



## **AIBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

May 26th, 2021, 10:00 CET

### **1. Opening remarks by AIBA President**

Mr Kremlev was glad to greet the Directors and expressed his hopes that the meeting would be fruitful and productive. He also announced that AIBA managed to settle its outstanding debts and finally reached financial stability, which would allow AIBA to concentrate only on boxing development. The President noted that the objectives of the current meeting were to discuss the ongoing and future reforms, boxing promotion and ideas to be implemented further on.

The Directors congratulated Mr Kremlev on successfully lifting in a short period of time the financial burden of the organization which had been paralyzing all the boxing activities for years and thanked the President for his great efforts on the way to making AIBA transparent and bringing back its credibility through the establishment of a new organizational structure.

Mr President reiterated his assurance that this remarkable achievement was the result of a joint work of the Directors and AIBA staff and that together by mutual support and standing in each other's corner they would achieve greater victories and carry out all the necessary reforms, including the reform of the refereeing and judging system.

### **2. Roll Call**

The quorum was reached. Members excused: Oleksandr Khyzhniak and Osvaldo Bisbal. Members absent: Anas Al Otaiba, Mendouga B. M. Roland, Jürgen Kyas, Alfred Bongo and Irma Testa.

### **3. Summary of decisions taken by mail votes**

Decisions taken by mail vote: approval of the previous meeting minutes, amendment to AIBA Technical and Competition Rule No. 20 Bout Review Rule, exception to Rule 46.2.1 for EUBC Under 22 Continentals-Allow the use of Velcro Bandages, 2-Star R&Js officiating in Asian Elite WCHs 2021.

### **4. Report by AIBA Legal Team**

Mr Claude Ramoni shortly presented a status of development of the AIBA Regulations.

In particular, a list of five regulations:

- Organisational Regulations,
- Membership Policy,
- Regulations on Congress and Elections,
- Financial Regulations and
- Athletes Committee Regulations



that had been approved as part of the AIBA Constitution implementation process.

He also briefly commented on the documents related to Integrity, Ethics and Discipline, four of which:

- Conflict of Interest Policy,
- Procedural Rules,
- Compliance Policy and
- Anti-doping Regulations

had been previously approved by the Board. The Code of Ethics is in the process of being revised by the Ethics Committee and revised Disciplinary Regulations are still to be elaborated.

As for Sport and Competition regulations, Technical and Competition Rules Transitional Provisions had been previously approved, Technical and Competition Rules, Referee and Judge Regulations and Medical Rules for Ringside Doctors were to be created.

Mr Claude Ramoni also presented regulations related to National Federations and Confederations, two of which had been approved – Observer Guidelines and Financial Support Program Regulations, Template of Constitution for Confederations had been drafted and sent to the respective Confederations to be adopted at their next congress. Templates of Constitutions for National Federations still needs to be developed.

Further on, Mr Ramoni proposed to make changes to the AIBA Financial Regulations by introducing the provision that would establish that all AIBA officials should travel in the economy class with the exception of flights over 6 hours (at the discretion of the SG, President or Vice-President) or as otherwise decided by the SG, President or Vice-President. It was also proposed to increase the per diem for Technical Delegates and Course Instructors to CHF 150 (instead of CHF 100) due to the scope of their work and introduce a new Article (11.7) that would allow officials to decide to renounce their allowance and finance their own travel, accommodation and other costs.

Vote for the changes to the AIBA Financial Regulations passed by the Board.

Mr Yury Zaytsev, AIBA Legal Counsel, presented objectives and key principles of Data Protection Regulations, which had been sent to the Directors before the meeting for their consideration, devised in accordance with the Swiss law and General Data Protection Regulation to ensure that AIBA, while operating with personal data, avoids infringement of personality and privacy rights.

Vote for the approval of the AIBA Data Protection Regulations passed by the Board.

Mr Zaytsev also provided the Board with the update on Benkons issue, the debt to which had been settled, which in turn means that AIBA has no obligations of any nature toward this company.

## **5. Appointment of Ad Hoc Investigation Committee**

Mr Zaytsev presented the scope of the investigation to be launched on the activity of individuals involved in Rio Olympic Games 2016 (stage 1) and in the AIBA administration (stage 2) to establish whether there had been acts of corruption, manipulation of sporting results and other



wrongdoings. AIBA Legal Counsel also touched upon the regulatory framework in the context of the investigation and informed the Board that offers from the independent investigation groups would be presented later.

## **6. AIBA membership issues**

Mr Ramoni took the floor to report on six National Federations that did not comply with their reporting obligations as per the AIBA Membership Policy and addressed the issue of their possible suspension.

Mr Ramoni proposed to wait 15 days for the feedback from Burundi and Liberia that had promised to send the reports and, in case of no response, provide a notice of opening of a procedure to suspend the concerned federations and grant a 15-day deadline to reply. As for St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & The Grenadines, Portugal and Vanuatu, they should be provided with a notice of opening of a procedure to suspend these National Federations and granted a 15-day deadline to reply. Mr Umar Kremlev should be delegated the authority to send, on behalf of the Board, the necessary notices to the concerned National Federations.

Vote for the proposed procedures towards National Federations non-compliant with reporting obligations passed by the Board.

## **7. Financial report**

Mr Rob Garea, AIBA Finance Director, presented a financial report with opening and closing balance, confirming that the external debts had been mostly paid. He also confirmed that debts to third parties had been repaid and expenses for the AIBA Youth Boxing Championships in Kielce 2021 had been covered. Mr Garea informed the Board that the Audit Committee had held the first meeting and AIBA Financial Support Program had been launched.

## **8. Ratification of additional members for AIBA Committees**

Mrs Valeria Trabucchi, Head of AIBA President Office, presented a list of new people proposed by AIBA Committees Chairs and Vice-Chairs as members of the respective Committees.

