

OGA – Emergency Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2017
7pm Eastern

Ontario Grappling Association

Call to order by the President

Present:

Jesse Richardson (Treasurer)
Rohit Seth (President)
Doug Urch (Guest – Xtreme Couture)
Audree Charbonneau (Guest – MMA/Muay Thai Trainer)
Greg Denikian (Guest – Media)
Frank Colches (Guest – MMA Trainer)
Richard Hughes (Guest - Athlete)
Ihor Ostrovskyi (Guest - Athlete)
Carlos Newton (Guest - MMA Trainer)
Daniel Barhoma (Guest – PasSport CTO)
Ramzi Couley (Guest – PasSport CMO)

Absent:

Clint Kingsbury (ED) due to illness
Josip Mrkoci (Member at Large)

Grapplers Planet media proposal –

Greg – proposal to grow sports. Use Grapplers Planet network for promotion and informing athletes to attend events. Grapplers Planet can successfully augment tournaments and qualifiers.

Rohit – what type of content can Grapplers Planet provide?

Greg – interviews, media coverage and discussion channels.

Rohit – In the past, Grapplers Planet acted in favour of popularity and business interest restricting athletes to critical information from all federations equally. Will Grapplers Planet endorse special interests moving forward?

Greg – All media coverage and information will be provided without restriction to athletes and equally to all federations.

Explanation of Sanctioning Bodies and their proper function

Rohit asks Carlos, given his experience in MMA, Boxing and USA Senate proposal for Mohammad Ali Act, to explain why the OGA has been using these Principles.

Carlos explains he has just given a presentation and endorsed a Bill in Washington DC to the US Senate regarding the fair and proper function of sanctioning bodies, promoters and athletes.

He advises that the Mohammad Ali Act, as applied to Boxing, must be applied to Amateur and Professional MMA.

The way other AMMA bodies are structured in Ontario is incorrect and unfair to athletes.

Their function is defined as entertainers rather than sanctioning bodies.

Athletes are being asked for exclusivity.

Each promoter is operating under their own distinct Title Fights.

This restricts athletes' growth and creates a conflict between sanctioning bodies and promoters.

Provincial sanctioning bodies should have a Provincial title and a National body should have a National title.

This creates a unified ranking system whereby athlete match-ups can then be fairly assessed.

Athletes with properly matched high-ranks should be able to compete at Provincial, Nationals and then Internationals.

This effort starts with local community then evolves to a structured sport.

No structural frame-work was put in place for some sports like Grappling, BJJ and MMA.

The Mohammed Ali Act:

1. Makes Promoter Titles illegal
2. No exclusive contracts with Athletes are permitted
3. Anything that restricts Athletes is against anti-trust and commerce laws
4. Restriction of any Athlete is illegal in any form

All present are in favour of continuing to use Mohammed Ali Act Principles within the OGA.

Suspended BOD of OGA (Shane Weaver and Andrew Redden)

Rohit asks the Board to review the suspension of Shane Weaver and Andrew Redden.

Case Study presented by Jesse Richardson.

Case Study – Shane Weaver (refer to Appendix A)

Jesse Richardson motioned to remove Shane Weaver from the BOD of OGA.

Jesse/Rohit
Carried

All guests and witnesses are in agreement.

Case Study presented by Jesse Richardson.

Case Study – Andrew Redden (refer to Appendix B)

Audree informs the BOD of her call to Andrew that afternoon as a mediator and to resolve the issue between Andrew and the BOD.

The conversation as per Audree's witness:

- Andrew tells Audree to distance herself from the OGA
- OGA will sue anybody (Rohit confirms OGA has not sued anybody)
- OGA has sued Andrew (Rohit confirms OGA has not sued Andrew)
- Andrew informs Audree that he does not want anything to do with the OGA
- Andrew informs Audree that she should guard her reputation
- Andrew tells her that there is a plan to sabotage OGA Ministry application on Feb 1st by him and a competing group

Jesse Richardson given a witness statement of delinquent behaviour and inability to resolve the situation, makes a motion to remove Andrew Redden from the BOD.

**Jesse/Rohit
carried**

All guests and witnesses are in agreement.

Emergency Elections of new Board of Directors:

Vice President - Jesse steps down to fill vacancy of Vice President.

Rohit carried

Secretary - Rohit nominates Doug Urch for the position of Secretary.
Nomination accepted by Doug Urch.

**Rohit/Jesse
Carried**

Treasurer – Rohit nominates Carlos Newton for the position of Treasurer.
Nomination accepted by Carlos Newton.

**Rohit/Jesse
Carried**

Audree Charbonneau requests for a staff position to become Events Coordinator.

Jesse Richardson presents that Audree has helped tremendously with the Provincial Championships and helped qualify athletes for the Nationals under very adverse conditions and she is a hard worker.

Jesse/Rohit
Carried

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

Called by Rohit Seth - President.

