

# **MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 21, 2022**

On Wednesday, September 21, 2022, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:09 p.m.. Present were the following: Chairman Norman; Commissioner Brian Boles; Commissioner Chuck Gast; Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Shull; Commissioner Greg Morgan, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Maryland Department of Labor (“O&P Division”); Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel; Olga Escobar, Board Specialist; and Danielle Anderson, Web Content and Outreach Coordinator, O&P Division. Commissioner Gast arrived after the meeting commenced. This was a virtual meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic public restrictions, with all Commission members participating either virtually or telephonically.

### **APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Commission minutes for the Commission meeting held on May 18, 2022, previously distributed to Commission members for review, were discussed.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Boles, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the May 18, 2022 minutes of the Commission.

Commission minutes for the Commission meeting held on August 17, 2022, previously distributed to Commission members for review, were discussed.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Boles, and seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the August 17, 2022 minutes of the Commission.

### **APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF PROMOTER LICENSE FOR FLYING V, LTD.**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report. Flying V, Ltd. (“Flying V”) recently applied to the Commission for the renewal of its promoter license as a promoter of professional wrestling events in the State of Maryland.

Flying V has been licensed by the Commission as a promoter in the past, holding an ongoing series of professional wrestling events in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Commissioner Moore and Mr. Pannella recently interviewed Katherine Offutt, promoter representative for Flying V, as a condition of licensure. They reviewed the license application and corresponding documentation submitted by Flying V, and were satisfied that the promoter’s license application for this promoter applicant complies with the Commission’s licensing requirements.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Moore, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the licensure of Flying V, Ltd. as a promoter.

### **BOXING EVENT AND MMA EVENT PROPOSED FOR OCTOBER 22, 2022**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report concerning the prospect of the Commission sanctioning and regulating two combative sports events on October 15, 2022.

Shabazz Brotherz, LLC, advertising as “Shabazz Brotherz Promotions”, postponed its professional boxing event scheduled to be held on September 24, 2022 at The Patapsco Arena in Baltimore, Maryland and is requesting to reschedule this boxing event for October 22, 2022.

BBCorporation, advertising as “Stellar Fights”, is holding its second professional MMA event in a series of MMA events on October 22, 2022 at The Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury, Maryland.

Chairman Norman noted that, while the Commission does not typically sanction a

boxing event and an MMA event on the same evening due to staffing considerations, the Commission has made exceptions in the past when possible to demonstrate a “sign of respect and accommodation” to support licensed promoters.

Chairman Norman stated that he would be in favor of the Commission permitting these two referenced combative sports events to be held on October 15, 2022 provided that Mr. Pannella was fully satisfied that the Commission had enough per diem personnel available to adequately staff and regulate both events.

Mr. Pannella opined that he was confident that he would be able to assemble a complete team of physicians, inspectors, referees and judges to work at each respective event.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Boles, and seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve of the Commission sanctioning and regulating the following two combative sports events on October 15, 2022:

- (1) the professional boxing event being promoted by Shabazz Brotherz, LLC advertising as “Shabazz Brotherz Promotions” and being held at The Patapsco Sports Arena in Baltimore, Maryland; and
- (2) the professional MMA event being promoted by BB Corporation advertising as “Stellar Fights” and being held at The Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury, Maryland.

### **NO FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF LEGAL ACTION FILED**

Chairman Norman informed the Commission of the following. It appears that the State of Maryland received no formal notification of legal action being filed within the prescribed three-year statute of limitations in regard to the passing of professional boxer Maxim Dadashev.

Counsel London stated that he recently conducted a Maryland Judiciary Case Search concerning this matter and found no indication of any legal action being filed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:29 p.m..

**/s/ David J. Norman**  
**Chairman**

**Date: September 21, 2022**