

IN THE MATTER OF

ENGLAND BOXING

-and-

MR STUART SCOTT

DISCIPLINARY PANEL DECISION

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This is the decision of the Disciplinary Panel, consisting of Mr David Mold (Chair), Mr Craig Harris and Mr Jon Dennis in the matter of Mr Stuart Scott pursuant to the England Boxing Disciplinary Procedure 2016 (“the Procedure”).
2. The hearing was held by conference call on 4 July 2018 pursuant to England Boxing’s ‘Summary Procedure’, all criteria for the same been met [see §31.1-31.3 of the EB Procedure] and the Panel members having unanimously agreed in advance that the Summary Procedure should be used, at the invitation of England Boxing and with Mr. Scott’s consent.
3. The ‘Responsible Person’ in the case was Mr. Gordon Valentine, although Mr. Valentine did not take part in the hearing, during which only members of the Panel (as above) were present and participated.

B. THE CHARGES

4. The charge against Mr Scott was that on 3 February 2018 at the BUCS championship, after the conclusion of the bout Kayani and Barry, in his capacity as England Boxing coach verbally abused a competition official using foul and/or abusive language contrary to Article 6 of the AIBA Code of Ethics and the England Boxing Code of Conduct (which incorporates the AIBA Code)

C. MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED

5. As Mr Scott had admitted the charge, the only matter to be determined by the Disciplinary Panel was what the appropriate sanction should be.

D. BACKGROUND

6. On 9 February 2018 Mick Budden, a competition manager/evaluator made a complaint to England Boxing about Mr. Scott's conduct during the BUCS Championships, in particular, on 3 February 2018, in particular in relation to the stated bout.
7. The complaint was supported by reports from Mick Budden, Hilary Lissenden and Louise Gibbs.
8. The conduct complained of amounted to Mr. Scott, being a coach at the event, and members of the crowd having demonstrated abusive behaviour consisting of strong verbal abuse and threats towards the officials following the referee's decision to stop the contest.
9. On 7 March Mr Scott identified himself as the coach in charge of the corner in the relevant bout. He apologised for his behaviour and offered his personal

apologies to the referee and officials in attendance. Mr Scott highlighted that he had taken a number of days off work to attend and that the disappointment and disapproval at the decision resulted in uncharacteristic behaviour.

10. John Macinnes emailed England Boxing to identify Mr Scott as the relevant coach. Mr Macinnes identified that the behaviour was very out of character for Mr Scott and that he had never seen Mr Scott react to any questionable decisions in over 10 years of working alongside him.

11. England Boxing charged Mr. Scott, as set out above, by charge letter dated 31 May 2018.

Response to Charge

12. On 31 May 2018 Mr Scott emailed England Boxing stating that he wholeheartedly denied the accusation. Mr Scott accepted he had a rant but that it was not directed at anyone in particular. Mr Scott also highlighted his love for the sport, the time taken off work to attend the event and months of preparation. Mr Scott stated that if a particular individual felt threatened by his behaviour he unreservedly apologised but he could not accept that he was abusive to any single person.

13. On 5 June 2018, however, Mr Scott emailed England Boxing accepting, having viewed the video footage, that his behaviour on the day in question was unacceptable and that ranting in the way that he did was a very poor show. The email also highlighted that Mr Scott had never acted in this way before and that, as the video showed, even mid rant Mr Scott was telling the crowd to back away and leave the officials alone. Mr Scott indicated he would accept any punishment deemed appropriate.

14. The Responsible Person invited the Panel to deal with the matter under the Summary Procedure, to which Mr. Scott consented and the Panel agreed to take this course in advance of the hearing.

E. SANCTION

15. Under the Summary Procedure, the Panel's sanctioning options were limited to a reprimand, fine not exceeding £250 and/or a suspension from England Boxing membership for a period of up to 28 days. This had been borne in mind when the Panel initially decided to deal with the matter under the Summary Procedure.

16. The Disciplinary Panel considered the bundle of evidence provided by England Boxing and also reviewed the video footage of the incident.

17. The Panel was concerned that the events on 3 February 2018 involved officials being abused over a prolonged period of time at a youth boxing championship, where the boxers would no doubt be impressionable and look towards those in coaching positions, such as Mr. Scott, for guidance when it comes to conducting themselves properly. He was in a position of responsibility and brought the integrity of the officials' decision in a bout into question.

18. The Panel did note Mr. Scott's mitigation, in particular the fact that he had admitted the charge from quite early on in the process, showed remorse for his actions, was conscious that he should not behave in this manner and that his behaviour was out of character. The panel also noted that even during his outburst after the bout, Mr Scott did appear to be trying to calm down the members of the crowd who were also abusing the officials.

19. In the circumstances, the Disciplinary Panel considered the following sanction appropriate:

1) Mr Scott is to be reprimanded; and

2) Mr Scott is to pay a fine of £100

20. The sanction was reduced from what the Panel would have imposed had Mr. Scott contested the charge, affording him due credit for his admission.

21. There was no order as to costs.

22. The Panel's decision was unanimous.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

23. A right of appeal is available to both England Boxing and Mr. Scott in accordance with Rule 40 of the EB Procedure.

5 July 2018

David Mold

Craig Harris

Jon Dennis