

WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA President

Resolution No. 202001140402 WBA Championships Committee

Super Flyweight Division January 14, 2020

I. <u>REQUEST</u>

On January 06, 2020, on behalf of WBA Super Flyweight Champion Khalid Yafai ("Yafai"), Matchroom Boxing requested that the WBA grant a special permit to sanction a February 29, 2020 bout between Yafai and former four time World Champion Roman Gonzalez ("Gonzalez"), for the WBA Super Flyweight Title.

The WBA provided notice of Yafai's request to Top Rank and Tony Tolj representing WBA Interim Champion Andrew Moloney for comments. The WBA received comments in opposition to the request from Moloney. Said comments were submitted to Yafai for reply, which was timely received.

Moloney's based his opposition on the previous WBA Resolution that identified the timeline for Moloney to face Yafai as his mandatory.

II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

- A. Yafai holds a perfect 26-0-0 record with fifteen (15) knockouts.
- B. On December 10, 2016, Yafai won the WBA Super Flyweight title by unanimous decision over Luis Concepcion in Manchester, United Kingdom.
- C. Since then, Yafai has successfully defended the WBA Championship in the Super Flyweight Division on five (5) occasions.
- D. Yafai has always complied with his mandatories bouts.
- E. Yafai last mandatory was on June 29, 2019 against Norbelto Jimenez.

III. <u>ANALYSIS</u>

A. The WBA may modify the periods for mandatory defenses for good cause, either in response to a request for a Special Permit, or on its own initiative. WBA Rule C.16.

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 to "engage in an optional title defense," to "engage in a bout of recognized importance and significance for the boxing world," or to "extend or otherwise modify a mandatory defense period." WBA Rule C.46.a, 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.

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

IV. <u>DECISION</u>

A. Based upon the above-mentioned Rules, the WBA has express authority to modify applicable defense periods and otherwise suspend application of various rules under a special permit.

B. Yafai's Special Permit Request is conditionally granted subject to his compliance with all other WBA rules, regulations, payment of all applicable fees and the following condition:

C. The winner of Yafai/Gonzalez, or Yafai if a draw must face Moloney as a mandatory defense within 120 days of said bout.

Date: January 14, 2020

Carlos Chavez Championship Committee Chairman