

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

The Commission Meeting for the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission was held on Thursday May 16, 2013, at The Sloppy Floyd Government Office Building 2 MLK Jr. Drive Atlanta, GA 30334.

The following Commissioners were present:	Others Present:
J.J. Biello- Chairman Moses Ector- Vice Chairman Ben Kiker	Matt Woodruff Attorney General Office [Reagan Dean] Opie Bowen Nate Mann (GAEC Official) Jeff Kemp (GAEC Official) David Oblas Megan Swartslander
	Adrian Patrick Khunpon Henry Okafor Lashaun Blair Manu Jones Kerry Parks Juan Guevara

Chairman J.J. Biello established that a quorum was present and the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission meeting that were scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. was called to order at 11:00am a.m.

Motion to Approve the commission meeting minutes from May 16th, 2013. Vice Chairman Moses Ector makes a motion to approve, and Commissioner Ben Kiker seconds that motion. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the Undisputed Productions, LLC promoter's license renewal application. Chairman Biello asked Matt Woodruff if all the proper paperwork has been submit. Mr. Woodruff stated that everything for this permit has been submitted. Commissioner Kiker makes a motion to approve, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve then 7/19/2013 Undisputed Productions, LLC MMA event permit. Chairman Biello asks if all the paperwork has been submitted. Mr. Woodruff said that everything has been turned in. Vice Chairman Ector makes a motion to approve, and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the promoter's license application for Henry Okafor. Chairman Biello asked Mr. Woodruff if all the proper paperwork has been submit. Mr. Woodruff stated that everything for this permit has been submitted. Chairman Biello makes a

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

motion to approve, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the 7/27/2013 boxing event permit for Henry Okafor. Chairman Biello asked Mr. Woodruff if all the proper paperwork has been submit. Mr. Woodruff stated that everything for this permit has been submitted. Vice Chairman Ector makes a motion to approve and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve Route 30 Promotions promoter's license application. Chairman Biello asked Mr. Woodruff if all the paperwork has been submitted. Mr. Woodruff stated that everything for this permit has been submitted. Chairman Biello asked Manu Jones if he has ever promoted before and Mr. Jones said that he has not. Chairman Biello said that he suggests Mr. Jones to advertise, that is the most important thing you can do. Vice Chairman Ector makes a motion to approve, and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the 8/18/2013 Route 30 Promotions boxing event permit. Chairman Biello asked if all the paperwork has been submitted. Mr. Woodruff stated that everything for this permit has been submitted. Vice Chairman Ector makes a motion to approve, and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the license application for Curt Render. Mr. Woodruff said that he attempted to get in touch with Mr. Render, however was not able to. Mr. Woodruff said that Mr. Render is 41 years old, with a 6-19 record and wishes to obtain a Boxing license. He has 8 consecutive loses, 5 in a row have been a TKO or KO loss. Chairman Biello wants to request Mr. Render at the July meeting. Chairman Biello tables until the July meeting.

Motion to Approve the license application for Lashaun Blair. Chairman Biello asked if Mr. Blair was present, and Mr. Woodruff stated that Mr. Blair is present. Mr. Woodruff said that Mr. Blair is 40 years old, with a 4-27 records; he has lost 10 in a row, and 5 his last 10 have been by a KO or TKO and wishes to obtain a Boxing license. Chairman Biello asked Mr. Blair to speak about his record. Mr. Blair said that his record truly does not reflect his ability. He would just take the fights on quick notice. Sometimes fighting hurt, fighting bigger guys, bad decisions to take the fights. Vice Chairman Ector asked Mr. Blair if this is truly something he still wants to do, and Mr. Blair said that he trains daily. Adrian Patrick said that he has seen him fight a few times, and called him one of the best fighters with one of the worst records. Adrian said his fights are very action packed, and he is a very good fighter, even though his record does not reflect that. Adrian said he would put him on his card for sure. Chairman Biello asked who he plans to fight for. Mr. Blair said he has had some calls, however it is mainly because people want to be associated with his trainer, Bernard Taylor. Chairman Biello asked what Mr. Blair's medical history looked like, and Mr. Woodruff said all his medicals are in except for the Cardio exam. Chairman Biello asked why the cardio exam wasn't submitted, and Mr. Blair said that he wasn't aware he was missing that, and has not had the time because of his job. Vice Chairman

