



CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
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Members of the Commission

John Carvelli, Chair
Mary Lehman, Vice Chair
Martha Shen-Urquidez
Van Gordon Sauter
Vernon Williams, M.D.
Luis Ayala
James Araby

**Agenda items may be taken out of order the
agenda except public comment.
Action may be taken on any item listed on**

CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 19, 2019
10:00 a.m. - Conclusion of Business

Location:

*DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Anaheim Resort
2085 South Harbor Blvd., Tuscany Room
Anaheim, CA 92802*

Commissioners Present

Chair John Carvelli
Vice Chair Mary Lehman
Commissioner Martha Shen-Urquidez
Commissioner Vernon Williams, MD
Commissioner Van Gordon Sauter
Commissioner Luis Ayala
Commissioner James Araby

Staff Present

Andy Foster, Executive Officer
Spencer Walker, Legal Counsel
Patrisha Blackstock, Staff

OPEN SESSION

**Agenda Item 1 – Call the meeting to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance/
Establishment of Quorum**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., Chair John Carvelli swore in newly appointed Commissioner James Araby. Executive Officer (EO) Andy Foster called roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda Item 2 – Welcome –Chairman’s opening remarks

Chair John Carvelli welcomed new Commission employee Patrisha Blackstock. He also announced legal counsel Spencer Walker was appointed to the Department of Treasury and thanked him for all his hard work.

Chair Carvelli announced he and Commissioner Shen-Urquidez had a chance to attend the recent event at Microsoft Theater. He added the set-up was interesting as the ring was on a stage and you had a chance to see the event from a different perspective. The event was well attended and had great fights with great warriors. There was a total of 13 bouts with 100 plus rounds.

Chair Carvelli mentioned a recent article was published about the California Commission. California breaking records with the number of events being held in the state. In 2018, the Commission ran 118 professional boxing events with 59 of them being televised events. He stated the Commission is doing more events than other states combined, not including amateur events. This is very exciting, we have a lot of activity and there is a lot of respect for California. Chair Carvelli congratulated the Commission and complimented the staff and associates for all their hard work.

Agenda Item 3 – Election of Officer for 2019 Pursuant to the Requirements of Business and Professions Code section 18606

Commissioner Dr. Williams motioned to continue with the current officers with John Carvelli as Chair and Mary Lehman as Vice Chair.

Commissioner Ayala seconded the motion

No other nominations were received.

No Commissioner or public comments received.

Vice Chair Lehman and Chair Carvelli accepted their nominations.

The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote

Agenda Item 4 – Approval of the December 11, 2018, Commission Meeting Minutes

EO Foster presented the December 11, 2018, Commission meeting minutes for approval. Vice Chair Lehman thanked EO Foster for the detailed minutes and stated it was very helpful to have a precise record of what was done at the last meeting.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez motioned to approve the minutes.

Vice Chair Lehman seconded the motion.

No commissioner or public comment.

The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 5- Update from Dean Grafilo, Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs

Dean Grafilo, Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) stated the Commission will always be his favorite program under the DCA umbrella as he is a former Commissioner. Director Grafilo highlighted some of the things DCA accomplished in 2018; 9 licensing, enforcement and workgroup meeting, 3 substance abuse seminars, 4 Director

quarterly meetings, 3 DCA pro rata work groups and 2 Director, Board Members and Advisory tele-conference meetings. The goal of these meetings is for us to break those silos and ensure there is a cross pollination between the programs. Director Grafilo stated his goal is to create an organization without those silos. The Commission does a good job about reaching out to DCA and he hopes the Commission staff are able to reach out to other agencies.

January 7th marked a new era for the State, as Governor Gavin Newsom was sworn in as the 40th Governor of California. DCA met with the Governor's transition team and are looking forward to working with the Governor. As for current appointees of the Commission, there is nothing that needs to be done, other than continuing the great work done by the Commissioners. January 10th of 2019 Governor Newsom released the budget for California and will seek to pay down debt while building a more robust reserve. DCA hosted a tele-conference with Board leadership, Executive Officers and Board Chiefs to discuss how the Governor's new budget will affect those agencies under DCA. Fiscal operations began scheduling meetings to discuss how the proposed budget changes will affect those under DCA.

