

APPLY NOW!

Forms available for *qualified* Sanctioning Organizations to apply for approval to conduct Amateur Boxing or Martial Arts in Virginia

Beginning October 1, 2015, no amateur event will be legally allowed unless overseen by an approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization

Where do I start? Which application should I use?

Under Forms & Applications at www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/Boxing, there are **two** SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION APPROVAL APPLICATION forms:

- **AMATEUR BOXING** for those applying to conduct only amateur boxing events
- **AMATEUR MARTIAL ARTS** for those applying to conduct amateur events involving full contact, international (low kick), Muay Thai (Thai boxing), San Shou (Sanda), and/or mixed martial arts (e.g., aikido, karate, judo, tae kwon do, etc.)

The EVENT NOTIFICATION, GATE FEE, and other forms are for use after October 1st, once an Amateur Sanctioning Organization obtains approval.

Why are the forms so long?

The General Assembly wrote **very strict standards** into the law that DPOR must verify for each organization. DPOR tried to make the application form as user-friendly as possible, while still collecting all necessary documentation for organizations to prove they qualify.

Before taking the time to apply, an organization should determine if it meets the basic eligibility requirements for approval:

- At least **five years of experience** by the organization and/or members of responsible management, separately or together
- **No** officers, employees, or agents share any **financial interest or business ties** to amateur promoters, fighters, matchmakers, trainers, etc.
- **Standards and Operations** at least as strict as Virginia law and applicable DPOR Regulations governing health and safety, contestant qualifications, event policies and procedures, contest rules, reporting and record-keeping requirements, etc.

What if I meet all but one of the requirements? or

Hey! I didn't know the new law did this, now it looks like I won't qualify.

DPOR can approve only those applicants that meet **every** statutory requirement. The Director has no legal authority to waive any of the requirements outlined in the law or the Regulations referenced in the statute.

- The General Assembly is responsible for creating and amending the law, not the Director or DPOR. Any changes the legislature might make to the law as currently written would not occur until its next regular session in 2016.

What's next?

- DPOR staff will review applications as they are submitted and forward those that are complete to the Director for his consideration. Incomplete applications will require additional time, so please be careful to answer all questions and attached all required documentation.
- Sanctioning organizations that satisfy all legal requirements will be approved by the Director, receive approval notice by mail, and be listed on the DPOR website as a resource for interested parties.
- **As of October 1, 2015**, promoters, fighters, and other event participants in amateur boxing or MMA *must work through an approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization* and comply with its standards and operations.

DPOR will post updates at www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/Boxing as new information becomes available. (8/10/2015)