

# OHIO ATHLETIC COMMISSION

## General information (ATH)

### Duties

The purpose of the Commission, which replaced the State Boxing Commission, is to regulate boxing, wrestling, kickboxing, karate, and tough-man contests in the state in an effort to protect the safety of the participants and the interests of the public. The agency carries out its mission by setting standards for licensure of individuals, granting permits, and conducting events sanctioned by the Commission.

### Membership *(Current members, chairperson and other officers, and selection process.)*

Charles Haskell – Executive Director

Robert Schuerger – Commissioner

Brittany Warner – Commissioner

Dr. James Armile – Commissioner

John “Terry” Patton – Commissioner

Robert Hedger – Commissioner

Judy McCartney – Executive Secretary

Melinda McQuaide – Assistant Executive Secretary

Chad Kohler - Assistant Attorney General

**Budget** (Current budget, description of budgeting process, sources of funding, and expected increases or decreases in budget or funding in future years.)

General Services Fund Group

4K9                      175-609

**Workload** (Assess current, past, and anticipated workload. Has the workload increased or decreased significantly in the preceding six years?)

After 2018 the work load significantly decreased with the COVID19 pandemic, from 2019 to 2021 there was events at limited capacity that were streamed online, 2022 the UFC came back to Ohio in April, this helping significantly with the revenue for the state, in November 2022 Match Room / Eddie Hearn Boxing came back to Ohio also contributing to a significant revenue boost as well, 2023 we have seen much more Local regional promotions, although not having any bigger promotions in Ohio (UFC/Top Rank Boxing)

**Staffing** (How many staff are currently employed by the Commission? What are their roles? Are staffing levels proportionate to the Commission's current and anticipated workload?)

Three (3) employees total

Two (2) Fulltime Employees

Charles Haskell – Executive Director

Judy McCartney – Executive Secretary

One (1) Part Time Employee

Melinda McQuaide – Assistant Executive Secretary

**Administrative hearings and public complaints** *(Describe the Commission's processes for administering discipline and addressing complaints. Assess the efficiency of the processes.)*

Al-Jamari Case was settled for Two Hundred and Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000)

Upon the completion of a any public or private competition that involves the sports of boxing, kick boxing, mixed martial arts karate, tough man contests or tough person contests, or any other form of boxing or martial arts, the results of the match, exhibition or contest may be protested under the following conditions:

(A) To file a protest the protest must show fraud, corruption or a deliberate rule violation.

(B) When there is indisputable video evidence that demonstrates a self evident and palpable error by the referee when a bout ends as a result of a foul, the result of the bout shall be changed to a no contest decision.

(C) The protester must have standing to protest the outcome of the match, or contest. Persons with standing to protest the outcome are the contestant, the contestant's manager, and the contestant's trainer.

(D) The protester must file the protest, in writing, with the commission or the executive director, no later than ten days after the match, or contest being protested. The protest letter shall specify the reason or reasons for the protest with such particularity as to enable the commission to quickly and accurately act upon the protest. Filing may be by personal delivery or US postal service and is deemed complete upon receipt by the commission or executive director.

(E) The protester must supply the commission with a videotaped recording of the contestant's entire match, or contest, if such a recording is available, at the time of filing the protest. The videotape shall become part of the permanent record of the commission and shall not be returned.

(F) Upon receipt of the protest the commission shall have sixty days in which to investigate the allegations contained in the protest. Upon completion of the investigation the findings and recommendations shall be presented to the commission at the next scheduled public meeting. The commission will then vote on the findings and recommendations. The findings, recommendations, and commission vote shall be made a permanent record of the commission and shall be final.

(G) A letter detailing the findings and recommendations of the investigation, the vote of the commission, and the actions to be taken will be sent to the protester by regular mail within fourteen days of the meeting in paragraph (E) of this rule.

## Professional boxer’s, mixed martial artist, amateur mixed martial artist, or contestant Survey response for contestant (generally) (ATH)

Description
<p>“Contestant” means a participant in a public boxing match, wrestling, tough person, kick boxing, karate, mixed martial or other unarmed combat sport exhibition.</p>

Type <i>(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i>
<p>All contestants are required to get a license to participate in the event they wish to compete in based on age and experience.</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	247 (All pro boxers and pro MMA fighters)
Number renewed annually	Not applicable

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Yes there has been an over all decrease due to the covid 19 pandemic
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Pro athletes have to prove a certain experience (usually 7-10 with a winning record or comparable experience)
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	Contestants in combative sports do not need to pass any education based exam. All contestants must pass a medical examination
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	Not Applicable
<b>Initial fee</b>	Forty dollars (\$40)
<b>Duration</b>	One (1) Year from date of required medicals.
<b>Renewal fee</b> ( <i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i> )	Same

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	No, They must be licensed in Ohio, although we recognize their National and Federal Id. Ohio does recognize Pro licenses from other states but still have to get licensed in Ohio.
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	No
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?	No
Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	Yes
<b>Other information</b> ( <i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i> )	Experience and more advanced medicals are required for some contestants who have been medically suspended or over a certain age.

