

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

10:30 a.m.

Attending: Commissioners: Richard Montanez, Leslie Reberg, Ty McCartney (telephone), Taylor Leavitt and Kevin Daniels. Director: Bill Colbert and guests Jon Neal (fighter) and Terrance Neal (father of Jon Neal.)

Commissioner Montanez called the meeting to order.

Sign Per Diem Sheet

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to approve the minutes from November 27, 2012. Commissioner Reberg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

Approval of Bellator MMA Contest Rules

The Commission received rules from Bellator to follow for the February 21, 2013 event at the Maverick Center. Commissioner Montanez does not feel the rules will affect Utah rules. Bill indicated the process for inspectors will be slightly different. Bellator has moved its operation from Chicago to California.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to approve the Bellator rules. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Appeal of Jared Hatch – Colton Vaughn Bout Results on 12/07/12

A video has been received by the Commission of the Jared Hatch – Colton Vaughn bout. Jared is requesting an appeal of the decision as he feels the fight should have ended in his favor as a result of a knock out. The commissioners reviewed the video and spoke with the referee who officiated the event.

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to deny the appeal request by Jared Hatch of the Colton Vaughn bout results of 12/07/2012. Commissioner Reberg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Appeal of Commission Administrative Suspensions – Jon Neal and Joshua Hayes

Bill provided the Commission with written documentation concerning the suspension of Jon Neal. Jon signed a contract with SteelFist to fight on 10/19/2012. Paragraph 16 of that contract

requires the contestant to provide a written doctor's note at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the scheduled event if he/she is medically unable to perform. Bill was unaware of any documentation being provided to the promoter and issued a six (6) month suspension on November 6, 2012 due to unprofessional conduct. On November 17, 2012, Jon exercised his rights to appeal the suspension. On December 7, 2012, Bill asked Jon to provide a doctor's note which has not been received to date. Commissioner Montanez commented that Jennifer Howe of Elite Fight Night was going to provide the Commission with a signed contract by Jon Neal of an event he failed to compete in but has not provided that contract to date.

Jon indicated he did not hold a Utah contestant license at the time the suspension was issued and that his father, who did not hold a Utah manager license, signed the contract on his behalf. He has never had to provide a doctor's note in the past and knows when he is injured, whether he has seen a doctor or not. Jon Neal refused to submit to drug testing, at the request of the commission, on the night of the promotion. He presented a note from his chiropractor, not predated, who has been his provider since 2002. Jon was in attendance at the weigh in to talk to the promoter and was not approached by Bill.

Commissioner Montanez indicated that medical evaluations by chiropractors are not valid with the Commission. Medical evaluations are only valid when received by an M. D. or D. O. Medical evaluations should be requested immediately by the Commission upon failure to compete. He also stated that the Commission needs to educate promoters to only accept signed contracts by contestants or managers that hold Utah licenses; otherwise the contract is not enforceable by the Commission. There was much discussion.

Commissioner Montanez made a motion to lift the suspension on Jon Neal effective immediately and to make sure that future contracts are signed by Utah licensees before action is taken. Commissioner Reberg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Commissioner Leavitt abstained due to late arrival)

Bill provided the Commission with a written appeal from Joshua Hayes. Joshua was suspended for one (1) year due to positive drug testing (this is his second suspension.) One medication was disclosed on his pre-fight physical which accounted for only one of the positive results. Joshua is appealing his suspension, fine and is requesting a reversal of his no contest.

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to deny all aspects of Joshua's appeal due to its egregious nature. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Upcoming Events / Commission Assignments

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, January 25, 2013 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT. Bill will cover the weigh in on Thursday, January 25, 2013 and Commissioner Montanez will be in attendance fight night.

Crown Fighting Championship (CFC) (MMA) – Saturday, January 26, 2013 – Dixie Center - Saint George, UT. Commissioner Daniels will be attending the weigh ins and fight night with Bill.

Showdown Fights (MMA) – Friday, February 8, 2013 – UCCU Event Center, Utah Valley University – Orem, UT

FKF Boxing (MMA) – Saturday, February 16, 2013 – Tuscan Event Center – Price, UT

Bellator (MMA) – Thursday, February 21, 2013 – The Maverick Center – West Valley City, UT. Bill will be working with Bellator on credentialing.

The Clash MMA (MMA) – Saturday, February 23, 2013 – Eccles Ice Center – North Logan, UT

Muay Thai Institute (Muay Thai) – Saturday, March 2, 2013 – Muay Thai Institute – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, March 8, 2013 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

Rocky Mountain Fight Championships (RMFC) VI (MMA) – Saturday, March 16, 2013 – Western Park – Vernal, UT

CCC Promotions (Professional Boxing) – Friday, March 22, 2013 – Ogden Marriott – Ogden, UT. Commissioner Montanez will be out of town. Bill will be in attendance.

South Town Gym (MMA) – Saturday, March 23, 2013 – Spanish Trail Arena – Moab, UT. Commissioner Daniels will cover the weigh in on Friday, March 22, 2013 and Bill will be in attendance on Saturday, March 23, 2013.

Elite Fight Night (MMA) – Friday, March 29, 2013 – The Complex – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, April 19, 2013 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, May 31, 2013 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, July 12, 2013 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

Director's Report

None

Open Discussion – No Action to be Taken

None

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be the fourth Wednesday of February 2013 at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Daniels announced he would be alternating between traveling and teleconferencing for meetings in the future.

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Leavitt made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.