

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019

On Wednesday, January 23, 2019, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:03 p.m.. Present were the following: Chairman Norman; Commissioner Chuck Gast; Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Shull; Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; and Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel. Absent: Commissioner Arnold “Arnie” Dansicker.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 19, 2018 COMMISSION MINUTES

Commission minutes for the months of December, 2018, which were previously distributed to all Commission members for review, were discussed.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the December 19, 2018 minutes of the Commission.

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.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Lenny Moore, seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following boxing event being promoted by CyNation Sports, LLC:

Saturday, January 26, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. Starting Time
The Waldorf Culture Center
109 Post Office Drive - Waldorf, Maryland
Promoter: CyNation Sports, LLC,
advertising as “CyNation Sports”.

APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT

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

Upon a motion by Commissioner Lenny Moore, seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following boxing event being promoted by CyNation Sports, LLC:

Saturday, April 6, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. Starting Time
The Royal Farms Arena
201 West Baltimore Street - Baltimore, Maryland
Promoter: John J. Rallo, III,
advertising as "Shogun Fights".

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.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Moore, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following professional wrestling events being promoted by Michael Valentyne:

Sunday, February 17, 2019 - 1:00 p.m. Starting Time
Montgomery Community Media
7548 Standish Place - Rockville, Maryland
Promoter: Michael Valentyne,
advertising as "Fury Pro Wrestling"; and

Sunday, June 16, 2019 - 1:00 p.m. Starting Time
Montgomery Community Media
7548 Standish Place - Rockville, Maryland
Promoter: Michael Valentyne,
advertising as "Fury Pro Wrestling".

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following professional wrestling events being promoted by Event Services, Inc. A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc:

Friday, March 1, 2019 - 7:30 p.m. Starting Time
The Wicomico Youth and Civic Center
500 Glen Avenue - Salisbury, Maryland
Promoter: Event Services, Inc. A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of
World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.,
advertising as “WWE Road To Wrestlemania”; and

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 - 7:30 p.m. Starting Time (Televised)
The Royal Farms Arena
201 West Baltimore Street - Baltimore, Maryland
Promoter: Event Services, Inc. A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of
World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.,
advertising as “WWE Smackdown Live”.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following professional wrestling events being promoted by Ring of Honor Wrestling Entertainment, LLC:

Sunday, March 31, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. Starting Time
UMBC Event Center
1000 Hilltop Circle - Catonsville, Maryland
Promoter: Ring of Honor Wrestling Entertainment, LLC,
advertising as “Road To G1 Supercard: Baltimore”.

COMMISSION INVESTIGATION
UNSANCTIONED WRESTLING ACTIVITY

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report.

The Commission conducted an investigation into an unsanctioned wrestling event scheduled to occur on January 19, 2019 at Deer Park Middle School in Randallstown, Maryland. The administrative staff of the school cooperated fully with the Commission, placing the Commission in contact with the individual representing a wrestling group entitled “WCF”, which planned this wrestling activity. The Commission advised the individual that such wrestling activity falls under the jurisdiction of the Commission and, subsequently, any wrestling activity would have to be sanctioned and regulated by the Commission in order to occur. The Commission advised the individual how to obtain a promoter’s license from the Commission to hold WCF wrestling events.

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLER IN MID-ATLANTIC AREA INJURED

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report.

A professional wrestler who competes on the independent wrestling circuit in the Mid-Atlantic area recently announced on the internet that he suffered a head injury as a result of attempting a flip from the top rope of the ring onto the floor and inadvertently landing on his head. The referenced wrestling match in which this wrestler participated was not held in the State of Maryland. Commission regulations, and the Commission’s enforcement of the same, would have prevented this wrestler from attempting such a dangerous maneuver.

UPDATE ON MARCH 8, 2019 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT / “MARYLAND STATE SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT TITLE” BOUT

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an update in regard to the professional boxing event being promoted by Jeter Promotions, LLC, advertising as “Jeter Promotions” and being held on March 8, 2019 at Maryland Live! Casino and Hotel in Hanover, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella reported that Jeter Promotions is proposing Demond Nicholson (20-3-1, 19 ko’s) of Laurel, Maryland and Jessie Nicklow (27-9-3, 9 ko’s) of Severn, Maryland be approved by the Commission to compete for the “Maryland State Super Middleweight Title”. The Commission discussed the matter.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve of Demond Nicholson competing against Jessie Nicklow for the “Maryland State Super Middleweight Title”.

UPDATE ON JANUARY 26, 2019 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an update in regard to the professional boxing event being promoted by CyNation Sports, LLC, advertising as “CyNation Sports” and being held on January 26, 2019 at The Waldorf Culture Center in Waldorf, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella reported that this professional boxing card is scheduled to include seven boxing events and 36 scheduled rounds of boxing.

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, February 20, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.;
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.;
Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.;
Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.; and
Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 3:00 p.m..

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Moore, and seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 p.m..

Patrick Pannella
Executive Director