



October 5, 2023

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Jeannie Joiner
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Re: Hearing Decision: Emily Klinefelter and Clif Johnson vs. Jeannie Joiner

Dear Litigants,

This letter pertains to a judicial matter involving Emily Klinefelter, Clif Johnson and Jeannie Joiner. Klinefelter and Johnson allege that Joiner violated the USA Boxing Code of Conduct for Non-Athletes by using foul language and disrespect for Johnson's military service as well as physical assault on Emily Klinefelter. Klinefelter and Johnson also allege Joiner has broken USA Boxing rules by not having boxers weigh-in on each day of the Iowa Golden Gloves Tournament.

On September 26, 2023, a Hearing Panel seated by the USA Boxing Judicial Committee heard this grievance via Zoom video call. Hearing Panelists present were Veid Muiznieks – Acting Chair, Brent Bovell, Steve Holley, Ben Rochester and Heidi Amouta – Athlete Representative.



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Emily Klinefelter, Clif Johnson, and Jeannie Joiner were all present and testified.

Clif Johnson began testimony, sharing his screen to refer to documents/videos related to Jeannie Joiner's outbursts and foul language during Iowa Golden Gloves meetings as well as rules violations related to not conducting daily weigh-ins at the Iowa Golden Gloves Tournament. He also made reference to the altercation/assault that took place during the National Golden Gloves Tournament in Chester, Pennsylvania stating Jeannie attacked Emily, a pregnant woman.

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Klinefelter stated the entire situation began when they were working with Jeannie Joiner to reinstate Golden Gloves in the state of Iowa. Johnson and Klinefelter worked on a presentation that Joiner would present to the National Golden Gloves so Iowa could be considered for a franchise. Apparently, the presentation was successful, and Jeannie Joiner was named the Iowa Golden Gloves Franchise holder. The relationship between the parties deteriorated over the next several months, which is evidenced in the videos of Iowa Golden Gloves meetings shown during the hearing.

Questions from the Hearing Panel revealed that tensions from meetings in Iowa boiled over during the Golden Gloves National Tournament in Chester, Pennsylvania resulting in the altercation/assault described in this hearing.

Emily Klinefelter testified about the fact that Iowa Golden Gloves held general weigh-ins and did not follow USA Boxing rules which require each boxer to weigh in each day they compete. Klinefelter stated she asked Shawn Reese, Chair of the USA Boxing R/J Committee to clarify to which he confirmed that weigh-ins be conducted each day of competition. Ms. Klinefelter said that when Jeannie Joiner heard she went to Shawn Reese, she called Klinefelter a snitch. Ms. Klinefelter expressed she felt that Jeannie Joiner calling her a snitch was admitting Joiner broke the rules.

Clif Johnson then continued testimony about the altercation/assault in Pennsylvania. He and Emily Klinefelter described what took place....that Ms. Klinefelter was trying to show Ms. Joiner something on her phone to prove that the bylaws were being followed and Ms. Joiner then "punched" the phone into Ms. Klinefelter's chest. At that point, Mr. Johnson said, "Hey, she's pregnant, what are you doing?" Ms. Klinefelter testified she reacted and in order to subdue Ms. Joiner, Klinefelter put her into a headlock.

During questioning from the Hearing Panel, Clif Johnson stated he and Emily Klinefelter posted all video, documents, and grievance documents on their website so that all the public could see what transpired by Jeannie Joiner. They posted a petition to have Ms.



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Joiner removed from USA Boxing which had already been signed by 215 people. Klinefelter said they published this because USA Boxing dismissed a prior grievance they filed against Joiner. Johnson stated that the issue was ignored so in order to maintain transparency, they published the entire situation publicly. Klinefelter stated she was disappointed that USA Boxing did not hear the original grievance and wanted to put pressure on USA Boxing so the situation would be handled.

Jeannie Joiner testified that during the Iowa Golden Gloves meetings, she did get somewhat rattled and cursed. She apologized for this action and stated she has since been working on tactics to better handle tense situations.

