

## MINUTES

### FLORIDA STATE BOXING COMMISSION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM  
1940 NORTH MONROE STREET  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-1016

February 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Jurado called the meeting to order February 21, 2011 at 9:10 a.m.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Melody Jurado, Chair  
Dr. James Stelnicki, Vice Chair  
Dr. Mark Williams

#### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Leonard Curry

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Tom Molloy, Executive Director  
Christa Patterson, Assistant Executive Director  
Tom Barnhart, Assistant Attorney General  
Eric Hurst, Chief Prosecuting Attorney  
Kathleen Brown-Blake, Prosecuting Attorney  
Johnny Booth, Paralegal to Assistant Attorney General  
Mary Horne, Government Analyst II  
Dr. Allan Fields, Physician  
Steve Fossum, International Kickboxing Federation (IKF)  
Larry Downs, American Amateur Mixed Martial Arts  
Alice Downs, American Amateur Mixed Martial Arts  
Charles Haskins, American Amateur Mixed Martial Arts  
Brian D. Smith, American Amateur Mixed Martial Arts  
Alan Futrel, World Series of Boxing  
Mike Sophia, World Series of Boxing  
Brian Crenshaw, World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC  
Lindsey MacMhaclain, World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC

#### **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

**International Kickboxing Federation, Case No.: 2010-037628**

Mr. Steven Fossum, President of the IKF was in attendance and spoke on behalf of the IKF. Dr. Jurado

asked Tom Barnhart to explain the settlement stipulation procedures to the commission. Mr. Barnhart provided to the commission with a summary of the settlement stipulation and asked Eric Hurst to provide the commission with an overview of the IKF settlement stipulation case.

Mr. Hurst stated that the case number was 2010-037628 and that the department filed an administrative complaint against the respondent on August 31, 2010 pursuant to Section 548.006 (4), F.S. and Rule 61K1-1.0031 (1) (b), Florida Administrative Code. Mr. Hurst stated that the amateur sanctioning organization failed to enforce applicable health and safety standards. Mr. Hurst advised the commission that on August 20, 2010 an "Order of Emergency Restriction of Approval" was filed by the department.

Dr. Jurado asked if there was a motion to accept the settlement stipulation.

Following discussion by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made the motion to accept the settlement stipulation presented by the department.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Steven Fossum was sworn-in by the court reporter. Mr. Fossum stated he followed the rules for the past five years and does not understand why this was any different. Mr. Fossum stated that he was not provided the International Sport Karate Association (ISKA) rules until after the unfortunate instance that occurred at one of his events.

Dr. Jurado stated the main concern of the commission is the health and safety of the athletes. The commission approved the checklist for all amateur sanctioning organization to adhere to.

Mr. Fossum stated he would pay the fine and costs associated with the settlement stipulation.

Dr. Jurado stated she would like to see the health and safety standards for boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts posted on the commission's website. Ms. Patterson stated she would follow-up.

## **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PETITION FOR DECLARATORY STATEMENT**

### **World Series of Boxing (WSB), Petition of the Declaratory Statement**

Dr. Jurado asked Mr. Barnhart to provide the commission with an overview of the petition for declaratory statement submitted by the WSB.

Mr. Barnhart stated the WSB was seeking a ruling from the commission as to the clarification of rule 61K1-1.001 (2) (d) F.A.C., which reads official Olympic events is exempt from the commission authority. Mr. Barnhart stated his position was that on May 20, 2004 the Stacy Young Act was passed by the 2004 Florida Legislature, which authorized the commission to establish criteria for the approval, disapproval, suspension of approval, and revocation of amateur sanctioning organizations for amateur boxing and kickboxing matches. The language was amended to remove all reference to "any official Olympic event", and the amendment created a conflict between the statute and rule 61K1-1.001 (2) (d), F.A.C.

Mr. Barnhart advised the commission that in the case of conflict between statute and rule the statute takes precedence over an administrative rule and since May 2004, there has not been statute to support the exempt of "official Olympic events".

