



# WORLD BOXING ORGANIZATION

*Luis Batista Salas, Esq.*  
**Founder**  
**Chairman**  
**WBO Championship Committee**

May 29, 2024

**VIA EMAIL:**

<b>Mr. Ben Shalom</b> Boxxer Promotions Team Buatsi	<b>Mr. Frank Warren</b> Queensberry Promotions Team Yarde
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**Re: Purse Bid Order - Interim Light Heavyweight Championship Contest**  
**Joshua Buatsi vs. Anthony Yarde**

Gentlemen:

On May 8, 2024, this Committee issued a negotiation order for the subject matter bout. This ruling was rendered due to (i) WBO Light Heavyweight Champion, Artur Beterbiev's confirmed injury; (ii) his recovery period; (iii) ensuring consistent activity in the Light Heavyweight Division, and (iv) protecting the rights and interests of the remaining contenders in the relevant weight category.

Accordingly, the parties herein were granted 10 days to negotiate, or purse bid proceedings would be ordered per WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests. However, on May 16, 2024, the WBO confirmed receipt of correspondence by Blue Trinity Solicitors, on behalf of Anthony Yarde advising in summary that (i) Queensberry and Anthony Yarde are currently in a dispute resolution procedure regarding a contractual matter between the parties, and consequently, (ii) Yarde formally withdrawing from the negotiations ordered and any purse bid proceedings and the proposed contest, as he is unavailable.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The WBO lacks subject matter jurisdiction over contractual disputes between private parties. In due course, the relevant forum with jurisdiction over the matter in question will adjudicate the controversy. Per our records, Queensberry Promotions is a licensed WBO promoter and was authorized to represent Anthony Yarde. Therefore, such promotional outlet was duly notified. Further, all WBO notices and rulings are duly published on our official website and social media platforms for purposes of service as well as allowing all WBO registered members, including promoters the right to participate in all procedures, including purse bid proceedings.

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Now, considering the foregoing facts and circumstances, and having the time period granted elapsed without an agreement reached as ordered, this Committee shall proceed accordingly. Therefore, as per Sections 11 through 14 of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** to conduct purse bid proceedings on Friday, June 7, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) at the following venue:

### **TURNING STONE RESORT CASINO**

#### **Lobby Area**

Address: 5218 Patrick Rd,  
 Verona, New York, NY 13478  
 Telephone: +1 800-771-7711  
 Mobile Contact: +1 (787) 615-0932  
 E-mail: [golivieriesq@wboboxing.com](mailto:golivieriesq@wboboxing.com)  
 E-mail: [dmelendez@wboboxing.com](mailto:dmelendez@wboboxing.com)

The WBO In House Counsel, Gustavo Olivieri, Esq., will be presiding purse bid proceedings. The minimum acceptable bid for the WBO Interim Light Heavyweight Championship Contest is **\$300,000.00 (Three-Hundred Thousand Dollars)**.

The governing provisions for the Buatsi/Yarde interim championship are as follows:

### **SECTION 13. DIVISION OF PURSE FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD PURSUANT TO PURSE BID**

- (a) The purse for Championship Contests held and completed pursuant to Purse Bids be distributed as follows:

#### **(2) VACANT CHAMPIONSHIPS or ELIMINATORY FIGHTS**

(A) In fights for a vacant title or eliminatory fights (except in the case where one of the contestants is a Super Champion in which case the Super Champions provision for purse bid division shall apply) the distribution shall be as follows:

(B) If the fight is held in the country of origin, residence or nationality of one of the contenders, the resident contestant shall receive 40% and his opponent shall receive 60% off the total purse offered.

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(C) If the fight is held in a neutral place or if the contenders are from the same country of origin, residence or nationality, in such a way that neither have an advantage over the other, the purse shall be divided in equal parts between the contenders. USA Residents shall be considered of the same country of residence, regardless of which State they reside in for Purse Bid purposes.

Furthermore, the Committee sets forth the following provisions:

1. Anthony Yarde must personally manifest in writing to the WBO within the next 72 hours upon notice of this order, whether he will participate in the Interim Championship as ordered by this Committee. Failure to comply with this condition will result in the Championship Committee determining that Anthony Yarde is uninterested and therefore, recommending to the Ratings Committee his exclusion from the WBO Light Heavyweight Ratings in accordance with Section 8 of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests.
2. If any of the fighters suffer an injury, are impaired to fight, prevented to fight, refuse to fight or are unavailable to fight for whatever reasons or circumstances, the Committee shall proceed with selecting the next available contender(s) in the Light Heavyweight Division.
3. 20% of the total purse offers must be lodged to the WBO main offices in certified check, cashier's check, or bank money order payable to the WBO, or money in cash, in the legal tender of the United States of America (dollars) no later than 2 business days upon the adjudication of the purse bid. However, all WBO Promoters have the option to lodge with the WBO main offices a corporate check subject to the preceding payment method being substituted for a wire transfer payable to the WBO main offices no later than 2 business days upon the adjudication of the purse bid. Failure to comply with this provision will result in the WBO Championship Committee declaring the winner of the purse bid in default automatically and awarding the promotional rights to the second-highest bidder per WBO Regulations.
4. Executed Bout agreements shall be lodged with the WBO main offices within 5 days upon the adjudication of the purse bid.
5. The winner of the purse bid proceedings must conduct the Interim Championship contest
6. The Committee reserves its right to impose all further conditions during the purse bid proceeding.

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7. The Interim Light Heavyweight Championship must be conducted no earlier than 45 days nor later than 90 days upon the adjudication of the purse bid promotional rights.
8. Lack of a television and/or streaming network date shall not constitute a just cause to delay the conduct of the bout in question.
9. The Committee reserves its right to order when deemed appropriate that the winner of the Interim Championship faces the WBO Light Heavyweight Champion to terminate the Interim Champion status.

Lastly, this Committee reserves its right to issue all further rulings deemed necessary, helpful, and convenient to accomplish the purposes, policies, and intent of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests, including serving the best interests of boxing and those in the WBO Light Heavyweight Division.

Yours truly,

Luis Batista Salas, Esq.

Cc: Francisco "Paco" Valcárcel, Esq./ WBO President  
 George Warren/Queensberry  
 John Wischhusen/Boxxer  
 Jeremy Koegel/Top Rank  
 Carl Moretti/Top Rank  
 Tunde Ajayi/Team Yarde



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