

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHELETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Friday March 15th, 2019

**Attending Commissioners:** Commissioners Taylor Leavitt (Commission Chair), with Director Scott Bowler in attendance, Commissioners Leslie Reberg, Bruce Baird and Mike Deaver joined via teleconference. Director Scott Bowler facilitated the call from the Bryce Canyon Conference Room #369. Also joining; Judge Bridget Mora, Inspector Tony Mora, Contestant Trever Bradshaw, Promoter Cody Bunderson, (via teleconference).

Commission Chairman Leavitt called the meeting to order at 12:08pm at the Governor's Office of Economic Development in the "Bryce Canyon Conference Room."

**Sign Per Diem Sheet**

Director Bowler informed the Commissioners that attended via teleconference, that Tracy Pattillo would email the Per Diem forms to be signed and returned.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 02-22-2019, Taylor Leavitt seconded the motion. Leslie Reberg also voted to approve the motion. The motion passed unanimously without opposition.*

**Proposal of protocol language change is State Title bouts as it pertains to rematches:**

Director Bowler explained to the Commission members that currently the protocol for granting a State Title bout requires that neither fighter is "Coming off of a loss" may be approved to compete for the State Title. This is a flawed system, and the Language should be amended to reflect "The exception to the loss rule would be in the event of an immediate rematch." Some discussion was had but ultimately it was agreed upon.

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to approve the protocol change a fighter MAY be granted an opportunity to compete for the State Title in the event of an immediate rematch. Commissioner Leslie Reberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously without opposition by the Board members in attendance.*

**FitCon Promotion proposal of State Title bouts Alcantar vs Strehle & Dominguez vs Burton:**

Director Bowler related to the Board that the FitCon Fights Promotion proposes that a contest between Juan Alcantar (3-1) and Austin Strehle (5-1) for the Utah State Amateur Featherweight (145 lb.) Championship. Both fighters meet the record requirements, and have had no disciplinary actions on their licenses in the last year. Strehle and Alcantar have both missed weight in previous bouts at lighter weights but that was in 2017 and 2016 respectively.

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to approve the contest between Austin Strehle and Juan Alcantar be approved for The Utah State Amateur Featherweight Championship. Commissioner Mike Deaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously without opposition by the Board members in attendance.*

Continued.

Director Bowler informed the group that FitCon Fights also proposed Lehi Dominguez (8-3) vs Randy Burton (4-1) for the Amateur Lightweight 155lb. State Title. Neither fighter has any disciplinary actions against their license but these two fighters competed 2 weeks earlier in a very competitive bout in which Dominguez won by a close decision. Commissioner Bruce Baird stated that as a matter of rule this bout may not be approved for a State Title due to Burton coming off of the loss two weeks prior, and more importantly it was also not a title fight so the rematch clause would not apply.

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to deny the contest between Lehi Dominguez and Randy Burton as the Utah State Amateur Lightweight Championship. Commissioner Taylor Leavitt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously without opposition by the Board members in attendance.*

### **Mark Chavez to appeal suspension length for UA violation.**

Director Bowler opened to conversation by explaining that on October 29, 2018 at the Fierce Fighting Championships event at the Carbon County Event Center in Price Utah, an amateur title bout between Mark Chavez and Romy Sekhon occurred which 'by protocol' was selected for a drug screening in accordance with R359-1-506 and UAC63C-11-309. Redwood Toxicology laboratory test result found a detectable amount of 55ng/ml of THC in Chavez at the time of the contest.

In accordance with R359-1-102(6)(d), and R359-1-403 (1) and R359-1-506(8) (a) Contestant Chavez was suspended for a term of 6 months and fined \$200 as a consequence of his first violation of the Utah prohibitive substance rule, effective the date of the contest. Chavez would not be eligible for reinstatement until after the fine had been paid and after 4-29-2019.

Longtime coach and Promoter Cody Bunderson of Mark Chavez spoke for Chavez as he works for a business that would not allow him the time off to appear in person. Bunderson related that Mark was unaware that the THC would remain in his system for such a long time and that he was by no means intoxicated nor impaired in any way at the time of the contest. He also would like to be granted permission to compete on the FitCon Promotions event on 4-12-2019 and would pay his fine prior to the event if granted this leniency.

Commissioner Bruce Baird led the discussion as to the amount of THC in his system and he felt that it was also not enough to cause Chavez and advantage or put him at a disadvantage for the contest.

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to approve that Mark Chavez be allowed to compete on 04/12/2019 at the FitCon event, a full 17 days prior to the scheduled end of his suspension contingent on clean test results prior to the contest and his fine must be paid in full. Commissioner Leslie Reberg seconded the motion, which passed by majority vote with Commission Chairman Taylor Leavitt voting against the motion. Commissioners Leslie Reberg, Mike Deaver and obviously Bruce Baird in favor.*

### **Trever Bradshaw to appeal UA violation and revocation of "Unarmed Combat" License.**

Director Bowler informed the Board that on February 16, 2019 at the SteelFist Fight Night event at the Union Event Center in Salt Lake City, a bout between Trever Bradshaw and Joseph Maama occurred

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in which 'by protocol' Bradshaw was selected for a drug screening in accordance with R359-1-506 and UAC63C-11-309 due to previous violations.

