

**Meeting Minutes**  
**SOUTH DAKOTA ATHLETIC COMMISSION**  
Via Teleconference  
December 1, 2023, 12:30 p.m. CST

Chairman Kilmer called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Members Present Electronically:** Mike Kilmer, George Giovanis, Mark Johnston, Kaleb Paulsen, and Verle Valentine

**Others Present Electronically:** Jennifer Stalley, executive secretary; Amber Mulder, Department of Labor, Legal Counsel; and Bob Mercer, KELO-Land News

Johnston made a motion to approve the agenda. Valentine seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.** Giovanis was absent.

Kilmer asked for any public comments. No comments were offered.

Valentine made a motion to approve the September 6, 2023, commission meeting minutes. Paulsen seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.** Giovanis was absent.

Paulsen made a motion to accept the October 31, 2023, financial report as presented. Johnston seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.** Giovanis was absent.

Stalley provided an update on previously approved events.

Stalley informed the Commission the proposed legislation to define unarmed combat sports within the Commission's jurisdiction was not approved to be submitted for the upcoming legislative session.

Stalley reported the administrative rules review can be moved up since legislation is not anticipated in the upcoming legislative session.

Kilmer asked Valentine to chair the meeting for the next item of business.

Paulsen made a motion to approve the 2024 exempt organization request from South Dakota USA Boxing on the condition South Dakota USA Boxing inform the Commission of any sanctioned events in South Dakota before the event takes place and South Dakota USA Boxing report all event results and any contestant injuries to the Commission within 30 days of the event. Johnston seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.** Kilmer was recused. Giovanis was absent.

Valentine returned the chair to Kilmer.

Stalley informed the Commission inquires have been made about bare knuckle boxing events. Based on the Attorney General's opinion regarding slap fighting and no proposed changes expected in the upcoming legislative session, the Commission does not have jurisdiction to approve, deny or regulate bare knuckle boxing events.

The Commission considered dates for its 2024 meetings. Commissioners noted a preference for Friday meetings and a meeting date devoted to administrative rule drafting, in person, if possible.

Valentine made a motion to set the next Commission meeting for January 26, 2024, at 12:30 pm and establish the remainder of the 2024 calendar at that meeting. Paulsen seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

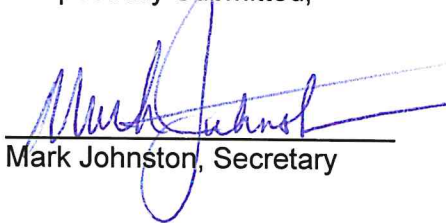
Paulsen made a motion to approve an event request by Legacy Fighting Alliance for a mixed martial arts event to be held on a date to be determined, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on the condition the promoter complies with all the rules, regulations and deadlines of the Commission for the event. Johnston seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Mulder informed the Commission she was taking a new position and would not be serving as the Commission's legal counsel moving forward. The Commission thanked Mulder for her time with the Commission and wished her well with her new opportunity.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. CST.

Johnston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:54 p.m. Giovanis seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Johnston, Secretary