

Muaythai Australia Inc

Approved Rules and Regulations for Muaythai in Australia.



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Muaythai Australia Inc is:

- The peak body for Muaythai in Australia, as recognised by the Australian Sports Commission.
- The only approved National Sporting Organisation (NSO) for Muaythai competition.
- A National Sporting Organisation (NSO) that is registered as a Not For Profit Incorporated Association.
- The MTA is the national body that represents the International Federation of Muaythai (IFMA) and is the only Muaythai organisation with IOC recognition.
- For further information, please go to:

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Muaythai Australia Inc (MTA)

Rules and Regulations for Muaythai Competition in Australia

(Endorsed by the International Federation Muaythai Amateur – IFMA)

MTA rules are the Australian approved rules for Muaythai Competitions in Australia. They are designed to ensure Australia follows a national and unified rules system that follows the principles and guidelines of the sport of Muaythai.

MTA rules are to be utilised for ALL tournaments that are set for State and National Championships and selection events for international competition. The MTA rules are based on the IFMA (previously WMC) for adults, however this is overlaid with a class-based fighter system. Junior Rules mirror the IFMA rules. The MTA rules are written for Australia and development pathways required for Muaythai from novice to professional.

These rules are for one-off matches, development shows, and routine competitions in Australia. Any deviation from these rules requires written permission from the MTA after consideration of the purpose and circumstances of the deviation. State Combat Sports legislation must always be followed and supersedes all MTA rule requirements. The MTA is duty bound to promote Muaythai and therefore lobby the government for permission to follow the rules of our sport.

All MTA rules are to be utilised uniformly across Australia. These rules are for all classes, of fighters including ELITE (A-Class), COMPETITOR (B-Class), NOVICE (C-Class). These rules cover ELITE, COMPETITOR, NOVICE, and JUNIOR bouts. *This could also read – A-class - Professional, B-class, Amateur, C-Class – Development.*

MTA rules are suitable for use by any promoter as they are the NSO rules for Muaythai in Australia. These rules are required for any MTA endorsed promotion or competition. If the promotion is conducting titles fights, those fights MUST follow the specific rules of the sanctioning body rules for that title. The MTA endorsement is contingent on the promotion following these rules and government legislation at all times unless express written permission is given for a sanctioned title bout or event sanctioned by an endorsed/professional sanctioning body.

The MTA does Muaythai. Full thai and Mod thai are not used. It is ALL Muaythai. No elbows can be approved for C-class bout and junior divisions only but there is NO Mod Thai fights.

Rule Approvals and Conditions. In addition to the standard rules.

1. MTA rules follow the no step back principle. For example; a fighter who competes A Class cannot go back to competing 2 min rounds. A B-class fighter cannot fight C-class bouts. You step up, you are in that class.
2. Males and females are to fight the same round length and times in all competitions.
3. Bouts can be either 3 by 3min rounds with a 2 minute break or 1 min breaks.
4. Any A-class title must be 5 by 3 min rounds with 2 min breaks.
5. Any B-class title must be 5 by 2 min rounds with 1 min breaks.
6. Bouts can be 5 by 3 min rounds and not be title bouts.
7. There is no 4 round bouts.
8. The MTA promotes and identifies Muaythai as Full Thai. The MTA does not recognise or promote Mod Thai or any form of Modified Thai rules - except related to the requirements in Junior Rules.
9. The requirements of padding and round times are required to develop a fighter through classes but also so the difference in class can be viewed by the public and is obvious regarding the class of the fighter and type of competition being viewed.

10. 4 and 8 man tournaments/competitions are allowed under the following circumstances:
 - All fighters are present at the weigh in.
 - All fighters are of the same experience.
 - A Dr MUST approve the continuance of each fighter after each bout.
 - A fighter must not have more than 4 eight counts during the tournament.
 - A fighter who loses a bout cannot fill in for a fighter who is out, if he/she lost by stoppage or had 2 eight counts during the tournament.
11. All fighters must be available for ASADA testing on request. In or out of competition.
12. All fighters of MTA endorsed competition/promotion MUST be members of a MTA registered club that is financial at the date of the competition.
13. All fighters must be registered with their state MTA association, where required. Residence (drivers license) determines which state athletes are required to register.

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Section 1 - MTA FIGHTER CLASS SYSTEM

The MTA is a national sporting organisation and has a unified national set of rules. MTA rules are approved and endorsed by IFMA for use in Australia for matches for Muaythai. Rules are based on the World Muaythai Council (WMC) rules for professional competition but are not specifically the WMC rules.

Fighters are categorised by experience and managed in a class system from C-class to A class, (C-Novice, B-Competitor, A-Elite) depending on the fighter's experience, ability and choice. State registration requirements run parallel to MTA fighter class registration, but do not over ride/supersede MTA requirements. B-Class fighters could be either Amateur registered or professional registered athletes.

State Governments that require registration as an amateur or professional define what a fighter is registered as in those states and the other states that also have a combat sports legislation. If you are a state without Combat Sports legislation and register in a state to compete, then that registration is applicable nationally. If you compete in one state as a B-class (Competitor) fighter, you are a B-class fighter nationally. Australian titles cannot be competed for by people from different states, stepping back from A-class to B-class. States without government regulation and registration requirements are to follow the MTA class system.

The state professional/amateur registration is imposed on the MTA and is not the basis for fighter status recognition. A professional registered fighter is not automatically a A-class competitor. A B-class fighter can be a professional or amateur registered fighter. Although registered fighters can not cross registration to compete in states with government registration.

Introduction:

A class base system is an effective way to manage fighter pathways and develop a system that allows for a stronger base and quality professional fighters. It should give more options to a promoter and make the MTA a more attractive body for promoters. The class base registration and fighter system is an enhancement to a rule based system. It is an effective way to grow a true national sport and represent the MTA to local, state and federal legislators. It is critical to the Australian Sports Commission that the MTA appears as a national sport and this system meets that criteria. Above all, it should make the MTA more attractive to trainers, clubs and individuals.

State registration requirements and legislation will always make our national approach varied however the MTA MUST set the agenda and not have it set for them that way we can demonstrate we are a national sport. The aim to take ownership of our sport.

The policies and regulations of MTA are the base standard for all MTA events. MTA requirements are the minimum standard for all states. State legislation supersedes MTA requirements on a state by state basis, however, do not alter the minimum requirements of MTA. Individual State legislation can determine the registration requirements and conditions of a fighter, but that applies to that state only and does not make it a mandatory requirement for other states or influence MTA policies and rules as a national organisation.

Fighters will be registered and have every fight counted by the class they are registered in whilst always maintaining an overall fight score to measure experience. Moving up a class re-sets the fighter count to zero – for that class only. Therefore maintain a record of overall fights plus how many per class. A fighter's history is transparent, but starts again every time they move up a class. The move between

classes can be a choice by a fighter or it can be enforced by a maximum experience levy or imposed by the MTA.

Full Thai Rules is Muaythai – ‘Muaythai is Muaythai’ and does not recognise the terms Full Thai and Mod Thai as legitimate.

MTA is the peak body for Muaythai and deviations from the standard rules of Muaythai are not supported. All bouts in A, B and C class are FULL THAI. All B and A-Class fights are FULL THAI RULES. The MTA principle is Mod Thai is not Muaythai. Junior rules have exemptions per age group.

The MTA is a sporting organisation to promote Muaythai. Promoting or competing at Mod Thai is to degrade Muaythai and weaken the sport. There is no Mod Thai in Thailand stadiums or recognised IOC Muaythai rules. All MTA clubs, trainers and athletes should train at Muaythai and aim to compete at Muaythai in order to develop the true essence of the sport and art of Muaythai.

The MTA is not just a sanctioning body, it is a member organisation that conducts competitions for its member clubs and athletes. The MTA clubs should support and conduct MTA competitions and the MTA should support clubs and grow Muaythai.

To develop participation in Muaythai it requires greater reach to trainers and clubs to train for Muaythai. One of the ways to do this is have rules that everyone follows and trains for. Head gear and elbow guards is a more effective pathway to Muaythai than no head gear and Mod Thai.

C-Class bouts can occur with out elbows but they are Muaythai fights and **the term Mod Thai is not authorised**. B-class bouts are with elbows under all circumstances. If a bout is C-class – ALL padding requirements are enforced.

IFMA – International Federation of Muaythai Amateur

IFMA is IOC recognised. IFMA is the international governing body of Amateur Muaythai. The MTA pays an annual license fee to be the IFMA representative in Australia and a member country of the IFMA. International IFMA competitions can be attended by selected MTA athletes and officials only. All athletes representing Australia are selected by the MTA selection committee.

IFMA competitions internationally are A-class (Elite) only. All fights at IFMA International Tournaments are counted towards a fighter's domestic record.

Payment of Fighters

The payment of fighters is an issue between the fighter, (his/her management) and the promoter and has NO relationship to the class of the fighter or the MTA. The management of a fighter's payment and all issues associated with being paid to fight is the responsibility of the fighter/manager/agent. A fighter can be paid to fight in any class and it has no effect on their status. A B-class fighter can be paid to fight if the promoter determines the fighter worthy. Professional status is a registration requirement in some states and has no bearing on the payment of a fighter.

All payments to fighters MUST be legal, accountable and in accordance with Australian Tax, workplace and consumer law. The MTA supports all registered professional fighters being paid on any commercial show in order to grow the sport and participation of athletes.

All income from sponsorship is not covered by the MTA. All sponsorship agreements do not supersede any rules, policies or regulations regarding the wearing of sponsorship material or advertising of sponsors. The MTA may dis-allow the representation of a fighters sponsor at an MTA event if the MTA believes the sponsor does not follow the principles or codes of conduct of the MTA or may bring the MTA into disrepute, either directly or by association.

Rankings

MTA will manage the rankings of fighters through the rankings, title and classes commission. Rankings will be in place for fighters with the intention of ranking the top ten in each weight category. Weight categories are in accordance with MTA weight Divisions. Rankings are to be submitted by each club for their fighters and kept updated by the club.

Win is 3 points. Draw is 2 points. Loss is 1 point. 1 extra point for winning the open division at MTA Nationals. Disqualification is zero points. Both fighters get 1 extra point for competing for a A-Class National Title.

Fighter Class registration and development pathways.

