



## IBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 4th, 2022, 12:00 CET (via Zoom)

### 1. Opening remarks by IBA President

IBA President greeted members of the Board and expressed his concerns about the distressing situation caused by the Russia – Ukraine conflict.

He stated that IBA will always promote peace through sport and will do all the possible to make sure that the Ukrainian team receives the necessary assistance. Mr Kremlev also thanked national federations of Poland, Germany and Bulgaria for rendering help to the Ukrainian boxing community.

Mr Kremlev emphasized that he is concerned about the situation in the world and that as President of the International Boxing Association he will continue working hard for the benefit of boxing to ensure that the achieved progress is not hampered.

IBA President called for unity in these challenging times and wished the Directors a productive meeting.

### 2. Roll call

The quorum was reached. Dr. Joseph O. Ayeni joined the meeting at 16:40 CET (on point 7 of the agenda) Members excused: Dian Gomes and Jürgen Kyas. Members absent: Gay Uera, Irma Testa, Mapu Jamias.

Before the Board proceeded with the agenda, a motion was put by Mr Ted Tanner to, among other things, condemn the Russian invasion in Ukraine, cancel the boxing events scheduled to be held in Russia or Belarus, to prohibit participation of athletes and officials from Russia and Belarus in IBA events, cessate sponsorship with Gazprom and suggest IBA President to resign or take administrative leave. The motion was supported by Mr Ray Silvas. President Umar Kremlev made his replica regarding Mr Tanner's suggestion to insist him to retire or to go on administrative leave. Several Board members expressed their solidarity with Ukraine, but urged that no decisions shall be taken that may be detrimental to the wellbeing of the organization and, most importantly, of the boxers. They also commended president's efforts to lead IBA through its challenges and expressed their willingness to support Mr Kremlev and IBA Head Office.

Mr Claude Ramoni informed the Board, that it is not possible to vote for all points mentioned in the motion together, and suggested to follow the pre-agreed agenda and tackle the issues related to the Russia – Ukraine situation at a later stage of the meeting. The Board was advised to come back to the motion at the later stage and if there are still additional decisions to be taken, they would be done at that time.

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

Decisions taken by mail vote:





- to authorize the IBA Ethics Committee on a temporary basis (until the appointment of the Interim Nomination Unit) to exercise vetting of candidates for a position as Continental President;
- to renounce to any Annual Affiliation Fee for the year 2022; the decision will be submitted to the Congress called on May 2022 for ratification;
- to appoint the BIU Interim Nomination Unit members in accordance with article 51.11 (c) of the Constitution;
- to accept the name of World Boxing Tour concept as a potential part of the IBA competition structure, with Diamond, Gold, Silver and Bronze Belt levels;
- to allow gold, silver and bronze boxing gloves to be used by all competitors, for all bouts, in the World Boxing Tour Gold, Silver and Bronze tournaments respectively, as an exception to the IBA Technical and Competition Rule 44.1.;
- to allow up to two boxers per NF per weight category in the World Boxing Tour tournaments, as an exception to the IBA Technical and Competition Rule 5.2;
- to delegate to the IBA Legal Counsel the authority to update across all IBA Regulations, Constitution references from AIBA to the IBA;
- to approve the IBA Regulations on Congress and Elections, select Genius Sport as Independent Vetting Firm, ratify the Skills Map prepared by the BIU Nomination Unit, fix the deadline to file nominations for offices on the Board on 2 March 2022 at 6pm CET and authorize the use of online forms;
- to approve the IBA Regulations on appointment of Honorary Officials;
- to approve change of Sport Nationality of the boxer Haghghat-Joo, from Canadian to Sierra Leonean;
- to approve the final draft of the Boxing Olympic Qualification System for Paris 2024.

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

The previous meeting minutes were approved by the Board.

#### **5. Update on the Boxing Qualification system for Paris 2024 and report on cooperation with the IOC**

Mr István Kovács reported on the communication with the IOC regarding sport-related matters, including the qualification system for Paris 2024.

Mr Marko Petric presented the latest updates on the weight categories that are being proposed for Paris 2024 as per established by the IOC quota – 7 Men’s and 6 Women’s events. He also touched upon the 5 phases of qualification, quota places distribution and qualification period that are being considered and are pending the IOC approval.

Board members commended the efforts of the IBA Head Office to create a fair qualification system and urged that all the events that will give points for qualification shall be organized under the supervision of IBA and the officials shall be appointed by IBA to ensure the integrity of each tournament.

Mr Oleksandr Khyzhniak, in turn, praised the initiative of IBA to launch World Boxing Tour that will potentially form part of the qualification system and gave his feedback on one of the first test events – Strandja Memorial, requesting IBA to have taping on site for all boxers to ensure the wellbeing of the competing athletes.





## **6. Appointment of IBA Strategy, Finance, Audit Committees**

As per the Governance Reform Group recommendations, the Board is to establish the Finance Committee, Audit Committee and Strategy Committee.

The Board was proposed to elect:

- 3 or more members of the Audit Committee;
- 3 members of the Finance Committee;
- 3 members of the Strategy Committee.

Each appointment is subject to further approval by the Interim Nomination Unit after vetting check.

**The three proposals were approved by the Board.**

## **7. Russia-Ukraine situation. Implementation of the IOC recommendations.**

Before proceeding with the agenda, IBA President thanked the Directors for their valuable feedback on the previously presented points and confirmed that he will abstain from presiding the meeting, discussions and voting on the matters related to the Russia-Ukraine situation in view of conflict of interests. He temporary left the meeting.

