

MINUTES

S. C. Athletic Commission
Conference Call Meeting
August 21, 2000
110 Centerview Drive, Suite 104-01
Columbia, South Carolina

Commissioner John 'Robbie' Robertson, chairman, of Irmo, called the conference call meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., Monday, August 21, 2000. Other commissioners participating during the meeting included: Mr. Paul Kennemore, Vice-Chairman, of Greenwood; Mr. George Cox, of Myrtle Beach; Mr. Clyde Jones, of Camden; Ms. Lynda Leventis-Wells, of Greenville; and Mr. Robert Williams, of Cayce.

Staff participating during the meeting included: Mr. Randall Bryant; Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Jim Kyzer, Investigator, Office of Business and Related Services; Ms. Sharon Dantzler, Staff Attorney, LLR-Office of General Counsel; and Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant.

Members of the public participating in the meeting included Mr. Angelo Notaro.

Mr. Robertson announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Board office and provided to any requesting persons, organizations, or news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the S. C. Freedom of Information Act.

New Business

WWF Contest in Greenville

Mr. Robertson stated that Mr. Kennemore, Ms. Leventis-Wells and he are aware of a WWF contest in Greenville on August 19, 2000. He went on to say Mr. Reggie Lewis promoted a boxing event on August 7, 1999 in Greenville and he failed to pay a debt to the Bilo Center. The Bilo Center had paid the fighters, in the amount of \$28,384.53, on behalf of Mr. Lewis. The center has invoiced Mr. Lewis that he is refusing to acknowledge.

Mr. Kennemore stated he would like to see Mr. Lewis' license suspended.

Ms. Dantzler asked if Mr. Lewis has failed to pay his fighters. Mr. Robertson stated Mr. Lewis did not have the money to pay the fighters. He went on to say that Mr. Lewis was to have brought the money with him but did not. He noted that the Bilo Center advanced Mr. Lewis \$28,000.00 to pay the fighters.

Ms. Dantzler stated this is a matter that needs to be brought before the Commission for a hearing.

Mr. Cox asked what the commission's responsibility is and what kind of leverage the commission has regarding the collection of debts in situations like this. Ms. Dantzler stated there is not much the commission can do. However, the hearing notice can read that he did not pay his fighters. She went on to say if it is contractual problem between the promoter and the arena there is not much that can be done, however, if it is a contractual problem between the promoter and the fighters then the board can proceed with a hearing.

Discussion of proposed fight – Shelby Gross vs. Tim Cooper

Mr. Robertson stated Mr. Angelo Notaro is promoting an event to be held in Camden. One of the proposed fights would be held between Shelby Gross and Tim Cooper. The fight would consist of four rounds. Mr. Gross weighed in at 190 pounds during his last fight. Mr. Cooper has weighed at 175 pounds.

Mr. Bryant stated Mr. Gross has weighed in at 178 pounds.

Mr. Kennemore stated Mr. Cooper's last win was in 1999. He hasn't fought in one year. Eight of his last fights have been against four of the same opponents.

Mr. Cox, Mr. Jones and Ms. Leventis-Wells have concerns over Mr. Cooper's fight record over the past seven years.

Mr. Williams feels Mr. Cooper is able to fight.

Mr. Robertson stated he phoned Mr. Greg Serb, Chairman of the National Association of Boxing Commissioners, who indicated Mr. Cooper fought against Mr. Craig Everett, from Pennsylvania, twice. He went on to say Mr. Cooper went ten rounds during one event and six rounds during the second event. He indicated Mr. Everett is a tough opponent. He noted that Mr. Cooper entered an event with Mr. Berry and went six rounds after which a decision was made. He said Mr. Cooper also entered a boxing match with Mr. Montel Griffin and went three rounds. He noted Mr. Griffin is a tough fighter.

Mr. Robertson stated the State of South Carolina does have a provision in its statute, which prohibits a fighter over 35 from participating in an event with unanimous approval from the commission.

Following further discussion concerning Mr. Gross, Mr. Williams moved the commission approve Mr. Cooper fight in an upcoming event. Mr. Kennemore seconded the motion. Mr. Robertson polled the members for their vote. Mr. Robertson called on Mr. Cox who voted nay. Mr. Robertson stated there was no need to poll the other members since the decision had to be unanimous.

Mr. Notaro stated he would like to have Mr. Ernest Bruce fight Mr. Shelby Gross. Mr. Notaro stated he would like Mr. Shelby Gross to Mr. Bruce.

Mr. Cox moved to approve the fight between Mr. Gross and Mr. Bruce. Mr. Kennemore seconded the motion. Mr. Robertson polled the members for their votes.

Commissioner Williams	Yes
Commissioner Leventis-Wells	Yes
Commissioner Jones	Yes

The fight between Mr. Gross and Mr. Bruce was approved.

Mr. Robertson stated the commission requires an ophthalmology examination along with an

exam by the contender's physician. He went on to say he understands the exam costs \$70.00 and asked if it would be possible to have an optometrist present at the fight with the physician. Mr. Kennemore stated it would be possible if the optometrist to appear at the fight, however, there could be a problem since the exam would not be complete since the equipment is not there to conduct a complete exam.

Mr. Robertson stated he and Mr. Bryant had already reviewed and disapproved every fight Mr. Notaro had submitted. He then said a fax was received from Mr. Greg Serb, President of the National Association of Box Commissioners, which indicated most of the fighters came from a small town in Ohio. It was come to his attention that several individuals are using these fighters who have a total record of 25 wins and 379 losses. Three hundred forty-three of the losses have come by knockouts and technical knocks outs, most of which have occurred during the first two rounds.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Williams moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leventis-Wells, which carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.