



WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO JESUS MENDOZA

President

Resolution No. 202208230708 **WBA Championships Committee** *Featherweight Division* *August 24, 2022*

I. BACKGROUND

On April 06, 2022, the WBA issued a negotiation letter ordering a bout between Leo Santa Cruz (“Santa Cruz”) and Leigh Wood (“Wood”), to determine a single champion in the Featherweight division, as part of the WBA title reduction.

On July 11, 2022, TGB Promotions (“TGB”) on behalf of Santa Cruz requested a special permit to sanction a unification bout between Santa Cruz and WBC Featherweight World Champion Rey Vargas (“Vargas”).

On July 15, 2022, the WBA Championship Committee denied the Special Permit requested by Santa Cruz and ordered a purse bid.

On August 12, 2022, TGB and Matchroom Boxing (“Matchroom”), representing Wood, informed the WBA Championship Committee that they had reached an agreement to fight, and the purse bid was canceled.

On August 22, 2022, TGB and Matchroom, informed the WBA Championship Committee that they had agreed on terms for Santa Cruz to unify his title with that of WBC Champion Vargas, and for Wood to make a voluntary defense against Mauricio Lara (“Lara”), with the winners of the respective bouts agreeing to fight each other no later than 120 days after the Santa Cruz-Vargas fight.

II. ANALYSIS

A. Boxers and promoters are obligated to “know and be familiar with all Association rules,” including those “for Mandatory Contender Selection.” WBA Rule C.14.

B. 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

C. 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,” to “extend or otherwise modify a mandatory defense period,” or for any reason the Committee and President deem just. WBA Rule C.46. a, d, and e.

D. The WBA may grant Special Permit Requests and require conditions. “The Committee and the President at 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.

III. DECISION

A. Based upon the above-mentioned Rules, the WBA Championship Committee has decided the following.

B. The Unification bout between WBA Featherweight Super Champion Santa Cruz and WBC Champion Vargas is approved. The winner of Santa Cruz and Vargas (or Santa Cruz if a draw) shall face the WBA Champion no later than 120 days after the Santa Cruz -Vargas bout.

C. Wood and Lara will fight for the WBA Championship. The winner (or Wood if a draw) shall face the WBA Super Champion within the time stated above.

D. In case of Purse bid for the winner of the Santa Cruz-Vargas and the winner of the Wood-Lara, the split will be 50% - 50% for each fighter.

E. No other permit will be granted until a single champion in the Featherweight division is determined.

F. This resolution supersedes any previous resolutions.

G. All other issues that may arise shall be resolved by the interpretation of WBA championship rules by the committee.

Date: August 24, 2022

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

Carlos Chavez
Championship Committee Chairman