

# **MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018**

On Wednesday, October 10, 2018, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Arnold “Arnie” Dansicker at 2:08 p.m.. Present were the following: Chairman Dansicker; Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Norman; Commissioner David Shull; Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; and Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel. Absent: Commissioner Charles “Chuck” Gast.

### **APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the boxing events currently scheduled to be held in the State of Maryland.

Mr. Pannella reported that licensed promoter CyNation Sports, LLC was scheduled to hold a Commission-sanctioned boxing event on September 29, 2018 at Rosecroft Raceway in Ft. Washington, Maryland. He explained, however, that the boxing event was cancelled by both the promoter and the Commission due to several unforeseen circumstances involving boxers being unavailable to compete.

Mr. Pannella noted that Cory Sanders, the promoter representative for CyNation Sports, LLC, expressed his disappointment that the boxing event had to be cancelled and pledged to reschedule the boxing event as soon as possible.

Mr. Pannella noted, further, that while Mr. Sanders offered refunds to people who purchased tickets to the boxing event, Mr. Sanders reported that most ticket holders were receptive to holding onto their tickets and attending a makeup date for the boxing event.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Norman, seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the following boxing event being promoted by CyNation Sports, LLC pending the securement of a contract between the promoter and the venue where the boxing event is being held:

Saturday, October 27, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. Starting Time  
Rosecroft Raceway  
6336 Rosecroft Drive  
Ft. Washington, Maryland  
Promoter: CyNation Sports, LLC,  
advertising as “CyNation Sports”.

## **APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING EVENTS**

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the professional wrestling events currently scheduled to be held in the State of Maryland. He reported that the Commission is continually regulating wrestling events at locations throughout Maryland, noting that last weekend wrestling events were held in Kent, Montgomery and Washington Counties.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Moore, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the following professional wrestling event being promoted by James E. “Jimmy” Morris, III, advertising as “Adrenaline Championship Wrestling (ACW)”:

Saturday, December 29, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. Starting Time  
Perry Hall High School  
4601 Ebenezer Road - Nottingham, Maryland  
Promoter: James E. “Jimmy” Morris, III,  
advertising as “Adrenaline Championship Wrestling  
(ACW)”.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Norman, seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the following professional wrestling event being promoted by Michael Valentyne, advertising as Flying V Fights:

Friday, January 25, 2019 - 8:00 p.m. Starting Time  
Silver Spring Black Box Theater  
8641 Colesville Road – Silver Spring, Maryland  
Promoter: Michael Valentyne, advertising as

“Flying V Fights”.

### **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Dansicker had nothing additional to report.

### **COUNSEL’S REPORT**

Counsel London had nothing additional to report.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion regarding the Commission’s current indefinite medical suspension of professional boxer Alan Campa, who was suspended by the Commission resulting from his boxing contest held on April 8, 2017 in the State of Maryland and who is scheduled to compete in a boxing contest on November 11, 2018 in the State of California. The discussion related to Mr. Campa having competed while under suspension in a boxing contest held in Mexico, which occurred eleven months following his boxing contest held in Maryland, as well as the specific medical requirements of the Commission’s suspension of Mr. Campa.

The Commission determined that: (1) it would not suspend Mr. Campa further provided that he accepts the requirements of a consent order wherein the Commission would impose a fine of \$200.00 on Mr. Campa as a result of his competing in a boxing contest while serving a Commission medical suspension; \$100.00 of the fine would be suspended if Mr. Campa receives no similar violations from any athletic commission in the next year; and (2) if Mr. Campa does not accept the terms of the referenced consent order, the Commission will hold a hearing to consider taking disciplinary action against Mr. Campa for competing in a boxing contest while serving a Commission medical suspension.

### **UPDATE ON OCTOBER 13, 2018** **PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an update in regard to

the professional MMA event being promoted by King of The Cage, Inc. advertising as “King of The Cage” and being held on October 13, 2018 at Maryland Live! Casino and Hotel’s Events Center in Hanover, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella reported that the Commission was working closely with promoter representatives for, as well as the matchmaker for, King of The Cage, Inc..

Mr. Pannella noted that, as this was the second combative sports event being held at Maryland Live! Casino and Hotel’s Events Center, the Commission and Casino officials are in a good position to effectively address various logistical issues attendant to, and exclusive to, the holding of a combative sports event at this venue.

### **REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report in regard to the professional boxing event promoted by Shazazz Brotherz, LLC advertising as “Shabazz Brotherz” and held on September 22, 2018 at Bowie State University’s A.C. Jordan Arena in Bowie, Maryland.

The professional boxing event included ten boxing contests and 52 scheduled rounds of boxing competition.

Commissioner Norman and Commissioner Shull both attended the boxing event.

Commissioner Norman further opined that the boxing contests held were “extraordinarily good for a non-casino event”. He added that the boxing contests were well-matched and featured “lots of action”.

Commissioner Norman opined that the boxing event was well-attended considering that this boxing event marked the first time a boxing event was being held at Bowie State University.

The Commission recognized Bowie State University and its Athletic Department for the Athletic Department’s willingness to allow a professional boxing event to be held on Bowie State University’s campus. Mr. Pannella noted that the last

professional boxing event held at a college or university in the State of Maryland took place on July 20, 2013 at Coppin State University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella noted that many Bowie State University students were actively involved in the production of the boxing event, including a full student television crew broadcasting and taping the boxing event.

## **REVIEW OF OCTOBER 6, 2018 PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report in regard to the “Shogun Fights 20” professional MMA event promoted by John J. Rallo, III and held on October 6, 2018 at The Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore, Maryland.

The professional MMA event included ten professional MMA contests and 30 scheduled rounds of professional MMA competition.

The evening got off to an excellent start with a very competitive MMA contest held between Theresa Blaz and Alanna Olive-Smith.

Mr. Pannella opined that this MMA event featured the most competitive MMA contests held in the entire history of “Shogun Fights”.

## **SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETINGS**

The Commission held a discussion regarding future Commission meeting dates. The Commission agreed to hold the following meetings on the following dates and times in the Third Floor Conference Room, 500 North Calvert Street in Baltimore, Maryland:

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.; and  
Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 2:00 p.m..

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Norman, and seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m..

**Patrick Pannella**  
**Executive Director**