All registered competitors are broken in to a Fighter Class system. The Fighter Class system replaces the Professional and Amateur system in all respects. The system runs in conjunction with or parallel to Combat Sports state legislation. State registrations will require amateur and pro and will overlap this system.

Where state legislation requires registration of a fighter by Professional or Amateur status, that registration is to be based on the requirements of the class status by which an athlete wishes to compete. An MTA promoter can match a fight by Fighter Class only. Government requirements are to be followed, but cannot be down-graded to fall below MTA Fighter Class requirements.

State MTA bodies are required to have a data base of registered athletes and to list which class each athlete is competing in.

All fighters are recommended to start in C class. Most people will commence on shows as C-class fighters, for either development days, as amateur fighters, or novice fighters.

C-Class - Once a fighter commences C-Class bouts he/she is a part of the MTA fighter system of development. C Class is an amateur/novice level and all fights follow the C-class padding requirements. An athlete can remain at C-class for as long as they desire but are only to be matched in accordance with their C-class record. Once a transition to B-Class, he/she cannot compete at C Class bouts. If a fighter has more than 1 fight at the class above, he/she is at that class.

B-Class transition - A fighter is recommended to have 5 fights in C-Class before transitioning to B-Class. A fighter can remain in B-class for as long as they desire but are only to be matched in accordance with their B-class record. Once a transition to A-Class, he/she cannot compete at B Class bouts. If a fighter has more than 1 fight at the class above, he/she is at that class.

A-Class transition - A fighter is recommended to have at least 15-20 fights in B-Class before transitioning to A-Class. A fighter is recommended to consider serious the implications and level of being an A-class fighter. At this class, A class fighters can be matched with any other A-class fighter and are considered an ELITE fighter. If a fighter has more than 1 fight at the class above, he/she is at that class.

All fighters are to be registered with MTA and ALL fights are to be recorded in their MTA book-record with the class of the fight clearly stated. All fights are recorded by the class the fight is at. All fights outside MTA are to be recorded.

Juniors – Juniors must follow the rules and requirements as per their age group. Juniors are not included in the class fighter system.

TITLE – BELTS AND CHAMPIONS.

The MTA can sanction amateur and professional state and national title fights.

MTA State & National Champion's. State and National Championships will determine the MTA Champion in each division. Winners of the MTA Nationals will be MTA National Champions for 12 months.

MTA TITLES's. Amateur (B-class) and Professional (A-class)

The MTA can endorse professional MTA titles for A-class titles or a A-class title, to be known as Professional MTA titles. These titles are in accordance with MTA weight Divisions for one off bouts and must follow the policies of the MTA and be approved by the MTA Titles Commission. Athletes must be the top ranked, active and available fighters for the level of the title. Titles policies determine the procedures for titles. State bodies can organise or endorse state titles in either B or A class.

MTA professional titles are: Only for A-class, registered professional, ranked and experienced fighters.

- State Title – Athletes must be from the same state or the state governed by the MTA.
- West Coast Title – Only WA, NT, SA.
- East Coast Title – Only QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC, Tas.
- Australia Title – Australian passport or resident only.
- MTA Intercontinental – Top ranked Australia Fighter v's International opponent.

MTA Amateur Titles.

State bodies can approve MTA Amateur Titles. There are no Australian Amateur Titles as the Australian Champions the MTA National Champion as determined by the MTA nationals.

Promotion/Stadium Titles – The MTA may endorse a 'Promotion Title' if a promoter is following this model of competition and not using any other professional sanctioning body. All stadium Titles must follow MTA rules and suitably ranked fighters to be endorsed.

IFMA – The MTA is affiliated with IFMA for all international competitions. The WMC is available for World Title fights. The World Champion is the GOLD medallist at the IFMA World Championships.

State Title – additional guidelines to policy.

State titles are determined by the state MTA representative/board and overseen by the national executive. For State titles; the fighters should reside in that state or fight regularly in that state and be known to come from that state. State titles cannot be held for states that have less than 5 registered clubs. NT can fight for WA titles. ACT can fight for NSW titles. TAS can fight for Vic titles.

If a state/territory has 5 or more clubs, state titles can be fought for as long as the two fighters are credible and ranked nationally. The title bout can be hosted in the state the title is for or the state of one of the fighters from the smaller. A state/territory rep without a state board cannot approve their own state titles. It must be approved by the national titles commission.

MTA Titles are available for each state. Fighters competing for title must be the highest ranked fighters available and approved by the titles commission. State titles must also consider the level of the fighter must be equal to that of any other state which is proven by that fighter having fought interstate and be ranked nationally above the majority of others from their state.

JUNIOR TITLES

Are available for state and national titles for ages 12 and above. Junior titles are for trophies and prestige. Title belts for states, national or stadium belts may be given but they must be approved by the MTA.

Juniors cannot fight adults for titles or for adult titles.

ALL TITLES

All titles must follow the MTA state and national title policies for MTA. Exemptions can be given if approved by the MTA executive for all titles. For example: 2 fighters from the same state could compete for a national title if they are the unquestionable best 2 in Australia and ranked in the top 3 and that the fight doesn't preclude any state title holder from an opportunity to fight for the title. All avenues of fighter availability and fighters have been exhausted before this option can even be requested.

Officiating Australia professional titles.

All Australian titles must have an official approved by the head of Officials officiate the title bout that is not from the state hosting the bout. The expense of this will be provided by the MTA and negotiated with the promoter and state body as required.

Weight Cutting Guidelines.

- All MTA athletes are to complete an MTA Medical, every 12 months, in all states with no government registration requirements. The MTA medical is the MTA medical form.
- All MTA Athletes must complete a weigh cut declaration to be presented at each weigh in.
- All Junior's and C class bouts are to weigh in on the same day of the competition. NLT 4hrs from the competition. NOTE: Even if a junior or C-class fighter is on a adult show or professional fight card.
- B or A class bouts can be either 24hr weigh in or same day weigh in. Same day weigh in are recommended by the MTA for all B-class bouts.
- Both fighters must weigh in at the same time.
- Video weigh in's can be approved for Junior, C and B class bouts; if they are live and an MTA Official is present at either end of the video call. The scales used must be approved by the MTA.
- Juniors are NOT to cut weight for a bout or follow any system of rapid weight loss.

Section 2 - MTA Fighter Class System.

The Class system is specific to the MTA and does not mirror the IFMA system as it is for international elite competition. All rules and timings are for male and female.

MTA NATIONALS AND MTA TOURNAMENTS. Classes are not for MTA National and State title events which will be varied by a definitive class system for those events.

GENERAL COMPETITION CLASSES

A-Class – ELITE – PROFESSIONAL - High Performance Level. (Professionally registered athletes or competing against them). Must fight 3 min round bouts over 3 or 5 rounds with 1 or 2 min breaks.

B-Class – COMPETITOR - AMATEUR - could be amateur or professional depending on government legislation requirements). Must fight 2 min round bouts over 3 or 5 rounds with 1 min breaks.

C-Class – NOVICE – DEVELOPMENT (Amateur government registered fighter). Must fight 3 by 2min or 3 90 sec rounds.

All classes follow the cant 'step down' principle. The system is designed as a developmental system. You can not compete at B-class if you are an A-class fighter and have fought 3 min round bouts more than 1 time.

C – Class is the place to start and develop basic competition experience. All competitors are recommended to start in C-class, have a few fights in pad's, on smaller shows, development days or inter-club style competitions. A fighter can stay in C-class as long as they desire if matches are available however a fighter is recommended to transition to B-class between 4-10 fights in C-class.

C-class is 3 by 90 sec or 3 by 2 min bouts in padding. (As per table section 2.)

B-class is for fighters with some experience. B-class is for athletes ready to fight 3 by 2 min rounds with less padding. It is the competitive level where people develop from a novice fighter until they are ready to be a professional fighter in the A-class league. Fighters should remain at B-class until they are ready to be a professional and A-class fighter. B-class is the main division to get experience and develop as a fighter.

B-class is 3 by 2 min round bouts, with limited padding, on an experience scale system. B-class can fight 5 by 2 min round bouts. All amateur titles are 5 by 2 min rounds with 1 min break.

A-class is for experienced fighters, 15 plus fights is recommended.

A-class is 3-minute rounds for 3 by 3, or 5 by 3 min. All titles are 5 by 3 min rounds with 2 min break.

CLASSES

A Class: ELITE PROFESSIONAL

- All A – Class A-class fighters, when required by state legislation, MUST be a registered Professional. ELITE fights are under MTA rules and regulation except where these rules and state legislation super seeds them.
- Definition: A-Class is for 3 min round bouts over 3 or 5 rounds.
- A-class fighters CANNOT fight B-class fighters or 2 minute round bouts.
- Round Time: 3 min rounds. 2 min break, however 1 min breaks are optional for 3 round fights.
- Rounds: All fights are 3 min rounds. Fights can be either 3 rounds or five rounds.

- Rules - Muaythai

B Class: COMPETITOR – AMATUER MTA rules and regulations. B-CLASS can be as a professionally registered or amateur athlete.

- Round Time: 2 min rounds for males and females.
- Rounds: Fights are 3 rounds or 5 rounds.
- Rest breaks: 1 minute.
- Rules: Muaythai – (elbow guards for ALL B-class)
- Padding: As per table section 2.

C Class: NOVICE – DEVELOPMENT MTA rules and regulations: (MTA rules with the following adjustments)

- Definition: When required by state legislation, MUST be a registered amateur. C-class is hand wraps only.
- All athletes are recommended to commence competition in C-class.
- A fighter can stay in C-Class for as long as desired however are recommended to transfer to B-Class between 4 and 10 fights.
- Round Time: 90 sec or 2 min rounds for males and females.
- Rounds: All fights are 3 rounds. There are no 5 round C-Class bouts or titles.
- Rest breaks: 1 minute.
- Rules: Muay Thai. (No elbows can be approved for C-class bouts)
- Padding: As per table on page 2.

ADULT PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SCHEDULE FOR ALL MTA BOUTS

State legislation **MUST** be followed and supersedes any MTA rules. These rules are the minimum standard for the MTA regardless of state legislation or the lack of legislation.

All protective equipment **MUST** be MTA approved and check by R&J at the competition.

ELITE Men and Women. Gloves as per MTA Rules. Shin guards are not to be worn. All other protective equipment as outlined in MTA rules. Muaythai shorts are required. Ankle guards are allowed. No additional adding is authorized.

