to participate in the scheduled bout.

### **B) Weight Classes**

- 1) Cageside Crew will follow the accepted weight classes listed below

#### **Weight classes in pounds**

1. Flyweight: 125 and under (with not more than a 10 pound spread)
2. Bantamweight 125.1 to 135
3. Featherweight 135.1 to 145
4. Lightweight 145.1 to 155
5. Welterweight 155.1 to 170
6. Middleweight 170.1 to 185
7. Light Heavyweight 185.1 to 205
8. Cruiser Heavyweight 205.1 to 230
9. Heavyweight 230.1 to 265
10. Super Heavyweight 265.1 and Over

\*Weights will be rounded to the nearest pound.

### **C) Weight Allowances**

- 1) Each non-title fight will give a 2 pound weight allowance.
- 2) For a title fight there is no weight allowance.
- 3) Fighters in different weight classes may not compete against each other if the difference in weight between the fighters exceeds these allowances:
  - a) 135 and under – maximum of 3 pounds
  - b) 135.1 to 170 – maximum of 5 pounds
  - c) 170.1 to 205 – maximum of 7 pounds
  - d) 205.1 to 265 – maximum of 15 pounds
  - e) 265.1 and up – no maximum
- 4) Notwithstanding 3) above, bouts may be held between fighters who have a weight differential exceeding the maximum if Cageside Crew explicitly approves the bout and the fighter who weighs less signs a liability waiver.

#### D) Match Approval

- 1) Bout list must be sent to Cageside Crew 7 days prior to the event. Bout list must include the name and the national ID number of every participant.
  - a) Upon receipt Cageside Crew will ensure that bouts are between two competitors of comparable experience and records. If the fighters do not have comparable records and experience, the fight will not be permitted.
- 2) Cageside Crew will not approve:
  - a) Bouts that are not MMA fights.
  - b) Bouts in which a professional fighter competes.
  - c) Bouts between members of the opposite sex.
  - d) Bouts between professional and amateur contestants.
  - e) Bouts between human contestants and nonhumans.
  - f) Contests with more than 2 contestants competing in the same bout.

#### E) Fight Rules

- 1) Amateur mixed martial arts bouts shall be contested using either "Novice Division Rules", designated for fighters who have competed in less than three (3) bouts, or using "Advanced Division Rules", designated for fighters who have competed in three (3) or more verifiable bouts regulated by a recognized commission or state approved sanction body and subject to Cageside Crew matchmaking approval.
- 2) The only difference between Novice and Advanced Division rules is that it is a foul to strike the head of a grounded fighter in a Novice Division bout.
- 3) A fighter who has already fought a sanctioned amateur fight prior to October 1, 2011 may still fight at the Advanced Division level. The Novice Division will be for fighters making their amateur fighting debut, for individuals who have no verifiable bouts regulated by a recognized commission or state approved sanctioning body, and who don't meet the minimum amount of fights to compete in the Advanced Division. Bouts between fighters who have three (3) or more verifiable bouts regulated by a recognized commission or state approved sanctioning body may be contested using Novice Division rules at the discretion of Cageside Crew.

#### F) The following are fouls and will result in penalties such as warning, point deduction, or disqualification, if committed:

- 1) Holding or grabbing the fence or ropes.
- 2) Holding opponent's shorts or gloves.
- 3) Butting with the head.
- 4) Eye gouging.
- 5) Biting or spitting at an opponent.
- 6) Hair pulling.
- 7) Fish Hooking.
- 8) Groin attacks of any kind.
- 9) Intentional placing of the finger into any orifice or into any cut or laceration of your opponent.
- 10) Elbow strikes of any kind to any area.
- 11) Small joint manipulation.
- 12) Strikes to the spine or the back of the head.
- 13) Heel kicks to the kidney.
- 14) No throat strikes of any kind are allowed.

- 15) Clawing, Pinching, Twisting the flesh or grabbing the clavicle.
- 16) Kicking the head of a downed opponent.
- 17) Kneeing the head of an opponent.
- 18) Stomping of a grounded fighter.
- 19) The use of abusive language in the fighting area.
- 20) Any unreasonable conduct of any kind that may cause an injury to opponent or any officials.
- 21) Attacking an opponent on or during the break.
- 22) Attacking an opponent who is under the care of the referee.
- 23) Timidity.
- 24) Interference from a corner.
- 25) Throwing an opponent out of the cage or ring fighting area.
- 26) Flagrant disregard of the referee's instructions.
- 27) Spiking the opponent to the floor onto the head or neck.
- 28) Attacking an opponent after the bell or horn has sounded the end of the period of unarmed combat.
- 29) Linear kicks to the knee joint.
- 30) Neck Cranks: Any hold that places the fighter's neck in jeopardy from a crank is illegal. Neck cranks such as the "Can Opener" or "Bulldog" are examples of an illegal neck attack, unless the contestant is in their guard and refuses to open their guard.
- 31) All twisting leg submissions: Heel hooks and toe holds are prohibited.
- 32) Spine locks.
- 33) Striking the head of a grounded opponent \*\*\***only a foul in the Novice Division**\*\*\*

G) Disqualification occurs after any combination of three of the fouls listed in (F) above or after a referee determines that a foul was intentional and flagrant.

H) Fouls will result in a point being deducted by the official scorekeeper from the offending mixed martial artist's score.

I) Only a referee can assess a foul. 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.

