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Founder
Chairman, Championship Committee

August 7, 2026

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER
WBO SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Team Jacob Bank PrimeTime Boxing, Authorized Representative	Team Zhanibek Alimkhanuly Top Rank, Authorized Representative
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I. INTRODUCTION

The WBO World Championship Committee (the "Committee"), having carefully reviewed and considered the respective written submissions presented on behalf of Mr. Jacob Bank and Mr. Zhanibek Alimkhanuly concerning the designation of the Mandatory Challenger for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship, hereby issues this Resolution.

The Committee recognizes that both fighters are accomplished professional boxers who have established legitimate claims to consideration for a WBO World Championship opportunity, although their respective claims arise from substantially different competitive histories.

Mr. Bank's position is principally based upon his activity, his tenure as a WBO Regional Champion, his successful defenses, his victories over accomplished opposition, and his continued progress within the WBO rankings.

Mr. Alimkhanuly's position is based upon his undefeated professional record, his former status as WBO World Champion, his successful consecutive WBO World Championship defenses, his unification of the Middleweight Division, his level of opposition, his championship experience, and his current eligibility and classification in the Super Middleweight Division.

The Committee has considered the arguments of both parties with respect and without prejudice. Nothing contained herein is intended to diminish the accomplishments of either fighter.

The issue before the Committee is not whether either boxer deserves an opportunity to compete for a WBO World Championship. Both have presented legitimate claims.
The issue is which available and eligible boxer, under the applicable WBO Regulations and considering the totality of the circumstances, is entitled to be designated the Mandatory Challenger.

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II. JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

A. Jurisdiction Over the Parties

The Committee first addresses its jurisdiction and authority to adjudicate the competing petitions.

Section 35(f) of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests (the “WBO Regulations”) provides:

“These Regulations apply to all WBO Participants.”

Section 35(f) further establishes that WBO Participants include current and former WBO World Champions, WBO Regional Champions, WBO World Championship contenders, WBO Regional Championship contenders, WBO-ranked or rated boxers, managers, promoters, WBO Members, and WBO Officials, among others.

Mr. Bank is a WBO Regional Champion and WBO-ranked contender. Mr. Alimkhanuly is a former WBO World Champion and WBO-ranked contender. Their respective representatives and promotional entities likewise participate in activities governed by the WBO.

The present proceeding concerns the designation of a Mandatory Challenger for a WBO World Championship and therefore falls directly within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Organization and this Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee finds that Section 35(f) establishes the jurisdictional basis for the application of the WBO Regulations to the parties and confirms that the parties are subject to the authority of the WBO and its duly constituted committees.

B. Authority of the Committee

Section 1(b) of the WBO Regulations establishes the powers and discretion of the World Championship Committee.

Section 1(b)(1) authorizes the Committee to determine matters concerning WBO World Championship Rules.

Section 1(b)(21) provides authority for the Committee to make or recommend exceptions or variations from the Rules when the Committee determines that such action is necessary.

Section 1(b)(24) expressly provides the Committee with authority:

“To designate a Mandatory Challenger.”





Section 1(c) further provides:

“The above powers shall be interpreted to include any or all powers necessary, helpful or convenient to accomplish the purposes, policies and intent of these rules.”

These provisions establish that the Committee possesses the express authority to receive, consider, and resolve competing petitions concerning Mandatory Challenger designation.

The Committee therefore has both the jurisdiction and substantive authority to determine whether Mr. Bank or Mr. Alimkhanuly should be designated as the Mandatory Challenger for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship.

III. GOVERNING REGULATORY STANDARD

A. Section 5 – Defense of the WBO World Championship

Section 5(a) provides that each WBO World Champion, except in the Heavyweight Division, shall defend the title at intervals not greater than nine months, in a twelve-round fight, against the Mandatory Challenger:

“As determined by the Championship Committee according to these Regulations”

Unless an exception is made pursuant to the Regulations.

The designation of a Mandatory Challenger therefore serves a fundamental regulatory purpose. It identifies the boxer against whom the Champion must fulfill the compulsory defense obligation established by the WBO.

