

PETE SUAZO UTAH ATHLETIC COMMISSION (PSUAC)
Scheduled Commission Meeting
October 17, 2025

Attending Commissioners:

Chair Troy Walker and Commissioners Brian Miller, Tammy Leavitt, Chris Barney and Bruce Baird attended via ZOOM Meeting.

Director Scott Bowler, Assistant Director Tracy Pattillo, Assistant Attorney General Elliott Clark

Troy Walker called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm

Approval of August 15, 2025, meeting minutes

Commissioner Bruce Baird motioned to approve the minutes of August 15 ; Commissioner Tammy Leavitt seconded. Passed unanimously.

Public comment – no action

Zack Partridge initiated a discussion regarding the proposed "Ail Act." Mr. Partridge specifically requested an in-depth briefing on the details and implications of the legislation. Furthermore, he asked for a clear statement outlining the State of Utah current official stance, perspective, or any formal position that has been adopted or is being considered concerning the "Ail Act."

Mr. Johnny Davis from IKF

Unsanctioned Muay Thai Event Discussion and Commission Authority

Director Scott Bowler reported on an unsanctioned Muay Thai "Semi Contact" tournament, scheduled for October 4 at Fight Con, which was advertised on social media. The promoter, Rob Scott, claimed he believed the Pete Suazo Utah Athletic Commission was aware of the event.

Director Bowler then contacted Mr. Ben Child, representing the International Kickboxing Federation (IKF). In May 2024, the Commission had ruled, following a presentation by Mr. Childs, that this type of event requires official sanctioning by the Commission. Assistant Attorney General Elliott Clark subsequently informed the promotion of the consequences of holding an unsanctioned event.

Mr. Johnny Davis read a statement on behalf of the IKF, emphasizing their shared mission with the Commission regarding fighter safety. He explained that IKF provides "semi-contact" opportunities through "sparring" events, which mandate protective equipment (headgear, shin pads), prohibit knockouts, and ensure a medical doctor and insurance coverage are present for all participants.

Assistant Attorney General Elliott Clark clarified the Commission's statutory authority. He cited Commission Regulation 9-23-205(1)(a), which grants the Commission *sole authority* in Utah over "contests or exhibitions of unarmed combat." Mr. Clark then referenced the definition of "unarmed combat" in 9-23-101(23) as a competition "in which a blow is usually struck which may reasonably be expected to inflict bodily injury." He also pointed out that this definition *excludes* competitions where participants "engage in simulated combat for entertainment purposes."

Commissioner Bruce Baird affirmed that overseeing these types of events falls under the Commission's jurisdiction. He requested that the IKF develop a detailed document outlining rules for their process, similar to the one developed by Bare Knuckle, if they wish to hold events in Utah. Commissioners Brian Miller and Tammy Leavitt agreed that these events should be subject to Commission regulation. The Commission stated it welcomes the sport but requires IKF to follow the appropriate channels and pathways, a process which Director Scott Bowler can assist with.

Commissioner Bruce Baird makes a motion that the event should and will need to be regulated by the PSUAC. At this time the Commission is not willing to adopt rules but would consider once presented at a later time. Second by Commissioner Leavitt. Passed unanimously.

Kani Correa request to reinstate license

Director Scott Bowler provided a summary of an incident involving Kani Correa that occurred on August 26, 2023. After winning his bout, Mr. Correa, who was fighting for a cause he was passionate about, became very excited. He proceeded to jump out of the cage and run into the crowd, ignoring instructions from inspectors and Director Bowler. As a result of this action, he was suspended and required to appear before the board to have his license reinstated. Mr. Correa addressed the commission, confirming the details provided by Director Bowler. He expressed his desire to resume competing "anywhere and everywhere," apologized for his actions that night, and accepted full responsibility. Commissioner Bruce Baird motioned to reinstate Mr. Kani Correa's license, which was seconded by Commissioner Tammy Leavitt and passed unanimously.

THC testing policy

Director Scott Bowler initiated a discussion on the current THC testing policy, noting its compliance with the USADA/WADA standard of 150 ng/mL. He commented that THC is not a performance-enhancing substance, and post-event testing is not an effective safety measure, emphasizing that the Commission's role is to ensure the safety of contestants and seconds.

Commissioner Brian Miller questioned the relevance of the 150 ng/mL limit for ensuring fighter safety during an event, suggesting the need for a method to screen for impairment *before* a fight.

Commissioner Bruce Baird voiced concerns that the current policy punishes individuals for issues that are not significant and that a single testing standard for THC does not apply to everyone. Commissioner Baird requested to see two distinct drafts for a revised THC testing policy:

1. The continuation of the current policy.
2. A policy where no testing occurs, leaving impairment judgment to the ringside physician.

He deferred a vote on the matter, requesting a formal draft of the options and a special meeting to gather public input.

Formal Motion: Commissioner Bruce Baird moved that Director Bowler collaborate with Assistant Attorney General Elliott Clark to create a draft THC testing process and policy, followed by a special, publicly posted meeting. A second meeting to discuss amcas would only be held if the rules are ultimately changed. Commissioner Brian Miller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Review upcoming events

October 17 SteelFist

November 14 Fierce FC

November 22 All-Heart Boxing (may be moved)

December 12 Fierce FC

December 20 Steelfist

Director's report – Financial update.

Director Scott Bowler updated the Commission, noting the financial report remains similar to the last meeting and anticipates strong support from the CCE. He mentioned the hope for ongoing funding to retain Tracy. Director Bowler also announced he will be starting a vacation next week.

Regarding the Ali Act, it was decided that the next meeting would dedicate time to discuss potential changes, and relevant information will be distributed prior to that meeting. As of now the State of Utah has not agreed or disagreed with the revision of the Ali Act

Chair Troy Walk asked the commission if they had any concerns regarding Director Bowler taking action against licensed contestants who participated in non-sanctioned events.

Commissioner Baird requested that Director Bowler apply fair and equal treatment to all. Commissioner Miller agreed but noted that while it is a fighter's responsibility to know if an event is sanctioned, some may claim ignorance and say they were merely asked to participate. He suggested weighing options might be advisable.

Director Bowler responded, expressing full agreement, and confirmed that he will send warning letters to the fighters, informing them that the event was non-sanctioned and that the commission views this as a serious matter.

Schedule next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 21, 2025 at noon via ZOOM Meeting unless otherwise noted.

Adjourn.

Commissioner Brian Miller motioned to adjourn;

Commissioner Bruce Baird seconded.

Passed unanimously at 12:58pm