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

Ector says he has no problems to approve him, after we receive completion of the medical test have been submitted. Chairman Biello said that we are giving Mr. Woodruff the authority to approve Mr. Blair for license, pending he submits his Cardio exam. Chairman Biello said that for Mr. Blair to fight someone, he must fight someone with a below .500 record, since Mr. Blair is 4-27. Commissioner Kiker makes a motion to approve for license, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the license application for Kerry Parks. Mr. Woodruff stated that Mr. Parks is a 45 year old boxer who wishes to obtain a license. His record is 11-10-3, and he is here in front of the board because of his age. Mr. Parks said that his first 7 fights he was 1-6, next 17 fights were 10-4-3. Chairman Biello asked Adrian Patrick if Mr. Parks would fight for him, and Mr. Patrick said yes he plans to have him on the card. Chairman Biello asked if his the medicals have been submitted, and Mr. Woodruff said that all the medicals have been submitted and have all been cleared. Commissioner Kiker makes a motion to approve, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Re-Vote on proposed rule change 85-4-.07, contestant's equipment. Mr. Woodruff stated that this was tabled last month to add some wording into the language. Chairman Biello asked if any headgear was present for the commission to see. Khunpon feels that headgear does not really protect the fighter. He feels that headgear can just get more in the way than anything. Commissioner Kiker said that headgear is supposed to help the fighter from a potential head-butt. Most of the time, the headgear does not have the cheek pads. Khunpon says that the headgear is often to fall off, and when that does it slows everything down. He also said that any fighter is going to hit you in the face, not punch the headgear. Commissioner Kiker wants to know what we are trying to do here with headgear. Khunpon says if a fighter has over 3 fights then the headgear should be dropped. Mr. Woodruff said the reason for this rule, is because there currently is a policy in place and we need it to be a documented rule. Khunpon said he would like to see a vote to use the shin guards and headgear. He is saying that Muay Thai has its own set of rules that are different from Kickboxing. He said that amateur Muay Thai, no one can use the elbow. Amateur Muay Thai is Thailand; they are allowed to use elbows, with elbow pads on. He wants to move forward with updating Muay Thai rules, and we need to know more about this sport. Chairman Biello wants Commissioner Kiker to take the lead on this matter. Commissioner Kiker wants to clarify that Khunpon wants to start to allow amateur Muay Thai fighter to use elbows, with elbow pads. Khunpon wants to grow this sport and for Muay Thai to get bigger. Chairman Biello wants to know what other states are currently using these rules. Khunpon said that California is using these. Commissioner Kiker said that he would like to do some research and talk to Andy Foster to see how those rules are working. The commission has tabled until July.

Vote on Purposed Rule Change 85-1-.05 (4) (b) (1) - rounds scheduled. Mr. Woodruff said that last month the board voted to change the number of rounds required for a boxing and MMA show. That rule has been posted for 37 days, no public comments were made and now it is back to vote on to implement. Chairman Biello makes a

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

motion to approve, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The Commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Vote on Purposed Rule Change 85-1-.08 (1) (i) (4) – conduct of bout. Mr. Woodruff said that last month the board voted to have amateur fighters wears dual arch mouthpieces or a mouth piece that covers the top and bottom teeth. The rule had been posted for 37 days, and Khunpon emailed with a public comment on this. Khunpon said that all fighters use “impact mouth guards.” Commissioner Kiker said the reason for a dual mouthpiece is to keep the mouth shut, if you open the mouth; you are more open to a broken jaw. Commissioner Kiker is all for having dual arch mouthpieces. Commissioner Kiker makes a motion to approve, and Vice Chairman Ector seconds. The Commission votes 3-0 to approve.

Discussion on possible suspension of Antonio Meadows conduct from June 1, 2013 event. Mr. Woodruff told the board that Mr. Meadows is an amateur fighter who is currently licensed through the GAEC. At the show on June 1, Mr. Meadows just decided to walk out of the venue 2 fights before he was scheduled to fight. He did sign an amateur contract, and the ISKA did want to suspend him for 90 days, which that suspension is already in effect. Mr. Woodruff said that he is not sure if Georgia can suspend him, and will defer to the Attorney General’s office, Reagan Dean. Mr. Dean, who is filling in for Graham Barron, said that according to Graham, it’s a grey area on what is allowed to do. Mr. Dean said reading the contract; it does say that we are allowed to suspend him. The contract said he gives up the rights to a hearing and his license may be suspended. Mr. Woodruff said that the contract allows us to potentially suspend for 90-180 days. Chairman Biello wanted to know if this fighter wants to come and defend himself, and Mr. Woodruff said that he has talked to the fighter’s camp a few weeks back. He said that the fighter has made is right with his coaches and teammates; however they have no argument against a suspension. Commissioner Kiker wants to know what the ISKA is doing, and Mr. Woodruff said that they suspended him 90 days, which that has already started. Chairman Biello wanted to know what we should do. Mr. Dean said that he is allowed to get suspended since he waived his right in the contract. Commissioner Kiker suggests contact ISKA to length the suspension from 90 to 180 days.