Redwood Toxicology laboratory test result found a detectable amount of 34ng/ml of THC in Bradshaw's system at the time of the contest. Due to this being Bradshaw's fourth violation of the prohibitive substance rule, his license was revoked, the contest result was converted to a "no contest" and a fine of his win bonus of \$400 was imposed. Mr. Bradshaw would also no longer be allowed to participate in any "Unarmed Combat Sports" as a licensed participant with the State of Utah.

Mr. Bradshaw addressed the Board by stating that he is taking this action very seriously and that he in no way intended to attempt to gain any advantage in the contest by ingesting any performance enhancing substance and that he is unaware of how the THC could still be in his system. He has learned from his prior mistakes with banned substance and is tested at every event. Director Bowler interjected that Mr. Bradshaw has had several contests in which no banned substances had been detected in Bradshaw. Mr. Bradshaw asked that the Board consider giving him one last chance to compete and he would be willing to submit to future testing prior to any contest to prove that he was, "clean". Bradshaw also stated that he was willing to pay the fine of \$400 today to prove his willingness to comply.

Commissioner Bruce Baird led much discussion as to the current Administrative Rule and Protocol regarding the banned substances in Combat Sports. It was conveyed that due to the nature of this violation being THC and not a performance enhancing substance that this matter should be treated a bit differently.

*Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion that Trevor if Bradshaw completes three consecutive months of drug screening with negative results that Director Bowler grant him a "Provisional License" to compete once again. If at any time, Bradshaw fails a test his license will be revoked permanently. Bradshaw must also pay the \$400 fine to be allowed to complete the drug screening which would also be at his expense. Commissioner Leslie Reberg seconded the motion, which passed by unanimously without opposition.*

#### **Review of Director Bowler's incentive program:**

Upon appointment to the position of Director Scott Bowler was given an incentive program to complete quarterly and if completed a bonus structure was put in place. The tasks for the previous quarters were as follows:

- 1) All payments to Board members, and Officials be submitted and paid in a timely fashion.
- 2) 1 event in each of the consecutive months for the year, excluding December.

Commissioner Leslie Reberg made a motion to grant the incentive bonus to Director Bowler as both criteria had been met. Commissioner Mike Deaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously without opposition. Commission Chairman Taylor Leavitt would contact the State HR department to have them issue the bonus.

#### **Review of Upcoming Events:**

##### **March 2019**

Saturday – March 2, 2019 @7:00 PM, **FIERCE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS**, Utah State Fair Park, 155 North 1000 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – FIERCE FC – MMA Event.

Continued.

Saturday – March 8, 2019 @8:00 PM, **FKF BOXING**, 801 Event Center, 1065 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – FKF Productions – Pro/Am Boxing Event.

Friday – March 22, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 65**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

Saturday – March 30, 2019 @7:00 PM, **MOUNTAIN FORCE MMA**, Cache County Event Center, 490 N. 500 W. Logan, UT 84321 – Mountain Force MMA – Pro/Am MMA Event.

### **April 2019**

Friday – February 12, 2019 @6:00 PM, **FITCon MMA**, The Salt Palace, 10 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84101 – FITCon Utah – MMA Event.

Saturday – February 13, 2019 @12:00 PM, **FITCon Muay Thai**, The Salt Palace, 10 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84101 – FITCon Utah – Muay Thai Event.

Friday – April 26, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 66**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **May 2019**

Friday – May 31, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 67**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **June 2019**

Friday – June 28, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 68**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **July 2019**

**ANNUAL ABC CONFERENCE Scottsdale, Arizona July 26 – 31st. NO EVENTS TO BE SCHEDULED**

### **August 2019**

Friday – August 9, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 69**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **October 2019**

Saturday – October 19, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 70**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **November 2019**

Friday – November 22, 2019 @7:00 PM, **SteelFist Fight Night 71**, Union Event Center, 235 N 500 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 – SteelFist – MMA Event.

### **Directors Report:**

Director Bowler provided the Commission with information regarding the Financial Report which reflects a positive environment. We are currently within the budget forecast parameters.

Online License Progress report. The test site has been built and the initial layout is being produced. Director Bowler and Admin. Assistant Tracy Pattillo will continue to test the site until complete. The shopping cart features have yet to be installed.

Legacy Fighting Alliance was looking to book an event on May 10, 2019 at the Maverik Center which will help bring exposure to the young athletes of Utah.

**Public Comments:**

none

**Schedule Next meeting:**

It was agreed to set a tentative schedule of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month we will have a Commission Meeting. The next meeting scheduled for March 15, 2019 at 12noon at the PSUAC/GOED Office. Bryce Canyon Conference room

**Adjourn:**

*Commissioner Leslie Reberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mike Deaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without opposition at 1:15pm.*