J) A fouled fighter has up to five minutes to recuperate from a groin strike.

K) The referee will determine how much time to recuperate from any other illegal act.

L) If a foul is committed, the referee shall:

- 1) Call time.
- 2) Check the fouled mixed martial artist's condition and safety.
- 3) Assess the foul to the offending contestant, deduct points, and notify each corner's seconds, judges and the official scorekeeper.

M) 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 official scorekeeper.
- 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.

N) Length of Fight

- 1) All bouts shall be 3 rounds of 3 minutes each.
  - 2) A one-minute rest period will occur between each round.
- O) How to win
- 1) Submission via:
    - a) Tap Out: When a contestant physically uses his hand to indicate that he or she no longer wishes to continue.
    - b) Verbal tap out: When a contestant verbally announces to the referee that he or she does not wish to continue.
    - c) Technical Submission: contestant passes out or is rendered unconscious due to a choke.
  - 2) Technical knockout by:
    - a) Referee stops bout (Referee may stop bout if participant is not able to intelligently defend him/herself or cannot make a rational decision to stop bout on their own. Referee can also stop bout due to excessive damage taken by a competitor.)
    - b) Ringside physician stops bout due to injury or excessive damage to an opponent.
    - c) When an injury as a result of a legal maneuver is severe enough to terminate a bout.
    - d) A second may terminate the bout by waving a towel to indicate his fighter cannot continue.
  - 3) Knockout by failure to rise from the canvas.
  - 4) Decision via score cards:
    - a) Unanimous: When all three judges score the bout for the same contestant.
    - b) Split Decision: When two judges score the bout for one contestant and one judge scores for the opponent.
    - c) Majority Decision: When two judges score the bout for the same contestant and one judge scores a draw.
  - 5) Draws:
    - a) Unanimous - When all three judges score the bout a draw.
    - b) Majority - When two judges score the bout a draw.
    - c) Split - When all three judges score differently and the score total results in a draw.
  - 6) Disqualification: When an injury sustained during competition as a result of an intentional foul is severe enough to terminate the contest.
  - 7) Forfeit: When a contestant fails to begin competition or prematurely ends the contest for reasons other than injury or by indicating a tap out.
  - 8) 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.
  - 9) Technical Decision: When the bout is prematurely stopped due to an accidental injury and a contestant is leading on the score cards.
  - 10) 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.
- P) Injuries sustained during competition
- 1) 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.

2) 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.

3) 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 scorekeeper to automatically deduct two points from the contestant who committed the foul.

4) If an injury sustained during competition as a result of 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.

5) 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.

6) 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.

7) 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.

8) There should be scoring of an incomplete round. If the referee penalizes either contestant, then the appropriate points shall be deducted when the scorekeeper calculates the final score for the partial round.

Q) All suspensions will be as follows:

1) Knockout lasting over one (1) minute – 60 days with a doctor's approval

2) Knockout lasting under one (1) minute – 45 days with a doctor's approval

3) Technical Knockout – 30 days

4) Submission – 7 days

5) All administrative suspensions shall be discussed with the Indiana Gaming Commission and handed down within five (5) business days of the occurrence.

R) Appeals and Changing an official decision

1) The decision rendered at the end of any bout will not be changed by Cageside Crew unless:

a) Cageside Crew determines that a fraudulent act or corruption took place during the bout; or

b) Compilation of the score cards of the judges discloses clerical error which shows that the decision was given to the wrong fighter.

2) A petition to change a bout result may only be filed by the:

a) Fighter participating in the bout; or

b) Fighter's manager.

S) Cageside Crew will:

1) Provide advance notification to the commission of any events in Indiana.

2) Admit anyone working on behalf of the Indiana Gaming Commission free of

charge with seats directly next to the fighting area.

3) Report to the division any violations of 4-33-22-18 by the promoter, fighter, or official (including Cageside Crew itself).

4) Notify the Indiana Gaming Commission of any changes to its policy.

5) Cageside Crew will appear before the Indiana Gaming Commission if requested and will share any complaints or dispositions that Cageside Crew may receive.

6) Cageside Crew will provide a complete event report to the Indiana Gaming Commission within five (5) days of the conclusion of the event.

7) All participating Cageside Crew personnel, Amateur MMA fighters and other personnel must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times both in and out of the ring and will be held accountable for their actions at all times. Any person found to be guilty of any illegal activity including, but not limited to, drug possession, alcohol abuse, and/or criminal assault, or anyone engaged in disorderly conduct shall be subject to membership review and disciplinary action up to and including being banned from participation in the sport.

# **Section V**

## *Cage Regulations*

All sanctioned matches must take place in an enclosed cage of any shape, enclosed by a cage type structure. The fighting area will be inspected prior to the start of every event by the Referee. Any repairs or corrections are to be handled without delay and is the responsibility of the Promoter. The top of the cage may not be enclosed and all corners, top rail, bottom rail, and door areas, must be padded and covered by canvas or vinyl. The covering and padding materials must be in good repair without any tears exposing the interior padding. The cage fencing material must have a protective vinyl coating and it must be intact with no impairments. All hard surfaces must have protective padding in place.

## **Event payment scale for Cageside Crew**

### **Cost of Sanctioning Fees for Cageside Crew**

60 days or more prior to event \$200

59 to 30 days prior to event \$300

29 to 15 days prior to event \$400

Less than 15 days to event \$600