

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA ATHLETIC COMMISSION

May 17, 2018

Call to Order – Approval of Minutes

A meeting of the West Virginia Athletic Commission was called to order May 17, 2018 at approximately 11:00 AM.

Commission Members present: None of the Commissioners attended in person. Commission Members joining by telephone: Chairman Leon Ramsey, Secretary Paul Thornton, and Commissioner Tony Figaretti. Also present were: Connie Brammer, Crystal Crouch, and Keith Morgan. No members of the public attended this meeting.

Issues and Action Items

The first item was approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. Secretary Thornton moved to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2018 meeting. This motion was seconded by Chairman Ramsey and passed by unanimous voice vote.

The are no upcoming events currently scheduled for review.

None of the current policies were reviewed.

The next item addressed was the issue of a mandatory physical examination for referees. After discussion Secretary Thornton moved to require an annual physical examination for all referees and vital signs to be taken prior to each event officiated. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Figaretti and passed by unanimous voice vote.

The next agenda item was a consideration of guidelines for pre-fight blood pressure readings that would medically disqualify a fighter for participating in that specific event. After discussion Chairman Ramsey moved that pre-fight blood pressure reading above 160/90 would disqualify a fighter or referee for participating in the event at which the reading occurred. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Figaretti and passed by unanimous voice vote.

The next item addressed was uniforms for referees at events. After discussion Commissioner Figaretti moved to require traditional blue shirt with black bow tie and black trousers for traditional boxing events, a black polo with black trousers for MMA events, and “promoter’s preference” for two-night elimination tournaments. Motion was seconded by Secretary Thornton and passed by unanimous voice vote.

The next item was a consideration of a policy for issuing licenses to convicted felons. After discussion, this item was tabled pending additional research to ensure compliance with all State and Federal regulations.

Chairman Ramsey reported plans have been finalized and all arrangements secured for the officials' training seminar scheduled to be held June 23-24, 2018 at Stonewall Resort. MMA judge and referee training will be offered on Saturday, June 23, as well as a training for Chief Deputies, Scorekeepers and Timekeepers. Training for boxing judges and referees will be offered on Sunday, June 24. A promoter's meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

The next item addressed was consideration of standardized wording for fighter contracts. After discussion this item was tabled pending additional research and advice from legal counsel.

Proposed legislative rules will be forwarded to all Commissioners by Chairman Ramsey.

Additional discussions occurred regarding licensing matchmakers, early weigh-ins for "Semi-Pro" fighters, capping the number of bouts and/or participants in two-night

elimination tournaments, and eliminating the term “semi-pro.” No action was taken as a result of any of these discussions.

There being no additional business, Commissioner Figaretti moved to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Thornton seconded the motion which was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Leon Ramsey
Chairman

Date signed: _____

Connie Brammer