Director Grafilo reminded the Commission members they are required to complete Board Member training within 1 year of appointment or reappointment to a Board. He also stated 2019 is a mandatory training year for Sexual Harassment Prevention and all employees, Board Members and Commission members are required to take the training. He wished the Commission his best at their Sunset review, and hoped they have a smooth review process.

Chair Carvelli thanked Director Grafilo for his detailed preparation process for the Sunset review and the Commission is now awaiting the final report. Chair Carvelli also welcomed Deputy Director Christopher Castrillo and thanked him for all his support as well.

Agenda Item 6-Review and Possible Action of Petition to Change the Decision for Cathilee Zingano vs. Megan Anderson bout on December 29, 2018, in Los Angeles, CA

EO Foster presented the Commission with background on the petition to change the bout decision. Megan Anderson threw a high kick towards Cathilee Zingano's face which struck her in the eye during round 1 of the bout on December 29, 2018. Referee Marc Goddard ruled the kick a legal strike and instructed Ms. Zingano to continue. Mr. Gable on behalf of Ms. Zingano is requesting the decision be changed from a TKO loss to a no contest.

EO Foster informed the Commission Mr. Goddard was in England but if they wished to speak to him, he could be reached by phone. Mr. Goddard provided a written statement which was provided to the Commission and a statement from the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC) and Combative Sports MMA rules committee. EO Foster didn't give a

recommendation, as he was instrumental in working on the new unified rules and felt it would be a conflict of interest.

A health document was handed to the Commissioners during the meeting as it was not included in the packet. Ms. Zingano was okay with the document being added to the record. Mr. Nathan Gable was present as Ms. Zingano's representation. Megan Anderson was not present, nor did she submit any written documentation or videos.

Mr. Gable played the video from the bout on December 29, 2018, in Los Angeles. He stated you can clearly see Ms. Anderson's toe grazes across the eye socket and gets caught under Ms. Zingano's eyelid. Photographs were also submitted to the Commission along with a better description of the injury from Ms. Zingano's doctor. Mr. Gable stated there are 2 components which must be looked at; the legal strike of the toe crossing the eye socket and the toe going under the eye lid into the eye ball which is an eye gouge.

Rule number 2 of the ABC Unified MMA Rules states, "that an eye gouging of any kind (fingers, chins, elbows) is illegal, but legal strikes that contact the fighter's eye shall be considered legal." Mr. Gable further explained a strike to the eye socket or the eye is different than an eye gouge of any kind. The contact to the eye socket is very minimal and the eye gouge is accidental therefore the bout should result in a no contest. Mr. Gable pointed out in the letter from the ABC MMA rules committee it is noted the kick was legal with no intent to eye gouge, but toes aren't included in rule number 2.

Mr. Gable stated the kick to the eye socket was legal and the gouge to the eye was illegal; it's not where the kick starts out but where the kick ends makes it illegal. Both referee Marc Goddard and the ABC MMA rules committee stated it has to be intentional but nowhere in the rules is that stated. In fact, the rules mention accidentals fouls and those should result in a "no contest". Referee Marc Goddard quoted rule number 9 in his statement which is the out stretched finger rule and that rule doesn't apply to this as this was an eye gouge.

Ms. Zingano stated she didn't think this was done on purpose. Ms. Zingano stated she feels the rule is vague and could be dangerous going forward for other fighters. Chair Carvelli inquired as to how Ms. Zingano was doing. Ms. Zingano responded she was getting better but still has spots in her vision and her vision is still blurry. She stated she would like to see this rule written better moving forward for fighters. Mr. Gable closed by saying referee Marc Goddard had the power to rule this a no contest and based on his letter alone he got the rule wrong.

Commissioner Araby asked EO Foster if this was the first instance of this he had heard of. EO Foster stated this was the first time he had seen or heard of this happening. EO Foster agreed the ABC MMA rules committee should address this issue. Commissioner Araby questioned if the Commission reversed this decision would open the flood gates on decisions going forward. EO Foster stated he hadn't seen this before so he didn't think

changing the decision would open a floodgate. The language in rule number 2 is crystal clear on what constitutes a legal strike. EO Foster stated he agreed with Ms. Zingano the committee should address this issue. Commissioner Araby recommended the Commission make a recommendation to the ABC MMA rules committee for a more defined definition of eye gouging.

