



United States Fight League
P.O. Box 451, Lake Forest, CA 92630

www.fightleague.org

To: USFL Board of Directors
Subj: Board of Directors meeting
March 1, 2020 :12 noon - 2PM (PST)

Date: March. 06, 2020

Board Members: Telephonic attendees

Jon Frank, Amanda Tortorici, Cristina Taylor, Ana Eustace, Dane McGuire, Joe Stevenson

A. Summary of board members:

• **Special Advisory Committee – Joe Stevenson**

- Suggested the idea of introducing more tournaments and beginner tournaments to help combat the practice of selective participation and protecting youth fight Records.
- Has been speaking with individuals in Oklahoma about a possible expansion. (Independent of Christina's efforts)

• **Financial – Christina Taylor**

- Exploring additional promoters in the Nashville Tenn. area. Concerns are that there may not be enough gyms with the ability to field youth fighters. We predict problems pairing more experienced kids if the regional schools wait too long to start participating.
- Has been speaking with individuals in Oklahoma about a possible expansion. (Independent of Joe's efforts)
- Is still working on the 2019 financial summary

- **Parental Advisory Committee – Ana Eustace**
 - Recruiting parent volunteers to help fill certain posts and positions for the National Championships.
 - Is working with David Denkin to send parents/ kids to events for fund raising raffles to support the future US World Team.
- **Health and Safety – Amanda Brown Tortorici**
 - Still no plans for the research physicians to publish USFL injury stats. The study is ongoing with no end date.
- **At Risk Outreach Committee – Ayana Cruz**
 - Not on conference call
- **Media – Dane McQuire**
 - Has confirmed MMAfighting.com will cover national championships.
 - Has started a dialog with ESPN concerning nationals. They have a journalist working on a project concerning MMA in the Olympics and may use the USFL as a part of the project.

B. Presidents Report

- I. USFL Logo was successfully trademarked in 2019
- II. Registration Platforms
 - a. In 2019 Coaches and Officials were transitioned to Sports Engine for a biannual rotating system of Module 1 and Module 2 to encompass training for both Safe Sport and Concussion education. The system may soon offer Licensing Cards. As of now, coaches' cards are manually created but no card or document is provided to officials.
 - b. Starting in 2020, Athlete licensing was transitioned to a Sports Engine platform, saving approximately \$25 per month. The system is slightly easier to administer, and documents are stored in a secure platform.
 - c. Starting in 2020, athletes are able to register for events and pay promoter fees utilizing the Smoothcomp platform. This system does bracketing and is set to automatically calculate team points after each event. The system will greatly help in running bracketed tournaments and has other features to help promoters professionalize and market their events better.

- d. Smoothcomp will also allow us to license “roving matchmaker’s” who can set up cards for other promoters and if necessary, take athlete payments to cover operation expenses for promoters to have youth bouts in otherwise adult events.
- III. Ongoing website issues were hopefully resolved by godaddy. The website makeover was flawed 2 years ago which caused partial crashes each time a new version of word press was updated.
- IV. Full Length Documentary on the USFL – The A&E network has approved a documentary on the USFL, focusing on several youth athletes. The producers and network have been following the USFL for a few years and will key in on a few athletes prior to nationals with additional athletes at and after Nationals. The documentary will follow us all the way to the World Championships in Rome.
- V. Areas of Operation
 - 1. So Cal – Large Youth event promoters have scaled down leaving a void for youth athlete competitions. The USFL will attempt to reach out to CAMO and CSAC promotions to help support youth opportunities in a smaller quantity of bouts. If enough agree the void of competition opportunities may be covered.
 - 2. Nor Cal – As in So Cal the large youth event promoters in Northern California scaled down. Evolution Sports expo expanded to 2 big events per. We will explore a similar tactic of reaching out to CAMO and CSAC promoters. The “roving matchmaker” concept may help facilitate additional competition opportunities California wide.
 - 3. Florida – Three or Four Orlando events at EPA are planned for 2020. Their Feb. event was successful and drew new and motivated schools. Florida has yet to expand to other promotions although tentative plans were made for the Miami and Tampa area.
 - 4. Wisconsin – Have not followed up on their successful event last year. We do not know if they have plans to continue.
 - 5. Tennessee/ Mississippi – Attitude MMA in Memphis held 2 successful events last year with more planed this year.
 - 6. New Mexico- New Mexico promoter just obtained their promoters license and has an event scheduled for May.
 - 7. Georgia – USFL successfully petitioned to be a sanctioning organization in Georgia. However, the state requires a \$1000 annual fee for sanctioning organizations. We plan on starting in July and hope there is enough participation in the state to cover the annual fee. The USFL board has expressed Concerns about off-setting the annual sanctioning fee but will at the least try to run events in Georgia for at least a year.

