

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NANAIMO ATHLETIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD IN THE ROOM 20, OF THE BEBAN PARK RECREATION CENTRE  
ON WEDNESDAY, 2009-APR-15, COMMENCING AT 12:00 NOON**

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PRESENT: Commissioner M. Unger, Chair

Members: Commissioner E. Garner  
Commissioner B. Bestwick  
Commissioner B. Meunier  
Commissioner B. Avis  
Mr. W. Taylor (Advisory Member)

Absent: Commissioner L. McNabb

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 noon.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Sanctioning of Events in Other Communities. John Cooper, Promoter, addressed the Commission regarding their sanctioning events in other communities that do not have an Athletic Commission. The question of liability to the City of Nanaimo arose, but the issue should be explored as the Commission should be encouraging other communities. Mr. Cooper met with Colwood Parks and Recreation Department and has approval to host a King of the Cage event at Bear Mountain Arena. They are willing to appoint an Athletic Commission to oversee the event. It is not difficult to establish an Athletic Commission and Commissioner Garner would be happy to help out in this regard.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Nanaimo Athletic Commission Meeting held Wednesday, 2009-MAR-25, at 12:00 noon, in Room 20 of the Beban Park Recreation Centre.

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

5. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address the Nanaimo Athletic Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Mr. John Cooper, 601 Milton Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2L4, South Western BC Affiliate, King of the Cage Canada, reviewing his 2009-MAY-08 event at Frank Crane Arena.

To date there are 15 fights confirmed. The format for the event has been changed to have 11 bouts leading up to the main event, and then five fights after that. The weigh-in will take place Thursday, 2009-MAY-07 at 6:00 p.m. in Beban Social Centre, with the event on Friday, 2009-MAY-08 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Frank Crane Arena. Tickets are going reasonably well. Forms and post-medical documents are prepared. Darcie Osborne, Arenas Manager, will meet with the security supervisor on 2009-APR-28 to finalize details.

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

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

- (a) Appointment of Wally Taylor to Nanaimo Athletic Commission. Chair Unger introduced Wally Taylor who has been appointed as an Advisory Member to the Nanaimo Athletic Commission. Mr. Taylor will be a valuable resource to the Commission as he is an RCMP member and has worked at Toughman events in the past.
- (b) Head Official Discussion. Joel Scobie has been suggested as a Head Official for combative sporting events in Nanaimo.
- (c) Commission Fees. Standard fees need to be set for all events. A check/balance system should be created, with a proper procedure for payment of officials. Consistency of fees and payment of fees is crucial.

It was moved and seconded that staff prepare a list of updated fees for officials for the 2009-MAY-08 King of the Cage Event. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff and Commission will finalize a procedure for paying fight officials the week prior to the 2009-MAY-08 King of the Cage event. The scope of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission is growing and needs to be more professional with consistent procedures for all promoters and fighters.

7. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Revision of Procedures – Darcie Osborne.

All forms have been revised for consistency. Ms. Osborne has met with Don Arnott, Promoter, to review forms and procedures for his events. Weigh-ins for all fights need to be standardized so that an area is cordoned off for the actual weigh-in and that no one but the fighters be allowed into that area. Promotion of the weigh-in should be in a separate area.

The Canadian Boxing Federation and American Boxing Federation AGM are being held in Louisiana from 2009-JUL-28. The Nanaimo Athletic Commission does not have an adequate budget to send Commission members to these meetings. Because events are growing, Commission members need to be better educated with regard to combative sporting events and attending these sessions would be beneficial. Fees need to be adjusted so that there are adequate funds to send members to seminars or meetings.

It was moved and seconded that three members of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission be sent to New Orleans by the City of Nanaimo for the Canadian Boxing Federation AGM. The motion carried unanimously.

Commission suggested that all ticket sales for events be under the control of the City for better auditing.

(b) Toughman Report to CBF – Darcie Osborne. A suspension report was sent to the Canadian Boxing Federation after the 2009-APR-04 So You Wanna Fight event was held at Beban Park in Nanaimo. Mr. Orest Zmyndak, Executive Director of Edmonton Combative Sports Commission, responded that it was the first time a suspension report had been prepared for this type of event. It is worthwhile preparing these reports as some of these fighters may be trying to register in other mixed martial arts events.

8. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Fee Structure for Nanaimo Athletic Commission. Ms. Osborne has received e-mails from other athletic commissions outlining their procedures, rules, fees and forms. Once she has compiled the information, it will be available for review.

(b) TV Rights. More and more events are being broadcast on television. The Commission needs to consider charging promoters a flat fee for events sanctioned by the Nanaimo Athletic Commission and being shown on TV.

(c) In-Camera Meetings. Nanaimo Athletic Commission meetings are public and can be attended by anyone. The Nanaimo Athletic Commission is a Committee appointed by Council and must run according to the guidelines of City Council. Meetings can only be moved to "In-Camera" when they fall under one of the reasons listed in *Community Charter* Section 90(1) or 90(2).

9 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Toughman Review. Toughman events are difficult to monitor as they now include both mixed martial arts and boxing events. Some Commission members feel this is not a problem as these events serve different audiences at the same time. There are no rules that govern amateur MMA fights. Vancouver, Richmond and Victoria don't allow MMA fights, although some Commissioners feel these fights are safer than boxing. A 30-day rule in between events is crucial.
- (b) Liquor Sales at Events. Commissioner Garner proposed that liquor be permitted to be sold at combative sports events. The City owns a liquor primary licence at Frank Crane Arena where a portion of proceeds would go to the City and a portion to the promoter. This discussion was tabled for the next meeting.
- (c) An NWA/ECCW Pro-Wrestling event will be held at the Centennial Building on 2009-APR-25. Tickets are available to Commission members at the gate if they wish to attend.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 1:33 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next Meeting of the Nanaimo Athletic Commission to be Wednesday, 2009-JUN-03, at Beban Park at 12:00 noon.

The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



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M. Unger, Chair  
Athletic Commission

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



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R. Harding, Director