

= CMLL World Middleweight Championship =

The CMLL World Middleweight Championship (Spanish : Campeonato Mundial peso Medio de CMLL) is a professional wrestling world championship promoted by the Mexican wrestling promotion Consejo Mundial de Lucha Libre (CMLL) . While lighter weight classes are regularly ignored in wrestling promotions in the United States , with most emphasis placed on " heavyweights " , more emphasis is placed on the lighter classes in Mexican companies . The official definition of the Middleweight division in Mexico is a person between 82 kg (181 lb) and 87 kg (192 lb) , but the weight limits are not strictly adhered to in recent years . As it is a professional wrestling championship , it is not won or lost competitively but instead , by the decision of the bookers of a wrestling promotion . The title is awarded to a wrestler after he " wins " a match to maintain the illusion that professional wrestling is a competitive sport .

The current CMLL World Middleweight Champion is Dragón Rojo Jr . , having held the title since November 11 , 2011 , which make him the longest reigning champion in the history of the championship . Since its creation in 1991 , there have been 17 individual championship reigns shared between 12 wrestlers . El Dandy is the only wrestler to hold the championship three times and Apolo Dantés had the shortest reign of any champion , 77 days .

= = History = =

The middleweight division was one of the first weight divisions in Mexican Lucha libre to have a specific championship as the Mexican National Middleweight Championship was created in 1933 . When the Mexican Professional wrestling promotion Empresa Mexicana de Lucha Libre (" Mexican Wrestling Enterprise " ; EMLL) was founded in September 1933 they became one of several Mexican promotions to promote the championship . EMLL later created the " World Middleweight Championship to represent the highest level prize of the middleweight division , higher than the Mexican National Middleweight Championship . In 1952 EMLL joined the National Wrestling Alliance , which mean the title was renamed the NWA World Middleweight Championship .

In the late 1980s EMLL left the National Wrestling Alliance (NWA) to avoid the politics of the NWA and by 1991 they changed their name to Consejo Mundial de Lucha Libre (" World Wrestling Council " ; CMLL) to distance themselves from the NWA . While they left the NWA the promotion kept using the NWA World Middleweight Championship as it had originated in EMLL . Following their name change CMLL decided to create a series of CMLL @-@ branded world championships , including adding the CMLL World Middleweight Championship , the third middleweight championship in the promotion . CMLL held a one @-@ night , eight @-@ man tournament to determine the first middleweight champion on December 18 , 1991 . The tournament final saw Blue Panther defeat El Satánico to become the first CMLL World Middleweight Champion .

In June 1992 Blue Panther was one of may CMLL wrestlers that left the company to join the newly formed Asistencia Asesoría y Administración (AAA) , leaving the CMLL World Middleweight Championship vacant . CMLL held a 16 @-@ man battle royal match to reduce the field to two finalists . El Dandy and Negro Casas survived the match and a week later El Dandy defeated Casas to become the second CMLL World Middleweight Champion . The championship has not been vacated since then .

The exodus from CMLL to AAA also meant that CMLL lost control of the Mexican National Middleweight Championship as then @-@ reigning champion Octagón was among the wrestlers that left the promotion . The Mexico City Boxing and Wrestling Commission allowed AAA to take control of the Mexican National Middleweight Championship at that point in time . On August 12 , 2010 , CMLL returned the NWA World Middleweight Championship to the NWA , but immediately replaced it with the NWA World Historic Middleweight Championship to keep two " world " level championships in the middleweight division . On May 3 , 2010 Jushin Thunder Liger defeated Negro Casas to win the championship . The match took place in Fukuoka , Fukuoka prefecture , Japan , which was the first time the middleweight championship changed hands outside of Mexico and also marked the first time a non @-@ Mexican wrestler held the championship .

== Reigns ==

Dragón Rojo Jr. is the current champion having won the title on November 18 , 2011 from Jushin Thunder Liger . This is Dragón Rojo Jr . ' s first reign as middleweight champion , he is the 17th overall champion and also the wrestler who has held the championship the longest , at 1 @, @ 713 days and counting . El Dandy holds the record for most CMLL World Middleweight Championship reigns with three and is one of only three wrestlers to hold the title more than once , the others being Negro Casas and Emilio Charles Jr . Apolo Dantés held the title the shortest amount of time , a total of 77 days .

== Rules ==

The official definition of the middleweight division in Mexico is from 82 kg (181 lb) and 87 kg (192 lb) . In the 20th century CMLL were generally consistent and strict about enforcing the actual weight limits . However in the 21st century the official definitions has at times been overlooked for certain champions . One example of this was when Mephisto , officially listed as 90 kg (200 lb) , won the CMLL World Welterweight Championship , a weight class with a 82 kg (181 lb) upper limit .

With a total of twelve CMLL promoted championships being labeled as " World " title the promotional focus shifts from championship to championship over time with no single championship being promoted as the " main " championship of the promotion . Championship matches usually take place under best two @-@ out @-@ of @-@ three falls rules . On occasion single fall title matches have taken place , especially when promoting CMLL title matches in Japan , conforming to the traditions of the local promotion , illustrated by Jushin Thunder Liger winning the championship during New Japan Pro Wrestling 's Wrestling Dontaku 2010 in a single @-@ fall match .

== Tournaments ==

=== 1991 ===

In 1991 , CMLL held an eight @-@ man , one @-@ night tournament to crown the first ever CMLL World Middleweight champion . In the end Blue Panther won the championship by defeating El Satánico .

=== 1992 ===

Due to a large number of wrestlers leaving the company in the summer of 1992 the middleweight championship was vacated , forcing CMLL to hold a tournament . They opted to start out with a 16 @-@ man battle royal elimination match as a means to qualify for the final match the following week . Negro Casas and El Dandy outlasted a field of wrestlers that included Guerrero Maya , Águila Solitaria , Ponzona , Guerrero del Futuro , Plata , Espectro de Ultratumba , Espectro Jr . , Oro , Javier Cruz , Kung Fu , Kato Kung Lee , Ringo Mendoza , Bestia Salvaje and Último Dragón . The following week El Dandy defeated Casas to start his first of three championship reigns .