



Members of the Commission

John Frierson, Chair
John Carvelli, Vice-Chair
Christopher Giza, MD
VanBuren Lemons, MD
Mary Lehman
Martha Shen-Urquidez

**Agenda items may be taken out of order the
agenda except public comment.
Action may be taken on any item listed on**

**CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

August 11, 2014

10:00 a.m. to Close of Business

LOCATION:

JUNIPERO SERRA STATE BUILDING
320 West Fourth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Commissioners Present

John Frierson, Chair
John Carvelli, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Christopher Giza, MD
Commissioner Van Buren Lemons, MD
Commissioner Mary Lehman
Commissioner Martha Shen-Urquidez

Staff Present

Andy Foster, Executive Officer
Spencer Walker, Senior Staff Counsel, DCA

OPEN SESSION

Agenda Item 1 – Call the meeting to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 2 –Chairman’s Opening Remarks

Chairman Frierson did not have any opening remarks.

Agenda Item 3 – Approval of May 16, 2014 Commission Meeting Minutes

Minor revisions were discussed to clarify Commissioner Giza’s statement with regard to the Neurological Assessment spending authority in Agenda Item 7. As well as an additional statement in Agenda Item 9 to confirm Mark Martino of USA Boxing stated that USA Boxing would comply with the CSAC ambulance requirement within the applicable deadline.

Commissioner Lehman motioned to approve the minutes as revised; Commissioner Giza seconded the motion and passed 5-0 (Lemons absent for vote).

Agenda Item 4 – Executive Officer Report

BUDGET UPDATE

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Executive Officer, Mr. Foster presented the Commission with the CalStars report, showing the final numbers for Fiscal Year 13-14. He explained that the Commission ended the year with revenue of \$1,451,854 and expenditures of \$1,193,919. He explained that remaining balance was transferred to the Fund Balance. Vice-Chair Carvelli commended Mr. Foster and his team, acknowledging the positive budget status for this Fiscal Year.

REPORT OF PENDING REGULATIONS

Mr. Foster explained that the absence of AEO Sophia Cornejo was due to her being in Sacramento at a regulatory hearing for the Commission's following proposed regulation packages: Pension Lost Beneficiary Clause, Neurological Assessment, Television Tax Cap, and Transgender Athletes.

Agenda Item 5 –Review and possible action of revised Officials Pay Scale.

Mr. Foster explained that the Commission currently has six different levels of pay for Officials, and proposed to the Commission a new pay scale that would break the pay into only three different levels. He continued by outlining the rationale for this change; explaining that utilizing the proposed pay scale will allow promoters a clearer idea of their expenditures for their event; it intends to alleviate the pressure to figure out the box office the night of the event; lastly, the proposed pay scale aims to allow for a more accurate reporting of ticket sales, preventing promoters considering the need to skew numbers in order to fall in the lower pay scale brackets.

After much discussion between Commissioners, including information provided on current pay scales for other jurisdictions, Mr. Foster suggested that the proposed pay scale's numbers can be discussed, but urged the Commission to consider only three levels, instead of six. He also recommended that the Commission consider revising the statement that is listed on the pay scale regarding main event referees and judges to read "referees and judges may be assigned to work undercard bouts."

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated that she does not foresee any governing bodies being uncomfortable with the proposed changes, and suggested that she also doesn't see them being uncomfortable with raises in per-diem for officials.

Commissioner Lehman motioned to change to a three-tier pay scale, excluding physicians, as well as increase the per-diem for officials to \$40 with a mileage rate to match current State rate. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez seconded Commissioner Lehman's motion and passed 5-1 (Lemons opposed).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Roy Englebrecht, boxing promoter based in California, spoke in support of Commissioner Lehman's motion.

Dr. Lou Moret, boxing official, commented that he does not see a problem with the idea of having three tiers, suggesting that the Commission consider \$30,000 and \$60,000 for the second and third tier, instead of \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Agenda Item 6 –Discussion and possible action regarding the creation of a Strategic Plan 2015-2017 Subcommittee

Mr. Foster recommended that a sub-committee be formed to allow opportunity for the Commissioners to give direction, moving forward, on the next Strategic Plan.

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A sub-committee was formed to include Vice-Chair Carvelli and Commissioner Giza.

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Agenda Item 7–Discussion and possible action regarding 6-month extension of delegation of amateur kickboxing to International Kickboxing Federation (IKF).

