



# **SOUTH AFRICAN BOXING AWARDS RULE BOOK**

*Celebrating Resilience*



**30 JUNE 2023**

**TIME:**  
**18H00**

**VENUE:** ICC, DURBAN,  
KWAZULU NATAL

*Celebrating Resilience*



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## Foreword

Long before the advent of world boxing governing bodies the incomparable Ring boxing magazine popularly known as the Bible of Boxing had initiated arduous task of awarding boxers for outstanding performances in the boxing ring. In the course of time world boxing controlling bodies followed suit and initiated their own Awards ceremonies.

In 1976 or thereabouts the then national boxing board of control initiated the national chapter of South Africa's own Awards ceremony. For twenty momentous years the glitz and glamour of the Awards became the centre\piece of South African boxing. These fabulous decades also produced numerous national and world champions, Indeed South African boxing was in vogue.

In the stultifying cauldron of a new democratic dispensation boxing was not immune from the attendant calamities and misfortunes. Regrettably the pomp and ceremony of the Awards disappeared from the national calendar of events. Boxing is a resilient sport BSA has picked up the pieces and in 2023 the people's event is back on stage.

Once more the Awards ceremony is at the pinnacle of the wholesome effort to renew grow and transform the sport of boxing. In this milieu the Awards provide the necessary catalyst to celebrate boxing excellence reward boxing achievements -unearth talent and stimulate growth of the sport.

We approach the Awards event with mixed feelings of excitement and trepidation. We are prepared to duke it out with those two imposters viz. hope and fear. We can safely say our fundamentals are in place.

From **08 May 2023 until 22 May 2023**, the nomination process for the South African Boxing Awards 2023 will remain open. The period under review will be from **01 April 2022 until 31 March 2023**. The nomination categories and the nomination process are adequately clarified in this Rulebook.

We thank you in advance for your participation in the process. We believe that as always you will march with us in pursuit of the renew, grow and transform trajectory. Remember the closing date for nominations is **22 May 2023**.



## DETAILS OF EACH CATEGORY

### 1. **Male Boxer of the Year**

From its infancy, BSA has always presented an annual awards ceremony for all its stakeholders. This is an age-old tradition which, inter alia, is a performance evaluating tool. Traditionally, the lucrative (boxer of the year, award) would go to a boxer who has earned the respect of the sports family by his conduct inside and outside the ring. Indeed, his fighting prowess would stand one in good stead. Other milestones, in the category would be the following:

- a) The candidate need not necessarily be a champion, but must be an accomplished scientific boxer.
- b) The manner in which they conduct themselves inside the ring.
- c) His innate abilities should be those of a high public profile, professional, clean and moral living individual.
- d) The history and experience of the gladiator.
- e) Ring craft, physical pros and aggression.

### 2. **Female Boxer of the Year**

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- a) The candidate need not necessarily be a champion, but must be an accomplished scientific boxer.
- b) The manner in which they conduct themselves inside the ring.
- c) Her innate abilities should be those of a high public profile, professional, clean and moral living individual.
- d) The history and experience of the gladiator.
- e) Ring craft, physical pros and aggression.

### 3. **Female Fight of the Year**

The return of boxing to the television screens has proven to be the necessary elixir for the resuscitation of boxing, countrywide. The past eighteen months have been packed with thrills, drama and memorable fights.

The Fight of the Year award is given to the boxing fight considered to be the best fight of the year. It is awarded by various publics whose business is sport at large. In this case, among things that we will consider are:

- a) Conduct of the boxers inside the ring.
- b) History of the gladiator.
- c) Ring craft.
- d) Aggression and tactical excellence.

### 4. **Male Fight of the Year**

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- b) History of the gladiator.
- c) Ring craft.
- d) Aggression and tactical excellence.

