

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

10:30 a.m

Attending: Commissioners: Richard Montanez, Taylor Leavitt, Leslie Reberg and Ty McCartney. Director: Bill Colbert and guests, Mark Cacciamani, M.D., Griffen Reynaud and Michael Cagle.

Commissioner Montanez called the meeting to order.

Per Diem sheets were signed.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to approve the minutes of Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Upcoming Events / Commission Assignments

UCE (MMA) - Friday, March 19, 2010 – Teazers – Ogden, UT – Commissioner Montanez will support this event.

UCE (MMA) – Friday, March 26, 2010 – Club Vegas – Salt Lake City, UT – Commissioners McCartney and Reberg can support this event.

World Championship Full Contact (MMA) – Saturday, April 3, 2010 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT – Commissioner Montanez will support this event.

UCE (MMA) – Saturday, April 3, 2010 – Western Park – Vernal, UT – Commissioner McCartney may support this event.

UCE (MMA) – Saturday, April 10, 2010 – Ultimate Combat Training Center – Kearns, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, April 16, 2010 – Teazers – Ogden, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, April 23, 2010 – Club Vegas – Salt Lake City, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, April 30, 2010 – Atchafalaya – Provo, UT

UCE (MMA) - Friday, May 7, 2010 - Teazers - Ogden, UT

UCE (MMA) – Saturday, May 15, 2010 - Ultimate Combat Training Center - Kearns, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, May 21, 2010 – Club Vegas – Salt Lake City, UT

Fight Kings (MMA) – Friday, May 21 - Centro Civico - Salt Lake City, UT

Try Me Productions (Boxing) – Saturday, June 5, 2010 - Dixie Center - St. George, UT

UCE (MMA) – Saturday, June 5, 2010 - Ultimate Combat Training Center - Kearns, UT

World Championship Full Contact (MMA) Saturday, June 5, 2010 - The Rail Event Center - Salt Lake City, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, June 11, 2010 – Teazers - Ogden, UT

So You Wanna Fight (MMA/Boxing) – Saturday, June 12, 2010 - Eccles Conference Center - Ogden, UT

UCE (MMA) – Friday, June 18, 2010 – Venue TBA

UCE (MMA) – Friday, June 25, 2010 - Club Vegas - Salt Lake City, UT

Bill reported that there is a potential new promoter, Ring of Fire, considering an event April 23. No application has been received.

UFC is speaking with the Energy Solutions Arena about doing a show in Utah this year. Leslie will follow up with UFC about details.

Proposed Rule Change to Allow Contestants to Pay a Portion of Their Medical Insurance Deductible.

Bill needs commission approval of language for the filing of the proposed rule change. It states that “contestants will pay no more than 10 percent of the deductible, not to exceed \$1,000.” This needs to be written in the contracts.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to amend the language of the cap amount to “not to exceed \$500”. All remaining language stays the same. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner McCartney asked about the current language of R359-1-501 (10c) which reads “the promoter should also have life insurance . . .” It should read “shall also have life insurance . . .” Bill will make that change.

Bill reported that he filed the change for Hepatitis B and C testing to a year.

New Promoter Applications and/or Approval of Proposed Rules

Bill received an application from “So You Wanna Fight?” – Don Arnott from British Columbia. The commission telephoned Don Arnott. Don stated his show began in 1990 and he has had over 100 successful events, with an average of 2 per year in United States. Most of his elimination tournaments events have been in Canada and British Columbia. Don explained the differences of his show as compared to Toughman. Their first bout is scheduled June 12 at the Eccles Center in Ogden. There was much discussion among Dr. Cacciamani, the commissioners and guests. Bill will strike the 30 second rule for MMA, contestants will need to have a complete physical within 30 days prior to the event and two physicians will be required at the venue.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to conditionally approve the application of “So You Wanna Fight?” meeting all the conditions that the commission requires them to comply with. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doctor's Report

Mark Cacciamani, M.D. has been to two American Academy of Professional Ringside Physician's (Academy) Conferences. He also spoke with some of the UFC ringside physicians. Concussion management is a problem in Utah. Some ringside physicians aren't evaluating concussions correctly, filing improper suspensions and knock outs. There are studies showing higher incidents of chronic traumatic encephalopathy. It is not Parkinson's or Alzheimer's disease; it is dementia from getting hit in the head so many times. Impact testing, through a center, was recommended as a baseline for new fighters so the commission can track any changes.

Mark said to avoid medical/legal issues and conflicts of interest, ties should be severed between promoters and physicians. Other commissions will license, assign and pay ringside physicians, referees, etc. Commissioner Montanez said the commission tried licensing ringside physicians previously and had a hard time getting doctors to license. Mark has a CD at home that outlines the ringside physician training process to develop a training session. Mark does not know how often physicians would need to recertify. Dr. Cacciamani pointed out that if the commission assigns ringside physicians, the physicians will not have to pay insurance and it opens it up for residents and training programs. The commission can also have one physician assigned and another on call. Mark said that out of 7 Academy recommendations, Utah does not require EKG's for every fighter regardless of age and dilated eye exams valid for one year.

Bill said he can develop another license and begin the rule change process.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion for physicians to license with the commission, attend a training session and are assigned by the commission and that contestants undergo an annual physical. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Bill seeks the concurrence of the commission to suspend the promoter and corner licenses for Anthony Monson as there were insufficient funds for some checks from his last event. Bill will send him a letter requiring him to make funds good within the next 14 days.

Bill reports that the budget is stable.

The ABC conference will be in July. Commissioner Montanez needs to attend as he is the western coordinator and Commissioner's McCartney and Dayton may attend.

Open Discussion

There was some discussion about the show Johnny Riche, et al sought commission approval for. It does not look as though they will proceed with the events. There was also some discussion of promoter responsibilities, weight divisions and the weigh in process.

Next Meeting Date

Commissioner Montanez made a motion to schedule the next commission meeting Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned