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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMANUEL NAVARRETE

WBO/IBF JR. LIGHTWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPION

September 1, 2026

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Emanuel “El Vaquero” Navarrete (“Navarrete”), of San Juan Zitlaltepec, Mexico, is the reigning WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion, a three-division WBO World Champion, and a WBO-designated Super Champion.

Navarrete has maintained an extraordinary and longstanding championship relationship with the World Boxing Organization (“WBO”), having competed at the WBO World Championship level since December 2018 and having captured WBO World Championships in three separate weight divisions.

On December 8, 2018, at the Hulu Theater at Madison Square Garden in New York City, Navarrete challenged then-undefeated WBO Jr. Featherweight World Champion Isaac Dogboe and prevailed by unanimous decision after twelve (12) rounds, thereby capturing his first WBO World Championship.

On May 11, 2019, Navarrete faced Dogboe in an immediate rematch and successfully defended the WBO Jr. Featherweight World Championship by twelfth-round technical knockout.

Thereafter, Navarrete embarked upon one of the most active WBO championship campaigns of his generation, successfully defending the WBO Jr. Featherweight World Championship against Francisco De Vaca, Juan Miguel Elorde, Francisco Horta, and Jeo Santisima.

After establishing himself as the leading fighter at 122 pounds, Navarrete moved upward to the Featherweight Division.

On October 9, 2020, Navarrete defeated Ruben Villa by unanimous decision to capture the vacant WBO Featherweight World Championship, thereby becoming a two-division WBO World Champion.

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Navarrete thereafter successfully defended the WBO Featherweight World Championship against Christopher Diaz, Joet Gonzalez, and Eduardo Baez.

Following his successful championship tenure at Featherweight, Navarrete moved upward once again, this time to the Jr. Lightweight Division.

On February 3, 2023, Navarrete faced Liam Wilson for the vacant WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship. Navarrete prevailed by ninth-round technical knockout and thereby became a three-division WBO World Champion.

Navarrete subsequently successfully defended the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship against former World Champion Oscar Valdez on August 12, 2023, prevailing by unanimous decision after twelve (12) rounds.

On November 16, 2023, Navarrete defended the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship against Robson Conceição. The contest concluded in a majority draw, with Navarrete retaining the WBO Championship.

On May 18, 2024, Navarrete moved upward to the Lightweight Division to challenge Denys Berinchyk for the vacant WBO Lightweight World Championship in an effort to become a four-division WBO World Champion. Navarrete was unsuccessful by split decision and thereafter returned to the Jr. Lightweight Division.

On December 7, 2024, Navarrete successfully defended his WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship in a rematch against Oscar Valdez, prevailing by sixth-round knockout.

Navarrete's championship history therefore reflects nearly eight years of continuous association with the WBO World Championship structure, championships in three separate weight divisions, numerous successful World Championship defenses, and nearly twenty (20) WBO World Championship contests.

His distinguished accomplishments ultimately resulted in his designation as a **WBO Super Champion**, a status recognizing the exceptional accomplishments and preminent standing of qualifying WBO World Champions.

CHARLY SUAREZ AND THE ORIGIN OF THE MANDATORY OBLIGATION

The Committee considers it important to accurately memorialize the circumstances under which Charly Suarez ("Suarez") acquired his present status as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger.



This clarification is not intended in any manner to diminish Suarez's merits, professional accomplishments, or present rights. Rather, an accurate procedural history is necessary to properly evaluate the respective interests presently before this Committee.

Suarez was not initially designated as the WBO Mandatory Challenger for his first World Championship Contest against Navarrete. Rather, Suarez was selected and approved as a voluntary challenger to Navarrete's WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship. Accordingly, on May 10, 2025, at Pechanga Arena in San Diego, California, Navarrete and Suarez competed for the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship. The contest was stopped due to a cut sustained by Navarrete and was initially recorded as a technical decision victory in Navarrete's favor.

Thereafter, following review of the circumstances surrounding the stoppage, the official result was overturned and modified to a **No Contest**. In light of the unusual circumstances surrounding the contest, the absence of a definitive sporting result, and considerations of fairness and competitive integrity, the WBO World Championship Committee subsequently determined that an immediate rematch was warranted.

It was pursuant to that specific determination of the WBO World Championship Committee that Suarez was thereafter designated the WBO Official Mandatory Challenger. Thus, Suarez's current mandatory status did not arise merely from his numerical position in the WBO World Ratings or from defeating a world-rated contender. Rather, it resulted from an affirmative determination of this Committee following the circumstances and ultimate disposition of the May 10, 2025 Navarrete/Suarez World Championship Contest.