Mr Mark Cooper, IBA consultant, outlined the IOC position on the Russia-Ukraine situation, the stance adopted by other International Federations and described the support provided to the Ukrainian team that participated at the Strandja Memorial.

The Board enquired if and to which extent the current situation affected the IBA President and ability to fulfil his obligations and whether the IBA's financial stability was in jeopardy. Mr Cooper and Mr Ramoni noted that Mr Kremlev is not personally sanctioned and continues to fulfil his tasks, including representation of IBA in its dealings with the Confederations, National Federations, national governments, international sports federations, etc. As for financial stability, while Gazprom is not currently under sanctions, the situation is being constantly monitored and the IBA Head Office is working on diversifying the IBA's resources.

A vote was proposed on

- (i) providing humanitarian assistance to the Ukraine Boxing Federation and to Ukrainian team members;
- (ii) constant review of any decision on events and athletes.

**The proposal was approved by the Board.**

The Board was also proposed to vote on reallocation or cancellation of events currently scheduled for Russia, including Global Boxing Cup.

**The proposal was approved by the Board.**





The final proposal was to vote on allowing the participation of athletes and competition officials, including R&Js, from Russia or Belarus in IBA events.

The first voting contained 4 options and did not result in the decision-making due to the lack of the absolute majority. It was therefore decided to leave only 2 options in the poll:

1. not to invite or to allow to participate athletes and officials, including R&Js, from Russia or Belarus in IBA events, unless this is not possible for organizational or legal reasons, whereby boxers and competition officials from Russia or Belarus may be allowed to participate as neutrals;
2. to invite or to allow to participate athletes and officials, including R&Js, from Russia or Belarus in IBA events as neutrals, under an IBA flag and without their national anthem.

**Option 1 (not to invite or to allow to participate athletes and competition officials, including R&Js, from Russia or Belarus in IBA events, unless this is not possible for organizational or legal reasons, whereby boxers and competitions officials from Russia or Belarus may be allowed to participate as neutrals) was approved by the absolute majority of the Board members.**

Mr Ted Tanner proposed a motion to vote on condemnation of the breach of the Olympic Truce caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as supported by Belarus.

**The proposal was approved by the Board.**

No further motions followed from the Board members.

## **8. Confederation and membership issues**

Mr Claude Ramoni presented an overview of the countries who did not submit the Annual Reporting Form as per the IBA Membership Policy.

The following steps were proposed toward National Federations, which did not submit Yearly Reports:

- Board members shall review the list of concerned National Federations and help IBA President and Head Office to identify if there are issues with the contact persons, contact details, etc;
- Once done, the IBA Head Office will grant a final deadline until March 24, 2021 to the concerned National Federations to fill-in the form;
- In the absence of answer, or in case of clearly unsatisfactory report, IBA Head Office will seek more information from the NOC, ministry of sport or the like about the situation of boxing in the country;
- Depending on the outcome of Step 3, the Board may be requested to open a formal procedure according to article 13 of the IBA Constitution, implying: (i) sending a notice of charge, (ii) granting the National Federation a deadline to answer and, possibly (iii) suspend the National Federation until a further determination is made by the Congress (that could even decide to revoke the membership)
- In any case, all necessary measures shall be undertaken by IBA to ensure that boxers affiliated to such National Federations are not prejudiced and can continue to compete.





**The proposed steps were approved by the Board.**

Mr Yury Zaytsev reported on the elections already conducted or scheduled in each Confederation.

Mr Claude Ramoni described the concerns related to AFBC, which still did not amend its Constitution to update it to the fully new IBA Constitution adopted in 2020 and has many issues. Mr Ramoni confirmed that

the IBA Head Office shall continue to monitor the situation and report to the Board if it appears the AFBC is unable to organise its General Meeting and elections in due time for further actions by the Board or the IBA Congress.

Mr Yury Zaytsev presented an overview of the situation with the Guinean Boxing Federation which was provisionally suspended by the AIBA Executive Committee on 12-13 July 2018, but managed to conduct the elections in 2022 under the supervision of IBA, presented the Annual Reporting Form, organizational chart and events and competitions calendar for 2022.

In view of the above, the Board was proposed to vote on lifting the suspension of the Guinean Boxing Federation due to the achieved progress.

**The proposal was approved by the Board.**

**9. Extension of deadline for Stage 2 of the IBA Independent Investigation**

Mr Yury Zaytsev stated that the initial deadline to provide the Report for Stage 2 was 31 March 2022, while Prof. McLaren requested to extend the deadline till 20 June 2022.

The Board was proposed to vote on the extension of the deadline to 20 June 2022.

**The proposal was approved by the Board.**

**10. Amendment to the IBA Procedural Rules**

Mr Claude Ramoni proposed to amend the IBA Procedural Rules due to the fact that according to the Constitution, the Ethics and Disciplinary Committees need to consist of at least three members, which is considered as a quorum. However, there are cases when due to a conflict of interests or other reasons there are not enough members available to form a panel to decide a case.

The Board was proposed to add to article 13 IBA Procedural Rules the following paragraphs:

13.2 If, further to the withdrawal of one or several member(s) of a Judicial Body, or for any other reason, a Judicial Body no longer includes enough members to constitute a panel, the Chairperson shall request the Chairperson of the other Judicial Body to provide one of its members to fill-in the vacancy and constitute a panel.

13.3 If it is the Chairperson who is unavailable, then a member of the Judicial Body appointed by the Chairperson, or the Chairperson of the other Judicial Body, shall fill-in the vacancy.