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

Yes, the commission imposes fines and suspensions on contestants who do not follow the regulations put forth by the state.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

\$9,420. This revenue is deposited into state treasurer account (TOS account)

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

Not Applicable

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

The regulation seeks to prevent unsupervised medical, unsupervised fights which do not involve medical personnel licensed coaches licensed officials and licensed non officials. Regulations of fighters prevents contestants with prior med issues from competing in unsanctioned events. We license contestants for their safety, security and well being.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

Yes

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

Hoping to begin regulating submission wrestling competitions and other forms of combative sports that are gaining in popularity but are not regulated or overseen by the state.

## Survey response for amateur MMA fighter (ATH)

Description
<p>“Amateur MMA Fighter” means a contestant who does not compete for a prize, in cash or otherwise, that has a value of more than twenty-five dollars</p>

Type (License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)
<p>Only requirements for this license is the competitor be 18 – 35 years old</p> <p>Blood work Requirements: HIV, Hepatitis C Antibody, Hepatitis Surface Antigen</p> <p>Medical requirements for over 35 years of age: EKG with Doctor clearance good for one (1) year, MRI good for five (5) years, Chest Xray good for two (2) years</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	340
Number renewed annually	Not applicable We do not keep track of renewals

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Yes Since the Covid 19 pandemic we have seen an increase in local and regional promotions resulting in more licensing
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	Not applicable
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Not applicable
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	No licensing exam Must pass a pre fight physical medical examination
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	Not applicable
<b>Initial fee</b>	Forty Dollars (\$40)
<b>Duration</b>	One (1) year based off expired medicals
<b>Renewal fee</b> ( <i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i> )	Same as initial Fee, Forty Dollars (\$40)

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b>	Yes, we use Associations of boxing committee (ABC) guidelines, we honor amateur national ID cards from any state providence or country
<b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b>	Yes, Various sanctioning bodies use different but similar licensing procedures. They could be used if approved by the commission.
<b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b>	Above answer: Yes, when approved by the commission independent sanctioning bodies can sanction / regulate an event in Ohio No
<b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b>	Yes
<b>Other information</b> ( <i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i> )	Not applicable

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

The commission makes sure that all amateur fighters have their required medicals, have paid any fines imposed upon them, and have followed all regulations established in the Ohio administrative code and the Ohio Revised code

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

\$13,600 100% all Revenue goes into a zero account balance to the state.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

Not applicable, each state regulates their own laws, rules, and policies.

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

The regulation seeks to prevent unsupervised medical, unsupervised fights which do not involve medical personnel licensed coaches licensed officials and licensed non officials. Regulations of fighters prevents contestants with prior medical issues from competing in unsanctioned events. The commission operates for care, safety, and security of all the fighters.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

Yes, it's very effective in preventing harm.

No, minimum standards are necessary for the safety and security of the contestants

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

Yes, Improved medicals and continuous contestant education of fighter safety, rules of competition, and license requirements.

## Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 12, 2024)

Professional Boxer's, Mixed Martial Artist, or Amateur Mixed Martial Artist (Contestant License)						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation (Name of regulation)	License  (Contestant licenses: professional boxer license, mixed martial artist (MMA) license, or amateur MMA license)  <i>(R.C. 3773.32 and 3773.41)</i>	License  (Fighter's license)  (No license required for amateur MMA contestants)  <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-17)</i>	License  (Boxing or mixed martial arts license)  <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	License  (Contestant license)  <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3630 and 338.3633a)</i>	License  (License)  <i>(58 Pa. Code 29.3)</i>	License  (License)  <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-3; W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4 and 177-2-4; see W. Va. Athletic Commission, <a href="#">WVAC Policy #121522 (PDF)</a>)</i>
Education or training	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Experience	Must be at least 18 years of age  <i>(O.A.C. 3773-4-01 and 3773-7-16)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age  The Indiana Gaming Commission may consider previous fighting experience when determining whether to issue a license	Must be at least 18 years of age  Applicant must demonstrate the ability to be competitive in the sport and compete without the risk of serious injury	Must be at least 18 years of age  Professional boxer: seven amateur contests or 28 amateur rounds, or proven competence  Professional MMA: five amateur contests,	Must be at least 18 years of age  Applicant must be skilled in their profession and "of requisite experience"  <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 702; 58 Pa. Code 29.22)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age  <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-11 and 177-2-12)</i>  Boxing: applicant must establish that the applicant is skilled in the profession of boxing and is