The Board ratified the list of the new members of the AIBA Committees

## **9. Update on AIBA Communication**

Ms Svetlana Tarasova, Communication Advisor to the President, presented media statistics with the number of mentions and total reach for the period from the last Board of Directors meeting on April 21 till May 26. The tonality of publications was reported to be mostly positive due to various AIBA activities and those of the President.

Ms Tarasova also presented media statistics on the AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships 2021 which was announced by the media from 49 countries and resulted in 1456 mentions and extensive audience coverage. Asian Boxing Championships in Dubai was covered by the media in 22 countries and generated 466 publications in the world media.

Ms Tarasova touched upon the investigation into the tragic death of the Jordan boxer at the AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships 2021 the results of which will be published once available.



She further on presented the news about the allocation of prize money for Asian Boxing Championships in Dubai which generated 94 publications in world media.

Ms Tarasova went on to present foreign media interviews of Mr Kremlev and elaborated on the preparation for the 6 months on duty conference that was to take place in June in Lausanne, Switzerland to report on the progress made by AIBA since the AIBA Ordinary Congress celebrated in December, 2020.

Ms Tarasova reported on future media events, including International Boxing Day and upcoming boxing tournaments, and on AIBA internal communication which involves creation of websites for National Federations and their Instagram accounts, AIBA newsletter and news digest, a feedback form on the AIBA website, ratings and award of AIBA, etc. The President requested to finalize the work on website creation for AIBA NFs by June 5<sup>th</sup> 2021.

## **10. Update on preparation for 2021 Men's World Championship Belgrade**

Ms Ria Ramnarine presented the update on the preparation for the AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships in Belgrade to take place on October 26 – November 6, 2021. The creation of the LOC was being finalized, the competition venue was confirmed and has all the necessary facilities, and accommodation prices were being negotiated to be then approved by AIBA. As for the event planning, 2 companies – SP Beograd 2021 and DNA Communications – are to coordinate the organization of the event.

Ms Ramnarine proposed 2 amendments to the AIBA Technical and Competition Rules:

- Rule 18, namely 18.4.1., was proposed to be changed in a such a way as to clearly state that scores should be displayed publicly, but cannot be visible to the Referees and Judges working in the Field of Play. Proposed wording: *At the end of each round, the scores awarded and the Judge who awarded each score is identified on a public display, but not visible to the Referee and Judges in the Field of Play.*
- Rule 20, namely 20.5.1., was to be amended to indicate that protests can be lodged only against decisions awarded on points. Proposed wording: *The Team Manager/Second can lodge a protest against any decision awarded on points (5-0; 4-1; 3-2). No protest can be made against a win by ABD, RSC, RSC-I, DSQ, KO-H, KO-B or WO.*

Mr President invited the Directors to express their thoughts on the proposed amendments. Mr Alex Gonzalez confirmed that the results of the bouts should not be visible to the Referees and Judges working at the ring because it adds psychological pressure and may affect the results of bouts.

Dr Mohamed Moustahsane claimed that at any competition the Field of Play was arranged in such a way that the results were not visible to the Referees and Judges. However, he agreed that it should be put in the rules to make sure this fundamental rule was being followed. He also agreed with the need to amend rule 20 to make it clear what decisions can be protested against.

Mr Ray Silvas supported the initiative and added that by granting the possibility to protest against any decision awarded on points allows to increase transparency in the refereeing and judging system.



The decision to amend rules 18 and 20 of the AIBA Technical and Competition Rules passed by the Board.

## **11. Additional business**

### *Bid for 2022 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships*

Mr Felipe Martínez, President of Spanish Boxing Federation and AIBA Director, presented the bidding documents for the 2022 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships to win the right to host the event in Benidorm, Spain. Mr Martínez spoke briefly about the city itself, transport system, competition and training venues, accommodation and the extensive experience of Spanish Boxing Federation of organizing big-scale international tournaments, including EUBC Women's Championships in 2019.

Mr Joseph Ayeni enquired about visa issues to enter Spain, and Mr Martínez assured him that the event will be staged with full support and in cooperation with the government, which will allow to facilitate the visa support process.

Mr President thanked Mr Martínez for his presentation and announced that the deadline for submitting the bidding documents will be extended until 31 July-2021 to ensure that the countries who want to host the event have enough time to present all the details and conditions.

### *New Scoring System Discussion*

Mr István Kovács elaborated on the proposal to introduce the new scoring system which would allow to use a wider spectrum of scores (not only scores from 7 to 10 that are used now) and see the scoring in real time – not only at the end of each round, but during the round itself.

He also presented the idea of increasing the number of weight categories to 14 and divide them into 2 divisions with each division competing separately at a tournament – 7 days for the first division, and 7 days for the second division. This will allow to facilitate the organization of boxing events and reduce the costs for LOCs.

Lastly, Mr Kovács reported on the creation of the raking system based on the calendar with competitions on each continent.

Mr Silvas said that the scoring system had been changed several times in the past and the system that was being used now was based on the 10-point professional boxing system that takes into account quality blows, competitiveness, strategy, technique and tactics. He then expressed his concerns about real-time scoring because it might bring AIBA back to the robotic scoring.

Mr Kovács assured the Directors that they were not aiming to return to the robotic scoring, but to make the current scoring system more efficient.

Dr Moustahsane supported the initiative to increase weight categories, but, referring to the scoring system, claimed that the development of a new system would be time-consuming because apart from the technical part of the issue, AIBA would have to re-educate its officials to make sure they know how to use the system.

Ms Emilia Grueva enquired whether women weight categories would be increased as well because even with 10 categories there are not enough athletes competing in some of them. Mr