Mr. Fertel, attorney for the WSB, participated by phone and petitioned the commission for a declaratory

statement regarding whether the WSB, its athletes, and events held in Florida are exempt from the rules contained in Chapter 548 of the Florida Statutes, pursuant to rule 61K1-1.001 (2) (d) of the Florida Administrative Code, which holds that if an event is deemed an official Olympic Event, it will not be subject to the requirements mandated by Chapter 548.

Mr. Fertel stated that if an event has the full support and patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), complies with the Olympic Charter, is organized by an association recognized by the IOC, and conforms to their technical rules, that event is considered to be an "Official Olympic Event." International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA), the international governing body for amateur boxing, created, organized, and supports the WSB. He also stated that AIBA holds the WSB, its athletes and events, in strict compliance with the Olympic Charter and ensures that the WSB pursues and furthers the goals of the Olympic Movement as required by the Charter. AIBA created, controls, and keeps the WSB, its athletes and events, in full conformity with all of the AIBA's Technical Competition Rules, as required by the Olympic Charter. The WSB secures a direct qualification to the 2012 Olympic Games for all WSB individual champions. Mr. Fertel stated that Chapter 61K1-1.001 (2) (d) is a rule on the books and should be considered as such.

Dr. Jurado stated that the commission heard staff recommendation and she also referenced the minutes from the November 2, 2010 meeting where it was discussed the difference between amateur and professional status and the testimony of Mr. James Erickson, Vice President of the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) explaining the difference between Olympic style vs. professional style boxing.

After discussion by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and deny the petition for declaratory statement.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION DENIAL OF AMATEUR SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION APPLICATIONS**

### **Kickboxing**

#### **Karate Without Border, Inc.**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the original application submitted by Karate without Border, Inc. was denied by the commission at their last meeting. Ms. Patterson stated that the applicant submitted additional information for the commission to consider, the staff updated the application checklist to reflect the changes, and the revised checklist and additional information was included in their agenda materials.

Ms. Patterson stated staff recommendation is to vacate the notice of intent to deny and approve the application for Karate Without Border, Inc.

After discussion by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of Karate Without Borders, Inc. for an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **KICK International**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the original application submitted by KICK International was denied by the commission at their last meeting. Ms. Patterson stated that the applicant submitted additional information for the commission to consider, the staff updated the application checklist to reflect the changes, and the revised checklist and additional information was included in their agenda materials.

Ms. Patterson stated staff recommendation is to vacate the notice of intent to deny and approve the application for KICK International.

After discussion by the commission the following motion was made.

- MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of KICK International for an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.
- SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Jurado stated she had concerns regarding the language on page 225. Dr. Jurado stated that the eye examination should be performed by an ophthalmologist. Dr. Williams stated once again that he would recommend that the statement of MD/DO be placed after the word "doctor and/or physician" in order to clarify the status of the attending physician.

It was the consensus of the commission that they had concerns in regard to under age children competing in establishments that serves alcohol during the event. Dr. Jurado asked if the commission staff would contact Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (AB&T) to find out the age limit of establishments that hold these events and if alcohol is served during the actual fight of the under age children; the application was not clear.

Mr. Barnhart suggested the commissioners to approve the application with the understanding that they can continue the discussion at a future commission meeting.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

- MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the application, as is, but to continue the under age of participants, alcohol and venue issue discussion at a future meeting.
- SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Mixed Martial Arts**

### **Karate Without Border, Inc.**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the original application submitted by Karate without Border, Inc. was denied by the commission at their last meeting. Ms. Patterson stated that the applicant submitted additional information for the commission to consider, the staff updated the application checklist to reflect the changes, and the revised checklist and additional information was included in their agenda materials.

Ms. Patterson stated staff recommendation is to vacate the notice of intent to deny and approve the application for Karate Without Border, Inc...

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

- MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to

approve the application of Karate Without Borders, Inc. for an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **KICK International**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the original application submitted by KICK International was denied by the commission at their last meeting. Ms. Patterson stated that the applicant submitted additional information for the commission to consider, the staff updated the application checklist to reflect the changes, and the revised checklist and additional information was included in their agenda materials.

Ms. Patterson stated staff recommendation is to vacate the notice of intent to deny and approve the application for KICK International.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of KICK International for an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC**

Mr. Brian Crenshaw and his assistant Lindsey MacMhaclain of the World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC participated by telephone and briefly provided the Commission with an overview of the organization.

