



BOXER CLUB DE PORTUAL

Rua Paradelas da Seara, 668 – Seara

4990-755 Ponte de Lima

Fax: 258 023 519

STATEMENT Atibox 2026

N/Ref.ª 032025ATIBOX

Seara, July 16, 2025

An association run without rules!

Yes, we're talking about Atibox and to all Atibox members.

An association run by those who flout regulations at their whim!

An association run without respect for its member clubs!

With this introduction, we would like to inform everyone it may concern, that the Boxer Club de Portugal, on its own initiative, will not organize Atibox in 2026, as previously approved by you, the member countries.

We demand respect!

We will not hold it! because the Atibox Board of Directors does not give us the conditions or the confidence to make it a reality.

As was our duty, in April 2025, after thoroughly reviewing all existing and applicable regulations, we outlined and submitted our complete program for this major event, Atibox 2026.

The Atibox Board of Directors has changed, and we've found that, with this newly elected administration, the rules are constantly changing, whether to suit their needs or to meet their own interests.

The General Assembly's sovereignty to approve changes to the regulations is being questioned. Members' right to vote is now being replaced by the authoritarian management of a Board of Directors that governs according to its own interests! They trample over regulations and adulterate them at will, without considering who they ultimately represent or respecting their role as representatives of the members' will, as enshrined in the approved regulations.

In light of the financial crisis affecting the world as a whole, we requested permission to hold the Atibox in just one day, maintaining the general assembly on Friday as usual, proposing our national championship for Saturday and the Atibox on Sunday. Given the number of participants in recent Atiboxes and our projected number of dogs, we saw no reason to hold the show over two days. Our idea was to hold the show in just one day, convinced that with four or more judges, it would be possible to hold a great celebration of the breed, reducing participation costs for exhibitors and enabling a better balanced financial management of the event. We presented our best arguments in the interests of the event, the exhibitors, and the breed. We did so in detail although it might not make much sense to go into such detail here, but we can clarify it for anyone upon request.

We were denied our request, arguing that the regulations required the event to be held over two days, and therefore, we should comply accordingly.

Despite presenting strong arguments, we understood the position and accepted the decision without hesitation and respectfully, as it is regulated.

However, the Atibox Board also informed us that on our list of proposed judges, there was one, Mr. Pedro Bispo, who they could not accept and whom we should replace, being the other proposed judges approved.

The reason given was, in the Atibox Board's opinion, that Mr. Pedro Bispo judged Atibox too frequently.

To better understand this point, we would like to share with you the list of judges we proposed;



BOXER CLUB DE PORTUAL

Rua Paradela da Seara, 668 – Seara

4990-755 Ponte de Lima

Fax: 258 023 519

Bispo, Pedro – Portugal – Brindle Males
Bogucka, Anna – Poland – Fawn Females
Rodriguez, Juan Manuel – Spain – Brindle Females
Djevi, Danijel Boros – Serbia – Fawn Males

Based on the approved regulations, we challenged this position, arguing that the regulations in no way discriminated against this situation and that we had studied them in depth, ensuring that the proposed list of judges fully complies with the approved regulations.

We based our argument on the Regulations and, in particular, on point 7, which we took from the Atibox website. Here is a transcription of part of our argument:

“ ...

However, we found nowhere in the Atibox Regulations any foundation for what you argue to justify the refusal of the proposed judge Pedro Bispo.

According to the Regulations, the reasons for a refusal would be;

- *If we exceeded the 25% of the proposed judges from our country. This doesn't happen!*
- *If the proposed judge wasn't on the list of qualified judges to judge at the Atibox Show. That doesn't happen either!*
- *If the sex, race, and classes to be judged weren't specified. That doesn't happen!*
- *If he had judged classes, race, and sex in the six months preceding the Atibox show. We believe this won't happen!*

Again, according to the Regulations, the judge committee is only responsible for verifying if the judge is qualified to judge Atibox. Which he is! The approved Regulations simply do not mention any attendance criteria! Qualified to judge means meeting the requirements listed in the same Regulations. This is very clear in point 7 of the Regulations!

Anything else is opinion based and being creative to say the least. It should be clear that it is not up to the judge committee or any other entity to determine attendance refusal based on any reason either than those described on the Regulations.

We have met all the required points! Your arguments are clearly not regulated, so in fact, you have no right to reject any of the proposed judges on our list! We regret to say that we can't accept your refusal just because... It's our right under the Regulations that you should uphold in all circumstances!

If you believe that the Regulations should change in the future, you should submit a proposal for discussion and approval at the General Assembly.

...”

The content of the regulations clearly stated the organizers' authority to select judges according to the criteria set forth in the aforementioned regulations, particularly point 7, which we also transcribe from the original version we downloaded from the website in April, for better understanding:

7. *The ATIBOX judges committee will verify that the judges are qualified; the Atibox general secretary will communicate in writing their decision to the organizing country within 2 weeks of receiving the nominated judges.*

(Note that there is no reference to frequency criteria!)

