

**Massachusetts State Athletic Commission  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

**1000 Washington Street, Boston**

**PUBLIC MINUTES**

**Date:** June 24, 2019

**Location:** Rm. 1D

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Diane Symonds	Clinton Dick, Deputy General Counsel of Enforcement
Commissioner Paul Karger	Matthew Keigan, Director of Licensing
Commissioner David Riccio	Guy Licciardi, Compliance Officer III
Commissioner Bryan Lambert	Wilfrid St-Hilaire, Compliance Officer III
	Jennifer Fraga, Program Coordinator II

**COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Commissioner Rod Walkey

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Dr. Scott Goldberg (Via telephone)  
Michael Polvere, Matchmaker (Via telephone)  
Alan Lau, SEAK and MMA Referee and Judge  
Kevin MacDonald, MMA Referee  
Eric Grossman, MMA and SEAK Trainer

A motion was made by Commissioner Lambert for Commissioner Karger to act as Chair as Commissioner Walkey was not present, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

**Meeting called to order by Acting Chair Karger at 11:05 AM.**

**1. Roll call**

Commissioner Paul Karger  
Commissioner Bryan Lambert  
Commissioner Diane Symonds  
Commissioner David Riccio  
Matthew Keigan, Director of Licensing  
Clinton Dick, Deputy General Counsel of Enforcement  
Jennifer Fraga, Program Coordinator  
Guy Licciardi, Compliance Officer  
Wilfrid St-Hilaire, Compliance Officer  
Eric Grossman, Trainer  
Kevin MacDonald, MMA Referee  
Alan Lau, SEAK and MMA Referee and Judge

## **2. Approval of Minutes from May 30, 2019**

A motion was made by Commissioner Lambert to approve the minutes from May 30, 2019, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

## **3. Application for Ringside Physician – Scott Goldberg**

Applicant Scott Goldberg applied before the board via telephone and detailed his experience as a general physician and trauma emergency physician, as well as his experience as a Ringside Physician. Mr. Goldberg stated that he supported medically a UFC event and that it was a positive experience. Mr. Goldberg expressed that he is familiar with the pre and post-fight evaluations and stated that he finds it helpful watching fighters perform in the ring or cage when assessing their health and well-being post fight. Commissioner Lambert stated that Mr. Goldberg's application went before the Medical Advisory Board and the members recommended licensure for Dr. Scott Goldberg pending Dr. Goldberg shadow one event to learn MSAC procedure.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to approve the application pending Dr. Goldberg shadow one event per the recommendation of the Medical Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

## **4. Application for Boxing Judge – Donald J. Trella**

The applicant was unable to attend the meeting. This item was deferred.

## **5. Application for South East Asian Kickboxing Matchmaker – Michael Polvere**

Applicant Michael Polvere detailed his experience as a former mixed martial artist, promoter, and matchmaker in the mixed martial arts industry. Mr. Polvere expressed his passion for the industry and its fighters; he is currently licensed with the State as a MMA Matchmaker. Mr. Polvere stated that he has been making matches for Cage Titans for the past 10 years and is looking to expand his MMA promotion by adding South East Asian Kickboxing bouts to his shows.

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

## **6. Request for Variance – Michael Polvere**

Michael Polvere addressed the board via telephone to request a variance from multiple sections within 523 CMR for the purpose of adding Southeast Asian Kickboxing (SEAK) to his July 13, 2019 mixed martial arts event. Mr. Polvere sought a variance from the following sections:

- *23.02: Requirements for Ring*

Mr. Polvere asked the board to allow the SEAK bouts take place inside a cage rather than inside a ring. Mr. Polvere stated that competition inside the cage keeps the action and the fighters themselves inside the cage and that all participants will be notified of this.

Compliance Officer Guy Licciardi stated that competition inside a cage could change the rules and or the outcome when performed inside the cage. Mr. Licciardi asked Alan Lau to comment.

Alan Lau, SEAK Referee and Judge addressed the board with some methods he follows to keep the fighters safe when competing inside the cage regarding the breaking up of the unarmed combatants when they are engaged and do not have the ability to lean on the ropes inside a traditional ring.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to grant the variance subject to reasonable rule changes regarding fighter safety, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

- *10:05: Minimum Number of Rounds for Program*

Mr. Polvere asked the board to allow for the 20 round minimum for this combined event rather than have both the 28 round minimum for the SEAK bouts in addition to the 20 round minimum for the MMA bouts.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to grant the variance, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

- *23:08: Protective Equipment*

Mr. Polvere asked the board to waive elbow pads and shin guards for amateur combatants.

Mr. Polvere stated that currently amateur MMA unarmed combatants are not required to wear them yet all kicking techniques are performed in MMA and SEAK bouts. For this reason, Mr. Polvere wishes to vary from this requirement for amateurs who wish not to wear them. In addition Mr. Polvere asked to vary from the requirement of elbow pads as he feels they are designed and used to prevent cuts to the face and therefore since elbows to the head are not allowed in amateur SEAK, there appears no reason to require them.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to grant the variance allowing the removal of elbow pads for this event and deny the removal of shin guards, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

- *12:05: Requirements of Gloves*

- *23:09: Gloves*

Mr. Polvere sought variance from the glove requirement for SEAK participants requesting they wear MMA gloves. Mr. Polvere stated that any and all strikes thrown in SEAK are thrown in MMA where currently MMA participants wear a smaller glove.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to grant the variance, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

## **7. Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting**

N/A

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Motion was passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:05PM.

**Board Exhibits:**

Draft Minutes for May 30, 2019

Application – Scott Goldberg

Application – Donald J. Trella

Application – Michael Polvere

Variance Request – Michael Polvere