

# **Athletic Commission**

## **5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2026-2030**

**MISSISSIPPI ATHLETIC COMMISSION  
FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR  
2026-2030**

1. Comprehensive Mission Statement:

The mission of the Athletic Commission is to regulate and supervise professional boxing, sparring, and wrestling matches or exhibitions within the State of Mississippi. The Commission issues licenses to individuals participating in professional fighting events and collects a 6% gate fee on all regulated events. Commissioners or Deputy Commissioners are present at events to ensure that the Federal and State laws are properly followed, and Commission rules are followed. Safety and fighter welfare is our top mission as a Commission.

2. Agency Philosophy:

The Athletic Commission is committed to continued safety enforcement and improving upon the safety standards of the combative sport games. The philosophy of the Commission is to protect the fighter safety and the integrity of the game in which they participate.

3. Relevant Statewide Goals and Benchmarks:

Goal 1:

Develop a transparent online payment system for all license and fees and to eliminate cash payments.

Benchmark 1:

This goal has been completed for licensing. It is our objective to move small payment gate fees this fiscal year.

Goal 2:

Enter new markets.

Benchmark 2:

- 1) The Commission is dedicated to building a relationship the Choctaw Nation to once again work with them with their events.
- 2) Work with businesses in central Mississippi to sponsor world class televised boxing events in the Jackson metro area.

Goal 3:

Educate Commission members on improved safety and medical standards in combat sports.

Benchmark 3:

- 1) Send Commission officials to various training seminars.
- 2) Have in State annual referee and judge training.
- 3) Will start in-state training in the current year.

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### 4. Overview of the Agency 5-year Strategic Plan:

The Athletic Commission has 3 areas of priority for the next five years. The Commission wants to be completely transparent on all license and fees received by the Commission, to hold a relevant number of events that maximize tax dollars, and to continuously update our safety and medical practices.

Over the last 3 years most of our licensing has been done through Mississippi Interactive using an online license process. This procedure has cut down on workers handling cash by 90% and has streamlined paperwork. It is our goal to be at 99% within 1 year.

The Commission has seen various circumstances affect the industry in which we regulate. They include both over regulation and under regulation, natural disasters, man made disasters, and economic downturns. Some of these have had a large financial impact on our funding. It is our objective never to spend all that we are allotted to spend, but to build up our fund because these downturns happen and must be prepared for them. At all times we are innovative in what we can do to help bring in a productive event to Mississippi.

The Commission will continue improving on safety standards through training seminars and training our safety officials. This is a yearly process we improve upon.

### 5. External/Internal Assessments:

- 1) Economic conditions affect the Commissions special fund budget since we generate our own funds.
- 2) Funding for event by foreign cities and casinos can negatively affect us in attracting big events.
- 3) Properly sized venues for certain events effect the Commission in obtaining events. The State has no medium and extra large venues.
- 4) Natural and man-made disasters may affect our volume. Both Hurricane Katrina and the Gulf oil spill drastically hurt income.
- 5) The volume of events changes yearly. The more events we regulate the more we must spend. Tightly capped budgets may cause the Commission to force business to go to another State.

### 5. (A) Agency Internal Management System Utilized to Evaluate its Performance:

- 1) Management policies are in place to guarantee that all regulations are followed.
- 2) All of our operational procedures and tracking procedure are uniform with

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other State commissions through procedures with the Association of Boxing Commissioners.

3) The organization structure for the Commission includes a Board Chairman and 2 associate Commission members, a part time secretary, and various inspectors to work at events.

### 6. Agency Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Measures for FY 2026 through FY 2030

#### Agency Goal:

Effective and efficiently regulate combat sports and collect the appropriate fees charged by the Commission. It is the Commission's duty and goal by statute to make and enforce rules and regulations pertaining to combative sports. (Miss. Code Ann 75-75-105)

#### Objective 1:

Effectively enforce regulations of the commission.

#### Strategy 1:

With the use of electronics, the Commission employees are able to field check all background information to ensure all licensee meet Commission requirements.

#### Objective 2:

Electronically collect all money.

#### Strategy 2:

Fully implement all collections electronically through our online payment system. It will be measured by the reduction in cash and check transactions.

#### Objective 3:

Continually upgrade health, safety, and training.

#### Strategy 3:

Begin a more active role in sending all officials to certified training programs. This will be measured by setting deadlines for all officials to receive certain levels of training.

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#### Objective 4:

Improve innovative ways to bring high quality events to Mississippi to increase funding.

#### Strategy 4:

It may be necessary for the Commission to take on an active role in promoting events to increase funding.