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AUDITOR GENERAL

STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE
AUDITOR GENERAL

WILLIAM THOMSON
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

October 23, 2002

The Honorable Roberta L. Voss, Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

The Honorable Ken Bennett, Vice Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Dear Representative Voss and Senator Bennett:

Our Office has recently completed a 24-month followup with the Arizona State Boxing Commission regarding the implementation status of the 21 audit recommendations (including sub-parts of the recommendations) presented in the performance audit report released in September 2000 (Auditor General Report No. 00-18). This audit also addressed boxing revenue collection responsibilities performed by the Arizona Department of Racing. As the attached grid indicates:

- 17 of the 21 recommendations have been implemented;
- 2 of the 21 recommendations are in the process of being implemented; and
- 2 of the 21 recommendations have not been implemented.

Unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our follow-up work on the Agency's efforts to implement the recommendations resulting from the September 2000 performance audit.

Sincerely,

Debbie Davenport
Auditor General

Attachment

cc: Mr. Patrick McGroder, Chairman
Arizona State Boxing Commission

JLAC Committee Members

Mr. John Montano, Executive Director
Arizona State Boxing Commission

House Commerce & Economic
Development Members

Mr. Wade Turner, Director
Department of Racing

Senate Commerce Members

Ms. Julie Szperling
Senate Committee Analyst

Ms. Diana O'Dell
House Committee Analyst

Ms. Nadine Sapien
Senate Research Analyst

Ms. Tami Stowe
House Research Analyst

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
24-Month Follow-Up Report To
Auditor General Report No. 00-18

FINDING I: Commission Needs to Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
<p>1. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should establish which states' licenses it will honor through reciprocal agreements and document cases in which it issues a license to a boxer licensed in one of those states.</p>	<p>Not Implemented</p>	<p>The Commission studied this recommendation and decided that it will not seek reciprocal agreements with other states for licensing purposes. The Executive Director stated that, because licensing requirements vary from state to state, the Commission will not establish reciprocal agreements with other states and will obtain all necessary documents from each licensee as outlined in recommendation #2.</p>
<p>2. For each boxer not licensed through a reciprocal agreement, the Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that it receives a copy of a current, thorough medical examination, including ophthalmological examination, prior to licensure.</p>	<p>Implemented at 6 months</p>	
<p>3. The Arizona State Boxing Commission's administrative rules should codify requirements for HIV testing prior to licensure.</p>	<p>Implemented at 6 months</p>	

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
24-Month Follow-Up Report To
Auditor General Report No. 00-18

FINDING I: Commission Needs To Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected (Cont'd)

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
4. To better ensure that no boxer infected with HIV participates in boxing matches in Arizona, the Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that it receives a recent negative HIV test before licensing each boxer not licensed through a reciprocal agreement with another state.	Implemented at 6 months	
5. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should not grant licenses to boxers over the maximum age in rule without taking special action.	Implemented at 6 months	
6. The Legislature should consider amending A.R.S. §5-227 to allow the Arizona State Boxing Commission to delegate licensing authority to its Executive Director.	Implemented at 6 months	
7. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that all physical examinations required at weigh-ins and immediately prior to each fight are conducted and documented.	Implemented at 18 months	

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FINDING I: Commission Needs To Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected (Cont'd)

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
8. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that post-fight physicals are conducted and documented after each fight for all fighters knocked out or otherwise injured.	Implemented at 6 months	
9. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that all referees receive physical examinations by a licensed physician prior to officiating in any Commission-regulated event. These examinations should be documented in the Commission's files.	Implemented at 6 months	
10. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should implement a more intensive drug testing program.	Implemented at 12 months	
11. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should adopt a rule to require promoters to pay for drug tests.	Not Implemented	The Commission considered this recommendation and determined not to implement it. The Executive Director stated that increases in medical and life insurance coverage promoters must provide for boxers will already create a significant financial burden for promoters.

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
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FINDING I: Commission Needs To Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected (Cont'd)

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
12. The commissioners, not the Executive Director, should approve exemptions to rules when they feel it is appropriate and will not compromise boxer safety.	Implemented at 24 months	
13. The Legislature should consider amending A.R.S. §5-233(C) to increase the minimum amount of medical and life insurance coverage promoters are required to obtain for boxers.	Implemented at 6 months	

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
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FINDING I: Commission Needs To Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected (Cont'd)

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
14. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should ensure that it has all boxers' contracts by the time of the weigh-in and date-stamp them when received.	Implemented at 24 months	

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
24-Month Follow-Up Report To
Auditor General Report No. 00-18

FINDING I: Commission Needs To Better Ensure That Participants Are Physically and Financially Protected (Concl'd)

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
15. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should take disciplinary action when promoters fail to provide all boxers' contracts by the time of the weigh-in or not allow the event to take place.	Implementation in Process	
16. The Legislature should consider amending A.R.S. §5-230 to allow the Arizona State Boxing Commission to issue annual license renewals and perform subsequent background checks upon renewal when determined necessary.	Implemented at 6 months	

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FINDING II: Boxing Revenue Collection Has Improved but Some Problems Continue

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
1. The Department of Racing should ensure that the Department employee responsible for collecting boxing revenue receives adequate training to perform all boxing revenue collection tasks appropriately.	Implemented at 6 months	
2. The Department of Racing should ensure that letters of noncompliance are sent to the Commission and to the promoter whenever violations occur.	Implemented at 6 months	
3. The Department of Racing should ensure that letters of noncompliance identify all violations that have occurred.	Implemented at 6 months	
4. The Arizona State Boxing Commission should enforce boxing statutes and administrative rules by using its statutory authority to fine promoters and/or suspend or revoke licenses when appropriate.	Implementation in Process	

ARIZONA STATE BOXING COMMISSION
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FINDING III: Commission Should Have Authority To Regulate All Nontraditional and Tough Man Contests

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
1. The Legislature should consider giving the Arizona State Boxing Commission statutory authority to regulate all nontraditional and tough man contests, including amateur contests.	Implemented at 6 months	