Ms. Joiner testified she wanted to clarify what took place during the altercation at the National Golden Gloves Tournament in Pennsylvania. She stated she had the phone in her hand and turned it around and tried to give it back to Emily Klinefelter. Klinefelter would not take the phone, so she turned it around and placed it on her chest. Klinefelter let the phone fall to the ground. Then Klinefelter said "You're going to throw my phone at me?" Joiner then stated Klinefelter grabbed her and put her in a head lock. Ms. Joiner stated that at 53 years old, she had never been in a physical altercation in her life. She said, "Why would she start a physical altercation with a professional boxer and MMA athlete." Jeannie Joiner stated she has known Emily Klinefelter since she was an amateur boxer and is well aware of her skills and knows what she is capable of. It makes no sense that Klinefelter would turn this around to sound like she was defending herself. Joiner stated Johnson did mention Ms. Klinefelter was pregnant but prior to that Joiner stated she had no idea Klinefelter was pregnant. Joiner stated that while in the head lock, she did pull Klinefelter's hair to try to get her to let go. Joiner said that Clif Johnson pushed her down and when she got back up, another person (Lando) tried to intervene to stop the violence and at that point, Emily Klinefelter kicked that person in the groin and placed Joiner another head lock.

Ms. Joiner stated she is not an aggressive person, but more of a timid person. She testified she had bruises on her arm from Clif grabbing her while Emily had her in the head lock. Clif was also hitting her in the face and pushing or hitting on top of her head. A person helped her out of the ballroom and Shawn Reese told Joiner to call the police, which she did.

Ms. Joiner stated she wanted to share that all charges against her related to this issue were dropped.



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Jeannie Joiner testified that it has been a power struggle since Clif Johnson was not voted in as the President of the Iowa Golden Gloves. Ms. Joiner stated that Johnson and Klinefelter tried everything to discredit her, they have even gone on social media defaming her character slandering her name with accusations. They have given out her name, age, and address to the public, and that when you google “Jeannie Joiner” you can see everything they have put on social media.

Ms. Joiner apologized that she cursed in front of the kids but added she asked Clif and Emily to put the children in a room outside of the meeting, because they knew how contentious previous meetings had been. Joiner stated she was wrong to cuss and is working on making sure she is able to remain calm and get through difficult situations.

Jeannie Joiner then testified about the weigh-ins at the Iowa Golden Gloves competition stating she did follow prior franchise holders practice to not have the boxers weigh-in each day. She understands that is not per USA Boxing rules and has implemented daily weigh-ins at all events going forward. Ms. Joiner took ownership and said it was her fault, but not intentional or deliberate. She said she made a mistake which has now been corrected. Joiner apologized for that mistake. She stated the current policy for Iowa LBC and Iowa Golden Gloves is to have each boxer weigh-in on the morning of their scheduled bout.

Jeannie Joiner stated she took accountability for calling Emily Klinefelter a snitch. She said she is learning new techniques for not getting emotional or fired up in tense situations. She regrets saying it and will not name call in the future.

Ms. Joiner said to Ms. Klinefelter, “I am sorry if you lost your baby,” but unless there is medical evidence that I had anything to do with her losing the baby, the actions that I took with the phone would not cause a person to lose a child. Joiner stated this information was posted on social media as well and because Ms. Klinefelter was mad with USA Boxing does not warrant defaming her character or slandering her under public scrutiny. Joiner testified that would be a rule Klinefelter and Johnson broke from the Code of Conduct.

The Hearing Panel heard testimony, cross-examination, and rebuttal from all participants. Many questions of clarification were asked of the litigants so the Panel could gain a better understanding of the issues brought before it. Panel members discussed that the burden of proof is the responsibility of those filing the grievance and unanimously agreed that the burden was met in this case. The Panel ruled that Jeannie Joiner did violate the USA Boxing Code of Conduct for Non-Athletes and the USA Boxing rules related to weigh-ins at an event.



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The Hearing Panel determined:

- Because she is contrite and working to rectify issues with regard to rules violations and leadership deficits, Jeannie Joiner shall serve a 3-month probation beginning October 4, 2023, and ending January 3, 2024.
- Recommends that USA Boxing issue a Cease & Desist letter to Emily Klinefelter and Clif Johnson to remove the online petition related to Jeannie Joiner

The \$200 filing fee shall be returned to the claimants.

If any litigant wishes to appeal this decision, please contact Lynette Smith at USA Boxing for further information.

No further action shall be taken on this case by the USA Boxing Judicial Committee.

Sincerely,

/s/ Veidols Muiznieks

Veidols Muiznieks, Acting Chair
USA Boxing Judicial Committee



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