

MANUAL WPTBL

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Article 1

Introduction

This Manual tries to pass on as much information with reference to the organisation, the regulations and the policy of the WPTBL as possible.

The content of this Manual is open to be later reviewed and/or modified by the Executive Committee. In case a new version of this Manual is being edited by the Executive Committee, then thereby any prior version(s) is/are rendered obsolete.

All Committee and Commission Members, as well as any Member of the the WPTBL, and all trainers/coaches and seconds who participate in Matches, are considered to be familiar with the content of this Manual.

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Article 2:

Objective of the WPTBL

The WPTBL is an organisation, which was founded in 1994, and which aims to promote Thai Boxing and c.q. MuayThai, through the following strict guidelines:

- organise Thai boxing/MuayThai Matches or have those organised;
- provide proper education for trainers and
- provide proper education for Officials, to be able to referee adequately in the Matches in question.

Safety, sportmanship and justness are regarded very highly by the WPTBL.

Article 3:

Concept Descriptions

With reference to this Manual, the following definitions apply:

Committee	:	Members of the (Executive) Committee.
Committee members	:	Those, elected by the Members, to be on the Executive Committee. E.g. the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and/or the Committee Member for internal and external communication.
Clinch (position)	:	an fighting act or instance at which one or both boxer(s) hold(s) the other about the arms or body in order to prevent or hinder the opponent's punches and from or through which one or more knee movements towards the adversary can be performed.
Commission members	:	Persons who are assigned by the Executive Committee and/or by the General Members Conference of the WPTBL to hold one or more of the function(s) that are being described in this Manual
Disqualification	:	Situation in which the Referee terminates a Match, because one of the Contestants performed one or more prohibited technique(s).
Dope test	:	Testing of a urine sample from a Contestant, in order to verify whether the Contestant in question did not use any stimulant drugs and/or illegal doping to improve his performances. This testing is carried out in accordance with the regulations from the Dutch Doping Organisation 'Necedo'.
European title	:	A title, recognized by the WPTBL (as Champion of Europe), either merited during a Match or not. Essentially, in accordance with what is being stipulated in this Manual.
Manual	:	This very manual, compiled by the Executive Committee of the WPTBL.
Head official	:	Someone, appointed by the WPTBL, who functions as general manager of/for all the Officials, and who also carries out a number of other duties, further displayed in this Manual.
Temporary Committee Member	:	Someone, elected by (the) Executive Committee Members, who is appointed to function as a Committee Member (only) for a certain period.
Judge	:	A person, authorized and/or recognized by the WPTBL, who performs the duties of an arbiter (umpire) on one

or more Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Matches.

- Knockdown** : Situation in which, a Contestant who has been hit hard by a certain move by the other Contestant, or otherwise got injured during a Match, is esteemed capable to continue the Match, by the Referee, after he has been given a rest of eight counts.
- Knockout** : Result of a Match, in which a Contestant who has been hit hard by a certain move by the other Contestant, or otherwise got injured during a Match, is found to be still touching the ring floor with any other part of his body apart from the soles of his feet, after he was given a rest of ten counts, and who is esteemed incapable, by the Referee, to continue the Match.
- Members** : Contestants who participate in Matches, as well as sportsmen/sportswomen who are Members of sport schools/organisations, recognized by the WPTBL. The above-mentioned individuals are considered to be Members of the WPTBL only for/during the calendar year(s) in/for which they pay/paid their contribution.
- Members of the Appeal Commission** : Referees, recognized by the WPTBL, who did not function as a Referee and/or Judge, at the time of a certain Match, that needs to be assessed (grievances).
- Medical intervention** : Situation in which a Match is terminated by the Referee and/or the ring doctor, because of medical reasons.
- Dutch title** : A title, recognized by the WPTBL (as Champion of the Netherlands), either merited during a Match or not. Essentially, in accordance with what is being stipulated in this Manual.
- No Contest** : Result of a Match, terminated by the Referee, because of (one of) the following reasons:
1. one of the Contestants made an involuntary foul, during the first round, by which it is impossible to have or continue the Match and/or
2. there is some kind of calamity.
- Officials** : Persons, appointed by the Executive Committee, to make sure that one or more Match(es) occur in good order and in accordance with the actual Match rules.
- Official warning** : A warning, given by the Referee during a Match, to a Contestant, who performed a prohibited technique, and/or to a trainer/coach and/or second, not behaving and acting in accordance with the rules of the WPTBL. Any such warning actually bears its influence onto the final result of the Match.
- Official Weigh-In** : Weigh-In of the Contestants, prior to one or more Match(es), carried out by Officials, and occurring with

scales which are authorized by the WPTBL.

- Abandonment (Retire)** : Situation in which a Contestant and/or his/her trainer/coach abandons (quits) the Match, for whatever reason.
- Deputy Head Official** : A Referee, appointed by a Head Official, and recognized by the WPTBL, who (temporarily) takes over (substitutes) the tasks of the Head Official, during Matches.
- Promotor** : A person (natural person or other legal entity), who obtained a written authorization from the Executive Committee to set up (an) event(s), at which Matches are organized.
- Promotor license** : A written declaration by the Executive Committee, authorizing a certain promotor to organize Matches.
- Referee stops contest (r.s.c.) (Intervention by the Referee)** : Situation in which the Referee terminates a Match, because he/she esteems one of the Contestants incapable (of continuing) to defend him/herself reasonably, and/or because one of the Contestants, or both, is/are not sufficiently skilled (through training). I.e. in order to protect the Contestant(s) in question.
- Shadow Judge** : Someone, certified and/or recognized by the WPTBL, who acts as Judge on one or more Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Matches.
- Referee** : Someone, certified and/or recognized by the WPTBL, who is in charge of refereeing one or more Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Matches.
- Start document** : An international sporting passport, issued - or recognized - by the WPTBL, in which some personal data and match results of/for Contestants is registered.
- Start prohibition** : A prohibition for a certain Contestant to compete in Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Matches.
- Technical knockout** : Result of a Match, terminated due to one of the following:
- a Contestant who has been hit hard by a certain move by the other Contestant, or otherwise got injured during a Match, is found to be standing on his feet, after he was given a rest of eight counts, but who is however esteemed incapable, by the Referee, to continue the Match; or
- a Contestant has been knocked down more than allowed by the actual rules in this Manual.
- Thai boxing shorts** : A pair of sporting shorts, made exclusively from

textiles, without any pockets and/or zippers and/or any other hard object, reaching down the leg of the Contestant wearing it no lower than his knees.

- Titleholder** : Actual Dutch, European or World Champion, as recognized by the WPTBL. Essentially, in accordance with what is being stipulated in this Manual.
- Vacant title** : Dutch and/or European and/or World Title, declared open (vacant) by the WPTBL, in order to be won by Fighters through a competition.
- Fighters** : Contestants in Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai competitions. Fighters may be male, as well as female.
- Prohibited technique** : A maneuver or move, as further described by Article 15, Sub *N*.
- Caution (Admonition)** : An admonition, given by a Referee during a Match, to a Contestant who performed a prohibited technique and/or to a trainer/coach and/or second, not following the rules, set by the WPTBL, with reference to behaviour. Such a warning actually has no direct influence on the result of the Match.
- Walkover** : Situation in which one of the Contestants in a scheduled Match, during a tournament or competition, is absent at the time and place of the Match and therefore is unable to compete on the Match.
- Match** : A Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Match, organised with the authorization of the WPTBL, between two (2) Fighters (Contestants).
- Match Rules** : Set of rules with reference to allowing Matches to occur in good order.
- World Title** : A title, recognized by the WPTBL (as Champion of the World), either merited during a Match or not. Essentially, in accordance with what is being stipulated in this Manual.
- Winning through by Abandonment (Retire)** : Result of a Match, at which one of the Fighters, or his/her trainer/coach, abandoned (quit) the Match, for whatever reason; making the Adversary the winner of the Match.
- Winning on Points** : Result of a Match, at which one of the Fighters wins the Match, because his/her total of scored points, awarded by the Judges, is higher than that of the Adversary.
- WPTBL** : World Professional Kickboxing League.

With regard to the definitions, like they are displayed in Article 1, singular is actually assumed to comprise plural and vice versa.

Article 4:

Organizational Structure

A. Organization chart of the WPTBL



B. Committee:

The Committee bears the responsibilities as (being the) executive committee of the WPTBL and is thereby actually holding any end responsibility with reference to the WPTBL.

The Committee consists of the following positions:

1. Chairman
2. Vice chairman
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Committee Member on Communication

C. Officials Team:

The Officials Team is responsible for appointing a professional team of Officials (including a ring doctor) for Matches. Moreover, this team is expected to pass on propositions, with reference to the determination and the actualization of the Competition Rules, to the Executive Committee.

Determination and actualization then are to occur in consultation with the Executive Committee.

The Officials Team is comprised of the following functionaries:

1. Head Official

2. Deputy Head Official
3. Other Officials

D. Appeals Commission:

The Appeals Commission assesses grievances with reference to results of matches and/or decisions made by WPTBL officials. This commission is bound to regularly pass on propositions to the Executive Committee with reference to achieving/maintaining a standardized procedure for assessing grievances (appeals). Determination then is to occur in consultation with the Executive Committee.

The Appeals Commission is comprised of the following functionaries:

1. Head Official Appeals Commission
2. Two (2) Members of the Appeals Commission

E. Match Commission:

The Match Commission is responsible for ensuring that Matches/a tournament occur(s) in good order and in accordance with this Manual. Also, this Commission advises the Executive Committee whether to grant certain Promotor Licenses or not. This commission is bound to pass on propositions to the Executive Committee, with reference to granting certain Promotor Licenses, as well as on certain events; in order to achieve a set of rules for Promotors, that is to be made up and determined.

Moreover, the Match Commission has to make sure that official WPTBL Rankings are periodically made public.

The Match Commission is comprised of the following functionaries:

1. Head of the Match Commission
2. Deputy Head of the Match Commission
3. Matchmaker

F. Disciplinary Commission:

The Disciplinary Commission advises on occurring cases with reference to penalties which are to be given to Contestants, seconds, sport schools/organisations, Promotors and Officials. These advices are binding to the Executive Committee.

The Disciplinary Commission is comprised of the following functionaries:

1. Head of the Disciplinary Commission
2. Deputy Head of the Disciplinary Commission
3. Member of the Disciplinary Commission

G. Financial Commission:

The Financial Commission verifies, each year, the financial data that are being passed on by the Treasurer.

The Financial Commission is comprised of the following functionaries:

1. Head of the Financial Commission
2. Deputy Head of the Financial Commission
3. Member of the Financial Commission

Article 5:

Tasks of the Committee and Commission Members

- Chairman:**
- organises meetings and conferences, i.a. the General Members Conference, at least once every year;
 - presides all meetings and conferences of the WPTBL;
 - verifies and acknowledges any invoices sent to the WPTBL;
 - is, together with the treasurer, authorised to sign financial transactions (the 2 signatures are compulsory at all times);
 - represents the WPTBL during conferences with other organisations;
 - confers any official communications first with the Committee Member on Internal and External Communication, prior to making such a communication public; and
 - pronounces penalties advised by the Disciplinary Commission.

- Vice Chairman:**
- substitutes the chairman when he/she is absent;
 - has a seat on the Executive Committee, as a Member, if the Chairman is present; and
 - confers any official communications first with the Committee Member on Internal and External Communication, prior to making such a communication public.

- Secretary:**
- manages all administration of the WPTBL, including archiving;
 - is responsible for creating minutes of every meeting or conference by the WPTBL and for sending them on; en attends meetings and conferences by (members of) the WPTBL.

- Treasurer:**
- is in charge of all financial matters of the WPTBL (upon authorization by the Chairman);
 - manages a financial administration which is fully transparent;
 - reports, on an annual basis, and completely and openly, about the financial situation and processes of/at the WPTBL; and
 - attends (General Members) Meetings and conferences of the WPTBL.

