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3 **Minutes**
4 **South Carolina Athletic Commission – Quarterly Board Meeting**
5 **August 1st, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.**
6 **Synergy Business Park**
7 **Kingtree Building, Room 204**
8 **110 Centerview Drive**
9 **Columbia, South Carolina 29210**

10 **Commission members present included:**

11 William McCullough – Chairman

12 Derek Shoemake – Vice Chairman

13 Edwin Estridge – District 2

14 William D 'Andrea – District 3

15 Dr. James Vaught – District 7

16 **Staff Members present included:**

17 Sym Singh – Administrator

18 Hardwick Stuart – Advice Counsel

19 Amanda Schlegel – Administrative Assistant

20 **Meeting Called to Order:**

21 William McCullough, chair, called the meeting of the South Carolina Athletic Commission to order at
22 10:13 a.m. Chairman McCullough announced that public notice of this meeting was promptly posted at
23 the South Carolina Athletic Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building and
24 provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of
25 the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

26 **Approval of Agenda:**

27 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion
28 which passed unanimously.

29 **Approval of Unexcused Absences:**

30 The motion to approve the absences of Ms. Shealy, Dr. Phillips, and Mr. Kennemore was made by Mr.
31 Estridge, seconded by Dr. Vaught, and passed unanimously.

32 **Approval of Minutes: 5/2/2017, 6/7/2017, and 6/20/2017**

33 The motion to approve minutes from previous meeting was made by Mr. Shoemake. The motion was
34 seconded by Mr. Estridge and passed unanimously.

35 **Chairperson's Remarks:**

36 Chairman McCullough announced Sym Singh as the new Administrator of the Athletic Commission.
37 Chairman McCullough introduced William D'Andrea as the new Board member for the Athletic
38 Commission.

39 **Administrator's Remarks:**

40 Administrator Singh presented the latest budget figures to the Board. Mr. Singh presented an IRC
41 complaint to the Board for approval.

42

43 **Motion:**

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45 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to accept the IRC report as presented. Mr. D'Andrea seconded the
46 motion which passed unanimously.

47

48 **ODC Report:**

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50 Ms. Erin Baldwin introduced herself to the Board as the new disciplinary counsel.

51

52 **ABC Conference:**

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54 Mr. Singh presented the new weight classes presented by the Association of Boxing Commissions at the
55 July 2017 ABC convention.

56

57 **Interpretation of Regulation:**

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59 Mr. Shoemake made the interpretation that per S.C. Reg. 40-81-445 Promoters are allowed to use the
60 most current ABC unified rules pertaining to Mixed Martial Arts. No motions were made.

61

62 **New Business**

63 **Disciplinary Hearing – Thurmond Rico Guess, Jr.**

64 Chairman McCullough called the disciplinary hearing of Mr. Thurmond Rico Guess, Jr. to order at
65 10:56 a.m. Attorney for the state Kyle Tennis presented the stipulation of facts regarding Mr. Guess. Mr.
66 Guess presented to the Board regarding his case.

67

68 **Motion:**

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70 Mr. Estridge made a motion to enter executive session to seek legal counsel. Dr. Vaught seconded the
71 motion which carried unanimously.

72

73 **Motion:**

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75 Dr. Vaught made the motion to exit executive session. Mr. Shoemake seconded the motion which passed
76 unanimously.

77

78 **Motion:**

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80 Mr. Shoemake made the motion that the disposition of the Board was to impose a public reprimand and
81 \$200.00 fine on Mr. Thurmond Rico Guess, Jr. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion which passed
82 unanimously.

83

84 **Guest Speaker – Dr. Jon Lucas, M.D.**

85 Dr. Lucas presented to the Board regarding the risks of rapid weight cuts and dehydration in combat
86 sports. Dr. Lucas also addressed the importance of cutmen at events and the importance of comparing a
87 fighter’s baseline medicals from prior events to the results of pre-fight physicals.

88 **2017 Regulatory Review Report**

89 **Motion:**

90 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to approve the Chairperson to sign the regulatory review document as
91 requested by the Office of the Governor. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

92 **Off the Street Boxing:**

93 The Board discussed possible additional regulations to Off the Street Boxing licensure. No motions were
94 made.

95 **National Identification Requirement for Amateur and Professional Mixed Martial Arts Fighters:**

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97 The Board discussed the possibility of requiring all Mixed Martial Arts fighters to obtain a National I.D.
98 number in addition to state licensure to ensure the proper verification of records.

99

100 **Motion:**

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102 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to allow staff to strongly recommend that all Mixed Martial Arts
103 fighters obtain a National I.D. number and for staff to contact the National Mixed Martial Arts database
104 to facilitate the process. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

105

106 **Alternative IRC Members:**

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108 Mr. Singh addressed the Board regarding the possibility of those without Athletic Commission licensure
109 to join the IRC to ensure fairness. No motions were made

110

111 **Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

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113 **Motion:**

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115 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to allow William McCullough to continue to serve as Chairperson for
116 the Athletic Commission. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

117

118 Motion:

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120 Chairman McCullough made the motion that Derek Shoemake serve as Vice Chairman of the Athletic
121 Commission. Mr. D'Andrea seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

122

123 Unfinished Business

124 UMMAF and Sanctioning of Amateur Mixed Martial Arts – Justin Brown:

125 Mr. Justin Brown, the Southeast director of UMMAF requested an interpretation of SC Reg. 40-81-445
126 regarding the possibility of allowing an outside sanctioning body to supervise Amateur Mixed Martial
127 Arts.

128 Motion:

129 Dr. Vaught made the motion to enter executive session to seek legal counsel. Mr. Estridge seconded the
130 motion which carried unanimously.

131 Motion:

132 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to exit executive session. Mr. D'Andrea seconded the motion which
133 carried unanimously.

134 Motion:

135 Mr. Shoemake made the motion to interpret SC. Reg. 40-81-445 and 20-24.1 to allow the approval of an
136 outside sanctioning body to regulate Amateur Mixed Martial Arts. Mr. Estridge seconded the motion
137 which passed unanimously.

138 Amateur Kickboxing:

139 The Board discussed the possibility of sanctioning amateur kickboxing. No motions were made.

140 Public Comment:

141 Mr. Justin Brown commented on official certifications in the state.

142 Adjournment

143 Mr. Estridge made the motion to adjourn the South Carolina Athletic Commission quarterly Board
144 meeting. Dr. Vaught seconded the motion which passed unanimously.