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SARAH R. WILKINSON COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Massachusetts State Athletic Commission

Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

1. Roll Call

Commissioners: Bryan Lambert - Chair Oded Carmi John Navien Thomas Lacey –DOL Commissioner's Designee Brett Miller

Staff: Christopher Rogers – Executive Director Jamie Dalton – Board Counsel Paige Brenner – Program Coordinator I

Members of the Public: Pat Sullivan - Promoter

2. Discuss/Vote

a. CES requests for Team Combat League for July 17, 2024, event MSAC24-0939 The Commission reviewed and discussed an operational request from CES Promotions for the Commission to approve two events back-to-back on the same day referred to as a "doubleheader". Executive Director Christopher Rogers informed the Commission of several administrative and operational concerns regarding event MSAC24-0939 (Additional permit number will be added for second event). It was noted that online advertising reflected an incorrect date for the event and that due to prior history with this event format, staff had concerns about fight card adjustments close to the date of the proposed event. It was also noted that ticket purchasing online offered only one ticket, despite the two separate events being held. Pat Sullivan of CES, an MSAC-licensed promoter, informed the Commission he was working with TCL to correct the errors on the website and ensure separate tickets were purchasable on the website. It was also noted that due to the nature and set up of the event, more officials would be needed to staff these events than is typical, and DOL was working to obtain confirmation that there would be sufficient coverage.

Commissioner Oded Carmi inquired of staff why the promotion must clear the venue before the second show starts, and Board Counsel Jamie Dalton replied that separate tickets must be sold for each event and fees furnished to the Commission as required by statute.

Commissioner Miller left the meeting at 11:30 and did not participate in the remainder of the meeting.

Commissioner Navien asked if CES has been compliant with licensing requirements for its many recent events, and Executive Director Christopher Rogers responded that obtaining full licensing documentation for recent shows has not been smooth, and extra work has been required from the agency to ensure the events could proceed. The proposed timing and logistics of the doubleheader were discussed in depth between the Commission, the promoter, and staff. Agency staff expressed concerns about licensing fighters for the doubleheader because fighter selection would be in part determined by other fights occurring only days before. The Commissioners asked the promoter if they would be able to send in paperwork ahead of the 7-day deadline and the promoter agreed that they would submit completed licensing documentation for seventy-five percent of all fighters for the events prior to ten days before the event, and that the remaining fighter documentation would be completed not later than seven days before the events. The Commission stated, and CES acknowledged, that no guarantee could be provided that fighters could be licensed if their documentation arrived fewer than seven days before the events. Oded Carmi made a motion to license two events on July 17, with one starting at 5:30 PM and one starting at 8:30 PM with the condition that seventy-five percent of the documents required to license the fighters be submitted at least 10 days in advance of the event and the other twentyfive percent submitted at least seven days in advance of the event, and CES complies with all applicable regulations and statutes. John Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 in favor and 1 opposed. Thomas Lacey opposed the motion.

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

Commissioner Carmi made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lacy. The meeting was adjourned at 12:37pm.