Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission
Commission Meeting
September 17, 2026

The Commission Meeting for the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission was held on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Atlanta Galleria. 2815 Akers Mill Road SE, Atlanta, GA 30339.

Commissioner's Present:	**Others Present:**
Dr. Jeff Traub, MD- Chairman Dr. Chris Haraszti, MD- Vice Chairman Bruce Smith* Rick Thompson Seth Millican* *Virtually	Matt Woodruff- Executive Director Todd Zandrowicz- SOS PLB Director Wanda Jaffe*- SOS PLB Deputy Director Attorney General's Office [Thomas McNulty*] Justin Burns David Oblas Jesse Wable Clay Bennett Mike Wilson Allen Simms Daniel Wible Blake Grice* Nate Mann* Matthew Waller*

Chairman Dr. Jeff Traub established that a quorum was present and the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission meeting that was scheduled to begin at 1:30pm and was called to order at 1:36pm.

Motion to Approve the 8/20/26 Commission Meeting Minutes. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 5-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the 8/20/26 Executive Session Commission Meeting Minutes. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Smith seconds, and the Commission votes 3-0 to approve. Commissioners Thompson and Millican did not vote.

Motion to Approve the 9/2/26 Commission Meeting Minutes. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Smith seconds, and the Commission votes 3-0 to approve. Commissioners Thompson and Millican did not vote.

Motion to Approve the 9/2/26 Executive Session Commission Meeting Minutes. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Smith seconds, and the Commission votes 3-0 to approve. Commissioners Thompson and Millican did not vote.

Chairman Traub makes a motion to amend the order of the agenda. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 5-0.

Petition for Rule Waiver by NFC Fighting for Rule 85-1-.02 Event Ticket Tax for September 18, 2026. Commissioner Millican makes a motion to approve. Vice Chairman Haraszti seconds, and the Commission votes 5-0 to approve.

Commissioner Millican stepped out of the meeting.

Public Hearing and Vote on Proposed Rule 85-1-.15- Non-Paid Professional. A hearing on the proposed rule took place, hearing from Commissioners, David Oblas, Clay Bennett, and Justin Burns. Following the hearing, Commissioner Thompson makes a motion to deny the proposed rule. Vice Chairman Haraszti seconds, and the Commission voted 3-1 to not move forward the proposed rule in current form.

Motion to Approve the Administrative Authority Policy. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Smith seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

There was a discussion to go into Executive Session at the point to discuss license applications and event permits. It was advised by the Attorney General's office and the Secretary of State's office to enter Executive Session. The Commission declined and stayed open.

Motion to Approve the 10/3/26 Apex Promotions event permit. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve Candyman Promotions promoter license. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

Motion to Approve the 10/4/26 event permit. Vice Chairman Haraszti makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

Commissioner Smith stepped out of the meeting. Commissioner Millican returned to the meeting.

Public Comment:

- Justin Burns:
  - Issues at a previous event with GOALs system and allowing his coach to work the event.
  - Feels judges are bias towards his fighters.
  - Wants a physical and fitness test for referees.
  - Would like to see stronger punishments for officials who mess up.

Commissioner Millican left the meeting. Commissioner Smith returned to the meeting.

- David Oblas:

- States that he still receives numerous complaints over the GOALs system.
  - The Commission advised him that there are two provision loads coming in September and October with changes to the processes for applications.
- Wanted to state that Commission staff used a derogatory term about his company three years ago in a public meeting.
- Wants to know what is being done on the increase in illegal events.
  - The Commission stated that they are investigating complaints that are filed online.
- Ask for GAEC to have a social media presence.
- Wants to understand why illegal events still happen when complaints are submitted.
  - The Commission noted that there is a process that must be followed for all complaints.
- Does not think this meeting should ever go into Executive Session.

- Clay Bennett:
  - Mentioned that the Executive Director provides false information at the March meeting about him.
    - The Director apologized for those words.
  - Wants to understand what is and is not collected in the 5% gate fee.
    - The Commission stated that we will respond by the next meeting.
  - Why doesn't the Commission collect Pay Per View taxes.
    - The Commission Staff responded that we are collecting what is reported. We will look at the reporting process and how to validate the report.
  - Wants to know how Willie Norwood and Orlando Brown were approved.

- Mike Wilson:
  - Would like to see the amateur rules of MMA include strikes to the head of the downed fighter.
    - The Commission understands the request but their decision is based on safety concerns.
  - Wanted to say he has noticed some former fighters now working as referees and thinks that is great for the sport.
  - Would like to see a way to curb weight cutting in amateurs

- Nate Mann
  - Wanted to say that mistakes happen and he owns that mistake.
  - Willing to talk to anyone to discuss his role and actions as a referee.

- Blake Grice
  - Complimented Nate Mann as a referee, for owning his mistake and moving past it.
  - Trust Nate on any bout in Georgia.

- Jesse Wable
  - Ask why officials were not licensed until March.
    - Commission Staff responded that they will further look into this and provide an update.

Commissioner Thompson thanks everyone for attending the meeting and providing their thoughts with the Commission.

Attorney General's Report:
- Ask that all questions be submitted in writing so an answer can be provided.
- There was a question from the Commission over who the Attorney General's office represents on the Commission.
  - The Commission, the Executive Director and the Secretary of State's office.

Commission Report:
- Chairman Traub brings up a policy for official pay after learning that the rule change was signed by the Governor. The policy is a staff fee chart. Chairman Traub makes a motion to amend the agenda to vote on the policy. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to amend. Chairman Traub makes a motion to approve the new staff fee policy. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

Executive Director's Report:
- Update provided on the GOALS license system. Two provision releases for updates scheduled for September 23, 2026 and October 21, 2026.

Executive Session: Chairman Traub makes a motion to enter the executive session to discuss a Commission-related matter. Commissioner Thompson seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0. The Commission went into executive session at 3:17pm. The discussion was subject to attorney-client privilege.

The Commission returned from the executive session at 3:53pm. No votes were taken in the executive session.

Motion to Approve the recommendations made during the Executive Session. Chairman Traub makes a motion to approve the recommendations. Vice Chairman Haraszti seconds, and the Commission votes 4-0 to approve.

Motion to adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.