

## CHAPTER 548

## PUGILISTIC EXHIBITIONS

- 548.001 Short title.
- 548.002 Definitions.
- 548.003 State Athletic Commission.
- 548.004 Executive secretary; deputies; duties, compensation.
- 548.006 Power of commission to control pugilistic contests and exhibitions.
- 548.007 Applicability of act to amateur matches and certain other matches or events.
- 548.008 Toughman and badman competition prohibited.
- 548.011 Power of commission to issue, withhold, suspend, or revoke licenses and permits.
- 548.012 Promoter's license.
- 548.013 Foreign copromoter license requirement.
- 548.014 Promoters and foreign copromoters; bonds or other security.
- 548.017 Boxers, managers, and other persons required to have licenses.
- 548.021 Applications for licenses and permits.
- 548.022 Oral examinations.
- 548.025 License fees.
- 548.026 Duration of license.
- 548.028 Refusal to issue license.
- 548.032 Permit for program of matches.
- 548.033 Local prohibiting ordinance.
- 548.035 Permit fees.
- 548.037 Admissions not to exceed seating capacity.
- 548.041 Age of boxers.
- 548.042 Participation under fictitious name.
- 548.043 Weights and classes, limitations; gloves.
- 548.045 Medical advisory council; qualifications, compensation, powers and duties.
- 548.046 Physician's attendance at match; examinations; cancellation of match.
- 548.047 Duty of licensee to disclose condition of participant.
- 548.049 Medical, surgical, and hospital insurance; life insurance.
- 548.05 Control of contracts.
- 548.052 Payment of advances by promoter or foreign copromoter regulated.
- 548.053 Distribution of purses to participants; statements.
- 548.054 Withholding of purses; hearing; disposition of withheld purse forfeiture.
- 548.056 Prohibited financial interests in participant; penalties.
- 548.057 Attendance of referee and judges at match; scoring; seconds.
- 548.058 Sham or collusive contest prohibited.
- 548.06 Payments to state; exemptions.
- 548.061 Closed circuit television.
- 548.064 Destruction of ticket or ticket stub.
- 548.066 Ticket refunds.
- 548.069 Age of spectators.
- 548.07 Suspension of license or permit by commissioner; hearing.
- 548.071 Suspension or revocation of license or permit by commission.
- 548.073 Commission hearings.
- 548.074 Subpoenas.
- 548.075 Administrative fines.
- 548.077 State Athletic Commission Trust Fund; collection and disposition of moneys.
- 548.079 Misdemeanors.
- 548.001 Short title.**—Sections 548.001 through 548.079 shall be known and may be cited as the "Joe Lang Kershaw Act."
- History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.
- 548.002 Definitions.**—As used in this act, the term:
- (1) "Amateur" means a person who has never received nor competed for any purse or other article of value, either for the expenses of training or for participating in a match, other than a prize of \$50 in value or less.
- (2) "Boxing" means to compete with the fists.
- (3) "Commission" means the State Athletic Commission.
- (4) "Contest" means a boxing, kickboxing, or martial arts engagement in which the participants strive earnestly to win.
- (5) "Exhibition" means a boxing, kickboxing, or martial arts engagement in which the participants show or display their skill without necessarily striving to win.
- (6) "Foreign copromoter" means a promoter who has no place of business within this state.
- (7) "Judge" means a person who has a vote in determining the winner of any contest.
- (8) "Kickboxing" means to compete with the fists, feet, legs, or any combination thereof, and includes "punchkick" and other similar competitions.
- (9) "Manager" means any person who, directly or indirectly, controls or administers the boxing, kickboxing, or martial arts affairs of any participant.
- (10) "Match" means any contest or exhibition.
- (11) "Matchmaker" means a person who brings together professionals or arranges matches for professionals.
- (12) "Physician" means an individual licensed to practice medicine and surgery in this state.
- (13) "Professional" means a person who has received or competed for any purse or other article of a value greater than \$50, either for the expenses of training or for participating in any match.
- (14) "Promoter" means any person, and includes any officer, director, employee, or stockholder of a corporate promoter, who produces, arranges, or stages any match involving a professional.
- (15) "Purse" means the financial guarantee or other remuneration for which a professional is participating in a match and includes the professional's share of any payment received for radio broadcasting, television, and motion picture rights.
- History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 1, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.
- 548.003 State Athletic Commission.**—
- (1) The State Athletic Commission is created under the Department of Business and Professional Regula-

tion. The State Athletic Commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Upon the expiration of the term of a commissioner, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for a 4-year term.

