



**Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration**  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**Boxing and Wrestling Commission**

**September 20, 2018**  
**Minutes**

The District of Columbia Boxing and Wrestling Commission held its scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Washington, D.C. 20024. The Commission held its Executive Session prior to the Commission public meeting.

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Weers at 7:25 pm and attendance was taken.

Commission Members Present: **Adam Weers, Andrew Huff and Kim Lockett (Via Phone)**

Commission Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: **S. Skip Brown, Deputy Commissioner, Kia Winston, Attorney for the Commission, Cynthia Briggs, Interim Program Manager, Daniel McCoy Administrative Officer and Vincent Parker Administrator.**

Staff Members Absent:

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**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public:**

- Comments were offered that NOVA Pro-Wrestling was held in Annandale, VA previously. Also, NOVA Pro-Wrestling will hold an event in Fairfax, VA the following day and it would be for it to come to the District of Columbia.
- Education campaigns and information fairs on financial literacy, health or retirement was discussed; partnering with service providers to offer this information to boxers and the boxing community would be beneficial. This is consistent with the Commission's strategic plan.
- Commissioner Huff indicated that the June 30<sup>th</sup> Pro-Boxing Event was a good event; it went off very well. The PFL event was great as well. Also, he said that the Dr. McKnight was a great and during the event there was some discussion about combining it with the Mayor's Cup to have one large event.

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**Agenda Item: Minutes:**

- Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Huff and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the June 21, 2018 minutes.

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**Agenda Item: Old Business:**

- Association of Boxing Commission: Deputy Commissioner Brown indicated that it was the consensus that this year’s conference was one of the best conferences. The topics discussed were timely and very beneficial, especially the medical issues. There was virtually unanimous consent in approving a second day weigh-in for championship bouts with a 10% cap weight-gain rule. Sanctioning bodies present were also in favor of the rule. Exceeding the cap could result in the loss of ranking and the loss of a belt. He further stated that the rule is scheduled to take effect January of 2019. Lastly,

Commissioner Lockett said that she learned a lot. What was noteworthy was the fund to help boxers “Retired Fighter Charitable Fund”, stressing this was a very good start. Deputy Commissioner Brown recognized Ms. Lockett for her suggestion of listing the fund on each U.S. Commissions’ Combined Federal Campaign listing to help raise awareness and funds. She also stated that she left the conference with a better understanding of health and other issues.

Chairman Weers concurred and added that although not perfect, the Commissions took a major step to have an impact on the abuses in weight-cutting and related issues. He indicated that if a boxer exceeds the cap, the Commission can assess a monetary fine or decide whether the boxer can fight or not. Also, he indicated that there was a discussion with the Commission’s ringside physicians on this issue and other medical related issues, which was very productive.

- Wrestlers vs promoters license: Commission Huff stated that we will do some fact finding concerning liability and licensing but more information will be forthcoming.
- Emergency Rule Making: The Chairman indicated that rule making deals with changing the number and length of rounds, and offered an amendment to include language for Therapeutic Use Exemptions similar to the regulations used by the Nevada Commission.



Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Huff and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Emergency Rule Making.

- Athletic Commission Act. The Chairman stated that would change the name, provide grant making authority and approve amateur boxing without head gear. This last item impacts USABoxing hosting events with amateur boxers not wearing headgear. There will be a hearing soon where this act will be considered.

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**Agenda Item: New Business:**

- Upcoming Events Mr. Brown announced the following event:
  - WKA Amateur Muay Thai event will be next week, **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**. The Weigh-In will be the same day to begin at 4:00 pm and the event will begin at 6:00 pm at the Ronald Reagan Building.

- Events to Approve Mr. Huff announced the 1,000 episode of SmackDown and it will be a big show with old talent appearing:
  - WWE Pro-Wrestling Event, **Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> Capital One Arena**

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Huff and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Event date of October 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Alarm.Com Pro-Boxing-Pro-Muay Thai Event, **Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> Mayflower Hotel**

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Lockett and properly seconded by Commissioner Huff, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Event date of October 18<sup>th</sup>, contingent upon timely submission of all required event documents and with less than 32 required rounds.

- Professional Fighters League (PFL) MMA Event **Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> Entertainment and Sports Arena (ESA)**

Chairman stated that this event is related to the emergency rule the Commission approved. Also, mentioned was that there will be there a ribbon cutting on Saturday for the new ESA. Mr. Jim Bramson of PFL stated that the regular season was just completed and that the format for the upcoming event in the city will be a playoff round of quarter-finals and semi-finals. The finals will take place in New York but everyone is encourage to come attend its events.



Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Huff and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Event date of October 20<sup>th</sup>, pending approval of the final rule making and contingent upon timely submission of all required event documents.

- o Fight For Children - Fight Night Pro-Boxing Event **Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> Washington Hilton Hotel**

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Huff and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Event date of November 1<sup>st</sup>, contingent upon timely submission of all required event documents and with less than 32 rounds.

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- Positive Drug Test: The Chairman stated that there was positive drug test; Commission is reviewing the matter but not action to be taken presently.
- Officials Training Clinic – September 29<sup>th</sup>: 2018: Deputy Commissioner Brown announced since there are potentially more MMA events coming that there will be Officials training – MMA Clinic on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. It will take place at the Yamasaki Academy, further details will follow. Also, in the future, an ABC certification MMA training will be conduct. The date and time to be determined.
- Commission Meeting Date Change: Change to October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

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**Agenda Item: Adjournment:**

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Huff and seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted,

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Adam Weers, Chairperson

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Date

***Recorder & Minutes prepared by: S. Skip Brown, Deputy Commissioner***