**LOUISIANA STATE**

**WRESTLING & BOXING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF TELECONFERENCE**

**OCTOBER 27, 2020**

**1) ATTENDEES:**    
 BUDDY EMBANATO (B.E.)   
 JAMES (JIMBO) STEVENSON (J.S.)

JOHN GREEN, JR. (J.G.) – ABSENT – HURRICANE RECOVERY ISSUES  
DR. THOMAS FERGUSON (T.F.)

HAROLD WILLIAMS (H.W.) – ABSENT MEDICAL  
BOBBY DUPRE (B.D.) – ABSENT - MEDICAL

JAMES BRENNAN (J.B.)

RUSSELL NAQUIN – DEP. COMMISSIONER

RICKY NORRIS – DEP. COMMISSIONER

ADDIE FIELDS (A.F.) – ACCTG

**2) UPDATE ON STATUS OF EVENTS DUE TO COVID-19:**

There is a proposed MMA event by Amber Bishop in Shreveport. She has submitted a lengthly safety plan covering testing of contestants, mask and seating requirements, who enforces aforementioned requirements and assumption of liability.

On Testing & Sequestering of Contestants: Mr. Norris attended an event in MS and observed their system of testing contestants; testing was done the day before the event and then they were sequestered in their hotel rooms; on the day of the event contestants are moved to dressing rooms one by one to decrease contacts. Day before is due to finding replacements in case of a positive test. Absolutely no one present in dressing rooms other than contestants. Caution was taken when contestants proceeded from dressing rooms to the ring.

On Enforecement of Masks & Social Distancing: The State Fire Marshall is (assumed) to be responsible for enforcement wearing a mask (unless eating or drinking) and social distancing. The commissioners express that Fire Marshall should strictly warn once and eject any persons reprimanded a second time.

Liability: The proposed safety rules are owned by the venue and the Fire Marshall. These are their proposals and should assume all responsibility in case of infections.

**3) RESULTS OF OPEN DISCUSSION ON ABOVE:**

J.G. will contact State Fire Marshall to confirm and verify strict enforcement. He will also contact the Governor’s Office on their opinion of this experimental trial run of an event during Covid-19 Emergency Declaration.

J.G. insists a commissioner should be in attendance to ensure State Fire Marshall is adhering to strict mask wearing, etc., and required expulsions for non-compliance. If there are multiple trespasses with no action from the Fire Marshall, this commission will shut the event down. This will be a zero tolerance event.

All agree that this is an experimental test event. We will get deluged with requests for events so it must be stressed that this is an experimental event to see how it shakes out. If it goes well, perhaps events can be approved on a case by case basis. Mr. Naquin’s phone has already blew up due to wrestling promoters calling about this tentative show.

J.G. moved to approve the event pending acceptance of above strict restrictions on mask requirements and required expulsions; J.B. seconds. Approved all ayes.

B.E. will contact website administrator to announce the event and stress it is an experimental test run only.

**4) ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING:**

11/19 at 10:30 a.m. looks good for all at the Capital if B.E. can secure a room. He will confirm and email all room and time. J.S. moves to adjourn; J.G. seconds, meeting adjourned.