

*July 29-July 31, 2019*  
*ABC Minutes Scottsdale, Arizona*  
*31<sup>st</sup> Annual Association of Boxing Commissions Conference*  
*Dedicated to Senator John McCain*

**Day 1 July 29, 2018, Welcome by President Mazzulli**

Welcome by Francisco Meneses, Arizona and Rep. Jeff Weninger

Recap of Past 4 Years by President Michael Mazzulli

Approval of 2018 Minutes presented by Joe Walsh, ABC Secretary

Approval – Moved by Jeremy Arneson; seconded by Scott Bowler  
Approved on Voice Vote.

Finance Report by Treasurer Lydia Robertson

**Presentation** on Drug Testing by Andy Foster, Director, California. WADA standards were adopted by the ABC several years ago. Commissions must use common sense when enforcing drug testing.

**Presentation** Dr. Margaret Goodman, VADA, presented on drug testing and the importance of not ignoring the problem of PEDs.

**Presentation** by Greg Sirb, Boxing Rules Committee. Less than 1 percent of fighters fought under suspension. Medical or administrative suspension. Set standards for bout agreements. Referee should not pick up score cards.

15 MINUTE COFFEE BREAK

**Presentation** by MMA Rules & Regulations Committee, by Sean Wheelock and John McCarthy, Bellator announcer. Provided an update and data-driven analysis of the unified rules of MMA, including which states are following the full unified rules. In 2016, the ABC passed several rule changes by a 42-1 vote (with 1 abstention and 1 absence). Most states have adopted the changes. Several have not. There was a lively discussion about the value of having all states unified on the rule set and, in particular, whether the grounded fighter definition/rule should be changed again. Discussion was eventually deferred on the agenda for the afternoon.

Proposed By-Law Changes. Presented to body in advance of vote per by-laws.

**Section 2.2 Dues** Each member shall be required to pay reasonable dues. The amount of these dues shall be set by the membership with a minimum of \$200 for regular membership and \$100 for associate membership. Dues must be paid in full by a member in order for that member to be considered as a voting member in good standing, and dues must be current for at least three years in order to run for office.

**Presentation** on the unified rules of kickboxing by Cory Schaffer, ISKA. Proposed unified amateur rules of kickboxing were approved on a voice vote. Moved by Frank Gentile, seconded by Matt Woodruff.

Rules available on website.

Group Photograph was taken.

Lunch

President Mazzulli announced that the Board of Directors voted to retain Lydia Robertson as Board Administrator for specific duties. No objections were lodged by the body.

Declaration of Intention for ABC Board of Directors positions.

Secretary: Alyson Tuley, Chickasaw Nation  
Treasurer: Trista Robischon, Oregon  
Vice President: Kim Sumbler, New York  
                    Matt Schowalter, Minnesota  
                    Frank Gentile, Miccosukee  
                    Mark Langlais, Connecticut  
President: Brian Dunn, Nebraska

**Presentation** by John English, New Hampshire. Presented on the ABC Retired Fighters Charity Committee. Gave information on what the Fund has done; fundraising and gifts. Proposed changes to By-Laws to ensure compliance and give committee appropriate independence from ABC. Complied with by-law notice provisions.

#### **Section 6.1 Committees**

There shall be the following permanent standing committees: Medical, Legal, Rule Making, Training and Education, Disciplinary and **Retired Fighters Charity**.\*

\*Replaces Boxers Pension & Trust Fund

#### **Section 7.1 Meetings**

The ABC shall meet a minimum of once every twelve months to carry out its missions. All meetings shall be at a designated site with adequate notice given to all members.

Periodic meetings of the Board of Directors and the committees of the ABC may be conducted via teleconferencing.

All meetings of the ABC shall be conducted by Parliamentary Procedures as adopted by the majority of the membership.

**Retired Fighter's Charity Committee shall be allowed to distribute funds throughout the year, per Parliamentary Procedures consistent with these by-laws.**

The officers of the ABC, as well as the Board of Directors, shall be empowered to hold special meetings as they deem necessary. Any actions taken at these special meetings shall be ratified at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the ABC.

