

# BOXING, MARTIAL ARTS, AND PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, November 14, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Board Room 3

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation  
9960 Mayland Drive  
Richmond, Virginia 23233

**Mission:** Our mission is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by licensing qualified individuals and businesses enforcing standards of professional conduct for professions and occupations as designated by statute.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Emergency Evacuation Procedures
- b. Determination of Quorum

## II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. BMAW Board Meeting, October 12, 2023

## IV. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS

## V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD **\*FIVE MINUTE PUBLIC COMMENT, PER PERSON\***

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Regulatory Update
  - i. Public Comment
  - ii. General Regulatory Review Update
- b. 2025 Meeting Dates

## VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Board Member Training Conference Update
- b. EpicX Update
- c. Event Update
- d. Bouts with Opposing Genders
- e. Election of Officers
- f. Financial Disclosure
- g. Licensed Population
- h. Financial Statements

## VIII. COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM AND TRAVEL VOUCHER.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

- ❖ Agenda materials made available to the public do not include disciplinary case files or application files pursuant to §54.1-108 of the Code of Virginia.
- ❖ Five minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application file.
- ❖ Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-2785 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

DRAFT AGENDA

Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion  
And are not to be construed as regulation or official board position

DRAFT AGENDA

**BOXING, MARTIAL ARTS, AND  
PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Boxing, Martial Arts, and Professional Wrestling Advisory Board (BMAW) met on October 12, 2023, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

Daniel Hardy, M.D. (Citizen)  
Scott Howard (Martial Arts)  
Eric Irizarry (Boxing)  
Brandon Metheny (Wrestling)

Board members Leah Jackman (Martial Arts), Travis Lee, M.D. (Boxing) and Charles Pinto (Citizen) were not present for the meeting with regrets.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting was:

Kishore Thota, Director  
Stephen Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Director  
Tom Payne, CID Deputy Director  
Kate Nosebisch, Executive Director  
Bonnie Davis, Board Operations Administrator  
Jermaine Gray, BMAW Board Administrator  
Joe Haughwout, Regulatory Affairs Manager  
Ecila Williams, Administrative Coordinator

Josh Laws, Assistant Attorney General was present from the Office of the Attorney General.

Members of the audience:

Johnny Davis- International Kickboxing Federation  
Brad Kutner- Radio IQ

Dr. Hardy, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Nosebisch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

**Emergency  
Evacuation  
Procedures**

Ms. Nosebisch introduced Mr. Thota, Director of DPOR, Mr. Gray, BMAW Board Administrator, Mr. Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Director, Ms. Williams, Administrative Coordinator, Mr. Irizarry, new board member representing Boxing, and Mr. Payne, CID Deputy Director.

**Introductions**

Mr. Metheny moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Howard seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Metheny moved to approve the minutes in block for the following dates:

**Approval of Minutes**

- i. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, February 15, 2023
- ii. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, March 16, 2023
- iii. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, April 20, 2023
- iv. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, April 27, 2023
- v. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, May 18, 2023
- vi. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, May 25, 2023
- vii. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, June 5, 2023
- viii. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, June 8, 2023
- ix. BMAW Regulatory Review Meeting, July 10, 2023

Mr. Howard seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny.

Mr. Davis made a public comment regarding allowing IKF Semi-Contact Sparring Competition in the Commonwealth.

**Public Comment  
Period**

Ms. Nosbisch introduced Mr. Kutner, Radio IQ, as a member of the audience.

**Introduction**

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Dr. Hardy read the following resolution for consideration by the Board:

**Resolution for Delvis  
McCadden**

Resolution for  
Delvis O. McCadden

WHEREAS, Delvis O. McCadden, did faithfully and diligently serve as a member of the Boxing, Martial Arts and Professional Wrestling Advisory Board from 2015 to 2023;

WHEREAS, Delvis O. McCadden did devote generously of his time, talent and leadership to the Board;

WHEREAS, Delvis O. McCadden, did endeavor at all times to render decisions with fairness and good judgment in the best interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and the profession; and

WHEREAS, the Boxing, Martial Arts and Professional Wrestling Advisory Board wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Boxing, Martial Arts and Professional Wrestling Advisory Board this twelfth day of October 2023, that Delvis O. McCadden, be given all honors and respect due him for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held by this Board.

The Board members agreed to the resolution by consensus. Mr. McCadden was not present for his resolution with regrets.

The Board reviewed information regarding IKF Semi-Contact Sparring Competition and asked Mr. Davis questions regarding if the rules of the competition could be changed to align with the regulations and statutes of the Commonwealth.

**Requested Review for  
IKF Semi-Contact  
Sparring Competition**

After a long discussion, Mr. Thota informed Mr. Davis that if the IKF rules could not align with current regulations and statutes, his next course of action to have these events in the Commonwealth would be through legislation as the Board is bound by statutes.

Ms. Davis informed the Board that public comment for Periodic Regulatory Review started October 9, 2023, and ends October 30, 2023, and there were no comments at this time.

