

Commonwealth Boxing Council Bulletin

Commonwealth Boxing Council AGM 27/28 October 2010

Courtesy of his Excellency Mr. Kamalesh Sharma, the Commonwealth Secretary General, the 2009 AGM of the Commonwealth Boxing Council took place at the Headquarters of the Commonwealth Secretariat HCS at Marlborough House Pall Mall London.

Sponsorship Merchandising/Merchandising

Provisional designs were shown to the Directors and it is envisaged that during the course of 2010 a range of Commonwealth Boxing Council/Commonwealth Championship sportswear will be ready for its Commonwealth-wide launch.

Junior Championships

A proposal from British Boxing Board of Control representative David Roden was circulated and the Directors have agreed to examine the possibility of introducing a range of "Junior" or "Youth" titles to encourage young boxers throughout the Commonwealth. This will particularly apply to areas where economic factors mitigate against compiling a sufficiently good record to challenge for the Commonwealth Championship itself. A decision will be taken by the Directors again during the course of their Interim Meeting in the Spring of next year.

Review of the obligations of Champions/Promoters

Arising from recent non-Commonwealth Championship contests participated in separately by Super-Middleweight Champion Jermain Mackey and Flyweight Champion Chris Edwards made at the relevant weight limit for their division against other Commonwealth boxers, which they both lost, both Titles have been declared vacant. Prior to that Light-Heavyweight Champion Nathan Cleverly took part in a British Championship contest ordered by the British Boxing Board of Control a contest won by the promoter who was unwilling to feature it as a double British and Commonwealth Championship. As Cleverly won that particular contest he remained Commonwealth Champion but the Directors have decided to frame a Regulation requiring every Commonwealth Champion who takes part in a title contest or a contest made at the weight against another Commonwealth boxer approved by the Council to provide that the Commonwealth Title must be at stake. Failure to comply would lead to the Title being declared vacant even if the Champion was successful in the contest. The Directors will also be looking at the possibility of placing a similar obligation on any promoter who promotes a Commonwealth Champion in a contest not originally ordered for the Commonwealth Championship where the opponent is a Commonwealth boxer approved by the Council.

Women's Championships

Once again promoters/managers/women boxers are invited to apply to the Hon. Secretary for consideration for inaugural Women's Championships.

Although Titles in each of the weight divisions are all currently vacant no applications have yet been made in any weight division where there exists sufficient women boxers of proven record to make this viable.

As Women's Boxing is now an established part of the sport the CBC is anxious to get things started with its own Women's Championships.

Retirement of R.L. (Ray) Clarke OBE.

The directors were saddened to learn of the retirement of Ray Clarke who, following conversations with the Hon. Secretary has indicated that it is time to step down.

Ray is a link with the formation of the original Committee in 1954 when he was Assistant to the first Hon. Secretary, Teddy Waltham. He subsequently succeeded Teddy Waltham in 1972 as the Hon. Secretary when the first reconstitution of the Committee took place and was made Chairman in 1986 following the death of the late Alexander Elliott. Ray was Chairman when the Council became an incorporated limited liability "not for profit" company registered in accordance with English Law. His contribution to the Commonwealth Championships and to Commonwealth boxing is immeasurable and is only equalled by the significant part he has played in both British and international boxing at the highest level. He has been considered one of the sport's foremost administrators of the last half century.

He will be sorely missed by his friends and colleagues at the CBC.

Champions, challenges and defence obligations

See the website www.commboxing.com after 3rd November.

SIMON BLOCK
Hon. Secretary