Commissioner Ayala stated he saw the fight and felt it was a very unfortunate situation. He asked if the Commission had any rules in place regarding how trimmed nails had to be. EO Foster stated the Commission did. Commissioner Ayala asked for more clarification on whether the eye poke had to be intentional or not.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated the current rule was modified so when a fighter's hand is at eye level they need to close their fingers otherwise, if there is an eye poke, it is an intentional foul. It is considered a deliberate act to open the hand at eye level and risk the injury to the opponent. She further stated athletes are told they must move their hands up or down if they want to open their hands, otherwise, keep their fingers closed. The rule, she said, specifically addresses fingers, elbows and chins, and states all other strikes or punches that contact the eyes are legal. Therefore, until the rule is changed or made more specific as to toes, the strike to Ms. Zingano, as unfortunate as it was, must be considered a legal strike.

EO Foster informed the Commission the inspectors have nail clippers, inspect nails, and they make sure those are available to ensure the nails are clipped.

Vice Chair Lehman thanked Mr. Gable for his letter and stated she thought it was very logical. Vice Chair Lehman asked Mr. Gable to explain what he meant when he stated rule number 2 is not a limitation. Mr. Gable stated the rule starts off saying "of any kind" and is an open-ended preface to the sentence.

Commissioner Dr. Williams asked if Mr. Gable's assertion was rule number 2 and number 9 are separate and independent of each other. Mr. Gable stated they aren't separate, but they aren't pre-requisites of each of other. Commissioner Dr. Williams stated the letter from the ABC MMA rules committee takes a different position, rule number 9 further addresses rule number 2 to help avoid eye pokes with the fingers.

Commissioner Sauter asked for EO Foster to give the Commission a summary of their options and his recommendation. EO Foster stated the Commission could let the decision stand or reverse the decision to a "no contest". The case for letting the win stand, would be the 2nd sentence of rule number 2, "legal strikes or punches that contact the eye socket are not eye gouging". The option to make it a no contest was laid out very well by Mr. Gable and EO Foster thought the argument was compelling and interesting. EO Foster stated if the commission ruled this a no contest, the Commission would be taking away a fighter's win. EO Foster recommended the decision stand as a TKO.

Vice Chair Lehman asked Commissioner Dr. Williams for some clarification. If rule number 2 states “legal strikes that connect with the fighter’s eye sockets”, would it be correct to assume the eye socket doesn’t include the eye ball? Commissioner Dr. Williams stated he would interpret it to include the eye socket and the content.

*Commissioner Shen-Urquidez motioned to let the decision stand as is.
Commissioner Sauter seconded the motion.*

*Vice Chair Lehman motioned to change the decision to a no contest.
Motion died for lack of a second.*

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez’s motion stands.

No public comments

Commissioner Araby stated he felt the Commission needed to look for a clearer definition moving forward, and he would feel uncomfortable overturning this decision without more clarity on the rules.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez thanked Ms. Zingano for her participation in the sport and for being one of the athletes who started MMA for women. Furthermore, she thanked Mr. Gable for making this argument as best as he possibly could. She felt this was an important health and safety issues, as this is how rule number 2 came about; people brought appeals and the rules were re-evaluated. She stated she’s watched hundreds if not thousands of rounds of MMA and Kickboxing and has never seen this happen before. She asked MMA experts and officials and no one has ever seen or heard of this occurring. However, Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated just because we haven’t seen it doesn’t mean we shouldn’t look into it. She was glad Ms. Zingano brought this to the Commission. The Commission asked EO to address this with the ABC MMA rules committee and report back.

Chair Carvelli stated he was at the event and it was just rotten how it ended. He wished there was more the Commission could do more to help Ms. Zingano and asked her to please not stop competing and being an ambassador to the sport.

Vice Chair Lehman pointed out the rules of statutory construction state if rules are ambiguous, the Commission can look to public policy as to the result and intent behind the rules.

