

Edmonton Combative Sports Commission

Introduction

Edmonton's Commission advises Council on matters relating to professional Combative Sports and makes recommendations for any change to bylaws and fees. The Commission ensures good industry stewardship and provides regulatory oversight of promoters, contestants and officials. The Commission also establishes licensing criteria and event standards for the various types of combative sports such as boxing, wrestling and mixed martial arts. The ECSC does this under the direction of Bylaw 15638 (governance) and Bylaw 15594 (operations).



**EDMONTON COMBATIVE SPORTS
COMMISSION**

Governance

In terms of governance, the ECSC oversees the implementation of rules, regulations, policies and procedures for all aspects of combative sports and events, including appeal and discipline hearings and new promoter screening through its seven volunteer members.

In 2012, The Commission created three additional policies to strengthen fighter safety, held a number of appeal hearings, and supported efforts to move Administrations' industry support to a cost-recovery finance model. The Commission was also instrumental in detailing changes to the Criminal Code of Canada forwarded to the Canadian Senate.

Operations

In terms of operations, the ECSC trains and manages an officials' pool in excess of sixty event officials that include referees, judges, inspectors, timers, scorers and ringside physicians. The ECSC Executive Director provides pre and post event regulatory review and attends each event to ensure public and contestant safety is maintained.

In 2012, more than 50 professional boxing, mixed martial arts and wrestling events were held in venues across the City. Administrations' introduction of a Combative Sports Promoter Checklist to enhance event management has resulted in a dramatic increase in compliance to industry rules and regulations. The training of local officials, support to industry promoters and technical management of individual sport events remain the top priority.

Financial Sustainability

City Councils' support of recent Bylaw changes and license fee increases in 2011 and 2012 were design to support an industry cost recovery model. The bylaw established Edmonton's licensing rates in the mid to high range when compared to other municipalities. Unfortunately, 2012 produced insufficient revenues to cover annual operation costs. While reverse funds are available to meet a projected 2013 deficit, the attracting of international events to Edmonton is critical to maintain long term financial viability.

Performance Measures

- Increase in the number of certified officials with the ECSC
- Increase in the number of combative sports events in Edmonton
- Decrease in industry complaints
- Increase in revenue

Quick Facts

- 10 promoters
- 52 combative sports event licenses
- 800 competitor licenses
- 60 officials' licenses

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Approved 2013 Budget – Summary

(\$000)

	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2013 Budget	\$ Change '12-'13	% Change '12-'13
Revenue & Transfers					
User Fees, Fines, Permits, etc.	\$ 104	\$ 480	\$ 60	\$ (420)	(87.5)
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	180	-	128	128	-
Total Revenue & Transfers	<u>284</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>(292)</u>	<u>(60.8)</u>
Expenditure & Transfers					
Personnel	216	125	125	-	-
Materials, Goods & Supplies	4	4	4	-	-
External Services	33	308	23	(285)	(92.5)
Fleet Services	-	-	-	-	-
Intra-municipal Services	3	3	3	-	-
Utilities & Other Charges	28	40	33	(7)	(17.5)
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	284	480	188	(292)	(60.8)
Total Expenditure & Transfers	<u>284</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>(292)</u>	<u>(60.8)</u>
Net Operating Requirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Full-time Equivalents	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	

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Budget Changes for 2013

(\$000)

Revenue & Transfers - Changes

User Fees, Fines, Permits, etc. \$(420)

Revenue based on expected events in 2013. The revenue budget is adjusted to reflect promoter collected payouts, which are transferred directly to contestants (flow through). Budget for external service expense is also adjusted down. No impact on net result in 2013.

Transfer from Reserves \$128

A transfer of \$128 is required in 2013, as revenue from anticipated events will not be sufficient to cover operational expenses.

Expenditures & Transfers - Changes

External Services \$(285)

Promoter payouts are collected and transferred directly to contestants (flow through); therefore, the budget for the payment in 2013 is adjusted to reflect this as well as the revenue. No impact on net result.

Utilities & Other Charges \$(7)

Project less Volunteers, Board and Partner recognition expenses in 2013.

Full-time Equivalent - Changes

No changes in FTEs are planned for 2013.

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Approved Bylaw (rate increases and decreases)

The following bylaw contains fee changes for 2013 that are reflected in the revenue figures in the City Council approved 2013 budget.

- Bylaw 16298 - Combative Sports Bylaw

Bylaw #	Description
16298	The purpose of this bylaw is to: a) establish a system of licensing and permitting for Combative Sports Events; b) prescribe fees related to the governance of Events, including a system of licensing and permitting; c) specify offences related to Events; and d) establish a procedure for the appeal of Combative Sports licensing and permitting decisions.