



WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA

President

Resolution No. 201801311602 **WBA Championships Committee** *Cruiserweight Division*

I. BACKGROUND

Denis Lebedev (“Lebedev”) is the current Cruiserweight Super Champion. Yunier Dorticos (“Dorticos”) is the current Regular Champion. Per WBA Resolution No. 201706161612, Lebedev was mandated to fight Dorticos within 120 days of his July 9, 2017 Lebedev-Flanagan bout.

On 25 January 2018, Dorticos requested a special permit to fight the current IBF Champion (Murat Gassiev) for a unification bout, and as part of a three-bout tournament to name a cruiserweight champion holding the titles of the WBA, IBF, WBO, and WBC. The Dorticos – Gassiev bout would take place on 3 February 2018. A bout between the WBO and WBC champions was scheduled for 27 January 2018. The winner of that bout would fight the winner of the 3 February Dorticos/Gassiev bout on 11 May 2018, and that fight would constitute the end of the “tournament.”

On 26 January 2018, Vadim Kornilov, on behalf of Lebedev, contacted the WBA stating that Lebedev did not object to the request. This response assumed at least two matters. First, that Lebedev would be named “in recess.” Second, that the “recess” period would end at such time as the winner of the tournament’s last bout and that the winner would then fight Lebedev.

II. ANALYSIS

A. Boxers, their representatives, and promoters are obligated to “know and be familiar with all Associations rules.” WBA Rule C.14.

B. 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, but are not limited 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 to “unify an association title with that of another organization.” WBA Rule C.46.a, d, e and g.

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.” WBA Rule C.47. Furthermore, the Special Application Form signed and submitted by Charr expressly states that:

6. The WBA may grant the request with conditions. If the conditions are not acceptable, or cannot be met, the WBA’s approval will be withdrawn.

III. DECISION

Subject to the WBA receiving written confirmation from Lebedev that he consents to being named Champion in Recess:

1. Lebedev shall be named Champion in Recess for the division.
2. Dorticos and Gassiev shall fight to unify titles in the Cruiserweight division at a bout on 3 February 2018.
3. The winner of the 3 February 2018 bout shall fight the winner of the 27 January 2018 bout, and the winner of that bout shall be considered the World Unified Champion. Said World Unified Champion must fight Lebedev within four (4) months of the bout to determine the World Unified Champion.

Date: January 31, 2018



George Martinez
Championship Committee Chairman