Professional Boxer's, Mixed Martial Artist, or Amateur Mixed Martial Artist (Contestant License)						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
		<i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-25; 68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-4)</i>	<i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	or proven competence  <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633a; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203)</i>		physically fit and mentally sound  <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>  MMA: applicant must establish that the applicant is skilled and trained in MMA  <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-2-4)</i>
Exam	No (but is required to have certain negative medical tests and may be subject to further medical tests if certain factors apply)  <i>(O.A.C. 3773-4-02, 3773-4-03, and 3773-7-21; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Boxer and MMA Ohio</a>)</i>	No (but is required to have certain negative medical tests)  <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-28; 68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-4 and 24-6-8)</i>	No (but submit a physical report from a physician)  <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	No (but must have physical exam)  <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633a)</i>	Yes <sup>2</sup>  <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913)</i>	No (but may be subject to medical exam if at least 40 years of age)  <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-12 and 177-2-12a)</i>

<sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania Athletic Commission may require applicant to appear for oral exam on qualifications (5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913).

Professional Boxer's, Mixed Martial Artist, or Amateur Mixed Martial Artist (Contestant License)						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
	<a href="#"><u>License Application</u></a>					
Continuing education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial licensure fee	\$40 <i>(R.C. 3773.43; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#"><u>Boxer and MMA Ohio License Application</u></a>)</i>	\$50 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	\$45 (statute) Professional boxer: \$90 Professional MMA: \$90 Amateur MMA: \$90 <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633a; Mich. Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), <a href="#"><u>Application for Contestant License or Relicensure (PDF)</u></a>)</i>	Professional boxer or MMA: \$22 Amateur MMA: \$10 <i>(Pa. Athletic Commission, <a href="#"><u>Boxer, MMA, Amateurs (PDFs)</u></a>)</i>	Professional boxer or MMA: \$25 Semi-professional boxer: \$10 Amateur boxer or MMA: \$20 <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4 and 177-2-4)</i>
License duration	One year <i>(R.C. 3773.42)</i>	Two years <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-28; 68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-3)</i>	One year <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:2008)</i>	One year <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633a; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.401)</i>	License expires on December 31 of the year it was issued <i>(5 P.S. 911)</i>	One year <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4 and 177-2-4)</i>

Professional Boxer's, Mixed Martial Artist, or Amateur Mixed Martial Artist (Contestant License)						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Renewal fee	N/A <sup>3</sup>	\$50 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	\$45 (statute) Pro boxing: \$120 Pro MMA: \$120 Amateur MMA: \$120 <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633a; LARA, <a href="#">Application for Contestant License or Relicensure (PDF)</a>)</i>	Professional boxer or MMA: \$22 Amateur MMA: \$10 <i>(Pa. Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Boxer, MMA, Amateurs (PDFs)</a>)</i>	Professional boxer or MMA: \$25 Amateur boxer or MMA: \$20 <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4 and 177-2-4)</i>

## Judge, matchmaker, timekeeper, manager, trainer, or second

### Survey response (ATH)

Description
<p>“Judge” is a person who scores a fight and evaluates the techniques and impact of fighters Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts</p> <p>“Matchmaker” means any person who schedules pairings for a prize fight, public boxing match, wrestling, tough person, kick boxing, karate, mixed martial arts or other unarmed combat sport exhibition.</p> <p>“Manager” means any person who is in charge of the training, performance, and business affairs of a Fighter.</p> <p>“Second” means any person who is an attendant to a contestant.</p>

<sup>3</sup> A contestant must apply for a new license each year.