The motion passed 6-1 by roll call vote (Vice-Chair Lehman voted against)

Agenda Item 7-Review and Approval of changes to Examination of Boxer Applicants regulation language

EO Foster informed the Commission they are close to finishing the regulation package. The last part are the changes from the legal affairs committee. Counsel Walker handed the Commission documents which state reasons for the changes to the proposed text.

Commissioner Ayala motioned to approve the amended language and direct staff to continue with the process.

Commissioner Dr. Williams seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Lehman stated the Commission wants this to go forward and they understand there is a new process. She asked for Counsel Walker to please make sure whoever takes over after he leaves not let this get buried. She also stated moving forward, the Commission had mentioned doing telephonic meetings to get this approved rather than having to wait for the next meeting.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if this will be done before the next meeting? Counsel Walker informed the Commission it wouldn't be.

No public comments

The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 8- Subcommittees Updates

a. Pension Fund Subcommittee (Commissioners Lehman and Ayala)

i. Report from Beth Herrington from Benefit Resources regarding the pension fund administration

Beth Herrington reported the balance in the plan at the end of 2018 was \$4,950,731, they have 287 covered boxers totaling \$3,779,840 of the plan asset and of those covered 11 were paid a total of \$176,332. 11 late claimants came forward representing \$186,075. Commissioner Sauter asked what the average payment was. Ms. Herrington stated the average is about \$15,000.

Ms. Herrington stated in the past the Commission discussed collecting more to ensure there was enough in the fund for the payouts, but they never discussed what that number should be. She also stated the plan assets are at a low, distributions have slowed down some, but we are stable with the number of participants getting paid.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if the Commission should be worried about the amount of assets in the fund, having discussed at the beginning of the review there may come a time when the fund balance may need to be replenished? Ms. Herrington stated the concern is when over \$ 2 million is transferred to the suspense account and people come for their pay-outs when

their sums have already been transferred into the suspense account. Vice Chair Lehman asked what happens if we get 11 claimants in next the two months and we don't have the funds, does our plan address this?

Commissioner Araby summarized that according to the reports provided to the Commission, the Commission has 4.9 million in the plan balance, 3.8 million claimed and if all benefits are claimed, the Commission would have 1.1 million in assets. Where does the 1.1 million in assets go? Ms. Herrington stated the 1.1 million in the account would be for the 1,291 boxers who are working to be covered. There are 146 boxers who haven't claimed benefits whose balance exceeds 2 million. Funds from what is owed to those un-claimed boxers have been used to cover what is owed to the boxers who have claimed their benefits.

Chair Carvelli asked if Ms. Herrington had a proposal for what we could do about this? Ms. Herrington proposed the Commission increase the hold back amount from 20% to 50%. Chair Carvelli asked Ms. Herrington how she came up with that number. Ms. Herrington stated the Commission transferred \$186,000 last year, the 20% hold back left the fund with \$23,000. Almost 50% was used to pay the benefits for those that came forward last year. Commissioner Sauter asked if the process continues, where will the Commission be in 5 years? Ms. Herrington stated in 2012 the Commission adjusted and transferred \$250,000 to the suspense account and if we stay on the same trajectory the fund would be minus \$230,000.

Vice Chair Lehman thanked Ms. Herrington for getting the language that allows the Commission to change the amount of the hold back percentage. Commissioner Araby stated he was uncomfortable in deciding to change the amount of the hold back without seeing a more solid argument and reports.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if the Commission decided to move up the amount of the holdback, how long would it take to make it happen? Ms. Herrington stated it would not take long, less than a week. Chair Carvelli asked EO Foster what his thoughts were on moving up the holdback amount to 50%. EO Foster stated he would have to defer that question to the experts. Chair Carvelli stated the Commission could authorize the EO to grant the increase after more data is reviewed or the Commission could authorize the Pension Fund Subcommittee to make that decision.

Commissioner Sauter motioned to have Ms. Herrington come back in 6 months to report on the pension fund and for the Pension Fund Subcommittee to have the authority to increase the holdback percentage.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez seconded the motioned.

Pension fund subcommittee members are Vice Chair Lehman and Commissioner Araby.

