

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHELETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)

Friday July 19, 2019

Attending Commissioners: Commissioner Bruce Baird, Director, Scott Bowler appeared in person. Commission Chair Taylor Leavitt and Commissioners Mike Deaver and Troy Walker, and Contestant Kaecy Raddon attended via teleconference.

Commission Chairman Leavitt called the meeting to order at 12:08pm

Sign Per Diem Sheet

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 21, 2019 meeting.

Commissioner Troy Walker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with opposition.

Contestant Kaecy Raddon request to reinstate his Contestant License from unprofessional conduct suspension:

Commission Chair Taylor Leavitt asked Director Bowler to explain the reason for the suspension. Director Bowler explained that at the Mountain Force Kickboxing event held on February 23, 2019 at the Legacy Event Center in Farmington, UT, Kaecy Raddon was selected by the commission for a drug test in accordance with R359-1-506 and U.A. C. 63C-11-309. Inspector Ron Wilkey was assigned this duty and upon completion of the test, Wilkey related to Bowler that due to the size of the stall he was unable to see Raddon actually urinate into the cup. Bowler Directed Wilkey to collect a second sample next time Raddon asked to use the restroom.

The next time Raddon asked to use the restroom Wilkey escorted him in and asked for a second sample where he could witness it. At that point Raddon told Wilkey he did not have to go. Wilkey stayed with Raddon in the locker room area until he said he was ready to go. After entering the restroom area, Wilkey witnessed Raddon fumbling around in his underwear and stalling. Several minutes Raddon produced a small sample, and Wilkey felt he might have a device in his shorts/underwear that he used to produce the sample. Wilkey did not know he had the authority to search Raddon if he felt he had a device.

Director Bowler asked Inspector George McMahon (USADA trained Sample collector) to collect yet another sample after Raddon completed the bout. Upon conclusion of the bout, McMahon approached Raddon and asked for another sample. Raddon became irate, yelling obscenities and refusing. McMahon left Wilkey in the locker room and went to get Director Bowler. When Bowler entered the locker room, Raddon was still yelling his refusal to the test. Bowler tried to explain that failure to provide a sample is considered the same as a failed test, at which point Raddon threatened to punch Bowler if he did not, "get out of his face." Bowler related to Raddon that he would be suspended and the bout would be ruled a No Contest. Raddon erupted once again and Bowler and the Inspectors left the locker room area to defuse the situation.

Director Bowler then notified Raddon via letter of the suspension and result of the bout was overturned from a "Win" to a "No Contest". This letter mailed on 2/29/2019, and explained that R359-1-403 (3) provides the Contestant 30 days to contest this suspension in writing by requesting a hearing. It was 07/03/2019 that Director Bowler received a phone call from a coach of Mr. Raddon asking what it would take to have him reinstated to compete. This led us to the hearing on this date.

Continued.

Commission Chairman Taylor Leavitt related that he was at event but was not present for the incident, he then asked Kaecy Raddon to address the group regarding the incident.

Mr. Raddon related that he felt he was being “targeted” for multiple test because of a previous suspension and that his “Fight or flight” reflex was triggered while still “hyped” from the fight which had just concluded. Mr. Raddon then went on to apologies for what he had said, but felt “Cornered and outnumbered by Commission officials which led to his response. He related that if given the opportunity to replay the events of the evening he would have acted in a calm manor but still declined to provide the sample since the “two other clean samples” in which he provided should have sufficed. He also acknowledged that the second sample was difficult for him to produce due to “Stage fright”.

Commissioner Bruce Baird stated that that the behavior will not be tolerated and that Contestants are obliged to accommodate the instructions of the Commission official and never threaten physical violence towards a member of the Commission. Commissioner Baird stated that he would like a recommendation from Director Bowler as to a suitable punishment in comparison to other similar incidents.

Director Bowler began his statement by informing the group that because he was involved in the incident that it was a “tough call” due to jaded feelings. At that point, Commissioner Troy Walker stepped in and made a suggestion that the length of suspension should be 1 year. Director Bowler related that this would constitute a second violation of the PSUAC drug policy and alone would require a 1-year suspension.

Commissioner Troy Walker made a motion to suspend Kaecy Raddon for 1 year for the violation of the PSUAC drug policy and 3 months due to the unprofessional conduct. Commissioner Bruce Baird asked to amend that to “1 year for the violation of the PSUAC drug policy and 6 months due to the unprofessional conduct. Commissioner Troy Walker agreed and made a new motion suspend Kaecy Raddon for 1 year for the violation of the PSUAC drug policy and 6 months due to the unprofessional conduct from the date of the contest. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Bruce Baird and passed unanimously without opposition.

Discussion regarding definition of approval of bouts between opposite sex opponents as per the Administrative Rule.

Director Bowler informed the group that he had received an email from a female Contestant Applicant that has had two fights with female athletes fall out. Contestant Applicant Jennifer Bowman-Jackson would like permission to seek a fight with a male contestant if the Administrative Rule allows it.

Director Bowler related that he found no stipulation in the current rule that prohibited a female vs. male bout that this currently would have to fall under the discretion of the Director using the normal skill set evaluation for a proper match up. Further, he asked the Board to give input on the subject.

Commission Chairman Taylor Leavitt asked if the ABC Unified Rules of Unarmed Combat had direction in this matter, Director Bowler found nothing regarding it as well. Chairman Leavitt requested that Director Bowler contact legal counsel Chris Pieper on this matter. Director Bowler also stated that we could seek answers in the matter at the upcoming ABC conference in Scottsdale Arizona.

Commissioner Bruce Baird made a motion to table this issue until further information and legal counsel could weigh in. Commissioner Troy Walker Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, without opposition. Chairman Taylor Leavitt asked that we confer with the ARP (Association of Ringside Physicians) regarding the matter.

Review of Upcoming Events:

July 2019

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

August 2019

Saturday – August 3, 2019 @7:00 PM, **Fierce Fighting Championships**, Legion Field, 411 Spruce St. Helper UT 84526– Fierce Fighting Championships– MMA Event.

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.

Saturday – August 17, 2019 @8:00 PM, **FKF Productions**, Wendover Nugget, 101 Wendover Blvd Wendover UT 84083 – FKF Boxing– Boxing/MMA/Muay Thai Event.

September 2019

Friday – September 6, 2019 @5:00 PM, **Legacy Fighting Alliance**, Maverik Center, 3200 Decker Lake Dr, West Valley City, UT 84119 – LFA – MMA Event.

Saturday – September 21, 2019 @7:00 PM, **Mountain Force MMA**, Eccles Ice Center, 2825 North 200 East North Logan UT 84341 – MTF MMA – 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.

Director’s Report – Financial Update

Director Bowler reported that the financial report has remained unchanged and that the financial status of the PSUAC is still stable. We would have some additional cost associated with attending the ABC Conference but that was well within our budget. In-State travel has seen an increase due to several event in the rural areas of the State that require Hotels and fuel cost to facilitate, but also within of projected budget forecast.

Public Comments – Open Discussion – No Action to be taken

No Public discussion

Adjourn

Commissioner Troy Walker made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bruce Baird seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously without opposition at 12:46pm.