The Committee expressly recognizes the significance of that procedural history and the rights Suarez acquired as a consequence thereof.

PRIOR WBO/IBF UNIFICATION REQUEST

During the WBO's 2025 Annual Convention, representatives of Team Navarrete presented to the WBO World Championship Committee a request for an exception to Navarrete's mandatory obligation so that Navarrete could pursue a significant World Championship Unification opportunity against then-IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion Eduardo "Sugar" Nunez.

The Committee considered the proposed unification opportunity together with Suarez's existing championship interests. Consistent with its responsibility to fairly consider the interests of both sides, the Committee afforded Team Navarrete and Team Suarez a period within which to reach terms and address their respective championship interests accordingly.

Thereafter, Navarrete elected to proceed with the proposed WBO/IBF World Championship Unification against Nunez, while Suarez elected to remain active and participate in a bout during the interim period.



Navarrete thereafter faced Nunez in the WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Championship Unification Contest and prevailed, thereby retaining his WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship and capturing the IBF Jr. Lightweight World Championship. Navarrete consequently became the Unified WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion.

Following said Unification Championship Contest, the WBO continued to recognize and preserve Suarez's mandatory championship interests. The foregoing history is significant because it demonstrates that the WBO has consistently sought to reconcile two legitimate institutional objectives: encouraging meaningful World Championship unifications while simultaneously recognizing and protecting Suarez's rights and status within the Jr. Lightweight Division.

PRESENT REQUEST FOR WBO/IBF/WBC UNIFICATION

Thereafter, the WBO World Championship Committee received a formal petition from Team Navarrete, through Navarrete's duly authorized representatives, requesting an exception to his presently pending mandatory championship obligation in order to pursue a proposed WBO/IBF/WBC Jr. Lightweight World Championship Unification Contest against reigning WBC Jr. Lightweight World Champion O'Shaquie Foster ("Foster").

The proposed contest would place Navarrete's WBO and IBF World Championships against Foster's WBC World Championship and would therefore consolidate three (3) of the four (4) recognized major World Championships in the Jr. Lightweight Division.

In support of the requested exception, Team Navarrete submits, inter alia, the WBO's longstanding policy of encouraging its World Champions to pursue meaningful World Championship unifications and, ultimately, Undisputed World Championship status; Navarrete's professional merits and accomplishments; his longstanding relationship with the WBO; his status as a three-division WBO World Champion; his designation as WBO Super Champion; his participation in nearly twenty (20) WBO World Championship contests; the sporting and historical significance of the proposed three-belt Unification Championship Contest; the substantial public, media, promotional, and financial significance associated with the contest; and the broader interests of professional boxing and the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division.

Following consideration of Team Navarrete's formal petition and the proposed terms and conditions governing the requested exception, the WBO World Championship Committee communicated to the interested parties the material conditions under which the proposed WBO/IBF/WBC Jr. Lightweight World Championship Unification Contest could proceed.

Thereafter, the WBO received official written confirmation from the duly authorized representatives of both Emanuel Navarrete and O'Shaquie Foster, respectively, confirming their understanding, acknowledgment, and acceptance of the terms and conditions established by the WBO World Championship Committee in connection with the proposed Unification Championship Contest.



Specifically, the parties acknowledged and accepted, inter alia, that the Navarrete/Foster Unification Championship Contest would constitute a limited exception to the presently pending WBO mandatory championship obligation; that the winner of the Unification Championship Contest would be required to next satisfy the WBO mandatory championship obligation against WBO Official Mandatory Challenger Charly Suarez within one hundred eighty (180) days following the contest; and that the resulting WBO Jr. Lightweight World Champion would remain subject to the continuing jurisdiction and authority of the WBO World Championship Committee and the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations Governing World Championship Contests.

Accordingly, the record before this Committee reflects not only a formal request for the exception, but also the **express written acknowledgment and acceptance by the duly authorized representatives of both participating fighters of the material conditions upon which the exception is being granted.**

The issues presently before this Committee are therefore:

(1) Whether WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion Emanuel Navarrete should be granted a limited exception to satisfy his pending WBO Mandatory Championship obligation so that he may participate in a WBO/IBF/WBC World Championship Unification Contest against WBC Jr. Lightweight World Champion O'Shaquie Foster; and

(2) Whether such exception can be fashioned in a manner that adequately preserves and protects the status, rights, and legitimate championship interests of WBO Official Mandatory Challenger Charly Suarez.

Having reviewed the complete factual and procedural record, the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations Governing World Championship Contests, applicable WBO policies and precedents, the submissions and written confirmations of the interested parties, Navarrete's championship accomplishments and WBO Super Champion status, the significance of the proposed Unification Championship Contest, and Suarez's existing mandatory rights, this Committee determines that the requested exception is warranted subject to the strict conditions established herein.

Accordingly, the Committee responds in the affirmative.

APPLICABLE WBO RULES AND REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE — THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE BEST INTERESTS OF BOXING

The Committee begins with the fundamental principles governing the interpretation and application of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests.

The Preamble provides, in pertinent part:



“The World Championship has been established for generations as the highest objective in professional boxing. A World Championship is not the property of any boxer. The Championship is a trust, subject to the conditions defined herein, for the use and benefit of all boxers and boxing fans, who through their contribution of time, effort, risks and resources sustain the existence of the profession.”

The Preamble further emphasizes that a World Champion is an integral part of boxing but is not greater than the sport itself, and that Champions and Challengers are expected to embody the highest ideals of sportsmanship and respect for the profession, their opponents, the WBO, and boxing fans worldwide.

Most significantly for present purposes, the Preamble establishes that the WBO Regulations are intended to reconcile the interests of all necessary elements of World Championship boxing in a manner serving the best interests of the sport.

These principles are directly implicated by the present matter.

The WBO World Championship is not the personal property of the Champion. Likewise, the existence of a Mandatory Challenger does not require the Committee to disregard other legitimate championship interests expressly recognized by the Regulations. Rather, the Championship must be administered in accordance with the regulatory framework governing it and for the broader benefit of professional boxing, its participants, and boxing fans worldwide.

The Committee must therefore reconcile the legitimate interests presented herein: Navarrete’s request to participate in a significant three-belt World Championship Unification; Suarez’s established rights and status as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger; the interests and orderly administration of the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division; and, ultimately, the best interests of professional boxing.

SECTION 1 — WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

Section 1(b) of the WBO Regulations expressly vests the World Championship Committee with the authority and discretion necessary to adjudicate the present matter.

Among the powers and discretion expressly conferred upon this Committee are the authority:

- (1) “To determine the format and venue for making any determination that is the subject of the WBO World Championship Rules;”
- (4) “To determine if there is good cause to extend the time during which a Champion must make a Mandatory Challenge;”
- (5) “To approve the terms and conditions under which a Champion may extend the time for a Mandatory challenge so as to compete in a Unification Bout or a Unification Tournament;” and



(21) “To make or recommend exceptions or variations from the Rules as the World Championship Committee determines are necessary.”

Accordingly, the Regulations expressly confer upon this Committee the authority to determine whether good cause exists to extend Navarrete’s pending mandatory obligation; to authorize such extension for purposes of participating in a World Championship Unification; to establish the terms and conditions governing any such exception; and to make or recommend such exceptions or variations as the Committee determines necessary under the particular circumstances presented.

The authority exercised herein therefore does not arise from an implied or extraordinary power outside the Regulations. It is expressly contemplated by the WBO regulatory framework governing World Championship competition.

SECTION 6 — DESIGNATION OF MANDATORY CHALLENGER

The Committee is equally mindful that the designation of Charly Suarez as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger carries substantive rights and creates a corresponding obligation upon the WBO World Champion.

Section 6(e) provides, in pertinent part, that designation of a Mandatory Challenger creates an obligation upon the Champion to defend against that challenger as a condition of retaining the title.

Critically, the same provision expressly provides that such obligation may be **modified or extended by the World Championship Committee for good cause, including participation by the Champion in a Unification Bout or Unification Tournament, upon such terms and conditions as the Committee approves.**

Section 6(e) is particularly instructive.

First, the Regulation expressly recognizes Suarez’s rights arising from his designation as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger and the corresponding obligation upon Navarrete to defend the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship against him.

Second, that obligation is not absolute as to timing. The same provision expressly authorizes this Committee, upon a finding of good cause, to modify or extend the mandatory obligation, including specifically for participation by the Champion in a World Championship Unification Bout.

Third, any such modification or extension remains subject to the terms and conditions approved by this Committee.

Accordingly, granting the requested exception does not require this Committee to disregard, subordinate, or diminish Suarez’s mandatory status.



To the contrary, Section 6(e) expressly provides the regulatory mechanism through which both legitimate interests may be reconciled: the mandatory obligation remains in existence while its timing may be modified or extended for good cause under conditions established to adequately protect the Mandatory Challenger. That is precisely the framework adopted herein.

SECTION 7 — UNIFICATION BOUTS AND UNIFICATION TOURNAMENTS AS MANDATORY TITLE BOUTS

The WBO Regulations separately and expressly recognize the institutional significance of World Championship Unification contests. Section 7(a) expressly grants the World Championship Committee the authority to sanction a Unification Bout, or participation in a Unification Tournament, as a Mandatory Title Bout. For purposes of the Regulations, a Unification Bout includes a World Championship contest against the Champion of another world sanctioning organization recognized by the WBO, expressly including the WBA, WBC, and IBF.

The proposed contest between Navarrete and Foster falls squarely within that regulatory definition. Navarrete is the reigning WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion. Foster is the reigning WBC Jr. Lightweight World Champion. The proposed contest therefore presents not merely a commercially attractive voluntary defense or discretionary championship contest. It constitutes the precise category of World Championship Unification expressly recognized by the WBO Regulations.

Section 7(b) further provides, in pertinent part, that when a Champion has been granted an extension of his Mandatory Obligation to participate in a Unification Bout or Unification Tournament, the Champion's next mandatory obligation must be completed within nine (9) months following completion of the Unification Bout or Unification Tournament.

This provision is particularly significant to the Committee's determination. Although Section 7(b) contemplates a period of up to nine (9) months for completion of the ensuing mandatory obligation following a Unification Bout for which an extension has been granted, this Committee has determined based upon the particular procedural history involving Suarez and the circumstances presented herein to impose the more restrictive period of one hundred eighty (180) days.

The 180-day requirement therefore does not enlarge the period contemplated by Section 7(b). Rather, it provides Suarez with greater protection through a shorter period for satisfaction of the mandatory obligation than the maximum period otherwise contemplated under the Regulation. This condition appropriately recognizes Suarez's particular procedural posture, including the circumstances of his prior World Championship Contest against Navarrete, the subsequent determination designating him as Mandatory Challenger, and the prior accommodation permitting Navarrete to pursue the WBO/IBF World Championship Unification against Nunez.



SECTION 14 — SUPER CHAMPIONS

Navarrete's status as a WBO-designated Super Champion provides an additional and independent regulatory consideration supporting the requested exception. Section 14(a) expressly establishes that it is the policy of the World Boxing Organization to encourage its Champions to pursue recognized status as Undisputed World Champions and to unify the Championships of the four major world sanctioning organizations: the WBO, WBA, WBC, and IBF.

The same provision recognizes that a World Champion who has achieved preeminent status may require and be entitled to additional scheduling flexibility to achieve his place in boxing history and **for the good of the sport**. The policy expressed in Section 14(a) directly applies to the circumstances presented herein. Navarrete has achieved preeminent status within the WBO.

He is a three-division WBO World Champion, a longstanding WBO Champion, the reigning Unified WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion, and a WBO-designated Super Champion who has participated in nearly twenty (20) WBO World Championship contests. The proposed contest against Foster would provide Navarrete the opportunity to consolidate the WBO, IBF, and WBC Jr. Lightweight World Championships and move within one championship of achieving recognized Undisputed World Champion status.

Furthermore, **Section 14(d)(1), "Extension of Mandatory Title Defense,"** expressly authorizes the World Championship Committee, for good cause shown, to extend a Super Champion's mandatory title defense beyond the ordinary period established under the WBO Regulations to provide the Super Champion with an opportunity to unify titles of multiple major sanctioning organizations, participate in a unification tournament, or participate in another significant contest that would contribute to the Super Champion's legacy or be of substantial interest to boxing fans.

Thus, Section 14 expressly contemplates the precise type of relief requested by Team Navarrete. Navarrete's Super Champion status does not extinguish his obligation to Suarez, nor does it create an unconditional entitlement to postpone a mandatory defense. It does, however, provide an additional and express regulatory basis upon which this Committee, for good cause shown, may provide appropriate scheduling flexibility so that a Super Champion may pursue meaningful World Championship unifications, enhance his professional legacy, and participate in contests of substantial interest to boxing fans and the sport generally.

APPLICATION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

When these provisions are read together, the WBO Regulations provide a clear and comprehensive framework for resolving the matter before this Committee.



The **Preamble** directs the Committee to reconcile the interests of all necessary elements of World Championship boxing in a manner serving the best interests of the sport.

Section 1(b)(4) authorizes the Committee to determine whether good cause exists to extend the time for satisfaction of a mandatory obligation.

