



**WBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION**

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**In the Matter of WBO Female Bantamweight Champion  
Dina Thorslund**

**Parties:**

Mr. Lee Eaton  
Manager  
Let's Go Management  
On behalf of WBO Female Bantamweight Champion, Dina Thorslund

**ISSUE PRESENTED**

Whether the petitioner (Thorslund) is deserving of receiving WBO “Super Champion” status based on her professional accomplishments thus far. This Committee responds in the negative and explains accordingly.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

On February 28, 2015, Dina Thorslund debuted professionally winning via TKO against Petra Podraska. The bout was held at the Boxsporthalle Braamkamp, Winterhude, Hamburg, Germany. Three years later, the petitioner fought for the vacant WBO Jr. Featherweight (122 lbs) Championship title against Jessica Arreguin Muñoz via unanimous decision. The fight was conducted at the Struer Arena, Struer, Denmark.

As WBO Jr. Featherweight Champion, Thorslund successfully defended her title on three occasions against (i) Alesia Graf on January 19, 2019, winning by unanimous decision; bout held at the Struer Arena, Struer, Denmark; (ii) April Adams on June 22, 2019, also by unanimous decision; fight conducted at the Forum, Horsens, Denmark, and (iii) Nina Radovanovic on September 26, 2020, via unanimous decision; bout held at the Struer Arena, Struer, Denmark.

On the following year, Thorslund became a two-division WBO World Champion winning the vacant WBO Bantamweight Championship title on June 25, 2021, against Jasseth Noriega winning by unanimous decision; fight held at the Struer Arena, Struer, Denmark. Thereafter, Thorslund successfully defended her Bantamweight on five occasions against (i) Zulina Muñoz on November 13, 2021, winning by KO; fight held at the Kolding Hallen, Kolding, Denmark; (ii) Niorkis Carreno on April 9, 2022, winning by unanimous decision; bout contested at the Graakjaer Arena, Holstebro, Denmark; (iii) Debora Anahi Lopez on February 25, 2023, winning via TKO; bout held at the Graakjaer Arena, Holstebro, Denmark; (iv) Yuliahn Luna Avila<sup>1</sup>, winning via unanimous decision; fight conducted at the Graakjaer Arena, Holstebro, Denmark and (v) Mary Romero, winning by way of TKO; fight held at the Royal Arena, Copenhagen, Denmark.

On February 25, 2024, the WBO confirmed receipt of email communication from Mr. Lee Eaton, on behalf of Dina Thorslund requesting WBO “Super Champion” designation based on the foregoing accomplishments. In summary, Mr. Eaton argues that Thorslund is deserving of such recognition because (i)

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<sup>1</sup> Thorslund unified the WBO/WBC Bantamweight Championships against Yuliahn Luna Avila; her fight unified title defense was against last-minute replacement contender Mary Romero.



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Thorslund is a 2-division WBO Champion; (ii) is considered the Ring Magazine Champion; (iii) has participated in 10 WBO world title bouts having 8 of them being title defenses and (iv) a loyal WBO champion.

Therefore, having this Committee reviewed the facts and arguments mentioned herein and having examined the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests their applicability, and enforcement in this matter, and having the authority conferred by our rules, it is hereby determined as follows:

### APPLICABLE PROVISIONS

All parties agree that they are bound by the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests. Section 35(f) provides in relevant: “***These Regulations apply to all WBO Participants. The term WBO Participant includes, but not limited to, WBO World Champions and WBO World Championship Contenders. All WBO Participants who participate in any WBO sanctioned activity do so on the express condition that such WBO Participant is bound by and subject to these WBO World Championship Rules and all WBO Rules and Regulations***”. [Emphasis Added]. As such, this Committee has jurisdiction and the authority conferred by its rules to resolve the matter at issue accordingly.

