



WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA
President

Resolution No. 201905131602
WBA Championships Committee
Cruiserweight Division
Beibut Shumenov – Champion in Recess
May 13, 2019

I. BACKGROUND

The current Cruiserweight Champion, Beibut Shumenov (“Shumenov”) obtained the vacant title on July 07, 2018, by defeating Hizni Altuncaya. Shumenov’s original mandatory defense period, therefore, was schedule to expire by 06 November, 2018

On October 22, 2018, The Championships Committee ordered Shumenov to engage in mandatory negotiation title defense against the leading available contender Arsem Goulamirian (“Goulamirian”).

On December 05, 2018, the Championships Committee rejected a Request for Special Permit submitted by Shumenov, to make an optional defense in February 2019.

On January 28, 2019, the Championships Committee called for purse bid for Shumenov-Goulamirian title fight. Don King Productions won the bid and the bout was scheduled for May 11, 2019.

On May 10, 2019, Cornelius Lewis on behalf of Don King Productions informed that Shumenov is neither medically nor physically capable of defending his title, so he was not able to train nor boxing for a number of months.

Shumenov has provided the Championships Committee with the medical report documenting his illness. The medical report has been reviewed by the Chairman of the Medical Committee, Dr. Joseph Estwanik and he has reported to the Championships Committee the following:

- A) The diagnosis of severe respiratory infection would be a medical disorder that would negatively impact any athlete’s ability to train or perform. That diagnosis would be a “stand alone” temporary disabling condition.*

B) It is the opinion of the Medical Committee Chairman that Shumenov suffered a debilitating injury rendering him medically unfit to participate in professional boxing or defend his title within the mandatory time period, as the injury is significant and it makes Shumenov unable participate in a Cruiserweight title bout. Only after passing on sufficient time and reviewing Shumenov's rehabilitation progress it could be determined whether or not he will be fit to defend his title.

II. ANALYSIS

- A. Boxers, their representatives, and promoters are obligated to "know and be familiar with all Associations rules." WBA Rule C.14.*
- B. When a World Champion is unable to defend his title within the prescribed time periods for justifiable medical, legal, or other reasons reasonably beyond his control, the inactive champion may be named Champion in Recess and the Committee may select the official contenders who will fight for an Interim Title under Rules C.22-24. The medical reasons must be documented to the satisfaction of the Medical Committee Chairman, who also may require separate medical examinations. Legal reasons must be documented to the satisfaction of the Legal Director and Championships Committee. In general, the status of "Champion in Recess" may not be for a period longer than the applicable defense period. WBA Rules C.22.*
- C. The Championships Committee must balance competing interest and equities. In past, the committee has recognized injured champions as Champion in Recess and allowing sufficient time to recovery. On the other hand, the mandatory contenders and the rated boxers are interest in the division movement at the championship level.*

III. DECISION

- 1. Shumenov is now inactive and is likely to remain so for an uncertain period of time.*
- 2. There are sufficient facts and conditions for the Committee to declare Shumenov Champion in Recess, and facts that prevent him to remain in such status for a period lasting longer than one (1) year. Consequently, the Committee approves the following:*
 - a. Shumenov is hereby named Champion in Recess*
 - b. Shumenov's mandatory defense date consequently is extended, but under no circumstances shall be later than November 12, 2019.*

- c. *Shumenov must provide the Championship and Medical Committee by May 15, 2019 a certified medical report regarding his treatment, rehabilitation, and a prognosis for his recovery, including dates he would be likely to begin training and compete in a Cruiserweight title bout. The medical report must be approved by a doctor(s) assigned, or otherwise approved by the Chairman of the Medical Committee. Further similar reports may be required by the Committee.*
3. *Goulamirian is now named mandatory contender for Denis Lebedev and shall compete for the WBA Super Championship under the following conditions:*
- a. *Their bout shall occur no later than August 12, 2019, unless the date is extended by mutual agreement.*
- b. *Should they fail to agree on applicable terms of a title bout contract by June 12, 2019, the Committee will schedule a purse bid with split of 75% Lebedev 25% Goulamirian.*
- c. *The affected boxers may request later amendments to this resolution if the circumstances present at the time warrant consideration. This resolution is subject to the provisions of the revised rules regarding request for reconsideration and appeals.*

Date: May 13, 2019

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

*Carlos Chavez
Championship Committee
Chairman*