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30 May 2019

Dear Sirs

Determination of Sheriff Principal CD Turnbull Under the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc (Scotland) Act 2016 ("the Act") – GLW-B14992-18 Inquiry into the Death of Michael Towell

British Boxing Board of Control response in compliance with section 28 of the Act

We act for the British Boxing Board of Control. In the Sheriff Principal's Determination in the Inquiry into the death of Michael Towell, dated 5 April 2019, a number of recommendations were directed to the British Boxing Board of Control.

Having carefully considered the Determination and the recommendations, the British Boxing Board of Control makes the following response in accordance with section 28 of the Act. This response addresses what the British Boxing Board of Control have done already and what they will be implementing in the immediate future.

- 1. The British Boxing Board of Control is revising the rules governing the reporting of illness or injury to require all boxers; trainers; seconds and managers to immediately inform the British Boxing Board of Control of illnesses or injuries suffered by boxers. This rule change has been prepared and approval is being sought at British Boxing Board of Control's AGM in June.
- 2. For a boxer to be licenced with the British Boxing Board of Control and to have his licence renewed, it shall from January 2020 become a requirement that a boxer is registered with a General Medical Practitioner.

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- 3. The British Boxing Board of Control is revising the medical forms that are completed when a boxer applies for a licence to box and the medical forms that are completed when the boxer completes the mandatory annual medical review that is required before a licence is renewed. From January 2020, when completing applications and renewals, boxers will be required to provide details of their General Medical Practitioner and it shall be a prerequisite that boxers provide their express consent to the British Boxing Board of Control, providing a copy of the boxer's medical examination form, and any information ingathered for the purposes of that form, to the boxer's General Medical Practitioner.
- 4. The British Boxing Board of Control's processes are being modified so that the boxer's medical examination forms referred to above can be sent to each boxer's General Medical Practitioner with covering correspondence explaining that the boxer is registered with the British Boxing Board of Control and has consented to: (i) the sharing of his medical examination form, and the information ingathered for it with his General Medical Practitioner, and (ii) his General Medical Practitioner sharing his medical information and records with the British Boxing Board of Control. In this way, whether information is provided to the British Boxing Board of Control by the General Medical Practitioner, or is requested by the British Boxing Board of Control, this is done with the boxer's express consent, thus addressing the issue of confidentiality which was commented upon in the Determination at paragraphs 425-428.
- 5. In addition to the matters mentioned above, the following measures will be introduced into the British Boxing Board of Control's procedure:
 - The medical examination process is being revised so as to ensure that a boxer applying for or renewing their boxer's licence shall be examined by a fully registered GMC Doctor with a licence to practice.
 - Identity checks will now be introduced prior to the commencement of medical examinations.
 - The British Boxing Board of Control intends to advise the Royal College of General Practitioners of the changes to its procedures so that its members can be alerted to the fact that a boxer's annual medical forms will be sent to the General Medical Practitioners and that boxers have expressly consented to the sharing of medical information between the British Boxing Board of Control and a boxer's General Medical Practitioner.

Yours faithfully

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