

Report on Chickasaw Nation Boxing Commission 2nd Event

Date of Event: April 23rd 2011
Location of Event: Winstar Casino, Thackerville, OK
Promoter: Top Rank

The Chickasaw Nation Boxing Commission was formed by Tribal Resolution on March 19th, 2010 and adopted written rules on October 17th, 2010 in regard to licensing and the regulation of Professional Boxing matches conducted on Tribal land in compliance with the "Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996" and "Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act".

The Chickasaw Nation Boxing Commission rules were reviewed by me and the standards are found to be as stringent, or more stringent, than those rules published by The Oklahoma State Athletic Commission.

Representatives from the Chickasaw Commission have attended several small, large, and televised events since their last event, as well as spend many hours in my office assisting with the preparation of events regulated by the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission. By doing this they have gained a vast amount of knowledge and experience in regulating combative sporting events. They also attended weigh-ins, licensing, press conferences and rules meetings. They have continued to observe inspectors working in the dressing rooms and at ringside.

The Chickasaw Nation has established an account with Fightfax and are in the process of doing so with MMA.LLC. Top Rank was licensed as a promoter and a matchmaker was licensed. A proposed bout sheet was provided the Commission from Top Rank. The Commission checked suspension list and requested fightfaxes to insure no fighters were on suspension and the bouts were fairly matched.

The weigh-in, fighter licensing, and pre-bout physicals were performed the day prior to the event and was accomplished without incident, with the exception of one of the ringside physician being 30 minutes late and the 2nd ringside physician not showing up at all. Measures should be taken to insure ringside physicians are held accountable for their duties and responsibilities. Weights of the fighters were checked against the bout agreements to insure they were accurate and correct.

The Chickasaw Commission appointed the ring officials for the bouts and established what the fees would be. That information was passed on to the promoter.

The Commission insured fighter insurance was provided.

A rules meeting was conducted informing all of the participants of their responsibilities.

All officials and promoters were given financial disclosures statements to complete and sign.

An ambulance with medical personnel and appropriate resuscitation equipment was on site.

A ring inspection was performed.

Dressing rooms were assigned and inspected.

This was a very solid performance for the Chickasaw's second event. They will be a very good

Commission because they are dedicating the time, money, and effort to make sure everything they do is in compliance with federal law. In addition, they are going far beyond their requirements to make events successful. With the training and development of their own crew of Inspectors and officials they will be able to stand alone in a very short time. Although I was not personally in attendance at this event, all of the above was reported to me by my assistant.

The only suggestions I have for the improvement of the Chickasaw Commission would be the development and training of inspectors. While I believe there are plenty of Referee's, Judges, Timekeepers, and Ringside Physicians available, there could possibly be situations when the Oklahoma Commission Inspectors may not be available. Having their own dedicated pool of Inspectors would insure adequate coverage for events they regulate and be much more cost effective for their Commission.