(2) The State Athletic Commission, as created by subsection (1), shall administer the provisions of this chapter. The commission may adopt rules to implement this chapter.

(3) The commission shall maintain an office in Tallahassee and any necessary branch offices. At the first meeting of the commission after June 1 of each year, the commission shall select a chairman from among its membership. Three members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrence of at least three members is necessary for official commission action.

(4) Each member of the commission shall be compensated at the rate of \$25 for each day he attends a commission meeting and shall be reimbursed for other expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

**History.**—ss. 1, 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 1, ch. 85-21; s. 4, ch. 91-429; s. 205, ch. 94-218.

**548.004 Executive secretary; deputies; duties, compensation.—**

(1) The commission shall employ an executive secretary who shall receive a salary to be fixed by the commission with the approval of the Governor. The executive secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings of the commission; shall preserve all books, papers, and documents pertaining to the business of the commission; shall prepare any notices and papers required; and shall perform such other duties as the commission directs. The executive secretary may issue witness subpoenas and administer oaths.

(2) The commission may appoint any deputies that are necessary, whose compensation shall be the same as that of the commissioners. A deputy shall, on the order of the commission, represent the commission at a boxing match.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.006 Power of commission to control pugilistic contests and exhibitions.—**The commission has exclusive jurisdiction over every match held within the state which involves a professional. Matches shall be held only in accordance with this chapter.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 2, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.007 Applicability of act to amateur matches and certain other matches or events.—**Sections 548.001-548.079 do not apply to:

(1) Any match in which the participants are amateurs;

(2) Any match conducted or sponsored by a university, college, or secondary school if all the participants are students regularly enrolled in the institution;

(3) Any match conducted or sponsored by a nationally chartered veterans' organization registered with the state;

(4) Any match conducted or sponsored by any company or detachment of the Florida National Guard; or

(5) Any official Olympic event.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 3, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.008 Toughman and badman competition prohibited.—**

(1) No toughman or badman match, as described in this section, may be held in this state. Such competition includes any contest or exhibition where participants compete by using a combination of fighting skills. Such skills may include, but are not limited to, boxing, wrestling, kicking, or martial arts skills. Notwithstanding the above, this section shall not preclude kickboxing as regulated by this chapter.

(2) Any person participating in or promoting a toughman or badman match is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 4, 18, ch. 88-365; s. 135, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.011 Power of commission to issue, withhold, suspend, or revoke licenses and permits.—**The commission has exclusive jurisdiction to issue, withhold, suspend, or revoke any license or permit provided for in this chapter.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.012 Promoter's license.—**

(1) A promoter may not, directly or indirectly, promote any match involving a professional, unless the promoter has been issued a license therefor by the commission.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 136, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.013 Foreign copromoter license requirement.**

(1) No foreign copromoter may, directly or indirectly, participate in the promotion of, receive any remuneration from, or render any services in connection with any match involving a professional, unless the foreign copromoter has been issued a license therefor by the commission. No promoter may be associated with any foreign copromoter in promoting any match, unless the foreign copromoter has been issued a license.

(2) A foreign copromoter by accepting a license agrees to be subject to all the provisions of this chapter.

(3) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 137, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.014 Promoters and foreign copromoters; bonds or other security.—**

(1)(a) Before any license is issued or renewed to a foreign copromoter and before any permit is issued to a foreign copromoter, he must file a surety bond with the commission in such reasonable amount, but not less than \$3,000, as the commission determines.

(b) All bonds shall be upon forms approved by the Department of Legal Affairs and supplied by the commission.

(c) The sufficiency of any surety is subject to approval of the commission and the Department of Legal Affairs.

(d) The surety bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance by the promoter or foreign

copromoter of his obligations under this chapter and upon the fulfillment of his contracts with any other licensees under this chapter. However, the aggregate annual liability of the surety for all obligations and fees shall not exceed the amount of the bond.

(2) In lieu of a surety bond, the promoter or foreign copromoter may deposit with the commission cash, a certified check, or direct obligations of the United States or this state which are acceptable to the commission in an equivalent amount and subject to the same conditions as the bond. No such security may be returned to the promoter until 1 year after the date on which it was deposited with the commission unless a surety bond is substituted for it. If no claim against the deposit is outstanding, it shall be returned to the depositor 1 year from the date it was deposited.

