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Massachusetts State Athletic Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes

Date: March 12, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 2:01pm

1. Roll Call

TJ Lacey – Present
John Navien – Present
Brett Miller – Present
Josh Zakim – Present
Melissa Kelly - Present

2. Discuss /Vote MSAC minutes from 01/21/25 and 02/12/25.

Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 01/21/25 and 02/12/25, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed 3-0, with new Commissioners Zakim and Kelly abstaining.

3. Executive Director Report Executive Director Rogers welcomed new Commissioners Zakim and Kelly. He then reported the Boxers' Fund balance of \$150,145.57, and that there are no pending applications. Executive Director Rogers also reported that a Deputy Commissioner training will be conducted at the Waltham Boys and Girls Club on Saturday April 5, 2025, from 10:00am – 2:00pm, with a makeup date of April 16, 2025, at the DOL office from 10:00am - 2:00pm. Email invites have been sent out to all Deputy Commissioners.

4. Applications

- i. Cohen, Brendan - Deputy Commissioner Application
After discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the application for Brendan Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.
- ii. Jain, Sunny - Ringside Physician Application
The application was tabled until the April meeting due to the applicant not being present.
- iii. Small, Kevin -Boxing Manager Application
The application was tabled until the April meeting due to the applicant not being present.
- iv. Santana, Thomas - Muay Thai Referee Application
After discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Zakim made a motion to approve the application for Thomas Santana, seconded by Commissioner Navien. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.
- v. Cooper, Dewey (TCL) - Boxing Promoter Application



After discussion with the applicant about his knowledge and experience, including the relevant Massachusetts regulations, the application was tabled until the April meeting.

- vi. Ballenas, Edgar - Ringside Physician Petition for Reinstatement
The application was tabled until the April meeting due to the applicant not being present.
- vii. Laroche, Robert - Deputy Commissioner Application
The application was tabled until the April meeting due to the applicant not being present.

4. **Hearing** on licensee Robert Bevilacqua's request for a change of decision pursuant to 523 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 14.20.

The Commission attempted to begin the hearing at approximately 2:54 p.m. Mr. Bevilacqua was not present, so the Commission recessed and reconvened at 3:00 p.m., the time indicated on the agenda. Mr. Bevilacqua was still not present, and the Commission moved on to the next agenda item without taking any action on his request for a change of decision.

5. **Discuss / Vote** Team Combat League (TCL) / Classic Entertainment and Sports (CES) Variance Request

The Commissioners held a lengthy discussion with Promoter James Burchfield of Classic Entertainment Sports ("CES"), and Attorney for Team Combat League ("TCL") Michael Uilla, including regarding the submitted variance request and the tabling of Mr. Cooper's Promoter application earlier in the meeting. Commissioner Miller made a motion to deny the variance request, seconded by Commissioner Navien. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lacey made a motion to adjourn to closed session at 3:47 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Navien. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.