### 5. **Male Prospect of the Year**

Indeed, the DSAC engineered SABC/BSA revival has had boxing moving from a moribund state of inertia to an effervescent sprouting of elite prospects across the face of the country. The space is occupied by a kaleidoscope of young and exciting prospects. Interestingly, this talent and latent potential is strewn across all the different weight-divisions. The young braves are well-placed to maintain and sustain the momentum well into the future. The fighter should have not more than ten (10) fights.

## 6. **Female Prospect of the Year**

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## 7. **Match-maker of the Year**

Unlike boxing trainers, match-makers are seldom in the spotlight. The glare and the spotlight belongs to promoters, but they are the wind beneath the latter's wings. They work furiously behind the brands of the big-time promoters, it is them who have the ability to match the boxers and produce mega tournaments. Indeed, they did deserve the spotlight presented by the Awards ceremony.

## 8. **Reporter of the Year**

We have a vast array of boxing journalists who stand tall and write prolifically about boxing. In the absence of boxing magazines and the scarcity of television coverage they have kept the faith and continued spreading the gospel of the sport. We have to recognise their valiant efforts.

## 9. **Ring Official of the Year**

Boxing referees and boxing judges, have a tough and onerous task - to accomplish in each and every tournament. They are charged with the responsibility of enforcing the rules of the sport during the fight. They must look out for fouls and acts of ill-discipline from both boxers. Equally, they are expected to judge fights meticulously and thereby protect the image and integrity of the sport. To a greater extent, they are also standard bearers of the sport, we need to profile these prominent officials as torchbearers of the sport. In this category we look for an official who: -

- ❖ Does not take the spotlight out of the fighters.
- ❖ Decision takers guided by the rules.
- ❖ A firm and assertive official who has a quick interpretation of the rules.
- ❖ Their mobility and flexibility inside the ring.
- ❖ Whether the official is in control of the fight.
- ❖ Professionalism.

## 10. **Knockout of the Year**

In combat sport, a knock-out is a fight ending, winning criterion. A full knockout is considered a legal strike that renders an opponent unable to continue fighting. The term is often associated with a sudden traumatic loss of consciousness caused by a physical blow. While any pugilist can attain a knockout, the defining factor is the impeccable excellence and athleticism through which the nominee in this category executes and achieves the knock out. The kind of knockout the fans live for!



## 11. **Trainer of the Year**

This is the category of the architects and the mechanics who toil hard in dingy backrooms and gymnasiums in the villages and hamlets of our county. Theirs is a thankless job, whose rewards are more often than not, reaped elsewhere by people who sign and contract an otherwise finished product. They are a hugely passionate and intensely driven lot, whose love and loyalty to boxing is legendary.

Under this category it should be borne in mind that there are some trainers who during the period under review, might not necessarily have any boxer in hand who is doing well. You may however find that during the period under review, there are numerous coaches, who have produced good boxer. Significantly, the genesis of these boxers could be traced back to these kinds of trainers. It is our belief, that such trainers are eligible for nomination, on account of the plurality of athletes he/she has once trained and are thriving during period under review.

## 12. **Promoter of the Year**

Promoters are at the cutting-edge of the business of professional boxing. They bring their own monies and or private sector funding and sponsorships into the fight-game. In this milieu, they are the cog of the boxing machinery. They are very critical stakeholders in the business of professional boxing. Historically they are reputed to keep a combustible and pragmatic relationship with boxing governing bodies. By and large, they are a motley group of shrewd and likeable business fellows.

Yesteryear, when boxing was in the doldrums, these likeable fellows kept the home fires burning. Some of them staged international fights without any form of sponsorship. Collectively, they have strived with might and main to maintain and sustain South African boxing. The promoters are standard-bearers of boxing because the quality of match-making belies the quality of the tournaments they promote. Who is at the top of the heap? The candidate should have the follow attributes:-

- a) Nature and stature of the event.
- b) Stakeholder management.
- c) Compliance with the Act, Rules and Regulations.
- d) Boxer-centeredness of the promoter's business.
- e) Conduct (Courtesy and Professionalism).
- f) Someone who goes beyond the call of duty.
- g) Good marketing and branding of the event (PR)
- h) Match-making.