- Committee Member On Communication:**
- is in charge of all official communications, internally as well as externally;
 - acts as contact person for communication with the and, if required, refers Members, as well as people who are not a Member, to the feasible, "right" Committee Member(s);
 - is responsible for managing the website of the WPTBL; and
 - attends (General Members) Meetings and conferences of the WPTBL.

Head Official:

- is in charge of the selection and attendance of the right Team of Officials, including a ring doctor, on/for every Match, as well as the management of/for that team;
- acts as contact person for Officials and Promotors, with reference to events (competitions and tournaments);
- organises meetings and conferences for/with Officials and reports on them to the Executive Committee;
- is responsible to make sure that the rules, as stipulated in this Manual, are being followed in good order;
- passes on propositions with reference to potential modifications of the rules; and
- is in charge of the training and education of future Officials and takes any measure that might be feasible to maintain the knowledge and skills of existing Officials in good order.

Head Official of Appeals Commission:

- invites the other Members of the Appeals Commission, in case of appeals (grievances) which are to be assessed by the Appeals Commission, for a meeting or conference, in order to debate on the matter;
- invites the other Members of the Appeals Commission for a meeting or conference, in case he/she considers an internal debate to be necessary;
- presides meetings and conferences and/or internal debates of the Appeals Commission;
- reports on decisions made by the Appeals Commission to the Executive Committee; and
- confers with the Executive Committee, whenever feasible.

Member of Appeals Commission:

- attends and participates in meetings/conferences/debates of the Appeals Commission.

Head of Match Commission:

- invites the other Members of the Match Commission for a meeting or conference, in case he/she considers an internal debate to be necessary;
- presides meetings and conferences and/or internal debates of the Match Commission;
- reports on decisions made by the Match Commission to the Executive Committee; and
- confers with the Executive Committee, whenever feasible.

Deputy Head of Match Commission:

- substitutes the Head of the Match Commission, when he/she is absent; and
- attends and participates in meetings/conferences/debates of the Match Commission.

Matchmaker:

- attends and participates in meetings/conferences/debates of the Match Commission;
- supports, if required/requested, WPTBL Promotors, with reference to organizing their events; and
- compiles the WPTBL rankings, per quarter, and passes them on to the Member on Communications, to be published.

**Head of
Disciplinary
Commission:**

- invites the other Members of the Disciplinary Commission, in case of penalty grievances which are to be assessed by the Disciplinary Commission, for a meeting or conference, in order to debate on the matter;
- invites the other Members of the Disciplinary Commission for a meeting or conference, in case he/she considers an internal debate to be necessary;
- presides meetings and conferences and/or internal debates of the Disciplinary Commission;
- reports on decisions made by the Disciplinary Commission to the Executive Committee; and
- confers with the Executive Committee, whenever feasible.

**Deputy
Head of
Disciplinary
Commission:**

- substitutes the Head of the Disciplinary Commission, when he/she is absent; and
- attends and participates in meetings/conferences/debates of the Disciplinary Commission.

**Member of
Disciplinary
Commission:**

- attends and participates in meetings/conferences/debates of the Disciplinary Commission.

**Head of
Financial
Commission:**

- coordinates the annual cash verification;
- checks the documents on the financial year which are (to be) passed on by the Treasurer; and
- gives advice to the other Members, during the annual Members Conference, whether - or not - to approve the documents on the financial year, passed on by the Treasurer.

**Deputy
Head of Financial
Commission:**

- substitutes the Head of the Financial Commission, when he/she is absent; and
- checks the documents on the financial year which are (to be) passed on by the Treasurer.

**Member of
Financial
Commission:**

- checks the documents on the financial year which are (to be) passed on by the Treasurer.

Article 6:

Members

- A.** Are allowed to actually and really participate in the annual General Members Conference.
Any person, who is member of a sport school and/or sport organisation, recognized by the WPTBL, can be a Member of the WPTBL.
Someone is only esteemed to be a Member of the WPTBL for/during the calendar year(s) in/for which he/she pays/paid his/her contribution, starting at the moment when his/her contribution payment is actually received by the WPTBL.
- B.** Fighters and/or sportsmen/women, who are member of a sport school and/or sport organisation, recognized by the WPTBL, can and may apply to be a Member of the WPTBL, via the Executive Committee.
- C.** The yearly member contribution has to occur as a payment in advance.
- D.** Members can and may compete in Matches. For that purpose, a Fighter/Contestant has to be holder of a Start Document. An application for such a Start Document occurs in the following manner:
- 1.** a candidate fighter returns an application form, which can be obtained from the WPTBL, completed and signed by him/her, to the Executive Committee of the WPTBL;
 - 2.** the candidate fighter in question also sends in a recent passport photograph; and
 - 3.** the candidate fighter then shows a genuine identification card to the Executive Committee of the WPTBL, of which he/she hands in a copy as well.
- E.** If a Member competes in a match which is not organized with the authorization of the WPTBL, then that Member has to request the organizer of the match in question to actually register the match occurrence in question, as well as the result of the match, in his/her Start Document. Moreover, the Member in question must pass on such a match occurrence, as well as the result of the match, in writing, to the Executive Committee of the WPTBL, no later than three (3) days after the match in question.

Article 7:

General Members Conference

- A.** The General Members Conference is an annual conference, that is to be organized by the Executive Committee, and presided by the Chairman (or his/her deputy, the vice chairman), through which the Executive Committee gives account to the Members that are present on the (financial) policy that was carried out during the past (financial) year.
- B.** The Chairman (or his/her deputy) is obliged to invite all Members to the Conference, no later than four (4) weeks prior to the date of the Conference, in writing, for as far as possible.
- C.** At least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the General Members Conference, the Executive Committee has to make the agenda of/for the General Members Conference public.
- D.** All Members hold the right to attend the General Members Conference.
- E.** Also, at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the General Members Conference, the Treasurer has to pass on copies on/of the books for the year in question, to all the other Members of the Executive Committee, as well as the Members of the Financial Commission.
- F.** During a General Members Conference, Executive Committee Members and/or Commission Members can and may be elected, c.q. reelected; essentially, all in accordance with what is stipulated in the Statutes of the WPTBL.

Article 8:

Division into (age and level) categories

- A.** To enhance safety and sportmanship, as much as possible, WPTBL tries in fact to have Fighters of an equal level compete in a Match. In order to achieve that, Fighters/Contestants are actually divided into divers (level) categories, namely the following:
- 1.** Junior Category
The division for all Fighters between 12 and 15 years old.
With reference to this category applies that the age difference between two Contestants in a Match may not be greater than two (2) years.
 - 2.** Beginners Category
The division for all Fighters with no or little match experience.
A Fighter of this Category may not have won more than three (3) Matches.
If this number is being exceeded, then the Fighter in question is automatically transferred to a next (level) category.
 - 3.** C Category
The division for all Fighters who have won more than three (3) Matches, but not more than nine (9); (of which 6 within the C Category). A Fighter who has won nine (9) or more Matches, is transferred automatically to a next (level) category.
 - 4.** B Category
The division for all Fighters who have won more than nine (9) Matches, but not more than seventeen (17); (of which 8 within the B Category). A Fighter who has won seventeen (17) or more Matches, is transferred automatically to the A category.
 - 5.** A Category
The division for all Fighters who have won more than seventeen (17) Matches.
- B.** Fighters/Contestants of 16 or 17 years old, are allowed to compete in a Match with an adversary who may be up to three (3) years older than themselves.
- C.** In specific cases, a request for 'dispensation' of a certain Fighter can be entered (i.e. a request for a certain Fighter to be allowed to compete in a "higher category"). This application has to occur, in writing, by the trainer/coach of the Fighter in question and has to be addressed to the Executive Committee.
- D.** Once a Fighter has been categorized into a certain level category, he/she may not be transferred back to a "lower level category". (E.g. a Fighter from the A Category can no longer compete in the B Category).

Article 9:

Division into weight classes

A. The WPTBL makes use of the following weight divisions (classes) with regard to competitions, in which titles can be won.

Name of weight division: Maximum body weight:

Super Flyweight	-52,0 kg
Bantamweight	-53,5 kg
Super Bantamweight	-55,5 kg
Featherweight	-57,0 kg
Super Featherweight	-59,0 kg
Lightweight	-61,0 kg
Super Lightweight	-63,5 kg
Welterweight	-67,0 kg
Super Welterweight	-70,0 kg
Middleweight	-72,5 kg
Super Middleweight	-76,0 kg
Light Heavyweight	-79,5 kg
Super Light Heavyweight	-82,5 kg
Cruiserweight	-86,0 kg
Heavyweight	-95,0 kg
Super Heavyweight	+95,0 kg

- B.** a trainer/coach is, on all accounts, liable to pass on the correct body weight of/for his/her Fighter(s). In case the body weight of a certain Contestant is not consistent with what has been priorly agreed, then the Fighter in question has to bear in mind that he/she may be denied to compete in the Match in question.
- C.** In case an Official Weigh-in and (a) Match(es) are occurring on the same day, then the weigh-in has to be carried out between ninety (90) minutes and an hour – sixty (60) minutes – before the start of the (first) Match (in question).
- D.** Fighters/Contestants (to whom Article 9, sub E, of this Manual is actually not applying) must be weighed on the very day of their Match and may not exceed the agreed body weight.
- E.** Fighters/Contestants who compete in the A and the B Category may actually be weighed one (1) day prior to the Match in question, but never more than 36 hours before the Match starts, if priorly agreed like that together with the other Contestant(s) and the Promotor in question.
- F.** A weigh-in may only occur at a location and at times that have clearly, and in good time, been made known to all parties involved, by the Promotor of the event in question. The Match Commission has to authorize the organizing Promotor, in good time, to have the weigh-in at the requested location and time.
- G.** WPTBL actually only recognizes a weigh-in that is carried out by an Official of the WPTBL.

Article 10:

Rankings

- A.** Four times each year, national and international rankings are made public by the WPTBL, containing the names of Fighters. Fighters can be put onto (those) rankings through Match results.
The Fighters on the rankings are actually classified according to their weight division. At the top of every weight division, is always indicated who the titleholder of that weight division actually is. In case the title of a certain weight division is in fact vacant, then that is also indicated on the rankings in question.
- B.** The Match Commission monitors the maintaining of the rankings.
- C.** A Fighter, who is listed on one of the WPTBL rankings, is actually entitled to challenge a titleholder to a title Match, in which the titleholder can defend his/her title. Essentially, all in accordance with what is stipulated in Article 11 of this Manual.

Article 11:

Titles

A. General

- 1.** At the WPTBL, divers national and international titles can be won, namely the following: Champion of the Netherlands, National Champion of any other WPTBL represented country, Champion of Europe and/or Champion of the World. Title Matches with reference to one of the above Championships are only being recognized (by the WPTBL), if they occur in accordance to this Manual. When a Fighter wants to challenge a Titleholder to a Title Match, or c.q. if he/she wants to compete in a Match for a Vacant Title, then the Fighter in question has to send in a written application to the Executive Committee.
- 2.** If a Fighter is listed within the top 10 of the national rankings, then he/she is entitled to officially challenge the holder of the National Title in question. The holder of a National Title is only liable to defend his/her title against a Fighter who is actually listed within the top 10 in question.
- 3.** A Fighter, who is listed within the top 12 of European WPTBL rankings, is entitled to officially challenge the holder of the European Title in question. The holder of a European Title is only liable to defend his/her title against a Fighter who is actually listed within the top 12 in question.
- 4.** A Fighter, who is listed within the top 12 of the international WPTBL rankings, is entitled to officially challenge the holder of the World Title in question. The holder of a World Title is only liable to defend his/her title against a Fighter who is actually listed within the top 12 in question.
- 5.** In case, during the Official (conclusive) Weigh-in, prior to a Title Match, the Titleholder is found to be too heavy for the weight division in question, then the WPTBL revokes the Title in question immediately and grants it to the challenger.
- 6.** If a title is vacant, then two Fighters, who are listed in the same weight division rankings (either national as well as/or international), can and may compete in a Title Match, in order to decide on the Vacant Title for the weight division in question.
- 7.** If the result of a Title Match is "undecided", the Titleholder maintains his/het title.
- 8.** In case the result from the judges on a Dutch Title Match is "undecided", then the (deputy) Head Official is to put his/her decision, in writing, onto a scoring note, and the result of that document is binding.
- 9.** In all Title Matches, there are 5 rounds of 3 minutes long, with a break of 90 seconds between each 2 rounds.
- 10.** The Executive Committee always has to be ready and willing to authorize the setting up/organizing of a Title Match, recognized by the WPTBL.

