

# SMITH | ALLING<sup>PS</sup>

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November 13, 2015

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**RE: *Fres Oquendo Injury***  
***WBA Heavyweight Division***

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find Resolution No. 201511121712 dated November 12, 2015, regarding Fres Oquendo's injury and the Heavyweight division.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

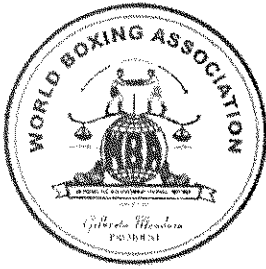
Yours truly,

SMITH ALLING, P.S.



Michael E. McAleenan

MMc:jp  
cc: WBA  
Robert Mack, Legal Director



# WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO MENDOZA

President

## Resolution No. 20151121712 WBA Championships Committee

*Heavyweight Division*

*November 12, 2015*

### **I. BACKGROUND**

On July 1, 2015, the WBA Championship Committee issued Resolution No. 201507011702 directing that Champion Ruslan Chagaev (“Chagaev”) face Fres Oquendo (“Oquendo”) in a rematch on or before November 11, 2015. The bout was scheduled for October 17, 2015 in Kiel, Germany. The winner, or Chagaev if a draw, was to face the Official Challenger, Lucas Browne, thereafter.

In late September/early October 2015, Oquendo suffered a shoulder injury while sparring which caused the October 17, 2015 bout to be cancelled.

On October 29, 2015, the WBA received a communication from Anthony A. Romeo, MD explaining that he examined Oquendo, reviewed his recent MRI, and scheduled arthroscopic surgery on his left shoulder for November 17, 2015. Dr. Romeo believed Oquendo could return to training approximately three (3) months after the operation, and compete in a boxing match six (6) months after the operation.

### **II. ANALYSIS**

A. Within sixty (60) days of the expiration of the mandatory defense period, a champion is limited to fighting only a mandatory contender or leading available contender. WBA Rule C.13.

B. The WBA may modify the periods for mandatory defenses for good cause, either in response to a request for a Special Permit, or on its own initiative. WBA Rule C.16.

C. The WBA may modify or suspend the strict application of these rules when the WBA deems them justified in its sole discretion to accommodate special circumstances. WBA Rule C.46. Those reasons include to “engage in an optional title defense,” to “engage in a bout of recognized importance and significance for the boxing world,” or to “extend or otherwise modify a mandatory defense period.” WBA Rule C.46.a, e and g.

D. The WBA may grant Special Permit Requests and require conditions. "The Committee and the President in their sole discretion shall consider the best interests of boxing, the purposes and policies of the Association, and such other factors that may be relevant, and shall make their best effort to balance competing interests." WBA Rule C.47.

E. Boxers and promoters are obligated to "know and be familiar with all Association rules," including those "for Special Permits." WBA Rule C.14.

### **III. DECISION**

Based upon the medical report from Oquendo's medical providers, Oquendo will not be fit to fight until at least May 2016. It is unclear whether this means fit to fight in any boxing match, or a bout for the Heavyweight World Title. In any event, Oquendo is unavailable due to his injury. Chagaev shall face Browne as his mandatory defense. If signed bout contracts are not presented to the WBA on or before November 30, 2015, a call for purse bid will be issued.

Prior to Chagaev's next bout, the WBA must receive the additional fees due to it for the July 2014 Chagaev/Oquendo bout.

Date: November 12, 2015



Gilberto Jesus Mendoza, Jr.  
Championship Committee Chairman