ITEM	Always refer to your state legislation!	Mandatory for:
HEAD GEAR	A-Class - NO HEAD GEAR B-Class – If a state government registered amateur bout and/or either fighter has 5 fights or less in any class. Open Face. Can be the corner colour or Black. C Class – mandatory.	C - class fights. B – 4 fights or less. A – None.
Gloves	10 oz gloves C and B class. B-class can be Velcro. A-Class – as per MTA rules.	Velcro for C. Lace up – A & B class
Cloth SHIN GUARDS	A – none (ankle guards are authorised but no padding or strapping) B-class. If either fighter has 3 or less fights in any class. C-class Cloth shin guard to the knee and covering the instep.	A – None B – Ankle guards. 3 fights or less. C - Class. Mandatory.
ELBOW GUARDS	A-class – none B-C- class - Cloth and cover elbow	Mandatory for B-and C - class
Mouth guard	Form fitted	ALL bouts
Groin Guard - male	Steel	ALL bouts
Groin Guard - female	Plastic, padded.	Mandatory for A, B - C
Breast Protectors female	Mandatory for juniors with a developed breast. Optional for adults.	Optional for Adults
Hand Wrap.	A-Class – as per MTA rules. B-Class. Wrap rules as per MTA rules. C-class – 5m cloth hand wraps only.	A, B, C - Class
Chest Guards	Optional for C-class only.	

Approved equipment for MTA competitions.

The equipment shown is to demonstrate the standard required by MTA for the Class of competition. The brands shown are not endorsed by MTA; they are only a sample of the style and protection required as a MINIMUM standard.

A-Class protective equipment



8/10oz lace up gloves



Male Groin Guards



Ankle Guards (optional)

B-Class protective equipment



10oz lace up gloves



Male Groin Guards



Ankle Guards (optional)



Elbow Guards



Shin guards (if 3 or less total fights)



Head gear(if 5 or less total fights)

C-Class protective equipment:



10oz Gloves (lace or Velcro)



Shin Guards-cloth



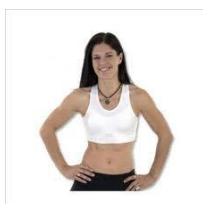
Male Groin Guard



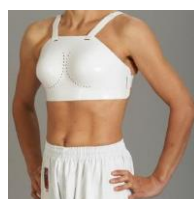
Elbow Guards-cloth



Head Gear - Open face



Female Chest Guard



Wraps



Chest Guard

Junior/ Cadets protective equipment



10oz Gloves (lace or Velcro)



Shin Guards-cloth



Male Groin Guard



Elbow Guards-cloth



Head Gear - Open face



Chest Guard



Wraps

National or State Title Classes.

State bodies can determine the most suitable class for a state championship. Class combination or levels can be adjusted by the MTA depending on entrants and available pool of athletes.

Classes for these events are determined in order to promote the participation in the competitions. To have a fair tournament for all that includes a developmental system of development. Rules for national tournaments are MTA rules.

Classes for tournament entry. Divisions may be combined based on numbers. Permission may be given to fight open division for suitable athletes. National MTA Champion is the OPEN division only. The Open division may be combining Competitor and Elite in order to have the Nationals Winner of the most senior division being competed as the MTA Champion. Depending on entries and time available for the tournament, round times may vary per class.

These classes may be changed or adjusted as required by the MTA.

Men and Women – 18 and older

Experience	Round	Class	Padding - Muaythai Bouts
0-5	3 by 2	C - Intermediate	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, chest guards (optional), groin guard. Elbow guards.
6-15	3 by 2	B - Competitor	10 oz gloves, head gear, cloth shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
16+	3 by 3	A - Elite - OPEN	10 oz gloves, head gear, cloth shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.

Junior 14-15 and 16-17 Divisions

Experience	Round	Class	Padding - Muaythai Bouts
0-5	3 by 2	C - Intermediate	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, chest guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
6-15	3 by 2	B - Competitor	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards. chest guards
16+	3 by 2	A - Elite - OPEN	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards. chest guards

12-13 year Divisions

Experience	rnd	Class	Head Contact with punches and kicks only. Knees and elbows to the body allowed.
0-5	3 by 90 sec	C - Intermediate	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, chest guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
6-15	3 by 90 sec	B - Competitor	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards. chest guards
16+	3 by 2	A - Elite - OPEN	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.

10-11 years Division

Experience	Rnd	Class	No Head contact
0-5	3 by 1	C - Intermediate	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, chest guards, groin guard. Elbow guards.
6-15	3 by 1	B - Competitor	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, chest guards, groin guard. Elbow guards. chest guards
16+	3 by 90 sec	A - Elite - OPEN	10 oz gloves, head gear, shin guards, groin guard. Elbow guards. chest guards

Section 3 – General Competition Rules

Government Legislation.

Legislation in any state or territory conducting a MTA sanctioned (officiated) event supersedes any rules or regulations. The MTA is to strictly enforce the rules and regulations nationally and they can only be adjusted when a state or territory government legislation requires a stronger rule or has determined a specific rule be legislated.

All MTA rules are superseded by state legislation. Page to of these rules lists general rule additions to these rules.

The Ring

In general competitions, the ring will be as follows:

- 1.1. The ring is a place constructed for competitions. The ring will be 6.10 x 6.10 meters for small size and 7.30 x 7.30 meters for larger size. Measurements shall be taken from the inner edge of the ring rope. It must be constructed sturdily and safely at a level without any obstructions. The ring floor must stretch out beyond the ring ropes at least 50 centimetres, but not more than 90 centimetres.
- 1.2. The ring floor must be placed at least 60cm from the ground, preferably 1.2m but not more than 1.50 meters. In each of the four ring corners, one ring post of 10 to 12.5 centimetres in diameter is erected no more than 2.70 meters from the ground. The ring floor must be covered with soft material, such as rubber, soft cloth pieces, sponge, or similar material, to reach a thickness of at least 2.50 centimetres and not more than 3.75 centimetres. A top-up of canvas must cover the entire ring area, being tightly and smoothly secured.
- 1.3. The ring installation is to position the red corner on the left-hand side of the Chairman of the ring official's table, the blue corner opposite to the red corner and the other two shall be neutral corners.
- 1.4. There shall be 4 surrounding ring ropes of 3 to 5 centimetres in diameter, padded with smooth and soft material, attached tightly to the four corner posts. The ropes shall be attached at 45 centimetres, 75 centimetres, 1.05 meters and 1.35 meters from the ring floor, respectively as measured to the top of the ropes. The ropes of each side must be held by two strong pieces of cloth, 3 to 4 centimetres wide, equally spaced from each other. Such pieces of cloth must be tightly tied to hold the ropes. All four corners must be padded with cushioning or other material in good condition to protect the Athletes from any harm. There must be a set of steps for each corner. A third set of steps shall be located near the neutral corner for the referee, doctor, etc.
- 1.5. Two boxes made of plastic or of other material shall be provided in both neutral corners: one box each (outside the ring) for the referee to dispose cotton or fallen material.

Fighters fight out of either the red or blue corner. Promoters may utilise other colours for the corners; for example, black and white, or black and red for fighters shorts and promotions. If the two corner colours are distinctive to each other.

Regardless of the corner colour, fighters are fighting in red and blue protective equipment and representing red and blue corner for all decisions and officiating.

Rule 2. Ring Equipment for Competition

The ring shall contain the following equipment:

- Two chairs (stools) or swivel chairs for Athletes
- A mop to wipe the ring floor and two towels
- Two towels
- Tables and chairs for officials
- A bell or siren
- 2 stopwatches
- Score cards
- A locked box for scorecards
- A set of round, time show-case, and bout markers
- A stretcher
- A pair of safety scissors
- Other instruments essential for the competitions (e.g. an amplifier and a microphone)

Rule 3. Gloves

- 3.1. For gloves used in competition, the leather portion must not be heavier than one-half (1/2) of the glove's total weight and the glove's inner pads must weigh at least one-half (1/2) of the total weight. It is not permitted to change the shape of glove's inner pads or to rub the glove's inner pads spreading them from the original shape.
- 3.2. Athletes must use exclusively gloves certified by the MTA. They must be approved by the Head Official at each event.
- 3.3. The glove sizes for competitions are as follows:
 - All bouts for MTA for Juniors, novice, and competitor are to wear 10oz gloves. Gloves are preferred as lace up however Velcro gloves are acceptable if approved by the head MTA official. Glove's laces must be tied with knots behind the wrists. Gloves must be taped to cover any laces or strapping. Glove wearing must be inspected and stamped by the authorised glove inspector (MTA Official) who must observe and control glove wearing to ensure that the Athletes wear gloves according to the rules until the Athlete's step into the ring.
- 3.4. The glove sizes for competitions are as follows:
 - The Athletes between the Super Featherweight division and the Welterweight division must use the gloves of eight (8) ounces. 67kg and below.
 - The Athletes between the Super Welterweight division and over must use the gloves of ten (10) ounces. 67kg and above.
- 3.5. Glove's laces must be tied with knots behind the wrists. Glove wearing must be inspected and stamped by the authorised glove inspector who must observe and control glove wearing to ensure that the Athletes wear gloves according to the rules until the Athletes step into the ring.

Rule 4. Hand Bandages

- 4.1. All C-class fighters and Juniors 14 and below are to wear hand wraps only. All State and National tournaments are in hand wraps only. NO TAPE.

- 4.2. Athletes must wrap their hands with soft hand bandages no longer than six (6) meters and no wider than five (5) centimetres for each hand.
- 4.3. Athletes may use strapping tape, no longer than one (1) meter and no more than two and a half (2.50) centimetres wide for each hand, to top-up on the wrist or back of the hand. It is absolutely forbidden to top-up on the knuckles.
- 4.4. No tape of any type is to cover the knuckles or build up the knuckles. One strip is authorised between the knuckles to tie the wraps in but must not protrude.
- 4.5. Athletes can use their own hand wraps or have their hands wrapped by their trainer. All wraps must be signed and approved by an MTA official prior to gloves being placed on the Athlete.
- 4.6. All hand wraps MUST be inspected and approved by an MTA (or Government) official for ALL fights.