(3) A filing fee of \$10 shall accompany each bond, cash, or security deposited under this section.

(4) Recovery may be made against any bond, cash, or other security in the same manner as penalties are recoverable at law.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

#### **548.017 Boxers, managers, and other persons required to have licenses.—**

(1) A professional participant, manager, trainer, second, timekeeper, referee, judge, announcer, physician, matchmaker, or booking agent or representative of a booking agent shall be licensed before directly or indirectly acting in such capacity in connection with any match involving a professional.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 5, ch. 88-365; s. 138, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

#### **548.021 Applications for licenses and permits.—**

An application for a license or a permit must:

(1) Be in writing on a form supplied by the commission.

(2) Be verified by the applicant.

(3) Be complete and have attached to the application any photographs and other exhibits required.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.022 Oral examinations.—**The commission may require any applicant or any officer, director, employee, or stockholder of a corporate applicant, before taking action on his application, to appear before the commission for an oral examination, under oath, as to his qualifications.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

#### **548.025 License fees.—**

(1) The commission shall set license fees as follows:

(a) Promoter, matchmaker—not to exceed \$500.

(b) Any other license—not to exceed \$100.

(2) The commission may issue licenses, without charge, to referees and physicians authorizing them to officiate only at matches involving amateurs.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.026 Duration of license.—**Each license shall expire on December 31 next following the date on which it was issued.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.028 Refusal to issue license.—**The commission shall not issue a license to:

(1) Any person who in any jurisdiction has been convicted of any act which would constitute a violation of this chapter or which would constitute any of the grounds set forth in this chapter for suspension or revocation of a license or against whom such charges are pending before any regulatory body; or

(2) Any person who has been named in an information or indictment for any act which would constitute a violation of this chapter or a ground for suspension or revocation of a license.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.032 Permit for program of matches.—**In addition to a promoter's license, a promoter must procure a permit for each program of matches before presenting that program. Each application for a permit shall specify the location and time of the program.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.033 Local prohibiting ordinance.—**A permit may not be issued for a match to be held within any political subdivision of this state that has adopted a local ordinance or resolution prohibiting such matches.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.035 Permit fees.—**The commission shall set permit fees based on seating capacity of the premises where the program is to be presented as follows:

(1) If the seating capacity is less than 2,000 persons, the fee shall not exceed \$50.

(2) If the seating capacity is 2,000 persons or more but does not exceed 5,000 persons, the fee shall not exceed \$100.

(3) If the seating capacity exceeds 5,000 persons, the fee shall not exceed \$250.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.037 Admissions not to exceed seating capacity.—**It is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, for any promoter to sell or cause to be sold more tickets of admission for any match than can be accommodated by the seating capacity of the premises where the match is to be held.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 139, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.041 Age of boxers.—**A person under 18 years of age may not participate in any match, except that an amateur who is 16 or 17 years of age may participate in matches with other amateurs who are 16 or 17 years of age under rules adopted by the commission.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.042 Participation under fictitious name.—**A person may not participate under a fictitious or assumed name in any match involving an amateur unless he has registered the name with the commission.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

#### **548.043 Weights and classes, limitations; gloves.**

(1) The commission shall establish classes of boxers based upon weights.

(2) No boxing match shall be held in which the difference in weight of the participants exceeds 10 pounds,

except matches in the light-heavyweight and heavy-weight classes and exhibitions held solely for training purposes.

(3) All participants in boxing matches shall wear boxing gloves weighing not less than 6 ounces each. Participants in all other types of matches shall wear such protective devices as the commission deems necessary.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 6, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.045 Medical advisory council; qualifications, compensation, powers and duties.—**

(1) A medical advisory council, which shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor, is created. Each member must be licensed to practice medicine in this state and must, at the time of his appointment, have practiced medicine at least 5 years.

(2) Initially, two of the members shall be appointed for terms of 1 year, one member shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, one member shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, and one member shall be appointed for a term of 4 years. The term of each member thereafter appointed, except to fill a vacancy, shall be 4 years.

(3) The Governor shall designate one of the members of the council as its chairman.