Description
<p>“Trainer” means any person who coaches a contestant competing in any sport regulated by the Ohio athletic commission</p> <p>“Timekeeper” is responsible for regulating the rounds and intervals between rounds</p>

Type <i>(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i>
<p>All officials and non-officials need to be state licensed at the time of the fight.</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Number issued annually</b>	247
<b>Number renewed annually</b>	Not applicable
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Yes due to the COVID 19 pandemic the numbers of applications decreased and with the ending of the pandemic the numbers have steadily increased

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	All new judges, matchmakers, and time keepers have to trial with the OAC 2-4 times before being granted a license.
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Proof of experience and recommendations are required for officials that already have prior experience from other states or provinces.
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	Not applicable
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	Judges are encouraged to take yearly trainings to update themselves on rules and regulations.
<b>Initial fee</b>	\$40
<b>Duration</b>	One year
<b>Renewal fee</b> ( <i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i> )	Not Applicable
<b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b>	The OAC recognizes experience from any other commissioning body, but every non-official or official needs to be evaluated and licensed by the OAC.

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<p><b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b></p>	<p>Yes as long as they are approved by OAC and provide recommendations, and get a license in Ohio.</p>
<p><b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b></p>	<p>NO.</p>
<p><b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Other information</b> (<i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i>)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

The Ohio Athletic Commission has discretionary authority to deny or revoke a license for incompetency and conviction of a crime that relates to the sport involved or other specified crimes that pertain to safety.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

\$4880 revenue deposited in the TOC account.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

Not applicable

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

The OAC seeks to prevent inexperienced individuals from performing their job.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

YES, providing experience and recommendations for certain jobs increases the safety of all involved.

NO.

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

Continued experience and training requirements

**Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 18, 2024)**

Judge, Matchmaker, Timekeeper, Manager, Trainer, or Second						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation (Name of regulation)	License (License) <i>(R.C. 3773.41; O.A.C. 3773-5-01)</i>	License (License) <i>(Ind. Code 4-33- 22-17)</i>	License (License) <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025)</i>	License (Participant license) (No license required for manager, trainer, or second)	License (License) <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 905)</i>	License (License) <i>(W. Va. Code 29- 5A-8; W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>

Judge, Matchmaker, Timekeeper, Manager, Trainer, or Second						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
				<i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>		
Education or training	N/A	N/A	N/A	Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require timekeeper or judge to obtain satisfactory training  <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Judge: must serve an apprenticeship of at least three months  <i>(58 Pa. Code 21.12)</i>	N/A
Experience	Must be at least 18 years of age  <i>(O.A.C. 3773-5-01; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Non-Fighter Ohio License Application</a>)</i>	Second, manager, trainer, or matchmaker: must be at least 18 years of age  Judge or timekeeper: must be at least 21 years of age  <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-5 to 24-3-8, 24-3-10, and 24-3-11)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age  <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age  Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require timekeeper or judge to obtain satisfactory experience  <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Judge: must be at least 21 years of age  <i>(58 Pa. Code 21.12)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age  <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-14)</i>  Applicant must establish that the applicant is skilled in the profession of boxing and is physically fit and mentally sound  <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-8)</i>

Judge, Matchmaker, Timekeeper, Manager, Trainer, or Second						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes <sup>4</sup> <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Judge: Yes <sup>5</sup> <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913; 58 Pa. Code 21.12)</i>	N/A
Continuing education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial licensure fee	\$40 <i>(R.C. 3773.43; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Non-Fighter Ohio License Application</a>)</i>	Judge: \$75 Matchmaker: \$125 Timekeeper: \$30 Manager: \$50 Trainer: \$30 Second: \$25 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	\$30 processing fee and: Judge: \$70 Matchmaker: \$150 Timekeeper: \$70 <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>	Judge: \$35 Matchmaker: \$50 Timekeeper: \$25 Manager: \$60 Trainer: \$20 Second: \$20 <i>(58 Pa. Code 13.4)</i>	Judge: \$30 Matchmaker: \$50 Manager, professional: \$50 Manager, amateur: \$0 Timekeeper: \$30 Trainer: \$20 Second: \$20 <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-20; W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>

<sup>4</sup> Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require timekeeper or judge to complete an examination (Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a).

<sup>5</sup> Pennsylvania Athletic Commission may require all others to appear for an oral examination (5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913).

Judge, Matchmaker, Timekeeper, Manager, Trainer, or Second						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
License duration	One year <i>(R.C. 3773.42)</i>	Judge: Two years All others: One year <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-29; 68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	One year <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:2008)</i>	One year <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.401)</i>	License expires on December 31 of the year it was issued <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 911)</i>	One year <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-20)</i>
Renewal fee	N/A <sup>6</sup>	Judge: \$75 Matchmaker: \$125 Timekeeper: \$30 Manager: \$50 Trainer: \$30 Second: \$25 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	\$30 processing fee and: Judge: \$70 Matchmaker: \$150 Timekeeper: \$70 <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>	Judge: \$35 Matchmaker: \$50 Timekeeper: \$25 Manager: \$60 Trainer: \$20 Second: \$20 <i>(58 Pa. Code 13.4)</i>	Judge: \$30 Matchmaker: \$50 Manager, professional: \$50 Manager, amateur: \$0 Timekeeper: \$30 Trainer: \$20 Second: \$20 <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-20; W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>

<sup>6</sup> A judge, matchmaker, timekeeper, manager, trainer, or second must apply for a new license each year.

