

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Monday, February 17, 2014

11:00 a.m.

Attending: Commissioners: Richard Montanez, Taylor Leavitt, Leslie Reberg and Kevin Daniels. Director: Bill Colbert and guests Robert Wombacher (PSUAC Judge/Referee), Jeremy Horn (Promoter - Elite Performance), Jennifer Howe (Matchmaker - Elite Performance), Scott Bowler (Promoter – Showdown Fights), Jordan Clements (Contestant), David Suliafu (Gym Owner), Ted Kyle (CMO - USMed), Jewls Fuchs (COO - USMed) Mike Cosgrave (Physician) Kerry Law (Promoter - Muay Thai Institute) and Scott Ash (Paramedic).

Commissioner Montanez called the meeting to order.

Sign Per Diem Sheet

Approval of Minutes

*Commissioner Reberg made a motion to approve the minutes of January 20, 2014.*

*Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Jeremy Horn expressed his concern of the scoring of Nick Burgos' fight on February 1, 2014 in Ogden. The decision was a "little screwy" and one of the judges had "been read wrong." It is his opinion that one of the judges scored the third round inaccurately in favor of Augustin Espinoza. It was brought to his attention that a Commission official made a callous remark regarding his concern as his fighter was declared the winner anyway. He feels that, regardless of the outcome, the mentality of the perceived problem needs to be addressed. Commissioner Montanez said the Commission needs to reinstate the procedure of meeting with judges after each contest. There was much discussion.

Financial Report

Bill reported that Commission expenditures are at only 30% of budget over halfway through the fiscal year. As mentioned last month, he will need to move some money for out-of-state expenses of the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Conference.

Bill reminded the Commission that the budget will support the hire of a half-time employee in July if so inclined.

Review Upcoming Events / Commission Assignments

Elite Fight Night (MMA) – Friday, February 21, 2014 – The Complex – Salt Lake City, UT

I/S Promotions (Boxing) – Friday, February 28, 2014 – Summit Hotel – Ogden, UT

SteelFist (MMA – 21+ show) – Friday, March 14, 2014 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

The Clash MMA (MMA) – Saturday, March 22, 2014 – Eccles Ice Arena – North Logan, UT

Muay Thai Institute (Muay Thai Boxing) – Saturday, March 22, 2014 – Muay Thai Institute - Salt Lake City, UT

Bellator (MMA) – Friday, March 28, 2014 – Maverick Center – West Valley City, UT

I/S Promotions (Boxing) – Saturday, March 29, 2014 – Summit Hotel – Ogden, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Saturday, April 19, 2014 – Legacy Events Center – Farmington, UT

Fight King (MMA) – Saturday, April 19, 2014 – Western Park Arena – Vernal, UT

I/S Promotions (MMA) – Friday, May 9, 2014 – Davis Conference Center – Layton, UT

Elite Fight Night (MMA) – Friday, May 16, 2014 – The Complex – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA – 21+ show) – Friday, June 6, 2014 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Saturday, July 19, 2014 – Legacy Events Center - Farmington, UT

Friday, July 25, 2014 through Wednesday, July 30, 2014 – Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Annual Conference – No Unarmed Combat events scheduled.

Elite Fight Night (MMA) – Friday, August 8, 2014 – Golden Spike Arena, Weber Fairgrounds – Ogden, UT

SteelFist (MMA – 21+ show) – Friday, September 5, 2014 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Saturday, October 4, 2014 – Legacy Events Center – Farmington, UT

SteelFist (MMA – 21+ show) – Friday, November 14, 2014 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA – 21+ show) – Friday, December 12, 2014 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

Bill reported he received a promotion request from Total Mayhem for Friday, April 18, 2014. There are events in Farmington and Vernal that weekend, Saturday, April 19, 2014. The

addition of a third weigh-in and promotion would stress Commission resources. He offered other available weekends in April that the Commission can support without conflict.

Adjourn to Closed Meeting to Discuss the Character and Professional Competence of an Individual or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual

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

At the conclusion of the closed meeting . . .

