



**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**MIKE KENNEALY**  
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Division of Occupational Licensure**

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710  
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

**EDWARD A. PALLESCHI**  
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS  
REGULATION

**LAYLA R. D'EMILIA**  
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF  
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Massachusetts State Athletic Commission will be held in person on

**Date: Wednesday, May 11th, 2022**

**Time: 11:00 AM**

**Location: 1000 Washington Street, Boston MA, 02118 Conference Room 1D**

It is anticipated that the following topics will be discussed at the aforementioned meeting:

1. Roll Call

Paul Karger Chairman  
Bryan Lambert Commissioner  
Oded Carmi Commissioner  
David Riccio Commissioner  
Brian O'Connell Commissioner  
Greer Spatz Executive Director  
Peter Kelley Board Counsel  
Paige Brenner Program Coordinator I  
Guy Licciardi Compliance Officer  
Wilfred St. Hilaire Compliance Officer

2. **Review/ Vote** MSAC minutes for April 13, 2022 and May 5, 2022

A **Motion** was made by Bryan Lambert to approve the April 13, 2022 and May 5, 2022 meeting minutes and was **Seconded** by Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

3. Application Review

1. Review of Promoter application for Granite Chin Promotions

Chris Traietti, on behalf of Erin Cooke, represented the promoter application to the Commission. The Commission asked Mr. Traietti why the applicant Erin Cooke was not in attendance for representing the application. Mr. Traietti informed the board that as Ms.



Cooke is a schoolteacher in an understaffed district, she was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Traietti did inform the Commission that he is a Matchmaker with Granite Chin Promotions and is involved in business operations and would be a fair representative of the company. After review of the application and questioning how Granite Chin Promoters will handle their events, Commissioner Bryan Lambert **Motioned** to approve the application for licensing. The motion was **seconded** by Commissioner Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

2. Review of Referee for Boxing application for Albert Arcane

Mr. Arcane was not in attendance, and the application was tabled for a future meeting.

3. Review of Matchmaker for MMA and Muay Thai application for Richard Caldwell.

After review of the application for Mr. Caldwell, Commissioner Bryan Lambert **Motioned** to approve the MMA application for licensing. The motion was **seconded** by Commissioner Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**. Commissioner Bryan Lambert then **Motioned** to approve the Muay Thai application for licensing. The motion was **seconded** by Commissioner Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

4. Review of Review of Bout Card for May 5th event at Plymouth Memorial Hall Re: Payne v. Tucker

Staff explained to the Commission the reason for the review request of a specific aspect of the fight card. The first fight listed Payne v. Tucker was not approved for licensing due to there being safety concerns. The Matchmaker for the fight Michael Polvere attended the meeting to explain to the Commission why the fight was equal and fair and to provide evidence for why the fight should be approved to occur. After citing medical approval by a ringside physician and the primary healthcare provider for Mr. Payne to fight, as well as providing an in-depth explanation for the training history of both Mr. Payne and Mr. Tucker, Commissioner Brian O'Connell inquired of Mr. Polvere if there was any precedent of a fighter above the age of 50 fighting. Mr. Polvere confirmed that Mr. Payne had been permitted to fight at age 52 in 2015. He had had many fighters above 45, but Mr. Payne was his only experience with a fighter above the age of 50. A **Motion** was made by Bryan Lambert to approve the Payne vs. Tucker match and was **Seconded** by Oded Carmi. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Paul Karger voted **YES**, Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brian O'Connell voted **NO**.

4. **Review** of Requested Variances

1. Variance request by Frederic Belleton (523 CMR section 23.18)

Mr. Belleton was not in attendance; the Commission was not able to review his variance request.

2. Variance request by Michael Reyes (523 CMR section 10.04)

Mr. Reyes explained to the Commission his intent to have an exhibition event in Braintree on July 16, 2022 and explained some of the variances he is requesting, and the Commission asked if he had provided a written-out version of his variance request. Mr. Reyes informed the Commission that the event is not until July, and he wanted to see if hosting an exhibition event in the way he would want to would be considered by the Commission at all before providing the formal request. The Commission indicated that a true determination could not be made without the written request, but the general premise of the request could be granted with the correct documentation. The request was tabled for a future meeting.

5. **Discuss** Potential delegations to staff

Chairman Paul Karger opened the discussion inquiring as to the status of the memo requested to be reviewed by the Commission. Executive Director Greer Spatz informed the Commission that the only item that would have appeared on the memo is the delegation of fight cards and associated fighters being approved. The concern staff has is what should be done when a complication occurs on a delegated issue. Commissioner Bryan Lambert indicated that the delegated matters are made in confidence in staff to make a decision that members of the Commission would make. A discussion was had regarding what to do when a lack of staffing capabilities creates a conflict in running events. As events are scheduled on a first come first serve basis, denied events should be brought to the Commission for review. Mike Polvere was called by the Chairman to comment, and Mr. Polvere indicated that staffing events has been a long term issue, and that a potential solution should be to schedule deputies and additional staff when an event is booked and not a month from the event.

6. **Discuss** Proposed CORI review policy

Board Counsel Peter Kelley provided the Commission with follow up on authority to require criminal background checks as a licensure requirement and that minors could be exempted from such a requirement. Guy Licciardi informed the board that the Ted-Steven's Act in relation to CORI checks does not allow for amateur boxers to have a CORI check conducted. Chairman Paul Karger made a **Motion** to table the CORI policy for a future meeting, **Seconded** by Oded Carmi. The Motion passed **Unanimously**.

7. Upcoming Events

1. 5/14 Dedham
2. 6/04 MMA Cage Titans- Memorial Hall Plymouth, MA
3. 6/17 MMA Event- Shriners- Wilmington, MA
4. 6/25 Boxing Granite Chin- Sheraton Hotel Framingham, MA

5. 7/02 MMA Cage Titans- Memorial Hall Plymouth, MA

6. 7/16 Reyes Boxing Braintree High School Gym

8. **Discuss [Regulatory Review]**

Bryan Lambert made a Motion to schedule an additional meeting on May 18, 2022 to cover this topic and was **Seconded** by Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

9. Other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting.

Dr. Warriner of the Medical Advisory Committee brought to the board the conclusions the subcommittee came to at their meeting on April 14. There was a discussion on the best way to handle sickle cell tests and results potentially becoming a testing requirement. Commissioner Bryan Lambert asked Dr. Warriner for an explanation of the differences between a waiver and informed consent. Dr. Warriner described the two. Chairman Paul Karger requested that Dr. Warriner draft a list of proposals and present the requests to the Commission. Mike Polvere was called to offer comment, and he indicated his opinion that under 520 CMR 6.02., additional testing can be required by the Commission. He also shared that the NCAA requires a test for sickle cell to participate in their activities.

Bryan Lambert motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:22 PM and was **Seconded** by Oded Carmi. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

*Reasonable accommodations or modifications will be provided to individuals with disabilities to participate in the Massachusetts State Athletic Commission meeting. All requests should be directed to Cheryl Yebba by calling 617727-4992 or TTY/TDD: (617) 727-2099 by no later 24 hours prior to the meeting. While the Division will attempt to honor all requests, those requests received after 24 hours prior to the meeting may not be provided due to feasibility.*