Section 1(b)(5) expressly authorizes the Committee to approve the terms and conditions under which a Champion may receive such an extension to participate in a Unification Bout.

Section 1(b)(21) further empowers the Committee to make or recommend exceptions or variations from the Rules when determined necessary.

Section 6(e) simultaneously recognizes Suarez's rights as Mandatory Challenger and expressly provides that the corresponding mandatory obligation may be modified or extended for good cause, including participation in a Unification Bout, subject to conditions approved by this Committee.

Section 7(a) expressly recognizes World Championship Unification Bouts involving Champions of the WBO and other recognized major sanctioning organizations, including the WBC and IBF.

Section 7(b) establishes that when an extension is granted for a Unification Bout, the ensuing mandatory obligation must be completed within nine (9) months, a period which this Committee, for the reasons stated herein, has elected to shorten to one hundred eighty (180) days for the protection of Suarez.

Finally, **Sections 14(a) and 14(d)(1)** establish the WBO's affirmative policy of encouraging its Champions to pursue Undisputed World Championship status and expressly authorize additional scheduling flexibility for a Super Champion to pursue championship unifications and historically significant contests.

The Regulations therefore do not require the Committee to choose between the interests of Navarrete and Suarez. They expressly provide a mechanism for reconciling them.

ANALYSIS

The Committee begins its analysis with an important premise:

This matter should not be viewed as choosing Emanuel Navarrete over Charly Suarez. This observation is in no way intended to diminish the merits or rights of Charly Suarez.

As previously explained, Suarez initially challenged Navarrete as an approved voluntary challenger. Following the unusual circumstances of that contest and the subsequent modification of its official result



to a No Contest, this Committee determined that an immediate rematch was warranted and, as a consequence of that determination, formally designated Suarez as the WBO Official Mandatory Challenger.

His present status therefore derives from an affirmative determination of this Committee and carries corresponding rights that the WBO recognizes and must consider in adjudicating the present request. The issue before the Committee is considerably narrower. The Committee must determine whether the exceptional circumstances presented by a three-belt World Championship Unification justify a limited extension of Navarrete's mandatory obligation while ensuring that Suarez's position remains adequately protected.

The Committee determines that they do.

I. THE WBO'S POLICY FAVORING MEANINGFUL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP UNIFICATIONS

The WBO has traditionally encouraged its Champions to pursue meaningful World Championship unification opportunities. More importantly, that policy is expressly reflected in the WBO Regulations themselves. Section 7 expressly recognizes Unification Bouts, while Section 14 establishes the WBO's affirmative policy of encouraging its Champions to pursue recognized Undisputed World Champion status and the unification of the Championships of the four major sanctioning organizations.

That policy serves not merely the individual Champion but also the division, the prestige of the WBO World Championship, boxing fans, and professional boxing generally. Professional boxing benefits when its leading World Champions compete against one another and fragmented World Championships are consolidated through competition in the ring. The proposed Navarrete/Foster contest represents precisely such an opportunity.

Navarrete presently holds the WBO and IBF Jr. Lightweight World Championships. Foster holds the WBC Jr. Lightweight World Championship. Accordingly, their proposed contest would consolidate three of the four major World Championships at 130 pounds.

Should Navarrete prevail, the reigning WBO Champion would simultaneously hold the WBO, IBF, and WBC World Championships and would require only one additional recognized championship to achieve Undisputed World Champion status. The proposed contest has also generated considerable interest among boxing media and fans and represents the type of meaningful World Championship contest that strengthens the division and enhances the significance of the Championships at stake.

The Committee therefore considers the proposed three-belt Unification Championship Contest to represent a substantial and legitimate benefit to professional boxing and the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division.



II. NAVARRETE'S PROFESSIONAL MERITS AND WBO CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

The Committee also considers Navarrete's extraordinary WBO championship résumé. This is not the request of a recently crowned Champion seeking an ordinary voluntary defense. Navarrete has maintained a championship relationship with the WBO since 2018.

He is a three-division WBO World Champion.

He has participated in nearly twenty (20) WBO World Championship contests.

He has repeatedly defended WBO Championships across multiple weight divisions.

He is presently the Unified WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion.

And he has earned designation as a WBO Super Champion.

Those accomplishments do not eliminate his mandatory obligation. They are, however, legitimate and expressly relevant considerations when determining whether sufficient good cause exists to grant a limited exception for an extraordinary championship opportunity contemplated by the Regulations themselves. The Committee also recognizes the substantial sporting, historical, promotional, and financial implications associated with the proposed Navarrete/Foster contest.

