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# Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Occupational Licensure Office of Public Safety and Inspections

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SARAH R. WILKINSON COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Meeting Minutes Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 Time: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM 1000 Washington St, Boston MA, 02118 Conference Room 1D Hybrid Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM

#### 1. Roll Call

<u>Commissioners</u> Bryan Lambert - Chair Oded Carmi John Navien Thomas Lacey Brett Miller (arrived late)

# Staff

Chris Rogers - Executive Director Jamie Dalton – Board Counsel Sarah Wilkinson – Commissioner, Division of Occupational Licensure Andrew Bridges - Associate Deputy Commissioner Kristina Wong – Program Coordinator I

<u>Medical Advisory Board</u> Peter Warriner - Chair

# 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Meeting Minutes July 10, 2024, and July 19, 2024

Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for July 10, 2024. John Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Brett Miller joined the meeting.

Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for July 19, 2024. John Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Executive Director Report

#### a. Boxer's Fund

The current balance is \$285,714.73. There is one incomplete application, staff is working with the applicant to complete the submission.

# b. Deputy Training

Deputy Commissioner training is scheduled for September 21, 2024, and November 2, 2024, at the Waltham Boys and Girls Club. The compliance officers are working on finalizing the training materials, which will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting. Commissioner Carmi inquired about the training being mandatory and the consequences of not attending the training. Board Counsel reported that deputies will not lose their Deputy Commissioner status, however, the Commission could choose not to schedule deputies until they attend training or move to remove the deputy status of those who are no longer active or qualified. Attendance records will be presented to the Commission after training. Deputy Commissioners will not be compensated for the training as statute is clear about what compensation they may receive.

#### c. Pre-Fight Physical Form

Executive Director Rogers presented the updated Pre-Fight Physical form with two changes. The first change calls for listing all medication that is needed with the fighter at the event. The second change is a question about injuries sustained during training prior to the event.

After discussion, the second change was modified to: "Have you received an injury in the past 60 days?". Oded Carmi motion to approve the pre-fight physical form with the changes made by the Commission. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

# d. TCL Hearings Update

Executive Director Rogers inquired if the Commission would like to proceed with other licensees who were identifiable in the ring during the event. The Commission indicated they would like to proceed with additional complaints.

#### 4. Board Counsel Report

Board Counsel Dalton notified the public that the Commission would have a closed session in the middle of the meeting, and the open session was expected to resume about 30 minutes later.

Board Counsel Dalton reported that staff confirmed that a variance request made in 2019 by USA Boxing to not license its officials had been denied. She explained that here is a statutory requirement that the officials must be licensed by the Commission and no variance could ever change that requirement. The statute does allow for an amateur only ringside official licenses if the official volunteer their time.

Board Counsel Dalton noted a recent letter to USA Boxing and their response and reminded the Commission that because USA Boxing is an approved Amateur Sanctioning Organization, any discipline or action to USA Boxing's status would require action by the Commission.

In response to a question from the Commission, Board Counsel stated that the Commission cannot delegate licensing of USA Boxing Officials to USA Boxing but could delegate approval of applications to MAC staff.

Commissioner Lambert made a motion to delegate the authority to our Executive Director to review amateur boxing official applications over the next 30 days. Commissioner Carmi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Carmi made a motion to move to the Quasi-Judicial Session per M.G.L. c. 30A, §, 18. (d) followed by a closed Investigatory Conference per M G. L c. 112 §, 65C, Commissioner Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The commission entered closed sessions at 2:22 PM.

Quasi-Judicial Session - CLOSED per M.G.L. c. 30A, §, 18. (d)

Investigatory Conference -- CLOSED per M G. L c. 112 §, 65C

The Commission returned to public session at 3:03 PM.

# 5. USA Boxing Monthly Report

The USA Boxing Monthly Report was tabled due to time and previous discussions with USA Boxing.

#### 6. Discussion

#### a. Applications

- i. Alexander Roman was not present at the meeting. The Commission tabled his Boxing Judge Application and requested the applicant's presence at the next meeting.
- ii. Frank Lombardi was present at the meeting. After a discussion with the applicant, Commissioner Carmi made a motion to approve the Boxing Judge application. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- iii. Patrick Mayombo was present at the meeting. After a discussion with the applicant, the Commission tabled his Boxing Manger application and requested the applicant return next month with a better understanding of the rules and regulations of the commission.

#### b. Variance request for 09/13/24 Granite Chin Promotions

Granite Chins Promotions requested a variance to 523 CMR 10.05 related to the minimum number of rounds, to allow for 24 rounds down from the required 28. Commissioner Navien made a motion to approve the variance for the September 13, 2024 show for a minimum of 24 rounds. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

# c. Impact to doctors' pay resulting from delegated authority for chair to grant variance to reduce minimum number of doctors to one for specific events

The Commission had a discussion regarding the fee for doctors when there is a variance to allow only one doctor at a sanctioned event. Commissioner Carmi made a motion that going forward if a variance is granted to permit an event to go forward with a single doctor, the doctor is entitled to \$1,250, for the next 30 days.

# d. Report from ABC Conference

Commissioner Carmi reported the main change was in the MMA unified ruleset, which will go into effect November 1, 2024. The first rule change is that the 12-6 elbow is no longer an illegal blow. The second rule change is to what is considered a downed fighter. Commissioner Carmi will send staff a message to be passed to referees. Another update from the conference is that ABC now has a unified ruleset for Muay Thai.

# e. MMA Results being sent to BoxRec and Combat Registry

At the ABC Conference there was a discussion with BoxRec to have all commissions send Boxing and MMA results. There was no agreement reached at the conference. The commission will continue to use the official registry for boxing, BoxRec, and the official registry for MMA, Combat Registry.

# f. Identification of priorities for regulation revisions and discussion of scheduling

The Commissioners will review the red-lined version of the regulations prior to the September meeting and identify any new priorities that need to be taken up. During the September meeting, the Commission will set a schedule to work on regulation revisions.

# g. Shadowing

This matter was tabled for a future meeting.

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

There were no matters not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Commissioner Carmi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 3:53 pm.