MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MINUTES- Wednesday October 18th, 2023

On Wednesday, October 18, 2023, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:10 p.m. Present were the following: Chairman Dave Norman; Commissioner Carl Wilson; Commissioner Dr. Kristi Hall, Commissioner James "Binky" Jones, Commissioner Brian Boles; John Dove, Commissioner for O&P; Sarah

McDermott, Deputy Commissioner; Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel;

Matthew McKinney, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Olga Escobar, Administrative Officer, Jason Curtis, Administrative Assistant and Executive Director Nino Ovial. This was a hybrid meeting taking place in-person as well as on the Google Meets platform.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

The approval of the Commission minutes from September was tabled to the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was no report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Nino Ovial introduced Administrative Assistant Jason Curtis to the

Commission and gave a brief synopsis of his daily duties. Mr. Ovial reviewed upcoming events and discussed events that occurred during the previous month. He advised the Commission that upcoming wrestling events need approval of the Commission for shows from the date of the meeting until November 15, 2023. Commissioner Jones made a motion, Commissioner Wilson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the upcoming wrestling events.

 ACW Wrestling, October 20, Hagerstown

 ACW Wrestling, October 21, Bel-Air

 CyNation Promotions, Boxing, October 21, Frederick (Cancelled)

 AWA Wrestling, October 28, Waldorf (Cancelled)

 CZW Wrestling, November 5, Havre De Grace

 MCW Wrestling, November 11, Joppa

 EWA Wrestling, November 11, Havre De Grace

Mr. Ovial also advised that the Commission only allows for a maximum of 40 rounds of boxing unless special permission is granted by the Commission. Mr. Ovial indicated that recent events have surpassed the maximum number of rounds and that the Commission would be enforcing the regulation, unless special permission was granted.

Mr. Ovial advised the Commission that after discussing some regulatory changes at the previous meeting, the regulations had been drafted and were ready for a vote. He indicated that the regulatory amendments were to COMAR 09.14.02.01, which tied judges and referee licenses to the fiscal year, COMAR 09.14.02.02, which required proof of amateur experience through USA Boxing for pro debut fighters, and COMAR 09.14.02.06-1 and .06-2, which would allow referees and judges to use a certification from a professional boxing organization as opposed to a test administered by the Commission. Chairman Norman requested a motion to amend the regulations and the motion passed unanimously to have each of the proposed regulations amended.

Mr. Ovial also advised the Commission that the amendment to COMAR 09.14.07.03 and .05 had been drafted, which would allow the Chief Physician to determine the appropriate medical documentation for nonresident applicant referees and judges. Commissioner Norman requested a motion to amend the regulations and the motion passed unanimously to have each of the proposed regulations amended.

Additional regulatory changes were discussed, including the following:

09.14.04.02 (Ophthalmological Evaluations for nonresident contestants)

09.14.04.03 (Neurological Testing for nonresident contestants)

09.14.04.10 (Medical Suspensions)

09.14.04.12 (Female Contestants)

No action was taken on these regulations.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Nino Ovial announced that Association of Boxing Commission training will be conducted for personnel on November 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

ADJOURNMENT

The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4: 15 p.m.

/s/ David J. Norman Chairman

 Date: November 15, 2023