

REVISED APPLICATION OPEN TO ALL

Process is open to ALL *qualified* Sanctioning Organizations, based in Virginia or out-of-state

As of October 1, 2015, new law prohibits amateur events unless overseen by an approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization

DPOR WILL APPROVE EVERY SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS THE MINIMUM LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS

What's different about the revised application?

The law passed by the General Assembly prohibits a Sanctioning Organization from having a conflict of interest with a "licensee." In order to allow more organizations to qualify for approval, DPOR will interpret **licensee** in this context to mean only amateur promoters.

The revised applications amend **Question 11**, to clarify:

- **No** officers, employees, or agents share any **financial interest or business ties** to a promoter of amateur boxing/martial arts events.

Qualified sanctioning organizations still must provide proof of a written code of conduct protecting against conflicts of interest, as well as all other statutory requirements.

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, to make it easier for organizations to prove they meet the qualifications:

- An EXPERIENCE VERIFICATION FORM to document the required minimum **five years of experience** by the organization and/or members of responsible management, separately or together.
- All minimum provisions that must be included in the organization's **Standards and Operations** to satisfy the law's mandate that they be at least as strict as Virginia law and applicable DPOR Regulations governing professionals [pursuant to § 54.1-829.1(B) of the *Code of Virginia*].
 - The "checklist" is designed to help organizations submit a complete application by requiring applicants to provide the applicable page number for all relevant criteria (health and safety, contestant qualifications, event policies and procedures, contest rules, reporting and record-keeping requirements, etc.)

It's already September and no Sanctioning Organizations are approved yet.

How would anyone give the required 30-day advance notice?

or

What if I have plans for an event this fall?

DPOR will do everything it can to approve every qualified Sanctioning Organization as quickly as possible, ideally by October 1, 2015. We understand the 30-day advance notice provision depends on having at least one approved Sanctioning Organization in place and will interpret that requirement based on actual time constraints.

Once approved, Sanctioning Organizations will be listed on the DPOR website as a resource. 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 for any event held on or after October 1, 2015.

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 take longer to review, so be careful to **answer all questions** and attached all required documentation.
- **Every sanctioning organization** that satisfies *all* legal requirements will be approved by the Director.

Until Sanctioning Organizations apply, meet the legal requirements set out by the General Assembly, and obtain DPOR approval, amateur boxing and martial arts events will not be permitted (as of October 1, 2015). **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.

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.