Director Grafilo stated he appreciated the Commissioners' desire to get to the root of this. He also stated he has been asked what some of the most rewarding things he has done, and without a doubt it was being able to give a former boxer his pension check.

Chair Carvelli stated there are only two pension funds in the State of California: The California Public Retirement System (CalPERS) and this one.

No further commissioner or public comment.

The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Vice Chair Lehman stated considering this is a big issue and it's something Ms. Herrington put thought in, where is it at in the report. Ms. Herrington stated it is in the expense summary in section 3. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez confirmed it was mentioned in section 3D but stated it was just a little note. She further explained she understood this because the Chair and she tore this pension plan apart 5 years ago, but the rest of the Commissioners weren't a part of the process. Therefore, these significant substantive issues need to be made clear for everyone to understand.

Ms. Herrington informed the Commission she provided EO Foster with a search service that will help locate those boxers owed money under the pension plan.

ii. Report from Cyril Shah of Raymond Jones Financial Services regarding the status of the Pension Fund investment account and allocation of assets

Reports were provided to the Commission by Cyril Shah. He stated the account is at 50% equity and the account saw a slowing in the 4th quarter. For the first time in 10 years the account saw a negative return because of the drop-in stocks and bonds.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked Mr. Shah if he re-allocated any of the funds in 2018. Mr. Shah stated assets were reallocated into domestic equities. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked Mr. Shah if he looked at the pension's performance at the beginning of the 1st quarter. He informed the Commission he did, and changes were made to insulate the fund from the volatility of the market.

Mr. Shah stated there was a significantly large increase in distributions being made and the Commission may be a need to find other ways to fund distributions. However, even though calendar year 2018 saw a 4.9% dividend decline, we are still above our target.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez pointed out the report shows a 12.1% loss. Mr. Shah stated it was because of the drop to the MSCI, one of the most volatile investments in the profile, which is related to what is happening in Europe. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if there is a way to measure how our pension fund is doing compared to others? Mr. Shah stated they use benchmarks to track how the fund is doing.

Mr. Shah reported if the fund sees a large influx in payouts to boxers during a down period it would eat away at the principal and it wouldn't have the opportunity get back to where it was. That would create inequity to a boxer who came forward 5 years ago compared to a boxer who came forward during a down period.

Commissioner Sauter asked, if one fighter would get a certain amount money but if another fighter came forward during a down period he would get less money? Commissioner Araby asked for Mr. Shah to define whether the plan is a contribution plan or a defined benefit plan. Mr. Shah stated the pension fund made the transition from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. If we define the benefit and all boxers come forward, then the pension would be unstable, by changing the plan we were able to ensure boxers who came forward were able to get their fair share.

Commissioner Sauter stated boxers don't know what type of plan we have, and they don't know about fluctuations. He stated he felt there are equity deficiencies in the plan if a boxer comes in during a bad period. Mr. Shah stated they are ways to minimize the volatility and help grow the fund. They have been successful in making sure the value of the fund stays even, despite the number of payouts.

Chair Carvelli informed the Commission the fund is stable and as the fund balance increases, the Commission can continue giving out money to the boxers, as that is the purpose of the fund.

Reassessment of criteria for eligibility

Tabled to the next meeting so the Pension fund subcommittee has a chance to meet.

Agenda Item 9-Discussion and Possible Action of creation of Pension Benefits for Mixed Martial Arts Athletes

Chair Carvelli wanted to get a sense from the Commission if this was something they needed to look at and discuss more. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated she and EO Foster had talked about this over the years. It is a complicated issue but is possible. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated she wasn't sure if they would need to bring in a non-profit or look at going to the ABC level. She recommended the Commission look at creating a subcommittee for a detailed look into this.