(4) Each member shall be paid per diem for each day that he performs his duties under this chapter and shall be reimbursed for his expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

(5) The council shall prepare, and submit to the commission, standards for the physical and mental examination of participants in matches. A standard shall not become effective until approved by the commission. The council shall recommend physicians who are qualified to make the examinations of participants in matches required by this chapter and shall perform any other duties as the commission may direct.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 7, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.046 Physician's attendance at match; examinations; cancellation of match.—**

(1) The commission shall assign to each match a physician who shall observe the physical condition of the participants and advise the commissioner or deputy in charge and the referee of the participants' conditions before and during the match. The commission shall establish a schedule of fees for the physician's services. The physician's fee shall be paid by the promoter of the match attended by the physician.

(2) In addition to any other required examination, each participant shall be examined by the attending physician within 12 hours before he enters the ring. If the physician determines that a participant is physically or mentally unfit to proceed, the physician shall notify any commissioner or the deputy in charge who shall immediately cancel the match. The examination shall conform to rules adopted by the commission based on the advice of the medical advisory council. The result of the examination shall be reported in a writing signed by the physician and filed with the commission within 72 hours after the match.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 98, ch. 85-81; s. 8, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.047 Duty of licensee to disclose condition of participant.—**A licensee shall disclose all information in

his possession concerning any mental or physical disability, injury, illness, or incapacity of a participant in a match, immediately after learning thereof, to the commission, the deputy in charge, the attending physician, or the referee.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 9, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.049 Medical, surgical, and hospital insurance; life insurance.—**

(1) The commission shall, by rule, require participants to be covered by not less than \$2,500 of insurance for medical, surgical, and hospital care required as a result of injuries sustained while engaged in matches. The insured shall be the beneficiary of such policies.

(2) The commission may also require participants to be covered by not less than \$5,000 of life insurance covering deaths caused by injuries received while engaged in matches.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 99, ch. 85-81; s. 10, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.05 Control of contracts.—**

(1) The commission shall adopt rules governing the form and content of contracts between promoters, foreign copromoters, and professionals. All such contracts shall be in writing.

(2) Each contract between a manager and a professional shall contain provisions governing its duration, division of the professional's purses, and any minimum sum guaranteed annually to the professional by the manager. Each contract shall provide that it is automatically terminated if the license of either party is revoked by the commission or if the manager fails to renew his license within 30 days after its expiration date. If the license of either party is suspended, the contract is not binding upon the other party during the period of suspension.

(3) The commission may require that each contract contain language authorizing the State Athletic Commission to withhold any or all of any manager's share of a purse in the event of a contractual dispute as to entitlement to any portion of a purse. The commission may establish rules governing the manner of resolution of such dispute. In addition, if the commission deems it appropriate, the commission is hereby authorized to implead interested parties over any disputed funds into the appropriate circuit court for resolution of the dispute prior to release of all or any part of the funds.

(4) Each contract subject to this section shall contain the following clause: "This agreement is subject to the provisions of chapter 548, Florida Statutes, and to the rules of the State Athletic Commission and to any future amendments of either."

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 11, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.052 Payment of advances by promoter or foreign copromoter regulated.—**A promoter or foreign copromoter may not pay, lend, or give a contestant an advance against his purse before a contest, except with the prior written permission of a commissioner; and, if permitted, such advance may be made only for expenses for transportation and maintenance in preparation for a contest.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.053 Distribution of purses to participants; statements.—**

(1) Unless otherwise directed by a representative of the commission, all purses shall be distributed by the promoter no later than 24 hours after the match. A written statement showing the distribution of the purse, including each item of receipt and each expenditure or deduction, shall be furnished to the participant and his manager, together with the participant's share of the purse. The promoter shall file a copy of the statement, certified by him to be correct, with receipted vouchers for all expenditures and deductions, with the commission no later than 72 hours after the match.

(2) Unless otherwise directed by a representative of the commission, a manager shall furnish to the participant he manages a statement of distribution, together with the participant's share of the purse, no later than 24 hours after the manager receives the purse and statement from the promoter. The manager shall file a copy of the statement, certified by him to be correct, with receipted vouchers for all expenditures and deductions, with the commission no later than 72 hours after he receives the distribution from the promoter.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 12, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.054 Withholding of purses; hearing; disposition of withheld purse forfeiture.—**

(1) A member of the commission, the deputy in charge, or the referee may order a promoter to withhold any purse or other funds payable to a participant, or to withhold the share of any manager, if it appears that:

(a) The participant is not competing honestly, or is intentionally not competing to the best of his ability and skill, in a match represented to be a contest; or

(b) The participant, his manager, or any of his seconds has violated this chapter.