Rule 5. Attire

- 5.1. Athletes must wear shorts neatly at half-thigh length, without shirt or shoes. A fighter's shorts must NOT be the colour of the other corner. Shorts should preferably be the same as or close to the corner representing. Shorts cannot be split at the sides exposing underwear.
- 5.2. Athletes must wear groin protection for the genital organs, made of strong material capable to protect them from knee blows or other kinds of blows. The use of the groin guard is mandatory. For male athletes, a metal groin protector shall be worn a jock strap may be worn in addition. For female athletes, a female groin protector made from foam shall be worn.
- 5.3. Athletes' fingernails and toenails must be closely and neatly cut.
- 5.4. Athletes shall wear a headband (Mongkol) only when they pay homage (Waikru) before the bout. During the bout Athletes may wear an inscribed cloth, amulet, or charm around the upper arm (Prajiad). If the amulet interferes with the flow of the fight, it must be removed immediately by the referee or corner.
- 5.5. Ankle guards cannot be worn under shin guards. Athletes may wear ankle supports, one for each ankle, but not to be shin supports, or to roll half way down. Wrapping the ankles and legs with pieces of cloth is not permitted. Ankle guards are not to be padded and may only be made of cloth. Nothing is to be worn under the ankle guards.
- 5.6. Athletes may strap an ankle for support as long as the strapping does not protrude outside an ankle guard and does not provide padding for contact, only support for hyperextension or rolling. Any strapping of ankles MUST be approved by an MTA official at the same time as hand wraps are inspected. Strapping must not give an advantage to the fighter for impact.
- 5.7. Athletes shall not wear belts, jewellery or any dangerous ornaments as determined by an official.
- 5.8. Liniment is allowed on the fighter but cannot be excessive, dripping or running. Vaseline can be used in minimal quantities to limit cuts. Vaseline or liniment cannot be used on any attire. Gloves are to be free of any gasoline, liniment or related products. A fighter will be fouled for wiping his/her gloves on their person.

- 5.9. Form fitted gum shields must be worn during the contest. It is forbidden for an athlete to intentionally remove their gum shield during the contest and if the athlete does so, the athlete shall be warned or disqualified. If an athlete has his gum shield knocked out, the referee shall take the athlete to the athlete's corner – have the gum shield cleaned and returned to its proper position. While this is being done, the second is not allowed to talk to his/her athlete.
- 5.10. During the bout, if the Athletes' gloves or attire is improperly displaced or against the rules, the referee shall stop the fight immediately to correct the faults.
- 5.11. Protective Equipment. Gloves, mouth guards, groin protectors are outlined above. Other padding is required in accordance with experience, age, government legislation and rules of the fight. It is of note to repeat that all padding requirements in the rules are superseded by Government legislation in all instances where the Government legislation is more stringent. If the MTA regulations are more stringent, they are to be enforced.
- 5.12. Protective equipment is detailed at attachment 1 to these rules.

Rule 6. Age, Weight Divisions and Weigh-in

- 6.1. Athletes must be at least 18 years old to compete as an adult.
- 6.2. Athletes competing against each other must not be more than 2 weight divisions apart or 5kgs.
- 6.3. Athletes must have at least three (3) hours of rest after the weigh-in, before the beginning of the bout. Amateurs are recommended to weigh in on the same day as the bout. Recommended time is between and 3 and 6 hours from the competition. But not greater than 24 hours from the competition.
- 6.4. Junior weights, ages, and specific rule requirements are detailed in the Junior MTA section of these rules.

6.5 Weight divisions should be divided as follows:

MTA Divisions for Muaythai shows. For tournaments, state and national titles. Including C-class bouts.

CLASS	KILOGRAMS
Atom weight	45
Junior Fly Weight	48
Fly Weight	51
Bantam Weight	54
Feather Weight	57
Junior Light	60
Light Weight	63.5
Welter Weight	67
Junior Middle	71
Middle Weight	75
Females only	75+
Super Middle	81
Cruiser Weight	86
Heavy Weight	91
Super Heavy	96+
Hulk Weight	120+

Weight Divisions for B Class, A class (professionals) and ALL title fights.

CLASS	KILOGRAMS
Mini Fly Weight	47.62
Junior Fly Weight	48.99
Fly Weight	50.80
Junior Bantam Weight	52.16
Bantam Weight	53.52
Junior Feather Weight	55.34
Feather Weight	57.15
Junior Light Weight	58.97
Light Weight	61.24
Junior Welter Weight	63.50
Welter Weight	66.68
Junior Middle Weight	69.85
Middle Weight	72.58
Super Middle Weight	76.20
Light Heavy Weight	79.38
Super Light Heavy	82.55
Cruiser Weight	86.18
Heavy Weight	95.00
Super Heavy Weight	95.00+

6.5. Weigh-in's – Professional (Elite Athletes Class).

- 6.5.1. Weigh ins can be conducted no more than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the competition for one off matches/single day/night competitions.
- 6.5.2. Other classes can check weight at this time but an official weigh in for all other classes is to be no further out than 3 hours from the commencement of the competition.
- 6.5.3. For all MTA tournaments; weigh in's must be conducted on the day of the competition. The Athletes must weigh-in with minimal clothes on the contest day between 07:00-9:00 o'clock on the competition day. A min of 3 hours between weigh in and bout is required.
- 6.5.4. Before weigh-in, the Athletes must have their medical paper work confirmed. Athletes must present or have evidence of a blood tests and a medical approval to compete. Medicals and blood tests, MUST be conducted annually for fighters. For an unregistered fighter, blood tests and medicals must be no older than 3 months prior to their first bout.
- 6.5.5. Physical examination of the fighter must occur prior to the bout at either the weigh in or competition. The fighter must be checked by a registered doctor to certify that they are physically fit to compete.
- 6.5.6. The athlete's manager or his representative may witness the weigh-in.
- 6.5.7. By video. Weigh ins cannot be conducted by video (phone or any other method) for any tournament, title fight, A-class bout, international bout at any class. If both parties agree, a video weigh in can occur if it conducted on an official set of scales

and a MTA representative supervising. Video weigh ins can only be conducted due to distance from the official weigh in being more than 100km. A video weigh in must site the individual, the scales set at zero and record the weight viewed when fighter is standing on them and the scales can be clearly sighted. Video weigh in are only an option for amateur shows for interstate/country fighters who cannot make the official weigh in, in circumstances where the amateur competition does not provide travelling allowances or accommodation for the fighter.

- 6.5.8. Females Fighters MUST be given the opportunity to weigh in in private. A private female weigh in can only be conducted by other female's officials/witness.
- 6.5.9. Juniors (under 18) and females should be screened from public view for all weigh in's. A fighter wishing to participate in promotional activities for the bout that may include viewing the weigh in can elect to be viewed however cannot be compelled to. Consideration of ALL photos of anyone under 18 must be given. Photos of any junior in underwear are not permitted and must not be publicised.

Rule 7. Paying Homage (Wai Kru) and Rounds

- 7.1. Fighters may enter the ring over the rope, through the type rope or under the ropes. Fighters going over the rope should wear the Mong Kong when doing so. IF going under or through the rope, fighters are to then have the Mong Kong placed on them immediately after entering the ring by their trainer. IFMA events REQUIRE fighters to enter through the rope and then have the Mong Kong placed by the trainer for all ages and genders.
- 7.2. A mongkong is to be worn by all fighters ceiling the ring and in the centre of the ring prior to the bout. Before the bout every Athlete must pay homage in accordance with the art and customs of Muaythai. Thai music is to be played during all rounds of a bout and whilst the fighter is ceiling the ring – doing a Wai Kru. The bout will start after paying homage.

Fighters must go to the centre of the ring and acknowledge the judges when they enter the ring. They then return to the corner to be inspected by the referee. Before the commencement of the bout the referee will instruct fighters to perform the Wai Kru. (Wai – respect, Kru – Teacher). The minimum required for each bout is for fighters to seal the ring (part of the Ram Muay), then return to the corner. Fighters may perform the Wai Kru (3 bows to the trainer).

Some fighters may choose to continue their Ram Muay individually. A time limit on this may be provided by the MTA head official or for promotional reasons.

The MTA may from time to time, as required in tournaments or large cards instruct athletes to NOT perform the Wai Kru (3 bows) or seal the ring, or both and place time limits on the performance of the Ram Muay.

- 7.3. Athletes shall shake hands before the beginning of the first round and before the beginning of the final round, symbolising that they will compete in the spirit of sportsmanship and in accordance with the official rules and regulations.
- 7.4. Rounds are in accordance with the schedule of rounds and padding.

Rule 8. Seconds

- 8.1. In general competitions, each Athlete can have a maximum of two (2) seconds for C and B class fights. The referee must be informed about the chief second and his assistant before the bout. Only 1 corner person is allowed in the ring during round breaks for all C and B

class (amateur) bouts. For all A – Class, ELITE (professional) bouts. 3 corner persons are allowed and 2 people may enter the ring in rest breaks.

8.2. Second's Duties:

- 8.2.1. The safety of the fighter and to give tactical advice to the fighter. Seconds cannot say anything about or too the opponents corner or fighter. All instructions and advice must not be abusive in any form. All corner advice should be sportsman like and professional. If they violate the rule, the referee will warn, caution, or dismiss them from their duties.
- 8.2.2. During the bout, the seconds must stay on their seats. Before each round, they must clear towels, water bottles, and other materials from the ring platform.
- 8.2.3. During a round interval, the seconds must check the Athlete's attire in readiness for the bout. If there is any problem, the seconds must notify the referee immediately to solve it.
- 8.2.4. If applying water on Athletes, the seconds shall not wet the ring floor. They must also towel the Athlete. Liniment cannot be applied during the bout. Vaseline can only be applied as first aid for cuts and must be minimal.
- 8.2.5. Seconds must not use abusive words and shall not hurt the Athletes during or after the bout.
- 8.2.6. Seconds must wear uniforms or shirts with their boxing camp symbol, which are in no way offensive or abusive.
- 8.2.7. The Athlete's chief second may give up for his Athlete by stepping into the ring or throwing in a towel in front of the referee.
- 8.2.8. Seconds are not allowed to throw sponges or any other object in to the ring into the ring at any time, particularly during counting.
- 8.2.9. Seconds cannot touch the ring during the bout. Any banging on the ring or climbing the ring (unless to throw in the towel) will result in the referee stopping the bout. The corner will be warned and the fighter may be penalised a point if the referee deems the interference unsportsmanlike or interferes in the conduct of the bout,
- 8.2.10. Seconds may arrange their own material, equipment and medical supplies at their corners as follows:
 - Water for drinking in a clear water bottle for viewing.
 - Ice must be double bagged and not leaking.
 - Towels
 - Adrenaline of 1/1000 solution, mixed with vasoline or other substances as approved by ring doctor.
 - First aid equipment including; Gauze, Cotton buds, A pair of safety scissors, Wound bandages, Absorbent cotton bandages or wound soft bandages.

