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Meeting Information

Purpose:	Assessment Committee (concerning protest)
Dates:	2011-05-01 -- 2011-05-15
Participants:	Ulf Silverbern, Vice-chairman Jesper Gunnarson, Member Mikael Forsgren, Member

Ruling Protocol

Concerning the protest in the match between Jeremy Horn and Thales Leites.

Match:

Jeremy Horn vs Thales Leites (title bout) (84 kg, 185 lbs)

Place and Time:

Hovet, Stockholm. 2011-04-30. (Event: Superior Challenge 7)

Acting referee and judges:

Marko Gyllenland (referee), Bobby Rehman (judge), Manos Terzitane, (judge), Hans Ersson (judge).

Judges' scores:

Judge:	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL	WINNER
	Horn - Leites	Horn - Leites	Horn - Leites	Horn - Leites	
Bobby Rehman	10 - 10	10 - 10	9 - 10	29 - 30	Leites
Manos Terzitane	9 - 10	10 - 10	9 - 10	28 - 30	Leites
Hans Ersson	10 - 10	10 - 9	10 - 10	30 - 29	Horn

WINNER: Thales Leites, split decision 2 - 1.

Protest argumentation sent to SMMAF:

(Received: May 1st 2011 at 02:05)

President George Sallfeldt,

Thank you for all the work you are doing for our sport in Sweden, I understand this was the very first time in Sweden that the unified rules were used. The judges were extremely inexperienced and I believe this was a major factor in the error. We are respectfully requesting that the split decision be reversed in favor of Jeremy Horn for the following reason(s):

1. After reviewing video of the contest, Horn's effective striking out numbered his opponent 3 to 1 in all three rounds.
2. The inexperience and uncertainty of the judges lead to 5 rounds being awarded 10 to 10 draw rounds, which based on our first point is completely inaccurate
3. Moreover, one of the judges awarded the first round to Horn's opponent which is also very inaccurate based on the effective striking count

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I have attached a copy of the score cards and copied Monte Cox on this communication. I appreciate your prompt response to this matter, and I completely appreciate your position and the position of the judges as a new sport here in Sweden, but Jeremy Horn should not pay the price for their inexperience. I look forward to hearing from you soon Sir.

Answer from George Sallfeldt; SMMAF President:

(Sent: May 1st 2011 at 18:03)

Dear Mr. Khillah

I hereby confirm that the Swedish MMA Federation (SMMAF) has received your protest concerning the match between Jeremy Horn and Thales Leites that was held at the Hovet Arena in Stockholm, Sweden, during the event Superior Challenge 7 on the 30th of April 2011.

Your protest has promptly, this day, been sent to the chairman of the SMMAF Assessment Committee.

The SMMAF Assessment Committee has a processing period of two weeks from the day of receipt of the protest.

Concerning your statement of the inexperience of the Swedish judges in regards to the Unified Rules:

The Swedish judges that participated in judging the bouts at Superior Challenge 7 all have many years of experience judging under the Swedish Professional MMA Rules. The scoring criteria's in the Unified Rules and the Swedish Professional MMA Rules are the same.

The only difference between the Swedish Professional MMA Rules and the Unified Rules are the following:

- Elbow strikes are allowed under the Unified Rules but are not under the Swedish Professional MMA Rules.
- Up-kicks are allowed under the Unified Rules but are not under the Swedish Professional MMA Rules.
- Foot-stomps are allowed under the Unified Rules but are not under the Swedish Professional MMA Rules.
- Under the Unified Rules the round break shall last 60 seconds. Under the Swedish Professional MMA Rules the round break shall last 90 seconds.

As the above stated differences in the two rules sets do not affect the judges scoring method your argument about the inexperience of the Swedish judges is flawed.

This is the SMMAF's formal procedure concerning the handling of protests:

§ 32 Protest

32.1 If a contestant or his/her seconds finds the result of a match to be incorrect then a protest can be handed in to the event coordinator within 48 hours upon conclusion of the match.

32.2 A protest must be submitted from the contestant's association (Swedish athletes) or from the contestant's club/team or manager (foreign athletes), not from the contestant

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personally.

32.3 The protest shall contain information regarding which match it concerns, what the protest is in regards to, reasons for protesting, how one finds that the match should be judged as well as complete contact information.

32.4 The results of a match shall only be changed if an obvious mistake has been uncovered, one that had an effect on the outcome of the match and was made by the referee, judges or another official.

The decision of the SMMAF Assessment Committee shall be provided to you via e-mail no later than the 15th of May 2011.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

George Sallfeldt, President, Swedish MMA Federation.

Assessment Committee protest handling:

The Assessment Committee has received the protest text as well as recorded video material of the match. The Assessment Committee concludes that no obvious mistakes were committed such as, for example, missed point deductions, erroneous round lengths etc. The Assessment Committee remaining task is therefore to evaluate if any obvious mistakes were made during the scoring of the match.

Ulf Silverbern

Name of contestants	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total
Jeremy Horn	9	10	9	28
Thales Leites	10	10	10	30

Comments Round 1

Round 1 goes to Leites 10-9. He is more offensive whereas Horn mostly tries to counter Leites attacks. Laites has three good attacks which connect with Horn on all three occasions, however without rocking Horn significantly.

Comments Round 2

I score round 2 10-10. It is noticeable that Horn tries to be more active and follows up his increasingly more active boxing with leg kicks. Leites however has no problems with this and evens out the round when connecting more effectively with attacks that seem to make an impact on Horn. An even round without any clear advantage to either contestant.

Comments Round 3

Round 3 goes to Leites 10-9. Initially an even round but Leites takedown followed by good positions and more activity gives him an advantage in this round.

Summarized Comments:

I see Leites as the winner of the match.

Jesper Gunnarson

Name of contestants	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total
Jeremy Horn	10	9	9	28
Thales Leites	10	10	10	30

Comments Round 1

Round 1 is even and could be scored either way or as 10-10.

Comments Round 2

Round 2 goes to Leites based on how he ends the round.

Comments Round 3

Round 3 goes to Leites due to his takedown and better positions, for example, his passing of the half guard.

Summarized Comments:

The decision should go to Leites.

Mikael Forsgren

Name of contestants	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total
Jeremy Horn	10	10	9	29
Thales Leites	10	10	10	30

Comments Round 1

An even round without any advantage to either contestant. Leites tries to control Horn without succeeding. 10-10.

Comments Round 2

Horn is more aggressive than in the first round but Leites lands a couple of good left hooks. Other than that nothing much happens. 10-10.

Comments Round 3

First half of the round is even but Horn has better success with his strikes and kicks. When two minutes remain Leites gets a good takedown and keeps top position for the remainder of the round. Leites wins the round 10-9.

Summarized Comments:

An even match with Leites as winner.

Ruling:

A brief summarized conclusion is that we all saw it as an even match but there is nothing materially wrong that would invoke a change to the original decision. The original decision stands, with Thales Leites as the winner.

Nyköping May 15th 2011

**Ulf Silverbern
Jesper Gunnarson
Mikael Forsgren**