

Wednesday, February 18, 2025

5:04 PM

In Attendance:

- Travis Grindle
- Bryan Jeannotte
- Chris Stodolka
- Jorgen Thompson
- JC Penny
- Brad Stephenson
- Jennie Sudo
- John James
- Josh Reamsbottom
- Caroline Moynihan
- Richard Arnold (Guest)

Regrets:

- Geoff Rhodenizer

1. Welcome - Acknowledgement

- Call to order - 5:04 PM

2. Official Business

MOTION – J James/ C Moynihan

THAT the meeting agenda be approved.

----- **CARRIED**

3. Approval of the Minutes (January 22/25)

MOTION – J Reamsbottom/ JC Penny

THAT the meeting minutes from January 22, 2025 be approved.

----- **CARRIED**

4. Guest – Richard Arnold (Alberta Tourism & Sport)

- Introductions – Opening Remarks
 - General Discussion.
- Commission Members' Questions
 - Would athlete records continue to be recorded through national international platforms such as BoxRec and Combat Registry, rather than a provincial platform which would create redundancy in the registration process?
 - Key members of Government of AB are focused on red tape reduction, and are dedicated to ensuring that registration does not fall through the cracks.
 - Would there still be regional representation in a Commission capacity for combative sporting events in the province, and what are the general plans for a fee structure in the smaller Alberta communities?
 - Consistent feedback thus far shows regional representation is key. Representatives look forward to continuing to support events regionally, including communities the size of Lethbridge and smaller. If a fee structure is included in the updated legislation, representatives will ensure that the fee structure will not deter new and continuing athletes and promoters.
 - Would there be a change in the structure of our regional commissions?
 - Representatives have yet to make a final decision on a recommended structure, should a Provincial Commission be voted into legislation. In the case where a Provincial Commission comes into place, the goal of representatives would be to have as little disruption to currently conducted business as possible, including venues currently booked and events currently sanctioned under the standing commission structure.
 - An official position of the Lethbridge Combative Sports Commission has not yet been requested. Have other Alberta commissions made their position on a Provincial Commission clear?

- At this time all other commissions have expressed a position of in favour with exceptions/ recommendations to the proposed governance and operations of a Provincial Commission.
- Has an autopsy and investigation concluded for the latest combative sport fatality in Alberta?
 - This fatality is still currently under investigation. Legislation recommendations will likely be released before a conclusion to the fatality investigation is complete.
- Concern expressed with the recommendation of concussion protocol spotters located in the crowd. Subject matter experts recommend if these spotters are required by legislation they be stationed at ringside in order to closely observe athlete safety.
- Recommended that the responsibility of athlete safety be evenly distributed amongst commissions, athletes, coaches, promoters and officials.
- Review Progress & Next Steps
 - Any requested responses to the Tim Hague Fatality Inquiry Recommendations are to be submitted by March 5, 2025.
 - Correspondence to each Alberta Commission will require review by Minister.
 - Consultations continue with other subject matter experts such as medical staff, officials, and promoters.
 - Thank you to each of the commissions that have offered invaluable information, experience and expertise during this process.

5. New Commission Member ID & Clothing

- Orders complete and distributed as required.

6. New Commission Contact List

- 2025 listing updated, distributed as needed and uploaded to Commission SharePoint site.

7. New Blood Pressure Machine

- Order complete and added to equipment inventory.

8. Hague Fatality Inquiry Recommendations

- Report created by Chair and Vice-Chair of the Lethbridge Combative Sports Commission and presented to the Commission.
- DIRECTION: B Stephenson to adjust wording to current Rules & Regulations item 6.2 regarding suspension timelines and knock outs, and bring to next monthly meeting for review and approval by the Commission.
- DIRECTION: B Jeannotte to follow up for report submission.

9. Meeting with Branded Fighting Promoter

- General discussion.
 - DIRECTION: B Jeannotte to arrange and communicate meeting with Commission representatives and promoter.
 - DIRECTION: J Sudo to create draft of online fighter lineup form.

10. Branded Fight Card Approval Meeting

- General Discussion.
 - March 3, 2025-5:00pm
 - Location TBD

11. Pro-Am Boxing Card Inquiry

- Inquiry and request for information received. Correspondence exchanged with Chair. No further direction at this time.

12. Ambulance Service for Events

- Inquiry and request for information received. Correspondence exchanged with Chair. No further direction at this time.

13. Underage Grappling Match Requirements (RITC Event)

- Correspondence received from promoter notifying of upcoming event special card item.
 - Confirmed no medical requirements for proposed grappling session, however, parent/ guardian and athlete waivers will be required.
- DIRECTION: B Stephenson to reply to promoter.

14. Financial Statement

- As received.

15. Pure Power Wrestling Report (February 8/25)

- As received.

16. Upcoming Events

- Pure Power Wrestling | Fritz Sick Centre | March 01, 2025
- Branded Fighting Championship | Lethbridge Polytechnic | March 08, 2025
- Rumble In The Cage 68 | Servus Soccer Centre | April 05, 2025

17. Other Business

- N/A

18. Date of Next Meeting

- Next Commission Meeting
 - Tuesday, March 18, 2025 | **5:00pm** | Mitch Ball Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall

19. Adjournment

MOTION – JC Penny/ J Reamsbottom

THAT the meeting is adjourned at 6:59 pm.

----- **CARRIED**