The WBO World Championship Committee’s authority to consider the issue at hand is governed under Section 1 (b) (19) and (22), respectively of the WBO Rules and Regulations of World Championship Contests, which provide, in relevant as follows:

### SECTION 1. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

*(b) The World Championship Committee shall have the following powers and discretion:*

*(16) To recommend to the Executive Committee whether a boxer should be designated as a Super Champion*

*(22) To make or recommend exceptions or variations from the rules as the World Championship Committee determines are necessary; and,*

### SECTION 14. SUPER CHAMPION

(a) It is the policy of the World Boxing Organization to encourage its Champions to pursue recognized status as undisputed World Champions and to unify the Championships of the four major world sanctioning organizations (the WBO, WBA, WBC and IBF). A World Champion who has achieved preeminent status may require and be entitled to additional scheduling flexibility to achieve his place in boxing history and for the good of the sport. A boxer may be considered for designation for Super Champion status when he meets the following criteria:



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(1) The boxer presently or previously has or had a multiple bout contract with a major television network (HBO, SHOWTIME, ZBF, Sky or other similar broadcast company), for multiple years; and

(2) As a WBO Champion,

(A) The boxer has successfully defended his title cumulatively a minimum of ten (10) title bouts, or;

(B) In the event of less than ten (10) successful defenses has defended his/her title against opponents of high recognition and high skills; and

(3) Has substantially met the other standards set forth herein

(4) The quality of prospective Super Champion's record including the quality of his opponents and their records will be considered

(5) Additionally, the following factors will be considered in determining Super Champion designation:

(A) If the prospective Super Champions has been a WBO World Champion in more than one (1) weight division; or

(B) If the Prospective Super Champion has held more than one (1) Championship of the four major world sanctioning organizations; or

(C) If the prospective Super Champion has unified the Championships of more than one (1) of the four (4) major world sanctioning bodies

(b) Current champion status is not required to qualify or continue as a Super Champion.

(c) The Championship Committee may recommend Super Champion status for the boxer to the Executive Committee, if a boxer has substantially complied with the conditions set forth herein. Super Champion status shall be determined by the vote of the Executive Committee.

(d) PRIVILEGES AFFORDED SUPER CHAMPIONS.

(1) EXTENSION OF MANDATORY TITLE DEFENSE.

The Championship Committee may extend a Super Champion's mandatory title defense for good cause shown one or more times beyond the time provided for in the WBO Regulations for World Championship Contests for the purpose of giving a Super Champion opportunity or opportunities to unify the titles of more than one major sanctioning body either in a unification bout or a unification tournament, or any other important match or matches that the Committee determines would contribute to the Super Champion's legacy or would be of great interest to boxing fans.



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**(2) ELIGIBILITY TO BE CONSIDERED FOR DESIGNATION AS THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER IN HIGHER OR LOWER DIVISION.**

If requested by a Super Champion, the Championship Committee may designate the Super Champion as the mandatory challenger for the higher or lower division.

**(3) ELIGIBILITY TO BE CONSIDERED FOR DESIGNATION AS THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER IN SAME DIVISION.**

If requested by a Super Champion who has lost his title and who wishes to fight for the title again, the Championship Committee may designate the Super Champion as the mandatory challenger in the Super Champion's division.

(4) An Honorary member of the WBO for life

**(E) PURSE BID**

(1) In case of a purse bid involving a contest between contestants one or more of whom are WBO Super Champions, or a contest between a current WBO Champion and another current WBO Champion or a contest between a WBO Champion and a WBO Interim Champion, or a contest between two WBO Interim Champions, the following rules shall be applied in conjunction with the purse bid rules contained in the WBO Regulations for World Championship Contests; these provisions concerning the division of purse bids shall supersede the rules for division of purse bids contained within Section 13 of these WBO Rules.

**"DIVISION OF PURSE for CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD PURSUANT TO PURSE BID"**

(2) In any of the situations described in Section 14(e)(1) above and a purse bid takes place, the division shall not be greater than 75/25 in any case and shall be calculated by the Championship Committee using a ratio based upon the average purse of each fighter's last three (3) fights. The WBO may rely upon the purses reported to the WBO on the WBO Participant's Promoter's receipts for the fights that are used to calculate the Purse Division for this purpose.

**(F) LOSS OF PRIVILEGES**

(1) All Super Champion privileges referred to in Section 14(d) shall be terminated in the event (a) Super Champion violates any of the WBO Rules and Regulations, (b) for unsportsmanlike conduct or activities unbecoming to a professional boxer, (c) for drug abuse (of either illegal drugs or performance enhancing drugs), or (d) conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude.

(2) The Super Champion Privileges referred to in Section 14(d)(1) to 14(d)(3) shall be terminated in the event of the loss of any boxing contest or in the event a WBO Champion relinquishes the WBO World Championship Title unless the World Championship Committee recommends that Super Champion status be retained and a majority of the WBO Executive Board resolves that Super Champion status be retained.