We are certain that all proposed judges comply with these regulations! At no point did the Atibox Board contradict what we stated which served as our argument; what they demanded was not included in the regulations. They simply informed us that they do not accept Mr. Pedro Bispo to judge because he judges too frequently or possibly for other reasons unknown to us which the Board will be responsible for explaining.



BOXER CLUB DE PORTUAL

Rua Paradelas da Seara, 668 – Seara

4990-755 Ponte de Lima

Fax: 258 023 519

It is curious that a few days ago, alerted by third parties, we found on the Atibox website (we made a copy) information about a change to the Regulations dated June 2025...

It is curious that this change has all previous changes in red except for the recent change to the text of point 7, which someone decided to change without consulting the Atibox members through the General Assembly, as we suggested.

Really curious is that it was only on July 12th, in response to our objection and suggestion, that the current Board of Directors referred, for the first time, to the new 5-year rule they had the audacity to introduce into the regulations now published on the website.

This Atibox Board of Directors, alerted by our suggestion to submit a proposed amendment to said regulations for approval at the General Assembly, decided, quite simply, to change them on the website, attempting to leave everyone ignorant and blatantly violating all the principles by which an institution like Atibox should be governed.

We consider the act of covertly changing regulations, without criteria or due consultation with the General Assembly, to be extremely serious, and responsibility for these changes must be rigorously investigated and explained to the members.

We have lost all confidence in this Board of Directors, which displays behavior that we believe is truly reprehensible and must have consequences.

In response to our well-founded arguments, they say they were pleased with our decision to hold Atibox over two days, as has been tradition, but they insist on not allowing one of the proposed judges (Mr. Pedro Bispo) to be accepted because he judges Atibox too frequently.

The Atibox Board of Directors, and the Atibox Judging Committee, which appears to have not yet been established, based on what's announced on the website, have no right to go beyond what the Atibox member clubs have published in their regulations!

Their Judge Committee? Board of Directors? is only responsible for verifying whether the judge is on the list of Atibox judges and meets the mandatory requirements; they cannot refuse without a reason based on the approved regulations, not on those that are created to suit certain minds.

But they go further! They have the nerve to suggest another judge, indicating his name and stating that if we chose him, they would approve everything. Where have we seen this? It's 2025, power abuse is a crime!

But they go even further!

Once again, violating regulations and the General Assembly's right to decide on future Atiboxes, they entice the Boxer Club de Portugal with the promise of approval for Atibox organization in 2030, if we decide not to move forward with the 2026 event!

In light of all these violations and having been warned by third parties, we have verified that they have changed the wording of the regulations on the website, without the knowledge of their members, and without legitimacy for such a decision!

We cannot allow this to happen and remain silent!

We cannot allow a Board of Directors, without the knowledge of its members, to change the regulations to satisfy the whims, persecution, and personal vendettas towards its members or judges.

Changes to the regulations must be approved by the members at a General Assembly.

The shamelessness is so great that they do not even realize that the irregular criteria they intend to impose in a hurry to reject Judge Pedro Bispo, if applied to the other judges previously approved by this same Board, motivates the rejection of 3 of the 4 proposed judges; Lets evaluate, the proposed judges under their new irregular criteria;

Bishop Pedro, with this irregular amendment, cannot be accepted!

Rodriguez, Juan Manuel, with this irregular change, cannot be accepted!

Bogucka, Anna, with this irregular change, cannot be accepted!

Djevi, Danijel Boros, the only one that falls out of the criteria argued by the Board.



BOXER CLUB DE PORTUAL

Rua Paradelas da Seara, 668 – Seara

4990-755 Ponte de Lima

Fax: 258 023 519

But what's this?!

The rules must be clear at the beginning of the "game"; they cannot be changed as desired during the "games"!

In light of these procedures, we were forced to reinforce our considered decision not to organize any individual or joint events, whether the Atibox Show or the Atibox IGP, in 2026 and while this Board remains in office.

Effective today, and given the continuity of this Atibox Board, the Boxer Club de Portugal, after consulting its members at a General Assembly, will consider leaving an institution that has already brought great honor to the breed and its clubs: Atibox, which unfortunately has come to be managed by a group of unclassified individuals.

Unclassified and unqualified!

The statutes are clear! If they haven't changed them in the meantime...

A member of the presidium is an Italian national, residing in Italy. The statutes do not allow you to be part of the presidium.

Two members of the presidium do not speak English and require a translator at meetings; the statutes do not allow it!

Our genuine attempts to reach an agreement for the good of the breed have been thwarted by the attitudes and procedures we have described to you, with which we cannot agree.

With such a short term in office, the current Atibox Board has already managed to completely disregard the regulations, cause internal dismissals resulting in the recent dismissal of the General Secretary and lead the Board of the Boxer Club de Portugal to a total loss of confidence in this Atibox Board.

Therefore, we would welcome their resignation en masse, knowing that the continuity of the current Atibox Board will be in the members hands!

Carlos Filipe Cruz

The President of the Board of Directors of the Boxer Club de Portugal,