



Members of the Advisory Committee on  
Medical & Safety Standards

Dr. Paul Wallace, Chair  
Dr. Robert Ruelaz  
Dr. Brian Estwick  
Dr. Rhonda Rand  
Dr. Jonathan Schleimer  
Dr. Diego Allende

Members of the Commission

John Carvelli, Chair  
Douglas J Hendrickson  
Van Gordon Sauter  
Martha Shen-Urquidez  
Peter Villegas, Vice Chair  
Vernon Williams, M.D.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS

### DRAFT-MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 20, 2021  
6:00 p.m.- Conclusion of Business

Location  
*Zoom*

**Members Present**

Dr. Paul Wallace, Chair  
Dr. Rhonda Rand  
Dr. Diego Allende  
Dr. Robert Ruelaz  
Dr. Brian Estwick  
Dr. Jonathan Schleimer  
Commissioner Dr. Williams

**Staff Present**

Andy Foster, Executive Officer  
Sophia Cornejo, AEO  
Patrisha Blackstock, Staff  
Lee Palmer, Staff  
Mark Relyea, Chief Athletic Inspector

**Open Session**

**Agenda Item 1-Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dr. Wallace. EO Foster called roll, all members present.

**Agenda Item 2-Opening Remarks by Chairperson**

Dr. Wallace welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Commission staff for the outstanding job they have been doing. Dr. Wallace stated while other Commissions were not able to have events, California was able to host events safely and efficiently. Dr. Wallace added running events during this time has been a huge undertaking and the staff has done a tremendous job.

**Agenda Item 3-Update regarding event activity under the Commission's emergency COVID-19 Regulations**

EO Foster reported since the Commission began regulating events under the COVID-19 regulations, thirty (30) events have been held since July 24, 2020, with very few COVID-19 positives in the bubble. EO Foster added with the advancements in COVID testing, testing within in the bubble is moving faster as the results are not taking as long to process. EO Foster stated Chief Inspector Mark Relyea has done an outstanding job in running the events. EO Foster asked for direction from the Advisory Committee on Medical and Safety Standards (MAC) regarding the state's potential opening date of June 15, 2021, and how that will affect the Commission's COVID-19 regulations.

Dr. Wallace informed the Committee the state will be potentially opening completely on June 15, 2021, with no restrictions on audience size and asked for a motion regarding rescinding the Commission's Emergency COVID-19 Regulations on June 15, 2021.

*Dr. Wallace motioned that the MAC recommend there is no further medical reason or need to continue with the Commission's Emergency COVID-19 Regulations, effective June 15, 2021, once the state of California resumes normal business operations.*

*Dr. Allende seconded the motion.*

**Committee Comments**

Commissioner Dr. Williams asked for clarification and is the motion that on June 15, 2021, or when state deems we are no longer under the guidelines that we would remove the COVID-19 Regulations. Dr. Wallace stated that was correct.

Dr. Schleimer stated that the COVID-19 numbers presented were impressive and asked if there had been any reported claims of someone contracting COVID-19 at Commission regulated events. EO Foster responded not that he was aware of.

**Public Comments**

Dr. Beard asked would this stop all COVID-19 testing. Dr. Wallace responded yes.

*The motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote.*

**Agenda Item 4-Review and discussion of the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports Medical Advisory Committee's statement regarding THC**

EO Foster presented the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports Medical Advisory Committee's statement regarding the use of THC in combative sports. EO Foster stated essentially the statement follows California's normal practice of not issuing suspensions for positive THC tests.

**Agenda Item 5- Update of the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference**

EO Foster informed the Commission the Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports will be having it's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida July 26 - 28, 2021. .

**Agenda Item 6-Discussion on scheduling Ringside Physicians Training**

Dr. Wallace stated he would like to schedule training as soon as possible. EO Foster asked if he would like the training held via Zoom or in person. Dr. Wallace responded he would like to have the training in person in Los Angeles. He added he would like notification of the training sent to the Medical Board of California to see if any new physicians were interested in becoming Ringside Physicians.

Dr. Rand expressed interest in possibly offering the training in person and on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. Dr. Wallace responded offering training on Zoom and in person could be an option however even before COVID-19, Physicians were not attending the training. Dr. Wallace asked for the Commission to enforce the regulations regarding training and that Physicians who don't attend the trainings not be scheduled to work events.

Dr. Wallace asked for the Commission staff to schedule a reasonable date soon after June 15, 2021.

**Agenda Item 7- Public Comments not on the agenda**

Dr. Wallace stated during the pandemic, several things have been noticed with COVID-19 positive Boxers and the outcomes of their fights. He stated a disproportioned number of Boxers who have tested positive for COVID-19, recovered, completed their training camp, and when they compete they lose and not just by points. He asked Dr. Ruelaz to look into any cardiovascular issues and Commissioner Dr. Williams to look into any neurological issues pertaining to athletes who have tested positive for COVID-19.

Dr. Ruelaz informed the Committee that the data doesn't require the majority of adult athletes who have had mild or moderate symptoms to have additional testing unless they had prolonged or severe symptoms. Commissioner Dr. Williams stated the guidance he has seen relates to the immediate return to play and how severe their symptoms were. Commissioner Dr. Williams stated the C3 Logix data the Commission has may provide some interesting data when comparing an athlete's previous test to a new one.

Further discussion about requiring additional testing if an athlete had severe COVID-19 would happen at the Ringside Physicians training.

**Closed Session**

**Agenda Item 8- The Committee will meet in closed session as authorized by Government Code § 11126(c) (2) and will discuss matters that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy of an individual license or applicant.**

**Agenda 9- Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.