

Why do amateur boxers wear headgear?



USA BOXING RULES MAKE HEADGEAR USE MANDATORY

USA Boxing Rulebook —

"Headgear is defined as USA Boxing/AIBA approved equipment that is worn on the head to protect it." (Nov. 2017, pg.5)



RESEARCHERS SUPPORT HEADGEAR USE



Dickinson and Rempel (2016) in Sports Medicine Open —

"The studies that do exist on headgear use in amateur boxing demonstrate a protective benefit."



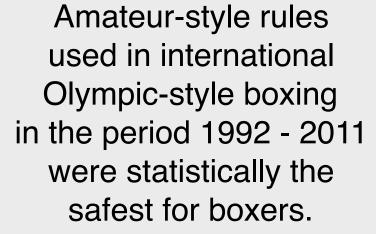
McIntosh and Patton (2015) in British Journal of Sports Medicine —

"The data support the opinion that current AIBA headguards can play an important role in reducing the risk of concussion and superficial injury in boxing competition and training."



Bianco, Loosemore, et. al. (2012) in British Journal of Sports Medicine —

"In the last 59 years, improvements in health-challenging verdicts recorded have been achieved by changes in the rules of boxing. It is of concern that the recent rule changes [toward professional rules] will be a backward step in athletes' health safety."





McCrory, Falvey, et. al. (2012) in British Journal of Sports Medicine —

"It is inevitable that the removal of headgear goes with the more aggressive style of boxing as seen in professional fighting. This in turn will mean more injuries to participants that seem to go against the Olympic ideal of amateurs striving for athletic greatness rather than the rewards of the prize ring."



Bartsch, Benzel, et. al. (2012) in British Journal of Neurosurgery —

"The boxing glove-boxing headgear condition had the most meaningful reduction in most of the parameters quantified and should provide the best overall head and neck injury protection for competitors."



EXPERTS IN RINGSIDE MEDICINE SUPPORT HEADGEAR USE

ROBERT CANTU, M.D.

EDWARD BENZEL, M.D.

"[Headgear] does protect very significantly against facial cuts, especially around the eye. So for that reason alone, I think it's worth being worn at the amateur level."

"These results show gloves and headgear can offer

some meaningful protection, proving that fighters —

especially young fighters — should wear headgear..."



ASSOCIATION OF RINGSIDE PHYSICIANS

"The ARP supports the continued use of headgear in amateur boxing, as well as efforts to improve the effectiveness of the headgear."



BARRY JORDAN, M.D.

"Headgear may help with chronic brain injury.

That's why I feel the headgear should not be removed."



THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES FOR BOXING WITHOUT HEADGEAR



Cut rates dramatically increase.



Stoppage & concussion rates increase.



Increase in number of boxers unfit to continue in tournament bouts.



Progress of bout stopped more often to manage injuries.



Special rules required to accommodate increased injuries.