

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Athletic Commission**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., January, 27, 2010**  
**Synergy Business Park**  
**Kingtree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive, Room 105**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

[Meeting Called to Order](#)

Michael Tyler, Chairman, of Lexington, called the meeting of the S.C. Athletic Commission to order at 10:10 a.m. Other commissioners present included: Robert Williams, vice chairman, of Cayce; Clyde Jones, of Camden; Paul Kennemore, of Greenwood; and Lynda Leventis-Wells, of Greenville.

Staff members participating in the meeting included: Kristy Bell, Administrative Assistant; Randall Bryant, Assistant Deputy Director; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Glenn Frick, Inspector; Larry Hall, Inspector; Jimmy Knotts, Inspector; and Lanny Ross, Inspector.

a. [Public Notice](#)

Michael Tyler announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Athletic Commission office, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

A video of this meeting can be viewed at [www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Athletic](http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Athletic). On the Commission's home page, click 'Board Information' and follow the link to the video.

b. [Pledge of Allegiance](#)

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kennemore delivered the invocation.

[Approval of Excused Absences](#)

George Cox of Myrtle Beach was granted an excused absence.

[Approval of the September 24, 2009 Meeting Minutes and the December 17, 2009 Conference Call Meeting Minutes](#)

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion the Commission approve September 24, 2009 meeting minutes and the December 17, 2009 conference call meeting minutes. Paul Kennemore seconded the motion, Michael Tyler abstained

[Chairman's Remarks - Michael Tyler](#)

Mr. Tyler stated there are a number of events scheduled.

[Commission Representative's Remarks - Larry Hall](#)

Mr. Hall stated there are a number of events scheduled through January and February 2010. He also stated a number of illegal events are happening around the state. He noted staff

investigated an illegal MMA event in West Columbia and an illegal MMA event in Greenville. He asked the Commissioners to contact him if they hear of any illegal events.

Mr. Kennemore asked Mr. Hall about an upcoming event in Anderson. Mr. Hall stated staff is addressing the group promoting that event. He noted that group is holding events at all of the Gold's Gyms located in that area. He said that promoter is licensed.

Mrs. Leventis-Wells asked Mr. Hall why the MMA event scheduled for December 2009 was cancelled. Mr. Hall stated there were problems with that event and that the event has been rescheduled for March 19, 2010.

a. [Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel](#)

No advisory opinions were given during this meeting.

b. [Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office](#)

No legislative update was given during this meeting.

Mr. Bryant stated staff has been busy with boxing, wrestling, and MMA events. He further stated Glen Frick and Chuck Ross have been hired assist in working the MMA events. He stated staff appreciates Mr. Tyler and Mr. Williams attending the events. He noted no major issues have occurred during the events.

[Unfinished Business](#)

There was no old business for discussion during this meeting.

[New Business](#)

a. [Request for Approval of Battleground Amateur Combative Association \(Terance Just\) as MMA Sanctioning Body](#)

Mr. Bryant stated a number of entities are present to seek the Commission's approval to sanction MMA events.

Battleground Amateur Combative Association did not appear during this meeting.

b. [Request for Approval of ISCF \(Steve Fossum\) as MMA Sanctioning Body](#)

Ray Thompson of Greenville appeared on behalf of Steve Fossum and the International Sport Combat Federation (ISCF).

Mr. Thompson began his martial arts training in 1974. Kick boxing is his predominant sport, however, mixed marital arts is part of what ISCF does. According to Mr. Thompson the ISCF is one of the leading MMA sanctioning bodies and sanctions events internationally. He stated the ISCF is a growing organization.

According to Mr. Thompson ISCF has representatives all over the nation; however, he is unsure if he is the only representative in South Carolina. Mr. Fossum would bring in more representatives for events if approved to sanction South Carolina events. He did not have a list of representatives with him, but would obtain a list from ISCF for the Commissioners. The Commission asked that the list the number of years and the number of events the representatives have refereed events.

Mr. Bryant stated every organization has different rules and regulations regarding the events. He has informed Mr. Fossum the Commission conducts all South Carolina MMA events in accordance with the Association of Boxing Commission's (ABC) MMA Unified Rules. Mr. Bryant reminded the Commission that they had approved to only use ABC unified rules at the previous Athletic Commission meeting. Staff has consulted with other state commissions in which the ISKA has done business.

The commission determined it would discuss this matter in executive session.

Mr. Kennemore asked Mr. Thompson if ISCF could sponsor a training seminar in South Carolina. Mr. Thompson stated ISCF could sponsor a training seminar and that he could submit a request to do so.

c. [Request for Approval of Boxing License Reinstatement - Corey Goodwin](#)

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion the Commission move the Corey Goodwin licensure matter to after public comments. Paul Kennemore seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. [Discussion Topic](#)

a. [Corner licensing Fee and Multiple Saturday Night MMA Events - Jeff Harmon](#)

Mr. Harmon did not appear during this meeting.

[Public Comments](#)

Doug Muhle stated he owns Carolina Fight Promotions and is appearing before the Commission as a promoter. He spoke in North Carolina in regard to statistics and records to get the MMA law passed. He offered Commission any assistance needed in regard to MMA. He has been involved with MMA for 20 years. He has watched North Carolina being flooded with promoters. He said some of the events promoted in North Carolina are hurting MMA and some of the events are not tasteful.

Mr. Muhle stated he promoted an event in Myrtle Beach and was unknowingly presented a bill from ISKA and that he did not enter into any contractual agreement with ISKA.

