



**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Division of Occupational Licensure**  
**Massachusetts State Athletic Commission**

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

Public Minutes

**Thursday, July 21, 2022**

**Time: 3:00 PM**

**Virtual Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM

1. Roll Call

Commission Members:

Bryan Lambert - Chair

Oded Carmi

Dave Riccio

Brett Miller

Staff:

Greer Spatz Croxford – Executive Director

Peter Kelley – Board Counsel

Paige Brenner – Program Coordinator

Guests:

Albert Arcand – Licensee

James Benjamin Jr. – Licensee

Mark Cardarelli – Licensee

Sean O'Brien – Licensee

Chris Romulo – Licensee

Bert Dearing – Licensee

Christopher Triaetti

Jose Riviera

Peter Cyzmbor

Chuck Shears

Alan Lau



2. **Review/ Vote** MSAC minutes for June 8, 2022, June 17, 2022, June 28, 2022

Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve the June 8, 2022 meeting minutes and was **Seconded** by Dave Riccio. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve the June 17, 2022 meeting minutes and was **Seconded** by Dave Riccio. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve the June 28, 2022 meeting minutes and was **Seconded** by Dave Riccio. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

3. Board Counsel Report

Board Counsel Peter Kelley indicated his board council reports would be on all MSAC monthly meetings going forward. He then informed the board of the extension through March 31, 2023 of the option for public bodies like the Commission to hold meetings in person, or virtually. The board was also reminded that they may still have to comply with any state, city, and building health and safety requirements that may be instituted. Board Counsel cautioned against any new items that are brought up during a meeting, recommending they be put onto a future agenda for discussion.

4. Applications

1. Review of Manager for Boxing application for Albert Arcand

After discussing Mr. Arcand's understanding and familiarity with CMR 523 and his experience with Boxing, Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve Mr. Arcand's Manager of Boxing Application on the condition a fully completed application be sent to and approved by staff. Dave Riccio **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

2. Review of Manager for Boxing application for Sean O'Brien

Mr. O'Brien discussed his experience with Boxing in depth and informed the Commission of his profession as an attorney, an occasional client of his is Reyes Promotions. The Commission informed Mr. O'Brien that should his application as Manager be approved, he would need to sever the business tie with Reyes Promotions immediately to avoid a conflict of interest. Mr. O'Brien expressed to the board an understanding that he would discontinue any work in a professional capacity for promoters once any manager license was issued. Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve Mr. O'Brien's Manager of Boxing Application. Brett Miller **Seconded** the motion. A

**Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**. Mr. Obrien had also applied for a manager's license in MMA under the same application. Mr. O'Brien was advised to file a separate MMA manager application following Commission discussion.

3. Review of Referee for Muay Thai application for Christopher Romulo

Mr. Romulo explained his experience as referee in New York to the Commission and explained he primarily had experience with amateur Muay Thai bouts as the process to get licensed as a professional Muay Thai Referee is difficult. Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve Mr. Romulo's Referee of Muay Thai Application. Dave Riccio **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

4. Review of Manager for Boxing application for James Benjamin Jr.

After a discussion of Mr. Benjamin Jr's history in boxing and a confirmation on who he would begin managing if approved, Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve Mr. Benjamin Jr's Manager of Boxing Application. Dave Riccio **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

5. Review of Judge for Muay Thai, Boxing, and MMA for Mark Cardarelli

After discussing Mr. Cardarelli's experience with Muay Thai, Boxing, and MMA, Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve Mr. Cardarelli's Judge of Boxing, Muay Thai, and MMA Applications. Dave Riccio **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

5. **Review/ Vote** Punch 4 Parkinson's Variance Request

A representative from Punch 4 Parkinson's was not in attendance at the meeting to discuss their variance request. Staff inquired if the variance submitted contained enough detail to be considered by the Commission. Commissioners requested that a more detailed and comprehensive variance request be submitted to staff and distributed to the Commission for review at the 8-10 MSAC monthly meeting and no other action was taken.

6. **Discuss** Delegation of reviewing fight card matching or revisions for licensed events/exhibitions.

Citing the Commission's prior minutes, Board Counsel Peter Kelley explained the current delegation for review and approval of match or exhibition license applications. Chair Bryan Lambert asked Board Counsel if it would be appropriate to have a single commissioner review the bout cards with

staff. Board Counsel confirmed that there could be a delegation to a single Commissioner to review and approve such applications with staff. Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to delegate to staff, the Executive Director, and to a single commissioner as assigned by the Chair the authority to review and approve license applications for unarmed combatant events or exhibitions, including proposed fight cards and any changes or substitutions pursuant to 523 Code Mass. Regs. § 10.11(1). Dave Riccio **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was taken where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES**, David Riccio voted **YES**, and Brett Miller voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

#### Review of Promoter for Boxing application for Bert Dearing Jr.

Review of application out of order due to applicant's late appearance.

