



Association of Boxing Commissions and Combative Sports

Athlete's Voice Committee

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of this committee is to build a bridge between fighters and regulators and to provide fighters a meaningful opportunity to have a voice in their sport.

A two way platform for fighters to voice their concerns to regulators and equally an opportunity for regulators to create educational opportunities for fighters.

Composition and proposed working structure:

The committee will be comprised of retired fighters, active commissioners and approved volunteers. It will be chaired by Kim Sumblar (NYSAC). The overarching function of the committee members will be to invite fighters from across regulated disciplines and keep an active list of fighters who are participating.

The committee members will not advocate any personal special interests. They will owe a duty to the fighter community at large and ensure they honestly and accurately represent fighters voices to the ABC. They will ensure they are not speaking on behalf of other interests (such as managers, promoters, organizations or anyone else whose interests may intersect with fighters)

The committee will

1. poll fighters on important subjects (such as proposed changes to the unified rules) and report back to regulators to ensure their views are considered before changes are made.
2. listen to fighters concerns directly and coordinate the most pressing issues and bring these for discussion / consideration to the appropriate ABC committees or the membership at large
3. meet occasionally to discuss developments (with not just committee members but also fighters at large are free to join these open discussions)
4. Present annually at the ABC conference

Regulators are invited to work with the committee and extend opportunities to fighters who wish to better understand vital issues such as how scoring works, appeal rights, contractual literacy workshops, regulatory rights with regard to managers and any other educational opportunities that can advance fighter interests in the sport.

Once the committee is fully operating the goal is to set up a structure for participating fighters to be able to democratically vote for who they want their representatives to be on the committee.