B. Championship of the Netherlands (or other countries for National titles)

1. A Champion of the Netherlands has to defend his/her title, within one year after the date on which the title was won/maintained. In case a Titleholder does not meet this requirement, then the Executive Committee revokes the title in question from that Titleholder and the title is pronounced vacant.
However, a Champion of the Netherlands is not obliged to yet defend his/her title, within a period of two (2) months after the date on which the title was won/maintained.
2. A Fighter is allowed to only hold one single (1) Dutch Title. As soon as a Fighter, who is already Dutch Champion for a certain weight division, wins another Dutch Title, that of another weight division, then he/she must indicate to the Executive Committee, in writing, which of the two (2) Dutch Titles he/she wishes to keep, within one (1) month after the date on which the last of the two titles was won. By that, the Titleholder automatically resigns the other Dutch Title that was won. This title is then pronounced vacant by the Executive Committee.

If the Titleholder does not acknowledge, in writing, to the Executive Committee, which Dutch Title he/she wishes to keep, within a period of one (1) month after the date on which the second Dutch Title was won, then the Executive Committee is entitled to make a conclusive selection between the two titles in question.

3. It is possible that a Champion of the Netherlands also wins the European Title of that weight division. In that case, the Champion of Europe resigns his/her Dutch Title, immediately and automatically, after he/she wins the European Title in question.
The Dutch Title in question is then pronounced vacant by the Executive Committee.

C. Championship of Europe

1. A Champion of Europe has to defend his/her title, within one year after the date on which the title was won/maintained. In case a Titleholder does not meet this requirement, then the Executive Committee revokes the title in question from that Titleholder and the title is pronounced vacant.
However, a Champion of Europe is not obliged to yet defend his/her title, within a period of two (2) months after the date on which the title was won/maintained.
2. In case of specific, compelling conditions, the Executive Committee is entitled to extend the period of one (1) year, in which a Champion of Europe has to defend his/her European Title, by a period of no more than three (3) months. For that purpose, however, it is required that (the manager of) the European Champion in question requests that permission for prolongment, in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee, within the already mentioned period of one (1) year.
3. A Fighter is allowed to only hold one single (1) European Title. As soon as a Fighter, who is already Champion of Europe for a certain weight division, wins another European Title, that of another weight division, then he/she must indicate to the Executive Committee, in writing, which of the two (2) European Titles he/she wishes to keep, within one (1) month after the date on which the last of the two titles was won. By that, the Titleholder automatically resigns the other European Title that was won.
This title is then pronounced vacant by the Executive Committee.

If the Titleholder does not acknowledge, in writing, to the Executive Committee, which European Title he/she wishes to keep, within a period of one (1) month after the date on which the second European Title was won, then the Executive Committee is entitled to make a conclusive selection between the two titles in question.

4. It is possible that a Champion of Europe also wins the World Title of that weight division. In that case, the Champion of the World resigns his/her European Title, immediately and automatically, after he/she wins the World Title in question. The European Title in question is then pronounced vacant by the Executive Committee.
5. If a European Title Match is being organized in the Netherlands, then at least one (1) foreign Judge, recognized by the WPTBL, has to be a Member of the Team of Officials for the Match in question.

D. Championship of the World

1. Contrary to other Title Matches, in case of World Title Matches, the following directions apply with regard to (the use of) elbow techniques (moves):
 - In case one of the Contestants in a World Title Match is actually a Thai, living in Thailand, then both Fighters are obliged to compete in the Match, under the express condition that (the use of) elbow techniques (moves) to the head of the adversary is/are in fact allowed.
 - If none of the Contestants in a World Title Match is a Thai, living in Thailand, then the express condition that (the use of) elbow techniques (moves) to the head of the adversary is/are allowed, is actually not compulsory, though it may be granted. Of course, priorly, clear agreements have to be made about this, which are to be notified onto the Executive Committee, before the date of the World Title Match.
2. A Champion of the World has to defend his/her title, within one year after the date on which the title was won/maintained. In case a Titleholder does not meet this requirement, then the Executive Committee revokes the title in question from that Titleholder and the title is pronounced vacant. However, a Champion of the World is not obliged to yet defend his/her title, within a period of two (2) months after the date on which the title was won/maintained.
3. In case of specific, compelling conditions, the Executive Committee is entitled to extend the period of one (1) year, in which a Champion of the World has to defend his/her World Title, by a period of no more than three (3) months. For that purpose, however, it is required that (the manager of) the World Champion in question requests that permission for prolongment, in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee, within the already mentioned period of one (1) year.
4. A Fighter is allowed to only hold one single (1) World Title. As soon as a Fighter, who is already Champion of the World for a certain weight division, wins another World Title, that of another weight division, then he/she must indicate to the Executive Committee, in writing, which of the two (2) World Titles he/she wishes to keep, within one (1) month after the date on which the last of the two titles was won.
By that, the Titleholder automatically resigns the other World Title that was won. This title is then pronounced vacant by the Executive Committee.

If the Titleholder does not acknowledge, in writing, to the Executive Committee, which World Title he/she wishes to keep, within a period of one (1) month after

the date on which the second World Title was won, then the Executive Committee is entitled to make a conclusive selection between the two titles in question.

5. If a World Title Match is being organized in the Netherlands, then at least one (1) foreign Judge, recognized by the WPTBL, has to be a Member of the Team of Officials for the Match in question.

Article 12:

Officials

A. Kinds of Officials

The WPTBL actually makes use of the following kinds of officials:

1. Head official
2. Referee
3. Judge
4. Timekeeper
5. Match secretary

B. Referee/Judge

1. A person can become a WPTBL certified Referee and/or Judge, after the following requirements have been met:
 - a. he/she must be of irreproachable conduct;
 - b. he/she has to attend an official referee course, either provided by the WPTBL, or recognized by the WPTBL, as well as to pass the conclusive examen, in good order; and
 - c. he/she must be at least eighteen (18) years old.

No earlier than, after all above requirements have been met, can the Executive Committee engage in granting certain licenses to a Judge.

2. The WPTBL actually makes use of the following types of licenses:
 - a. A license
Referees/Judges with an A license act as arbiter and judge Matches of the A, B, C, Beginners and Junior Categories;
 - b. B license
Referees/Judges with an B license act as arbiter and judge Matches of the B, C, Beginners and Junior Categories; and
 - c. C license
Referees/Judges with an C license act as arbiter and judge Matches of the C, Beginners and Junior Categories;
3. License of Referees/Judges, in General
 - a. Certified Referees/Judges annually have to apply for the prolongment of their license, in writing and addressed to the Executive Committee, during the month of January.
 - b. In specific cases, if assessed in that way by the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee is entitled to refuse to grant a license to a certain Referee/Judge, or c.q. to refuse to prolong a license, as well as to revoke the license of a Referee/Judge.

4. Dress Code Referees/Judges

- a.** Referees/Judges have to wear black trousers, a white shirt, with a WPTBL logo on it (and potentially the logo of a sponsor), a black bow tie, and black sports shoes. The shirts are actually provided by the WPTBL.
 - b.** It is prohibited, for a Referee, while he/she is in action inside the boxing ring, to wear glasses and/or a watch and/or jewelry and/or cuff links and/or a belt with a buckle, potentially causing injury to people.
 - c.** While a Referee is in action inside the boxing ring, he/she has to wear latex and/or rubber gloves. These are actually provided by the WPTBL.
- 5.** Referees/Judges, in General
- a.** As long as Judges are in function, during Matches, once they have taken their designated place along the boxing ring, they are not allowed to leave that place, before the result of the Match has been announced by the ring announcer.
 - b.** Officials who wish to render their services – as any kind of official – to other organizations than the WPTBL, for their matches, have to request – and be granted – the authorization to do so, in good time and in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee.
 - c.** Officials who wish to render their services to matches which are being organized abroad, but have not (yet) been appointed by the Head Official to do so, have to request – and be granted – the authorization for this, in good time and in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee.
- 6.** Officials (as well as Executive Committee Members) are entitled to enter each WPTBL Competition Event, accompanied by one (1) invitee, free of charge, if they show their WPTBL Official passport at the entrance.

C. Tasks of/for a Referee

- 1.** Procedure in case of a knockout/knockdown:

In every situation, primary, the safety of the Fighters/Contestants has to be what is focused on. Therefore, a Referee must not hesitate to interfere, whenever a Fighter seems to be unable to reasonably defend him/herself, due to whatever cause or technique.

- a.** If, during a Match, a Fighter/Contestant is hit to such an extent, as a result of an allowed technique or move, that the Referee esteems the Fighter in question to be (temporarily) incapable of immediately continuing the Match, then the Referee should send the adversary to the neutral (white) corner of the boxing ring that lies furthest from the affected Fighter. Only then, the Referee may commence the count.
If the adversary of the affected Fighter does not go to/remain in the neutral (white) corner, then the Referee must not commence the count, or c.q. he is to stop the count, as soon as the Fighter in question leaves the neutral (white) corner.
In case the affected Fighter is standing in the correct fighting position, upon the eighth (8) count, *and* if the Referee esteems him/her capable to continue the Match, then the Referee gives the command "*Fight*" and the Match is resumed.

If, during the count, as described above, the time of the match round was up, the gong (to indicate the end of a round) may not be sound. Only after the eight (8) counts of rest, and exclusively if the Referee esteems the

affected Fighter/Contestant capable to continue the Match, after which he/she gives the command "Fight", may the gong be sounded. That last rule does not apply, if the counting occurs in the last round of a Match. In that case, the timekeeper sounds the gong, as usual, at the moment when the official match time is up; upon which the Referee immediately stops the counting and a regular count of the points occurs, at which the eight counts of rest are actually not taken into account.

In case the affected Fighter is not standing in the correct fighting position, upon the eighth (8) count, and/or if the Referee esteems him/her incapable to continue the Match, for whatever reason, then the Referee is to continue his counting up to then (10) and the affected Fighter loses the Match by a (Technical) Knockout.

- b.** All the while the Referee is counting, as described in Article 12, sub C. 1.a. of this Manual, the trainer/coach and/or one of the seconds of the affected Fighter may not throw the towel into the boxing ring (to indicate that the Match is being given up: abandonment).
- c.** If, during a Match, both Contestants are hit to such an extent, as a result of an allowed technique or move, that the Referee esteems them both to be (temporarily) incapable of immediately continuing the Match, then the Referee starts the counting for both Fighters simultaneously.
 - If, upon the eighth (8th) count, both Contestants are again standing ready in the fighting position, and if the Referee esteems them both capable to continue the Match, then the Match is in fact resumed.
 - If, upon the eighth (8th) count, only one of the Contestants is again standing ready in the fighting position, and if the Referee esteems him/her capable to continue the Match, while the other Contestant is not yet standing ready in the fighting position and/or is not esteemed capable of continuing the Match, then the Fighter which was mentioned first actually wins the Match, by (Technical) Knockout.
 - If, upon the eighth (8th) count, none of the Contestants is again standing ready in the fighting position and/or if the Referee esteems them both incapable to continue the Match, then the Match is terminated by the Referee; leading to two (2) possible Match results, namely the following:
 - a.** the Fighter who has the most points scored, at the moment when the Match is being terminated, wins the Match on points, or
 - b.** in case, at the moment when the Match is being terminated, both Fighters/Contestants have scored the same number of points, then the result of the Match is actually: "No Contest".
- d.** In case a Referee has to count up to eight (8) or up to ten (10), then he/she has to make sure that there lies actually a second between each two counts.
- e.** In case a certain Fighter of the Juniors and/or C and/or B Category is knocked down twice (2 x Knockdown) during one (1) single round, then the Match is being terminated by the Referee and the Fighter in question loses the Match, by Technical Knockout ('t.k.o.').
- f.** In case a certain Fighter of the Juniors and/or C and/or B Category is knocked down three times (3 x Knockdown) during the Match, then the

Match is being terminated by the Referee and the Fighter in question loses the Match, by Technical Knockout ('t.k.o.').

- g.** In case a certain Fighter of the A Category is knocked down three times (3 x Knockdown) during one (1) single round, then the Match is being terminated by the Referee and the Fighter in question loses the Match, by Technical Knockout ('t.k.o.').
- h.** In case a certain Fighter of the A Category is knocked down four times (4 x Knockdown) during the Match, then the Match is being terminated by the Referee and the Fighter in question loses the Match, by Technical Knockout ('t.k.o.').
- i.** If, in order to protect one of the Fighters/Contestants, a Referee esteems that Fighters/Contestants incapable (of continuing) to defend him/herself reasonably; what is to be assessed by the Referee, then the Referee must terminate the Match immediately. The result of the Match is then: "Referee stops contest" (r.s.c.).

In case of such a "heavy" Knockout, that the Referee esteems immediate medical assistance to be required, the Referee will count: "one (1) – out" and he/she will request the ring doctor to come into the boxing ring and give aid. Then, without any hesitation, the ring doctor is to take any measures, that he/she considers necessary, and which are to be entirely obeyed by all concerned.

- k.** If, during the counting by a Referee, for a Fighter, who was hit, as described in Article 12, sub C. 1.a of this Manual, the trainer/coach and/or one or both of the seconds of that Fighter, climb(s) onto the ropes of the boxing ring (on the outside of the ropes around the boxing ring), then the Referee will nevertheless continue the counting, and once the counting stops, he/she will give a warning to the trainer/coach and/or second(s) who climbed onto the ropes of the boxing.
- l.** If, during the counting by a Referee, for a Fighter, who was hit, as described in Article 12, sub C. 1.a of this Manual, the trainer/coach and/or one or both of the seconds of that Fighter, climb(s) into the boxing ring (on the inside of the ropes around the boxing ring), then the Referee will stop counting, and he/she will interrupt the Match. In such a case, the Fighter who's trainer/coach and/or second(s) climbed into the boxing ring is being disqualified and hence loses the Match.
- m.** If, during a Match, a Fighter/Contestant is hit to such an extent, as a result of a prohibited (inadmissible) technique or move, that the Referee esteems the Fighter in question to be (temporarily) incapable of immediately continuing the Match, then the Referee should send the adversary to the neutral (white) corner of the boxing ring that lies furthest from the affected Fighter. Only then, the Referee may commence the count.
If the adversary of the affected Fighter does not go to/remain in the neutral (white) corner, then the Referee must not commence the count, or c.q. he is to stop the count, as soon as the Fighter in question leaves the neutral (white) corner.

In case the affected Fighter/Contestant is standing ready in the correct fighting position, on the eighth (8th) count, *and* if the Referee esteems he/she is capable to continue the Match, the Fighter/Contestant, who made

the prohibited technique or move, will be given a public warning by the Referee, and then the Match is resumed.

If, during the count, as described above, the time of the match round was up, the gong (to indicate the end of a round) may not be sound. Only after the eight (8) counts of rest, and exclusively if the Referee esteems the affected Fighter/Contestant capable to continue the Match, after which he/she gives the command "Fight", may the gong be sounded. That last rule does not apply, if the counting occurs in the last round of a Match. In that case, the timekeeper sounds the gong, as usual, at the moment when the official match time is up; upon which the Referee immediately stops the counting and a regular count of the points occurs, at which the eight counts of rest are actually not taken into account.

In case the affected Fighter is not standing in the correct fighting position, upon the eighth (8th) count, and/or if the Referee esteems him/her incapable to continue the Match, for whatever reason, then the Referee is to continue his counting up to then (10) and then the Match is terminated. In such a case, the Fighter who performed the prohibited technique is being disqualified.

- n.* If, during a Match, a Fighter/Contestant is hit to such an extent, that the Referee esteems the Fighter in question to be (temporarily) incapable of immediately continuing the Match, and if the Referee was unable to make out whether the technique or move from the adversary was prohibited or not, then the following is being done :
- The Referee sends the adversary of the affected Fighter to the neutral (white) corner of the boxing ring that lies furthest from the affected Fighter.
 - Only then, the Referee may commence the count. If the adversary of the affected Fighter does not go to/remain in the neutral (white) corner, then the Referee must not commence the count, or c.q. he is to stop the count, as soon as the Fighter in question leaves the neutral (white) corner.
 - If, upon the eighth (8th) count, the Referee esteems the affected Fighter incapable of continuing the Match, then the Referee has to continue the count, up to 10 (ten), and then ask the Judges and/or Head Official whether one of them/they saw a prohibited technique.
 - * In case of acknowledgement of a prohibited technique, to attack the affected Fighter that hard, then the adversary (who performed the prohibited technique) is being disqualified.
 - * In case of acknowledgement of a legitimate technique, to attack the affected Fighter that hard, then the affected Fighter loses the Match by (Technical) Knockout.
 - If, upon the eighth (8th) count, the Referee esteems the affected Fighter capable of continuing the Match, then the Referee requests the Timekeeper to "stop the clock", and subsequently he is to ask the Judges and/or Head Official whether one of them/they saw a prohibited technique.
 - * In case of acknowledgement of a prohibited technique, to attack the affected Fighter that hard, then the adversary

(who performed the prohibited technique) is being given an Official Warning.

- * In case of acknowledgement of a legitimate technique, to attack the affected Fighter that hard, then the eight counts, described above, are counted as a Knockdown.

2. Procedures with regard to Cautions (Admonitions) , Official Warnings and disqualifications

- a.** In case one of the Contestants/Fighters performs a prohibited technique, depending on the kind of foul; which is to be assessed by the Referee, the Referee will sanction the Fighter in question by giving him/her an Admonition (Caution), or an Official Warning, or by disqualifying the Fighter who performed the prohibited technique.
- b.** A Fighter who has been given an Admonition (Caution) for performing a prohibited technique twice already during the same Match, will get an Official Warning from the Referee, if he/she performs a prohibited technique once more during the Match.
- c.** A Fighter who has been given an Official Warning twice already during the same Match, will be immediately disqualified, if he/she performs a prohibited technique once more during the Match.
- d.** A Fighter may also be given an Official Warning, if his trainer/coach and/or one or both of his seconds not immediately obey(s) one or more instructions from the Referee. In case that foul is repeated, then this can even lead to the Fighter in question being disqualified.
- e.** When a Referee wishes to give an Official Warning to a Fighter, that has to occur in the following manner:
 - First, the Referee has to call out the command *"Stop"* or *"Break"*, to interrupt the Match.
 - Then, the Referee has to point out to the Judges and the ring announcer who is receiving the Official Warning, by way of expressions in word and gesture, for which foul he/she is receiving the Official Warning.
 - Subsequently, the Referee has to point out to the Fighter who is receiving the Official Warning, by way of expressions in word and gesture, and using his/her thumb or a finger (to indicate 'point deduction'), for which foul the Fighter in question is receiving the Official Warning; hence allowing the ring announcer to announce the Official Warning to the public immediately.
 - Finally, the Referee gives the command *"Fight"*, by which the Match can be resumed.
- f.** If a Referee decides to interrupt a Match, then he/she has to notify the Judges, while including the reason to do so.

3. Termination of the Match ahead of time

In the following cases, the Referee has to terminate a Match immediately:

- a.** the attending ring doctor esteems termination of the Match to be necessary, or c.q. is advising termination, and he/she notifies that to the Referee;
- b.** one of the Contestants is being clearly outclassed;
- c.** one of the Fighters or both of them is/are appearing to be insufficiently skilled or trained;
- d.** there is a situation in which the Match is looking to escalate;
- e.** the Referee esteems that continuing the Match might inflict any form of danger on one of the Contestants/Fighters;
- f.** there is a situation in which calamities might inflict danger on anyone, by letting the Match continue. If such a situation occurs during the first (1st) round of a Match, then the result of that Match is: "No contest". If such a situation occurs during another round than the first (1st) round of a Match, then the Fighter who has scored the most points, at the moment when the Match is being terminated, wins the Match on points;
- g.** there is a different kind of situation occurring, in which, in accordance to the rules of this Manual, the Match should be terminated.

4. Announcement of the match result

Before the ring announcer announces the official match result to the public, after the Match has ended, the Referee requests the two Contestants/Fighters to come to the center of the boxing ring. Upon the announcement, the Referee will raise the hand of the Fighter who is pronounced the winner of the Match.

In case of an "undecided" match result, the Referee will raise one hand of both Contestants.

D. Other officials

1. Head Official

It is the duty of a Head Official to carry out the following checks and/or tasks, before or by the time an event commences, but in any case prior to a (the first) Match:

- a.** Check whether there is a ring doctor present, in the vicinity of the boxing ring, recognized by the WPTBL.
- b.** Verify whether all Contestants/Fighters, competing in the event, have been medically examined, just prior to the start of the planned Match(es), and have been found fit to compete in that/those Match(es) by the ring doctor.
- c.** Verify whether the body weight of all competing Fighters has been weighed; all in accordance with what is being stipulated in this Manual.
- d.** Check whether all Start Documents and potential (medical) examination certificates are in the possession of the Match Administrator of the WPTBL, who is present at the Match, prior to commencing the Match(es).
- e.** Check whether the boxing ring and the boxing gloves meet the requirements which are stipulated in this Manual.
- f.** Check whether there are enough sports prizes available for the competing Fighters.
- g.** Check whether there is a stretcher ready for use, below – or elsewhere in the proximity of – the boxing ring.
- h.** If one or more of the above checks indicate(s) that the rules, like they are stipulated in this Manual, are not being entirely followed, then the Head Official has to notify that to the Match Committee (Chairman) immediately.

The Match Committee (Chairman) is then obliged to immediately take any measures necessary, in order to release the inconsistencies found by the Head Official.

2. Timekeeper

- a.** The timekeeper is in charge of maintaining the actual time of the rounds of a Match and/or the time of the resting breaks between two rounds. He does this by applying a stopwatch, authorized by the WPTBL.
- b.** The timekeeper indicates, by way of beating the gong, that the time for the beginning and the end of a Match round is near. This signal is meant for the Referee.
- c.** In case, during a Match, the Referee accords the indicated number of seconds of resting to one of the Contestants/Fighters (e.g. in case of a Knockdown), then the timekeeper, as soon as the Referee starts his/her count, has to indicate the running of the seconds, by beating the gong.
- d.** If, during the Match, a situation occurs, at which one or both of the Contestants/Fighters is/are esteemed incapable of (temporarily) continuing the Match, then the gong (to indicate the end of the round) may not be sound. The above rule however does not apply if the count occurs in the last round of a Match.
Only after the eight (8) counts of resting, as described in Article 12, sub C. 1.a of this Manual, and solely if the Referee esteems the affected Fighter capable to continue the Match, after which he/she gives the command "*Fight*", may the timekeeper, in case the time of a match round is up, sound the gong, in order to indicate that end.
- e.** If the Referee interrupts a Match, for medical treatment, and/or corrections of the clothing and/or boxing gloves, and/or other such reasons (not because of the reason described above), then the timekeeper will stop the stopwatch. As soon as the Referee is then letting the Match resume, the timekeeper will set the stopwatch back into motion (switch on).
- f.** Ten (10) seconds before the end of each resting break between two match rounds, the timekeeper will sound the gong. The ring announcer then gives the command "seconds away", upon which all coaches/trainers/seconds, have to leave the boxing ring immediately, taking with them all their gear.

