**MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**

**MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, September 17, 2025**

On Wednesday, September 17, 2025, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:00 p.m. Present were the following: Chairman David Norman, Commissioner James Wilkins, Commissioner James “Binky” Jones, Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel, Matthew McKinney, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Aajah Harris, Policy Director for O&P, Olga Escobar, Administrative Officer, Jason Curtis, Administrative Specialist, and Executive Director Johnston Brown. Commissioners Carl Wilson and Dr. Kristi Hall were absent. This was a virtual meeting with Commission members, Commission staff, and the public using the Google Meets platform and it was recorded.

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Minutes were discussed from the meeting of August 20, 2025. Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Dave Norman led a discussion on amending the Commission’s bout approval process for boxing. The proposed changes to the bout approval process were as followed:

The Executive Director will present his review and recommendation (along with the recommendation of the Chief Physician, if any) to the chairman and a second commissioner for a final decision as to whether the proposed match should be approved.  If their recommendation to approve or disapprove is not unanimous, the proposed bout will be referred to a third member of the Commission for a final decision.  It is the expressed policy of the Commission to not override or reverse a medical decision made by the Chief Physician regarding the safety of a proposed bout.  Likewise, the Commission will not approve a bout which either on its face or after investigation appears to be a mismatch of skills which would present an undue risk of injury to one of the contestants.

The Commission's decision to sanction or deny sanction of a bout is final.

After the discussion, a motion was made to amend the approval process by Commissioner Wilkins and was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Executive Director Johnston Brown had no report.

**REVIEW OF COMMISSION SANCTIONED EVENTS**

Executive Director Johnston Brown advised the Commission about wrestling events from the previous month. Those events included the following:

AWA Wrestling, August 23rd, Waldorf

Micro Wrestling Federation, September 3rd, Baltimore

Micro Wrestling Federation, September 4th, Glen Burnie

Micro Wrestling Federation, September 6th, Easton

Micro Wrestling Federation, September 7th, Mt. Airy

Micro Wrestling Federation, September 12th, Perryville

Midgets with Attitude Wrestling, September 15th, Pasadena

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Executive Director Johnston Brown led the Commission in a discussion of upcoming events, which included the following:

Jeter Promotions Boxing, September 20th, Fort Washington

MCW Wrestling, September 20th, Joppa

MCW Wrestling, October 10th, Ridgley

MCW Wrestling, October 11th, Frederick

ACW Wrestling, September 26th, Annapolis

Ponytail Promotions Boxing, September 27th, Baltimore

AWA Wrestling, September 27th, Waldorf

FWA Wrestling, October 5th, Havre de Grace

A motion to approve the upcoming Jeter Promotions Boxing event on September 20th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming MCW Wrestling events on September 20th, October 10th, and October 11th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming ACW Wrestling event on September 26th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming Ponytail Promotions Boxing event on September 27th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to approve the upcoming AWA Wrestling event on September 27th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A motion to conditionally approve the upcoming FWA Wrestling event on October 5th was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Boxing Promoter Christen Jeter asked the Commission for clarity about the bout approval process in regard to how long it would take for bouts to be approved. Chairman Dave Normam explained to her the new process and stated how the new policy would be more efficient. Ms. Jeter also asked about amending regulations to the maximum number of rounds.

Dr. Michelle Igbani asked the Commission if there was public access information for the laws and regulations the Commission is governed by. She also asked the Commission if there would be a conflict of interest to personally work for a promotor in Maryland and as a per diem employee of the Commission.

Boxing Promotor Tony Jeter expressed displeasure with the Commission in several areas including, but not limited to, the fees the Commission imposes on promoters, the time it takes for bouts to be approved, the denial of certain bouts, and the number of rounds the Commission can sanction.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Dave Norman called for a motion for adjournment at roughly 3:42 pm that was made by Commissioner Wilkins and seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

/s/ Dave Norman

Chairman