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the original application submitted by World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC was denied by the commission at their last meeting. Ms. Patterson stated that the applicant submitted additional information for the commission to consider, the staff updated the application checklist to reflect the changes, and the revised checklist and additional information was included in their agenda materials.

Ms. Patterson stated staff recommendation is to vacate the notice of intent to deny and approve the application for World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC for an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Jurado stated she had concerns about the language on page 130. "Emergency medical transport" should read "ambulance". Dr. Williams stated that he would recommend that the statement of MD/DO be placed after the word "doctor and/or physician" in order to clarify the status of the attending physician. Dr. Jurado asked who handles pre-fight physicals. Ms. MacMhaclain stated that a licensed physician performs a pre-fight physical for each participant two (2) hours prior to the event. Dr. Jurado stated she had concerns about the pre-fight physicals and that a normal pre-fight physical is performed at the weigh-in the night before not the day of the fight. Mr. Crenshaw stated the pre-fight physicals are handled by a licensed physician between the hours of 11 a.m. right up to the event. The Commissioners had concerns about the timing of the pre-fight physical.

Dr. Jurado asked Dr. Stelnicki with these concerns, would he want to withdraw and reconsider his previous motion. Dr. Stelnicki and Dr. Williams agreed and both withdrew their previous motion.

After discussion by the commission the following motion was made.

**MOTION:** Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to deny the application of the World Kickboxing Association USA, LLC for an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

**SECOND:** Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously to deny the application at this time.

## **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF AMATEUR SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION APPLICATIONS**

Ms. Patterson gave a brief summary of the letter sent in September 2010 to the previously approved amateur sanctioning organizations for the bi-annual review of their health and safety standards. Ms. Patterson stated that the staff requested that the amateur sanctioning organizations submit a new application and a copy of their current health and safety standards for each sport.

### **Boxing**

#### **Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy as an amateur boxing organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

**MOTION:** Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy for an amateur boxing sanctioning organization.

**SECOND:** Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **USA Boxing**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for USA Boxing as an amateur boxing sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review of the application, the commission made the following motion:

**MOTION:** Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of USA Boxing as an amateur boxing sanctioning organization.

**SECOND:** Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Kickboxing**

#### **International Kickboxing Federation**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for International Kickboxing Federation as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of International Kickboxing Federation as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Jurado stated she was concerned about the weight-lost issue for the eight (8) to twelve (12) year old fighters before a match.

Mr. Fossum, representative from the IKF, stated his organization follows the State of California commission recommendations with regards to weight-lost before a match. Mr. Fossum stated he would withdraw his application and resubmit for reconsideration at the next commission meeting.

It was the consensus of the commission to allow Mr. Fossum to withdraw his application and to resubmit for consideration at their next meeting.

### **Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review of the application, the Commission made the following motion:

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **World Shin-Do-Kumate' Association, Inc.**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for World Shin-Do-Kumate' Association, Inc. as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of World Shin-Do-Kumate' Association, Inc. as an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Mixed Martial Arts**

#### **Amateur Fighting Nation, Inc.**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for Amateur Fighting Nation, Inc. as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of Amateur Fighting Nation, Inc. as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **MMA Solutions**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for MMA Solutions as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of MMA Solutions as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Commission staff and to approve the application of Rene's Dynamic ShotoKan Karate Academy as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **World Fighting Organization**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that staff recommendation was to approve the application for World Fighting Organization as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

After discussion and review by the commission the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the commission staff and to approve the application of World Fighting Organization as an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization.

SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **REVIEW OF AMERICAN AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS (AAMMA) CORRESPONDENCES**

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that the three AAMMA letters dated July 20, 2010, December 15, 2010, and January 13, 2011 were included in their agenda materials.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Downs from American Amateur Mixed Martial Arts (AAMMA) were present at the meeting and asked to address the commission in regard to their letters.

Ms. Patterson advised the commission that AAMMA was an approved mixed martial arts amateur sanctioning organization and their letter dated July 20, 2011 was in regard to a request for AAMMA to modify their approved amateur mixed martial arts health and safety standards. Ms. Patterson stated that the modified standards were not in compliance to rule 61K1-1.0031, Florida Administrative Code and would recommend the modified standards not be approved.

