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Bernie Profato
Executive Director

State of Ohio
OHIO ATHLETIC COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 9, 2008 meeting of the Ohio Athletic Commission (“OAC”) held at 10:00 A.M. at the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation, Garfield Heights, Ohio.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Executive Director Bernie Profato. Roll call was taken by Executive Director Bernie Profato. Present for roll call were: Chairman Gene Weiss, Commissioner Dr. Harry Stiggers, Commissioner Michael Chase, Commissioner Tom Jelep, Commissioner John Konstantinos, and Executive Director Bernie Profato. Assistant Attorney General John Patterson was absent because he was at a hearing in Columbus.
- II.
 - A. The minutes of the June 11, 2008 meeting were first on the agenda. Commissioner John Konstantinos moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Michael Chase seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
 - B. The Licensure list was next. Commissioner Tom Jelep moved to approve the list, Commissioner John Konstantinos seconded it and it was unanimously approved.
- III. There was no unfinished business.
- IV. Under new business, Executive Director Profato discussed the National MMA I.D. card that will go into effect August 1st. The application forms will be in the office and on the OAC’s website. A fighter can get one in any state. The I.D. card will do three things for the sport. First, it will identify the fighter. Second, it will let us know immediately if a fighter is suspended. Third, we will be able to match the records so there are more competitive fights.

Executive Profato used Ohio as an example.

“We have a fighter legitimately get a license. He is not trying to beat the system. He licenses as “John Smith”. His first fight is entered in as “John David Smith”. He was 0-1. He then fights under “John Smith” for his next two fights and he was 1-1. Then he decides to use his initials and the promoter records only the initials for his next two fights, “J.D. Smith” and he was 1-1. Now this fighter has three records. When the National MMA I.D. goes into effect, John David Smith - 1234, that record is going to go with that name.”

In the new database, the fighter’s name will also be highlighted in yellow when suspended.

There will no reason to let a suspended fighter fight because it will flash right out at you. The database will also have their pictures and amateur and pro records listed. "NSC" by a fight results means that is has not been sanctioned by a commission. These fights will not be recognized. The registry (Mixed Martial Arts, LLC) will charge us \$50.00 per event. Executive Profato stated that he will go to the Board of Control and request permission to add the \$50.00 to the permit fee for the promoters. The promoters will pay it but it will be charged against our budgeted expenditures. However, it will be a wash because on the receipts side the permit fees will also be increased \$50. In order to balance next year's budget, Executive Director Profato stated that he will request \$5,000 for registry fee expenditures.

- V. A Pro-Am MMA event in Columbus on July 12, promoted by Eugene Yankovsky; Commissioner John Konstantinos moved to approve the event. Commissioner Tom Jelepis seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

A Pro-Am MMA event in Portsmouth on July 12, promoted by Jason Percell; Commissioner Dr. Stiggers moved to approve the event. Commissioner John Konstantinos seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

A Pro-Am MMA event in Columbus on July 25, promoted by Aaron Crowell; Commissioner Michael Chase moved to approve the event. Commissioner Dr. Stiggers seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

A Pro-Am MMA event in Niles on August 2, promoted by Joel Brennan; Commissioner Dr. Stiggers moved to approve the event. Commissioner Tom Jelepis seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

- VI. The Executive Director's report was read by all of the Commissioners.
- VII. There were no public comments.
- VIII. Commissioner Tom Jelepis moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dr. Stiggers seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

The minutes have been edited for clarity and punctuation only. Content remains unchanged and the original tape of the meeting is intact and available.

ATTESTED TO: _____ DATE: _____

POSITION: _____

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Executive Director's Report for July 2008

Mixed Martial Arts database officially adopted by Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC). MMA LLC located in Boston, MA was officially designated as the National Database for MMA. All states and tribal commissions will have to pay a fee of \$50 per event, down from the initial proposed \$100 per event. This was proposed by Ohio because of the number of Mixed Martial Arts conducted in Ohio. It was recognized that Ohio has had the most regulated MMA events than any other state for the past 2 years. I will be addressing the Board of Control to seek the okay to increase the permit fee for mixed martial arts events to cover this addition cost. I was on the committee that helped select and adopt the format for registering MMA fighters and submitting MMA results on a National Form.

The ABC met in Montreal, Canada the first week of July. A number of issues were discussed and some MMA rule interpretations were clarified for consistency purposes.

1. The non-striking area from the rear of the skull to the tailbone
2. All elbow strikes for the professional allowed
3. No placing a hand over the opponent's mouth to smother
4. All un-sportsmanlike fouls categorized together
5. Amateur bouts with scheduled for 3 three minute rounds with a 90 second rest period

(Ohio's current rule)

6. ALL amateur fighters must fight within their designated weight class. There will be NO ALLOWANCES.

These proposed changes will be put into effect as soon as they are passed through JCARR.

A thank you, from the Ohio Diabetes Director, for the Athletics' Commission support for the Fight for Diabetes boxing Event in Columbus. (copy enclosed).

A letter from Mr. John Brown, the owner of Ringside sporting equipment, thanking Ohio Athletic Commission for its help in securing a safer grappling glove to be used for Mixed martial Arts events.

MONTHLY DEPOSITS FOR: June: \$30,357.25

YEAR TO DATE TOTAL: \$172,366.00