

Utah Sports Authority  
Pete Suazo Utah Athletic Commission Meeting Minutes  
October 9, 2007  
1:00 p.m. (35 min. 47 sec.)

Attending: Chairman: Alan Dayton, Commissioners: Rich Montanez and Ty McCartney, Secretary: Bill Colbert and guest Rich Layton.

Meeting called to order by Alan Dayton.

Public Comment

Rich Layton has an event scheduled in Tooele at the Deseret Peak Arena on November 10, 2007. Unified Rules are used around the country and he would like the existing rule of having a knee down before striking a downed opponent with no up kicks from the downed opponent waived. Rich would like to work with the PSUAC as to which fighters should be allowed to follow the Unified Rules as some fighters are well trained while others should follow PSUAC rules. Bill requested Rich identify the fighters that will be using the Unified Rules on his fight card, he agreed. Richard Montanez stated that, after approving it with the PSUAC, they have allowed Mike Stidham to use Unified Rules with more experienced fighters. Weigh-ins will take place the night before the event. Richard Montanez moved to override the rule of not being able to strike a downed opponent unless a knee is down for Rich Layton's November 10<sup>th</sup> event. Ty McCartney seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Transition Progress

LES software has been installed on Bill's State computer. He can now record licenses and print out licensee reports but stated it would take some time to catch up on the back log. Bill will work with UCI to get forms to print licenses as well as another printer. The website is still in the works. It will cost around \$700 to get it transferred and established so he can maintain it.

Bill does have the polo shirts. They are embroidered with PSUAC and the title of each individual. Badges have been on order for several weeks. He ordered six of them which he will keep and hand out at events. There are five for the inspectors, one for himself and one for a commissioner.

Bill is getting quotes for a second scale. It is expensive, but needed.

Bill is going out of town tomorrow morning and needs at least one commissioner to commit to support the October 13<sup>th</sup> event at Club Bliss. Richard has committed but another inspector would be good. The inspector in charge will be Darren Coles. Bill mentioned they should arrive at 6:00 p.m.

Bill states it has been a challenge working with Finance to get the Commissioners paid. A few of the commissioners were paid but in the wrong way according to Finance. Bill was told today that the commissioners will be paid but the process is different than for the inspectors.

Bill indicated his inability to get minutes transcribed due to the workload and back log. Mike Zollinger had some staff support that Bill does not have. Alan asked Bill to identify someone he could work with as an assistant. Bill has an idea that may work.

Bill indicated that GOED Finance is being overwhelmed with the amount of stipends that have to be processed for the PSUAC. GOED wants to hire someone part-time. PSUAC will be charged. Bill told them he would do everything to help facilitate that, but, he would rather have someone that is more under his control.

Steven Estrada who runs a club in Arizona, has a brother living in St. George that runs a Dojo. He has applied to put on an amateur kickboxing and MMA event in St. George. This event has to be sanctioned. USA Boxing will not sanction it, so the PSUAC will need to do it. Bill is planning on going to St. George and wants to know if the commissioners want to send any inspectors. He was thinking of sending Curt and Amy as they can share a room. Richard Montanez indicated that OJ Peck has been used in the past as he lives in St. George. He will contact him. No one will be paid so fighters want to have the "Professional Status Acknowledgement" waived to maintain their amateur status. The promoter will follow all PSUAC rules. Bill received approval by Alan to take two inspectors. Richard Montanez moves to waive the "Professional Status Acknowledgement". Ty McCartney seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Scheduled Events

MMA - UCE: October 13, October 20, October 27, November 3, November 10, November 17 and November 24, 2007 at Club Bliss in Salt Lake City.

MMA - UCE: November 16, 2007 at the Salt Lake Community College, West Jordan Campus

MMA - OFA Productions: November 10, 2007 in Tooele

MMA – UCE Finals: December 1, 2007 at the Energy Solutions Arena in Salt Lake City

Bill reported that Bob Oleson has scheduled and cancelled two boxing events in the last month. He cancels them just a few days before the scheduled event. Bill wonders if the PSUAC is supportive of him sending a letter of concern. Richard Montanez indicated the rule of having everything completed and turned into the Commission seven days prior to an event is still in place and should be enforced. Bill feels promoters should submit their application fee at the time the event is scheduled. If there is a cancellation within seven days of the event, the fee should be retained by the PSUAC. From this time forward, Bill will not schedule an event until he receives the application fee.

Richard Montanez said the boxing community is upset with white collar contests. He said they thought white collar contests meant going into the gym and watching somebody spar and putting on a sparring contest. In Provo, it is a full fledged, profit making event. Richard Montanez indicated they can only reward up to \$25 in prizes, cannot have winners or losers, wear protective gear, use 16 ounce gloves and have no judging. The boxing community is concerned about injuries with no medical back up and little experience. White collar boxing has been banned in New Jersey as it got out of control. Alan would like to look at the white collar contests rules again. It is possible legislation may be considered to address some of the concerns. Bill said he would continue to monitor this.

### Rule Making Process

The rule making process is very cumbersome and moving slowly. Bill spoke with an attorney who said it would be worthwhile to have an administrative hearing where the commission can establish penalties, withhold purses, etc. and then have a more formal appeal process. The PSUAC does not have assigned hearing officers and will need to get a hearing officer. Richard suggested looking at the Muhammad Ali Act to see what their appeal process is.

Richard asked what has happened with the purse that was taken from one fighter. Bill has deposited it but it may have to be returned. The fighter has not called about the purse. This subject should go through a formal hearing process although the fighter said he would not attend a hearing. Bill will have to talk to the attorney. The rules need to be re-worked.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

Bill mentioned that Mike Stidham had a complaint of last minute PSUAC meeting changes and would like to be notified earlier of changes.

Alan Dayton moved to adjourn. Richard Montanez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.