## Promoter

### Survey response (ATH)

Description	
<p>“Promoter” means any person who conducts or sponsors a public boxing match, wrestling, tough person, kick boxing, mixed martial arts or other unarmed combat sport exhibition.</p>	
Type <i>(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i>	
<p>Promoters for wrestling events do not need bonded just have to be approved by the OAC</p> <p>Promoters for MMA and boxing events must carry two bonds One for 20,000 for the event officials and one for 2,500 for the State taxes.</p>	
If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Number issued annually</b>	<p>Boxing Promoters 21 @ \$150</p> <p>MMA Promoters 11 @ \$150</p> <p>Wrestling Promoters 32 @ \$200</p> <p>69 Total at \$9420</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Number renewed annually</b>	Not applicable
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Due to covid restrictions there has been a significant decrease in the number of shows. After covid we have seen an increase in local and regional shows. We continue to grow but with local and regional promotions, however since covid drawing bigger promotions into the Ohio has been a challenge.
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	NA
<b>Experience requirements</b>	NA
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	NA
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	NA
<b>Initial fee</b>	MMA/Boxing \$150 Wrestling \$200
<b>Duration</b>	1 year

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Renewal fee</b> <i>(If different from initial fee, please explain why.)</i>	NA
<b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b>	No each promoter must obtain a state promoters license in Ohio to have an event.
<b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b>	NO
<b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b>	NO
<b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b>	Yes
<b>Other information</b> <i>(Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.)</i>	NO

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

The commission can suspend promoters for violating their promotor's responsibilities, such as but not limited to:

1. Failure to pay state taxes.
2. Breach of contracts between promoter and contestants.
3. Failure to pay state officials
4. Failure to provide safe working/event conditions for the officials, non-officials, contestants, and general public.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

\$9420 was deposited in the TOC account.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

NO

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

Preventing promoters from providing unsafe events for the contestants, officials and to all involved in the event.  
Preventing unfair business practices involving contracts between promoters and the contestants.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

YES.  
NO.

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

The commission is constantly making improvements for the promoters (Promoter's Responsibilities) to ensure the care, welfare and safety to all involved.

**Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 22, 2024)**

Promoter						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation (Name of regulation)	License (Promoter’s license) <i>(R.C. 3773.32)</i>	License (License) <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-17)</i>	License (Promoter license) <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.035)</i>	License (Promoter’s license) <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3630)</i>	License (Promoter’s license) <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 902)</i>	License (License) <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-3)</i>
Education or training	Must be “knowledgeable in the proper conduct of competition” <i>(R.C. 3773.36)</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Experience	N/A	Must be at least 21 years of age <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-13)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age <i>(Ky. Boxing and Wrestling Commission, <a href="#">Promoter Forms</a>)</i>	N/A	N/A	Applicants must possess the requisite “skill, knowledge, and ability to promote, hold, and conduct” an unarmed combat event  <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-8)</i>

Promoter						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes <sup>7</sup> <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913)</i>	N/A
Continuing education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial licensure fee	Boxing: \$150 Wrestling: \$200 MMA: \$150 Tough Person: \$150 <i>(R.C. 3773.43; O.A.C. 3773-3-02; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Non-Fighter Ohio License Application</a>)</i>	\$300 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$300 <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	\$300 plus \$500 if conduct an event in Michigan <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633)</i>	\$100 <i>(58 Pa. Code 13.4)</i>	\$125 <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-3)</i>
License duration	One year <i>(R.C. 3773.36)</i>	One year <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-14)</i>	One year <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	One year <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3630)</i>	License expires on December 31 of the year it was issued	One year <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-3)</i>

<sup>7</sup> Pennsylvania Athletic Commission may require applicant to appear for oral examination (5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913).

