

MINUTES

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING FLORIDA STATE BOXING COMMISSION

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL

Conference Call Number
888.808.6959
Conference Code 4137430

November 2, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Jurado called the meeting to order November 2, 2010 at 11:05 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Melody Jurado, Chair
Dr. James Stelnicki, Vice Chair
Dr. Mark Williams
Mr. Leonard Curry

OTHERS PRESENT

Tom Molloy, Executive Director
Christa Patterson, Assistant Executive Director
Mary Horne, Government Analyst II
Tom Barnhart, Assistant Attorney General
Maureen Olson, Deputy Secretary
Jerry Wilson, Director of Regulation
April Skilling, Deputy General Counsel
Eric Hurst, Chief Attorney
Jason White, Prosecuting Attorney
Alan Fertel, Counsel for World Series of Boxing
Eric Parthen, World Series of Boxing
Mike Sophia, Executive Director of Miami-Dade Sports Commission
Dr. Goodfellow, Physician to World Series of Boxing
Jim Erickson, 1st Vice President of ABC

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF AMATEUR SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION APPLICATION

Mr. Eric Parthen, Mr. Alan Fertel and Dr. Goodfellow spoke on behalf of the World Series of Boxing (WSB). Mr. Parthen, Mr. Fertel and Dr. Goodfellow participated by telephone and briefly provided the Commission with an overview of their organization.

Ms. Patterson advised the Commission that she conducted a reviewed of the application and health and safety standards and found the health and safety standards not in compliance. Ms. Patterson provided the Commission with an overview of the application checklist and stated it was the recommendation of staff to deny the application due to health and safety standard deficiencies.

Dr. Jurado agreed and opened the subject for discussion. Dr. Stelnicki stated that all of the deficiencies listed were correctable and asked if the Commission staff would work with WSB.

Ms. Patterson advised the Commission that the applicant would receive a notice of intent to deny and the notice would provide detail of the deficiencies and would have the option to request a formal or informal hearing.

Dr. Jurado advised the Commission that Mr. Jim Erickson, 1st Vice President of the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) was going the meeting by conference call. Dr. Jurado also stated that Mr. Erickson had performed an extensive study on the professional rules vs. WSB rules. Dr. Jurado asked Mr. Erickson if he would comment on his findings. Mr. Erickson stated the ABC would like to see competition under current professional rules regulated by professional boxing or athletic commissions. Mr. Erickson went on to state that he came to the conclusion after studying the both rules; there was not a lot of difference between the current accepted professional rules and the rules set forth by the World Series of Boxing (WSB). Mr. Erickson stated he had some concerns of what has been told as an opportunity to improve the Olympic style of boxing. The Olympic style of boxing is totally different then that of the professional boxing in its rules laid out by the WSB, State and Tribal Commissions. If these boxers or going to fighting in a 10 point must system and fighting in a 5 rounds or 7 rounds in the final; I don't understand how that translates back to a better Olympic style boxing, because I think one of the downfalls that a lot of countries have and the USA especially because of there poor showing in previous Olympics; the boxers are being trained in a professional style at a lot of the bigger city gyms and when they compete with the computer for scoring they don't do very well. And, when you talk about wanting to bring forth the best Olympic boxers world showcase, I would refer to the ranking system that AIBA has and of the 11 weight classes, five of the number one ranking of the weight classes belong to Cubans, four more in the top three are Cuban in those weight classes.

Mr. Erickson stated that he didn't believe that Cuba is in this program and he doesn't know that a professional boxing style is what makes the Cubans good. Did the Cubans get better because they fought 5 to 7 rounds bouts without head gear, gloves, etc.; no they have gone back to their program and have made it strong from the grass roots on up and it has nothing to do with a marketing system or anything else. Now aside from that as far as the governing body, the Ted Stevens Act set-forth the national governing which is USA Boxing and I believe all parties can agree on that. The Ted Stevens Act also has a quote in the act that states that a national amateur governing body is suppose to be a non-profit organization. Is AIBA or USA Boxing the national governing body? We would say USA Boxing is. Mr. Erickson continued to ask; who will be sanctioning these events, USA Boxing or WSB? Is WSB by definition of the Ted Stevens Act an amateur governing body, Mr. Erickson said he did not think so. If the USA Boxing has been designated as a national governing body for boxing in the United States, does the rules of the WSB comply with USA Boxing. And that's somewhat of a rhetorical question, because they clearly don't. So, if you have the national governing body, USA Boxing in charge of regulating amateur boxing in the United States but WSB is not going to use the USA Boxing rules that are clearly something that I have a problem with. Now the fighters are going to be allowed to fight professionally. Professionally by definition of the rules or professionally by verbiage in the WSB rules, but they are only allowed to fight for the WSB when it comes to being professional. So, there is somewhat a restriction of professional, and again theses are items that I'm curious about that the Association of Boxing Commissions stance and was sent out by email to all members is that if its professional than it has to be regulated. It is not a concern of ours that these athletes retain their amateur status that's up to the amateur organizations to decide. We're not saying at ABC that the athlete status is amateur or pro; just that if it's a pro fight than it needs to be regulated by a professional Tribal or State Athletic or Boxing Commissions.

After discussion by the Commission, the following motion was made.

MOTION: Dr. Stelnicki made a motion to accept the recommendation of the staff and deny the application of WSB as an amateur boxing sanctioning organization.

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

Dr. Jurado asked if there was any other business to discuss before the meeting was adjourned.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.