APPENDIX A:

1. Niagara Winter Games was given to OGA by Rob McAlpine, former OGA Board member (reference email Sep 14 from Rob McAlpine to Rohit Seth).
2. Shane took over event to run Grappling tournament at 2016 Niagara Winter Games.
3. Due to some miscommunication and lack of time, event was subsequently cancelled by Shane without Board consultation.
4. Shane requested permission to run Grappling and MMA at 2017 Niagara Winter Games.
5. Created Griffin MMA to promote event at Niagara Winter Games and did not inform BOD.
6. Requests COI on Nov 9th 2016 with no mention of Griffin MMA and gave a deadline of Nov 15th (reference email Nov 9 from Shane Weaver to Rohit and Mona Seth).
7. Rohit & Mona sent email with request for further information of the event, but no information was returned (reference email Nov 9 from Mona and Rohit to Shane).
8. Shane posts event on Facebook without approval for sanctioning and lists false/misleading information concerning sanctioning and pricing on Griffin MMA website.
9. Rohit immediately asks Shane to remove the registration from the website (reference email Nov 24 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD).
10. Shane is in Prague and claims he does not have access to remove the registration from the site (reference email Nov 24 from Shane to Rohit cc BOD).
11. Rohit explains the site is a serious misrepresentation (reference email Nov 24 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD).
12. When Shane returns from Prague, he notifies the BOD that Griffin MMA will be running the event with another body unless OGA allows them to run the event without proper documentation. He also states they do not wish to use PasSport, but refuses to send his communication with Griffin MMA to the BOD (reference email Nov 28 from Shane to BOD).
13. BOD voices concerns over blackmail (reference email Nov 28 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD and email Nov 28 Jesse Richardson to BOD).
14. Rohit follows-up regarding paperwork and another request to remove registration (reference email Nov 30 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD).
15. On Nov 30th, 2016, Shane asks Rohit to contact Griffin MMA, but suggests they may not respond due to how “we” treated them (reference email Nov 30 from Shane to Rohit cc

BOD).

16. The BOD had never been in contact with Griffin MMA, so the only negativity was expressed solely through Shane Weaver.
17. In the same email thread on Nov 30th Shane informs the BOD that he removed OGA from the Niagara Winter Games and the Niagara Sport Commission. He also states that he no longer has any involvement with Griffin MMA other than being a paying participant at their event at the Niagara Winter Games (reference email Nov 30 from Shane to Rohit cc BOD).
18. Rohit & Clint question Shane how he can simply give the event to GriffinMMA. The event belongs to OGA (reference email Nov 30 from Clint to Shane cc BOD and email Nov 30 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD).
19. When in communication with Bram Cotton on Dec 5, 2016, Bram notified us that Shane had called him that morning regarding the event. He said the story was confusing and didn't want to get involved with the politics. Despite Shane stating he no longer was involved with Griffin MMA, he was still calling the Niagara Winter Games on behalf of GriffinMMA (reference email Dec 5 from Bram Cotton to Rohit and Mona).
20. Shane continues to promote Griffin MMA event as a Niagara Winter Games promotion on Facebook, etc. (reference Facebook supporting emails).
21. Shane deletes Rohit's admin access to the OGA and CCA website, so Rohit can not edit Shane's posts (reference Facebook supporting email).
22. OGA Administration discovers Shane owns GriffinMMA website through his Club Red Griffin Martial Arts Studio (reference GoDaddy supporting document).
23. OGA Administration discovers GriffinMMA is not incorporated. It is a sole proprietorship (reference Corporations Ontario report).
24. Shane does not respond to request for return of OGA property (mats) and does not return mats for OGA Provincial tournament (reference email Nov 30 from Rohit to Shane cc BOD).
25. Shane is suspended by President for Ethical Violations, Misconduct, Misleading BOD, Misleading Promoter, Misleading Athletes, Misleading Clubs and Coaches, Destabilizing Provincial Championships, Interfering with Provincial Qualifiers, and Delinquent Behaviour.
26. Shane attends an opposing groups Board of Directors meeting.

APPENDIX B

1. Agrees with everything Shane does even when it does not follow protocol (reference email Nov 28 from Clint Kingsbury to BOD regarding Request for Vote)
2. Kept Ministry paperwork issue from Sept AGM a secret along with Shane. Hoping to cause unrest amongst the BOD.
3. Questions financials, while indicating to Mona he would transfer the fighter fees from the Peterborough show. Months later, when it was brought up during financial review, Andrew stated he thought he would hold on to the funds because he was under the impression that BOD didn't pay sanctioning fees. Still has not sent funds (reference email May 4 from Mona Seth to Shane Weaver and reply from Shane to Mona as well as text message on Jun 5 from Mona to Andrew Redden)
4. No draft for PSO application was sent to President after a number of requests
5. Repeatedly attacking President (reference email Oct 3 from Andrew Redden to BOD)
 - Insulting emails
 - Questioning Integrity
6. Claims President insulted him, but can not provide an example
7. Sided with Shane when he attempted to steal Provincial event from OGA and sent a condescending email to BOD saying "too bad we lost the Provincials"
8. Does not understand Association procedures/protocol although Clint has thoroughly explained that some rules are known across ALL Associations. Instead of accepting this, Andrew is adding to the discordance and agreeing with Shane's hidden agenda to forfeit the event and attacking OGA constitution and AGM votes
9. Sent a complaint against another BOD in good standing to a suspended BOD (reference email Dec 15 from Shane on behalf of Andrew to Rohit Seth and Clint)
10. Threatened to sabotage OGA PSO application to the Ministry on Feb 1, 2017.