

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MINUTES WEDNESDAY - APRIL 20, 2022

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:01 p.m.. Present were the following: Chairman Norman; Commissioner Brian Boles; Commissioner Chuck Gast; Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Shull; Greg Morgan, Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (“O&P Division”), Maryland Department of Labor; Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel; and Olga Escobar, Board Specialist. This was a virtual meeting, with all Commission members and Commission staff participating either virtually or telephonically.

APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF PROMOTER LICENSE FOR JOHN J. RALLO, III

Chairman Norman provided the Commission with the following report. John J. Rallo, III recently applied to the Commission for the renewal of his promoter license as a promoter of MMA events in the State of Maryland.

Mr. Rallo has been licensed in the past by the Commission as a promoter, and consistently maintained his good standing status with the Commission during these respective licensing periods. Chairman Norman and Mr. Pannella recently interviewed Mr. Rallo as a condition of licensure. They reviewed the license application and corresponding documentation submitted by Mr. Rallo and were satisfied that the promoter’s license application for this promoter applicant complies with the Commission’s licensing requirements.

Chairman Norman noted that Mr. Rallo was “very instrumental in bringing MMA to the State of Maryland”. He opined that the “Shogun Fights” series of professional MMA events promoted over the years by Mr. Rallo, with “Shogun Fights 24” taking place March 26, 2022 at The Hall at Live! Casino and Hotel in Hanover, Maryland, have been “extremely well-received and well-conducted”.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gast, and seconded by Commissioner Shull, the

Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the licensure of John J. Rallo, III as a promoter.

REVIEW OF MARCH 26, 2022
PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report in regard to the “Shogun Fights 24” promoted by John J. Rallo, III and held on March 26, 2022 at the Hall at Live! Casino and Hotel in Hanover, Maryland.

This was the first “Shogun Fights” professional MMA event held at the Hall at Live! Casino and Hotel, with Mr. Rallo moving his promotion from The Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore, Maryland as a result of the current renovation of the Baltimore venue.

The professional MMA event included nine professional MMA contests and 27 scheduled rounds of professional MMA competition. Several of the MMA contests were competitive; five of the MMA contests were decided in the second round or later and two of them went the scheduled three-round distance.

Mr. Pannella opined that Micah Terrill and Bryan McDowell were very well-matched in their featured MMA contest, with Mr. Terrill losing by tapout at 1:33 of the second round due to a rear naked choke submission.

Mr. Pannella noted that he worked closely with staff members of The Hall at Live! Casino and Hotel to effectively address certain Commission concerns relative to the transport of the competing MMA contestants from the dressing room to the cage and back. He recognized Gus LeGrand, General Manager of The Hall at Live! Casino and Hotel, for his outstanding record of cooperation with the Commission relating to the Commission’s regulation of both boxing events and MMA events held at this venue.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Boles, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 p.m..

/s/ David J. Norman
Chairman

Date: March 18, 2022