**Presentation** by Rules & Regs Committee. Presented on three proposed policy changes by the Committee.

#### **Motion from Rules & Regs Committee**

1. Clarification of the 10-8 Round. Clearer definition of what constitutes a 10-8 round.  
[attach rule]  
Moved by President; Seconded by Scott from Utah  
Discussed by voting members Kim Sumbler and Sean Wheelock  
Concerns expressed by Andy Foster  
Motion to table by Andy Foster, seconded by Mazzulli, Tabled on a voice vote.
2. Video monitors should be used when appropriate.  
Moved by Kim Sumbler; seconded by Frank Gentile  
No discussion  
Passed unanimously by voice vote.
3. Cuts generated by fouls should be addressed.  
Moved by Langlais; seconded by Sumbler  
No discussion.  
Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Open Discussion about the grounded opponent rule. There was a discussion about unifying as a body with some type of compromise on grounded fighters. All people present were encouraged to address the body. The following individuals addressed the body, Schafer, Foster, Sirb, Sumbler, John English, Skip Brown, Tracie Lesatar, Christiano, Tony Cummins, Jeremy Arneson, Lee Parham, BJM, Marc Ratner, Pat English, Joe Walsh, Brian Dunn, Sean Wheelock, Mazzulli, Kevin MacDonald, Cindy, Joanna Holland, Gavin Pantajo, Brandon, Smoker, Frank Gentile.

**Presentation**, Dan Severn, spoke about his career and life.

Introduction of Miccosukee Nation; return to membership in the ABC.

Introduction of Ziggy Lei) from Shanghai Boxing Federation

Motion to accept Shanghai Boxing Federation as an associate member in the ABC.

Moved by Andy Foster; Second by Sumbler

Adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Introduction of Central Combative Sports Commission

Motion to accept Central Combative Sports Commission as an associate member in the ABC.

Moved by Mike Mazzulli; second by Francisco Meneses

Adopted by unanimous voice vote.

## **Day 2 July 30, 2019**

### **Awards Presentations by BoxRec**

**Panel Discussion** on ABC Code of Conduct for Officials. This is a form for officials to sign. Available on website. Moved for adoption as a best practice for officials by Mike Mazzulli, seconded by Kim Sumbler. Adopted unanimously on voice vote.

### **Presentation on New ABC Pro Boxer Application**

Moved for adoption by Matt Showalter, seconded by Jim Grow. Approved on voice vote. New Pro Boxer Application available on web site.

**Weight Cutting Problem Presentation** by Andy Foster.

**Presentation on Muhammad Ali Act** by Pat English.

### **Revisited Tabled Motion Regarding Definition of “Dominance” by ABC Rules & Regs Committee.**

Tabled Motion Regarding 10-8 Rounds addressed. Clarified language was presented to clarify what is meant by “domination” in a round. Properly moved to accept by Andy Foster, CA, seconded by Scott Bowler, Utah. Sean Wheelock discussed with assistance from Tracy Lesetar-Smith. Passed unanimously by voiced vote.

Motion by Greg Sirb regarding Downed Fighter Rule/Definition. After a brief recess to agree to specific language

It is a foul to knee or kick the head of a grounded opponent:

A grounded fighter is defined as: Any part of the body, other than the soles of the feet (excluding fingers) touching the fighting area floor.

A fighter will be considered grounded if the palm or closed fist of one hand, and/or any other body part, is touching the fighting area floor.

The ABC agrees to change to the grounded opponent definition, as set forth above, contingent upon the following terms:

- After all commissions have made the changes to become unified, and have provided written verification of compliance to the ABC Board of Directors, the new unified rules will become effective by July 1, 2020.

This language was moved by Greg Sirb as a compromise and seconded by Jeremy Arneson. Sirb made passionate speech in favor. Other members discussing included: Langlais, English, Mazzulli, Pantajo, Wheelock (with technical explanation by Kevin McCarthy and Jerin Valel), Alexander, Mazzulli recognized Dr. Schwartz, Sumbler, Wheelock (recognized Cory Schafer). Matt Valenzuela from UFC also recognized. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Presentation by Chair of Retired Fighter Charity.** John English. Raised \$7,500 on Casino night. Matched by the World Boxing Organization, John Duggan announced.