### 13. **Manager of the Year**

More often than not, managers are responsible for identifying and nurturing the budding talents who later become amateur boxing stars and ultimately successful professional boxers. They oversee the ascent of these youngsters to stardom. Very little is written or known about them.

In most cases, promoters are known to steal the managers' thunder. The awards ceremony will surely have to recognise these talented individuals, whose duties includes:-

- a) Managing the career of a boxer.
- b) Ensuring that boxers' records are updated and accurate at all times.
- c) Market and build the boxer's brand.
- d) Secure sponsorship, endorsements and promotions for the boxer.

### 14. **Chairperson's Awards**

On an annual basis the Chairperson of Boxing SA confers awards in the following two categories based on the recommendation of the Adjudication Panel as well as any other consideration of the Board and/ or the Chairperson.

### 15. **Lifetime Achievement Award**

Calling on hard-nosed veterans and legends of the fight-game whose lifetime sacrifices have kept the sport alive. Some of them remain house-hold names to this day. Indeed, they are immortals whose history is engraved in the country's boxing archives. They might have been administrators, promoters, managers or boxers in their life-time. The Awards function presents an apt opportunity for BSA to recognise them.

### 16. **Special Achievement Award**

This award is in recognition of an exceptional contribution to the sport. This is not an annual award category. It might be offered for exceptional committee work or in this regard for exceptional talent displayed at amateur level or an exceptionally gifted woman or man boxer.

## The South African Boxing Awards

### Voting Panel

- has been set up to allow for maximum participation of all stakeholders involved in boxing in the Republic of South Africa;
- members of the panel are selected from Sport personalities who range from Sport Administrators, Sport Journalists, Sport Commentators, Sport Legends, Sport Writers and Academics from Sport and Science of Sport background;
- must shortlist nominees, vote for the semi-finals and eventual winners of the different categories except for the Boxer of the Year, as it is public voted category as contemplated in this rulebook; and
- Must submit their recommendations for the Chairperson of Adjudication Committee to rectify and approve the winners of each award category.

### Nomination Process

Nominations for the awards are unlimited in number. Sports organisations may, therefore, nominate as many licensees as they wish for any of the respective award categories.

- ❖ Nominations will open on the **08 May 2023** and close on the **22 May 2023**. No nominations will be accepted after the closing date.

### Generic Criteria for Nominees:

A Nominee must -

- be a registered member of a national association recognized by BSA and/or a BSA licensee in good standing

The attached Awards Nomination Form should be completed for each nominee. Nominations for the awards should be submitted to BSA at **mail@boxingsa.co.za** on or before **22 May 2023**.

Contact details:

**Name: Lebohang Morebudi**

**Tel: +27 12 765 9600**

**E-mail: Lebohang@boxingsa.co.za**

## Voting Procedure

There shall be two (2) rounds of voting – the first round will determine three (3) or five (5) finalists in each award category and the second round will determine the final winner for each award category.

The firm of auditors appointed by the South African Boxing Awards event Project Team shall verify–

- all the nominations submitted; and
- the results of the two rounds of voting.

## Voting shall take place as follows:

### STEP 1

- Verification of nominees by the auditors.
- Adjudication of the nominees for the first and second round of voting.

### STEP 2

- determine the 3 or 5 finalists in each relevant category
- vote for their winner in each category; and
- Send these votes to the auditors directly.

Subject to the results having been verified by auditors, the names of the finalists shall be announced to the media and the public at a date and venue to be announced by BSA.

## Awards Voting Panel

The composition of SA Boxing Awards Adjudication Panel is determined by the Board of Boxing South Africa. The current composition of Adjudication Committee for 2023 is as follows:

1. Mr. Khulile Radu (BSA: Board)
2. Ms. Lebohang Morebudi ( Secretariat - BSA)
3. Mr. Lehlohonolo Ramagole ( BSA)
4. Mr. Marara Moabelo (Media Personality)
5. Mr. Mandla Ntlanganiso (BSA)
6. Ms. Lebo Motsoeli (Media Personality)
7. Ms. Patience Shikwambana (SASCOC)
8. Mr. Bongani Magasela (SOWETAN)

## **Nomination and awards disputes**

A decision taken to-

- facilitate any action or process required;
- nominate candidates to be considered for any awards;
- shortlist the said candidates; and
- make an award

In terms of this rulebook relative to-

- the Parties; and
- the South African Boxing Awards Event;
- any nominated licensee; and
- the winners decided upon to receive such awards

Shall be final and binding, subject to –

- any aggrieved party exhausting the dispute resolution procedure as contemplated hereunder; and
- a final resolution pertaining to the dispute has been made by the arbitrator in writing.

## **Dispute Resolution**

The Board of Boxing South Africa, will appoint an Appeals Committee whose responsibility will be Administration of appeals and any disputes that emanate from the Nomination process and the South African Boxing Awards event.

- Except in respect of those provisions of this rulebook which provide for their own remedy, any dispute arising out of or in connection with the South African Boxing Awards event or the subject matter of this rulebook (other than where an interdict is sought or urgent relief may be obtained from a court of competent jurisdiction), shall be finally resolved in accordance with the rules of, and by an Appeals Committee comprising 7 members appointed by the Board of Boxing South Africa in writing.
- Any person, licensee, body, team or association that is not satisfied with a decision taken for or against him, her or it under this rulebook or otherwise may, within 24 hours after the decision had been taken, lodge a written grievance with the Appeals Committee.

- The grievance must be submitted with a written statement to the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee setting out the grounds upon which the grievance is based.
- Until any grievance has been decided by the Appeals Committee, the decision must be regarded to have been validly made or given.
- The Appeals Committee must promptly within 24 hours after receiving a grievance –
  - ❖ decide and dispose of a grievance lodged before it and in any case must ensure that the object of lodging the grievance is not defeated by the Appeals Committee's delay in reaching its decision; and
  - ❖ advise the aggrieved party and the parties of its ruling in the above regard in writing which must include the reasons for its decision.

Provided that nothing contained herein shall be construed to debar the Appeals Committee from requesting–

- ❖ any additional information from the aggrieved party or any other party or person for that matter; and
- ❖ the aggrieved party or any other party or person for that matter to appear before it as it deems fit.

This clause shall not preclude any aggrieved party from obtaining relief by way of motion proceedings on an urgent basis from a court of competent jurisdiction, pending the decision of the arbitrator.

The provisions of this paragraph-

- constitute an irrevocable consent by the parties and the aggrieved party to any proceedings in terms hereof and no party shall be entitled to withdraw there from or to claim that any such proceedings are not bound by such provisions; and
- is severable from the rest of this rulebook and shall remain in effect despite the termination of all invalidity for any reason of this rulebook.



Subject to the above, it is agreed between the Parties and the aggrieved party that there shall be no right of appeal and the aggrieved party and the parties-

- expressly consent to a ruling on the said dispute to be made by the Appeals Committee in terms of its rules as a matter of urgency; and
- Irrevocably authorizes the other to apply, on behalf of all parties to such dispute, in writing, to the secretariat of the Appeals Committee in terms of its rules for any such ruling to be made on an urgent basis.

### **Nomination and awards disputes**

A decision taken to-

- facilitate any action or process required;
- nominate candidates to be considered for any awards; and
- shortlist the said candidates; and
- make an award

In terms of this rulebook relative to-

- the Parties; and
- the South African Boxing Awards Event;
- any nominated licensee and/or association; and
- the winners decided upon to receive such awards

Shall be final and binding, subject to –

- any aggrieved party exhausting the dispute resolution procedure as contemplated in par. 9 hereunder; and
- a final resolution pertaining to the dispute has been made by the arbitrator in writing as contemplated in par. 9.6.