Rule 9. Referees

The primary concern of the referees should be the care of the Athletes.

9.1. Referees' Attire:

- 9.1.1. Referees must wear black trousers, and shirts or pullovers with MTA emblem on the a chest pocket. All officials MUST wear the same attire.
- 9.1.2. Referees must wear light shoes without heels.
- 9.1.3. Referees shall not wear eyeglasses or metal ornaments.
- 9.1.4. The referees' fingernails must be closely and neatly cut.

9.2. Referees' Duties:

- 9.2.1. To prevent a weaker athlete from receiving undue and unnecessary punishment.
- 9.2.2. Control that the rules and fair play are strictly observed.
- 9.2.3. To interpret rules and implementing the rules or to decide or to act upon any situations not provided in the rules.
- 9.2.4. To closely control the bout at all times.
- 9.2.5. To inspect the Athlete's gloves, attire and gum shields.
- 9.2.6. To use three commands as follows:
 - “หยุด” (YUD): To order the Athletes to stop OR ‘STOP’
 - “แยก” (YAK): To order the Athletes to separate from each other. After the YAK command both Athletes must step back at least one step before engaging the fight again. OR ‘BREAK’
 - “ชก” (CHOK): To order the Athletes to fight. OR ‘FIGHT’
- 9.2.7. Referees shall show a clear and proper signal to tell the offending Athlete's fault.
- 9.2.8. When the referee disqualifies a Athlete because of a serious rule violation or he stops the bout, he must notify the Chairman of the ring officials for his reasons.
- 9.2.9. Referees shall not allow Athletes who intentionally violate rules, to gain advantage (e.g. grabbing ropes to kick or knee his opponent, etc.).
- 9.2.10. Referees shall not engage in any action which may influence the bout in any way, so that the Athletes may gain or lose advantage (e.g. fast or slow counting, warning or not warning, etc.).
- 9.2.11. At the end of the bout, the referee must collect the score cards from the three judges and hand them to the Chairman of the ring officials for inspection.
- 9.2.12. At the end of the bout, the referee shall bring both Athletes to the centre of the ring facing the Chairman's table. He will then raise the winner's hand according to the announcement.
- 9.2.13. Referees shall neither criticize nor give an interview about the future fight results or the past fight results without permission from the MTA Executive Board.

9.3. Referees' Powers:

- 9.3.1. To terminate the contest at any stage if he considers it to be one-sided.

- 9.3.2. To terminate the contest upon seeing that the Athlete is too seriously injured to continue the bout. He may consult the ring doctor and he must follow the doctor's suggestion after consultation.
- 9.3.3. To terminate the contest upon seeing that the Athlete is not in earnest to fight. In this case, either Athlete or both may be disqualified.
- 9.3.4. To stop counting upon seeing that if he continues the count, the Athlete may be in danger.
- 9.3.5. To stop the count when the opponent does not go to the furthest neutral corner or he comes out from the neutral corner before the count is finished.
- 9.3.6. To stop the fight to warn or caution the Athlete who violates rules or for other reasons to apply justice or to enforce rules.
- 9.3.7. To disqualify the Athlete who ignores the referee's commands or who harms the referee or who aggressively offends the referee.
- 9.3.8. To dismiss from duty the second who disobeys rules. The referee may disqualify the Athlete whose second disobeys the referee's orders.
- 9.3.9. For the Athlete who severely violates rules, the referee has the power to disqualify him or he may declare the bout of "no decision" after warning or cautioning, or even without previous cautioning or warning.
- 9.3.10. To warn the Athlete who violates the rules, the referee must stop the fight before he clearly warns the offending Athlete in order that the Athlete understands the cause and objective of the warning. The referee must show a hand signal, pointing to the Athlete to inform all judges that there is a warning. The referee must disqualify the Athlete who has been given three warnings or declare "no decision." If it is a serious offense, the referee may disqualify him even though there has been no previous caution or warning.
- 9.3.11. The referee may caution a Athlete. A Caution is a procedure to notify the Athlete that he must be careful and to prevent the Athlete from making a mistake which is against the rules.

9.4. Counting procedure for Athletes outside the ring

- 9.4.1. When a Athlete has been attacked by his opponent's legal weapons, and as a result, has fallen outside the ring, the referee must order his opponent to go to the furthest neutral corner. If the Athlete outside the ring is too slow to get into the ring, the referee shall count immediately.
- 9.4.2. When a Athlete, or both, falls outside the ring, the referee shall count to "ยี่สิบ" (20). If the Athlete manages to get into the ring before the count of twenty, the bout will continue and the Athlete loses no point.
- 9.4.3. The referee shall stop counting if the Athlete that has fallen outside the ring is obstructed or delayed going up into the ring by any person. The referee shall clearly warn the offender and continue the count. If the offender disobeys, the referee shall stop the bout and inform the Chairman of the ring officials.

- 9.4.4. When both Athletes fall outside the ring, the referee shall count. If either Athlete tries to delay getting in the ring, the referee shall stop counting and clearly warn the offender and continue the count. If the offender disobeys, the referee shall disqualify that Athlete to lose the fight or of “no decision”.
- 9.4.5. If both Athletes fall outside the ring, the referee is counting and a Athlete can get back into the ring before the count of twenty, the referee shall declare that Athlete the winner. However, if both Athletes cannot get back into the ring before the count of twenty, the referee shall declare a draw.

Rule 10. Judges

- 10.1. Judges must dress as the referees. They may however wear eyeglasses.
- 10.2. Judges’ Duties:
 - 10.2.1. Judges must sit one on each of the four sides of the ring with a distance from the spectators. If 4 judges. If 3 judges then one side is left clear of all officials.
 - 10.2.2. During the bout, judges shall not speak with the Athletes or any other people. If necessary, they may speak with the referee during the resting intervals between rounds to inform the referee in case of an incident (e.g. seconds’ misconduct, loose ropes).
 - 10.2.3. Judges shall score independently and accordingly to the rules. They must record scores in the score cards immediately after each round and they must add up the scores of both Athletes for each round.
 - 10.2.4. Judges must identify the winner and sign the score cards before handing them to the referee.
 - 10.2.5. Judges shall not leave their seats until the referee declares the contest result.
 - 10.2.6. Judges shall neither criticize nor give an interview about the future fight results or the past fight results without permission from the MTA Executive Board.

Rule 11. – Head Official

- 11.1. Head Official/Chairmen Duties:
 - 11.1.1. To assign referees and judges for duties within the competition program. A head official must be appointed for each competition.
 - 11.1.2. To monitor the performance of referees and judges as stated by the rules and regulations. In case any referee or judge performs his duty incorrectly or ineffectively, the head of the ring officials shall report his assessment to the MTA board.
 - 11.1.3. To solve competition problems and report incidents to the competition manager.
 - 11.1.4. To advice referees and judges on any decision-making matter.
 - 11.1.5. To monitor all score cards for the correct score sum, Athletes’ names, identification of the winner and the judges’ signatures.

- 11.1.6. To notify the ring announcer about the fight result to be pronounced to the public.
- 11.1.7. To notify the promoter and report to the MTA Board for punishment considerations in case the Athlete intentionally and severely violates any rule, which is contradictory with ethics and sportsmanship.
- 11.1.8. In case there is an unusual incident from which the referee and judges are unable to continue to work, Chairman of the ring officials shall act immediately, by all means, to continue the contest.

11.2. Head Official Powers:

- 11.2.1. Chairman of the ring officials may overrule the referee and judges by reversing the decision of the referee and judges only for the following cases:
 - if the referee's decision is contradictory with the rules & regulations
 - if the judges have incorrectly added up scores, resulting in a different decision from factual evidence.

Rule 12. Timekeeper and Announcer

12.1. The timekeeper and the announcer must sit beside the ring at designated seats.

12.2. Timekeeper's duties:

- 12.2.1. To monitor the number of rounds and competing time for each round, resting interval time between rounds, and time of time-outs.
- 12.2.2. To signal for the beginning and the ending of each round by striking the bell.
- 12.2.3. To signal five (5) seconds before the beginning of each round for the ring to be cleared.
- 12.2.4. To deduct the time of interruptions or the time stopped by referee order from the total round time.
- 12.2.5. To monitor for the correct time with a stopwatch or a clock throughout the entire duration of the fight.
- 12.2.6. The timekeeper shall not give the bell signal while the referee is counting, despite the round time expiration. The timekeeper shall strike the bell when the referee orders "стоп" (CHOK) or "fight".

12.3. Announcer's duties:

- 12.3.1. To announce names, boxing camps or nations, corners, and weights of both Athletes to the spectators, when Athletes enter the ring.
- 12.3.2. To announce that the seconds must leave the ring when they hear the warning signal from the timekeeper.
- 12.3.3. To announce the beginning and ending of each round.
- 12.3.4. To announce the verdict of the contest and identify the winner.

Rule 13. Decisions**13.1. Winning on Points:**

- At the end of the bout, the Athlete with the judges' majority decision wins the contest.

13.2. Winning by Knockout (KO):

- In case a Athlete is knocked down and cannot continue the fight within ten (10) seconds, his opponent wins by knockout.

13.3. Winning by Technical Knockout (TKO):

- In case a Athlete outclasses his opponent very clearly or one-sidedly outpoints his opponent.
- In case the opponent cannot continue the contest immediately after the resting interval of a round.
- In case the opponent is seriously injured and cannot continue the contest.
- In case the opponent has been counted for more than two (2) times (i.e. 3 times) in one round, or more than four (4) times (i.e. 5 times) in the entire fighting contest.
- In case the opponent has fallen out of the ring and cannot get back into the ring after the referee has counted “ยี่สิบ” (YISIP) or twenty (20).
- In case his opponent spontaneously withdraws from the contest due to injury or other causes.