**Regulatory Review Update**

Proposed language to eliminate the second weigh in for boxing has been fast tracked and submitted to the Regulatory Affairs Manager.

Mr. Metheny moved to retain the current regulations as is. Mr. Howard seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny.

The Board conducted a brief review of the Boxing, Martial Arts, and Wrestling regulations. A brief discussion took place regarding outstanding regulations and adding and removing verbiage from certain regulations.

Mr. Irizzary moved to approve the 2024 meeting dates:

**2024 Meeting Dates**

- i. February 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
- ii. April 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
- iii. July 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
- iv. October 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Howard seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny.

Mr. Thota exited the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

**Departure of DPOR Staff**

Mr. Gray provided the Board with statistics for events for 2023.

**Event Update**

The Board took a recess from 11:42 a.m. to 11:56 a.m.

**Recess**

Board members were provided with the licensee counts as of October 1, 2023:

**Licensed Population**

- Temporary Boxers: 0
- Boxers: 91
- Boxing/Wrestling Promoters: 28
- Boxing/Wrestling Trainers, Seconds, Cutmen: 196
- Boxing/Wrestling Managers: 5
- Boxing/Wrestling Matchmakers: 30
- Boxing Events: 2
- Martial Artists: 61
- Temporary Wrestler: 2
- Wrestlers: 737
- Wrestling Events: 15

Mr. Payne exited the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

**Departure of DPOR Staff**

Board members were provided financial statements for informational purposes.

**Review of Financial Statements**

Mr. Metheny informed the Board of future Wrestling events.

**Other Business**

Conflict of Interest and travel forms were completed by all board members present.

**Conflict of Interest Forms and Travel Vouchers**

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board how the election of officers has been completed previously for the Board, which would typically have the Vice Chair rotate to Chair.

**Election of Officers**

Ms. Nosbisch opened the floor for nominations for Board Chair. Ms. Metheny nominated Dr. Hardy as Board Chair. Mr. Howard seconded the motion. Dr. Hardy accepted the nomination. Ms. Nosbisch asked if there were any additional nominations for Board Chair. There being none, Ms. Nosbisch closed the floor for nominations. The motion was unanimously approved by: Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny. By acclamation, Dr. Hardy was named Board Chair.

Ms. Nosbisch opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice Chair. Mr. Metheny nominated Mr. Howard as Board Vice Chair. Dr. Hardy seconded the motion. Mr. Howard accepted the nomination. Ms. Nosbisch asked if there were any additional nominations for Board Vice Chair. There being none, Ms. Nosbisch closed the floor for nominations. The motion was unanimously approved by Hardy, Howard, Irizzary, and Metheny. By acclamation, Mr. Howard was named Board Vice Chair.

Mr. Gray, Mr. Haughwout, Mr. Kirschner, and Mr. Laws exited the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

**Departure of DPOR Staff**

All Board Members present attended the Conflict of Interest Act Training.

**COIA Training**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

**Adjourn**

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Daniel Hardy, M.D. Chair

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Kishore Thota, Secretary

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Agency

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Board

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Chapter

Professional Boxing and Wrestling Event Regulations [18 VAC 120 - 40]

[Back to List of Comments](#)**Commenter:** Robert Hoffmann

10/23/23 8:55 am

**DPOR regulation of pro wrestling**

I realize that this will require statutory change. However, I feel this needs to be put on the record. Regulation of professional wrestling as though it were a legitimate sport is a waste of the Commonwealth's time and energy. We're out of the "kayfabe" era. Everyone, inside and outside the profession, acknowledges that professional wrestling is a fusion of improvised theatre and sport, leaning more towards improv. We don't regulate ComedySportz, the Coalition Theatre, or any other improv theatre or troupe in Virginia - why are we still regulating professional wrestling?

It remains my hope that, sooner rather than later, the annual deregulation bill will finally pass the General Assembly. In the interim, I can only request that DPOR remember what wrestling is, and isn't, and run its regulatory activities accordingly.

CommentID: **220442**

## 2025 Meeting Dates

### BMAW ADVISORY BOARD

|                       |          |      |     |
|-----------------------|----------|------|-----|
| Wed, February 5, 2025 | 10:00 AM | BMAW | BR3 |
| Tues, April 8, 2025   | 10:00 AM | BMAW | BR3 |
| Wed, July 30, 2025    | 1:00 PM  | BMAW | BR3 |
| Wed, October 8, 2025  | 10:00 AM | BMAW | BR3 |

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION  
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**TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024**

\*Regulant population numbers are effective for the dates shown only.