Chair Carvelli stated he was comfortable with the actions taken today with regards to the boxers' pension fund. Vice Chair Lehman asked the Commission to create a subcommittee to investigate creating the same for MMA, she nominated Commissioner Shen-Urquidez. Chair Carvelli nominated Commissioner Ayala for the subcommittee. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez and Commissioner Ayala accepted

Vice Chair Lehman asked if the pension fund subcommittee had the authority to instruct Ms. Herrington to increase the holdback percentage amount. EO Foster stated yes and informed the Commission \$300,000 was just requested from Mr. Shah for payouts. EO Foster informed the Commission they are in the process of working on getting a contract with a company to assist in locating those boxers. Commissioner Sauter asked if the Commission should look at using some internal resource on these matters? Chair Carvelli stated instead of hiring someone, the Commission could reach out the Department to see if they have resources available.

Agenda Item 10-Executive Officer's Report

a. Budget Update for the support Fund, the Neurological Fund, and Pension Program

The EO presented to the Commission the updated revenue numbers as of the morning of December 11, 2018. The Commission has deposited into the support fund \$1,645,000, the neurological fund \$8,889.38, and \$261,663.52 into the Boxers pension fund. The Commission is well above 1.9 million in deposits, the Commission is budgeted for 1.7 million. EO Foster is not certain how much has been spent but EO Foster stated the Commission is revenue positive. The FISCAL system is not working which is why EO Foster can't present the Commission with a definite number of how much has been spent.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if there was an ETA on when the FISCAL system would be ready? Chris Castrillo with DCA stated they expect to have the FISCAL numbers by the end of March 2019.

Chair Carvelli stated EO Foster has a good idea of what the Commission's expenses are and EO Foster has done a good job of budgeting. The fiscal state of

this Commission is a good one. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated it would be nice to just have a better understanding down to the dollar.

EO Foster presented the Commission with charts on the fund condition, showing the Commission is having a record year.

b. Report on pending and proposed Regulations

EO Foster stated the Commission discussed this in Agenda item #7. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated she understood they have now streamlined process, but the process is still taking too long. Commissioner Araby inquired about the process involving regulation packages. EO Foster gave the Commission a summary of the steps involved and will provide the Commission with the regulation timeline.

Chris Castrillo stated he understands the process takes a lot of time and the hope is the proposed regulation unit will assist in streamlining the process. Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated when the Commission went through the process in the past, it seemed as if the people reviewing the proposed regulations didn't understand what the Commission does. Perhaps it was a function of the Commission having the opportunity to do better outreach with DCA and Agency so we are on the same page.

c. Status update of Delegated Entities

- **California Amateur Mixed Martial Arts Organizations (CAMO)**

JT Steele, President of CAMO, presented the Commission with his report, which is contained in the meeting materials. He stated CAMO is off to a busy start with 4 events in the upcoming weekend. Mr. Steele informed the Commission CAMO will be able to have their amateur drug testing done and he thanked Commissioner Shen-Urquidez, the Contact Sports Foundation, and EO Foster for their help with this.

Mr. Steele wanted to publicly thank the CAMO officials for all of their hard work. Chair Carvelli asked Mr. Steele to summarize his financial situation. Mr. Steele stated CAMO is stable and busy.

- **USA Boxing (USA Boxing)**

Mr. Mike McAtee presented the Commission with his written report, which is contained in the meeting materials. Mr. McAtee asked the Commission if could be able to present his reports to the Commission quarterly, the Commission agreed that would be fine. Mr. McAtee informed the Commission in 2018 USA Boxing sanctioned 158 bouts, 191 competition days. The Southern California is the largest LBC in the country, USA Boxing is proud of the LBC.

Mr. McAtee informed the Commission in March of 2019, USA Boxing will begin their new coaching training program which will address nutrition and weight cutting. USA Boxing has been working closely with the Police Athletic league and are helping them to expand their program.

EO Foster asked Mr. McAtee to explain why so much money is being spent on the elite level athletes and if the report is correct regarding the amount of money spent on the female athletes compared to the male athletes. Mr. McAtee stated the discrepancy regarding the youth male and females boxers may be a misprint Chair Carvelli asked he look into this and report back at the next Commission meeting. Mr. McAtee stated the high-performance boxers participate year-round which is why more money is allocated towards them.

Chair Carvelli pointed out women's participation is increasing and the Commission appreciates the detailed reports are now being provided by USA Boxing.