3. Match Secretary

The tasks of the Match Secretary are the following:

- a.** Gather the Start Documents from all Contestants/Fighters, listed as Fighter on the program of the event in question; normally during the Official Weigh-in, as described in this Manual, but certainly no later than the actual start of the Match(es).
- b.** Check the correctness and validity of the Start Documents in question.
- c.** Report to the Head Official about the conclusions with reference to his/her checking of the Starting Documents.
- d.** Registering everything correctly on the Start Documents, as soon as possible after the end of the Match(es) in question.
- e.** Inspect whether what is displayed in this Manual on matchmaking is actually being applied in good order.

- f.* Make sure that, actually no later than three (3) days after the end of an event, in which one or more Match(es) were fought, an official record is written and mailed out, addressed to the Executive Committee.

E. Divers

1. Ring Doctor

- a.* Minimally one (1) ring doctor has to be – and remain – in the vicinity of the boxing ring, where the Match(es) occur.
- b.* Prior to commencing any event, at which Matches are occurring, the ring doctor must examine all the competing Fighters. The Fighters may solely enter the competition, if a ring doctor esteems that to be allowable.
- c.* A ring doctor is, at any time, authorized to terminate a Match, if he/she esteems continuing that match not allowable.
- d.* If a Match is stopped before the actual Match Time is up, e.g. because of a Knockout and/or a serious injury and/or Medical Intervention, or by R.S.C., it is the ring doctor who determines how long the actual Ban from fighting for the Contestant in question is going to extend.
- e.* The ring doctor will write a medical report on any Match being terminated before the actual Match time is up, and send on a copy of that report to the Executive Committee, no later than three (3) days after the Match. I.a., this medical report has to contain the following information:
- the nature of the Knockout;
 - the time (period) of unconsciousness;
 - any form of retrograde amnesia;
 - nature of the injury;
 - medical assessment, (just) after the end of the Match in question;
 - length of Ban from Fighting; and
 - the compulsory WPTBL medical examinations (e.g. EEG and/or NMR scan).
- f.* If a Match is terminated before the actual Match time was up, based on what is stipulated in Article 12, sub E. 1.d of this Manual, then the ring doctor is to write a letter to the family physician of the Fighter who lost the Match in question, as far as he/she considers that necessary, with reference to any potential further treatment and pass that letter on through the Fighter in question. I.a., that letter should contain the following information:
- the nature of the injury/wound;
 - the examinations report of the ring doctor; and
 - his/her advice on the matter.
- g.* A ring doctor has to clearly administer and archive all medical data (including Ban from Fighting periods and any accompanying data)sief Startverboden en bij-behorende data).
- h.* During a Match, the Referee may request the ring doctor to examen an injury, inflicted on one of the Fighters/Contestants.
- i.* During the resting breaks between two rounds of a Match, the Referee, as well as trainers/coaches and seconds of Fighters/Contestants can call upon

the ring doctor to examine an injury, inflicted on one of the Contestants in the Match.

2. Ring announcer

- a.** A ring announcer is a person who publically announces the official announcements with reference to a Match. Some examples of that are the following:
- the announcing of a Match;
 - the announcement that the Referee is giving an Official Warning to one of the Contestants/Fighters or even to both;
 - the announcing of the result of a Match; and
 - (ten (10) seconds before the start of each Match round), giving the command "*Seconds away*", at which he/she is also to indicate which round (e.g. 1,2, 3, 4 or 5) is starting.
- b.** A ring announcer needs to be present, in the vicinity of the boxing ring, on all Matches.
- c.** A ring announcer is principally not a WPTBL official.

Article 13:

Assessment by the Judges

A. In general

1. Matches, not being championship matches or title matches, have to be juried by three (3) Judges.
2. Matches, in which is competed for a Vacant title, are assessed by a principal jury, consisting of three (3) Judges, as well as by a so-called Shadow Jury, consisting of two (2) Judges.
3. During a Match, all the Judges have to install themselves (every Judge on a different side of the boxing ring), in such a way that every one of them has a clear sight onto the entire boxing ring, and that they cannot be disturbed and/or distracted.
4. During a Match, the Judges have to write down their assessment of the Fighters in the Match, in good conscience, on the scoring notes, designated for that purpose, as described in this Manual.
5. For every Match, the Judges have to clearly indicate the following, on their scoring notes:
 - a. the number of the match;
 - b. whether the Match concerns a Title Fight or not;
 - c. the date of the Match;
 - d. the name of the Referee;
 - e. the names of the Fighters in the Match;
 - f. the body weights of the Fighters in the Match; and
 - g. their names and initials.
6. The Judges are obliged to clearly write down an assessment grade on the Fighters involved in the Match, and for every Match round, on the scoring note, and immediately after each match round.

In case of championships and/or international matches and/or title matches, the notes containing the assessment grades from all the Judges are collected by the Referee, after each round.
7. Changes to and/or modifications of and/or crossing-out of the conclusive grades per match round and/or the final grade, obtained from all the match rounds, render the scoring note in question invalid.
8. Immediately after the end of a Match, the Judges add all the individually acquired scores up, and they will check the boxes corresponding with the result that they have concluded. Subsequently, the Judges have to sign their scoring note and hand it over to the Referee, who remains inside the boxing ring, during the Match. After that, the Referee passes on the scoring notes to the (Chairman) of the principal Jury. He/she will announce the winner of the Match, based on the result from the scoring notes.
9. In case the result from the Judges on a Vacant Title Match is "undecided", then the (deputy) Head Official is to put his/her decision, in writing, onto a scoring note, and the result of that document is binding.

B. Points deduction

1. When a Referee gives an Official Warning to a Fighter, during a Match, then the Fighter in question receives one (1) minus point per Judge.
2. In case, during a Match, the Referee grants eight (8) counts of rest to a Fighter (Knockdown), then the Fighter in question receives one (1) minus point per Judge.

C. Determination of assessment grades by Judges

1. Every allowable technique that hits target is being assessed in the same manner. Weak "exploratory strikes", hardly affecting the adversary, are not being counted. All allowable techniques/moves, striking the other Contestant vigorously (even when they are blocked, to some extent, by the adversary's defense), however, are indeed counted by the Judges.
After each match round, both Fighters are awarded either the assessment grade nine (9) or ten (10) by the Judges, based on their assessment. At which, the Fighter who performed the best, is given grade ten (10), while the other Contestant is given nine (9) points.

In case, at the end of a round, no real difference can be perceived, with reference to striking and/or kicking techniques or moves, between the 2 Fighters, then the general impression of/for that Match round is to be decisive when assessing the grades for that round. By general impression, the following is meant: good offensive techniques/moves (create openings in the adversary's defense and then score points), good defensive techniques/moves (dodge a blow, slip to the side, block, etc...), a style that is consistent with the actual style of the sport itself (the use of a traditional Thai style).

With reference to the general impression assessments, in fact, the offensive is actually awarded higher than the defensive.

In case, after such an assessment by the Judge, there is still no clear difference between both Fighters, then he/she will award the assessment grade 10 for that round, to the both of them.

2. Any potential given minus points will be taken into account on the score, as described under Article 13, sub C. 7 of this Manual. The result of that gives the final score and is written down by the Judges, in the column "final score", on the scoring note.
3. If the actual Match time is fully consistent with the Match time that was priorly agreed, namely the number of complete rounds, then the points which are given by each Judge, per Match Round, are all added up by each Judge him/herself and marked onto the scoring notes.
4. A few examples of Jury results:

Judge 1	: red	Judge 1	: red
Judge 2	: red	Judge 2	: blue
Judge 3	: blue	Judge 3	: undecided
Winner	: red	Winner	: undecided
Judge 1	: red	Judge 1	: undecided
Judge 2	: red	Judge 2	: blue
Judge 3	: undecided	jury 3	: undecided
Winner	: red	Winner	: undecided

In case of an "undecided" result for a Title Match, then the defending champion maintains his/her Title. The official match result however remains "undecided".

- 5.** In case of a rest of eight (8) counts, given by the Referee, because of one of the Fighters (temporarily) being incapable of continuing the Match (Knockdown), due to an unintentional foul, no minus points are being marked. In such a case, these eight (8) counts of rest are marked as (required) recovery time.

Article 14:

General issues

A. Prior to commencing a Match

1. During the Official Weigh-in of the Fighters, the trainers/coaches or managers of the Contestants must hand over the Starting Documents of their Fighter(s) to the WPTBL Match Secretary. If no valid Start Document is being presented for a Fighter, then the Match Secretary may exclude the Fighter in question from competing in the/a Match.
2. In case a Fighter of the Beginners and/or C Category does not show up for the Official Weigh-in, at the time and location that were made public in good time, without a valid excuse; to be judged by the WPTBL Match Secretary, then a fine of € 50,00 is given to the trainer/coach of that Fighter, by the Executive Committee. That fine will not be given, if the trainer/coach manages to provide an equal Contestant to replace the Fighter from above. Whether a Fighter is actually equal or not has to be judged by the attending Head Official.
3. In case a Fighter of the B and/or A Category does not show up for the Official Weigh-in, at the time and location that were made public in good time, without a valid excuse; to be judged by the WPTBL Match Secretary, then a procedure will be started, in accordance to what was priorly agreed between the parties involved (Promotor on the one side and Fighter/manager on the other side).
4. In case a Fighter of the Beginners and/or C Category withdraws him/herself, seven (7) days or less prior to the date of the scheduled Match, without a valid excuse; to be judged by the WPTBL Match Secretary, then a fine of € 50,00 is given to the trainer/coach of that Fighter, by the Executive Committee. That fine will not be given, if the trainer/coach manages to provide an equal Contestant to replace the Fighter from above. Whether a Fighter is actually equal or not has to be judged by the attending Head Official.
5. In case a Fighter of the B and/or A Category withdraws him/herself, seven (7) days or less prior to the date of the scheduled Match, without a valid excuse; to be judged by the WPTBL Match Secretary, then a procedure will be started, in accordance to what was priorly agreed between the parties involved (Promotor on the one side and Fighter/manager on the other side).

B. During or after a Match

If Fighters and/or trainers/coaches and/or seconds misbehave during a Match, and/or when/after the result of the Match is announced; to be judged by the Officials, the people who misbehave are given an Official Warning and/or a Suspension.

Artikel 15:

Match Rules:

A. Boxing ring

1. Bouts occur in(side) a boxing ring, approved by the WPTBL.
2. A boxing ring has to be a stable and safe construction, i.a. consisting of four (4) vertical posts, which are connected by way of sixteen (16) vertically mounted tensioners and four (4) ring ropes, which are tensioned horizontally and above one another. By using the sixteen (16) tensioners, the four (4) ropes are connected onto the ring posts. Hence, the construction is actually square, with all four sides being of equal dimensions.
3. The ring ropes must be covered with a soft and/or smooth material, by which they no longer feel rough. The bottom ring rope has to be mounted at about forty centimeters (15.75 in) above the floor mat and should be tensioned a little bit less than the other three ring ropes. The distance between two ring ropes, next to one another, has to be around thirtyfive (35) centimeters (13.78 in).
4. The make of the ring ropes should be white, except for two (2) corners of the boxing ring, diagonally situated from one another. The ropes in one of those corners have to be coloured red, and the ropes from the other corner have to be coloured blue.
5. Ring ropes have to be between three (3) centimeters (1.81 in) and five (5) centimeters (1.97 in) thick.
6. The four ring ropes have to be interconnected by way of – at least eight (8), but no more than twelve (12) – tensioning cords. These are cords, made from textile or leather, which are connected onto the ropes vertically and which make sure that the horizontally tensioned ropes remain at the same height and will not get too far apart.
7. The floor has to be made from/as a secure, smooth construction, with on top some soft mats, tightly sealing; made from foam rubber of at least two (2) centimeters (0.79 in) thick, which are covered by one single layer, a protective coating, made from canvas.
8. In the corners of the boxing ring, on the inside, vertically mounted corner cushions have to be installed. These must be made from foam rubber and covered with a layer of vinyl or leather. The corner cushions must have such a (vertical) length that the bottom side of the cushions protrudes under the bottom ring rope as well as, at the top, runs through above the upper ring rope, and it has to be possible to tightly secure the cushions, along the tensioners, and in the direction of the ring posts.
9. The colour of two (2) of the corner cushions has to be white, and they must be mounted diagonally opposite to one another. The make of the other two corners has to be coloured red and, the other one, blue, and they are equally to be mounted diagonally opposite to one another. These colours have to be consistent with the colours of the ring ropes, as described above. In the red and in the blue corner, corner seats may be installed, for the Fighters to sit on during resting breaks.

