

BRIAN SANDOVAL *Governor* 

## STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ATHLETIC COMMISSION

ROBERT BENNETT Executive Director

Chairman: Francisco V. Aguilar

Members: Raymond Avansino, Bill D. Brady, Pat Lundvall, Anthony A. Marnell III

August 8, 2014

Mr. Greg Patschull 360 West 14<sup>th</sup> St. San Pedro, CA 90731

Re: Pankration Rules

Mr. Patschull:

You recently made inquiries upon this office regarding your proposed Pankration events in Nevada. This letter is a response to your inquiries.

Please be advised that the Nevada State Athletic Commission (the "Commission") is vested with the sole direction, management, control and jurisdiction over all contests and exhibitions of unarmed combat to be conducted, held or given within the State of Nevada. Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 467.070. Unarmed combat means boxing or any form of competition in which a blow is usually struck which may reasonably be expected to inflict injury. NRS 467.0107. The provisions of NRS Chapter 467 do not apply to exhibitions of Oriental unarmed self-defense in which no dangerous blow is intended to be struck. NRS 467.173.

Along with your inquiries you provided a brief outline of proposed classes of Pankration rules. "C" Class rules provide for grappling only, i.e., ground control and submissions without any point-striking. "C" Class rules do not fall under the Commission's jurisdiction over unarmed combat.

"B" Class rules provide for grappling plus limited contact, i.e., point-striking, whereby blows must be focused and delivered in a controlled manner and with no intent to cause injury. Moreover, under "B" Class rules, blows above the collar bone are prohibited and matches cannot be won by knockout. Based upon the "B" Class rules and your repeated representations that controlled point-striking below the collar bone

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cannot reasonably be expected to inflict injury, the Executive Director has determined that a license as a promoter, pursuant to NRS 467.0104, is not required at this time.

"A" Class rules involve blows that may reasonably be expected to inflict injury and you are prohibited from holding any such contest or exhibition of unarmed combat without receiving a promoter's license from the Commission.

Competitors and officials participating in your proposed "C" Class and / or "B" Class events should be thoroughly educated about the rules, with an emphasis on the prohibition of blows that may reasonably be expected to inflict injury. Furthermore, I request that you inform this office within 14 calendar days from the date of any event you schedule in Nevada so that I or my representative may attend to ensure that the conduct of the event does not cross the line into unarmed combat.

Please also note that you must still comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to your event(s), e.g., workers' compensation, business licenses, insurance, etc.

This office reserves the right to rescind this decision should I deem that your event falls under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Sincerely.

Robert Bennett Executive Director

cc: Christopher Eccles, Deputy Attorney General Vivienne Rakowsky, Deputy Attorney General