**Presentation by ABC Official Databases.** BoxRec and MixedMartialArts.com. New fee structures were explained amongst other topics. Agreements have been negotiated with both official ABC databases. There was a discussion about beginning the new fee structure on January 1, 2020; the body then asked to have the date moved up to October 1, 2019. Moved by Gavin Pantoja, NM, seconded by Timothy Shipman. Approved by a unanimous voice vote.

### **Nominations and Elections for 2019-2020 Board of Directors**

Nomination for President: Brian Dunn Properly Nominated and seconded. No other candidates were nominated. Brian Dunn was accepted as ABC President by unanimous voice vote.

Nominations for Vice President Positions. Determination to nominate all individuals for both positions. Top vote getter is 1<sup>st</sup> VP, second vote getter is 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

Gerald Smith nominated Frank Gentile. Seconded by Mike Mazzulli.

John English nominated Mark Langlais. Seconded by Greg Sirb.

Matt Woodruff nominated Matt Schowalter. Seconded by Brandon Wilson.

Scott Bowler nominated Kim Sumbler. Seconded by Francisco Meneses.

Nominations for Treasurer. Trista Robischon properly nominated and seconded. No other candidates were nominated. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Nominations for Secretary. Alyson Tuley was properly nominated and seconded. No other candidates were nominated. Tuley was approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Proposed Changes to By-Laws**

Retired Fighter Fund Committee Changes. Presented by John English. Moved by Andy Foster, seconded by Mike Mazzulli. Passed by Unanimous voice vote.

Section 2.2 Changes to elections of members. Moved by Timothy Shipman seconded by Mark Langlais. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **Day 3 July 31, 2019**

Motion to adopt ABC Code of conduct. Moved by Jackie Grant, seconded by President Mazzulli. Adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion of the Use of Third Party Sanctioning Bodies.

**Presentation on Choke Holds** by Dr. Don Muzzi

**Drug Testing Presentation** Dr. Daniel Eichner

**Presentation on Trans Athletes** by Dr. Siddharta Angadi

**Presentation on Legal Considerations of Ringside Medicine** by Dr. Schwartz

**Presentation on Unknown Medical Resources Surprise** by Dr. Neidecker.

**Presentation on Medical Malpractice** by Dr. M. Pautz

Medical Panel Discussion, Schwartz, Muzzi, Bergeron, Pautz, Neidecker

Voting Commissions in Attendance (3 other commissions present did not turn in voting sheets)

1	Illinois	Nancy Illg
2	Mashantucket Pequot	Mai Provost
3	Wisconsin	Mary Murphy Edwards
4	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Rafaela Sanchez
5	New Hampshire	John English
6	Pete Suazo Utah	Scott Bowler
7	Nebraska	Brian Dunn
8	Florida	Timothy Shipman
9	New Mexico	Gavin Pantoja
10	St. Regis Mohawk	Brandon Smoke
11	Oregon	Trista Robischon
12	Kansas	Sean Wheelock
13	Chickasaw	Haskell Alexander
14	Colorado	Tony Cummins
15	North Dakota	Brandon Wilson
16	Minnesota	Eileen McNiff
17	Virginia	David Holland
18	Arizona	Francisco Meneses
19	Hawaii	Alan Taniguchi
20	DC	Adam Weers
21	Miccosukee Tribe	Frank Gentile
22	Pascua Yaqui AC	Ernie Gallardo
23	Wyoming	Jeremy Arneson
24	New York	Kim Sumbler
25	Connecticut	Mark Langlais
26	Idaho	James Grow
27	Texas	Lee Parham
28	Rhode Island	Peter Timothy
29	Nevada	Jeff Mullen
30	Oklahoma	Mike Bower
31	Siletz Tribal AC	Gerald Smith
32	Tennessee	Toby Compton
33	North Carolina	Dennis Reno
34	Pennsylvania	Greg Sirb
35	California	Andy Foster
36	Kentucky	Cindy Stinnett
37	Indiana	Joanna Holland
38	Georgia	Matt Woodruff
39	Mohegan Sun	Mike Mazzulli
40	Iowa	Joe Walsh

41	Seneca	Jackie Grant
42	Mille Lacs Band	Present (Skip Brown provided proxy)