| Profession                          | 1/1/2024 | 2/1/2024 | 3/1/2024 | 4/1/2024 | 5/1/2024 | 6/1/2024 | 7/1/2024 | 8/1/2024 | 9/9/2024 | 10/1/2024 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Temporary Boxers                    | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| Boxers                              | 92       | 16       | 19       | 31       | 35       | 43       | 51       | 51       | 52       | 59        |
| Boxing/Wrestling Promoters          | 29       | 14       | 17       | 18       | 20       | 24       | 25       | 27       | 28       | 29        |
| Box/Wrest Trainers, Seconds, Cutmen | 206      | 20       | 67       | 86       | 93       | 107      | 113      | 121      | 129      | 137       |
| Boxing/Wrestling Managers           | 5        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 2        | 2        | 2        | 2         |
| Boxing/Wrestling Matchmakers        | 31       | 15       | 18       | 20       | 21       | 24       | 24       | 27       | 28       | 29        |
| Boxing Events                       | 3        | 3        | 3        | 4        | 5        | 4        | 4        | 4        | 4        | 4         |
| Martial Artists                     | 70       | 0        | 30       | 32       | 32       | 33       | 36       | 39       | 51       | 52        |
| Temporary Wrestler                  | 2        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 2        | 1        | 2        | 0        | 1         |
| Wrestlers                           | 767      | 364      | 439      | 500      | 594      | 645      | 674      | 707      | 730      | 753       |
| Wrestling Events                    | 4        | 8        | 10       | 11       | 13       | 17       | 12       | 23       | 16       | 15        |

DRAFT - GENDRA proposed topics for discussion  
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Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation  
Statement of Financial Activity

**Professional Boxing, Wrestling, and Martial Arts Advisory Board  
954810**

2022-2024 Biennium

May 2024

|   | May 2024<br>Activity | Biennium-to-Date Comparison |                         |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
|   |                      | July 2020 -<br>May 2022     | July 2022 -<br>May 2024 |
| <b>Cash/Revenue Balance Brought Forward</b> |                      | 0                           | 108,711                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                             | 10,856               | 143,049                     | 414,246                 |
| <b>Cumulative Revenues</b>                  |                      |                             | 522,957                 |
| <b>Cost Categories:</b>                     |                      |                             |                         |
| <b>Board Expenditures</b>                   | 28,740               | 193,702                     | 414,842                 |
| <b>Board Administration</b>                 | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Administration of Exams</b>              | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Enforcement</b>                          | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Legal Services</b>                       | 0                    | 43                          | 35                      |
| <b>Information Systems</b>                  | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Facilities and Support Services</b>      | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Agency Administration</b>                | 0                    | 0                           | 0                       |
| <b>Other / Transfers</b>                    | 0                    | 0                           | -232                    |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                       | 28,740               | 193,744                     | 414,645                 |
| <b>Transfer To/(From) Cash Reserves</b>     | 0                    | 0                           | (240)                   |
| <b>Ending Cash/Revenue Balance</b>          |                      |                             | 108,551                 |

|                                       |   |   |        |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------|
| <b>Cash Reserve Beginning Balance</b> | 0 | 0 | 56,374 |
| <b>Change in Cash Reserve</b>         | 0 | 0 | (240)  |
| <b>Ending Cash Reserve Balance</b>    | 0 | 0 | 56,134 |

**Number of Regulants**

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Current Month             | 900 |
| Previous Biennium-to-Date | 686 |

**Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation**  
**Supporting Statement of Year-to-Date Activity**  
**Professional Boxing, Wrestling, and Martial Arts Advisory Board - 954810**  
**Fiscal Year 2024**

|                                  | Jul           | Aug           | Sep           | Oct           | Nov           | Dec           | Jan           | Feb           | Mar           | Apr           | May           | Jun      | Fiscal YTD Charges | Planned Annual Charges | Current Balance | Projected Charges at 6/30 | Projected Variance Favorable (Unfavorable) |             |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|-------------|
|                                  |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |          |                    |                        |                 |                           | Amount                                     | %           |
| <b>Board Expenditures</b>        | 16,442        | 22,135        | 30,460        | 17,226        | 17,360        | 26,208        | 10,250        | 18,364        | 32,129        | 10,934        | 28,740        | 0        | 230,248            | 271,701                | 41,452          | 251,180                   | 20,521                                     | 7.6%        |
| <b>Board Administration</b>      | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 201                    | 201             | 0                         | 201  | 100.0%      |
| <b>Administration of Exams</b>   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Enforcement</b>               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Legal Services</b>            | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 8             | 4             | 4             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 16                 | 16                     | 0               | 18                        | -1   | -9.1%       |
| <b>Information Systems</b>       | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Facilities / Support Svcs</b> | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Agency Administration</b>     | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Other / Transfers</b>         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 0                  | 0                      | 0               | 0                         | 0  | 0           |
| <b>Total Charges</b>             | <b>16,442</b> | <b>22,135</b> | <b>30,460</b> | <b>17,226</b> | <b>17,360</b> | <b>26,208</b> | <b>10,259</b> | <b>18,368</b> | <b>32,133</b> | <b>10,934</b> | <b>28,740</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>230,265</b>     | <b>271,918</b>         | <b>41,653</b>   | <b>251,198</b>            | <b>20,720</b>                              | <b>7.6%</b> |

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