- United States Fight League (USFL)

Jon Frank submitted his report to the Commission, which is contained in the meeting materials. Mr. Frank informed the Commission two amateur sanctioning mixed martial arts organizations have joined together and will have a youth division. That organization has conceded to removing head strikes from the youth division. The new leadership program was developed has entered Phase II and they are interviewing some of the participants and parents. Mr. Frank informed the Commission once kids have competed in 10 bouts and are recommended they will receive rings with their names on them.

EO Foster stated this Commission took the lead on this and it is a big deal that these international bodies are adopting the rules the Commission created.

- International Kickboxing Federation (IKF)

Steve Fossum, President of IKF, submitted his report to the Commission which is contained in the meeting materials. Mr. Fossum stated they have had a couple of new promoters in 2018 and those promoters have been great to work with.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez stated she is happy to see all the organizations working together. EO Foster pointed out since the Commission has delegated authority to IKF they have done 232 events.

d. Update on C3 Logix Sports Concussion Management Program

EO Foster presented the Commission the brief background of the C3 Logix system and informed the Commission they have tested a large quantity of the participants. EO Foster stated the Commission is now ready to move onto Phase II, a spreadsheet was presented showing where C3 Logix will be added. He stated when shows are being worked in the office the staff will now input whether the athlete needs to do a test or the date of the athletes last date. Commissioner Dr. Williams added this great and repeat testing will be a part of Phase II, the hope is some of the information will assist the Commission in better evaluating fighters. Chair Carvelli asked for Commissioner Dr. Williams to send those points to EO Foster. Chair Carvelli stated the hopes that some of these items will be presented at the Sunset review hearing.

Commissioner Shen-Urquidez asked if it was possible to use this data to customize a return to play for each athlete instead of using the current arbitrary dates since this was the original reason for obtaining the concussion system and the mandate for it. Commissioner Dr. Williams stated in the future it could be possible and maybe could be used as in incentive to get the athletes to participant.

e. Staffing Update

EO Foster introduced new Commission employee Patrisha Blackstock. EO Foster informed the Commission there is one vacant position but at this time the Commission doesn't have the appropriation to fill the position.

f. Association of Boxing Commissions Ratings Criteria Update

EO Foster informed the Commission the World Boxing Council (WBC) and the International Boxing Federation (IBF) have internal regulations that exceed the health and safety provisions regarding extreme weight cutting in the ABC ratings criteria.

EO Foster requested Spencer Walker send letters to the World Boxing Organization (WBO) and the World Boxing Association (WBA). The WBO has responded they intend to fully comply with the new health and safety provisions regarding weight cutting that have been tied to the ratings criteria. The World Boxing Association (WBA) has not responded as of this date.

EO Foster informed the Commission he is looking into the enforcement aspect of the rating criteria update.

g. Association of Boxing Commission (ABC) Report of Number of Show Regulated

EO Foster stated California is number one, but of note is the sharp increase in the number of boxing shows regulated. In 2017, the Commission regulated 87 boxing

events compared to 118 boxing events in 2018. The Commission regulated more boxing events in 2018 than Texas, New York, New Jersey, and Nevada combined.

EO Foster presented the Commission with a graphically breakdown of the number of shows, type of shows and revenue of each show held in California. EO Foster pointed out that a great deal of the shows are now being streamed on many of the different streaming services.

h. Upcoming Event Schedule and discussion regarding event activity

EO Foster stated the Commission has 2 major Bellator events coming up, a world title fight at Fantasy Springs and several Combate events scheduled. EO Foster informed the Commission on April 12th Lomachenko would be fighting at the Staples Center and on March 9th Shawn Porter would be fighting at Dignity Health Sports Park.

Agenda Item 11 – Business and Professions Code section 18640.5 requires the Commission to invite stakeholder testimony at Commission meetings in order to identify actions that may lead to greater opportunities for licensees to participate in major professional boxing contests

No stakeholder comments received.

Agenda Item 12 – Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Public Comments were given regarding amateur mixed martial arts and neurological testing.

CLOSED SESSION

Agenda Item 13 – The Board will meet in closed session as authorized by Government Code § 11126(a) (1) the Commission will conduct an annual review of the Executive Officer.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda Item 14 – ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned.