



IBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 15th, 2023 – Phuket, Thailand

1 Opening remarks by IBA President

Mr. Umar Kremlev welcomed the Board of Directors and expressed his desire to discuss the upcoming events - International Forum and International Boxing Day, as well as to discuss the IOC decision regarding the IBA and to determine further steps to protect its independence in the world boxing community.

The IBA President underscored IBA's firm conviction that the IOC's decision to exclude the IBA from the Olympic Movement is erroneous, and IBA is committed to seeking a thorough review of this matter by pursuing an appeal to CAS. The President thanked each Board member for their contribution and urged them to actively discuss the agenda during the meeting.

2. Roll call

A quorum was reached. Members present online: Mr. Ioannis Filippatos. Members excused: Mr. Pichai Chunchavajira, Mr. Jinqiang Zhou, Mr. Ajay Singh, Mr. Abner Teixeira, Ms. Lovlina Borgohain, and the Vice President, Mr. Abdulmutalim Abakarov.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Following feedback from Ms. Pearl Dlamini, the drafted minutes were slightly amended. The amended version of the previous meeting minutes was approved by the Board.

4. Summary of mail votes decisions

A summary of decisions taken by the Board via mail votes have been summarized as follow:

Decision 1, 2, 3, 4: Suspension of the New Zealand Boxing Association (New Zealand BA), the German Boxing Association (Deutscher Boxsport-Verband), and the Swedish Boxing Federation, due to a serious violation of the IBA Statutes, in particular Article 11.1 (a, c, h), and the IBA Membership Policy, in particular, Article 5.2.

Decision 5: The Board unanimously decided to establish the conditions to be met (at the discretion of the Board) as essential for the revocation of the suspension of the New Zealand Boxing Association, the Swedish Boxing Federation, and the Dutch Boxing Federation.

Decision 6: The Board unanimously agreed to **suspend the Czech Boxing Association due to a serious breach of the IBA Constitution**, specifically Article 11.1 (a, c), and the Technical & Competition Rules, Rules 1.6.1 and 4.1.1.

Decision 7: The Board unanimously agreed to establish the conditions to be met (at the discretion of the Board) as essential for lifting the suspension of the Czech Boxing Association.

Decision 8: The Board unanimously agreed to suspend the **Liberia Boxing Association and the Federacion Ecuatoguineana de Boxeo** due to a serious breach of the IBA Constitution, specifically Article 11.1 (f), and the IBA Membership Policy, specifically Articles 6 and 7.





Decision 9: The Board unanimously agreed to establish the conditions to be met (at the discretion of the Board) as essential for lifting the suspension for the Liberia Boxing Association and the Federacion Ecuatoguineana de Boxeo.

Decision 10: The Board unanimously **approved the Rules of Participation in the Competitions of the Boxers and Officials affiliated with the Suspended National Federations.**

Decision 11: The Board unanimously agreed to disclose the above decisions and publish its copy on the IBA's website.

5. Confederations and membership matters

Mr. Chris Roberts, IBA Interim Secretary General/CEO welcomed the Directors and the President of the Association and noted that the planned work for the next 2 years would follow the overall strategy.

NFs terminated their membership with IBA:

- USA Boxing – April 26, 2023
- Swiss Boxing – May 31, 2023
- New Zealand Boxing Association - July 8, 2023
- Federación Argentina de Box – July 12, 2023
- Boxing Australia Limited – July 15, 2023

The Board of Directors voted to lift the suspension of the **Liberia Boxing Association** and the Equatorial Guinea Boxing Federation (**Federacion Ecuatoguineana de Boxeo**).

Mr. Kremlev stressed that this situation has political overtones. In this case we have a solution strategy for the creation of New Boxing Federations, which will be out of politics and the discussion on voting and further accreditation of these federations will soon go to the approval of the members of the Board of Directors. The IBA President once again noted that we can only show resilience and gain recognition through the hard work of the IBA family and all its members, the high level of organization of Championships and the continued support of the NF are key steps in accomplishing our mission to provide boxers around the world with the necessary conditions to compete. IBA projects such as the Champions Night prove that the IBA is ready to act for the benefit of boxing.

Mr. Belhaj underlined that experience and democratic attitude in sport will help the International Boxing Association to overcome challenges and complications, and insisted on the non-implementation of IOC recommendations, which is essential for the success of an open and transparent association.

Questions were also raised about the pressure from African governments on National Boxing Federations of African countries to terminate their membership in the IBA, the relevance of the legitimacy of the participation of boxers of the same gender, with signs of gender inequality among women boxers at the Arab Games in Algeria. Mr. Belhaj also emphasized the need to submit the full report of the IBA Medical Commission to the IOC for the final decision on this issue.

Dr. Al-Kazim commented that this Championship (Arab Games) was not an affiliated Championship of the IBA and that the issue should be further discussed by the Council. Mr. Mendouga stated that the IOC decision is an important topic, but it concerns not only the African NF, but all continents. The position of the AFBC President is consistent - to keep all African NFs





in the IBA.

Mr. Roberts clarified that the case of the Algerian boxer, who was disqualified for failing to meet the eligibility criteria, is currently under consideration by the CAS, and a decision regarding the athlete's participation will be made soon. We will provide an update later.

Mr. Gomez and Mr. Filippatos also expressed their support for discussing the gender status of athletes.

6. Report on legal matters

Mr. Yury Zaytsev, IBA Legal Counsel, together with Mr. Alberto Roigé Godia, IBA Head of Legal, presented the reports on:

- **CAS 9718** (Appeal against IOC Executive Board Decision);
- **CAS 9757** (Appeal against IOC Session Decision)
- **CAS Imane Khelif**;
- **Update on BIIU** (Tribunal Case no. 2023/01 (Boycott); Tribunal no. 2023/03);
- **BIIU Procedural Rules** (TRIBUNAL; DRC);
- **IBA Disciplinary and Ethics Code**;
- **IBA Anti-Harassment Code**;
- **IBA Organizational Regulations**;
- **Selection of IBA Secretary General / CEO** (Composition of Selection Committee for recruitment of IBA Secretary General/ CEO; Role of Selection Committee for recruitment of IBA Secretary General/CEO)

7. Decision on 2023 Ordinary Congress location and format

The Interim Secretary General/CEO, Mr. Chris Roberts OBE, informed the Board that the date of the next IBA Ordinary Congress had been set for December 9, 2023, and that it would be held in Asia. The Board must decide on the exact location.

The floor was given to Mr. Al-Kazim, as his country, Qatar, emerged as a potential candidate to host the IBA Congress after the meeting in May 2023. As Qatar is under the Asian confederation and that the situation is unclear as to what is going to happen in Asia, it is difficult to make Qatar a reality. In addition, it is currently a vacation period in Qatar, resulting in delayed processing.

Mr. Al-Kazim confirmed that he will continue to push the project and write the necessary letters, but he informed the Board that it would still be good to have a plan B in case.

The President, Mr. Umar Kremlev, announced that a potential Plan B would be Dubai or Bali.

Mr. Chris Roberts OBE informed that the deadline for announcing the location of the Congress is August 8, 2023, four months before the Congress according to the Constitution, and that therefore the Board still had time to decide on a location.

The First Vice-President, Mr. Prodyvus expressed that Ukraine would also be willing to host.

8. Presentation & approval of 2023-2024 annual budget

Mr. Chris Roberts OBE presented the Budget for the 2023-2024 financial year stating that the budget was currently being drawn up and that a more representative forecast would be available during the period of August.





Mr. Roberts OBE clarified that the budget will consider the strategic plan which will be presented to the Board later in the Agenda and that more details on the budget will be shared.

Mr. Roberts OBE explained that with the agreement of the President, a fund of 700'00 USD has been granted to the EUBC which, under the leadership of Mr. Filippatos, has set up a new EUBC office in Monaco. This support fund, for the new continental office is included in the FSP for 2023-2024.

9. Report on Sport & Development related matters

Mr. Marko Petric, IBA Sport Director joined the meeting to present the report on Sport & Development related matters. IBA 2023-2024 Calendar's presentation:

2023

- IBD – CHN (fight card)
- WBT Slovenia – October
- WCG – KSA – October
- WBT Thailand - November
- Junior WCH – Mexico - November
- WBT Diamond – Abu Dhabi - December

2024

- WBT – Morocco – February
- WBT – India
- Elite Female WCH – Astana – September

Change of Rule for Suspended Federation

Mr. Petric presented a proposal to reformulate the rules to allow athletes to compete as much as possible and to give temporary access to the database. Athletes will be on their own flag but under the name of IBA, for example, IBA England team. However, Mr. Petric pointed out that there are still a lot of things that should be noticed following the suspension.

Mr. Jose Laureano, AMBC President, pointed out the current situation in America. He explained how individuals that have residency in America and who have a USA passport but who are also representing other countries. Mr. Nena Tauhiti, OCBC President was also pointing out the current situation with the National Federations of New Zealand and Australia.

Update on the sporting development

Mr. Petric, announced the centralization of all data with the new system that IBA will have with Sportdata and announced that all registration for National Federations will go through this new database. Potential eSport for IBA was also discussed together with Sportdata. He stressed that the focus is currently more on the team events, Pro Series and World Boxing Tour. IBA is keeping the Operational Manual and will revise GBC and WSB rules.

Medical Committee

Mr. Petric presented the proposal to fill the Chair and Vice-Chair positions of the Medical Committee that are still vacant. Ms. Leyla Nasirova was submitted as a potential candidate for the Chair position to the Board and Dr. Amar Sing, for the position of the Vice Chair. **The Board approved the proposals unanimously.**





Development Department

Mr. Petric presented the updates on the Development Department.

- High-level performance of the officials during the MWCH 2023 which included R&J Refresher course and daily meetings with R&J Evaluators and lead Observer
- Delivery of the largest IBA Cut Technician Course during the MWHC 2023 in Uzbekistan (33 participants)
- Delivery of the first development module for OCBC during OCBC Youth and Junior Championships in May 2023
- Continuous professional development 1-Star Certification Programme for coaches in online format in 5 IBA official languages

He also presented the past calendar which is available on the IBA website. He continued with the presentation of the following months that will be punctuated by:

- Organization of the second educational module for AFBC in August during the AFBC Elite Championships (Cameroon)
- Organization of the full development module for AMBC in August during the AMBC Elite, Youth and Junior Championships (Colombia)
- Continuous development programme at national and regional levels: 1-Star and 2-Star R&J Courses in IBA official languages
- Updating of the IBA Development section on the IBA Website
- Planning additional educational module in the Boxing Academy in Assisi in September 2023

Strategic Framework

Ms. Elizaveta Bracht, IBA Director of Commercial & Marketing joined the meeting to present the strategic framework and began to present herself and her professional experience as well as her athlete experience as an Olympian in Volleyball to the Board. She explained what the new era for IBA would be regarding the brand, target audience, and the sport ecosystem. She stressed that IBA will focus on commercial transformational aspects which includes gathering data, becoming a community, and a hub.

Ms. Pearl Dlamini pointed out that she would also like to see the ideas and suggestions coming from the committees included in the strategy framework.

10. International Boxing Day & Global Boxing Forum

Mr. John Hewitt, IBA Director of PR & Communications joined the meeting online to present the International Boxing Day & Global Boxing Forum.

He presented to the Board the purpose and mission as well as the key messages and values of the International Boxing Day event and the success of the previous editions of International Boxing Day events. He presented two draft schedule options and program for the upcoming International Boxing Day to be held in Shanghai, China as well as the locations/venues. He also informed the Board that an IBA Champions night will be organized during the evening program of August 27th.

Mr. Hewitt presented the project to hold the 4th Global Boxing Forum in Shanghai along with the International Boxing Day's celebration. Ms. Pearl Dlamini proposed to consider the opportunity of this Global Forum to also organise possible meetings for the committees as they haven't yet met in person.





11. Additional Business

Mr. Jose Laureano proposed to organise a plan to get back to the IOC. He invited all attendees to not stay quiet on this as there is still time to see what IBA can do, to become a member of IOC again. Mr. Belhaj also expressed his support on this.

Mr. Al-Kazim, stressed that there is going to be elections for the President position in the IOC and that IBA can collaborate and work with a new President in the IOC to find solutions.

12. Decision regarding the information disclosure after the meeting

The Board approved unanimously to disclose the meeting's decisions.

13. Closing remarks by IBA President

Mr. Kremlev, concluded the meeting by explaining IOC democratic system for election's versus IBA's democratic system on elections, which is very different. He firmly believed that IBA has nothing to be ashamed of when every National Federation in IBA is given the same voice in the Association and that everyone in the room shall keep working to keep those democratic values in sport. The President finally thanked all Board members for their participation and work.

These minutes were first drafted by the IBA Head Office and subsequently approved by the IBA Board of Directors at its meeting on December 8th, 2023, in Dubai.

