



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

September 21, 2021, 12:00 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. The Directors also congratulated Mr. Dian Gomes on his birthday.

The AIBA responds to all requests from the IOC and emphasizes that the work of independent experts will yield a significant result. The President highlighted that brand reform and governance reform were on the agenda. It is proposed to hold the reform congress at the AIBA Women's World Championships in Turkey offline, the last updates will be received shortly.

AIBA is on the way to big changes. The financial support from sponsors is very much dependent on the launch of the new branding, as there will not be any connections with the past AIBA's policy.

The Championships Prize money for the athletes was also mentioned during the welcoming speech of the President. This huge improvement changes the image of the Association.

Protecting the interests of National Federations, boxers and coaches remains the main priority for AIBA.

President thanked the Directors who had visited the International Boxing Day in Serbia and mentioned the high involvement of the National Federations in the celebrations.

He also invited all the Directors to join the discussion and to give their comments during the meeting.

### **2. Roll Call**

The quorum was reached. Members absent: Mendouga B. M. Roland, Jurgen Kyas, Alfred Bongo, Gay Uera and Irma Testa.

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

Decisions taken by mail vote:

5<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), Lausanne-Pully branch, as AIBA Auditor for financial accounts 2020-21, with immediate effect (starting with the financial exercise 2020-2021). 2) The level of audit to be "Full audit"

30<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Estimated budget for the MGSS Investigation on Stage 3 and deadline for providing a report of the Investigation Group to Stage 3 on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Amendment of the Terms of Reference for AIBA Independent Investigation with regard to the extension of the deadline for the Investigation of Stage 1 up to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

16<sup>th</sup> September 2021, AIBA competitions

1) Rule 44.6.1. Ten (10) oz gloves must be used for the Minimumweight (46-48kg) category to the Welterweight (67kg) category. Rule 44.6.2. Twelve (12) oz gloves must be used for the Light Middleweight (71kg) category to Super Heavyweight (92+ kg) category



2) An exception will be made regarding AIBA Technical and Competition Rule 44.1, to allow white boxing gloves to be used by all competitors, for all bouts, at the AIBA World Boxing Championships, Belgrade, 2021.

3) All current AIBA Ringside Doctors certifications will not be valid after 31st August 2022. For anyone to be an AIBA certified Ringside Doctor after 31st August 2022, they will have to undergo a recertification before the said period through the courses that will be organised by AIBA.

All decisions approved by the Board.

#### **4. Approval of previous meeting minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting approved.

#### **5. Report by AIBA Secretary General**

##### **I. Report on preparation for the 2021 Men World Championships**

The official dates of the Championships are from October 24<sup>th</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The venue is Stark Arena with a seating capacity of 18,000. The deadline for team registration was extended until October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Some NFs are in the process of preparing the final list of competitors.

The training camp takes place from October 5<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>.

AIBA also announced the 13 weight classes (divisions) as well as prize money for medalists at the Men's World Boxing Championships in Belgrade. Prize Money is divided as follows:

- Gold medal \$ 100,000;
- Silver medal \$ 50,000;
- Bronze medal \$ 25,000.

Swiss Timing company is chosen for Draw, Scoring and Results. Green Hill Sports is a provider of the equipment for the Championships. The white gloves that will be used by all boxers for all fights have been specifically designed for the Championships in Belgrade.

AIBA Event Management Pandemic Protocol will be in effect. The COVID-19 Manager from AIBA is Dr. Filipatos. Updated COVID status information is being daily monitored. The list of officials consists of the AIBA Technical Delegate - Mr. Marko Marovic (Croatia), 36 Referees/Judges, 23 International Technical Officials.

RJs selection process for Championships is performed as requested by the IOC:

A 6-phase selection process structured by the RJ Committee. This process was mentioned in the letter to the IOC. Based on the response of the IOC, a new proposal has been drafted by the RJ Committee:

- The selected 50 RJs will be put through assessments conducted by independent assessment centres;
- The assessment could possibly include background checks on social media, etc;
- A draw will be conducted to select final 36 officials who will be taking part in the World Championships in Belgrade. Only RJs who clear the assessments will be part of the draw;
- These 36 RJs will go through a Refresh Course before the start of the tournament in Belgrade;



- The RJs will be continuously monitored during the tournament with a view to take out those who underperform as we reach the quarter and semi-final stages. Only the very best RJs will be selected for the finals;
- A report to be made and presented to the President, SG and BoD. A detailed report could be given to the IOC if required.