Promoter						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
					(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 911)	
Renewal fee	N/A <sup>8</sup>	\$300 (68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)	\$300 (201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)	\$300 plus \$500 if conduct event in Michigan (Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633)	\$100 (58 Pa. Code 13.4)	\$125 (W. Va. Code 29-5A-3)

## Referee

### Survey response (ATH)

Description
<p>“Referee” is responsible for ensuring the safety of the fighters and the rules of the fight are followed.</p>

<sup>8</sup> A promoter must apply for a new license each year.

**Type** (License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)

The Ohio Athletic Commission evaluates each referee through trainings, shadowing, to trial referee supervised by a senior referee. Once approved the commission will license the referee.

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<b>Number issued annually</b>	11
<b>Number renewed annually</b>	440
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Referee is a selective job and with more local and regional events we had an increase in new referees.
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	Training course through the ABC and any other accredited program are highly recommended but not required.
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Previous experience in another state with recommendation is necessary for already licensed officials that have not trial refereed in Ohio.

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	NA
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	NA
<b>Initial fee</b>	\$40
<b>Duration</b>	1 year
<b>Renewal fee</b> ( <i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i> )	Same as initial fee
<b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b>	No
<b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b>	No

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<p><b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Other information</b> (<i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i>)</p>	<p>NA</p>

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

The commission has the right to suspend referee's license.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

\$440 All money received goes into the TOC fund.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

NA

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

The commission seeks to prevent harm during combative sports to its contestants to the highest standard possible.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

Yes, It is effective in screening, installing and maintaining good referees.

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

OAC is looking into statewide training and continuation education for trainings.

**Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 23, 2024)**

Referee						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation (Name of regulation)	License (License) <i>(R.C. 3773.32)</i>	License (License) <i>(Ind. Code 4-33-22-17)</i>	License (License) <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025)</i>	License (Participant license) <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>	License (License) <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 905)</i>	License (License) <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-3; W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>

Referee						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Education or training	N/A	N/A	N/A	Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require referee to obtain satisfactory training <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Applicant must have served an apprenticeship of at least three months <i>(58 Pa. Code 21.11)</i>	N/A
Experience	Must be at least 21 years of age and have experience as an amateur or professional referee or evaluated by the Commission <i>(R.C. 3773.41 and 3773.42; O.A.C. 3773-5-03)</i>	Must be at least 21 years of age and must submit any certification the applicant has obtained from any organization that certifies boxing or MMA referees <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-9)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require referee to obtain satisfactory experience <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Must be at least 21 years of age <i>(58 Pa. Code 21.11)</i>	Must be at least 18 years of age <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-14)</i> Applicant must establish that he or she is skilled in the profession of boxing and is physically fit and mentally sound <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>

Referee						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Exam	N/A	N/A (but is subject to a physical and medical exam) <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-9)</i>	N/A (but must submit a physical report) <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:008)</i>	Yes <sup>9</sup> <i>(Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a)</i>	Yes <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 913; 58 Pa. Code 21.11)</i>	N/A
Continuing education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial licensure fee	\$40 <i>(R.C. 3773.43; Ohio Athletic Commission, <a href="#">Non-Fighter Ohio License Application</a>)</i>	\$100 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:2008)</i>	\$150 plus \$30 processing fee <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>	\$35 <i>(58 Pa. Code 13.4)</i>	\$30 <i>(W. Va. Code R. 177-1-4)</i>
License duration	One year <i>(R.C. 3773.42)</i>	Two years <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	One year <i>(201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:2008)</i>	One year <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.401)</i>	License expires on December 31 of the year it was issued <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 911)</i>	One year <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-20)</i>

<sup>9</sup> Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission may require a referee to complete an examination (Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.203a).

Referee						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Renewal fee	N/A <sup>10</sup>	\$100 <i>(68 Ind. Admin. Code 24-3-2)</i>	\$40 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 229.025; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 27:2008)</i>	\$150 plus \$30 processing fee <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3633b)</i>	\$35 <i>(58 Pa. Code 13.4)</i>	\$30 <i>(W. Va. Code 29-5A-20)</i>

## Athlete agent

### Survey response (ATH)

Description
<p>“Athlete agent” means any person who directly or indirectly recruits or solicits any athlete to enter into an agent contract or professional sports services contract, or who for a fee procures, offers, promises, or attempts to obtain employment for an athlete with a professional sports team, or as a professional athlete, or otherwise attempts to market an athlete or an athlete’s reputation. Athlete agent does not include either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A member of a student athlete’s immediate family;</li> <li>(2) An attorney from whom an athlete seeks legal advice concerning a proposed professional sports services contract if the attorney does not represent the athlete in negotiating or soliciting the contract.</li> </ul>

<sup>10</sup> A referee must apply for a new license each year.