(2) Any purse so withheld shall be delivered by the promoter to the commission upon demand. Within 10 days after the match, the person from whom the sum was withheld may apply in writing to the commission for a hearing. Upon receipt of the application, the commission shall fix a date for a hearing. Within 10 days after the hearing or after 10 days following the match, if no application for a hearing is filed, the commission shall meet and determine the disposition to be made of the withheld purse. If the commission finds the charges sufficient, it may declare all or any part of the funds forfeited. If the commission finds the charges not sufficient upon which to base a withholding order, it shall immediately distribute the withheld funds to the persons entitled thereto.

(3) If a contestant's purse is forfeited, the commission may include any payments or advances as part of the forfeiture, and if the contestant does not forward such amount to the commission, such payments and advances may be recovered in the same manner as a debt due the state.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 13, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.056 Prohibited financial interests in participant; penalties.—**

(1) A member of the commission; an employee of the commission; a referee, judge, or promoter licensed by the commission; or an attending physician may not

have any direct or indirect financial or pecuniary interest in any participant.

(2)(a) A manager, trainer, or second of any participant shall not have any direct or indirect financial or pecuniary interest in the opponent in any contest in which his own participant participates.

(b) A participant shall not have any direct or indirect financial or pecuniary interest in his opponent in any contest.

(3) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 14, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.057 Attendance of referee and judges at match; scoring; seconds.—**

(1) At each boxing match involving a professional, except at an exhibition held solely for training purposes, at the expense of the promoter, a referee designated by the commission shall direct and control the match.

(2) At each boxing contest, at the expense of the promoters, three judges shall attend and shall render their individual decisions in writing on scorecards supplied by the commission at the end of each contest which continues for the scheduled number of rounds. Each judge shall have one vote, and a majority of the votes cast shall determine the winner.

(3) The commission shall prescribe the methods of scoring.

(4) Before the start of any boxing match, the referee shall obtain the name of each boxer's chief second. The chief second shall be responsible for the conduct of his assistants during the match.

(5) For matches other than boxing, the commission shall establish such standards and requirements for referees as are deemed necessary.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 2, ch. 85-21; s. 15, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.058 Sham or collusive contest prohibited.—**

(1) No person shall knowingly conduct, participate in, or be connected with a match which is represented to be a contest if one or both of the participants does not use his best efforts and skill or does not strive earnestly to win; if the result thereof has been prearranged; or if either participant does not use, or is prevented from using, his best efforts and skill as a result of coercion, bribery, duress, threats, reward or promise thereof, physical incapacity or disability, suggestion or agreement, or any other improper or unlawful means.

(2) If a licensee has knowledge of an act prohibited by subsection (1), he shall immediately report such knowledge to the commission. The report shall be in writing or, if oral, shall be immediately reduced to writing and shall contain all of licensee's reasons for the conclusions set forth in his report.

(3) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 140, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.06 Payments to state; exemptions.—**

(1) A promoter holding a match shall, within 72 hours after the match, file with the commission a written report which includes the number of tickets sold, the amount

of gross receipts, and any other facts the commission may require. For the purposes of this chapter, total gross receipts include:

(a) The gross price charged for the sale or lease of broadcasting, television, and motion picture rights without any deductions for commissions, brokerage fees, distribution fees, advertising, or other expenses or charges;

(b) The portion of the receipts from the sale of souvenirs, programs, and other concessions received by the promoter; and

(c) The face value of all tickets sold and complimentary tickets issued.

(2) The written report shall be accompanied by a tax payment in the amount of 5 percent of the total gross receipts exclusive of any federal taxes, except that the tax payment derived from the gross price charged for the sale or lease of broadcasting, television, and motion picture rights shall not exceed \$40,000 for any single event.

(3)(a) Any promoter who willfully makes a false and fraudulent report under this section is guilty of perjury and, upon conviction, is subject to punishment as provided by law. Such penalty shall be in addition to any other penalties imposed by this chapter.

