

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

10:30 a.m.

Attending: Commissioners: Richard Montanez, Taylor Leavitt, Ty McCartney (telephone), and Kevin Daniels (telephone). Director: Bill Colbert and guests Scott Bowler (Showdown), Kevin Patton (SteelFist), Mario Espinoza (contestant) and Tyson Green (contestant).

Commissioner Montanez called the meeting to order.

Sign Per Diem Sheet

Ringside Officials – Assignments, Stipend Fees and Travel Reimbursement

The commissioners have received copies the proposed protocol the assignment of judges and referees.

-Commissioner Daniels feels that the word “commission” should be capitalized throughout. The Commission was in agreement.

-Commissioner Montanez wishes to discuss the issue of judges working over ten (10) fights. If that occurs, should they be compensated for officiating more fights? No change will immediately be made.

-Commissioner Montanez would like to discuss *Protocol for Judges Compensation*, page four (4.) He would like the second tier be reallocated at \$125.

-By public comment, the *Protocol for Referee Compensation* will include tier I at \$250, tier II at \$225, and a third tier at \$200.

-Commissioner Leavitt suggested that the *Protocol for a Conflict of Interest for a Judge or Referee*; paragraph two (2), bullet point one (1), be placed in a lower tier, suggestively tier III. Commissioner Montanez feels that judges and referees alike should not hold a second license. This will be handled on a case by case basis.

-Under *Post-Fight Recap Meeting*; paragraph one (1), bullet point one (1), Commissioner Leavitt would like to remove the lead inspector from conducting the judge and referee recap meeting as he does not feel they would be knowledgeable enough to conduct that meeting.

-There was some discussion of the ranking of current referees and judges and adding licensed “celebrity” referees and judges to the ranking.

- Bill suggested the tier rotation be separate from the protocol since it may be a “evolving” document.

Commissioner McCartney made a motion to approve the proposed protocol with the suggested changes. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Mario Espinoza addressed the Commission to appeal the suspension he received at the last SteelFist event. Bill explained that Mario and his opponent were requested to provide a urine sample for drug testing. Mario's opponent provided a sample fairly quickly and Mario failed to comply with the requirement to provide a sample. The lead inspector gave him at least one (1) hour to produce a sample. There was no request for additional time, he just wanted to do it the following day. He was issued a six (6) month suspension. In rule, not providing a sample is the equivalent of producing a positive test result. Mario wants the Commission to be aware that he does not have a lot of time left to be in the United States before having to go back to his family in Mexico. He would like to have another chance to fight again before leaving for Mexico on December 18, 2012. After some discussion, the suspension stands.

After a ninety (90) day suspension, Tyson Green comes before the Commission to provide his training papers for the last two (2) months, including boxing and sparring, to petition the Commission to allow him to fight again. He feels his losses were due to not being mentally prepared to fight. Tyson reported his record as 2-11. His trainer said he would be ready for a fight by November if he continues to train like he is currently. Commissioner Leavitt suggested a conditional one fight allowance based on his performance with the proper matchmaking. The Commission was in agreement.

Model Contestant Contract

Bill presented the model contract for Commission review. It is still a work in progress. Bill separated boxing from general unarmed combat. Promoters with their own promotional contract will be allowed its use as long as it contains the same items as the Commission contract. Bill reported the biggest complaint is out-of-town contestants whose fights are canceled but they have already traveled. Those contestants expect some compensation but a contract is not in place and/or the contract does not cover compensation in the event of a fight cancelation. There was much discussion. Bill would like some Commissioner input.

Director's Report

Bill received a written appeal from Mario Ortega regarding his fight with Trevor Cook at the SteelFist event on August 11, 2012. Bill told Mario that with a written appeal he had to have video evidence for Commission review. He received a video from Kevin Patton yesterday, too late for consideration on this agenda. The commissioners reviewed the video. Mario was not present at this meeting and formally appeal at a later date if he chooses. Bill will notify Mario that the Commission viewed the video unofficially and there was no visible evidence to overturn the result, but that he has the right to come before the Commission.

Bill reported that the WBU title match with Chris Fernandez is scheduled for November 3, 2012. Commissioner Montanez wants the promoter, Eddie "Flash" Newman, to submit complete WBU

rules with his card to make sure the Commission and the referee is aware in the event of differences.

Bill has received a call from promoter, Mike Memmott, expressing interest in beginning promotions again at the venue, Hotel. Bill sent Mike an e-mail about some of the rule changes and ring side/cage side regulations. Bill has not received a response or a new promoter application yet.

There was some discussion of ring announcers and whether they should be licensed.

Kevin Patton expressed his discouragement with the Commission concerning his shows at the Complex in Salt Lake City. There was much discussion.

Review Upcoming Events / Commission Assignments

SteelFist (MMA) – Friday, October 19, 2012 – The Rail Event Center – Salt Lake City, UT

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

Showdown Fights (MMA) – Friday, November 16, 2012 – UCCU Event Center, Utah Valley University – Orem, UT

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

Rocky Mountain Fight Championships (RMFC) V (MMA) – Saturday, January 5, 2013 – Western Park – Vernal, UT

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

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

Bill was contacted by Eddie “Flash” Newman that he would like to hold an event in Price over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Bill has also heard rumors there may be an event on New Year’s Eve again but he has not received any paperwork yet.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.

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