When Mr. Dearing's application was reviewed, it was discovered he did not have a sufficient bond covering the required amount. The Commission indicated that if he provides a copy of the bond to staff for distribution to complete his application, his application could be considered at a future meeting. The application was tabled for review on the 8-10 MSAC monthly meeting pending receipt of an appropriate bond.

#### 7. **Review** Policy on Criminal Conviction or Pending Criminal Charges, dated 3/11/2021

Board Counsel Peter Kelley provided a summary of what was discussed in prior meetings regarding the CORI policy. He indicated that language could be included to exempt minors from a criminal background check. The Commission inquired what would need to be done with international applicants who need a CORI check, and Board Counsel explained that in other boards that already have a CORI policy in place, applicants must provide a background check from their local state, country, or province to the Commission to apply. He indicated that there is a DOL attorney assigned to CORI related matters, and he could report back to the Commission with the Council's opinion on what to do with international applicants who often are called upon with very short notice to get a one-day license. The Commission then asked how requiring a CORI review would impact the licensing process. Board Counsel indicated that while eventually the delegation of reviewing CORI checks would go to a staff level, while the policy is in development CORIs would be reviewed by Commission members, and that should staff feel that there may need to be a denial the potential denial would have to come to the full Commission to be a confirmed denial of license. Board Counsel is to amend the policy regarding minors and bring back comment regarding international applicants to be discussed at a future meeting.

#### 8. **Review/Discuss** potential changes to SAC Trainer Application 2018

Tabled.

#### 9. **Review/Discuss** Officials Pay Adjustment Proposal by Alan Lau

Chair Bryan Lambert explained that referee pay amounts are set by the Commission and paid by the promoter of an event. The proposal as provided by Alan Lau was explained to the Commission. He mentioned that not only would he like to see the pay for referees increase, but some form of training being implemented. The Chair said that training should be addressed in a regulation review meeting,

but also acknowledged that referee pay may be lower in Massachusetts compared to other states and is not on a sliding scale as other licenses for events. Commissioner Oded Carmi suggested that promoters and staff weigh in on changing the pay. An agenda item for the 8-10 meeting is to be added to discuss a date and time to hold such a potential listening session.

**10. Review** Executive Order Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care Services in the Commonwealth issued 6/24/22

Board Counsel explained the Executive Order that had been provided to the Commission. Mr. Kelley indicated that as the DOL developed more pattern language to deal with the issues of licensure and reciprocal discipline raised by the Executive Order, these would be presented to the Commission for its consideration.

**11. Upcoming Events**

The following events were discussed:

Sat July 30th 2022 Vertex Boxing Mosley's Dedham, MA

Sat Aug 6th 2022 Boxing Granite Chin- Sheraton Hotel Framingham, MA

Sat Aug 13th 2022 Boxing Granite Chin- Shaw's Center Brockton, MA

Sat Aug 27th 2022 MMA Cage Titans- Memorial Hall Plymouth, MA

Sat Sep 10th 2022 Rivera Boxing American International College

October 2nd 2022 Vertex Boxing Location: TBA

October 15th 2022 Granite Chin Boxing Mass Mutual, Springfield, MA

October 21st 2022 Combat FC MMA Shriner's Wilmington, MA

October 22nd 2022 Vertex Boxing Mosley's Dedham, MA

October 22nd 2022 No Boundary Muay Thai Memorial Hall Melrose, MA

October 29th 2022 Reyes Boxing Memorial Hall Melrose, MA

October 29th 2022 MMA Cage Titans- Memorial Hall Plymouth, MA

Sat Nov 19th 2022 Granite Chin Mass Mutual Springfield, MA

**12. Discuss** Regulation Review Meeting Dates Schedule

Chair Bryan Lambert, after discussion with other Commissioners, indicated all monthly meetings would be held in person on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month from 2 to 4 pm at 1000 Washington Street, Boston MA, 02118 unless otherwise specified in a posted agenda. The next regulation review meeting would take place August 1, 2022 from 2 to 4 PM and would be a virtual meeting.

13. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

No topics were brought to the chair for discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM

**Documents Used:**

MSAC minutes for June 8, 2022, June 17, 2022, June 28, 2022  
Manager for Boxing application for Albert Arcand  
Manager for Boxing application for Sean O'Brien  
Referee for Muay Thai application for Christopher Romulo  
Manager for Boxing application for James Benjamin Jr.  
Judge for Muay Thai, Boxing, and MMA for Mark Cardarelli  
Promoter for Boxing application for Bert Dearing Jr.  
Punch 4 Parkinson's Variance Request  
May 21, 2017 and September 2017 18, MSAC Meeting Minutes  
Draft CORI policy  
Officials Pay Adjustment Proposal by Alan Lau  
Executive Order Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care Services in the Commonwealth issued 6/24/22  
Upcoming events schedule.