Professional boxing is both a sport and a profession. A legitimate three-belt World Championship Unification can represent a rare and time-sensitive opportunity in a fighter's professional career. The Committee is therefore entitled to consider the totality of those circumstances when exercising the discretion expressly afforded under the WBO Regulations.

III. SUAREZ'S RIGHTS AND STATUS ARE NOT UNDERMINED BY THE EXCEPTION

The Committee must, of course, balance the foregoing considerations against Suarez's legitimate mandatory rights. In the Committee's judgment, those interests are not incompatible. A carefully defined exception, accompanied by appropriate conditions and continuing oversight from this Committee, permits an important World Championship Unification to proceed without disregarding, extinguishing, subordinating, or materially prejudicing Suarez's position.

Indeed, this Resolution expressly preserves Suarez's status as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger. It establishes a definitive period within which the resulting WBO World Champion must satisfy the mandatory obligation.



It prohibits the winner of Navarrete/Foster from undertaking another intervening contest prior to satisfying that obligation, absent extraordinary circumstances and prior express written authorization from this Committee. And, critically, the mandatory obligation established herein attaches to the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship itself, irrespective of whether Navarrete or Foster emerges victorious.

Therefore, Suarez's rights are neither jeopardized nor undermined by the exception. Rather, they are expressly recognized and protected by the conditions imposed herein.

IV. WRITTEN ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ACCEPTANCE BY BOTH PARTICIPATING CHAMPIONS

The Committee further considers significant that the material terms protecting Suarez's mandatory championship interests have been communicated in advance to the representatives of both participating Champions.

The WBO has received official written confirmation from the duly authorized representatives of both Emanuel Navarrete and O'Shaquie Foster, respectively, acknowledging and accepting the material terms and conditions governing the WBO's authorization of the proposed Unification Championship Contest.

Accordingly, both participating fighters enter the proposed contest with advance knowledge that the WBO mandatory obligation remains outstanding; that the exception granted herein is limited to the Navarrete/Foster Unification Championship Contest; and that the winner shall thereafter be obligated to satisfy the WBO mandatory championship obligation against Suarez within the timeframe established by this Committee.

Should Foster prevail and thereby acquire the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship, there can therefore be no reasonable uncertainty concerning the outstanding mandatory obligation accompanying the WBO Championship. Foster's duly authorized representatives have been advised of, acknowledged, and accepted the material conditions governing the WBO's authorization prior to the contest.

Likewise, should Navarrete prevail, his representatives have expressly acknowledged and accepted that the exception granted herein does not extinguish or otherwise satisfy his pending mandatory obligation.

The parties' written acknowledgment and acceptance provide additional certainty concerning the administration of the division and further support the Committee's conclusion that the exception may be granted without jeopardizing or undermining Suarez's rights.



V. THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) DAY REQUIREMENT

Section 7(b) contemplates that following an extension granted for purposes of participating in a Unification Bout, the ensuing mandatory obligation must be completed within nine (9) months following the Unification.

Under the particular circumstances presented herein, however, the Committee determines that the winner of Navarrete/Foster shall next defend the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship against Suarez within one hundred eighty (180) days following the official conclusion of the Unification Championship Contest.

The exception granted herein is therefore limited to one intervening contest only. It does not cancel Navarrete's mandatory obligation. It does not reset the mandatory cycle. Nor does it permit the resulting Champion to undertake another voluntary defense, unification, non-title contest, or other intervening bout prior to satisfying the protected mandatory obligation, absent extraordinary circumstances and express written authorization from this Committee.

The Committee considers these safeguards appropriate and sufficient to protect Suarez while permitting a highly significant World Championship Unification to proceed.

VI. THE MANDATORY OBLIGATION FOLLOWS THE WBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The Committee further determines that the mandatory obligation established herein attaches to the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship and not exclusively to Navarrete personally. Accordingly, should Navarrete defeat Foster, Navarrete shall next satisfy the mandatory obligation against Suarez within the prescribed period.

Conversely, should Foster defeat Navarrete and thereby acquire the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship, Foster shall inherit the outstanding mandatory obligation and shall likewise be required to satisfy it. The identity of the Champion therefore does not alter Suarez's protected position. This provision further demonstrates why the limited exception does not undermine Suarez's rights. His mandatory championship opportunity survives the Unification Championship Contest irrespective of its result.

