

Calgary



# Attachment 2- 2020 CCSC annual report.docx

Annual Report

# Introduction

## Governing Body

The Calgary Combative Sports Commission (Commission) is a volunteer body that provides governance for combative sports events in Calgary. Commission regulations maintains a safe environment for participants, officials, and spectators and provides oversight of combative sports with the authority granted under the Combative Sports Commission Bylaw 53M2006, reducing inherent risk. A cost recovery model is used to fund the Commission, where fees paid by combative sports promoters are used for cost associated with regulatory activities.

## Report Overview

Sports events worldwide were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the combative sports industry was no exception. The 2020 Annual Report highlights commission activity, provides a breakdown of the plan for safe resumption of combative sports, a summary of the proposed bylaw amendments, a provincial commission advocacy update, and a financial overview.



## Commission Activity

The Commission cancelled most of their scheduled 2020 meetings as a result of provincial health restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of the reduction in fees being collected, cost saving measures were implemented, and only essential work continued, including addressing stakeholder concerns, finalizing policies, and meetings with Administration or elected officials.

### Update to Mixed Martial Arts Rules

Calgary's Mixed Martial Arts rules were updated to align with Association of Boxing Commissions changes. The updated rules focus on enhancing the participants safety by amending the definition of grounded fighter to disallow dangerous attacks on fighters in vulnerable positions. Calgary joins other North American commissions in making this change to ensure consistent protection for the safety of grounded fighters.

### Training Meets Policy

A policy was developed to assist event promoters in understanding regulatory requirements for smaller events. The new Training Meets Policy provides clear defining qualities that mark a combative sports event as requiring Commission oversight.

## Event Summary

Combative sports events that were planned for 2020 were significantly reduced due to provincial COVID-19 restrictions. Restrictions began in March 2020 and resulted in only a single event being held, five events scheduled for later in the year were cancelled.

2020 Sanctioned Event				
Event	Date	Venue	Event Fee	Event Type
Dekada Fight Night	2020-FEB-15	Deerfoot Inn & Casino	\$6,000	Boxing

### Planning for Resumption of Combative Sports Events

In July 2020, the Government of Alberta facilitated the formation of a working group to establish uniform guidelines for the resumption of combative sports during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Alberta Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and the Status of Women launched the group, which included representatives from the Province, the Commission, and municipal combative sports commissions throughout Alberta. Over several months the working group developed standards and protocols for combative sports resumption, including event procedures, participant travel, isolation protocols, and COVID-19 testing. These guidelines will be consistent across the province, ensuring compliance with public health guidelines to protect the safety of participants, officials, and spectators, while supporting the highest possible safety standards when combative sports events are permitted to resume. This collaboration between the province's municipal commissions, initially spearheaded as a result of the pandemic, has been recognized among the membership as a best practice and the working group will continue regular meetings to enhance information-sharing and develop unified provincial responses to various other combative sports issues.



## 2020 Key Performance Indicators

Key Performance Indicators	Target	2020	2019
Promoter application process time	<30 days	n/a*	15 days
Fighters screened against medical records from other combative sports commissions	100%	100%	100%
Fighters medical suspension report to global database	100%	100%	100%

\*No new applications were received in 2020 due to COVID-19

## Bylaw Amendments

Amendments to the Combative Sports Commission Bylaw provide an opportunity to better align with industry safety standards, introduce cost saving measures, and reflect the expertise required to enforce stringent combative sports safety standards. The proposed bylaw amendments will help establish a sustainable commission that supports progressive regulatory and safety standards now and in the future.

### Industry Standards

The combative sports industry is rapidly evolving, making it essential that the Commission implement continual improvements to rules and regulations in alignment with industry standards. The proposed bylaw amendments provide updated processes and terminology to reflect industry advancements, including enhanced safety documentation for fighters and updated advertising standards. The officials fee schedule has been removed from the bylaw and transitioned into a policy, allowing for suitable adjustments that are in line with economic conditions.

### Cost Savings

The Commission uses a cost recovery model, where regulatory activities are funded from event fees. Fluctuations in the number of events and a Commission review of its costs and operational requirements has resulted in a need to adjust the commission structure, including a reduction from seven to five committee members. As an additional cost saving measure, meetings have transitioned from a monthly schedule to as required.

## Expertise

The combative sports industry has inherent risk associated with it that requires proper experience and expertise. The bylaw amendments include an increase to the Commission member term lengths and to the number of subsequent terms permitted. Term lengths have been extended from two to three years and the number of consecutive terms a member may serve has increased from three to five. These changes provide the opportunity for Commission members to attain the required knowledge and skill to develop a robust succession management plan and adequately reflect the complexity associated with ensuring safety standards.

## Provincial Commission

Alberta is the only province in Canada with combative sports regulation at the municipal level. The absence of a provincial combative sports commission results in bylaws and regulations that are created locally and run independently of each other.

There has been ongoing advocacy for a provincial commission including:

- **2017** Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) passed a resolution advocating for a provincial combative sports commission.
- **2019** Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism, and the Status of Women, Honourable Leela Aheer decided a provincial combative sports commission would not be established but permitted municipalities to create common standards.

Given other provincial and municipal priorities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been limited progress made drafting the provincial combative sport regulations that municipalities can use as a guideline. However, commissions province-wide have collectively defined consistent standards to safely reopen combative sports events with COVID-19 protocols in place. This group will continue to meet to evaluate additional opportunities to achieve cohesive policies and standards.



## Revenues and Expenditures

Calgary Combative Sports Commission 2019 & 2020 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures (\$000) 2021 & 2022 Proposed Budget				
Revenues/Other Funding Sources:	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Proposed	2022 Proposed
Gate Fees	\$36	\$6	\$24	\$36
Draw from Contingency Fund*	\$37	\$21	\$25	\$20
	<b>\$73</b>	<b>\$27</b>	<b>\$49</b>	<b>\$56</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b><u>Ongoing Operating Expenses</u></b>				
Salary, Wage and Benefits **	25	15	27	28
Honorarium Expenses (for attending regular Commission meetings, weigh-in and events)	32	9	11	13
Business Expenses (parking, meeting supplies, bank service charge, conference)	11	1	5	9
Communication and IT Services (computer, phone, printing, interpretation services)	5	2	6	6
	<b>\$73</b>	<b>\$27</b>	<b>\$49</b>	<b>\$56</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Note:

\* As of December 31, 2020, the contingency fund balance was at \$74K.

\*\* The 2020 decrease in event revenue and Commission expenditures is a direct result of COVID-19 restrictions.

## Members

As per the Combative Sports Commission Bylaw members shall be appointed for two-year terms, expiring on the day of the Organizational Council Meeting in the year of the expiry of the member's term. Members may serve a maximum of six consecutive years. A member may serve more than six consecutive years if authorized by a two-thirds vote of Council. In alignment with the proposed bylaw amendments, the commission board member structure will transition from seven members to five members following the 2021 Organization Council Meeting.

Member	Role	Current Appointment	Expiry Year
Shirley Stunzi	Chair	2007	2021
TJ Madigan	Vice Chair	2012	2021
Marc Pesant	Commission Member	2019	2021
Allison Kavanagh	Commission Member	2013	2021
Shawn Hiron	Commission Member	2014	2021
Shane Moore	Commission Member	2017	2021
Kent Pallister	Commission Member	2020	2022
Michael Briegel	Chief Licence Inspector (non-voting)	n/a	n/a