



WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA

President

Resolution No. 202201051108 **WBA Championships Committee** *Welterweight Division* *January 05, 2022*

I. BACKGROUND

On September 15, 2021, the WBA issued resolution N° 20210915147010 ordering a Box Off between Jamal James (“James”) vs Radzhab Butaev (“Butaev”), and Yordenis Ugas (“Ugas”) vs Eimantas Stanionis (“Stanionis”) to determine one champion in the Welterweight division, as part of the WBA title reduction.

On September 16, 2021, TGB Promotions (“TGB”) on behalf of Ugas requested a special permit to sanction a unification bout between Ugas and WBC & IBF World Champion Errol Spence Jr. (“Spence”) on February 22, 2022, in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

The WBA provided notice of Ugas’s request to Richard Schaefer (“Schaefer”) and Shelly Finkel (“Finkel”) representing WBA Mandatory Contender Stanionis for comments. The WBA received comments in opposition to the request from Stanionis. Said comments were submitted to Ugas for reply, which was timely received. Schaefer based his opposition on the previous WBA resolution that identify the timeline for Ugas to faced Stanionis as his mandatory.

On October 18, 2021, WBA Championship Committee held a meeting via zoom with the parties involved and took due note of the arguments presented by each of them. Team Ugas and Team Stanionis also were informed that the hearing was being recorded for all legal purposes.

On October 19, 2021, WBA Championship Committee denied the Special Permit requested by Ugas and ordered thirty (30) days negotiation or a purse bid will be called.

On November 18, 2021, WBA Championship Committee denied an extension on the negotiations period and a call for purse bid was made for December 9, 2021, in Miami, Florida, USA.

On December 08, 2021, Schaefer and TGB informed that both parties had reached a deal for Ugas and Stanionis fight and the purse bid was cancelled.

On December 14, 2021, Stanionis requested the WBA not to fight Ugas and instead to allow him to fight Butaev as an undercard of Ugas vs Spence unification fight.

II. ANALYSIS

A. Boxers and promoters are obligated to “know and be familiar with all Association rules,” including those “for Mandatory Contender Selection.” WBA Rule C.14.

B. The WBA may modify the periods for mandatory defenses for good cause, either in response to a request for a Special Permit, or on its own initiative. WBA Rule C.16

C. The WBA may modify or suspend the strict application of these rules when the WBA deems them justified in its sole discretion to accommodate special circumstances. WBA Rule C.46. Those reasons include to “engage in an optional title defense,” to “engage in a bout of recognized importance and significance for the boxing world,” to “extend or otherwise modify a mandatory defense period,” or for any reason the Committee and President deem just. WBA Rule C.46. a, d, and e.

D. The WBA may grant Special Permit Requests and require conditions. “The Committee and the President at their sole discretion shall consider the best interests of boxing, the purposes and policies of the Association, and such other factors that may be relevant, and shall make their best effort to balance competing interests. WBA Rule C.47.

III. DECISION

Based upon the above-mentioned Rules, WBA Championship Committee has decided the following:

A. Approved the Unification bout between WBA Super Champion Yordenis Ugas vs WBC & IBF Champion Errol Spence Jr. The winner of Ugas and Spence (or Ugas if a draw) shall face the WBA Champion.

B. Butaev and Stanionis will fight for the WBA Championship. The winner (or Butaev if a draw) shall face the WBA Super Champion.

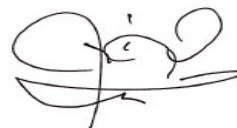
C. The winners of Ugas vs. Spence and Butaev vs. Stanionis must fight in 180 days from the date of their fights.

D. No other permit will be granted until a single champion in the Welterweight division is determined.

E. This resolution supersedes any previous resolutions on this subject matter.

F. All other issues that may arise shall be resolved by the interpretation of WBA championship rules by the committee.

Date: January 05, 2022



Carlos Chavez
Championship Committee Chairman