8. Maryland – A small USFL event was promoted by the Point MMA organization. The event was successful however Point MMA has not included USFL bouts in consecutive event's but they do plan on utilizing USFL divisions in November.
9. Nevada- After years of back and forth the commission agreed that USFL rules did not meet the threshold of "Unarmed Combat" and is not a regulated activity in their state. This was done via communication between Ryan Brugemann and Jeff Mullen while attempting to secure the UFC apex center for the USFL Nationals. However, we have yet to have another promoter inquire about hosting a Nevada event.

VI. **Character Development Program** – Kravis Leadership Institute student researchers finalized definitions of "Respect, Responsibility and Resilience" and began building an instructor curriculum which will be available to all USFL coaches. Estimated for completion in 2021.

VII. **2020 National Championships and World Team Selection** – Initially planned at the UFC apex center, the venue was changed to Dan Henderson's athletic training center due to the time lag in securing a date with the UFC. The USFL will run the actual tournament due to the information needed to be collected and the manner in which the event must be run which may otherwise be a burden to licensed promoters. A USFL run National, State or Regional Championship tournament does not conflict or compete with licensed USFL promoters and are per permitted in the 2014 CSAC approved rulebook. Detailed plans will follow in the very near future.

VIII. **2019 Statistics**

- a. 22 USFL Events
- b. 244 bouts plus 91 bouts at Nationals = 335 bouts total
- c. Event venues: California, Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, Wisconsin and Maryland
- d. 294 Athlete Licensed
- e. 190 Coaches Licensed
- f. 21 States Represented - Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. (Plus 1 from Japan)
- g. Qualified a youth team to the IMMAF World MMA Championships in Rome, Italy. Finishing 1st place overall out of 26 countries. 15 Youth World Champions.

IX. **Total Injury rate to date (Oct 2014 – Feb 2020)**

- 88 events

- 1141 bouts / 2282 exposures
- 31 injuries

X. Causes and Types of Injury:

SUBMISSIONS: 14 Injuries

- One knee sprain/ Strain from Kneebar;
- Eight elbow strains/ sprains due to Armbars
- Two lower back strains/ sprains due to Guillotine & Back mount
- Two shoulder sprains/ Strains from Kimura
- **One broken arm from Bent Arm Catch**

TAKEDOWNS: 4 Injuries

- **One Broken Clavicle**
- **One Fractured Arm**
- One possible concussion, knee to head during scramble for takedown

LEGAL STRIKES: 5 Injuries

- One rib contusion
- One thigh contusion
- Three knee contusions

ILLEGAL STRIKES TO FACE: 3 Injuries

- *DQ required injury status, No Concussions*

FROM STRIKING: 1 injury

- **Fractured hand**

ENVIRONMENT: 1 injury

- **Fractured finger from fence**

OTHER: 1 Injury

- Asthma attack

UNKNOWN CAUSE: 3 Injuries

- Three finger sprains/ strains

Amendment – April 5, 2020

With all the ongoing uncertainty due to the worldwide COVID-19 crisis and cancelation of the 2020 Youth World MMA Championships, the USFL Board of Directors agreed that the best course of action for now is to postpone the 2020 USFL National Championships to a date to be determined.

The USFL Board of Directors has approved the following actions for licensees and National Championship registrants.

Prorate of all USFL Licenses:

All licenses from March 1st until the date when competitions are again permitted will be prorated. *Example: If competitions are able to resume in June, license expiration dates will be extended 3 months.*

National Championships Tournament Registration Refund Options:

1. Keep registration active for the rescheduled event (TBA) or for future credit (*This will be the default option if you take no further action*)
2. Receive a full refund by utilizing this option within your smoothcomp registration. This will also remove and refund any Team USA gear that was ordered.
3. Partial refund for individuals who want to keep their Team USA gear order but get a refund for the tournament registration. (*A full tournament fee registration minus \$5 (approx.) to cover smoothcomp and paypal fees will be processed on this option.*)