Discussion on possible suspension of Ryan Madigan’s conduct from June 21, 2013. Mr. Woodruff told the board that Mr. Madigan was on Khunpon’s fight card, and when he showed up to the weigh in, we informed him that the blood work he submitted was not valid and he would have to get new blood taken. Dr. Curtis Cheeks, the ring side doctor for this event, was working to get Mr. Madigan an appointment at Piedmont Hospital for his blood to be drawn, then Khunpon comes to tell Mr. Woodruff and Matthew Waller, Chief Official, that Ryan has left the weigh in and is nowhere to be found. Chairman Biello asked Khunpon what the problem was and Khunpon said he fought a few weeks prior in Ohio, where his blood work was good. He does not know what each state requires. When he got here, he was told that he would have to do an overnight blood test done, and then all of a sudden he left. Chairman Biello asked if the fighter was not aware if blood was required. Commissioner Kiker said it is a technicality because outside of the blood, he was ready to fight. Chairman Biello wants to know the length of a suspension. Mr. Woodruff said that the minimum suspension

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

is 90 days and the maximum is 180 days. Chairman Biello makes a motion to suspend him 180 days, and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The Commission votes 3-0 to suspend him.

Suspension hearing for Seth Marquez. Chairman Biello wanted to know if Seth was in attendance and Mr. Woodruff said that he is not here, however he spoke with his coach and they said they would be here. Mr. Woodruff said that Seth was notified before the fight that if he loses he would be suspended. Georgia rules state if you lose 6 in a row then you would be suspended. He took the fight anyways and lost a split decision to Juan Puerta. Mr. Woodruff said talking with Matthew Waller, Blake Grice, Will Fisher, and Jeff Kemp, all GAEC officials who worked the event, said that Seth is a good fighter, he has had some bad luck and lost 6 in a row. They said that the suspension for him should not be long, if any. Vice Chairman Ector said that the Chief Official feels that the fighter does not warrant a long suspension, if any. Vice Chairman Ector feels that the Chief Official knows the best, since he was there and makes a motion that we lift the suspension. Commissioner Kiker seconds that motion. The Commission votes 3-0 to lift the suspension.

Discussion eligibility to compete as Amateur MMA Fighter. Mr. Woodruff said that David Oblas sent in an email on behalf of Juan Guevara, co-owner of Striker Fight Center, about the eligibility of Michael Depeyster. This fighter has fought once as an amateur MMA fight and once as a Pro Boxer. The fighter wishes to return back to amateur MMA. Mr. Woodruff said that he reached out to Andy Foster on this subject, and Mr. Foster said that he would never allow this to take place. Mr. Woodruff also said that on December 16, 2010 the board has a similar case, where the board voted no and did not allow this to occur. Commissioner Kiker said he has already fought as a pro boxer then goes to an amateur, he could use boxing skills and knock him out by standing up. Vice Chairman Ector said it looks as if this precedent has been set before. Juan Guevara said that his concern for his fighter is his safety. His amateur MMA fight was about 4 years ago and his boxing match was about 2 years ago. He did not accept any money for this fight because he was helping out a friend. The fighter wishes to pick MMA back up, however Mr. Guevara said that he is worried for his fighter because he has never experienced knees, ground and pound, elbows, kicking, etc. Mr. Guevara wishes the board would make him have 3 more fights before going pro, so he can get familiar with the rules of MMA. Vice Chairman Ector to deny this request and Commissioner Kiker seconds. The Commission votes 3-0 to deny him the right to fight amateur MMA.

Discussion with David Oblas, Mr. Oblas would like to know how quickly the dual arch mouthpiece will go into effect. Vice Chairman Ector said he feels it goes into effect immediately, and the promoter is aware of this to notify the fighters of this rule change. Reagan Dean said the rule will not be in effect for 20 days of filing and posting this rule.

Motion to adjourn. Chairman Biello makes the motion, Vice Chairman Ector seconds and the commission voted 4-0 to adjourn.

Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
June 27, 2013

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.