IV. SECTION 6 – DESIGNATION OF THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER

Section 6(a) provides that the Mandatory Challenger may be selected and determined by the World Championship Committee according to the current list of the best-classified boxers promulgated by the WBO Classification Committee. It further recognizes the Committee's authority, for good cause, to determine when the Mandatory Challenger determination shall be made.

Section 6(b) establishes the controlling standard:

“When a Champion must make a mandatory defense, the Mandatory Challenger shall be the highest classified available boxer who, in the judgment of the World Championship Committee, best satisfies the following criteria:”



The Rule identifies the applicable criteria, including an acceptable record, recognition as a class boxer based upon accomplishment and achievement, and compliance with the WBO and Association of Boxing Commissions criteria for ratings of professional boxers.

The Committee emphasizes that Section 6 does not establish an automatic entitlement based solely upon numerical ranking.

The Rule requires the Committee to determine which “highest classified available boxer” best satisfies the applicable criteria in the judgment of the World Championship Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee may properly consider the totality of the relevant circumstances, including championship accomplishment, achievement, quality and level of opposition, competitive record, activity, availability, eligibility, current classification, and compliance with applicable WBO requirements.

V. SECTION 6(c) – PETITION FOR MANDATORY CHALLENGER DESIGNATION

Section 6(c) permits a classified boxer to request recognition as Mandatory Challenger in writing to the WBO. The Rule alternatively permits the Committee to designate a Mandatory Challenger based upon the criteria established in Section 6.

Section 6(c) further requires the Mandatory Challenger to agree to abide by the WBO Regulations and participate in and comply with the results of a purse bid.

The Committee therefore retains discretion to determine the Mandatory Challenger based upon the facts and circumstances properly before it.

VI. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

A. Team Bank's Petition

On June 24, 2026, PrimeTime Boxing, acting as the authorized representative of Mr. Jacob Bank, submitted by electronic correspondence an official petition requesting that Mr. Bank be designated as the Mandatory Challenger for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship.

On July 27, 2026, Team Bank formally renewed its petition and reiterated its request for Mandatory Challenger designation.

Team Bank represented that Mr. Bank has held the WBO Regional Championship (Global) since November 23, 2024, and has successfully defended that championship on three occasions.

Two of those defenses resulted in knockout victories over accomplished opponents Tyron Zeuge and William Scull.



The Committee recognizes the significance of those victories but finds it necessary to accurately distinguish the championship credentials of those opponents.

William Scull is a former recognized World Champion, having held the IBF Super Middleweight World Championship.

Tyron Zeuge, while an accomplished professional boxer with a distinguished career, has not won a World Championship recognized by any of the four major sanctioning organizations- the WBO, WBA, WBC, or IBF.

Team Bank further represented that Mr. Bank most recently secured a convincing victory over Pawel August.

It was further submitted that August entered that contest following his victory over Simon Zachenhuber, who had himself competed for a World Championship in Cairo, Egypt.

Team Bank relied upon these results, together with Bank's activity and status as a reigning WBO Regional Champion, to argue that he had earned the right to challenge for the WBO World Championship.

B. Notice to Team Alimkhanuly

On August 4, 2026, the Committee notified Team Alimkhanuly, through its authorized representative Top Rank, of Team Bank's petition and arguments and granted ten days for a written response.

C. Team Alimkhanuly's Response

On August 5, 2026, Top Rank submitted its written response on behalf of Mr. Alimkhanuly.

Team Alimkhanuly argued that Mr. Alimkhanuly's credentials substantially exceed those of Mr. Bank.

It emphasized that Alimkhanuly is undefeated, was a WBO World Champion beginning in 2022, successfully defended the WBO Middleweight World Championship five times, defeated IBF World Champion Vincenzo Gualtieri to unify the Middleweight Division, and defeated additional accomplished opponents including Rob Brant and Denzel Bentley.

Team Alimkhanuly further emphasized his championship experience and level of opposition and argued that his competitive résumé substantially exceeds that of Mr. Bank.

Top Rank also argued that WBO practice recognizes the special status of a former WBO World Champion moving into a higher weight division.

Team Alimkhanuly further relied upon the July 20, 2026, Resolution, arguing that Mr. Alimkhanuly was no longer suspended and was eligible to be considered for Mandatory Challenger designation.



Finally, Top Rank pointed out that the WBO Ratings Committee had ranked Mr. Alimkhanuly ahead of Mr. Bank in the Super Middleweight Division.