**Type** (License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)

Athlete agents need to be bonded a minimum of \$15,000 before being licensed. Athlete Agents are licensed to be approved to go on college campus public schools, sporting events, etc. within the state to recruit athletes.

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<b>Number issued annually</b>	64
<b>Number renewed annually</b>	Not applicable
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Yes, with athlete agents being allowed to now recruit athletes in high school, the number of licenses continue to increase.
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	Not applicable
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Not applicable

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<p><b>Examination requirements</b> (<i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i>)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>Continuing education requirements</b> (<i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i>)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>Initial fee</b></p>	<p>Five Hundred Dollars (\$500)</p>
<p><b>Duration</b></p>	<p>Two (2) Years</p>
<p><b>Renewal fee</b> (<i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i>)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b></p>	<p>No, All athlete agents must be registered in Ohio to do business in Ohio.</p>
<p><b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b></p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

**If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:**

<p><b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Other information</b> (<i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i>)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

Yes, License can be suspended if contracts between athlete agents and the athlete are broken.

The Ohio athletic commission may, except as provided in division (B) of this section, refuse to grant or renew a registration, or may suspend or revoke a registration of an athlete agent upon proof satisfactory to the commission that the athlete agent or an employee or representative of the athlete agent has done any of the following:

- Made false or misleading statements of a material nature in an application for registration as an athlete agent;
- Been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense in connection with the person’s service as an athlete agent in this or another state;
- Been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense involving illegal gambling;
- Engaged in conduct that has a significant adverse impact on the applicant’s credibility, integrity, or competence to serve in a fiduciary capacity;

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

Misappropriated funds or engaged in other specific conduct that would render the applicant unfit to serve in a fiduciary capacity, including being convicted of or pleading guilty to offenses involving embezzlement, theft, or fraud;

Violated a provision of this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter.

The commission shall not refuse to issue a registration to an applicant because of a conviction of or plea of guilty to an offense unless the refusal is in accordance with section [9.79](#) of the Revised Code.

Upon receiving a complaint of a violation of this chapter or a rule adopted under it, the commission shall conduct an investigation of the complaint. If the commission finds reasonable cause to believe a violation occurred, the commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to determine if a violation occurred. If the commission finds a violation occurred, the commission may suspend or revoke, or refuse to issue or renew, the registration of an athlete agent for such period of time as the commission finds appropriate.

Upon completion of an investigation, if the commission finds no reasonable grounds to believe a violation occurred, the commission shall certify without a hearing that no violation occurred. The commission shall serve the certification on all parties addressed in the complaint by certified mail, return receipt requested. The certification shall be considered a final resolution of the matter if no objection to the certification is filed. A party involved in the complaint may file an objection to the certification with the commission within ten days after the date the certification is mailed. If a party files an objection to the certification within the prescribed period, the commission, within its discretion, may conduct a hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to determine if a violation occurred.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

It's a two year license. Biannually. The OAC issued 64 licenses taking in approximately \$32,000 biannually.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

Not applicable

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

Athlete agents taking financial advantage of student athletes

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

Yes it's effective in preventing deceptive business practices.

No

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

Yes, the commission is looking into one year licensing for athlete agents, but as of now we are staying with a two year license.

**Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 15, 2024)**

Athlete Agent						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation (Name of regulation)	License (Certificate of registration) <i>(R.C. 4771.06)</i>	License (Certificate of registration) <i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-2)</i>	License (Certificate of registration) <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6907)</i>	No clear equivalent	License (Certificate of Registration) <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3504)</i>	License (Certificate of registration) <i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-4)</i>
Education or training	If the applicant is an attorney, must submit a certificate of good standing from the Ohio Supreme Court  If the applicant is not an attorney, must submit affidavit or	Applicant must describe the applicant’s formal training as an athlete agent and educational background relating to the applicant’s activities as an athlete agent	Applicant must describe the applicant’s formal training as an athlete and the applicant’s educational background relating to the applicant’s	N/A	Applicant must describe formal training as an athlete agent and educational background relating to the applicant’s activities as an athlete agent	Applicant must describe formal training as an athlete agent and educational background relating to the applicant’s activities as an athlete agent

Athlete Agent						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
	certificate of completion describing all formal training or practical experience in any of the following areas: contracts, contract negotiation, complaint resolution, arbitration, or dispute resolution <sup>11</sup> <i>(R.C. 4771.07)</i>	<i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-3)</i>	activities as an athlete agent  <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6909)</i>		<i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3505)</i>	<i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-5)</i>
Experience	See “Education or training,” above <i>(R.C. 4771.07)</i>	Applicant must describe the applicant’s practical experience as an athlete agent  <i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-3)</i>	Applicant must describe practical experience as an athlete agent  <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6909)</i>	N/A	Applicant must describe the applicant’s practical experience as an athlete agent  <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3505)</i>	Applicant must describe the applicant’s practical experience as an athlete agent  <i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-5)</i>

<sup>11</sup> Per conversation with Ohio Athletic Commission Director Charles Haskell, although the statute has these requirements, the focus for licensure is obtaining the required bond.