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### ANALYSIS

We begin our *ratio decidendi* referencing an excerpt of the WBO preamble<sup>1</sup>, which states in relevant “...*The World Boxing Organization’s Regulations of World Championship Contests are intended to reconcile the interests of all necessary elements of World Championship Boxing in a manner that is in the best interests of the sport. The most important interests are those of the Championship contestants themselves and their worldwide fans...*”

Now, the issue in question is straightforward, whether Dina Thorslund is deserving of WBO “Super Champion” status designation. This Committee responds in the negative and explains below.

The petitioner argues that (i) Thorslund has participated in 10 consecutive world championship bouts; (ii) she’s a 2-division WBO world champion; (iii) ring magazine champion; (iv) has been very loyal to the WBO, and (v) deserving of such status similar to WBO Super Champions Claressa Shields and Amanda Serrano, respectively.

As to the first argument, this Committee concurs but strictly to having Thorslund participated in 10 WBO world title bouts albeit in different weight divisions (Jr. Bantamweight and Bantamweight) as well as becoming a 2-division WBO Champion titles. Thorslund has a total of 8 WBO title defenses combined. In other words, she still needs two more title defenses to comply with that criterion. Consistent with the foregoing, the petitioner fails to highlight that the opponents faced must be of high recognition and skill. In her last outing, Thorslund faced last-minute replacement in Mary Romero (9-4-0), who had lost 2 of her last three fights. Further, based on her 21 professional bouts, Thorslund has only faced 3 world champions, however, none of them of the caliber, skill, and recognition of those faced by Claressa Shields and Amanda Serrano, respectively. Thorslund’s total combined opposition record sums 299 wins with 100 losses and 18 draws.

Moreover, this Committee must highlight that Thorslund has never discharged a mandatory title defense obligation either at Bantamweight or Jr. Featherweight, respectively.<sup>2</sup> A WBO Female World Champion must defend her title within 180 days after the acquisition of the title or last defense as the case may be against the Mandatory Challenger designated by the Championship Committee.<sup>3</sup> She won the vacant Jr. Featherweight title against Jessica Arreguin Munoz on August 25, 2018, in Struer, Denmark. Thereafter, Thorslund made 3 voluntary defenses before moving down to Bantamweight. Presently, none of her 5 title defenses in the aforementioned vision have been against a mandatory challenger(s) designated by the WBO World Championship Committee.

Conversely, regarding the “Ring Magazine” argument, the World Boxing Organization (WBO) does not recognize such title. Whereas the loyalty assertion raised by the petitioner does not move this Committee

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<sup>2</sup> The Mandatory Challenger shall be the highest classified available boxer who, in the judgement of the Committee best satisfies the applicable criteria. See, Section 6 of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests.

<sup>3</sup> See, WBO Female Regulations



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discretion considering that it does not constitute a criterion itself; however, we acknowledge Thorslund and are proud of her accomplishments thus far.

Lastly, this Committee respectfully disagrees with the comparison of Thorslund with WBO “Super Champions” and Undisputed Champions Claressa Shields and Amanda Serrano.<sup>4</sup> Notwithstanding the foregoing, today’s ruling shall not be construed as undermining Thorslund’s professional merits and aspirations to make history in boxing nor an impediment for future “Super Champion” status designation consideration by the WBO World Championship Committee.

Therefore, at this time, and considering the above-mentioned facts, this Committee denies petitioner’s request.

**DECISION - WBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**

Having carefully reviewed and appraised the facts stated herein, having reviewed the relevant provisions, and having examined our governing rules and regulations, this Committee resolves as follows:

1. The WBO Championship Committee hereby rules as follows:
  - a. The request is for WBO “Super Champion” status designation is hereby denied.
2. The Committee reserves its right to issue all further rulings and determinations necessary, helpful, and convenient to accomplish the purposes, policies, and intent of the WBO Rules and Regulations, including but not limited to serving the best interests of boxing, World Boxing Organization, and its Female Bantamweight Division.

This is a final decision of the WBO Championship Committee. The affected WBO participant may appeal such determination to the Complaint and Grievance Committee as per Rule 34, which as per Article 3(e) of the WBO Appeals Regulation must be submitted in writing to the WBO President within fourteen (14) days of this decision as its sole and exclusive remedy.

Dated: March 18, 2024  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**WBO CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**  
By: Luis Batista Salas, Esq.

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Chairman/Championship Committee

<sup>4</sup> Claressa Shields is a 2-division Undisputed Champion; Amanda Serrano is a 7-division world champion and currently Undisputed Champion in the Featherweight division.