D. Referral to the Committee

On August 6, 2026, WBO President Gustavo Olivieri, Esq., confirmed receipt of the correspondence and arguments of the parties and advised that the matter would be referred to the World Championship Committee for the applicable ruling.

VII. MR. ALIMKHANULY'S PRIOR DISCIPLINARY MATTER

Prior to his suspension, Mr. Alimkhanuly fully cooperated with the WBO investigative and administrative process.

He submitted the relevant medical documentation and information in support of his defense.

The Committee considered that Mr. Alimkhanuly was a first-time offender, had an otherwise impeccable personal and professional record, and had not previously failed an anti-doping test or violated WBO Rules.

The Committee does not minimize the seriousness of an anti-doping violation.

The integrity of professional boxing requires strict compliance with the WBO's anti-doping standards.

At the same time, the Committee must administer its disciplinary authority fairly and proportionately and must recognize when a participant has satisfied the conditions imposed as a consequence of a disciplinary determination.

Mr. Alimkhanuly complied with the conditions established by the Committee.

VIII. TERMINATION OF MR. ALIMKHANULY'S SUSPENSION

Following his compliance with the conditions imposed by the Committee, Mr. Alimkhanuly submitted a formal petition to the World Championship Committee requesting review of his status.

The Committee assessed his compliance, reviewed the documentation submitted, and determined that he had fully satisfied the applicable conditions imposed upon him.

Accordingly, Mr. Alimkhanuly's suspension was terminated effective July 10, 2026.

This determination restored Mr. Alimkhanuly's eligibility for consideration under the WBO Regulations, subject to all continuing WBO obligations.



The termination of the suspension did not erase the underlying disciplinary matter, nor did it constitute a finding that the violation had not occurred.

Rather, it constituted the Committee's determination that the disciplinary consequences and conditions previously imposed upon Mr. Alimkhanuly had been satisfied.

The Committee therefore finds no regulatory basis to treat Mr. Alimkhanuly as presently suspended.

IX. JULY 20, 2026, RESOLUTION

On July 20, 2026, the World Championship Committee rendered its formal Resolution concerning Mr. Alimkhanuly's status following his petition.

That Resolution addressed his title relinquishment and the termination of his suspension and further referred his request for consideration in the Super Middleweight Division to the WBO Ratings Committee.

The July 20 Resolution recognized the Committee's determination that Mr. Alimkhanuly had satisfied and complied with the conditions previously imposed upon him.

The Committee therefore considers the July 20 Resolution an important component of the procedural and regulatory history relevant to the present proceeding.

X. AUGUST 7, 2026, COMMITTEE ACTION

On August 7, 2026, the World Championship Committee reviewed and ratified its prior determinations concerning Mr. Alimkhanuly's eligibility and status and considered the competing petitions for Mandatory Challenger designation presented by Team Bank and Team Alimkhanuly.

The Committee, having reviewed the complete record and the applicable WBO Regulations, now renders its determination concerning the Mandatory Challenger designation for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship.

XI. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

A. Mr. Bank

The Committee finds that Mr. Bank is an accomplished, active, and legitimate WBO contender.

His tenure as WBO Regional Champion since November 23, 2024, and his three successful defenses constitute legitimate championship achievements.

His knockout victory over former IBF World Champion William Scull is a particularly meaningful accomplishment.





His victory over Tyron Zeuge is likewise a significant result against an accomplished professional opponent, although the Committee expressly notes that Zeuge has not held a recognized WBO, WBA, WBC, or IBF World Championship.

The Committee also recognizes Bank's victory over Pawel August.

However, the Committee must evaluate the complete competitive record rather than isolated results.

Mr. Bank first entered the WBO World Ratings in July 2023.

Since entering the WBO World Ratings, Mr. Bank has faced only one world-rated contender.

This factor is relevant to the Committee's evaluation of the quality and level of opposition contemplated by Section 6.

The Committee further notes that Mr. Bank's most recent bout was not a championship bout and was contested over eight rounds.

The Committee does not characterize this as a deficiency or criticism of Mr. Bank. An eight-round non-title bout can be meaningful depending upon the circumstances.

