



**WBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION**

In the Matter of WBO Jr. Middleweight Division

Parties:

Mr. Sampson Lewkowicz

Promoter

On behalf of WBO Jr. Middleweight Champion, Sebastian Fundora

Mr. Harrison Whitman

Attorney

On behalf of WBO Interim Jr. Middleweight Champion, Terence Crawford

ISSUE PRESENTED

Whether Sebastian Fundora be allowed a voluntary title defense of his WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship. Having Team Crawford no objection to the foregoing petition and having the parties reached an agreement thereto, this Committee responds in the affirmative and explains below.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On August 28, 2024, the WBO World Championship Committee ordered the commencement of negotiations between Sebastian Fundora and Terence Crawford to consolidate the WBO Jr. Middleweight Championships and terminate the Interim Champion status. The parties were granted 30 days to negotiate and reach an agreement accordingly or purse bid proceedings would be called per WBO governing rules and regulations.

On September 30, 2024, the teams jointly requested a 10-day extension of the negotiation proceedings toward reaching a deal as ordered. The Committee granted the petition outlining that if no agreement was reached no later than Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) purse bid proceedings would be ordered pursuant to the applicable provisions.

On Wednesday, October 9, 2024, Team Crawford and Team Fundora informed the WBO that the camps had jointly agreed on allowing Sebastian Fundora a voluntary defense of his WBO championship subject to a consolidation fight immediately thereafter between the aforesaid fighters. The joint agreement was submitted pending WBO approval by this Committee.

Therefore, having this Committee reviewed the facts mentioned herein; having considered the circumstances in the instant case; having considered the joint agreement submitted by Team Crawford and Team Fundora; 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***



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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 Sections 1 (b)(1), (4), 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:

(1) To determine the format and venue for making any determination that is the subject of the WBO World Championship Rules;

(4) To determine if there is a good cause to extend the time during which a Champion must make a mandatory challenger title defense; and,

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

ANALYSIS

An agreement was filed jointly by Team Crawford and Team Fundora whereby Crawford has no objection on allowing Fundora to proceed with a voluntary title defense of his WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship against any of the top 15 WBO Jr. Middleweight world-rated contenders. Nonetheless, the voluntary bout would be subject to Fundora facing Crawford immediately thereafter to consolidate the WBO Jr. Middleweight Championships thus seeking to have only one world champion in the aforesaid division.

Now, based on the agreement submitted by the parties, this Committee will allow Fundora to proceed with a voluntary title defense, however, subject to facing within 180 days after the voluntary bout Terence Crawford to consolidate the titles in the Jr. Middleweight Division. Failure to comply with the foregoing conditions will result in this Committee taking affirmative action and proceeding per WBO Rules and Regulations of World Championship Contests.

Lastly, Fundora's voluntary WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship title defense shall be against any active top-15 world-rated contender in the WBO Jr. Middleweight World Ratings.

DECISION - WBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

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



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1. The WBO Championship Committee hereby rules as follows:
 - a) Sebastian Fundora is hereby authorized to proceed with a voluntary title defense of his WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship subject to facing Terence Crawford immediately thereafter within 180 days after the voluntary bout. Failure to comply with this Condition will result in this Committee declaring the WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship “Vacant” “Ipso Facto” without no further hearing and/or citation and having Fundora waived all rights thereto.
 - b) Sebastian Fundora’s voluntary title defense of his WBO Jr. Middleweight Championship shall be against any of the active top-15 world-rated WBO Jr. Middleweight Contenders.
 - c) This ruling shall not be construed as a precedent rather a case-by-case analysis considering all the relevant facts, circumstances, and particularities of this case, including the agreement submitted by the parties.

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, the World Boxing Organization (WBO), and its Jr. Middleweight 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: October 14, 2024
San Juan, Puerto Rico

WBO CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

By: Luis Batista Salas, Esq.

Chairman/Championship Committee

Cc: Francisco “Paco” Valcárcel, Esq./WBO President