

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016

On Wednesday, November 16, 2016, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Arnie Dansicker at 2:02 p.m.. Present were the following: Commissioner Ben Alperstein; Commissioner Sean Malone; Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Norman; Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; Eric London, Counsel; and Dreama Anderson, Administrative Specialist. Absent: Commissioner David Norman.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - PASSING OF DR. RICHARD J. NORMAN

The Commission held a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Richard Norman of Penfield, New York and Morristown, New York, who is the father of Commissioner David Norman.

Chairman Dansicker expressed the Commission's deepest condolences to Commissioner Norman and his family.

Executive Director Pannella noted that Dr. Norman, an avid outdoorsman and sports enthusiast who earned a black belt in karate at age 61, was devoted to his family.

PROPOSED REGULATORY AMENDMENTS:

**COMAR 09.14.01.02; COMAR 09.14.04.04; COMAR 09.14.04.10
COMAR 09.14.06.10; and COMAR 09.14.08.04**

The Commission held a discussion to consider approving the following proposed regulatory amendments: (1) COMAR 09.14.01.02; (2) COMAR 09.14.04.04; (3) COMAR 09.14.04.10; (4) COMAR 09.14.06.10; and (5) COMAR 09.14.08.04.

The regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.01.02 seeks to eliminate the requirement that the Commission meet once a month and to change the requirement for publishing notice of a Commission meeting to allow the notice to be published on the Commission's website instead of in the Maryland Register.

The regulatory amendments to COMAR 09.14.04.04 and to COMAR 09.14.08.04 seeks to clarify that a physician may determine whether a contestant may engage in a contest by considering a number of physical conditions, including determining whether the contestant's blood pressure is within acceptable limits. In particular, the purpose of these actions is to allow the physician performing a final physical examination of both a contestant and a wrestler before a contest to determine whether a contestant's or a wrestler's systolic pressure and diastolic pressure is within acceptable limits.

The regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.04.10 seeks to expand the medical reasons for the imposition of an indefinite medical suspension by the physician examining a contestant after a contest. The Commission maintains that, after considering all relevant medical factors relating to the contestant, the physician evaluating a contestant's blood pressure is best suited to determine whether a contestant should engage in a contest. The Commission maintains that the physician examining a contestant after a contest should be allowed to impose an indefinite medical suspension for any medical reason that the physician deems appropriate.

The regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.06.10 seeks to change the ruling for the implementation of the low-blow foul in a boxing contest when a contestant is unable to continue from being ruled a draw to being ruled a no contest. The senior physician for the Commission has determined that it is not possible to medically diagnose an injury sustained by a contestant who received a low-blow. Because a draw ruling or a technical knockout loss ruling for the contestant sustaining a low-blow foul could be beneficial to one contestant while being opposed by the other contestant, the Commission has concluded that the appropriate ruling is a no contest.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Alperstein, seconded by Commissioner Malone, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.01.02.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Alperstein, seconded by Commissioner Malone, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the regulatory amendment to

COMAR 09.14.04.04.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Malone, seconded by Chairman Dansicker, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.04.10.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Malone, seconded by Chairman Dansicker, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.06.10.

Upon a motion by Chairman Dansicker, seconded by Commissioner Alperstein, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the regulatory amendment to COMAR 09.14.08.04.

APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING EVENT

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the professional wrestling events currently scheduled to be held in the State of Maryland.

Upon a motion by Chairman Dansicker, seconded by Commissioner Alperstein, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the following professional wrestling event promoted by Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr.:

Professional Wrestling Event
Friday, December 9, 2016 - 7:00 p.m. Starting Time
St. Michael's School
16560 Three Notch Road - Ridge, Maryland
Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as
Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW);

Professional Wrestling Event
Saturday, January 28, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. Starting Time
Joppa Marketplace
1000 Joppa Farm Road - Joppa, Maryland
Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as

Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW);

Professional Wrestling Event

Friday, February 24, 2017 - 8:00 p.m. Starting Time

Joppa Marketplace

1000 Joppa Farm Road - Joppa, Maryland

Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as

Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW);

Professional Wrestling Event

Friday, March 10, 2017 - 8:00 p.m. Starting Time

Joppa Marketplace

1000 Joppa Farm Road - Joppa, Maryland

Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as

Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW);

Professional Wrestling Event

Saturday, March 11, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. Starting Time

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department

24801 Three Notch Road - Ridge, Maryland

Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as

Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW); and

Professional Wrestling Event

Saturday, April 22, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. Starting Time

Joppa Marketplace

1000 Joppa Farm Road - Joppa, Maryland

Promoter: Dennis W. Wipprecht, Jr., advertising as

Maryland Championship Wrestling (MCW).

REVIEW OF OCTOBER 15, 2016

“SHOGUN FIGHTS 15” MMA EVENT

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission review of the professional MMA event which was promoted by John J. Rallo, III, advertising as “Shogun Fights 15”, and held on October 15, 2016 at The Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore, Maryland.

The professional MMA event included 13 professional MMA contests and 39 scheduled rounds of professional MMA competition.

Executive Director opined that the Shogun Fights series continues to produce and feature a quality product for fans of professional MMA in the Greater Baltimore area.

LINEUP OF SCHEDULED MMA CONTESTS FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2016 PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the professional MMA event being promoted by John J. Rallo, III, advertising as “The Jonathan Ogden Foundation Charity MMA Event”, and scheduled to be held on November 3, 2016 at Martin’s Valley Mansion in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Mr. Pannella provided an overview of the MMA contests being featured. He noted that this year will mark the first time that this popular charitable event, held on an annual basis, will feature professional MMA contests rather than professional boxing contests.

LINEUP OF SCHEDULED BOUTS FOR NOVEMBER 5, 2016 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the professional boxing event being promoted by Kings Promotions, LLC, advertising as Kings Promotions, and scheduled to be held at Rosecroft Raceway in Fort Washington, Maryland. Mr. Pannella provided an overview of the professional boxing contests being featured.

NEXT TWO COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Commission held a discussion regarding the dates and times of its next two meetings in the Third Floor Conference Room, 500 North Calvert Street, in Baltimore, Maryland. The Commission agreed to hold the meetings on:

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.; and
Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 2:00 p.m..

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Chairman Dansicker, and seconded by Commissioner Malone, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m..

Patrick Pannella
Executive Director