13.4. Winning by Disqualification:

- In case his opponent severely violates the rules and the referee disqualifies him, whether there has been any previous warning or cautioning.

13.5. Winning by Walkover:

- In case a Athlete's opponent does not pass the ring doctor's physical examination, cannot make weigh-in, or does not show up to compete as scheduled.

13.6. A Draw Decision:

- The majority decision is even as a draw.
- In case both Athletes are knocked down and they have been counted out of ten (10).
- In case both Athletes have fallen out of the ring and they have been counted out of twenty (20).
- In case both Athletes are so seriously injured that they cannot continue the contest.

13.7. No Decision:

- In case the referee considers that either Athlete is not in earnest and he declares that “there is no decision for this bout as the red corner / blue corner / or both Athletes fight dishonourably”.

13.8. No Contest:

- In case the Athletes have been warned and cautioned by the referee and persist on fighting.

13.9. Cancellation of Contest:

- In case of ring damage, a riot from spectators, or an unexpected situation causing it impossible to continue the contest.

Rule 14. Scoring System

14.1. A score shall be awarded when Athletes use fists, feet, knees, and elbows as muaythai fighting weapons to hit his opponent powerfully, accurately, unprotected, and according to the rules.

14.2. Scoring advantage is awarded to:

- 14.2.1. The Athlete who goes on target with muaythai weapons the most.
- 14.2.2. The Athlete with heavier, more powerful, and the most accurate hits on target, using muaythai weapons.
- 14.2.3. The Athlete who can cause more physical exhaustion to his opponent by use of muaythai weapons.
- 14.2.4. The Athlete who shows better style of aggressive attacks.
- 14.2.5. The Athlete who shows better defence with muaythai techniques.
- 14.2.6. The Athlete who violates the rules the least.

14.3. Scoring advantage is not awarded to:

- 14.3.1. The Athlete who violates any rule.
- 14.3.2. Muaythai weapons strike on the opponent's arm(s) or leg(s) as his self-defence techniques.
- 14.3.3. The hit is light, without power or body weight behind it.
- 14.3.4. The Athlete kicks on target, his kicking leg is caught by his opponent and he is thrown on the ring floor.
- 14.3.5. Throwing the opponent on the floor without using any muaythai weapon.
- 14.3.6. A strike after the bell or after the referee has called break/stop.
- 14.3.7. A strike after a foul or using a foul to strike.

14.4. Clinch scoring**14.4.1 Scoring in the clinch**

(i) Muaythai technique must land on target with power

(ii) Muaythai technique must land with power or it is not scored

(iii) Muaythai technique must not have a foul or follow a foul

Clinch general

(i) where scoring clinching techniques are applied by one or both boxers, then the clinch will be allowed to run.

(ii) where both boxers are using non powerful clinch technique, then the clinch will be stopped.

(iii) if both boxers are working for a dominant clinch position without any striking, the clinch will be allowed to run for a period of time as long as both boxers are working and not locking, holding or being inactive.

(iv) if both boxers cannot work to a dominant clinch position, then the clinch will be stopped immediately.

(v) if one boxers applies an effective lock position, the clinch is stopped.

(vi) if one boxer applies a successful defence technique were no more scoring techniques can be applied, the clinch is stopped.

14.5. Scoring points system:

14.5.1. Full ten (10) points are given to the clear winner of the round and his opponent may be given 9 (or 8 points-based on any KD) in proportion. Points are not given in fraction.

14.5.2. For an even round, both Athletes score full ten (10) points (10:10). In tournaments a DRAW can not be given.

14.5.3. The clear winner of a round scores ten (10) points and the clear loser scores nine (9) points.

14.5.4. A fighter can be down and not be counted – flash KD, if the referee believes it is was not a substantive blow and the downed fighter recovered immediately. It also gives an advantage to the attacker as the KD fighter has no time to recover.

14.5.5. Scoring a 10-8 round. (8 count scoring).

i. The winner of the round must win the round first, to be awarded a 10-9 round.

ii. If a boxer has been given an 8 count – they then receive a point deduction for the KD, bringing the score to a 10-8 round.

iii. If a boxer is downed twice in one round and given 2 by 8 counts, and they have lost the round they will be deducted a point for each 8 count.

NOTE: The round is scored before the point deduction for the 8 count is given. It is NOT an auto 8 count for a KD as the round must be scored first. It is possible for a fighter to win a round, scored 10-9, BUT be the boxer that was given an 8 count during the round for a KD. This would then be scored 9-9, after the point deduction, then we must bring the score back up to 10-10 as it is 10-10 must system.

A round may be given 10-8 if it is a completely dominated round and an obvious clear win, even without an 8 count. If a KD was counted in the round, the fighter would be deducted a further point bringing the score to a 10-7 round. A 10-7 score may be

given if a fighter is completely dominated, given 2 by 8 counts and outclassed. This result should be seriously considered by the referee as a time to stop the bout.

- 14.5.6. Athletes who has had a point taken by the referee for a foul losses the point after the score is given. So, a 10-9 round is then deducted 1 from the person who lost the point so it could be 9-9 (then brought back to 10-10) or 10-8.
- 14.5.7. 8 Counts. For A-class. Maximum 3 in one round The third KD is a stoppage and is not counted). Or 4 over the length of the bout for 3 round bouts.
- 14.5.8. Juniors - Maximum 2 in one round or 3 over the length of the bout for under 14. Juniors are more strictly controlled and 2 KD from clean and decisive head contact should be stopped.

Rule 15. Fouls

The Athlete who intentionally behaves in any of the following mode is considered foul:

- 15.1. Biting, eye poking, spitting on the opponent, sticking out tongue to make faces, head butting, striking, or any similar action.
- 15.2. Throwing, back breaking, locking the opponent's arms, using Judo and wrestling techniques.
- 15.3. Falling over or going after a fallen opponent or opponent who is getting up. Rope grabbing to fight or for other purposes.
- 15.4. Using provocative manners and verbal taunts during contest.
- 15.5. Disobeying the referee's command.
- 15.6. Knee striking at the groin area (e.g. holding for knee striking at the groin and straight knee striking at the groin area). For such violations, the referee has the right to allow a resting time-out, not more than five (5) minutes long. If the knee-struck Athlete refuses to continue, the referee shall declare the fight a no contest if the fight is in the first or second round. If the fight is in the 3,4,5 rounds the referee can go to the score cards for a result, disqualify the striker if the intent was serious and calculated. IF a draw at this stage, it is a no contest.
- 15.7. Catching the opponent's leg and pushing forwards more than two (2) steps without using any weapons. The referee shall order the Athlete to stop and shall give him caution. After two cautions, the referee shall deduct a point from the fouler.
- 15.8. If a Athlete pretends to fall on the ring floor after his kicking leg is caught or in clinching. This is taking advantage over his opponent and the referee shall give him a caution. If the Athlete repeats the action and the referee has given him two cautions, he shall deduct a point from the fouler.
- 15.9. When both Athletes fall out of the ring and either Athlete tries to delay getting back into the ring.
- 15.10. Using forbidden substances as specified by ASADA.
- 15.11. Violating any of the rules.

Rule 16. Knock Down

A Athlete is down whenever he is in any of the following states:

- 16.1. Any part of his body, except feet, touches the floor. (no cart-wheel kicks)
- 16.2. He stands, leans, or sits on the ring ropes to not fall.
- 16.3. Following a hard hit, he has not fallen and is not lying on the ropes, but is in a semi-conscious state and cannot, in the opinion of the referee, defend adequately and continue the round safely.
- 16.4. In case the knocked down Athlete manages to stand up and is ready to continue the fight before the referee has counted to “แปด” (PAD) or eight (8). In such case, the referee must continue counting until “แปด” (8) before he orders “ชก” (CHOK) or “fight”.
- 16.5. If the knocked down Athlete is ready to continue before the count of “สิบ” or ten (10), but he falls again without any additional blow. In such case, the referee shall continue to count from the number he was interrupted at.
- 16.6. In case the referee has counted out of “สิบ” or ten (10), the bout shall be considered finished. In such case, the referee shall declare the knocked down Athlete to have lost the bout by “knockout.”
- 16.7. In case both Athletes fall on the ring floor simultaneously, the referee shall proceed on counting and shall keep on counting as long as there is one Athlete on the ring floor. If both Athletes cannot manage to stand up until they are counted out of “สิบ” or ten (10), the referee shall declare a “draw.” In case the Athletes are trying to stand up, but have their arms or legs tangled, or one Athlete is on top of the other, the referee must stop the count and separate them. He shall then continue his count in case one of the Athletes is still on the ring floor.
- 16.8. In case of a knockdown, the referee must wait for one (1) second before he begins counting loudly from one to ten with one-second interval. Along with his counting action, the referee must show a hand signal for each second to notify the Athlete of the number of counts.
- 16.9. In case an Athlete is not ready to continue the bout following a resting interval between rounds, the referee must count, unless it is due to improper dressing.

Rule 17. Ring Doctor and Prohibited Drugs.

- 17.1. The ring doctor must be present at a designated seat throughout the competition until the end of the last bout. The following are the ring doctor’s duties:
 - 17.1.1. To check the Athlete’s physical fitness to compete prior to the bout at the weigh in or before the bout at the competition. The Dr must determine the fighter is performing without any prohibited disease or sickness as specified in the Athlete’s Book.
 - 17.1.2. To give advice and suggestions to the referee on request.
 - 17.1.3. To assist an unconscious Athlete during a fight. Only the ring doctor is permitted to enter the ring. Other individuals may enter the ring if the ring doctor needs special help.

- 17.1.4. To lend medical assistance for a knocked-out or technically knocked-out Athlete by thoroughly checking immediate treatment.
- 17.1.5. To check and diagnose the Athletes after their bouts to notify them their recovery periods before the next bout as the following regulations:
 - After a five-round bout, the Athletes must rest at least twenty-one (21) days before the next bout.
 - The winner in round 1 or 2, must rest at least seven (7) days.
 - The winner in a three-round bout or in round 3, must rest at least fourteen (14) days.
 - The loser by knockout or technical knockout must rest at least thirty (30) days. In case losing by knockout or technical knockout because of two (2) consecutive KO stoppages, the Athlete must rest at least ninety (90) day's. Any loss by KO must be given a medical clearance before competing again.
 - In a 4 or 8-man competition or tournament the rest period of 28 days applies. If the fighter loses in round 1 then normal rest periods apply. A tournament, 4 men or 8 men are considered 1 event.

