**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**AUGUST 11, 2016**

**BATON ROUGE, LA**

1. **ATTENDEES:**
BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)

JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)
HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.)
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.)

JAMES BRENNAN (J.B.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

RICKY NORRIS – DEP. COMMISSIONER

ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) ACCTG

1. **MINUTES:**

J. S. moves to approve July minutes as written; J.B. seconds, passed, all ayes. J.B. moves to accept financial reports, to pay bills and payroll; T.F. seconds, passed, all ayes.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

None.

1. **LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:** No Discussion
2. **NEW BUSINESS**:

Another Barely Legal in Shreveport: problem with a show and the midget person (again) that keeps going around trying to set up these shows around the state. B.E. entertains a motion to direct J.G. to use whatever means necessary to stop these types of shows. T.F. so moves, H.W. seconds, passed all ayes.

We sent Keith Thibodaux to Alabama to judge a couple of fights and we got lots of good feedback about his performance.

There’s a lawsuit filed against WWE; 51 wrestlers suing for concussions, 2 are from LA and still fighting. Can we/should we stop them? They cannot fight if they are hurt. J.G. will get a copy of the lawsuit and review.

J.G. advises we should bring them before the commission in advance of issuing a medical suspension.

Pelican Cases: We have two sets of scales that need to be rolled around. We want to buy two rolling Pelican cases to keep the scales in and transport. T.S. moves to buy, B.D. seconds.

Russell obtains on-line purchase price & Addie issues a check to him to purchase cases.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**:

Jimbo and B.E. have been working on Boxing rules edits:

We are not charging non-declared MTE fighters for Licenses. Addie will put them all together into one comprehensive edit and review mouthpiece omission.

On annual license fees: when it's more than 10 fights, licenses for fighters must be issued a week before the fight; local promoters will not be as hard to keep up with; it’s the big out of town shows that cause a problems.

Do we want to add to rules that would require the doctor to look at a fighter’s eyes? Do we need to require eye exams to detect retinal detachment? Should we put in we may require eye exams at the request of the commission? (check and see if we have right to order post fight drug/medical testing already in new general rules). Should we get drug test kits?

Number of seconds: previously said 2 unless more than 6 rounds; we’ll let them have 3 (1 in ring, 1 on apron and 1 on floor); at the discretion of the commission's 1 inside, 2 on apron & 1 on floor.

Pg. 8 change 157 A: epinephrine edit in current 157 General Rules to be promulgated.

J.G. moves to accept the draft changes to Boxing; B.D. seconds; passed all ayes; Addie will put all together & email to everyone for next meeting.

#305, 307: 10 oz. gloves for females; leave in but championship fights may use 8 oz. gloves as per the requirements of the sanctioning (except for situations explicitly excepted by the commission).

J.G. moves that Addie update final General Rules and all commit to approve them at next meeting to get ball rolling; H.W. seconds; passed, all ayes.

Hopefully we can get General Rules filed by September, Boxing by October and Wrestling and MTE in November. John will submit draft of wrestling rules at next meeting.

321: accidental foul: section I, paragraph 3 is repeated - delete (ck to see if done already) & renumber.

J.G. said people (managers?) were upset that doctors were not checking fighters after the fight. Presently it is only on request; problem with holding up the next fight because the doctor is checking out previous fighter. T.F. says docs watch the fights and check fighters they believe need to be checked as they get out the ring; TKO’s are checked in ring.

121A must be ambulance no more than 300 feet from the ring: Golden Nugget had a problem getting the gurney up to the ring. Must be Promoter’s responsibility to ensure a route from the ambulance to the stage. T.F. says under ABC handbook there is a section on that.

A Doctor noticed a contestant’s blood pressure was falling, fast...John will research and see what we should add to keep friends, relatives, etc., of fighters from interfering with doctor’s orders. Mention commission and/or doctors are not responsible for incidents after fighter refuses to follow a doctor’s order & take the ambulance to hospital.

Are doctors covered under State of LA? Think we had that covered.

1. **PAST SHOWS:**

Ricky had 4 shows; no problems; he turns in the 4 show files to J.G. Russell had 3 wrestling shows. Waiting on check and manifest from NXT show in N.O.

Ricky went to Arcadia to a motorcycle rally to see a midget show; no ring set up & nothing much going on except they walked around acting stupid.

J.B. was very impressed with Ricky’s job at the Golden Nugget show; his supervision was well done and noted.

1. **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

Some on the books, but no checks yet; Russell has Chad’s boxing show on the 27th in Lafayette and a couple of wrestling shows, Aug. 12, 13 & 20th.

Oct 1 in LaRose & Oct 21 in Shreveport are MTE shows; tentative another on 21st in Kerrville but nothing solid.

Ricky has a show in BR this weekend approved at last meeting. Ricky will advise B. Avara of shows so he can put them up on the website.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

J.G. moves to Executive Session per LRS 42.6.1A(2) to discuss pending litigation and internal personnel matters; T.F. seconds; passed, all ayes. Adjourn to Executive Session.

1. **NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

September 8 is good date for all back here at the Embassy Suites; usual time, 1 or 1:30; B.E. will distribute agenda at a later date. T.S. moves to accept date and adjourn; H.W. seconds; meeting adjourned.