## Dispute Resolution

The Board of Boxing South Africa, will appoint an Adjudication Committee whose responsibility will be Administration of appeals and any disputes that emanate from the Nomination process and the South African Boxing Awards event.

- Except in respect of those provisions of this rulebook which provide for their own remedy, any dispute arising out of or in connection with the South African Boxing Awards event or the subject matter of this rulebook (other than where an interdict is sought or urgent relief may be obtained from a court of competent jurisdiction), shall be finally resolved in accordance with the rules of, and by an Adjudication Committee comprising 5 members appointed by the Board of Boxing South Africa in writing.
- Any person, licensee, body, team or association that is not satisfied with a decision taken for or against him, her or it under this rulebook or otherwise may, within 24 hours after the decision had been taken, lodge a written grievance with the Adjudication Committee established under the above paragraph.
- The grievance contemplated above must be submitted with a written statement to the Chairperson of the Adjudication Committee setting out the grounds upon which the grievance is based.
- Until any grievance has been decided by the Adjudication Committee, the decision must be regarded to have been validly made or given.

The Adjudication Committee must promptly within 24 hours after receiving a grievance –

- decide and dispose of a grievance lodged before it and in any case must ensure that the object of lodging the grievance is not defeated by the Adjudication Committee's delay in reaching its decision; and
- advise the aggrieved party and the parties of its ruling in the above regard in writing which must include the reasons for its decision

Provided that nothing contained herein shall be construed to debar the Adjudication Committee from requesting–

- any additional information from the aggrieved party or any other party or person for that matter; and
- the aggrieved party or any other party or person for that matter to appear before it as it deems fit.

This clause shall not preclude any aggrieved party from obtaining relief by way of motion proceedings on an urgent basis from a court of competent jurisdiction, pending the decision of the arbitrator.

The provisions of this paragraph-

- constitute an irrevocable consent by the parties and the aggrieved party to any proceedings in terms hereof and no party shall be entitled to withdraw there from or to claim that any such proceedings are not bound by such provisions; and
- is severable from the rest of this rulebook and shall remain in effect despite the termination of all invalidity for any reason of this rulebook.

Subject to the above, it is agreed between the Parties and the aggrieved party that there shall be no right of appeal and the aggrieved party and the parties-

- expressly consent to a ruling on the said dispute to be made by the Adjudication Committee in terms of its rules as a matter of urgency; and
- Irrevocably authorizes the other to apply, on behalf of all parties to such dispute, in writing, to the secretariat of the Adjudication Committee in terms of its rules for any such ruling to be made on an urgent basis.

Disqualification of nominees and winners and revoking of nominations and awards of identified winners

Subject to the provisions of the above, a nomination for an award at the South African Boxing Awards event as contemplated in this rulebook, may be –

- disqualified by the Awards Voting Panel as a nomination of a particular category of award; or
- compelled by the Awards Voting Panel to withdraw his, her or its nomination of an licensee, team or association, if the nominee has-
- been found guilty of a criminal offence;
- acted in contravention with the Preventing and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act 12 of 2004);
- contravened any provisions of the following Acts:
- The South African Boxing Act, 2001;
- The South African Institute for Drug-free Sport Act, 1997;
- contravened any code of conduct relative to the sport;

- intentionally misrepresented him, her or itself in writing, orally or otherwise in order to be declared the winner of the award;
- made a false statement in writing or orally;
- been involved in any activity or any other related matter in boxing that had brought the sport into disrepute;
- not fully conformed to all the criteria relative to any of the awards as contemplated in this rulebook;
- failed to conform with any other requirements as stipulated in this rulebook which include not completing the nomination form as contemplated in par. 7 on page 21 duly, accurately and properly ; or
- directly or indirectly or through his or her spouse, partner or business associates, have any financial interest in the South African Boxing Awards event.