(b) Any promoter who willfully fails, neglects, or refuses to make a report or to pay the taxes as prescribed or who refuses to allow the commission to examine the books, papers, and records of any promotion is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 3, ch. 85-21; s. 141, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.061 Closed circuit television.**—Each person or club that holds or shows any boxing or sparring matches on a closed circuit telecast viewed within this state, whether originating within this state or another state, shall file a written report, under oath, which states the exact number of tickets sold for the showing, the amount of gross receipts, and any other information the commission requires and shall, within 72 hours after the telecast, pay a tax of 5 percent of its total gross receipts from the sale of tickets.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.064 Destruction of ticket or ticket stub.**—It is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, for any promoter or person associated with or employed by any promoter to destroy any ticket to a match or any ticket stub, whether sold or unsold, within 6 months after the date of the match, except upon prior written authorization of the commission.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 142, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.066 Ticket refunds.**—

(1) Upon the postponement, substitution of either participant, or cancellation of the main event or the entire program of matches, the promoter shall refund the full purchase price of a ticket to each person presenting a ticket for a refund within 30 days after the scheduled date of the event. Within 10 days after the expiration of the 30-day period, the promoter shall pay all unclaimed ticket receipts to the commission. The

commission shall hold the funds for 1 year and make refunds during such time to any person presenting a ticket for a refund. Thereafter, the commission shall pay all remaining moneys from the ticket sale to the State Treasurer for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

(2) For failure to comply with this section, the commission may declare a promoter's or foreign copromoter's bond or other security forfeited, suspend or revoke the license of a promoter or foreign copromoter, and impose any other penalty provided.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.069 Age of spectators.**—A person under 16 years of age may not attend a match unless such person is accompanied by an adult or unless the exhibition is of amateur status.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.07 Suspension of license or permit by commissioner; hearing.**—Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120, any member of the commission may, upon his own motion or upon the verified written complaint of any person charging a licensee or permittee with violating this chapter, suspend any license or permit until final determination by the commission if such action is necessary to protect the public welfare and the best interests of the sport. The commission shall hold a hearing within 10 days after the date on which the license or permit is suspended.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 16, ch. 88-365; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.071 Suspension or revocation of license or permit by commission.**—The commission may suspend or revoke a license or permit if the commission finds that the licensee or permittee:

(1) Is guilty of violating this chapter or the rules of the commission.

(2) Has committed fraud or deceit in securing any license or permit.

(3) Has been convicted of, has pleaded guilty to, has entered a plea of nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude in any jurisdiction within 10 years preceding the suspension or revocation.

(4) Is guilty of unprofessional or unethical conduct.

(5) Has made a misstatement of a material fact, fraudulently concealed a material fact, or induced or aided another person in misstating or concealing any material fact in any application or other proceeding under this chapter.

(6) Has failed to account for or pay over moneys belonging to others which have come into his possession in connection with a match.

(7) Has failed to furnish to the proper party a copy of any contract or statement required by this chapter or has breached such a contract.

(8) Has paid or agreed to pay any money or article of value to any licensee or permittee for soliciting or for business secured or for rendering any service or the doing of any of the acts forbidden by this chapter and the rules adopted hereunder.

(9) Has loaned his license or permit to another person or has borrowed or used the license or permit of another.

(10) Has employed a person who does not hold a license or permit as required by law.

(11) Has failed to maintain in force the bond required by this chapter or has failed to deposit with the commission the required cash, check, or securities.

(12) Has been disciplined by the State Athletic Commission or similar agency or body of any jurisdiction.

(13) Has failed to pay a fine imposed under this chapter.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.073 Commission hearings.**—Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 120, any member of the commission may conduct a hearing. Before any adjudication is rendered, a majority of the members of the commission shall examine the record and approve the adjudication and order.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.074 Subpoenas.**—In addition to the powers of subpoena in chapter 120, each member of the commission may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of, or the production of books and papers by, any person whom the commission believes to have information or documents of importance to any commission investigation.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.075 Administrative fines.**—The commission may impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for any violation of this chapter in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment provided for such violation.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.077 State Athletic Commission Trust Fund; collection and disposition of moneys.**—There is created a State Athletic Commission Trust Fund. All fees, fines, forfeitures, and other moneys collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be paid by the commission to the State Treasurer who, after the expenses of the commission are paid, shall deposit them in the trust fund to be used for the administration and operation of the commission and to enforce the laws and rules under its jurisdiction. In the event the balance in the trust fund exceeds \$250,000, any excess of that amount shall be deposited in the General Revenue Fund.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 1, ch. 88-132; s. 4, ch. 91-429.

**548.079 Misdemeanors.**—Unless otherwise specified, any person convicted of any offense set forth in this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 84-246; s. 143, ch. 91-224; s. 4, ch. 91-429.