Gregory Coleman stated he is an official in South Carolina and his primary concern deals with officials being assigned to boxing events. He stated officials are being brought in from out of state. He believes there is a misjudgment being made regarding the degree of competence of local officials. He is a local and knows there is an event being held in Columbia this weekend. He is ABC certified, is a member of IBF, NABF, and USBA and has officiated events in South Carolina as well as Virginia and Delaware.

Mr. Bryant stated believes Mr. Coleman officiates professional boxing events and routinely judges the boxing events. He further stated this weekend's event is an MMA event.

Mr. Coleman stated he has begun training as an MMA official and has judged three events in Virginia. He is now a certified MMA official in Virginia.

Mr. Bryant stated he is uncomfortable assigning officials for MMA events at this time. He would prefer the sanctioning entity assign the officials for MMA events at this time.

Discussion ensued with the Commission regarding the state's taxes and the fees assessed by the sanctioning body. Mr. Willie Bradley, attorney for Palmetto Boxing, stated bail bonding companies are required to disclose their fees to the Department of Insurance. He asked the Commission if ISKA is being required to disclose their fees to the promoters.

Dr. Kevin James emphasized the importance of proper training of in-state officials.

#### [Request for Approval of Boxing License Reinstatement - Corey Goodwin](#)

This proceeding was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript should one be necessary in accordance with the law.

Ms. Dantzler stated discussion has ensued between the attorney for Mr. Goodwin and staff. She believes they have reached a resolution in the matter and that Mr. Goodwin's attorney would present the resolution to the Commission.

Mike Montgomery, Esq. presented an agreement to the Commission and made statements regarding the matter which included, but were not limited to the following. The dispute stems from a February 4, 2006 event and permit #2608. Mr. Goodwin's wife was the promoter for an event captioned Fight Night in Columbia. Subsequently fees were owed to the State that his client didn't believe were appropriately owed and a dispute ensued. The dispute resulted in Mr. Goodwin's license as boxer being suspended. Mr. Goodwin's concern is some consistency in documentation of these types of issues and the notice given regarding the issues. There were some charges set, which Mr. Goodwin disputed and he has been unable to fight in South Carolina as a result of the dispute. Mr. Goodwin feels the fight would not have taken place if the fees were not paid in advance. Mr. Goodwin alleged he was not given ten days notice of the hearing scheduled for this meeting.

In the resolution Mr. Goodwin would agree to the stipulated fee due of \$400.00, which he will pay subsequent to his first bout in South Carolina. His license would be issued and any former claims regarding his wife as a promoter now disposed of is now bound by this agreement. The counsel for the Commission would prepare a stipulation, Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Montgomery will execute the agreement and the matter would be resolved. The matter of the license being issued to an individual over the age of 36 years is a matter to be consented by the Commission and is being requested by Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Montgomery. Mr. Goodwin currently holds a federal ID card.

Mr. Bryant stated he concurs with the agreement as established. He also stated in regard to the issue of 36 years of age having a license in South Carolina does not mean an individual would fight in South Carolina as the bouts are determined by competitiveness among other things. He noted an individual who holds an ABC identification card does not mean the individual will fight in South Carolina. He stated the ABC identification card is just an identification card.

Mr. Bryant asked that the monies be paid to any bout, not just a bout in South Carolina.

#### [Election of Officers](#)

Mr. Williams asked the Commission to delay the election of officers until Mr. Cox is in attendance. The Commission determined it would hold the election of officers during this meeting.

**MOTION**

Paul Kennemore made a motion elect Michael Tyler as chairman. Clyde Jones seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion elect Robert Williams as vice chairman. Paul Kennemore seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Bryant stated the Commission could make any sanctioning entity have the responsibility to alert and provide staff with the contract between the entity and the promoter ten days prior to the event and that the contract include any and all fees. He asked the Commission to designate a representative to review the contract.

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion that the chair appoint a Commissioner for LLR to contact in reference to reviewing the contract and the contract be in place 10 days before the event with any and all fees.

Mr. Tyler appointed Mr. Williams as the designee and asked that the commissioner in each area also review the contract. Ms. Leventis-Wells asked that the Commission be contacted should there be any question; however, if there is a matter in which the Commission cannot agree the Chairman will make the determination.

Discussion ensued regarding the training of the officials and ISKA's fees. Mrs. Leventis-Wells asked that this matter be discussed at the next meeting with all parties involved present for the meeting.

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion the Commission affirm the recommendations of the sanctioning bodies, whom ever they may be. Clyde Jones seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Bryant stated he has been asked to ask the Commission to consider waiving the five percent gate fee or a portion of the five percent gate fee. He is opposed to waiving the fee, but did inform the interested parties he would bring the matter before the Commission.

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion the Commission table discussion of the five percent waiver to the next meeting, but that the five percent fee stay in place until further discussion at the next meeting. Robert Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

[Executive Session](#)

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion to enter closed session to discuss the ISCF proposal. Paul Kennemore seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

[Return to Public Session](#)

The Commission returned to public session.

b. [Request for Approval of ISCF \(Steve Fossum\) as MMA Sanctioning Body](#)

**MOTION**

Lynda Leventis-Wells made a motion accept ISCF as a MMA sanctioning organization. Paul Kennemore seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Commission reviewed a fight card for an event scheduled for January 30, 2010.

[Adjournment](#)

**MOTION**

Paul Kennemore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lynda Leventis-Wells seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The January 27, 2010 meeting of the SC Athletic Commission adjourned at 12:14 p.m.