Mr. Downs stated he did not understand why the staff would not recommend that the modified standards be



approved. Ms. Patterson advised the commission that a modified standard did not meet compliance to commission rules and explained using a checklist showing each of the standard not in compliance. Mr. Downs stated that AAMMA follows more of the USA Boxing rules and standards and feels his organization is singled out with constant inspections at their events.

Mr. Molloy advised Mr. Downs that his organization is not singled out that the reason why so many inspections are given is the simple fact that AAMMA sanctions events in the general location where there are inspectors to attend the events and the main concern was the ground and pound vs. striking technique.

Mr. Downs provided the commission with a demonstration of differences between the two (2) techniques. Mr. Molloy stated that both national bodies; Association of Boxing Commissions and the American Association of Ringside Physicians, will have the discussion of ground and pound vs. striking technique at their next conference to be held this year.

After continued discussion, Mr. and Mrs. Downs stated they would withdraw their modified standards and resubmit for reconsideration at the next commission meeting.

It was the consensus of the commission to allow AAMMA to withdraw their modified standards.

## **NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

### **Chair Report**

#### **Commission Future Directions**

Dr. Jurado presented the commission with the following exercise:

Dr. Jurado asked the commissioners to state what the strengths of the commission were. The commissioners reported the following strengths.

- Executive Director
  - Expertise
  - Passion
  - Dedication
  - Knowledge
- Cohesion of board
  - Ethical
  - Moral boundaries
- Political strengths
- National (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Safety
- Competitive Fights
- Administrative Staff
- Issues Addressed
- Focus
- Medical Team

Dr. Jurado asked the commissioners to state what the challenges of the commission were. The commissioners reported the following challenges:

- Uniformity
  - Rules (timeliness)

- Conflicts with other Commissions
- Advocates of Health & Safety
- Information – Amateur Schedules
- Web Page Current
- Letters +/-
- Recordkeeping for “amateurs”
- Medical – strengthening
  - Head test
  - Need: split steps
  - National standards presence

Dr. Jurado asked the commissioners what the opportunities of the commission were. The commissioners reported the following opportunities:

- Rules/Regulations (Unified) #1 from State of Florida
  - Can we streamline
    - Version ...
    - Standards ...
    - Years ...
- Promulgate our own health and safety rules ... from State of Florida
- Education for Trainers
- Flow of information to commissioners
- Commission --- Referees/Judges

Dr. Jurado thanked the staff and commission for participating.

### **Legislative Updates**

Dr. Jurado reported that the commission was still working on updating the amount the promoter pays for a permit fee. Dr. Jurado congratulated Mr. Molloy and commission staff on developing the Unsactioning Event Brochure.

### **Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) Annual Conference**

Dr. Jurado advised the commission that the next ABC conference would be held July 30 - August 3, 2011 and that she would like to see Executive Director Molloy in attendance at this conference as well as the fellow commissioners.

### **American Association of Ringside Physicians (AARP) Annual Conference**

Dr. Jurado asked Dr. Alan Field, licensed commission physician that was in attendance at the meeting to provide the commission with the next meeting dates. Dr. Field's stated he would provide staff the dates.

### **Executive Director Report**

Mr. Molloy stated he is interested in requiring the people that supply the cage and/or ring be licensed by the State. A brief discussion incurred and it was agreed, by all, that this would be a good idea. Mr. Molloy and staff will look further into this issue.

### **Attorney General Report**

Mr. Barnhart stated there was nothing currently to report.

### **Prosecuting Attorney Report**

Ms. Kathleen Brown-Blake briefed the commission and stated the prosecuting attorney report was in their agenda materials and the report provided information regarding the cases they were currently working on.

### **Financial Report**

Ms. Patterson reviewed the financial reports with the commission.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

### **October 13, 2010, General Business Meeting Minutes**

The commission reviewed the October 13, 2010 minutes and after discussion the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to approve the October 13, 2010 minutes.  
SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **November 2, 2010 General Business Meeting Minutes**

The commission reviewed the November 2, 2010 minutes and after discussion the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to approve the November 2, 2010 minutes.  
SECOND: Dr. Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.**