

WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION
GILBERTO MENDOZA
President

Resolution No. 1504251701
WBA Championships Committee
Status of Heavyweight Division
April 25, 2015

I. BACKGROUND

On October 5, 2013, the WBA Heavyweight Super Champion, Wladimir Klitschko ("Klitschko"), defeated WBA Champion Alexander Povetkin ("Povetkin") in a mandatory defense of the title in Moscow, Russia. As a result, Klitschko's next mandatory defense was due within eighteen (18) months (June 2015). Since October 5, 2013, Klitschko defended the title on three (3) occasions, the last being against Bryant Jennings on April 25, 2015 in New York, NY.

On July 6, 2014, the leading available contenders in the division, Ruslan Chagaev ("Chagaev") and Fres Oquendo ("Oquendo") fought for the vacant title previously held by Povetkin. Chagaev won the bout by a controversial majority decision. Since then, Oquendo and Chagaev's promotor, CCC Terek ("Terek"), have been embroiled in a dispute and litigation in New York Federal District Court over a rematch, and Terek's failure to pay an alleged million dollar purse to Oquendo. The Judge in that case recently enjoined Terek from promoting any bout for Chagaev unless Oquendo was the opponent.


On February 24, 2015, the WBA designated Lucas Browne ("Browne"), ranked #4 by the WBA, as Chagaev's next mandatory bout.

On February 26, 2015, on behalf of Chagaev, Terek requested special permission from the WBA for a voluntary defense of the title against Francesco Pianeta ("Pianeta") in Hamburg, Germany on April 25, 2015. (This bout has since been postponed to an unknown future date.) After providing notice of the request to potentially interested parties, including Browne, Povetkin, and Oquendo, and receiving no objections, the WBA granted Chagaev's special permit request conditioned on the winner, or Chagaev if a draw, facing Browne as the next defense.

II. DECISION

In light of Chagaev's commitment to a bout with Pianeta, mandatory defense obligation against Browne, and Terek's obligations to Oquendo, there is insufficient time available for these circumstances to resolve prior to Klitschko's mandatory due date. As a result, Tyson Fury ("Fury") is hereby named as the WBA's next mandatory defense for Klitschko.

Date: April 25, 2015


Gilberto Jesus Mendoza, Jr.
Championship Committee Chairman