

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NANAIMO ATHLETIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX
ON WEDNESDAY, 2010-NOV-24, COMMENCING AT 12:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner M. Unger, Chair

Members: Commissioner B. Avis
Commissioner E. Garner
Commissioner B. Meunier

Absent: Commissioner L. McNabb
Commissioner B. Bestwick

Others: RCMP Liaison, Wally Taylor

Staff: D. Osborne
H. Richardson, recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

(a) Minutes of the Regular Nanaimo Athletic Commission (NAC) Meeting held Wednesday, 2010-OCT-13 at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of Bowen Park.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. DELEGATIONS:

The issue of security was discussed amongst NAC members. The City of Nanaimo has traditionally covered the costs for additional security required for events. Is this feasible? The number of security required depends on security staff being either trained or untrained. The RCMP attend as support to security personnel. Additional can be called in if required. The cost for police attending is in the range of \$2,500 to \$3,000 for overtime policing, which is based on 10 police officers at five hours each.

It was moved and seconded that policing requirements for all combative sports events be a minimum of three members in attendance with the possibility of this being increased, depending on attendance, and will be at the discretion of the Commission. Security costs are to be passed on by the City to the promoter and not covered by the City of Nanaimo. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Jay Golshani, Promoter of Battlefield Fight League Request for Sanctioning for a Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) event at Frank Crane Arena 2011-APR-02. Staff received an application for sanctioning of Mr. Golshani's MMA event to be held on 2011-APR-02. Tickets for the event will be from \$19.99 to \$159.99 with five price categories. Five gyms are selling tickets, which may also be purchased online. He is planning 10 professional and four amateur events: 18 fighters are from Vancouver Island. Amateurs will be fighting in between professional bouts, not all at the beginning of the event. Four Nanaimo hotels have been reserved for approximately 188 fans travelling by bus to Nanaimo for the event. Mr. Golshani will prepare a security plan. He will use 28 security people, but will have to go out of town for a security company as there are none in Nanaimo that can accommodate this request. Ten security people associated with Battlefield Fight League will oversee security and will be at the main door for pat downs, etc. There will be a smoking area with a no-exit policy. A donation will be made to Nanaimo Regional General Hospital from the proceeds of sale. Mr. Golshani will prepare a list of all officials and referees and forward to staff. All amateurs, as well as professional fighters, are required to have medicals done prior to fighting. Payment of fighters is administered by Mr. Golshani and the Battlefield Fight League and overseen by the NAC. Fighters can be paid by cheque from a trust account. Mr. Golshani will pay the MMABC the fees for the officials, who will distribute the payments the night of the event.
- (b) Keith Varga, Promoter, Quest for the Title VII, Presenting Information on a Proposed Kickboxing Event in the Spring of 2011 at the Port Theatre. Mr. Varga has run six Quest for the title events. To date, all of his events have been sanctioned amateur events. He would like to see 500 to 700 in attendance, with only 10 to 14 in the front row. There will be 11 bouts. All fighters are required to have medicals done prior to the event. Dr. Naesmith and Dr. Erikson are the ringside physicians. All events have sold out with 500 spectators in attendance. Muay Thai K1 Modified Rules are followed. There are five referees trained on Vancouver Island for this type of event, but if Mr. Varga requires more, they may have to be flown in from Europe or Washington. Mr. Varga has received \$4,700 in sponsorship so far for this event. The purse is \$2,500. Robin Webb will be filming the event and selling to a network.

Mr. Varga's and Mr. Golshani's events are very close together, but are not like events. If the two promoters agree, the events can be held less than 60 days apart, which is a policy of the NAC.

It was moved and seconded that the delegations be received. The motion carried unanimously.

5. STAFF REPORT:

- (a) Review of NAC Policies 7.5 and 7.6. These policies state:

7.5 *The Commission will have a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 60 days between professional boxing and wrestling events.*

7.6 *The Commission shall have a minimum of 90 days between approved Toughman/Toughwoman Boxing events.*

The proposed policy reads:

The Commission shall have a minimum of 60 days between all sanctioned Combative Sporting events. This regulation may be waived with the consent of two competing promoters.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Nanaimo Athletic Commission recommend that Council approve the revision to Policies 7.5 and 7.6 of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission Policy Manual.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action)

- (a) CBF Annual General Meeting Minutes from September, 2010, held in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- (b) Email from Darren Owen, President, Armageddon Fighting Championship, dated November 22, 2010, expressing interest in promoting his professional mixed martial arts event in Nanaimo.
- (c) Email from Jerome Yang, Vancouver Athletic Commission, dated November 21, 2010, requesting interest in a weekend certification course in Vancouver for judges and refereeing.

It was moved and seconded that the Correspondence Items be received. The motion carried unanimously.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (a) Jay Golshani, Promoter of Battlefield Fight League Request for Sanctioning for a Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) event at Frank Crane Arena 2011-APR-02.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Golshani's 2011-APR-02 Mixed Martial Arts event at Frank Crane Arena be sanctioned. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Keith Varga, Promoter, Quest for the Title VII, Presenting Information on a Proposed Kickboxing Event in the Spring of 2011 at the Port Theatre.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Varga's Kickboxing event proposed for the spring of 2011 at the Port Theatre be approved subject to the approval of a date. The motion carried unanimously.

- (c) Fighters Fighting Under an Alias. Promoters and NAC need to be diligent in their background checks for fighters to ensure they have not fought under an alias in any event so that they did not have to adhere to the minimum rest period between events.
- (d) Proposed Sanctioning of One Time Trial Event at Vancouver Island Conference Centre (VICC) Where Food and Beverage (Liquor) Sales are permitted. A meeting was held between Chair Unger, Mayor John Ruttan, Al Kenning, City Manager, and Andy Laidlaw, General Manager of Community Services, to discuss a one-time trial event at VICC where food and beverage (liquor) would be available to purchase for those in attendance. All in attendance agreed that trying this on a one-time basis would be beneficial. Promoters should be advised that they can apply to hold an event at the VICC by contacting them directly. The rent is set by the Vancouver Island Conference Centre Association and cannot be changed. Liquor sales at the VICC are run by them, and no money is given back to the renter. Any promoter requiring sanctioning for an event at the VICC should be directed to Darcie Osborne, NAC Staff Liaison.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve a trial combative sporting event, at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, allowing food and beverage (liquor) sales during the sanctioned event.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) CBF Annual General Meeting Minutes from September, 2010, held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Discussion regarding the NAC renewing their membership with the CBF was deferred to the next meeting.
- (b) Email from Darren Owen, President, Armageddon Fighting Championship, dated November 22, 2010, expressing interest in promoting his professional mixed martial arts event in Nanaimo. Mr. Owen wishes to hold an event in July or August 2011 in Nanaimo.

ACTION: Staff will contact Mr. Owen and advise him to complete an Application for Sanctioning for his Armageddon Fighting Championship event. He will also be requested to attend a NAC meeting as a delegation.

- (c) Email from Jerome Yang, Vancouver Athletic Commission, dated November 21, 2010, requesting interest in a weekend certification course in Vancouver for judges and refereeing. Jim Kipp has attended one of these certification courses

and would like to attend more. Mr. Garner feels judges and referees from Nanaimo would attend.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 1:30 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next Meeting of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission to be determined at a later date.

The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



M. Unger, Chair
Athletic Commission

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



R. Harding, Director