Drugs and Prohibited Substances

- 17.2. It is prohibited to let the Athlete use any drugs or chemical substances, which are not part of the Athlete's usual diet. All WADA and ASADA prohibited substances apply.
- 17.3. It is possible to use substance for local anaesthesia, but only with the ring doctor's approval.
- 17.4. The prohibited substances for Athletes are categorised in accordance with the WADA list of banned substances.
- 17.5. A Athlete who uses a prohibited substance, or the person who gives the Athlete a prohibited substance, must be penalised by the MTA Executive Board.
- 17.6. A Athlete or an official who violates regulations of drugs or prohibited substances must be penalised and prohibited from any bout or participation in any muaythai activities for a period decided by the MTA Executive Board.
- 17.7. Any Athlete who refuses to have a medical check-up following a bout will be prohibited from any bout. Any official who encourages the Athlete to commit such offense will be prohibited from competitions.
- 17.8. All females 16 years and over MUST have a pregnancy test or complete a pregnancy declaration (and provide evidence) of this within 72hours of the competition.

Rule 18. Domestic Competitions Sanctioned by MTA

- 18.1. Rules and regulations, as described in this document, shall apply to all domestic MTA competitions equally.
- 18.2. All international tournaments, Championships, and MTA title fights must follow the MTA protocols for title bouts.

18.3. MTA international competitions or titles MUST be approved by the MTA Board.

Rule 19. Interpretation of Unstated Rules

In the case of any complication or if the MTA official Rules and Regulations does not provide a clear statement for a given situation, the referee, or the Head officials, shall make the final decision.

The MTA state rep should provide advice on the any State legislation effecting the rules.

Female Competitions

Rules and regulations for women's muaythai competition will mainly follow the muaythai competition rules and regulations for men, except for the following adapted supplements:

Rule 20. Attire

20.1. Female Athletes must wear the same attire as male Athletes with the addition of sleeveless, short-sleeved shirts, or a crop top.

20.2. Female Athletes must neatly tie their hair, without tangling ends, which can interfere in the contest. Hair accessories may be rubber or made of elastic cloth. Bands should be of a suitable size and should not contain metal or rigid plastic parts. Hair must be braided or secured to not interfere with the bout, clinching or cause any disadvantage to the opponent. Hair must not obscure vision at any time.

20.3. Head Gear requires females to place their hair inside of the head gear. A hair net under the head gear is recommended.

20.4. Female Athletes must wear a breast (chest) protector, and an abdomen (groin) protector. The Athlete may use her personal protectors if they are approved by the MTA.

20.5. Head and body cover: Head and body covers may be worn by athletes to comply with cultural understanding and shall consist of the following: An optional body suit (two piece, tights and top/body suit) of white/black coloured material (one colour only) allowing covering of the legs to the ankles and covering the arms to the wrists. A head covering such as a full sport hijab similar to the Resport. On design or an individual skull cap of white coloured material), or an optional body suit (two piece) of a light colour material covering the legs and arms to the ankles and wrists, as well as a full sport hijab. Only IFMA approved attire can be used to participate in the competitions. (see below)



Rule 21. Weigh-in

21.1. Female Athletes must weigh-in wearing clothes of no altering effect upon the Athlete's weight.

- 21.2. Weigh-in officials must offer female's a restricted area to weigh in or a weigh-in room that must be a completely covered room or a completely curtained area.

Rule 22. Rounds

- 22.1. All female bouts MUST follow the same round times as men.

Rule 23. Gender Identification

- 23.1. Female Athletes must be feminine gender by birth only. Gender examination may be conducted if required by the medical check-up doctor.

Rule 24. Referee and Judges

- 24.1. Referee and judges in female competitions should endeavour to be female. In exceptional cases only the referee and judges may be male but the referee should be female.

Section 4 - MTA JUNIOR BOUTS

The MTA primary purpose of junior competitions is to develop youth in a safe and organised sporting environment.

One off bouts differ from tournaments unless it is a designated IFMA competition, MTA state/nationals for selection for an IFMA event; these rules apply always. If a rule is required for something not covered, the IFMA rules will apply for juniors.

As with ALL MTA rules; the jurisdiction of the competition and relevant state legislation (if any) supersedes ALL MTA regulations regarding junior competition. However, the spirit of these rules should be followed. MTA state organisations should always make the case to state legislators regarding the MTA rules being the model of competition that is preferred to be utilised.

Junior Age Division Break Ups and Rules

Overall Guidelines and general rules for 17 and Under.

MTA rules and regulations is setup for the safety of Junior Muaythai development in Australia. The rules are for all NON IFMA tournaments or selection tournaments for state or national teams. For all international competitions – IFMA rules apply.

ALL COMBAT SPORTS LEGISLATION IS TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE STATE CONDUCTING THE COMPETITION AND SUPERSEDES THESE RULES IN ALL REGARDS.

All categories have a scale of padding requirements based on the age/experience of the athlete. The padding requirements are based on the junior and less experienced athlete.

AGE BRACKETS – Fighters can cross age brackets if the opponents are not more than 23 months apart in age. The rules for the younger athlete apply.

Waivers (all paperwork) – Must be signed by the legal guardian.

Identification. MTA registration. Birth certificate – passport – school ID or equivalent must be sighted at weigh in to determine proof of age, name and age.

Medical Requirements – All junior's MUST have a medical on a MTA medical form and blood tests that are not more than 12 months old. This should be done in conjunction with registration. Blood tests are not required for children 15 or under.

Registration – ALL junior athletes must be members of MTA registered Club. Individual membership may be required depending on your state MTA body. Registration is for 12 months. The registration book MUST be used at all competitions including with other organisations to record bout details.

Safety equipment is MANDATORY and cannot be negotiated or adjusted.

Weigh Ins. Weight Divisions are to be used. There is to be no use of catch weights. If children weights are greater than 4kg different the bout is not to continue. Children can go up or down one weight division but not cross one to fight in another division. i.e go up 2.

Children's weights. All junior bouts are to be conducted under same day weigh in conditions. All weigh in are to be no greater than 8 hours before the bout with at a minimum of 3 hours between weigh in and the bout. For competitions with a 24 hour weigh in – juniors must weigh in again for the official weight, no great than 8 hours before. Promoters MUST factor in junior weigh in's to host junior bouts.

Titles bouts for juniors may require a 24 hr weigh in for promotional purpose with adults however the official weight must be recorded no greater than 8 hours from the bout.

Children should not 'cut weight'. The MTA does not support any method of junior weight cutting that is in addition to a healthy diet and exercise, so athletes are competing as close to natural weight as possible.

Age Group break ups for rules.

NOTE: Nationals follow a separate class system that differs from one of matches.

Juniors are matched for 1 off bouts with children that are no greater than 23 months older or younger. The age division determine the rules and padding required.

All junior bouts have a 1 min rest break between rounds.

All junior bouts require the wearing of a Mong Kong while ceiling the ring in all bouts. The monk kong can be worn into the ring (over the top rope) or placed on the head inside the ring (after entering through the rope or under them). All juniors must wear Muaythai clothing. All juniors must do the Wai Kru before the bout (ceiling the ring). For all titles/finals the athletes must also do three bows.

8-counts – For children under 18 years; referees and judges must view the bout with added caution and safety than with adults. For children, the imposition of an 8 count on a fighter is not to be an automatic deduction of a point. If however 2 by 8 counts are given in a round, a point should be deducted as it is obvious one fighter is dominate. For children 16 and under, 2 by 8 counts in one round is a stoppage. Judges should consider that an 8 count can be given for an effective strike that downs an opponent, in which case stopping the fight should seriously be considered anyway. An 8 count can also be given by a fighter receiving multiple blows that are undefended, of low or firm impact, as defensive skills must be evident. Multiple clean head shots that off balance a fighter or cause disorientation should be given an 8 count. Head contact that is clean and has evident power (i.e) moving the head or causing off balancing, should be controlled by the referee with an 8 count given for any subsequent or repetitive head contact that is clean and has effectiveness. Single clean kicks or power punches that down an opponent are automatic 8 counts and no advantage is given. Judges can determine if it is a 10-8 round but do not have give a mandatory 8, for an 8 count if that stoppage is to review the fighter and give them time to recoup mentally. The advantage is given to the winner but for juniors, 1 by 8 counts are for safety and not automatic scoring disadvantages.

A junior fighter is stopped if they are downed from a single clean strike to the head, that was firm and obvious, that it was not a slip or flash (or a result of a takedown). A 10 count is not required. If the referee believes the downed fighter was not downed from a clean effective strike to the head, they can count the fighter to determine if they can continue safely.

For all juniors - 3 by 8 counts in one fight is an automatic stoppage. 2 by 8 counts due to damage or lack of defensive skills and awareness, in one round is an automatic stoppage. For juniors 16+, it is 3 8 counts a round or 4 in a fight for open division only.

TYKES - 8 years to 9 years (there is no titles in this division).

This division is MUAYTHAI LIGHT. It is designed for development only. It is a competition however, close bouts can be a draw more often than other divisions. LIGHT means that tykes are officiated strictly. Any head contact receives one warning, 2nd contact is a disqualification. Contact is to be controlled and aimed for skill over power. A tyke can get warned for any lack of control, uncontrolled aggression or infringement. 2 warnings is point deduction. 3 is a disqualification. Tykes are scored on technique, effectiveness, balance, composure and sportsmanship. If one opponents head is pulled

down (posture broken), and knees to the body are restricted or head contact is risked, a 5 count is given for safety.

Spans - 8th Birthday until day before his/her 10th Birthday.

- Bouts consist of 3 by 1 min rounds.
- Head strikes are forbidden.
- Takedowns and sweeps are forbidden.
- Elbows are forbidden.

Mandatory MTA approved Protective Equipment:

- Head gear
- 10oz – 12oz gloves
- Chest guards are mandatory
- Cloth shin guards (to the knee)
- Groin guards for males. Optional for females.
- Mouth guard

KIDS - 10 years to 11 years (there is no titles in this division).

Spans - 10th Birthday until day before his/her 12th Birthday.