Subject to the provisions of point 3 above, a licensee, individual or association that has been –

- declared a winner by the Awards Voting Panel in any of the categories as contemplated in the voting panel point; and
- awarded an award by the Awards Voting Panel at the South African Boxing Awards event as contemplated in this rulebook, may be–
- disqualified by the Awards Voting Panel as the winner of category of award; and
- compelled by the Awards Voting Panel to –
- hand back his, her or its award; and
- reimburse BSA with the full pecuniary amount awarded to licensee, team or association at the South African Boxing Awards event,

if the licensee or association has-

- been found guilty of a criminal offence;
- acted in contravention with the Preventing and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 (Act 12 of 2004);
- contravened any provisions of the following Acts:
- The South African Boxing Act, 2001;
- The South African Institute for Drug-free Sport Act, 1997;
- contravened any code of conduct relative to his, her or its sport;
- intentionally misrepresented him, her or itself in writing or orally in order to be declared the winner of the award or otherwise;

- made a false statement in writing or orally;
- been involved in any activity or any other related matter in sport that had brought sport into disrepute;
- not fully conformed to all the criteria any of the awards as contemplated in this rulebook;
- failed to conform with any other requirements as stipulated in this rulebook which include not completing the nomination form as contemplated on page 21 duly, accurately and properly; or
- Directly or indirectly or through his or her spouse, partner or business associates, have any financial interest in the South African Boxing Awards event.

A decision taken by the Awards Voting Panel shall be subject to the compliance with the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) which, amongst others, means that –

- an administrative action (e g disqualification of nominee, winner or award, etc.) taken by the Awards Voting Panel which adversely affects the rights of the licensee or association, must be lawful, reasonable and procedurally fair;
- before an administrative action is taken by the Awards Voting Panel in the above regard, the licensee, team or association must offered an opportunity to submit his, her or its written representations relative to the decision considered by the Awards Voting Panel; and
- After an administrative action had been taken by the Awards Voting Panel, subject to the above, the licensee, team or association must be given written reasons by the Awards Voting Panel for taking such a decision.

Notwithstanding any –

- nomination received;
- winner identified; or
- ruling being made by the Adjudication Committee

in terms of the processes described in this rulebook, the Chairperson of Boxing South Africa may, if he deems it fit, overrule such nomination, decision or ruling being made in respect of a nominee, winner or dispute respectively.

**GLOSSARY: SOUTH AFRICAN BOXING AWARDS RULEBOOK**

“BOXER” means a person to whom a certificate of registration has been issued in terms of Regulation 2;

“ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE” means the committee established and contemplated in terms of par. 16;

“AWARDS VOTING PANEL” means the South African Boxing Awards 2016 Voting Panel;

“MANAGER” means any person to whom a certificate of registration has been issued in terms of

Regulation 2; “OFFICIAL” means a referee, judge, timekeeper, ringmaster or announcer to whom a certificate of registration has been issued in terms of regulation 2;

“LICENSEE” means a person to whom a certificate of registration has been issued in terms of Regulation 2;

“MANAGER” means any person to whom a certificate of registration has been issued in terms of Regulation 2;

“PROMOTER” means any person to whom a certificate of registration as such has been issued in terms of Regulation 2;

“SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR DRUG-FREE SPORT” means the institute established by section 2 of the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport Act, 1997 (Act No. 14 of 1997);

“CEO” means the Chief Executive Officer of Boxing South Africa;

“TOURNAMENT” shall mean a boxing event staged by a promoter and consisting of more than one bout sanctioned by Boxing SA with no less than 36 rounds;

“BOXING SA/ BSA” means the Boxing Commission contemplated in section 4 of the South African Boxing Act, Act 11 of 2001;

“SABC” means the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

“SRSA” means Sport and Recreation South Africa

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