



December 18, 2023

USA Boxing Membership
Via email

Re: USA Boxing's Commitment to Olympic-Style Boxing's Place in the Olympic Movement

Dear USA Boxing Members:

On April 25, 2023, USA Boxing sent a letter of termination to IBA's Secretary General exercising USA Boxing's right under Section 12 CESSATION (Termination) OF MEMBERSHIP.

As previously communicated, USA Boxing received numerous notes of support from our membership and the international community for making this first and vital step demonstrating USA Boxing's commitment to preserving Olympic-style boxing's place in the Olympic Movement.

Additionally, on June 22, 2023, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session voted 69-1 (with 10 abstentions) to uphold the June 7, 2023, recommendation of the Executive Board (EB) of the IOC to withdraw recognition of IBA, in accordance with Rule 3.7 of the Olympic Charter (OC). For the first time in the IOC's 129 year history, an International Federation was expelled from the Olympic Movement.

The [report](#) of the IOC Director General and IOC Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer spells out in great detail the continued failings of IBA leadership dating back to the 2004 Athens Olympic Games to address the basic principles of good governance, financial transparency, and fairness in the field of play. We continue to encourage our members to read this report, as it addresses the same concerns that USA Boxing communicated in support of the decision to withdraw from IBA. Despite the ongoing failures of IBA, the IOC has graciously remained patient with the boxing community by overseeing Olympic qualification and competition for both the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Games. The decision of the IOC Session is a victory for fair play.

USA Boxing was the first National Federation to take a stand against IBA for violating the principles of fair and ethical officiating in the Field of Play. USA Boxing was also the first National Federation to announce a decision to refrain from participating in IBA's World



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Championships, the first to leave IBA (after being a founding member of AIBA/IBA over 75 years ago), and the first to submit its application for membership to World Boxing. World Boxing is the new International Federation seeking to preserve boxing's place in the Olympic Movement by putting the needs of the athletes first, delivering fair competitions through sporting integrity, operating according to strong governance standards, and working collaboratively with the IOC, National Olympic Committees (NOCs), and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

USA Boxing was the first provisional member of World Boxing after approval from the Interim Executive Board of Directors, and full membership was unanimously granted at World Boxing's Inaugural Congress held on November 25 in Frankfurt, Germany. Given the landslide vote at the June 22 Extraordinary IOC Session to withdraw IBA's recognition, World Boxing's journey towards IOC recognition is the only legitimate pathway to preserving boxing's place in the Olympic Movement.

At the IBA Ordinary Congress held earlier this month in Dubai, the IBA Congress voted to accept membership from "*U.S. Boxing Federation*," a new organization led by Roy Jones Jr., a Russian citizen since 2015 and paid ambassador of IBA. One particular media publication falsely suggested that USA Boxing chose to "return" to IBA after a purported "change" in the president of the American federation. In reality, Mike McAtee remains the Executive Director of USA Boxing, Tyson Lee remains the President, USA Boxing remains a member of World Boxing, and the statement that anyone has "replaced" USA Boxing in a governing role of the federation is not true. Whatever entity Roy Jones, Jr. is associated with is not recognized as a representative of the United States of America in international sports competition under American law.

USA Boxing has not decided to "return" to IBA, and the presidency of the National Federation for Olympic-style boxing in the United States of America has not in fact been "replaced." The United States of America does not recognize Roy Jones, Jr. as having authority to represent the United States of America in any function related to Olympic-style boxing, and he is not involved whatsoever with the governance of amateur or Olympic boxing in the United States of America.

USA Boxing membership deserves to know the truth behind what appears to be fraudulent organization:

- USA Boxing first recognizes that Roy Jones Jr. represented USA at the 1988 Olympic Games and was a professional boxing world champion, and we thank him for his past contributions to our sport as an athlete. However, the details and lack of transparency of his arrangement with IBA leadership raise serious concerns regarding his motivations for starting *U.S. Boxing Federation*.
- Unlike USA Boxing, this organization does not appear to be registered in the United States of America as a non-profit organization nor does it have a website and/or any public social media platforms. More importantly, this IBA approved *federation* lacks



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any legal authority to govern Olympic-style amateur boxing within the United States of America.

- *U.S. Boxing Federation* is not recognized or certified by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), the National Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC), or any State Boxing Commission. USA Boxing is the only National Governing Body (NGB) relating to Olympic-style boxing that is certified/recognized and supported by the USOPC, ABC, and every State Boxing Commission. *U.S. Boxing Federation's* current footprint pales in comparison to USA Boxing's footprint, which includes (figures reflect USA Boxing 2023 Membership Data):
 - 59,842 members, 42,071 Boxers, 14,981 Coaches, R/J's and Physicians and 2,790 fitness boxing members
 - 2,742 Registered Clubs/Gyms
 - 1,652 local, regional, national, and international sanctioned competitions, over 1,800 competition days, with over 30,562 bouts contested-with fourteen days remaining in the fiscal year.
 - 77,536 Certification issued for boxers, coaches and officials.
- Absent recognition from the USOPC, ABC and State Boxing Commissions, no other organization possesses the resources to govern Olympic-style amateur boxing legally and effectively in the United States of America. USA Boxing's affiliation with the USOPC, ABC and all Stated Boxing Commissions allows for a national staff and our 56 Local Boxing Committees (LBCs) to oversee local, regional, national and international events and competitions as well as high-performance, communications, and coaches and officials development programs in all 50 States. All of this is required to ensure proper governance, financial transparency, fairness, and ethical behavior in the field of play while focusing on our boxers' health and safety.
- Participation in unregulated and unsanctioned Olympic-style boxing events, such as any event organized by *U.S. Boxing Federation*, violates State Boxing Commission and USA Boxing rules. USA Boxing members (athletes, coaches and officials) who choose to participate in competitions not sanctioned by USA Boxing and/or not sanctioned by State Boxing Commissions run the risk of no longer being eligible for membership in USA Boxing.
- USA Boxing is aware of individuals who have competed in events in Russia, misrepresenting "Team USA." In addition to the violations of IOC, USOPC and USA



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Boxing polices, "Team USA" is trademarked exclusively by the USOPC. Any use of this moniker violates US trademark laws, and violators will be subject to penalties and potential civil legal action.

USA Boxing will continue to provide updates to our members as more information becomes available. We will continue to work with World Boxing National Federations and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, towards our common goal of keeping Olympic-style boxing in the Olympic Movement.

Always in the fight...never quit.

In your corner,



Mike McAtee
Executive Director/CEO

Cc: Sarah Hirshland, CEO United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC)
Rocky Harris, Chief of Sport and Athletic Services, USOPC
Finbar Kirwan, Vice President of Summer Sports, USOPC
Dragomir Cioroslan, Director of International Strategies and Development, USOPC
Tyson Lee, Chair/President of USA Boxing Board of Directors
USA Boxing Board of Directors
USA Boxing Foundation Trustees
Mike Mazzulli, President Association of Boxing Commission
Andrew Ryan, Executive Director ASOIF
World Boxing Member Federations
Olympic-style Boxing Community



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