



WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA
President

Resolution No. 202208091508
WBA Championships Committee
Light Heavyweight Division
Dmitry Bivol - Special Permit
August 09, 2022

I. REQUEST

On July 11, 2022, Matchroom Boxing (“MB”), on behalf of WBA Light Heavyweight Super Champion Dmitry Bivol (“Bivol”), requested a special permit to sanction a bout between Bivol and WBA #2 ranked contender, Joshua Buatsi (“Buatsi”).

The WBA provided notice of Bivol’s request to Golden Boy Promotions (“GBP”) representing WBA Mandatory Contender and #1 world ranked Gilberto Ramirez (“Ramirez”) for comments. The WBA received comments of opposition to the request from Ramirez.

Ramirez based his opposition on the previous WBA Mandatory Resolution that named him as Bivol’s next mandatory contender.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On December 18, 2021, Ramirez faced Yunieski Gonzalez, the fight was sanctioned as WBA Eliminator bout. Ramirez won by TKO in ten (10) rounds.

On May 14, 2022, as part of the WBA champion reduction in every division, former Interim Champion Dominic Boessel fought Ramirez, the fight was sanctioned as final eliminator. Ramirez won by KO in four (4) rounds.

On July 11, 2022, the WBA issued negotiation letter ordering Bivol to face Ramirez as mandatory bout with thirty (30) days negotiation period ending on August 10, 2022.

The last mandatory fight held in the Light Heavyweight division was on March 03, 2018.

III. ANALYSIS

A. *A mandatory Contender for each weight division may be selected by the Championship Committee or through an eliminator bout. The selection may be subject to conditions. Generally, the highest rated boxer in the division, or regional champion rated in the*

top 5, shall qualify to be named the official contender by the Championships Committee, unless he is, or is likely to be, unavailable to fight for the title in the period required. The Committee may remove a boxer's recognition as Mandatory Contender for failure to comply with these rules or failure to comply with any condition of the appointment as Mandatory Contender. WBA Rule C.29.

B. Within sixty (60) days of the expiration of the mandatory defense period, a champion is limited to fighting only the mandatory contender or leading available contender. WBA Rules C.13 C23-24.

C. The WBA may grant Special Permit Requests and require conditions. "The Committee and the President in 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. The WBA is not obliged to grant a request for Special Permit" WBA Rule C.47.

D. Boxers and promoters are obligated to "know and be familiar with all Association rules," including those "for Special Permits." WBA Rule C.14.

III. DECISION

- A. Based upon the above-mentioned Rules, Bivol's Special Permit Request is denied.
- B. Bivol and Ramirez will have until August 10, 2022, to negotiate a bout before a call for purse bid is issued.
- C. This resolution supersedes any previous resolutions.
- D. All other issues that may arise shall be resolved by the interpretation of WBA championship rules by the committee.

Date: August 09, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Chavez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Chavez
Championship Committee
Chairman