Athlete Agent						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Continuing education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial licensure fee	\$500 <i>(R.C. 4771.05; O.A.C. 3773-1-05)</i>	\$700 <i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-7; 10 Ind. Admin. Code 4-3-1)</i>	\$300 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6915; 830 Ky. Admin. Regs. 002:010)</i>	N/A	\$200 <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3509)</i>	\$50 <i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-9)</i>
License duration	Two years <i>(R.C. 4771.08)</i>	Two years <i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-4)</i>	Two years <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6911)</i>	N/A	Two years <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3506)</i>	Two years <i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-6)</i>
Renewal fee	N/A <sup>12</sup>	\$700 <i>(Ind. Code 25-5.2-2-7; 10 Ind. Admin. Code 4-3-1)</i>	\$200 <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 164.6915; 830 Ky. Admin. Regs. 002:010)</i>	N/A	\$200 <i>(5 Pa. Cons. Stat. 3509)</i>	\$10 <i>(W. Va. Code 30-39-9)</i>

<sup>12</sup> An athlete agent must apply for a new license each year.

## Tough persons

### Survey response for tough person competition (ATH)

#### Description

“Tough person contests” mean any competition that involves any physical contact bout between two or more individuals who attempt to knock out the opponent by using boxing, kicking, or any combination of such techniques and tactics.

**Type** *(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)*

All Tough-person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

#### If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:

##### Number issued annually

All Tough-person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

##### Number renewed annually

All Tough-person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	All Tough-person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	All Tough-person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Experience requirements</b>	
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Initial fee</b>	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Duration</b>	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
<b>Renewal fee</b> ( <i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i> )	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.
Other information <i>(Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.)</i>	All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

All Tough person contestants were included as mixed martial artists.

## Survey response for super-tough person competition (ATH)

Description	
Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Toughman competitions.	
Type <i>(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i>	
Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.	
If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Number issued annually</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Number renewed annually</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
<b>Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Education or training requirements</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Experience requirements</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Examination requirements</b> ( <i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Commission receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i> )	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Continuing education requirements</b> ( <i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i> )	Above answer- will not allow answer. Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions. Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough competitions.
<b>Initial fee</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Duration</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

<b>If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:</b>	
<b>Renewal fee</b> <i>(If different from initial fee, please explain why.)</i>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Does the Commission recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Commission?</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Is the Commission permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?</b>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.
<b>Other information</b> <i>(Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.)</i>	Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Commission respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Commission to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

**Are there any changes the Commission would like to see implemented?**

Non-Applicable. The OAC does not currently sanction or regulate Super Tough-person competitions.

### **Surrounding state comparison (LSC) (as of July 26, 2024)**

Of Ohio and the surrounding states, only Ohio appears to expressly regulate tough person contestants (either tough man (a form of amateur boxing, sometimes referred to as “boxing elimination contests”) contest participants or tough guy (a form of MMA) contest participants), by requiring them to obtain a tough person license. Indiana expressly prohibits these types of competitions, and

Michigan exempts boxing elimination contests from the laws governing boxing and MMA competitions.<sup>13</sup> It is possible that for the remaining states, these contestants fall under the regulations for boxing or MMA fighting as described above.

Ohio has two types of licenses: tough person or super tough person. An applicant for either type must be at least 18 years of age. An applicant for either type of license cannot have any previous professional experience in boxing, mixed martial arts, kickboxing, or any other unarmed combat sport. The license is valid for one year, and the applicant must pay a \$40 fee.<sup>14</sup> It does not appear that the Ohio Athletic Commission is issuing these licenses at this time (as noted by the Commission, tough person falls under MMA).

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<sup>13</sup> Ind. Code 35-45-18-1 and 35-45-18-2; Mich. Comp. Laws 338.3650.

<sup>14</sup> R.C. 3773.42; O.A.C. 3773-1-05, 3773-6-01, and 3773-6-02.