Nevertheless, when comparing the respective competitive records of two undefeated fighters for purposes of determining mandatory championship priority, the distinction between an eight-round non-title contest and repeated World Championship contests is appropriately considered.

B. Mr. Alimkhanuly

Mr. Alimkhanuly presents a substantially different championship résumé.

He is undefeated.

He was a WBO World Champion beginning in 2022.

He successfully defended the WBO Middleweight World Championship five times.

He defeated IBF World Champion Vincenzo Gualtieri and unified the Middleweight Division.

He defeated additional accomplished opposition, including Rob Brant and Denzel Bentley.

He has repeatedly competed in World Championship bouts and demonstrated his ability to perform at the highest level of professional boxing.

The Committee further finds that he is presently eligible following the termination of his suspension and his full compliance with the conditions imposed by the Committee.



He has also been ranked ahead of Mr. Bank by the WBO Ratings Committee in the Super Middleweight Division.

XII. THE EFFECT OF THE PRIOR SUSPENSION

The Committee has carefully considered whether Mr. Alimkhanuly's prior suspension should prevent or diminish his consideration for Mandatory Challenger status.

The answer is no.

The suspension served its disciplinary purpose.

Mr. Alimkhanuly was required to comply with specific conditions.

He complied.

The Committee assessed that compliance.

The suspension was terminated effective July 10, 2026.

The July 20 Resolution formally recognized his status and referred him for Super Middleweight rating consideration.

There is no continuing suspension presently preventing Mr. Alimkhanuly from participating in WBO-sanctioned activity or from being considered under Section 6.

The Committee therefore declines to impose an additional competitive sanction upon Mr. Alimkhanuly beyond those previously imposed and satisfied.

At the same time, the Committee emphasizes that the Mandatory Challenger designation is not a reward for having served a suspension.

The designation is based upon Mr. Alimkhanuly's present eligibility and the complete competitive record that he established before, and remains entitled to have considered following, the disciplinary proceeding.

This distinction is important to preserving both disciplinary integrity and competitive fairness.

XIII. THE WBO RATINGS COMMITTEE'S DETERMINATION

The Committee gives substantial consideration to the determination of the WBO Ratings Committee.



Following Mr. Alimkhanuly's move into the Super Middleweight Division and the July 20 Resolution, the Ratings Committee ranked Mr. Alimkhanuly ahead of Mr. Bank in the WBO Super Middleweight Division.

The Committee does not interpret the ranking as an automatic entitlement to Mandatory Challenger status.

Section 6 expressly reserves the final determination to the World Championship Committee.

Nevertheless, the ranking is consistent with the Committee's independent evaluation of the respective credentials of the fighters.

The Committee therefore finds no compelling reason to depart from the Ratings Committee's classification.

XIV. FORMER UNDEFEATED UNIFIED WBO WORLD CHAMPION STATUS AND LONGSTANDING WBO PRECEDENT

The Committee finds that, in addition to Mr. Alimkhanuly's individual professional merits and accomplishments, a primary and highly significant factor in this determination is his status as a former undefeated Unified WBO World Champion.

Mr. Alimkhanuly did not merely establish himself as a highly ranked contender. He established himself as an undefeated WBO World Champion, successfully defended the WBO Middleweight World Championship on five occasions, and subsequently defeated IBF World Champion Vincenzo Gualtieri to unify the WBO and IBF Middleweight World Championships.

His championship status and accomplishments place him within a category of elite World Champions whose established championship pedigree has historically been afforded special consideration by the WBO when transitioning into an immediately higher or lower weight division.

The Committee recognizes that, throughout the history of the WBO, current and former elite World Champions have, under appropriate circumstances, been permitted or designated to pursue World Championship opportunities in an immediately higher or lower weight division without being required to establish their credentials solely through the conventional progression applicable to other contenders.

This longstanding WBO practice reflects the recognition that an established World Champion, particularly an undefeated or unified World Champion with a demonstrated record of championship achievement and high-level opposition, enters another division with a competitive résumé materially different from that of a boxer who is progressing through the rankings for the first time.

The Committee finds that this principle is illustrated by numerous prior WBO championship determinations.

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In the case of Oleksandr Usyk, the WBO recognized his extraordinary championship credentials following his undefeated and undisputed Cruiserweight Championship reign and permitted him to move into the Heavyweight Division with priority consideration for a World Championship opportunity.

The same general principle has been reflected in subsequent WBO championship determinations involving elite World Champions moving across weight divisions, including Saúl “Canelo” Álvarez and Terence Crawford, whose extraordinary championship accomplishments and status as elite World Champions were given significant consideration in connection with their respective movement between weight divisions and World Championship opportunities.

The WBO has similarly recognized the exceptional championship status of fighters such as Naoya Inoue, including in connection with his transition between divisions and the determination of championship opportunities; Emanuel Navarrete, in connection with his movement between weight divisions and pursuit of additional World Championships; and Manny Pacquiao and Timothy Bradley, whose championship status and accomplishments were likewise relevant to the manner in which championship opportunities were considered across divisions.

The Committee also recognizes relevant precedent in the WBO's female championship divisions.

The careers and championship opportunities of elite female World Champions such as Amanda Serrano, Mikaela Mayer, and Claressa Shields demonstrate that the WBO has likewise recognized exceptional championship credentials when determining opportunities for established World Champions moving within or between weight divisions.

The Committee specifically notes the precedent involving Amanda Serrano, whose established WBO World Championship status and accomplishments were recognized when she was considered for mandatory championship priority in an adjacent weight division.

These precedents are significant not because they establish an automatic entitlement for every current or former World Champion to become Mandatory Challenger in another division, but because they demonstrate a longstanding WBO policy and practice of recognizing extraordinary championship accomplishment as a material factor when evaluating cross-divisional championship opportunities.

The Committee therefore finds that Mr. Alimkhanuly's status as a former undefeated Unified WBO World Champions not merely another credential to be placed alongside the other factors considered under Section 6.

It is a primary consideration in determining whether he is the boxer who, in the judgment of the Committee, best satisfies the applicable criteria for Mandatory Challenger designation.

Mr. Alimkhanuly's circumstances are particularly compelling because his move into the Super Middleweight Division follows an established World Championship career rather than a conventional contender's progression through the rankings.

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He enters the division as an undefeated former WBO World Champion who successfully defended the WBO Middleweight Championship five times, unified the WBO and IBF Championships, defeated recognized World Championship opposition, and has been ranked ahead of Mr. Bank by the WBO Ratings Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee finds that the combination of (1) Mr. Alimkhanuly's undefeated professional record; (2) his former WBO World Championship status; (3) his unified WBO/IBF World Championship achievement; (4) his five successful WBO World Championship defenses; (5) his quality and level of opposition; (6) his current WBO ranking; and (7) the longstanding WBO policy and practice of recognizing extraordinary World Championship credentials when evaluating opportunities in an adjacent weight division provides a substantially stronger basis for Mandatory Challenger designation than the ordinary ranking position of a developing contender.

The Committee emphasizes, however, that the foregoing precedents do not create a mechanical rule, automatic entitlement, or categorical right applicable to every World Champion or former World Champion.

Each championship matter presented to the WBO is reviewed, analyzed, and determined on its own particular facts and circumstances. The Committee does not consider any prior determination to be dispositive of a subsequent case, nor does the existence of a prior precedent eliminate the Committee's responsibility to independently evaluate the record before it.

Every fighter, championship, division, ranking position, competitive résumé, availability, and surrounding circumstance may present materially different considerations.

Accordingly, while the prior WBO precedents demonstrate a longstanding policy and practice of giving appropriate weight to the exceptional status and accomplishments of current and former elite World Champions, each case remains unique and must be reviewed and adjudicated on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the applicable WBO Regulations and the totality of the circumstances presented to the Committee.

In the present matter, after conducting that independent and case-specific analysis, the Committee finds that Mr. Alimkhanuly's status as a former undefeated Unified WBO World Champion, together with his championship accomplishments, competitive record, quality of opposition, current eligibility, current WBO ranking, and the other circumstances established in this Resolution, constitutes a primary and compelling factor supporting his designation as Mandatory Challenger for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship.

XV. FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

After consideration of the complete record, the Committee makes the following findings:

1. Jurisdiction

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The Committee possesses jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to Section 35(f) of the WBO Regulations.

