



MAURA HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIM DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

YVONNE HAO
SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Office of Public Safety and Inspections
1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
UNDERSECRETARY, CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

SARAH R. WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Meeting Minutes

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 and Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Massachusetts State Athletic Commission will be held on:

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024

Meeting called order at 2:05pm

1. Roll Call

Peter Warinner – Chair
Lou Durkin
Jay Lowney
Hector Osoria

☒ present ☐ absent
☒ present ☐ absent
☒ present ☐ absent
☒ present ☐ absent

2. Discussion

- a. Comments on medical impact of and ringside physician staffing recommendations regarding Bare Knuckle boxing.

Dr. Warinner began the discussion by first clarifying that bare knuckle boxing is currently not legal and they are not here to discuss that today. Dr. Durkin spoke about data collected by Bare Knuckle Fighting Championship (BKFC) on injuries occurring during bare knuckle fights. Dr. Durkin summarized that the concussion rate was significantly less, and the laceration rate was significantly higher, when compared to traditional combat sports. Dr. Warinner briefly spoke about the lower death rate in bare knuckle boxing compared to traditional boxing.

Dr. Warinner spoke about recommended staffing for ringside physicians if bare knuckle boxing became legal. He recommended a minimum of 3 ringside physicians and that a variance request for less ringside physicians should not be allowed.

- b. Medical impact of and recommended ringside physician staffing recommendations for team-format combat sports events.

After a lengthy discussion between board members the official recommendation from the medical advisory board was to never allow a variance for less than 2 ringside physicians



and recommended a minimum of 3 ringside physicians for team format events due to the fast pace.

- c. Fees for ringside physicians: weigh-in pre-fight physicals and events.

After a lengthy discussion with the board members, Dr. Warinner made a motion to recommend increasing the ringside physician fees to \$500 for the weigh in and \$1,500 (\$750 per doctor if two physicians) for the event. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

- d. Attendance at State Athletic Commission meeting annually.

Dr. Warinner clarified the regulations with the board members that the members of the Medical Advisory Board need to attend at least one MSAC meeting a year. Board Counsel clarified that the meetings are now hybrid, and that remote attendance complies with the regulations.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07pm.