



Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Combative Sports now back on tap in Texas

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation will start accepting applications for combative sports events in the state in preparation for a phased-in reopening with a limited number of events. Events will be able to include spectators, with a cap of 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the venue.

Event promoters must follow TDLR COVID-19 protocols that were developed with input from the TDLR Combative Sports Advisory Board’s Medical, Health, and Safety Workgroup; ringside physicians; and other medical professionals. TDLR’s protocols include COVID-19 testing for all athletes, seconds and event support staff.

In addition, promoters must submit their own operational plan to TDLR and to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The operational plan must detail the promoter’s plans for daily COVID-19 screenings, providing protective equipment and staffing, as well as cleaning and disinfecting the event venue and athlete delegation housing.

When deciding whether to allow an event to proceed, TDLR will monitor factors including positive test rates and hospitalization rates in the area where the event is scheduled. If there’s a localized spike in cases, the agency may cancel an event any time up to the beginning of the bouts.

TDLR has received eight requests for events so far for October, November and December. TDLR will evaluate each application and no event should be considered “official” until it is listed on the TDLR [Combative Sports web page](#). Promoters should [email](#) the Combative Sports program with any questions.

Combative sports events in Texas including professional boxing, mixed martial arts, kick boxing and Muay Thai, as well as amateur mixed martial arts, Muay Thai and kickboxing, have been suspended since the COVID-19 shutdowns in March. TDLR had initially approved events in June, but a spike in cases across the state caused the agency to cancel those as well.

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TDLR Customer Service | (512) 463-6599 | Toll-Free (in Texas) | (800) 803-9202 | Relay Texas-TDD: (800) 735-2989

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About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 39 business and occupational licensing programs with more than 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR's [website](#) for more information and resources. You can search the [TDLR licensee database](#), and also find [past violations](#) in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

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