2. Authority

The Committee possesses the express authority to designate a Mandatory Challenger pursuant to Section 1(b)(24), together with its related powers under Sections 1(b)(1), 1(b)(21), and 1(c).

3. Governing Standard

The Mandatory Challenger determination is governed principally by Section 6.

4. Highest Classified Available Boxer

Section 6(b) requires the Committee to determine the “highest classified available boxer” who, in the judgment of the Committee, best satisfies the criteria established by the Rule.

5. Mr. Bank

Mr. Bank is an accomplished, active, and legitimate WBO contender whose achievements are expressly recognized by the Committee.

6. Mr. Bank's Opposition

The Committee recognizes William Scull as a former IBF World Champion. The Committee further finds that Tyron Zeuge, while an accomplished professional boxer, has not won a recognized World Championship sanctioned by the WBO, WBA, WBC, or IBF.

7. Mr. Bank's Ratings Record

Since entering the WBO World Ratings in July 2023, Mr. Bank has faced one world-rated contender.

His most recent bout was an eight-round non-title contest.

These circumstances are relevant to the comparative analysis required under Section 6.

8. Mr. Alimkhanuly's Championship Record

Mr. Alimkhanuly is an undefeated former WBO World Champion, a five-time successful WBO Middleweight World Championship defender, and a former unified WBO/IBF Middleweight Champion.

9. Mr. Alimkhanuly's Conduct During the Disciplinary Proceeding

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Mr. Alimkhanuly cooperated fully with the WBO investigative and administrative process, submitted relevant medical documentation in support of his defense, and was a first-time offender with no prior WBO disciplinary history.

10. Termination of Suspension

Following his formal petition and the Committee's assessment of his compliance with all conditions imposed upon him, Mr. Alimkhanuly's suspension was terminated effective July 10, 2026.

11. July 20 Resolution

The Committee's formal July 20, 2026, Resolution addressed Mr. Alimkhanuly's title relinquishment and termination of suspension and referred his request for Super Middleweight rating consideration to the WBO Ratings Committee.

12. Current Eligibility

Mr. Alimkhanuly is presently eligible for consideration under the WBO Regulations, subject to his continuing WBO obligations.

13. Current Ranking

The WBO Ratings Committee ranked Mr. Alimkhanuly ahead of Mr. Bank in the Super Middleweight Division.

14. Former Undefeated Unified World Champion Status

The Committee finds that Mr. Alimkhanuly's status as a former undefeated Unified WBO World Champion is a primary and material consideration in determining his eligibility and priority for Mandatory Challenger designation.

15. Longstanding WBO Practice

The Committee finds that longstanding WBO policy and practice demonstrates that exceptional championship status and accomplishment may constitute a material consideration when a current or former elite World Champion moves into an adjacent weight division and seeks a World Championship opportunity.

16. Case-by-Case Determination

The Committee finds that prior WBO precedents do not create an automatic entitlement or categorical right to Mandatory Challenger designation. Each matter must be independently reviewed and determined on its own facts and circumstances.



17. Mandatory Challenger

Considering the totality of the circumstances, including Mr. Alimkhanuly's undefeated record, former WBO World Championship status, unified WBO/IBF Championship achievement, five successful WBO World Championship defenses, quality of opposition, current WBO ranking, and the longstanding WBO practice concerning elite World Champions moving between divisions, the Committee finds that Mr. Alimkhanuly is the highest classified available boxer who, in the judgment of the Committee, best satisfies the criteria established under Section 6.

XVI. RESOLUTION AND ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DETERMINED by the WBO World Championship Committee as follows:

1. Team Bank's Petition

The petition submitted by Team Jacob Bank requesting designation as Mandatory Challenger is hereby DENIED.

This denial shall not be construed as a finding that Mr. Bank is undeserving of a WBO World Championship opportunity.

2. Recognition of Mr. Bank

The Committee formally recognizes Mr. Bank's accomplishments, including his tenure as WBO Regional Champion, his three successful defenses, his victory over former IBF World Champion William Scull, his victory over Tyron Zeuge, and his continued competitive activity.

3. Mr. Alimkhanuly's Eligibility

The Committee confirms that Mr. Alimkhanuly has satisfied the conditions imposed upon him in connection with his prior suspension and is presently eligible for consideration under the WBO Regulations.