- Bouts consist of 3 by 1 min rounds for children with less than 4 fights experience. For children with 5 or more fights experience 90 sec bouts are authorised. For 10 or more fights – 2 min rounds are authorised.
- Head strikes are forbidden. Fouls are to be immediately pulled up by the referee. 1 warning is given. A point is deducted for a second offence. The fight is stopped if a third warning is required.
- All Muaythai weapons can be used to the body only.

Mandatory MTA approved Protective Equipment:

- Head gear
- 10oz gloves
- Chest guards – for first 3 fights only.
- Cloth shin guards (to the knee) – mandatory.
- Groin guards for males. Optional for females
- Mouth guard

Cadets - 12 years to 13 years. (there is no titles in this division)

Spans - 12th Birthday until day before his/her 14th Birthday.

- Bouts consist of 3 by 90 second rounds for children with less than 4 fights. For 4 fights or more bouts are 2 min rounds. All bouts are 3 rounds maximum.
- Head strikes are allowed with boxing and kicking (no elbows or knees to the head). Fouls are to be immediately pulled up by the referee. 1 warning is given. A second warning is an automatic point deduction. The fight is stopped if a third warning is required.
- All other Muaythai weapons can be used to the body only. Loosing posture in the clinch is a negative and will be viewed by judges as a weakness and not goof Muaythai.

Mandatory MTA approved Protective Equipment:

- Head gear
- 10oz gloves
- Chest guards – for first 3 bouts.
- Cloth shin guards (to the knee) – Optional after 6 fights.
- Groin guards for males. Optional for females
- Elbow guards
- Mouth guard

Cadets - 14 years to 15 years (State and National's titles can be held in this division).

Spans - 14th Birthday until day before his/her 16th Birthday.

- Bouts consist of 3 by 2 minute. Title bouts are 5 by 2 minute. 1 min rest
- Head strikes are allowed in accordance with the MTA rules. For the athletes first 5 bouts – elbows are not permitted to the head.

Mandatory MTA approved Protective Equipment:

- Head gear
- 10oz gloves
- Elbow guards (for elbow fights - 6 or more fights)
- Chest guards – (for first 3 fights)
- Cloth shin guards (to the knee). Optional after 6 fights.
- Groin guards for males and females
- Mouth guard

Junior's - 16 years to 17 years (State and National's titles can be held in this division).

Spans - 16th Birthday until day before his/her 18th Birthday.

- Bouts consist of 3 by 2 minute. Title bouts are 5 by 2 minute. 1 min rest
- Head strikes are allowed in accordance with the general MTA rules. For the athletes first 3 bouts – elbows are not permitted to the head.

Mandatory MTA approved Protective Equipment:

- Head gear – mandatory
- 10oz gloves
- Elbow guards – mandatory
- Cloth shin guards (to the knee). Can be removed after 5 fights.
- Groin guards for males and females
- Female chest guard – mandatory.
- Mouth guard – form fitted required.
- Chest guard – optional.

Junior Titles

Junior titles are available from 14 years. Each state can determine eligibility in the state for junior titles. National titles are to follow all title protocols. State titles can be approved at state level. All title decisions must be done based on the principles of, best available fighters based on rankings. All title decisions must be decided by people with no – 'conflict of interest' in the awarding of the title bout. At all ages and levels, the MTA MUST maintain credibility and set itself as the highest standard in Muaythai.

Presentation/Titles belts – *Fighters at normal bouts should be awarded medals. This is in order to reduce the cost of promoters. State and national Champions are awarded at MTA Nationals or state events. Junior state or national titles can be awarded belts or trophies depending on the state.*

Junior records – Are kept concurrent from joining but are also recorded per age.

Promoters/stadiums can have stadium belts as determined by promotion.

JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES (17 YEARS AND UNDER)

Rules and regulations for muaythai competition for Athletes under the full age of 18 years old will follow the muaythai competition rules and regulations for adults described in Section 2, except for the following adapted supplements:

Age date is determined by the age at the day of the weigh in for the competition.

Rule 25. Gloves

Glove sizes for competitions for Athletes under the full age of 18 years old must be 10oz gloves and follow the same rules as per adults regarding Velcro or lace up.

Rule 26. Weight Divisions and Weigh-in.

- 26.1. Athletes under the full age of 18 years old follow the same weight division as adult fighters as per the IFMA rules weight division. Weight division for each age and category are detailed in the junior section of the rules.

Rule 27. Juniors v's Adults

- 27.1. In the exceptional case that a Athlete under the age of 18 full years old participates in a competition against an Athlete whose full age is 18 years old, the rules and regulations for competition for under 18 full years old Athletes shall be applied.
- 27.2. The minimum age for a Athlete to compete against an adult is 16 years at the date of the fight. A junior cannot fight someone more than 5 years their senior.
- 27.3. Parental permission is required for every bout and must be provided to the MTA for permission for the bout to occur.
- 27.4. Juniors cannot fight Adults for titles.
- 27.5. A junior 15 years or under cannot compete against an adult under any circumstances.

Table of protective equipment and rounds. For Juniors.

All equipment must be approved by the MTA.

ITEM	Padding is measured on the less experienced athlete.	Mandatory for:
HEAD GEAR	Mandatory for all Junior bouts.	Everyone
Gloves	10 oz Gloves for All Junior bouts. Can be lace up or Velcro.	Everyone
Cloth SHIN GUARDS	All 8-9, All 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, 15-16 – Mandatory for first 5 bouts. Optional form 6th bout.	8-9 and 10-11. First 5 fights for all other ages.
ELBOW GUARDS	Mandatory for all 12 - 17 year bouts. 12-13 has no elbows to head only to body.	Not required for 8-11 as no elbows to head.
Mouth guard	Form fitted. NOT RED COLOUR	Everyone
Groin Guard - male	Steel	All males
Groin Guard - female	Plastic, padded.	All females
Breast Protectors Female	Mandatory for juniors with a developed breast.	Above 14.
Hand Wrap.	Hand Wraps only. No strapping tape. 14+ can have their hand wraps in accordance with MTA rules for 1 off matches.	All nationals and state tournaments are hand wraps only.
Chest Guards	All 8-9yrs, 10-11 yrs - first 3 fights only, 12-13 yrs – first 3 bouts, 14-15 yrs – first 3 bouts. 16+ optional.	

MTA JUNIOR WEIGHT DIVISIONS

All weights are in kilograms.

Tykes – 8 years to 9 years – Boys & Girls.

22- 24 / 24 – 26kg / 26 – 28 / 28-30 / 30-32 / 32-34 / 34-36 / 36-38 / 38 – 40/ 40-42

42kg – 44 / 44-46kg/46-48/ (weight spread between athletes must not exceed 3kg)

Kids – 10 years to 11 years – Girls & Boys

28-30kg / 30-32 / 32-34 / 34-36 / 36-38 / 38 – 40 / 40 – 42 /42-44 / 44-46 / 46-48 / 48-50

50kg – 52 / 52-54 / 54 – 56 / 56 – 58 / 58-60 / 60-63.5 / 63.5-67 / 67kg+ (weight spread between athletes must not exceed 4kg)

Cadets – 12 years to 13years – Boys & Girls

30-32kg / 32-34 / 34-36 / 36-38 / 38-40 / 40-42 / 42-44 / 44-46 / 46-48 / 48-50 / 50-52

52-54 / 54-56 / 56-58 / 58-60 / 60-63.5 / 63.5-67 / 67-70 / 70-73 / 73kg+ (weight spread between athletes must not exceed 4kg)

Juniors – 14 years to 15years – Boys & Girls

36-38kg / 38-40 / 40-42 / 42-45 / 45-48 / 48-51 / 51-54 / 54-57 / 57-60 / 60-63.5 /

63.5-67 / 67-70 / 70-73 / 73-76 / 76-79 / 79-82 / 82kg+ (weight spread between athletes must not exceed 5kg)

Youth - 16 years to 17years – Boys & Girls

42-45kg / 45-48 / 48-51 / 51-54 / 54-57 / 57-60 / 60-63.5 / 63.5-67 / 67-70 / 70-73

73-76 / 76-79 / 79-82 / 82-85 / 85-88 / 88-91 / 91-95/ 95kg+Open (weight spread between athletes must not exceed 5kg)

Muaythai Mat

Muaythai matt is a concept designed for an introduction to Muaythai competition. It is designed for introduction only and strictly only for juniors and adults with less than 5 bouts.

For juniors and seniors – all padding is compulsory. Including; head gear, chest guard, shin guard, elbow guard (if elbows), 10oz gloves.

Round times and rules as per C-class for adults and for the age group for juniors.

All bouts must be counted and recorded as a part of your record as – Muaythai matt bouts. These must be disclosed for any matching. As 4 matt bouts is more experience than 1 ring fight and needs to be considered. For all juniors, these matches count on your record.

Muaythai matt is designed to develop Muaythai in areas or circumstances where a ring is not available. It is not designed to replace a ring, only to allow competition when a ring can not be obtained.

Specific Rules:

- Mat area must be a minimum of 5 by 5 meters with a 1m matted boundary. The competition area can be 5m-5m or 6m by 6m. The boundary matts must be a different colour to the competition area.
- Mats must be of jigsaw type with 20mm thickness and be approved by the MTA. Wrestling matts or any matts designed for Judo or wrestling – like tatami, are not suitable.
- Mats must be in good condition and not laced with any slippery film or coating.
- 3 judges must be 1m clear of the matt.
- Passivity – any fighter who backs up off the matt to avoid the fight, they will be warned. A point will be deducted for two warnings.
- All stoppages and breaks on the edge of the mat will re-commence in the center of the matt.
- The bout must be re-centered if it moves onto the boundary. If one fighter continually is forced onto the boundary – they can be warned and then a point deducted if their fighting style is causing constant delays or movement off the matt.
- There is to be no takedown on the boundary area of the matt.
- Only one step and immediate sweep or release is allowed on all catching techniques.
- There is to be no dangerous objects within 1 meter of the mat, including tables and people. The referee is to ensure the area is clear.
- Trainers must stay 1m back and be seated throughout the round. Only one trainer on the matt in round breaks.
- Fighters are to bow at center of the mat to the judges. There is no ceiling of the ring, wai kru or Mong Kong required. Fighters are to enter the matt in competition gear, ready to compete.