Education Courses will be held in Belgrade ahead of the World Boxing Championships:

- **3-Star Refresh Course;**
    - ✓ All *appointed officials* will have to undergo a refresh course before the Championships;
    - ✓ This course will last for 2-3 days and will be held before the Championships;
    - ✓ Course to include module on ethics and behavior;
    - ✓ New code of conduct (in-draft) could be explained during the course;
  - ✓ **Ringside Doctors Course;**
    - ✓ The course to be conducted with updated content;
    - ✓ Course will be conducted before the Championships;
    - ✓ Registration for the course to be opened in the week of 19th September;
    - ✓ This will be the first course as part of recertification program for Ringside Doctors.
- The course will have 25-35 participants.

A daily release of information on the upcoming event is planned in accordance with the created media plan, including news, articles, analytics, interviews, photo galleries, social media posts. A large publicity campaign has been launched in Serbia and neighboring countries with the participation of AIBA Ambassadors: Roy Levesta Jones Jr., Said Taghmaoui, Zeina Nassar, Milos Bikovic, Roberto Cammarelle. The work is continuing with an international promo campaign on TV – CNN, Eurosport, Euronews, Arena TV (Serbian promo campaign). TV rights are to be sold worldwide.

## 6. Presentation of Bidding proposals

### I. 2021 AIBA Women's World Championships

Due to an extreme natural disaster, the time for an official response about support for the organization of the AIBA Women's World Championships in Turkey from the Ministry of Sports has been postponed until the end of September. The President noted that late November/early December would be the dates for the Women's World Boxing Championships. The Turkish Boxing Federation is currently waiting for confirmation from the government.

The dates for the Women's World Championships overlap with the Asian Continental Championships, which are to be held in Uzbekistan. The President stressed that the dates of the Championships would not coincide, and the Championships would be scheduled for different time frames.

### II. 2022 AIBA Youth World Championships

Mr. Felipe Martínez, President of Spanish Boxing Federation and AIBA Director, prepared a presentation for the 2022 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships 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.

Ms. Luisa Benitez expressed her concern about visa issues to enter Spain, and Mr. Martínez assured her that the event would be arranged with full support and in cooperation with the government, which would facilitate the visa support process.



Mr. President thanked Mr. Martínez for his presentation and stressed that the organization was to be held at the highly professional level. Mr. Martínez kindly invited AIBA President to visit the proposed venue of the Championships and to establish an organizing committee in cooperation with the Ministry of Sport and the Government of Spain.

**The host city for 2022 AIBA Youth World Championships was approved by the majority of votes.**

## 7. Report by AIBA Legal team

### I. Report on AIBA & IOC relations

Schedule of the IOC-AIBA relations was presented by Mr Claude Ramoni, mentioning the key dates of the correspondence and requests from the part of the IOC and AIBA. The Legal team highlighted the key points raised in the letter from Christophe de Kepper, IOC Director General, dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 commenting each of them.

In particular, the ASOIF assessment score was mentioned that is of 139, implying that AIBA would be ranked 15 in the ASOIF classification of international federations (out of 32).

The questions raised in the letter such as question on the work of AIBA Election Committee in 2020 and requests with respect to Prof Haas' and Prof McLaren's reports will be answered and provided to the IOC in due course.

As for the financial aspect, IOC has appointed Ernst and Young to conduct an inquiry on AIBA. A list of required information has been sent by EY. AIBA will collaborate with them, once issues of confidentiality will be solved.

Due to the IOC, it proved to be no longer possible to have PricewaterhouseCoopers conduct the audit at AIBA. Therefore, PWC resigned to conduct an independent audit of AIBA.

As for the R&J processes, contrary to what has been suggested by the IOC, the scope of McLaren enquiry is not limited to a period in the past. However, McLaren has started to investigate the Rio issues, and the outcome of his investigations on other items will be disclosed later.

The R&J Committee is also integrating BTF recommendations in the process of selection of referees and judges for the AIBA Men's World Championships in Belgrade.

Project plan of the response to the IOC was presented to the BoD, indicating a deadline for each concrete topic raised in Christophe de Kepper's letter.

Initial response was already sent on 17 September where acknowledgement and request for BTF Tokyo 2020 debrief was mentioned. Then, another response concerning the BoD follow-up is planned to be sent on 22/23 September where key decisions to enable AIBA effectively satisfies key IOC concerns (elections / congress) will be described. Full follow-up and the final letter to the IOC Director General is expected to be sent on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Mr Anas al Otaiba stressed that ASBC had sent the draft of constitution of the Confederation to AIBA Legal team to approve it before the Confederation Congress was organised. He also noted that AIBA was developing in a very constructive way.