4. Mandatory Challenger Designation

ZHANIBEK ALIMKHANULY IS HEREBY DESIGNATED AS THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER FOR THE WBO SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AND, CONSEQUENTLY, AS THE MANDATORY CHALLENGER TO THE CURRENT WBO SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPION, HAMZAH SHEERAZ.

5. Commencement of Mandatory Championship Negotiations

As a consequence of the foregoing designation, Team Zhanibek Alimkhanuly and Team Hamzah Sheeraz are hereby ORDERED to immediately commence good-faith negotiations for the purpose



of reaching an agreement for the mandatory defense of the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship.

The parties shall have twenty (20) days from the issuance of this Resolution within which to reach and execute mutually acceptable terms for the mandatory championship contest.

6. Purse Bid Proceeding

If the parties fail to reach an agreement within the foregoing twenty (20) day period, or if either party fails or refuses to participate in good-faith negotiations, the WBO shall proceed with a Purse Bid proceeding in accordance with the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations.

The parties shall be required to comply with all deadlines, procedures, terms, conditions, and requirements applicable to such Purse Bid proceeding.

7. Champion's Mandatory Obligation

Pursuant to Section 5(a) and the applicable provisions of Section 6 of the WBO Regulations, the designation establishes the mandatory defense obligation of WBO Super Middleweight World Champion Hamzah Sheeraz.

The mandatory defense shall be conducted against Zhanibek Alimkhanuly, subject to any modification, extension, exception, or other determination expressly authorized under the WBO Regulations.

8. Continuing Obligations

Mr. Alimkhanuly shall remain subject to all applicable WBO Rules and Regulations, including all anti-doping, testing, licensing, ranking, championship, and other obligations applicable to WBO Participants.

XVII. RESERVATION OF JURISDICTION AND FURTHER DETERMINATION

The World Championship Committee expressly reserves jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter addressed in this Resolution to the extent permitted by the WBO Regulations.

The Committee further reserves the right, upon its own initiative or upon a properly presented request, to issue such additional, supplemental, interpretive, corrective, or procedural determinations as may become necessary or appropriate based upon subsequent developments.

Such circumstances may include, without limitation:

- changes in the availability of the Champion or Mandatory Challenger;
- injury or medical circumstances;
- failure to comply with WBO obligations;

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- anti-doping or other regulatory matters;
- unification opportunities;
- contractual or scheduling circumstances affecting the Championship;
- changes in WBO rankings or classifications;
- material changes in circumstances; or
- any other matter properly falling within the jurisdiction and authority of the World Championship Committee.

Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as limiting the Committee's authority under Sections 1, 5, 6, 34, 35, or any other applicable provision of the WBO Regulations.

XVIII. GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL RIGHTS

The Committee expressly recognizes the procedural rights afforded by Section 34 of the WBO Regulations.

Any adverse WBO Participant who is directly affected by this Resolution and wishes to contest any determination contained herein shall have fourteen (14) days from the issuance of this Resolution within which to file an appeal with the WBO Grievance Committee.

Any such appeal shall be submitted through the Office of the WBO President, in accordance with the applicable WBO Regulations and procedures governing grievances and appeals.

The fourteen (14) day period is mandatory. Any appeal not filed within such period shall be deemed waived, unless otherwise expressly provided by the applicable WBO Regulations or an authorized determination of the WBO.

The appeal to the WBO Grievance Committee, submitted through the WBO President, shall constitute the sole and exclusive remedy available to an adverse WBO Participant seeking to contest the determinations contained in this Resolution, subject to the rights and procedures expressly provided under the WBO Regulations.

Nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted as depriving any party of a procedural right expressly provided by the WBO Regulations.

XIX. CONCLUSION

The Committee has carefully considered the respective positions of Team Jacob Bank and Team Zhanibek Alimkhanuly.

Mr. Bank has earned recognition as a serious and accomplished WBO contender. His Regional Championship tenure, successful defenses, activity, and victories over accomplished opposition demonstrate that he has earned legitimate consideration for a World Championship opportunity.

The Committee nevertheless finds that the record presently before it establishes a stronger claim in favor of Mr. Alimkhanuly under the specific standard mandated by Section 6.





