

LEGISLATIVE BILL 482

Approved by the Governor February 27, 2002

Introduced by Hartnett, 45

AN ACT relating to the State Athletic Commissioner; to amend sections 81-8,130, 81-8,133, and 81-8,139, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 81-8,130.01 and 81-8,133.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2000; to authorize the commissioner to set fees as prescribed; to change provisions relating to licensure; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-8,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,130. The State Athletic Commissioner may issue an annual license for conducting amateur events to any nonprofit club, association, or organization which has been located and established in this state for a period of one year before the license is issued. Each application for a license shall be accompanied by a fee ~~of~~ set by the commissioner in rule and regulation. Such fee shall be not less than twenty-five dollars and not more than one hundred dollars.

Sec. 2. Section 81-8,130.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2000, is amended to read:

81-8,130.01. Licenses and permits may be issued to professional boxing or wrestling promoters, whether persons, clubs, or associations, for the sole purpose of conducting professional matches under such rules and regulations as the State Athletic Commissioner shall adopt. Each application for such license shall be accompanied by a fee ~~of~~ set by the commissioner in rule and regulation. Such fee shall be not less than one hundred dollars and not more than three hundred dollars. If the promoter is an individual, the application shall include his or her social security number.

Sec. 3. Section 81-8,133, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,133. The State Athletic Commissioner is authorized to grant licenses to competent referees, upon an application and the payment of a fee ~~of~~ set by the commissioner in rule and regulation. Such fee shall be not less than ten dollars and not more than forty dollars per annum. The commissioner ~~to competent referees. He or she~~ may revoke any license so granted for such cause as may be deemed sufficient. At every wrestling, ~~or~~ boxing, or sparring match or exhibition there shall be in attendance a duly licensed referee, who shall direct and control the ~~same~~ match. The referee shall stop the match whenever he or she deems it advisable, (1) because of the physical condition of the contestants or one of them, (2) when one of the contestants is clearly outclassed by his or her opponent, or (3) for any other sufficient reason. The referee shall, at the termination of every wrestling, boxing, or sparring match or exhibition, indicate a winner. The fees of the referee and other licensed officials may be fixed by the commissioner and shall be paid by the licensed organization.

Sec. 4. Section 81-8,133.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2000, is amended to read:

81-8,133.01. The State Athletic Commissioner may grant licenses to qualified physicians, managers, matchmakers, and professional wrestling, boxing, or sparring match or exhibition judges upon an application and payment of an annual fee ~~of~~ set by the commissioner in rule and regulation. Such fee for matchmakers shall be not less than ten dollars and not more than one hundred dollars. Such fee for physicians, managers, and professional wrestling, boxing, or sparring match or exhibition judges shall be not less than ten dollars and not more than twenty dollars. The commissioner may also grant licenses to qualified timekeepers, contestants, and seconds upon an application and payment of an annual fee ~~of five~~ set by the commissioner in rule and regulation. Such fee shall be not less than ten dollars and not more than twenty dollars. The application shall include the applicant's social security number. No person shall serve as physician, manager, matchmaker, or judge at any professional wrestling, or boxing, or sparring match or exhibition match who is not licensed as such. No person shall serve as timekeeper or contestant at any professional wrestling or boxing match who is not licensed as such. The commissioner shall have summary authority to stop any match at which any person is serving in violation of the provisions of this section. Any license granted under the provisions of this section may be

revoked for cause.

Sec. 5. Section 81-8,139, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,139. The State Athletic Commissioner shall make such rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of sections 81-8,128 to 81-8,142.01 as he or she may deem necessary. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the establishment of written criteria for the granting and revoking of licenses, the setting of license fees, and the qualification requirements for those to be licensed as referees, physicians, managers, matchmakers, and professional wrestling, boxing, or sparring match or exhibition judges. He or she shall have the power and may control and limit the number of wrestling, boxing, or sparring matches or exhibitions given, or to be held, each year, or within one week, in any city or town, or by any organization. He or she may reprimand any amateur or professional athlete or any official or suspend for a period, not to exceed one year, his or her right to participate in any match or exhibition conducted by any licensee for unsportsmanlike conduct while engaged in or arising directly from any match or exhibition, failure to compete in good faith, engaging in any sham match or exhibition, or the use of threatening and abusive language toward officials, other contestants, or spectators.

Sec. 6. Original sections 81-8,130, 81-8,133, and 81-8,139, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 81-8,130.01 and 81-8,133.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2000, are repealed.