10. The dimensions of the inside of the boxing ring (inside the boxing ropes) have to be the following: at least 500 x 500 centimeters (16.4 x 16.4 ft) but not greater than 600 x 600 centimeters (19.69 x 19.69 ft). The ring floor has to extend, outside the ring ropes, at least fifty (50) meters (164 ft), on all sides.
11. On the inside of the boxing ring, there may not be any hard and/or sharp objects, by which someone inside the boxing ring could get injured.
12. The boxing ring has to be installed in such a way that people cannot get injured through contact with the ring ropes.
13. With reference to safety, prior to the start of any event, involving Bouts, the boxing ring in question will be inspected by an Official of the WPTBL. If that Official esteems the boxing ring to be lacking in safety, he/she is entitled, on every occasion, to reject the boxing ring in question, by which, no longer, Matches may be organized in that boxing ring.

B. Ring doctor

Prior to starting any Bout, every Fighter/Contestant involved must undergo a medical examination, by a ring doctor, appointed by the WPTBL. This is a certified physician, who will, i.a., closely monitor the safety of the Contestants, during the Bouts. This ring doctor may declare a Contestant unfit "reject him/her", during a medical examination, which implies that the person in question cannot compete in a Bout, because of medical and/or safety reasons.

Every Bout has to be attended by at least one ring doctor. In case a ring doctor esteems it not feasible for a Fighter to continue the Bout, he/she actually holds the authority to interrupt the Match immediately.

C. Other Officials

1. During Matches, i.a. the following functionaries have to be present:
 - the Head Official
 - two (2) Referees
 - three (3) Judges
 - one (1) timekeeper
 - one (1) administrator
 - one (1) ring doctor
2. The Officials, mentioned above, are permitted to consume non-alcoholic beverages, when they have taken their seat along the boxing ring. The beverages of/for the people sitting next to the boxing ring must be served in beakers made from plastic and/or cardboard. The presence of glass and such materials on the tables (of Judges), along the boxing ring, is strictly prohibited.
3. It is prohibited, for all the Officials mentioned above, to eat anything, next to the boxing ring. In case they wish to have something to eat, then the Officials are requested to go to a specific room (not during Matches), where they cannot be noticed by the public.

D. Trainer/coach and seconds

1. During a Match, alongside the ring, a Contestant may be backed by no more than one (1) trainer/coach and two seconds. Only one of them (the coach/second) may, before the start and after the end of the Bout, as well as during the resting breaks between two Match Rounds, enter into the boxing ring, to coach/attend to his Fighter. The two seconds have to attend, before the start and after the end of the Bout, as well as during the resting breaks between two Match Rounds, to their Fighter, from outside the boxing ring (remain outside the ring ropes).
2. The trainer/coach is responsible for the behaviour of the two accompanying seconds.
3. When the signal "Seconds away" is called out by the ring announcer, the trainer/coach has to leave the boxing ring without hesitation, and no one is to enter the boxing ring any sooner than the moment at which the end of a round and/or the Match has been announced by a Referee, or c.q. by the ring announcer.
4. Prior to starting a Match and/or commencing a resting break between two match rounds, the trainer/coach and/or the seconds have to make sure that the seat for their Fighter is put into his/her corner, in good time. These very people have to make sure that the seat is removed again from inside the boxing ring, also in good time; in any case before the Match is started/continued.
5. During a Match, it is also prohibited for a trainer/coach and/or second to remain on the boxing ring, even if they are located on the outside of the ring ropes. They have to take their place, on the chairs, alongside the boxing ring. Solely the trainer/coach is permitted to give directions during a Match. At that, the trainer/coach may not go shouting. Beating onto the floor of the boxing ring and/or throwing something, whatever that may be, into the boxing ring is prohibited for a trainer/coach and/or second.
6. Trainers/coaches and seconds have to follow the rules, as described in this Manual, and they must also strictly obey the instructions from a/the Referee. In case of infringement of the above rules and/or disobeying of the instructions from the Referee by a trainer/coach and/or second, they may find themselves removed from the boxing ring, by/on the order of the Referee. It is also possible that the Referee gives an Official Warning to the Fighter, who's trainer/coach and/or seconds were violating these rules, or c.q. that the Referee disqualifies that Contestant.
7. When, during the Match, the Referee wishes to consult the ring doctor, with reference to an injury, and therefore requests the ring doctor to enter into the boxing ring, the Referee can prohibit the trainers/coaches and/or seconds to enter into the boxing ring. This rule also applies in case a Referee wishes to consult one or more of the Judges.
8. During a Match, it is prohibited for trainers/coaches and/or seconds to go to one of the Judges and/or to (the Chairman of) the Match Committee and/or protest against a decision by the Referee and/or the Match Committee (Chairman).

E. Entrance of Fighters

Once a Fighter has been announced and invited to enter into the boxing ring and compete in the Match in question, by the ring announcer and/or an Official, he/she has to

appear inside the boxing ring as quickly as possible, but certainly not later than three (3) minutes after he was invited to enter into the boxing ring. In case the Fighter does not appear inside the boxing ring within this set time, then the scheduled Match will not be taking place, and the adversary of the Fighter in question will be (declared) the winner of the Match, by Walkover, if that adversary actually makes it inside the boxing ring within the set time him/herself.

F. Thai Music

With exception of the resting breaks between two Match Rounds, during Matches, specific, feasible Thai Music is to be played.

Upon request, this Music can be obtained from WPTBL, for a certain price.

G. Duration of the Matches

1. A Match of the Juniors Category is fought over 3 rounds of 1 minute each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1 minute.
2. A Match of the Beginners Category is fought over 3 rounds of 1 minute and 30 seconds each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1 minute.
3. A Match of the C Category is fought over 3 rounds of 2 minutes each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1 minute.
4. A Match of the B Category is fought over 5 rounds of 2 minutes each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1 minute.
5. A Match of the A Category is fought over 5 rounds of 3 minutes each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1,5 minutes.
In special cases, with reference to Matches of the A Category, it can be possible to deviate from the above rule. For that purpose, the Executive Committee has to priorly authorize the deviation, in good time, and in writing.
6. It is also possible that a Match is interrupted before the actual Match time is up, e.g. through disqualification, intervention by the ring doctor, Knockout, etc...

H. Possible results of/for a Match

1. The result of a Match can be the following:
 - a. winner/loser on points;
 - b. winner/loser by knockout;
 - c. winner/loser by abandonment (retire);
 - d. "Referee stops contest" (r.s.c.)
 - e. winner/loser by disqualification;
 - f. winner by Walkover;
 - g. winner/loser by Technical knockout (as a result from a number of knockdowns);
 - h. winner/loser due to Medical intervention by Referee and/or ring doctor; and
 - i. "No Contest".
2. In case a Fighter loses a Bout because of Knockout, as a result of a hit to the head, for this Fighter, a Ban from fighting will be applied of at least eight (8) weeks. When these eight (8) weeks have passed, the Fighter in question must undergo a medical examination (E.C.G. investigation). If the results from this medical examination

indicate that the Fighter in question has recovered sufficiently, then the Ban from fighting is being released.

3. If a Fighter loses a Match by Knockout, as a result from a contact/hit onto another part of the body than the head, the attending ring doctor will determine the gravity of the Knockout and possibly impose a Ban from Fighting (for a certain period).

I. Outfit

1. Fighters are dressed in Thai boxing shorts. The men compete stripped to the waist, while the women wear a singlet and/or a T-shirt.
2. Seconds, coaches and other persons standing "in the corner" of a Fighter, all have to be dressed identical, wearing sportswear. If these outfit directions are not met, then the Referee can disqualify the Fighter, in who's corner his/her people are not following the rules in question.

J. Boxing gloves and protection equipment

1. Matches may exclusively be fought, if the Fighters/Contestants are wearing boxing gloves, authorized by the WPTBL.
Boxing gloves have to be made from soft and smooth pliable leather. Also, they have to be cushioned evenly, actually being the thickest at the impact surface (on the knuckles).
2. Boxing gloves, to compete in Matches, can, if required, be provided by the WPTBL, free of charge.
3. Moreover, the following rules apply with reference to boxing gloves:
 - a. During a Match, both Contestants have to wear boxing gloves of the same brand and the same weight;
 - b. Fighters, fighting from the red corner of the boxing ring, have to wear red boxing gloves, while Fighters, fighting from the blue corner of the boxing ring, must wear blue boxing gloves. In special cases, some exceptions can be made to that rule. For that purpose, however, authorization, in writing and in good time, has to be given by the Executive Committee.
 - c. Fighters from the Junior Category have to wear boxing gloves of 12 ounce (341 grams) per glove.
 - d. Fighters from the Beginners and C Category have to wear boxing gloves of 12 ounce (341 grams) per glove.
 - e. Fighters from the B Category have to wear boxing gloves of 10 ounce (284 grams) per glove.
 - f. Fighters from the A Category, with a body weight of no more than 67 kg (< 147.71 lb), have to wear boxing gloves of 8 ounce (227 grams) per glove.
 - g. Fighters from the A Category, with a body weight of over 67 kg (> 147.71 lb), have to wear boxing gloves of 10 ounce (284 grams) per glove.
 - h. With reference to boxing gloves with glove laces, applies that the knot/bow of the lace has to be (tied) on the upper side of the glove (backside of the

hand), at the height of the wrist; without any loose strings or ends hanging loose. Then, the knot/bow is also to be covered with a layer of smooth sports tape.

4. It is compulsory to wear a cup (under the Thai boxing shorts), as well as a mouthpiece.
5. The wearing of ankle socks is permitted.
6. For lady Fighters, it is permitted to wear breast protectors, authorized by the WPTBL.
7. Fighters from the Junior Category have to wear head protection and shinguards/instep protectors, authorized by the WPTBL.
8. The use of other protection equipment is not permitted.

K. Bandages and taping

1. Fighters are permitted to wear regular soft bandages around their hands, wrists, ankles and feet. It is also allowable to tape the hands and wrists with soft sports tape.
2. Applying strips of hard tape (e.g. sports tape that is rolled up) is prohibited.
3. It is prohibited to wear or have any other object on or in the hands and/or the fingers and/or the feet and/or the ankles.
4. The bandages and tapes must be inspected and authorized by an Official. Only, if and when the bandages/tapes have been marked with a WPTBL stamp or bear the initials of an Official, may the boxing gloves be put on.

L. Other

1. The personal appearance of a Fighter (nails, hair style, etc.) has to be such that no personal injuries can be inflicted onto the adversary.
2. In order to prevent facial injuries, it is permitted that the face of a Fighter, during Matches, is covered with a thin layer of vaseline. If, however, a Referee esteems that the layer of vaseline on the face is too thick, he/she may request that the vaseline gets removed, or remove it him/herself, prior to commencing/continuing the Bout.
3. It is permitted that the body of a Fighter, prior to a Match, is being rubbed with some massage oil. If, however, a Referee esteems that there is too much (massage) oil still left on the body, he/she may request that the (massage) oil gets removed, or remove it him/herself, prior to commencing/continuing the Bout.