VII. BALANCING THE BEST INTERESTS OF PROFESSIONAL BOXING

Ultimately, the Committee must administer the WBO Regulations consistently with the fundamental principles expressed in their Preamble. The World Championship is a trust administered for the benefit of professional boxing, its participants, and boxing fans. The Regulations specifically contemplate circumstances in which competing legitimate interests must be reconciled rather than treated as mutually exclusive.



Here, requiring immediate satisfaction of the mandatory obligation would prevent a rare three-belt World Championship Unification expressly contemplated and encouraged by the WBO Regulations.

Conversely, permitting an unrestricted exception without meaningful protection for Suarez would fail to adequately recognize the integrity and importance of the WBO mandatory challenger system. Neither result is necessary. The Regulations provide this Committee with the authority and discretion to reach a balanced determination. The proposed Unification advances the sport. Navarrete's professional accomplishments, longstanding WBO relationship, and Super Champion status support the requested consideration.

The opportunity to consolidate three major World Championships and advance toward Undisputed World Championship status is exceptional and expressly consistent with WBO policy. Suarez's legitimate mandatory rights can simultaneously be protected through strict conditions governing the exception. The parties participating in the proposed Unification have moreover received notice of, acknowledged, and accepted those conditions through their duly authorized representatives.

Therefore, having reviewed the complete factual and procedural record, the applicable WBO Regulations, policies and precedents, and the interests of all affected WBO Participants, the Committee determines that granting the requested limited exception constitutes an appropriate exercise of its regulatory discretion and serves the best interests of professional boxing and the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to **Sections 1(b)(4), 1(b)(5), 1(b)(21), 6(e), 7, 14(a), and 14(d)(1) of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests**, and consistent with the purposes and policies expressed in the **Preamble** thereof, and having considered the foregoing factual and procedural record, the formal petition submitted on behalf of Emanuel Navarrete, the official written confirmations submitted by the duly authorized representatives of Emanuel Navarrete and O'Shaquie Foster acknowledging and accepting the conditions governing the proposed Unification Championship Contest, applicable WBO policies and precedents, Navarrete's status as a three-division WBO World Champion and WBO Super Champion, the significance of the proposed WBO/IBF/WBC Unification Championship Contest, and the status and legitimate championship rights of WBO Official Mandatory Challenger Charly Suarez, the WBO World Championship Committee hereby determines as follows:

1. The request submitted on behalf of Emanuel Navarrete for a limited exception to satisfy his presently pending WBO Jr. Lightweight Mandatory Championship obligation prior to participating in the proposed WBO/IBF/WBC Jr. Lightweight World Championship Unification Contest against O'Shaquie Foster is hereby **GRANTED**, subject strictly to all terms and conditions contained herein.
2. Navarrete is hereby authorized to defend his WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship, together with his IBF Jr. Lightweight World Championship, against reigning WBC Jr. Lightweight World Champion O'Shaquie Foster in the proposed three-belt World Championship Unification Contest.



3. The Committee hereby **ACKNOWLEDGES AND ACCEPTS** the official written confirmations received from the duly authorized representatives of Emanuel Navarrete and O'Shaquie Foster, respectively, confirming their understanding, acknowledgment, and acceptance of the material terms and conditions governing the WBO's authorization of the proposed Unification Championship Contest.
4. The authorization granted herein is expressly conditioned upon the written acknowledgments and representations submitted on behalf of both participating fighters and upon their compliance with all applicable terms and conditions established by this Resolution and the WBO Rules and Regulations.
5. The foregoing authorization constitutes a limited exception and extension of the existing WBO mandatory obligation based upon good cause and the exceptional circumstances described herein. It shall not be interpreted as extinguishing, satisfying, cancelling, or otherwise terminating said mandatory obligation.
6. Charly Suarez shall retain his status as the WBO Official Mandatory Challenger in the Jr. Lightweight Division, subject to his continuing eligibility and compliance with the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations.
7. Nothing contained in this Resolution shall be interpreted as diminishing, subordinating, jeopardizing, undermining, or otherwise adversely affecting Suarez's mandatory status or the rights arising therefrom. The Committee expressly recognizes and preserves said status and rights subject only to the limited extension authorized herein.
8. The winner of Emanuel Navarrete vs. O'Shaquie Foster shall next defend the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship against Charly Suarez within one hundred eighty (180) days following the official conclusion of the Unification Championship Contest, subject to Suarez maintaining his eligibility and mandatory status under the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations.
9. The mandatory obligation established herein shall attach to the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Championship itself. Accordingly, whether Navarrete or Foster emerges as the WBO Jr. Lightweight World Champion following the Unification Championship Contest, the resulting Champion shall be bound by the mandatory defense obligation established herein.
10. The Navarrete/Foster Unification Championship Contest shall constitute the sole intervening contest authorized by this Resolution prior to satisfaction of the WBO mandatory championship obligation.
11. The winner of Navarrete/Foster shall not participate in any voluntary championship defense, additional unification contest, non-title contest, or other intervening bout prior to satisfying the WBO mandatory obligation against Suarez, absent extraordinary circumstances and prior express written authorization from the WBO World Championship Committee.