Mr. Alimkhanuly's undefeated championship record, his former WBO World Championship status, five successful WBO World Championship defenses, victory over IBF World Champion Vincenzo Gualtieri and resulting unification of the Middleweight Division, victories over additional accomplished opposition, and established experience at the highest level of championship boxing distinguish his competitive record.

Of particular significance, the Committee finds that Mr. Alimkhanuly is a former undefeated Unified WBO World Champion whose championship pedigree places him within the category of elite World Champions whom the WBO has historically recognized with special consideration when moving into an adjacent weight division.

The Committee has considered the longstanding WBO practice reflected in prior championship determinations involving elite World Champions, including Oleksandr Usyk, Saúl "Canelo" Álvarez, Terence Crawford, Naoya Inoue, Emanuel Navarrete, Manny Pacquiao, Timothy Bradley, Amanda Serrano, Mikaela Mayer, and Claressa Shields.

The Committee emphasizes that these precedents are not being applied as automatic or controlling rules. Rather, they demonstrate a longstanding WBO policy and practice of recognizing exceptional World Championship accomplishment as a material consideration when determining championship opportunities involving elite World Champions moving between divisions.

The Committee has also carefully considered the prior anti-doping matter.

The Committee does not minimize that violation.

At the same time, the Committee recognizes that Mr. Alimkhanuly cooperated fully with the investigative and administrative process, submitted medical documentation in support of his defense, was a first-time offender with no prior WBO disciplinary history, complied with the conditions imposed by the Committee, and had his suspension terminated effective July 10, 2026.

The July 20, 2026, Resolution formally addressed his status, including the termination of his suspension, and referred his application for consideration in the Super Middleweight Division to the WBO Ratings Committee.

The Committee therefore concludes that the prior suspension does not constitute a continuing impediment to Mr. Alimkhanuly's eligibility or consideration.

The Committee has likewise considered Mr. Bank's activity and accomplishments during the relevant period and has given them appropriate weight. Nevertheless, the Committee cannot impose an additional competitive penalty upon Mr. Alimkhanuly after his suspension was terminated and the conditions imposed upon him were satisfied.

The Committee further emphasizes that each case presented to the WBO is unique. The existence of prior precedent does not relieve the Committee of its obligation to independently review, analyze, and determine each matter based upon its particular facts and circumstances.

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Applying Section 6 to the totality of the circumstances, and after conducting the independent, case-specific analysis required by the WBO Regulations, the Committee determines that Zhanibek Alimkhanuly is the highest classified available boxer who, in the judgment of the World Championship Committee, best satisfies the applicable criteria for Mandatory Challenger designation.

His undefeated professional record, former WBO World Championship status, unified WBO/IBF Championship achievement, five successful WBO World Championship defenses, quality and level of opposition, current WBO ranking, present eligibility, and the longstanding WBO recognition of exceptional championship credentials in cross-divisional circumstances collectively establish the strongest claim presently before the Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee hereby designates Zhanibek Alimkhanuly as the Mandatory Challenger for the WBO Super Middleweight World Championship and, consequently, as the mandatory challenger to current WBO Super Middleweight World Champion Hamzah Sheeraz.

Team Zhanibek Alimkhanuly and Team Hamzah Sheeraz are hereby ORDERED to commence negotiations for the mandatory championship contest. The parties shall have twenty (20) days from the issuance of this Resolution to reach and execute mutually acceptable terms. In the event the parties fail to reach an agreement within such period, the WBO shall proceed to a Purse Bid proceeding in accordance with the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations.

The Committee makes this determination with full respect for Mr. Bank and his team and in recognition of the legitimate accomplishments of both fighters.

This determination is intended to preserve the integrity of the WBO World Championship, apply the WBO Regulations consistently, recognize meaningful competitive achievement, give appropriate consideration to established WBO championship precedent, and ensure that the Mandatory Challenger designation reflects the boxer who, under the governing Rules and the unique circumstances presently existing, best satisfies the requirements established by the WBO.

SO RESOLVED.

Respectfully submitted,

LUIS BATISTA SALAS, ESQ.

WBO Founder & Championship Committee Chairman

Cc: Mr. Carl Moretti / Top Rank
Mr. John Hornewer / Team Alimkhanuly
Mr. Spencer Brown / Team Bank
Mr. George Warren / Queensberry Promotion

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