

**Massachusetts State Athletic Commission
1000 Washington Street, Boston**

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC MINUTES

Date: September 19, 2019

Location: Rm. 1G

Time: 11:00 AM

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Bryan Lambert
Commissioner Diane Symonds
Commissioner David Riccio

First Deputy Commissioner Ron Cogliano
Clinton Dick, Deputy General Counsel of Enforcement
Guy Licciardi, Compliance Officer III
Wilfrid St-Hilaire, Compliance Officer III
Jennifer Fraga, Program Coordinator II

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Chair Rod Walkey
Commissioner Paul Karger

GUESTS PRESENT:

Eric Grossman, Trainer
Michael Polvere, Matchmaker
Dr. Edgar Ballenas, Ringside Physician
Ann Pelchat– Punch 4 Parkinson’s

A motion was made by Commissioner Riccio for Commissioner Lambert to act as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Symonds. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting called to order by Acting Chair Lambert at 11:04 AM.

1. Roll call

Ann Pelchat from Punch 4 Parkinson’s
Dr. Edgar Ballenas, Ringside Physician
Clinton Dick, Deputy General Counsel of Enforcement
Jennifer Fraga, Program Coordinator
Guy Licciardi, Compliance Officer
Wilfrid St-Hilaire, Compliance Officer
Commissioner David Riccio
Commissioner Bryan Lambert
Commissioner Diane Symonds
First Deputy Commissioner Ron Cogliano

2. Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2019

A motion was made by Commissioner Symonds to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

3. Application for SEAK Judge – Heather L. Gage-West

This item was tabled; the applicant was unable to attend.

4. Application for Boxing Judge – Donald J. Trella

This item was tabled; the applicant was unable to attend.

5. Request for Special Permit – Punch 4 Parkinson’s, Ryan Roach

Ann Pelchat attended the meeting in place of Ryan Roach requesting multiple variances from 523 CMR to hold an amateur boxing event to benefit Parkinson’s disease.

523 CMR, Section 6.02, parts b, c, d, e

Physical and Medical Examinations and Tests for Professional and Amateur Unarmed Combatants

The board did not vote on this requested section as there is a waiver in place for all amateur unarmed combatants. The waiver allows the amateur to opt out of the blood, eye, EKG, and brain CT/MRI requirements.

Section 9.01 Contract between Manager and Unarmed Combatants

The board did not vote on this requested section as the event will only have amateur participants. Amateurs are not required to sign contacts,

Section 9.10 Payment of Certain Fees for Tickets Sold

Ms. Pelchat requested a variance from Section 9.10 stating that the attendees of the event may offer a donation to the charity but are not obligated to donate to view the event. There is no specified ticket price as tickets will not be sold. The board granted the variance as requested.

Ms. Pelchat requested a variance from multiple sections of *523 CMR 10:00 Arranging and promoting programs of unarmed Combat*; the board reviewed each section and granted the following:

Section 10.01 Surety Bond – not applicable as this is an amateur event

Section 10.03 Multiple Requests for Event License on the Same Date – not applicable as this show is the only show scheduled

Section 10.04 Arrangement of Contest or Exhibition; Use of Licensed Matchmaker by Promoter – not applicable as a licensed matchmaker is not required for a special permit to be granted

Section 10.05 Minimum Number of Rounds for Program –not applicable as Ms. Pelchat had stated that the event will have 28 rounds of boxing.

Section 10.07 Certain Persons retained by Promoter must Have Licenses – not applicable as licenses are not issued for amateur boxing unarmed combatants and a licensed matchmaker is not required to grant a special permit.

Section 10.10 Certain Officials Deemed Independent Contractors; Payment of fees by Promoters to Commissions; Payment of Officials by Commission – the board granted the variance on forgoing the regularly scheduled officials. The board granted the variance to allow for one referee and two doctors.

Section 10.12 Unarmed Combatant Not Used in Program – not applicable as this is an amateur event and bout contracts are not required.

Section 13.01 (2) Boxers: Weight Classes; Weight Loss after Weigh-in

Ms. Pelchat asked for a variance away from the weight class requirements stating that the match ups of participants will be not more than 8lbs. or less between them. The board granted the variance.

Section 14 .05 Procedure for Use of Scorecards – not applicable as the bouts will not be judged nor result in a decision.

A motion was made by Commissioner Symonds to grant the variances as requested that applied to the event as well as the special event permit for November 1, 2019, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

6. Discuss Definition of a Grounded Fighter – Kevin MacDonald

On behalf of The Association of Boxing Commissions, Referee Kevin MacDonald presented to the board the revised definition of a grounded fighter in Mixed Martial Arts which was voted into effect at the July 2019 convention.

7. Upcoming Event Schedule

The board reviewed the upcoming event schedule.

8. Upcoming Meeting Schedule

The board reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

9. Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

Dr. Edgar Ballenas, Ringside Physician asked the board as the scheduled laceration physician for the upcoming UFC event on October 18, 2019 if he would be able to have an assistant work the event with him. The board stated that there are 4 other doctors scheduled to work the event that could provide assistance to him if needed.

Commissioner Riccio made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Symonds. Motion was passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Board Exhibits:

Draft Minutes for August 19, 2019

Application – Heather L. Gage-West

Application – Donald J. Trella

Written Request for Special Permit – Ryan Roach

Email from Kevin MacDonald

- Definition of a Grounded Fighter

Event Schedule

Meeting Schedule