

Tennessee
Athletic Commission
Minutes

DATE: August 16, 2012

PLACE: Andrew Johnson Tower, 2nd Floor Conference Room
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN

PRESENT Commission Members
Vice Chairman Joe Smith
Dr. Robert Fitch
Melissa Bast
Steve Hannah
Dr. Tanika Pinn

PRESENT Staff Members
Ed Scudder

Present Visiting Public Members
Anthony Maness
Nate Jolly
Jeremy August

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. The following business was transacted.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Mullen called the roll. Five (5) Commission members were present.

MINUTES

Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Fitch.

Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS UPDATE

Director Mullen reports on recent fights. XFC was held in Jackson, April 13. Cage Brawl was held in Kingsport May 11. XFC was held in Nashville June 22. Empire was held in Memphis June 23. The Empire show and the two XFC shows brought in more than the minimum.

LEGAL REPORT

Ed Scudder reports that the Emergency Amateur Rules are in the pipeline. The TAC cannot regulate the amateur portion of pro/ams until the Emergency Amateur Rules are approved. He states that the recently passed amendment to the TAC law requires commissioners to attend combat sports events.

OLD BUSINESS

Kirrik Jeness, CEO of Mixed Martial Arts.com, the ABC recognized national records keeper for mixed martial arts spoke to the Commission by phone. He explained how his company worked and the benefits promoters, commissions and fighters received when events are registered with the record keeping body. Director Mullen stressed how much safer it was for everyone involved when all amateur events were registered. The commission voted unanimously to require the amateur sanctioning bodies to require all promoters to register all amateur fights with mixedmartialarts.com. Ed Scudder confirms that this is the proper way to handle this.

NEW BUSINESS

Jay Augusta and Nate Jolly state that Tennessee is losing pro events because of the high cost of medical insurance. Mr. Augusta states that neighboring states require much less insurance. He says the huge difference in cost is driving pro promoters to neighboring states. He states that the biggest claim he has seen paid out is just over \$9000.00. He says the difference in \$50,000.00 medical insurance and \$20,000.00 medical insurance is \$1700.00. Commissioner Bast states that lowering insurance cost would be a hard sell to the state legislature. She states that the numbers were modeled after Nevada's numbers. The commission asks Mr. Augusta to supply Director Mullen with numbers for surrounding states. He states that the numbers have recently changed in many states.

Anthony Maness, Tennessee ISKA state rep addresses the commission. He states that recently there was a very traumatic head injury at a recent amateur event in TN. The fighter had to be airlifted to Vanderbilt Hospital. The fighter was in the hospital for six days. He had very good insurance, but the Helicopter ride alone, which was not covered by insurance, was over \$20,000.00. He states that this is the other side of the coin and should be considered before lowering insurance requirements. He also states that he would like to see the commission require all of the amateur sanctioning bodies to have at least two representatives at each show.

There is no more business the meeting is adjourned.