Mr Franco Falcinelli noted that Professor McLaren's report was crucial for AIBA as it would help the organization to draw lessons from the past. As for the R&Js, Mr Falcinelli stressed the necessity to work out a centralized educational system for them, ensure that all the components were put in place.

### II. Athletes Committee Elections regulations



Elections to the Athletes Committee are scheduled to take place at the 2021 MWCH and 2021 WWCH and are supposed to be organised the year after the Election Congress. The current AIBA regulations provide for a three-month deadline to send applications. Revised Transitional provisions imply reducing the application deadline to one month, extending the two-month timeframe between both electoral WCH if issues with COVID-19 arise, as well as providing that the term of office of athletes elected in 2021 will end in 2023, but that the two terms (2019-2021 and 2021-2023) will count as one single term for the maximum number of successive terms.

**Transitional Provisions to the Athletes Committee regulations were approved by the Board.**

### III. Implementation of CAS award WADA vs RUSADA

WADA has approved the draft of the requirements implemented by AIBA for the MWCH and WWCH. The implementation of CAS Award WADA vs RUSADA by AIBA, for the upcoming MWCH and WWCH, includes the following:

- No accreditation to representative of Russian Government
- Russian Boxers entered as representing the “Russian Boxing Federation”
- “RBF” to be used as acronym instead of RUS
- Logo of the Russian Olympic Committee to be used instead of the Russian National Flag and of the logo of the RBF
- The acronym RUS may be used to identify Competition Officials
- Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto 1 to be played instead of the Russian national anthem

The BoD decision shall be complied with, subject to sanctions. The AIBA staff will be authorized to remove any item contradicting the decision. The decision will be valid between its adoption date and 16 December 2022.

**Vote for approval of the Decision relating to the implementation of the CAS Award WADA v/ RUSADA for AIBA World Boxing Championships – approved by the Board.**

### IV. AIBA Observers for NF elections

Observers to NF elections shall be appointed from the list established by the Board. The current list does not include enough Spanish speaking observers that is why it was proposed to introduce another Spanish-speaking observer for NFs’ elections, member of Spanish Bar Association **Mr Ivan Bykovsky**.

**The appointment of the observer was approved by the Board.**

Mr Mohamed Moustahsane suggested to discuss the proposal to integrate this lawyer fully into AIBA so that he could help to coordinate the elections in NFs.

### 8. Appointment of AIBA Auditor

Due to PWC resignation, a new auditor was to be appointed. Mr Rob Garea presented Moore Stephens Refidar SA that is a Swiss member of Moore International Limited and one of the largest international accounting and consulting groups with an international audit team.

**Proposal to appoint Moore Stephens as auditor of AIBA was approved by the Board.**

Mr Garea promised to inform Moore Stephens about its appointment by the BoD.

Finance update: budget will be presented to the BoD until 4<sup>th</sup> October with plans for new sponsors and sources of revenues. Mr Garea also presented the table for the prize money budget.

### 9. Next AIBA Congresses

Governance review is being undertaken, which may lead to some improvements of the Constitution, notably on the vetting of candidates and composition of the Board. Therefore, constitutional changes need to be made first, before AIBA elections.



The Governance Reform Group confirms that the current AIBA Constitution allows that the first Congress following the adoption of the Constitution could not be the “First Election Congress Meeting”.

Mr Yury Zaytsev, AIBA Legal Counsel, stressed that before the IOC issued a decision on AIBA’s future, a clear step plan with respect to the next AIBA elections needed to be approved and implemented, showing AIBA’s willingness to renew its governance.

#### Extraordinary Congress in December 2021

To be held virtually due to the possible issues with quorum and costs. The purpose of the Congress would be to implement AIBA reforms, including to prepare the elections. The Congress shall be convened two months in advance, with the agenda and documentation to be sent one month in advance.

#### Ordinary Congress in Spring / Summer 2022

To be held in person, with all the items of an ordinary Congress (reports, approval of accounts, etc.). Elections of the whole Board in accordance with the new Constitution will take place at the Ordinary Congress. Moreover, all the details need to be prepared at the Extraordinary Congress (place, date, etc.).

**Proposal: Extraordinary congress in December 2021 (virtually), the necessary reforms shall be implemented – approved by the BoD.**

**Proposal: Ordinary Congress in Spring/Summer 2022 (in person) – approved by the BoD**

#### 10. Additional business

No questions raised.

#### 11. Decision regarding the information disclosure after the meeting

Approved by the Board.

#### 12. Closing remarks by the President

President thanked the Board of Directors for the fruitful meeting and reiterated his commitment to work for the benefit of the sports of boxing while staying united by the common goal.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Istvan Kovacs', written in a cursive style.

Istvan Kovacs  
Secretary General, AIBA