

Minutes
South Carolina Athletic Commission
10:00 A.M., May 2, 2017
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building, Room 202-02
110 Centerview Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Commission members present included:

William McCullough – Chairman

Derek Shoemake – Vice Chairman

Dr. James Vaught – District 9

Pamela Shealy – At Large Member

Staff members present at this meeting included:

Natalye Jackson - Athletic Commission Administrator

Hardwick Stuart - Advice Counsel

Amanda Schlegel - Administrative Assistant Athletic Commission.

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman McCullough called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m. Chairman McCullough announced that public notice of this meeting was promptly posted at the South Carolina Athletic Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree 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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Approval of Excused Absences

The motion to approve the excused absences of Dr. Phillips, Mr. Kennemore, and Mr. Estridge was made by Mr. Shoemake and seconded by Dr. Vaught. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

The motion to amend the agenda to move Team MMA review after presentations from Mr. Dean Grigg and Ms. Holly Beeson and move Public Comment before Executive Session was made by Mr. Shoemake and seconded by Dr. Vaught. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

The motion to approve Board meeting minutes for 08/09/2016, 10/04/2016, 10/13/2016, 01/17/2017 and 03/23/2017 was made by Dr. Vaught, seconded by Ms. Shealy, and carried unanimously.

Chairperson's Remarks

Chairman McCullough discussed the opportunity to gather feedback from the fighting community and licensees after events.

Administrator's Remarks:

Administrator Jackson presented the budget and licensing updates to the Board.

Office of Investigation and Enforcement Report

Sharon Wolfe presented the Office of Investigation and Enforcement report to the Board.

Investigative Review Committee Report

Kyle Tennis presented the Investigative Review Committee report to the Board and cited no evidence for open case.

Motion

Mr. Shoemake made the motion to dismiss open case. The motion was seconded by Ms. Shealy and carried unanimously.

Staffing and Licensing Update

Administrator Jackson presented to the Board regarding new event licensing, online licensing, part time temporary employees and uniforms for Inspectors.

New Business

Disciplinary Hearings – Tyler Keef

Chairman McCullough called the hearing of Tyler Keef (2015-17, 2015-18) to order. Mr. Kyle Tennis presented the states findings regarding possible disciplinary issues pending on the Promoter and Wrestler licenses of Mr. Tyler Keef.

Motion

Ms. Shealy made the motion to enter Executive Session for legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vaught, and carried unanimously.

Motion

Dr. Vaught made the motion to exit Executive Session. Mr. Shoemake seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion

Mr. Shoemake made the motion to impose a \$200.00 fine for case 2015-17 and a \$200.00 fine for case 2015-18 and waive fines stemming from late gate fees. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vaught and carried unanimously.

Disciplinary Hearing - Thurmond Guess - POSTPONED**Age-Waiver Hearing – Juli Levine**

Chairman McCullough called the hearing of Ms. Juli Levine to order. The motion to approve the age waiver for the remainder of the 2017 licensure period for Ms. Levine was made by Mr. Shoemake. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vaught and carried unanimously.

Age-Waiver Hearing – Amos Collins

Chairman McCullough called the hearing of Mr. Amos Collins to order. The motion to approve the age waiver for the remainder of the 2017 licensure period for Mr. Collins was made by Ms. Shealy. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vaught and carried unanimously.

Office of Investigation and Enforcement and the Investigative Process - Dean Grigg

Deputy Director Grigg addressed the Board regarding procedures for complaints coming before the Board.

Athletic Commission Statutes - Holly Beeson

Ms. Beeson addressed the Board regarding discrepancies between Athletic Regulations and Statutes.

Review of January 21, 2017 Team MMA Event – Casey Oxendine

Mr. Oxendine presented before the Board regarding the first of three Team MMA events.

Motion

Dr. Vaught made the motion to enter a brief recess. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion

Mr. Shoemake made the motion to exit recess. Ms. Shealy seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Off the Street Boxing in South Carolina

Mr. Chris Smith answered questions presented by the Board regarding Off the Street Boxing. Discussion ensued. No motions were made.

S.C. Head Referee/Judge Appointment Policy

The Board discussed the possibility of appointing an official Head Referee to assist the Board. No motions were made.

Interpretation of S.C Code of Laws Section 40-81-360 (A): Interpretation as it relates to Commission Fees

The Board compared South Carolina licensure fees compared to other neighboring states. No motions were made.

Event Promotions in S.C.

Chairman McCullough asked Promoters present at the meeting about any current event plans. Discussion ensued. No motions were made.

Leg Locks, Knees and Elbows in Amateur in MMA

The Board discussed the possibility of changing Amateur MMA rules. Discussion ensued and no motions were made.

Updated Promoter and Event Guidelines

Administrator Jackson presented to the Board the new Promoter and Promoter's Representative Guidelines. No motions were made.

Delivery of Medicals, Fighter Suspensions, LLR Policies, and Unsanctioned Events - Andrew Stokes

Mr. Stokes presented to the Board regarding fighter's delivery of their own medical documents. Mr. Stokes presented to the Board regarding notifying fighters of medical suspensions. Mr. Stokes did not have any information to present regarding unsanctioned events. Discussion ensued and no motions were made.

UMMAF as Amateur MMA Sanctioning Body - Justin Brown

Ms. Brown presented to the Board regarding the United States Mixed Martial Arts Federation. Discussion ensued and no motions were made.

Unfinished Business

Amateur Kickboxing

Mr. Brown presented to the Board regarding the possibility of a third party sanctioning body overseeing Amateur Kickboxing in South Carolina. Discussion ensued and no motions were made.

Public Comment

Mr. Brown presented to the Board regarding the use of out-of-state officials.

Motion

Mr. Shoemake made the motion to approve the amendments to the Promoter's guidelines. The motion was seconded by Ms. Shealy and carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the South Carolina Athletic Commission Board meeting was made by Mr. Shoemake, seconded by Dr. Vaught, and carried unanimously.