

CHAPTER 252
ELIMINATION TOURNAMENTS

[Prior to 9/24/86, Athletics Commissioner[110] Ch 3]

[Prior to 10/21/98, see 347—Ch 98]

[Prior to 8/16/06, see 875—Ch 98]

[Prior to 7/9/25, see Labor Services Division[875] Ch 174]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 2/26/30

481—252.1(90A) Purpose and scope. These rules apply to elimination tournaments, which are boxing matches where contestants box one another, two at a time, with one contestant eliminated from the tournament. The elimination continues with winners from the various bouts competing until only one contestant remains undefeated in the weight division. Elimination tournaments are governed by the rules in 481—Chapter 251 and this chapter. Any conflicts between 481—Chapter 251 and this chapter will be resolved in favor of this chapter.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.2(90A) Bouts, rounds and rest periods.

252.2(1) Each bout consists of no more than three rounds. Each round is two minutes in length. A rest period of 90 seconds shall be provided between rounds. No contestant shall be permitted to compete in more than three bouts in any 20-hour period.

252.2(2) In national elimination tournaments, when the ability and conditioning of the contestants are assured, the athletics commissioner may authorize two contestants to participate in a fourth bout that determines the championship, provided all bouts are comprised of three 90-second rounds. Under no circumstances will any participant be permitted to compete more minutes in any one 20-hour period than is authorized under the rule allowing three bouts consisting of three two-minute rounds as set forth in this rule.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.3(90A) Required protective equipment.

252.3(1) *Hand protection.* Practice wraps (training hand wraps) may be used in lieu of compliance with 481—Chapter 251. Gloves weighing 16 ounces shall be worn by both contestants.

252.3(2) *Body protection.* All male contestants shall wear a foul proof protective cup. All female contestants shall wear foul proof pelvic area protection and breast protection.

252.3(3) *Head protection.* The promoter shall provide and the contestants shall wear protective headgear unless the contestant signs a waiver from it.

252.3(4) *Mouth protection.* A mouthpiece shall be worn by all contestants throughout the bout. If the mouthpiece is knocked from a contestant's mouth, it shall be replaced with no penalty. Any contestant who deliberately spits out a mouthpiece shall be cautioned the first time, the referee shall deduct one point from each judge's scorecard the second time and the contestant will be disqualified the third time. Before being replaced, the mouthpiece will be washed.

252.3(5) *Hair protection.* Where necessary, hair will be secured in a manner that it will not interfere with the vision or safety of either contestant.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.4(90A) Weight restrictions. Permission must be received from the commissioner before any contestant will be permitted to box an opponent with a weight differential greater than the following:

Contestants	Weight Differential
Under 135 pounds	6 pounds
135-160 pounds	12 pounds
160-190 pounds	18 pounds

Over 190 pounds

No restriction

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.5(90A) Down. In determining a technical knockout (TKO) under 481—Chapter 251, a down includes a standing eight count where a contestant is still standing but is in a semiconscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, continue the bout.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.6(90A) Suspension. A contestant who suffers a knockout or where the referee stops a fight on a technical knockout (TKO) shall not be permitted to box in the state for a period of 30 days. Before being permitted to fight again, the contestant shall be examined by a physician or physician associate approved by the commissioner.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 6/10/26]

481—252.7(90A) Training requirements. Each contestant will have been involved in conditioning for at least 30 days prior to competing in any elimination tournament. Conditioning means a combination of roadwork or jogging and usual training center conditioning exercises. The promoter shall obtain from each contestant prior to the physical examination a written declaration from the contestant, witnessed by at least one other person, that the contestant has met these training requirements.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.8(90A) Judges. Three judges, each located on different sides of the ring, will separately score bouts. The referee will not be permitted to act as a judge in scoring a bout.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.9(90A) Impartiality of timekeeper. The use of lights on each ring post to indicate the final seconds of a round shall not be considered as signals to interested parties. Corner lights may be used only if consistently activated throughout the elimination tournament and all contestants and officials are informed prior to the start of the tournament about the information conveyed by the round lights.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

481—252.10(90A) Ringside. No person may sit or stand at ringside unless authorized by the commissioner.

[ARC 8840C, IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 90A.2 and 90A.5.

[Filed emergency 5/4/81—published 5/27/81, effective 5/4/81]

[Filed 1/8/82, Notice 11/25/81—published 2/3/82, effective 3/10/82]

[Filed emergency 9/5/86—published 9/24/86, effective 9/24/86]

[Filed 7/26/06, Notice 5/10/06—published 8/16/06, effective 9/20/06]

[Filed ARC 1240C (Notice ARC 1107C, IAB 10/16/13), IAB 12/11/13, effective 1/15/14]

[Filed ARC 6760C (Notice ARC 6599C, IAB 10/19/22), IAB 12/28/22, effective 2/1/23]

[Filed ARC 8840C (Notice ARC 8392C, IAB 11/27/24), IAB 1/22/25, effective 2/26/25]

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/9/25]

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 6/10/26]