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with an overview of the materials that were provided from IKF regarding their temporary delegation. He explained that IKF has completed 15 events since their original delegation and suggested that the Commission consider extending the delegation another 6 months to allow more data to be collected before a final delegation is awarded.

After much discussion regarding IKF's current delegation and a review of the reports that were submitted for each show, Commissioner Shen-Urquidez motioned to extend IKF's delegation for 6 months; Commissioner Giza seconded the motion and passed 6-0.

Agenda Item 8–Discussion regarding delegation of Youth Pankration to the United States Fight League.

Mr. Foster presented information submitted by the United States Fight League (USFL), which outlined their plan for regulating Youth Pankration (YP). Commissioner Carvelli gave a report on the Youth Pankration sub-committee's research on USFL.

There was much discussion regarding various expectations on an organization that receives the delegation, such as USFL, should adhere to. One subject in particular was reporting of injuries, which included suggestions for timing and manner in which a delegated organization must contact the Commission after an injury to a participant.

Spencer Walker, Senior Staff Counsel, DCA, listed the standard requirements that an organization that receives this delegation must comply with and provide in order to maintain the delegation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Anthony Morales, Father of USFL participant, commented that USFL has the coverage to build awareness, with media, safety, and the reputation of the sport. He further commented that USFL and the State's primary concern should be doing the right thing for the future of the sport.

Mr. Greg Patschull commented on the current interpretation of light vs. full contact in the sport.

Ms. Anna Yustis spoke in support of the movement toward delegation of YP to USFL.

Agenda Item 9–Review and possible action regarding request from Jorge Menjivar to convert Art Becerra's loss into a No Contest or remove completely from official record (Daniel Romero vs. Art Becerra on May 3, 2013, at Jackson Sports Arena, Sacramento, CA).

Mr. Foster presented the Commission with the video of the bout and recommended that the Commission consider overturning the result of this bout. He also requested Mr. JT Steele's opinion of the early stoppage.

Mr. Steve Fossum spoke on behalf of Mr. Dan Stell who was the official of the bout in question. He stated that Mr. Stell made the decision to stop the bout based on what he observed from the athlete. Mr. JT Steele, CAMO, responded to Mr. Foster's request for his opinion, stating that based on the video provided, he would consider this an early stoppage.

Mr. Roy Englebrecht commented that it is his opinion that this bout could be overturned and not

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create precedent for future appeals. Commissioner Lemons stated that he does not believe that there is rationale to overturn the referee's judgment call.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez made a motion to overturn result of this bout, to reflect a 'no decision.' Vice-chair Carvelli seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lehman asked what the effect would be, moving forward, on referees and judges if the Commission approves this request.

A vote was called and the motion failed with a 3-3 vote.

Aye (Lehman, Carvelli & Shen-Urquidez), Nay (Giza, Lemons & Frierson).

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez suggested that the Commission create a protocol for use in these instances.

Agenda Item 10—Information regarding a Fighter's Study at the Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Cleveland Clinic.

Commissioner Giza presented the Commission with an overview of the studies being conducted at the Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Cleveland Clinic. He requested that the Commission direct a representative of the Medical Advisory Committee to work with the clinic in outreach and study efforts.

Chairman Frierson authorized the Executive Officer to post the study information to the CSAC website and other outreach tools.

Agenda Item 11—Discussion and possible action regarding the license suspension of All Star Promotions

Mr. Foster provided the Commission with an overview of the current suspension on All Star Boxing's Professional Promoter license; he included background of what led to them needing to appear in front of the Commission. He recommended that the Commission consider issuing an official warning to All Star Boxing and allow All Star time to comply, and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Lehman motioned to reinstate All Star Boxing's current license, requiring a 6-month period for them to conduct events and show improvement to the Commission at the December meeting. Commissioner Giza seconded the motion, passing 6-0.

Agenda Item 12 – Public Comment of Items not on the Agenda

Mr. Daniel Sandoval spoke on behalf of Mr. Marty Denkin who could not be present at the meeting. He explain that Mr. Denkin would like the Commission to be aware that he is not retired, and he is unsure why he has not been receiving assignments.

Dr. Lou Moret spoke in opposition of the Executive Officer's proposed Officials Pay Scale.

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN SESSION

ADJOURNMENT