

**LOUISIANA STATE
WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION
MINUTES
MAY 20, 2019
BATON ROUGE, LA.**

1) ATTENDEES:

BUDDY EMBANATO (A.E.)
JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.)
JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)
HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.)
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.) - EXCUSED
RUSSELL NAQUIN – (R.N.)

- 2) MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT:** BE moves to accept minutes as written. Financial/bills approved by JG and HW seconds, all ayes.

3) INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Sean Fraleigh;
Michael Foreman;
Michael Scott Whitaker (Chris Black);
Robert Grief; and
Dillon LeBlanc

4) LICENSE RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS:

Sean Fraleigh with Top guns Professional Wrestling applying for a Class “A” Louisiana Wrestling Promoter’s License. JG reviewed bond and is in effect April 30, 2019, good through April 28, 2020. Granted license to wrestle in Louisiana and Alabama. Promoted shows before in Mississippi. Wrestled in Louisiana Saturday, May 18, 2019, on T. Wolf. JS moves to issue a Class “A” wrestling license for 2019, TF seconds. All members vote “AYE” License granted and probationary license granted.

5) NEW BUSINESS: ISSUE OF FALSIFICATION OF BLOODWORK:

Michael Foreman, from White Castle, LA, examined by JG, testified that Mr. Grief provided the forged blood work that he turned in to the commission and Mr. Grief has tried to call him several times, but he never answered. Mr. Foreman provided his e-mail and e-mail to Michael Whitaker. Mr. Foreman traveled 60 miles, one way, 120 miles full distance and the commission will pay .20 per mile and an additional \$30.00 on top of that.

Michael Scott Whitaker, examined by JG, previously testified that he had been provided false blood work by Mr. Grief in connection with a show that Mr. Grief wanted him to attend. Mr. Whitaker deleted the picture of the blood work after he saved it to his phone, but confirmed it

was the paper provided to the commission. Mr. Grief has contacted him and they spoke several times. Mr. Whitaker testified that Mr. Grief has told others that he and Michal Foreman were liars. After this happened, Robert Grief agreed to work a show for him. Traveled 272 miles and the commission will pay .20 per mile, plus \$30.00.

Robert Grief, examined by JG, preliminary hearing. Admitted to having a show in Sunset, LA on January 25, 2019, and sending blood work to Mr. Foreman and Mr. Whitaker and sent false blood work to his wife. Altered blood work using PDF – typed over it and matched the font. Mr. Grief testified Mr. Whitaker did appear on his show and he did not tell the other fellows that the blood work was no good.

Mr. Grief refused a formal hearing and agreed to abide by what the Boxing Commission does today.

6) COMMISSION MOVED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ROBERT GRIEF MATTER

7) COMMISSION RETURNS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION TO RULE ON ROBERT GRIEF MATTER.

The Commission met in closed session and ruled as follows: Mr. Grief is punished as follows: for providing the blood work to Mr. Foreman and Mr. Whitaker, ROBERT GRIEF is suspended from the sport of wrestling for all licenses, not allowed in the back with the wrestlers or in the four corners that are protected in the ring for a period of 5-years. As for as the criminal referral, this will be referred to the criminal authorities. Mr. Grief agrees to the punishment. Michael Whitaker spoke up for Mr. Grief. Addressed by TF, JS, and JG.

8) NEW BUSINESS: CONTINUED

Steve Trumble/Derick Stuart: Promoter who changes dates then cancelled the shows. Allegedly, Roy Jones looking to support the show and being a co-promoter for the show at Xavier University. He wants to know what his status is. Letter from Roy Jones requested to confirm his attendance, JS and AE requested letter from Roy Jones.

BE confirmed that there is a new policy out there called “staged events policy which supposedly provided the same coverage as one applying to “Professional Wrestling.” After much discussion JS moves that, to be acceptable, they must specifically use the term “Professional Wrestling” because that is what the State calls the event and to avoid cancellation of the policy or lack of coverage. JG moves that the policy must have “Professional Wrestling” in the events covered, JS seconds all approve.

JG moves for an amendment to the Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana State Boxing and Wrestling Commission preventing the loaning of promoter's licenses to non-licenses persons for the purpose of putting a show on. The language will be worked out at a future meeting, but the prohibition will be in place immediately. The only exception will be shows currently scheduled. JS seconds all approve.

JG moves for an amendment to the Rules and Regulation of the Louisiana State Boxing and Wrestling Commission providing that "Suspension from one license equals suspension from all licenses held with the LSBWC" this would from this day forward. Language would be agreed to in the future meeting.

It is agreed that the issues of allowing promoter's with class "B" licenses to also promote class "A" shows will be addressed at a future meeting.

BE brings up the issue of various groups/promoters wanting to go to "instant replay" in Boxing and MMA matches. JS moved:

- a. The LSBWC not allow instant replay;
- b. No stopping of the fight to allow the review of the instant replay;
- c. No video review of decisions made by the referee. HW seconds all in favor. Will decide if a rule is actually necessary.

BE discussed a fighter, Christopher Gray, whose MRI showed up two lesions in his brains. He was denied a license. JS moved, HW seconds, all voted in favor.

9) UPCOMING SHOWS:

Justin Verdin, June 1, 2019, MMA, LaRose
June 8, 2019, Wrestling, Cocoa
Shamrock Luke, June 23, 2019
Sean Fraleigh: July 13, 2019, Pearl River

JG accepts show dates

All ayes

10) NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:

June 12, 2019. 10:00 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

J.G. moves to adjourn; T.F. seconds; meeting adjourned.