M. Permitted techniques

During a Match, the following techniques/moves are permitted:

1. thrust techniques, if carried out with the knuckles of a fist onto the forehead and the side of the head, as well as against the front and the two sides of the upper part of the body of the adversary;

2. kicking techniques, if carried out with a foot and/or shinbone onto the forehead and the side of the head, the neck, as well as against the front and the two sides of the upper part of the body, and against the legs of the adversary;
3. elbow techniques, carried out onto the front and the two sides of the upper part of the body, as well as against the legs of the adversary;
4. elbow techniques, carried out onto the head of the adversary (only if it concerns an A Category Bout, to which the Muay Thai rules apply);
5. knee techniques, carried out onto the front and the two sides of the upper part of the body, as well as against the legs of the adversary;
6. knee techniques, carried out onto the head of the adversary (only if it concerns Fighters from the A and B Category);
7. thrust techniques with the backside of the fist, the so-called 'backfist' and/or 'spinning backfist'. (only if it concerns Fighters from the A Category); and
8. leg sweeping techniques, at which the two legs of the adversary are swept off the floor (not permitted, if commenced from Clinch position).

N. Prohibited maneuvers

It is prohibited for Fighters to perform the following maneuvers:

1. to butt the adversary with the head;
2. the use of elbow techniques onto the head, nape, collarbone, neck and back (however, the use of elbow techniques is indeed permitted if it concerns an A Category Bout, to which the Muay Thai rules apply);
3. aiming, with whatever technique, for the groin area of the adversary;
4. aiming, with whatever technique, for (one of) the joints of the adversary;
5. the use of knee techniques onto the head and nape of the adversary (does not apply to Fighters from the A and B Category);
6. hitting and/or thrusting with an "open hand", i.e. with the inside of the boxing glove;
7. hitting and/or thrusting with the backside of the boxing glove (the so-called 'backfist' and/or 'spinning backfist'), if it concerns a Bout of the Junior, Beginners, C or B Category;
8. to perform any technique, whatsoever, towards the adversary, after the command "*Break*" and/or "*Stop*" was given by the Referee;
9. to perform any technique, whatsoever, towards the adversary, while he/she is standing (partially) outside the ring ropes;
10. to perform any technique, whatsoever, towards the adversary, while he/she is touching the floor of the boxing ring, with any other part of the body apart from the feet;
11. biting and/or spitting;
12. any form of unsportingly behaviour;
13. trying to avoid the Bout (fighting) deliberately;
14. to approach the adversary with the head bended/held so low that it is nearly impossible for the adversary to perform a legitimate technique;
15. to insult the adversary, the Referee or whomever;
16. to throw the adversary out of the boxing ring deliberately;
17. to pull the adversary's head down, in order to then perform a knee and/or kicking technique onto it (does not apply to Fighters from the A and B Category);
18. to grab and hold the ring ropes, in order to prevent an adversary to perform any techniques with success;
19. to grab and hold the ring ropes, during a Clinch position;
20. to grab and hold the ring ropes, in order to then be able to perform a thrust and/or a kicking technique;
21. to spit out the moutpiece deliberately;

22. to simulate that the adversary performed a prohibited technique and/or that one was hit on a part of the body where Fighters may not touch one another;
23. to disobey commands given by the Referee;
24. to hold the lower back of the adversary, with both arms around him/her and/or to pull him/her to oneself in that way;
25. to hold and/or to clamp (onto) a leg of the adversary, without commencing a permitted technique onto the adversary, inside three (3) seconds;
26. to hold and/or to clamp (onto) a leg of the adversary, and then move more than two (2) paces;
27. to land onto the adversary deliberately, during a fall;
28. to perform a hip throw or shoulder throw (e.g. as in judo or wrestling);
29. to (try to) sweep the adversary right off his/her feet, starting from a Clinch position; and
30. to grab the adversary and then drop one's self right onto him/her, by falling forward.

If a Fighter/Contestant performs one of the above prohibited maneuvers/moves, then the Referee will give up to two (2) Admonitions to the Fighter who performs the prohibited maneuver(s)/move(s). In case of a third (3rd) foul, the Referee will give an Official Warning to the Fighter in question. The Referee may, however, choose to give an Official Warning sooner, for a prior foul. This will be based on the nature of the foul, which is to be judged by the Referee.

O. Injuries

If some injury/injuries is/are noticeable quite clearly on one of the Fighters (e.g. in case of open wounds), then "the time is being stopped", on the instruction of the Referee, and the injury/injuries can then be treated by the attending ring doctor. The attending ring doctor will then decide whether or not the injured Fighter may continue the Match.

In case the ring doctor decides that the Match cannot continue, and that the injury occurred by the injured Fighter's own doing and/or is the result of a legitimate technique, then the Referee interrupts the Match, due to "Medical interventions".

If, during a Match, a Fighter injures his/her adversary, by performing a prohibited technique, to such extent that the injured Fighter is incapable and/or it is not allowable to compete in the Match, then the Fighter who performed the prohibited maneuver is being disqualified.

If, during a Match, one of the Fighters, or both of them, get(s) injured undeliberately, as a result of a prohibited maneuver (e.g. if the heads of both Fighters collide by mistake), and if the Referee esteems one or both of them incapable to compete in the Match, then the Match is terminated by the Referee; leading to two (2) possible Match results, namely the following:

- a.** the Fighter who has the most points scored, at the moment when the Match is being terminated, wins the Match on points, or
- b.** in case, at the moment when the Match is being terminated, both Fighters/Contestants have scored the same number of points, then the result of the Match is actually: "No Contest".

P. Stimulant drugs

- 1.** The use of stimulating and/or prestaton-enhancing drugs is strictly prohibited. Fighters who compete in Matches, can and may be required by the WPTBL, at any given moment, to undergo a dope test.
Any Fighter/Contestant who the test indicates as positive, has fourteen (14) days to appeal, in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee.
- 2.** The stimulating and/or prestaton-enhancing drugs comprise, i.a., psychostimulants, amphetamines, anabolic steroids, soft - and hard drugs and analgesics.
- 3.** If, immediately before the start of a Match, a Fighter refuses to fully cooperate with reference to a dope test, or if he/she does cooperate on a dope test and then the result of it proves to be positive, then the Match Committee (Chairman) of the WPTBL will exclude this Fighter from competing in the scheduled Match.
Subsequently, the Executive Committee will suspend the Fighter in question, either for a certain period, or indefinitely; which is to be judged by the Executive Committee, from competing in Matches.
- 4.** If, immediately after a Match, at which a certain Fighter was declared the winner, he/she refuses to fully cooperate with reference to a dope test, or if he/she does cooperate on a dope test and then the result of it proves to be positive, then the following occurs:

 - a.** the result of the Match in question is revised as a "No contest" result; and
 - b.** the Executive Committee will suspend the Fighter in question, either for a certain period, or indefinitely; which is to be judged by the Executive Committee, from competing in Matches.
- 5.** If, immediately after a Thai Boxing and/or Muay Thai Title Match, organized with authorization by the WPTBL, at which a certain Fighter was declared the winner, he/she refuses to fully cooperate with reference to a dope test, or if he/she does cooperate on a dope test and then the result of it proves to be positive, then the following occurs:

 - a.** the result of the Title Match in question is revised, at which the Fighter who was found to be positive by the test, loses the Match because of disqualification, and his/her adversary yet gets the Title in question appointed to him/her; and
 - b.** the Executive Committee will suspend the Fighter in question, either for a certain period, or indefinitely; which is to be judged by the Executive Committee, from competing in Matches.

Article 16:

Juniors

A. General

1. Taking the safety of the juniors involved into account, a Match of the Juniors Category, cannot finish with the result of the Match being Knockout and/or Knockdown.
2. Upon dividing, with reference to Matches in the Juniors Category, the age and the body weights of the Fighters in question is to be taken into account.
3. For Contestants of the Juniors Category, up to 15 years old, it is compulsory to wear certain extra protection equipment, authorized by the WPTBL; namely: head protection, shinguards/instep protectors and 12 ounce (230 grams) boxing gloves
4. In case, during a Match of the Juniors Category, one of the two Fighters clearly seems to be outclassed, a Referee is to intervene immediately.
5. In case of some very hard actions, during a Match of the Juniors Category, a Referee is to intervene immediately, by giving the command "Break" or "Stop".
6. It is prohibited to have the result of a Match of the Juniors Category turn out to be: Knockout. If a Fighter of this Category, is hit, as a result of a permitted technique, to such extent that he/she cannot continue the Match, then the Match is terminated immediately. The Fighter who got hit then loses the Match on points.

B. Duration of the Matches

Matches of the Juniors Category are fought over 3 rounds of 1 minute each. Between the rounds, there is a resting break of 1 minute.

Article 17:
Promoters

A. General

The Executive Committee of the WPTBL can and may grant authorization, in writing, to set up (an) event(s), at which Matches are organized, to certain Persons (a natural person or another legal entity).

B. Application for Promotor License

1. Persons can obtain a Promotor license, under certain conditions.
2. Persons who wish to become holder of a Promotor License, on every account, have to do the following procedure:
 - a. to present themselves, upon application for a Promotor License, in front of a Ballotage Committee, comprising certain Members of the Executive Committee and the Match Committee. Only after this presentation has taken place, can and may a Promotor License be granted;
 - b. to have a good knowledge of the entire content of the Manual (e.g. the requirements with reference to a boxing ring);
 - c. to always follow the rules, as displayed in this Manual, as well as any potential agreement(s), engaged with the Executive Committee;
 - d. prior to granting any license, the applicant(s) has/have to prove that they have sufficient financial means at his/her/their disposal, to be capable of organizing Matches;
 - e. in the case of a physical person, instead of another legal entity, be at least 21 years old, in case it concerns another legal entity, be at least 21 years old; and
 - f. have good skills with reference to the language, both spoken as well as in writing, of the country in which they will be organizing.
3. Before actually granting a definitive Promotor License, the Executive Committee can also choose to temporarily authorize the organising of Matches once-only, then again to grant exclusive authorization to organize Matches, solely in certain level categories.

C. Conditions with reference to Promotor License

For Promoters, holding a valid WPTBL Promotor license, i.a. the following conditions apply:

1. A license actually has a period of validity of not longer than one (1) year, and is valid between the 1st of January and the 31st of December of any year.
2. In specific cases, a license can and may be revoked by the Executive Committee.
3. A Promotor is obliged to organize at least one (1) Match, during the year that the Promotor License in question is valid. In case of lacking at this, without a valid reason; to be judged by the Executive Committee, the Promotor in question will not be given a new license for the next year.

