



**EDMONTON COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION
FINAL
MEETING MINUTES**

**August 12, 2024
7:00 PM
Online via Google Meet**

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Trevor Kelly, at 7:03 pm., Monday, August 12, 2024.

It was acknowledged that the Edmonton Combative Sports Commission meets on the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples of the Treaty 6 region and the Métis settlement in the Métis Nation of Alberta in regions 2, 3 and 4. The Chair acknowledged that we respect the histories, language and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada whose presence continues to enrich our community.

2. Roll Call, Recording of Attendance

Present: Chair Trevor Kelly, Vice-Chair Andrew Soto
Commission Members: Brandy Badry, Tye Babb,
Rashi Khullar, Nateram Seecharan
Executive Director, Forrest Gavins
Recorder, Tracey Poberznick
Guests: Rob Sevigny, Brett Myshak

Absent with Regrets: Kevin Malahy

3. Call for Requests to Speak from the Public

There were no requests to speak from the public.

F. Gavins introduced R. Sevigny and B. Myshak who are shadowing the Executive Director.

4. Adopt Agenda

MOVED: That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

MOVED: That the July 8, 2024, minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Policy Review Project Working Group Updates

T. Kelly discussed the possibility of adjusting the definition of an elder fighter from 40 years to 35 years. F. Gavins is waiting for a response from Dr. Defraitis to get her opinion.

R. Khullar and T. Kelly met to discuss Policy 13 - Drug Testing and will do a gap analysis using the tool A. Soto created. They are doing a comparison of six jurisdictions. The policy has been out of date since the end of 2023. It is restrictive and requires a broader definition. The working group will try to have something in place before November.

A. Soto provided information about the jurisdictional reviews the working group has been researching. They identified gaps but indicated Edmonton is mostly in line with other jurisdictions. Gaps identified in the MNP report have been filled. The working group will make sure the language in Policy 9 is consistent and address any outstanding items.

Policy 7 - Fighter Pro Debut Criteria revisions will be distributed to the Commission for input or suggestions before the final version is approved. T. Babb and B. Badry will create a document to share their recommendations with the Commission. Regulation 1 should be ready to vote on in the next couple of months.

7. 2024 ABC Conference

B. Badry was not able to attend due to travel difficulties.

Attendees T. Babb, T. Kelly and F. Gavins shared information from the conference including medical findings that were presented regarding statistics, frequency of injuries, etc. There was discussion about the Commission revisiting its position around regulating bare-knuckle boxing in Edmonton. New MMA rules were introduced. It was suggested that the Commission look at other combative sports that should be sanctioned such as sumo wrestling. Members appreciated the perspective of the MMA refereeing and judging part of the conference as well as the Bare-Knuckle Boxing judging class.

8. Regulation of Bare Knuckle Boxing

The Commission first started looking into Bare Knuckle Boxing (BKB) in October of 2021. There is a BKB unified rule set that acknowledges commissions can decide if they would like to allow it in their jurisdiction. F. Gavins is following up to see where the Commission left off in their discussion about regulating the sport. The City's Law Branch looked at the ECSC bylaws and couldn't include BKB based on the definition. A separate definition would be needed by way of a bylaw revision.

F. Gavins will follow up with the City Lawyer about the possibility of including Bare Knuckle Boxing in combative sports in Edmonton. City Council would have to approve any bylaw revision if the ECSC decided to sanction these types of events.

T. Kelly shared information with the Commission and T. Babb will look through his records to see if he has any additional information regarding Bare Knuckle Boxing discussions.

9. Chair's Report

The Policy Review and attendance at the ABC Conference were previously discussed.

The Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Director were not able to meet this month.

MOVED: To receive the Chair's verbal report as presented. CARRIED

10. Executive Director Report

F. Gavins reviewed the written Executive Director's report.

There is an event tentatively scheduled for November 2, 2024. F. Gavins is meeting with Mike Pattenau on August 13 to discuss inspector training. The Executive Director is also scheduling officials for the November event.

A link to MMA rules has been added to the ECSC website.

The Canadian Commissioners Committee has been meeting for almost two years and has held a couple of conventions. Calgary represented Alberta because there is no provincial commission. F. Gavins has been invited to these events and asked to represent Edmonton next year. Benefits include relationship building and an opportunity to establish a provincial commission. The discussion is mostly about regulatory changes. Once the judge's findings from the fatality inquiry are released, that may drive a provincial commission.

MOVED: That the written report from the Executive Director be accepted as presented. CARRIED

11. Financial Statements – June 30, 2024

There are no changes to report since the May statements.

MOVED: That the June 30, 2024, Financial statements be approved as presented.
CARRIED

12. Next Meeting - September 9, 2024

The next Commission meeting will be held virtually on September 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

13. Adjournment

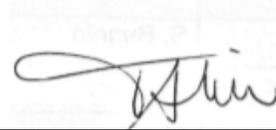
MOVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

I certify that the preceding minutes represent an accurate account of the proceedings at the Commission meeting on August 12, 2024.



September 19, 2024



Trevor Kelly, Chair

Date

Tracey Poberznick, Recorder