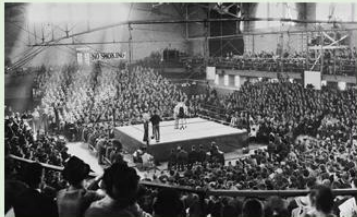
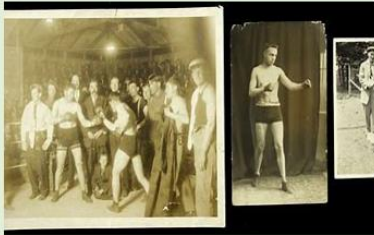
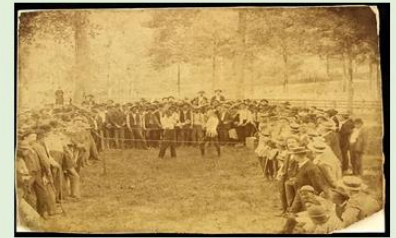


PRO BOXING UNIVERSE DICE GAME



THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN ERA 1920-1945



ERA IV. The Birth Of The Modern Era (1920-1945)

On March 24, 1920, a boxing reform bill sponsored by Sen. James J. Walker passed the New York State Senate. The bill ultimately became law and its provisions came to be adopted by law-makers in other states, bringing some uniformity to the most anarchic of popular sports, Boxing.

Prizefighting was an outlaw sport throughout much of the world since 1896. In the next 4 years there were many positive changes in the sport. **The Horton Law** which allowed bouts up to 25 rounds with five-ounce gloves in buildings owned or leased by a chartered athletic club.

The Lewis Law, which supplanted the Horton Law, reduced the maximum number of rounds from 25 to 10 and stipulated that no decision would be rendered. The Lewis Law also restricted patronage to members of the athletic club sponsoring the event.

The Frawley Law of 1911 re-opened the fights to the general public but otherwise left the provisions of the Lewis Law pretty much intact. The most important fight in New York during the Frawley Law days was Jess Willard's defense of his world heavyweight title against Frank Moran at Madison Square Garden in 1916. The fight went the distance, the full 10 rounds, and Willard had the best of it although you wouldn't know that from the official decision as there was none.

During the last years of the nineteen-teens, several boxing reform bills were presented to the New York legislature. In fact, the Walker Bill was one of four that was taken under consideration. When it finally came to pass, the no-decision rule had been struck down by a 1919 amendment to the Frawley Law that gave the referee the authority to designate the winner.

A key feature of the Walker Law was that everyone involved in a boxing match — from the lowliest spit-bucket carrier to the promoter — had to be licensed. This included managers, matchmakers, referees, judges, ring doctors, even the ring announcer. The licensees were accountable to the boxing commission, a panel appointed by the governor. The commission had the power to approve matches, assign the officials, and establish and collect fees.

The Walker Law approved matches up to 15 rounds and allowed official decisions. Two judges would determine the winner and if they disagreed, the referee would act as the tiebreaker.

Previous laws allowed prizefighting under the guise of sparring exhibitions. The Walker Law made no distinction, and this took the police out of the equation. Historically, it was the Sheriff's responsibility to determine if a bout should be stopped because it had become too one-sided; too brutal. And if, pray tell, one of the contestants died because of blows received, his opponent and his opponent's chief second and perhaps others would be arrested and charged with manslaughter.

Under the Walker Law, the decision of whether to stop a match rested with the referee or the ring physician or the highest-ranking boxing official at ringside. A boxer could now fight full bore without worrying that he could be charged with a crime.

After passing the Senate, the Walker Law passed the Assembly by a margin of 91-46. It was signed into law by Gov. Al Smith on May 24, 1920 and took effect on Sept. 1. This ignited a great flurry of boxing in the Empire State. By March of 1924, the state had licensed 6,123 boxers. The Walker Law became the template that lawmakers in other jurisdictions followed when they introduced their own boxing bills.

In this game, the main changes are:

- Boxing is now legal, thus the Police will not play a part in any bouts.
- Being legal, Boxing will now have more attendance than the last Era.
- Fights can only have a maximum of 15 Rounds.
- Judges have been added to help choose the winners of the bouts
- The Referee and Ring Doctor can stop a fight if they feel the fighter is taking too much punishment.