- 4.** In case there are several Promotors, in one city or in one area, then they have to make agreements, through debating, on the dates of/for Matches. In case no good agreements can be reached, all that easily, between the parties, the matter can and may be passed on to the Match Committee of the WPTBL. This Committee will then pass a verdict, which is binding to all parties involved.
- 5.** A Promotor may call upon the Matchmaker of the WPTBL, with reference to the "lineup" of the event(s) which is/are to be organized. Please refer to the Financial Section for the financial consequences of this.
- 6.** A Promotor is obliged to make a contract with any Fighters from the A Category, competing in his/her event, clearly stipulating all agreements that are made between the parties involved. With regard to Fighters from the B Category, the same is being advised. If required, the Executive Committee can provide a standard contract.
- 7.** A Promotor is obliged to provide a scenario, with regard to the event that he/she is organizing, completed by a detailed security plan, onto the Match Committee of the WPTBL, no later than four (4) weeks before the start of the event in question.
- 8.** A Promotor is obliged to make the complete program known to the Match Committee of the WPTBL, in writing, and no later than two (2) weeks before the start of the event in question.
- 9.** If a Promotor is having posters and/or programmes and/or flyers, etc. made to promote his/her event, then he/she is obliged to include the image/logo of the WPTBL on those.
- 10.** The duration of any event, involving Matches, may not be longer than five and a half (5.5) hours.
- 11.** The Executive Committee holds the right, in case a Promotor turns out not to meet all the requirements stipulated in this Manual (e.g. the requirements that are set regarding a boxing ring), to cancel the event in question completely. Any potential costs due to that and/or any potential damage will be charged to the Promotor.
- 12.** An event at which Matches are scheduled may not start at a time later than 20:15h.
- 13.** Promotors who have organized less than three (3) events, with authorization of the WPTBL, have to pay for their financial obligations towards the WPTBL upfront, as well as actually guarantee the pay of/for the Fighters/Contestants, who compete in the event of the Promotor in question. In addition, such Promotors, have to provide (a) document(s), showing that the rent for the accommodation where the event is being held, has been paid, prior to the start of the event in question. Promotors who have been such events for a longer period, and with whom there has never been any payment trouble, are permitted to settle their financial obligations towards the WPTBL, on the very day of the event in question, but surely before that starts.
- 14.** A Promotor is entitled, if and when he/she wants, to have a dope test carried out, immediately after a Match, in order to test a Fighter on the use of stimulating drugs, if this test is being carried out by and in accordance with the directions of the Dutch Dope Institute 'Necedo'. Any Fighter has to fully cooperate, in case of such a request. In case the Promotor makes use of his/her right on this, he/she

has to notify the Executive Committee, in good time, and pass on a copy of the test results to the Executive Committee.

- 15.** Promotors are obliged to award all Fighters with a sports prize, after each Match.
- 16.** In case Promotors call upon (the services of) Officials and a ring doctor, during an event, they are obliged to provide sufficient food and beverages to these functionaries. At this, the following is to be taken into account:
 - a.** Officials and a ring doctor, alongside a boxing ring, have to be waited upon (since they are not permitted to leave the boxing ring, as long as a Match is in progress);
 - b.** Officials and ring doctor are not allowed to drink alcohol;
 - c.** beverages have to be served in beakers made from plastic and/or cardboard. (The presence of glass and such materials on the tables (of Judges), alongside the boxing ring, is strictly prohibited); and
 - d.** Officials and ring doctor, as long as they are seated at their tables, alongside the boxing ring, are not allowed to eat something. The Promotor has to make sure that these people can go to a separate space (not seen by the public), during intervals without matches, and that sufficient food (and drinks) are served tot hem.
- 17.** Promotors, holding a valid Promotor License, are entitled to enter all events, organized with authorization of the WPTBL, accompanied by one (1) invitee, free of charge, if they show their WPTBL Promotor License at the entrance.

The Match Committee is in charge of checking whether Promotors follow the rules and potential agreements, made together with the Executive Committee.

Article 18:

International representation

A. General

In various countries, all over the world, the WPTBL has representatives, who locally look after the interests of the WPTBL. These representatives, as well as any potential future representatives, are being/will be scrutinously selected by the Executive Committee, and have been assigned the following tasks:

1. they are in charge of an organisational structure in the country (where) they represent, and they set up a team of Officials, which meets the requirements of the WPTBL;
2. they maintain contact with any local Promotors and they stimulate those to organize Matches;
3. they stimulate the exchanging of Fighters from Promotors in other member countries; and
4. they maintain a complete and clear administration about all local Matches and they report on those Matches, monthly, to the Executive Committee, in Dutch and/or in English.
5. WPTBL representation € 250,-- per year.

B. Conditions with reference to representation in another country than the Netherlands

1. Any – physical or other – person or entity who wishes to be drafted to be a representative of/for the WPTBL, in another country than the Netherlands, at least has to do the following:
 - a. to present one's self to the Executive Committee, upon applying for this representation assignment. Only after this presentation, a right to represent can be provided by the Executive Committee;
 - b. to possess a good knowledge about the complete content of this Manual;
 - c. to always follow what is stipulated in this Manual, and any potential agreements, made by one's self with the Executive Committee;
 - d. to make sure that all local Promotors always follow what is stipulated in this Manual, and any potential agreements, made by themselves with the Executive Committee;
 - e. to be at least 21 years old, in case a physical person is concerned; and
 - f. to master the language of the country where he/she is organizing well, speaking it, as well as in writing.
2. For Representatives in another country than the Netherlands, i.a., the following conditions apply:
 - a. The right to represent the WPTBL has a period of validity of not longer than one (1) year, and is valid between the 1st of January and the 31st of December of any year. In case the WPTBL sees no reason for changes, that period of one year can silently be continued for (an) equal period(s).

- b.** In specific cases, a representation of/for the WPTBL can be revoked by the Executive Committee.
- c.** A representative of/for the WPTBL is obliged to (assist in) organize/organizing at least one (1) Match, during the year that his/her right to represent is valid. In case of lacking at this, without a valid reason; to be judged by the Executive Committee, the representative in question will not be given a renewal of the right in question for the next year.
- d.** If a representative of/for WPTBL and/or a local Promotor is/are having posters and/or programmes and/or flyers, etc. made to promote his/her event, then he/she is obliged to include the image/logo of the WPTBL on those.
- e.** The Executive Committee holds the right, in case a representative of/for WPTBL and/or a local Promotor turns out not to meet all the requirements stipulated in this Manual, to revoke that right to represent without delay. Any potential costs due to that and/or any potential damage will be charged to the (ex-)representative.

C. Procedure

If, (on behalf of) a certain representative of/for the WPTBL, in another country than the Netherlands, organizes Matches in that country, for the very first time, then, at least, one representative from the Executive Committee of the WPTBL, as well as, at least, one Official from the Netherlands, have to attend. If the Executive Committee Member and the Officials in question all esteem that the event, comprising the Matches in question, as well as the Matches themselves occurred in good order, in the future, up to a date (and time) that has yet to be determined by the Executive Committee, to have just one Official from the Netherlands attending the event, would be sufficient.

If the Executive Committee Member and/or (one of) the Officials in question esteem that the event in question is not occurring in good order, he/she may be forced by Executive Committee to again make sure that one Executive Committee Member and/or Officials attend (the place of) the Matches.

All costs, linked to and due to this Article 18, are entirely to be paid by the Promotor in question.

Article 19:
Educations

A. Education trainers/coaches

B. Education Officials

Article 20:

Financial Section

A. Contribution

It goes without saying that maintaining any organization, that functions well, brings about costs. So, that also applies to the WPTBL.

E.g. there are costs which are made with regard to insurance policies for Members and Executive Committee Members, outfits for Officials, education of Officials, necessary equipment for Officials, such as a laptop computer, maintaining an official website, creating and maintaining rankings, office materials, rent for meeting spaces, etc...

With regard to a potential recognition by an umbrella organization (NOC/NSF), the Executive Committee of 'our Organization' will have to be able to indicate who they are representing, and the organization will therefore be required to have Members who can be identified as members, and a members list will have to be passed on as well.

For that matter, the Members of the Executive Committee are working free of charge.

Therefore, the Executive Committee will try to keep the costs as low as possible, and to attract a sponsor, who is willing to pay for certain costs by the WPTBL, or preferably, all those costs.

Anyway, also the WPTBL cannot avoid, just like any other (con)federation, which is managed professionally, to require contribution payments from their Members. Naturally, the WPTBL tries to keep these contribution payments from their Members as low as possible.

Those financial deposits from the WPTBL are used for activities in the benefit of the Members. The Treasurer has to clarify all that to these Members, every year.

The actual amount of/for the contribution will, annually, be determined by the Executive Committee, and then passed on to the General Members Conference, to be voted on.

The contribution is actually EUR 10,00 per member per calenderyear.

B. Costs Promotors

Promotors, who received a Promotor License from the Executive Committee, and organize Matches, have to take the following costs into account, when paying upfront:

Contribution for Dutch title match, including championship belt	€	150,-
Contribution for European title match, including championship belt	€	425,-
Contribution for World title match, including championship belt	€	625,-
Costs for ring doctor	€	220,-
Costs (Head)Referee and other officials (Ref. to Article 20, C. 1)	€	550,-
Costs Official weigh-in (1 day prior to start of event)		Ref. to Article 20, C. 1

C. Reimbursement of expenses Officials

1. The (Head)Referees and other Officials are working completely free of charge, just like the Members of the Executive Committee. However, these people have to make certain expenses, e.g. when they carry out certain tasks during Matches. E.g. costs for/from traveling and accommodation expenses. Therefore, (Head)Referees and Officials who live in the Netherlands, only receive a net reimbursement of the expenses, per person, per event that is organized in the Netherlands; namely the following:

Head official		€	100,-
Referee	(2) at	€	75,--
Judges	(3) at	€	75,--
Administrator/Timekeeper		€	75,--

2. If a European and/or World Title Match is concerned, then at least one (1) foreign Judge, recognized by the WPTBL, has to be a Member of the Team of Officials for the Match in question.
In such a case, the Promotor who is organizing the title match(es) in question, has to pay for two (2) days of traveling and accommodation expenses, and also a reimbursement of expenses of € 100,00.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer carries out payments on behalf of the WPTBL, and he/she is in charge the books of/at WPTBL;

For every giro payment, two signatures are compulsory, namely one by the Treasurer and one from the (deputy) chairman.

At the end of each year, the Treasurer reports, completely and openly, about the financial policy during the past year.

E. Inspection Financial Committee

No later than two (2) weeks before the start of the Annual Members Conference, the Treasurer has to pass on an extensive and well-documented financial report to the other Executive Committee Members and the Members of the Financial Committee.

The Financial Committee, then, checks that report and is allowed, for as far as necessary, to request clarification from the Treasurer and/or the other Executive Committee Members.

E. Costs for appeal treatment

In order to be able to deal with an appeal efficiently, an independent Appeals Committee has to be summoned. The costs that that brings about are: € 150,00 per protest. In case an appeal is declared admissible, then the person forwarding the appeal, i.e. the petitioner of the appeal, is entitled to get a restitution of this amount.

F. Matchmaking

A Promotor can choose to have his/her complete, or either partial, "lineup" of his/her program, taken care of by the expert matchmaker of the WPTBL. The expenses for this are € 350,00 per event.

G. Pays and fees

1. Fighters of the Juniors, Beginners -, and C Category receive no reimbursement.
2. Promotors have to pay to Fighters from the B Category, a net reimbursement of expenses, for an amount of d€ 100,00 per Wedstrijd. If a Fighter wins a Match, in the B category, then he/she receives an additioneel amount of € 50,00. When a Match ends "undecided", then both Fighters receive an additional amount of € 25,00.

All these payments between the Promotor and the Fighters have to be settled directly. In case of any other potential, fiscal contributions and/or legally binding contributions, the Promotor has to settle these payments directly with the Tax services and/or other governmental organizations.

- 3.** Fighters from the A Category have to be paid for their Matches. The minimum net amount is actually set onto € 250,00 per Match. The WPTBL advises to give Fighters who compete in their second Match within the A Category, a net amount payment of € 375,00, and to Fighters who compete in their third Match in the A Category: € 450,00 (netto). Moreover, it concerns the Promotors on one side and the Fighters (represented by a manager or not) on the other side, to make agreements on all that.

All these payments between the Promotor and the Fighters have to be settled directly. In case of any other potential, fiscal contributions and/or legally binding contributions, the Promotor has to settle these payments directly with the Tax services and/or other governmental organizations.

- 4.** In case the WPTBL acts as a mediator, on behalf of a Fighter of the A Category, with reference to competing in a Match in another country, then the Fighter in question will have to pay, immediately after the Match (i.e. no later than three (3) days after the date of the Match in question), a reimbursement of expenses of € 75,00 onto the WPTBL.