12. The Committee expressly finds that the duly authorized representatives of both Navarrete and Foster have received notice of, acknowledged, and accepted the material conditions set forth herein, including the requirement that the winner next satisfy the outstanding WBO mandatory championship obligation within the prescribed one hundred eighty (180) day period.

13. Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions established in this Resolution shall result in the WBO World Championship Committee proceeding in accordance with the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations Governing World Championship Contests and taking such action as may be warranted under the circumstances.

14. Should Suarez become unavailable, ineligible, decline the championship opportunity, lose his mandatory status through circumstances independent of the exception granted herein, or otherwise cease to qualify as the WBO Official Mandatory Challenger, the WBO World Championship Committee reserves exclusive authority to determine the appropriate course of action concerning the mandatory obligation and the orderly administration of the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division.

15. The exception granted herein is based upon the particular and exceptional circumstances presented, including the significance of consolidating three major World Championships; the WBO's express regulatory policy favoring meaningful World Championship unifications and the pursuit of Undisputed World Champion status; Navarrete's extraordinary WBO championship record and Super Champion status; the sporting, historical, promotional, and financial significance of the proposed contest; the written acknowledgment and acceptance of the applicable conditions by the duly authorized representatives of both participating fighters; and the ability of this Committee to preserve Suarez's mandatory rights through the conditions imposed herein.

16. Nothing contained herein shall establish an automatic entitlement to a mandatory exception in any other WBO World Championship matter. Each request shall continue to be evaluated upon its own facts and circumstances, the applicable WBO Rules and Regulations, policies and precedents, and the interests of the affected WBO Participants and professional boxing.

17. The WBO World Championship Committee retains and reserves continuing jurisdiction over the subject matter herein and may issue any further determination, clarification, order, directive, exception, or ruling necessary, convenient, or appropriate to enforce the terms and intent of this Resolution and preserve the orderly administration of the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division.

18. **APPEAL RIGHTS.** This constitutes a final determination of the WBO World Championship Committee. Any affected or aggrieved WBO Participant may appeal this determination in accordance with the applicable WBO Appeals Regulations. Any such appeal must be submitted in writing within fourteen (14) days of this determination and must comply with all applicable procedural, filing, notice, fee, and other requirements established by the WBO Appeals Regulations.



Failure to timely pursue the applicable appellate remedy within the prescribed fourteen (14) day period shall render this Resolution final and binding, subject to the continuing jurisdiction and authority otherwise reserved to the WBO pursuant to its Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, and applicable policies.

The WBO World Championship Committee recognizes Emanuel Navarrete's extraordinary accomplishments as a three-division WBO World Champion, Unified WBO/IBF Jr. Lightweight World Champion, and WBO Super Champion, and further recognizes the significance to professional boxing of providing its Champions legitimate opportunities to pursue meaningful World Championship unifications and Undisputed World Championship status.

Equally, this Committee expressly recognizes Charly Suarez's standing as WBO Official Mandatory Challenger and the rights arising from the Committee's prior determination concerning the Navarrete/Suarez World Championship Contest.

The exception granted herein does not displace, disregard, or extinguish those rights. Rather, it temporarily defers enforcement of the mandatory obligation under carefully defined conditions designed to preserve Suarez's championship interests while permitting a significant three-belt World Championship Unification expressly contemplated by the WBO Regulations to proceed.

The Committee finds that this limited exception appropriately reconciles the legitimate interests presented, promotes meaningful World Championship competition, protects the integrity of the WBO mandatory challenger system, advances the WBO Jr. Lightweight Division, and serves the best interests of professional boxing, consistent with the purposes, policies, and regulatory authority of the World Boxing Organization.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 1 day of September 2026.

Luis Batista Salas, Esq.

Cc: Gustavo Olivieri, Esq./President

Mr. Jeremy Koegel/Top Rank

Mr. Carl Moretti/Top Rank



Mr. Alejandro Brito/Team Navarrete

Mr. Keith Mills/Team O’Foster

Mr. Sampson Lewkowicz/Team Suarez

Mr. Charly Suarez/WBO Jr. Lightweight Participant

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