*Commissioner Reberg made a motion to open the meeting. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Appeal of Suspension – Jordan Clements

*Commissioner Leavitt made a motion to reduce the suspension period of 365 days to 180 days as if it were his first infraction. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Commissioner Daniels explained that the reduction of the suspension occurred only because Mr. Clements was honest when completing the pre-fight physical form. However, the medication prescribed Mr. Clements is in violation of Commission rule. The completion of a Therapeutic Use Exemption is required. Despite his transparencies, the fine remains unchanged, the bout is considered a “no contest” and if the infraction occurs again it will be treated as a third offense.

Final Adoption: R 359-1-604, Boxing – Gloves

Bill explained that this rule proposed the change of the weights of boxing gloves. In the last meeting, Commissioner Leavitt requested revisiting this item. This item is now ready for a motion.

*Commissioner Leavitt made a motion to adopt the changes to R 359-1-604 regarding boxing gloves. Commissioner Reberg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Appeal of Bout Results – Matt Smith vs Alex Garcia – “Fall Brawl” – November 2, 2013

Bill provided the Commission with a letter appealing bout results of the Muay Thai Institute November 2, 2013 event. Commissioner Montanez and Bill were present at this event and Dave Seljestad was the referee. Kerry Law provided the Commission with a video of this amateur fight illustrating the use of illegal moves. Kerry feels there was poor sportsmanship shown in the bout and it was not in line with the spirit of this promotion. Commissioners Leavitt and Daniels agreed that referee, Dave Seljestad, was officiated the fight to the best of his ability

*Commissioner Leavitt made a motion to deny this appeal. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

### Director's Report

Bill reminded the Commission that there was a complaint brought before them at the January 20, 2014 meeting about alleged illegal activities that occurred during an amateur boxing event that was held just prior to the Commission sanctioned event. USA boxing is continuing an investigation. He is going to fine the promoter and put his license in probation for six (6) months. The LBC president who was the matchmaker of the event will have his licenses suspended and fined. The Commission will not permit any traditional amateur and pro-am boxing events until they get and have the opportunity to review a report from USA Boxing and consider where to move from that point forward. They licensees will be notified of the disciplinary action today.

Review of the statute reveals ringside physicians must be an MD. The commission rules allow MDs and DOs to serve as ringside physicians. Bill reports that Utah statutes and rules provide DOs the same general authority as M.D.s. Consequently, the Commission will still allow DOs to continue to serve as ringside physicians. The statute actually says the Commission needs to appoint ringside physician. The Commission will work to "clean up" the statute. There are several items the Commission would like to address, including hearing processes, statute language and giving the Commission authority to consider licensing sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) year olds the opportunity to compete in amateur MMA. Currently, the Commission cannot license anyone under the age of eighteen (18).

Bill reported that the Commission is being more firm on weight classes. Any contestant who is outside of three (3) pounds of their contracted weight is subject to a Commission fine and/or suspension.

Ringside seating has been an issue with at least one promotion. Promoters need to be reminded that the Commission controls ringside/cage side seating. Promoters need to be reminded that they cannot pre-reserve ringside/cage side seating for guests and that ring/cage seating needs to be reserved for those directly involved with the operation of the promotion. The only individuals who should be providing instructions or showing bias are the licensed Seconds or Corners.

Bill asked Kerry for her time and resources to hold a judge and referee training for Muay Thai.

### Medical Review Panel Report

Ted Kyle said the medical team from USMed met in a formal meeting two weeks ago. Since the training for ringside physicians in Nevada, they have met as a board and are attempting to create some possible changes. Some of the changes were taken from the meeting and others were from networking with physicians from other states. California and Nevada have the most robust system for medical panels and contestant licensing criteria. They provided the Commission with a list of suggestions and ideas for physicians based on training, specialties and background, etc.

One of the suggestions on the list is that the medical advisory panel will keep this list and update it yearly. Some examples were introduced from the list and discussed including suspensions and costs associated with MRI/MRA's. There was much discussion.

Open discussion – No Action to Be Taken

Jennifer Howe asked the Commission what has happened with the referee tier system from last month's discussion. Bill reported adjustments have been made but the fee schedule has not been changed.

Jeremy stated that Bellator is coming to Utah next month and Big John McCarthy will be officiating. Jeremy said that Big John has told him that he is willing to do another judge/referee training. Bill will provide notification of Bellator officials soon.

Set next meeting date

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 31, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned.