

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

10:30 a.m.

Attending: Commissioners: Richard Montanez, Ty McCartney (telephone), and Kevin Daniels.
Director: Bill Colbert and guests Jennifer Howe (Elite Performance), Lynnea McDonald (UCTC), Scott Bowler (Showdown) and Mitchell T. Brooks (Attorney).

Commissioner Montanez called the meeting to order.

Sign Per Diem Sheet

Ringside Officials – Assignments, Stipend Fees and Travel Reimbursement

There has been some discussion primarily from referees about the stipend that was set at a minimum of \$100 in rule. Bill wishes to take the referee stipend out of rule and make it based on a schedule the Commission approves to avoid going through the rules process in the future. The market is driving the stipend to a minimum of \$200 for referees. The question was raised, “Why couldn’t the Commission tie this raise to more training?” There was strong discussion about referee training and security. Commissioner Montanez will work with Scott Bowler to get the first training going within the next thirty (30) days. He will also contact all licensed referees to make sure they know the training is mandatory and if they do not attend the immediate training they will not be scheduled. Training sessions will be scheduled for weekdays and weekends to accommodate all referee schedules. He would like this training done at least every six (6) months. Commissioner Montanez would also like to conduct “post fight” meetings with referees.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to move this item to next month as an agenda item. Commissioner Leavitt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Introduction and Oath of Office – Commissioner Kevin Daniels

Commissioner Montanez swore Mr. Kevin Daniels into the office of Commissioner for the Pete Suazo Utah Athletic Commission.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to approve the minutes from June 26, 2012. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Upcoming Events / Commission Assignments

Rocky Mountain Fight Championships (RMFC) IV (MMA) – Saturday, September 8, 2012 – Western Park – Vernal, UT. Blake Sprouse has submitted a partial card. Several fighters on his card are under suspension and cannot participate. Commissioner Daniels and Bill will attend this event.

South Valley Gym (MMA) – Saturday, September 8, 2012 – Spanish Fork Fairgrounds – Spanish Fork, UT. Aaron Garcia has not contacted Bill with a card yet. Commissioner Montanez will attend this event.

Total Mayhem (MMA) – Saturday, October 6, 2012 – Davis Conference Center – Layton, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, October 19, 2012 – The Complex – Salt Lake City, UT

Muay Thai Institute (Muay Thai) – Saturday, November 3, 2012 – Muay Thai Institute – Salt Lake City, UT

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, December 7, 2012 – TBS – Salt Lake City, UT

Crown Fighting Championship (CFC) (MMA) – Saturday, January 26, 2013 – Dixie Center – Saint George, UT

Bill announced that there is a prospective boxing event for September 29, 2012. Tracy Spinks will be the promoter.

Bill has been reminding promoters that they have to have their cards completed within seven (7) days of the fight to work through any issues.

Bill has heard of a possible boxing event for October 20, 2012; Chris Fernandez's title fight at the South Towne Expo Center. No paperwork has been submitted. Eddie "Flash" Newman will be getting additional help with the promotion.

Director's Report

Commissioner's Montanez and Leavitt along with Bill attended the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Conference in Clearwater, Florida in July. The ABC is looking at making changes to judging criteria for MMA. These proposed changes have caused some controversy and will be open for public comment for ninety (90) days from the date of the conference.

In the past, some contestants that are under administrative suspension for disciplinary action or positive testing for prohibited substances have been allowed, if the suspended contestant's fines have been paid, to act as cornermen. Bill sought guidance from the Commission as to whether contestants who are under suspension, with the exception of medical suspensions, should be allowed to participate under another current unarmed combat license. After discussion, the policy was affirmed that licensees who are under administrative suspension will not be able engage in any other activities that require a commission license.

The Commission has been working on a model contract to be used for all promotions. There were some comments at the last meeting. Commissioner Leavitt and Daniels will work together to refine that.

There have been continued issues with allowing contestants to weigh in the day of the fight if the weigh in is scheduled the day before the fight. Many contestants do not make weight and the

Fight ends up getting scratched anyway. Commissioner Montanez expressed his concerns including safety. Consequently, the commission will no longer support late weigh-ins. Contestants are required to attend the scheduled weigh-in.

Bill reported there are still issues with the reporting and collecting broadcast revenue from two promoters.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Jennifer Howe expressed her frustration with the commission allowing contestants to corner at events when they are suspended from competing as contestants. She and Mitchell Brooks feel this policy is inconsistent with other state commissions' policies. Jennifer also expressed concern about the Commission's assignment of event officials because they are Commission licensees. Commissioner Montanez would like to have the Commission assign timekeepers.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.