



# WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION

GILBERTO MENDOZA

President

## Resolution # HEAVY201-2008-01-0305-011

### Valuev/Ruiz

#### *Heavyweight Division*

#### **A. Background:**

1. After Ruslan Chagaev was named Champion in Recess, an amended call for purse bid was issued on 10 July 2008 to all bona fide promoters for a title bout between the leading available contenders, Nicolay Valuev and John Ruiz.

2. On 21 July 2008, the Valuev-Ruiz Purse bid was held in Panama City, Panama. Sauerland Events (“Sauerland”) was the successful bidder with a bid of \$2,106,400.00.

3. On 30 August 2008, Valuev defeated Ruiz for the WBA Heavyweight title in Berlin, Germany.

4. The initial decision announced after the bout was a split decision for Valuev. After hearing the scores, Judge Shimakawa approached the WBA Supervisor, Robert Mack, with concerns that his score was read incorrectly.

5. After reviewing the scorecards and summary sheets, it was apparent to the Supervisor that during the 12<sup>th</sup> round, the scores of Valuev and Ruiz were not properly identified on the scorecard.

6. The Supervisor determined that Judge Shimakawa’s score for the last round should be reversed.

7. After the Supervisor showed the scorecards and summary sheets to representatives for the parties, a revised decision was communicated to all parties and at the post fight press conference. The Supervisor changed the previously-announced split decision as a unanimous decision.

8. Soon thereafter, Ruiz challenged the decision being changed from a split decision to a unanimous.

9. On 1 October 2008, during the WBA Convention in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, representatives for Ruiz made presentations to the Championships Committee

requesting that the decision of the Valuev/Ruiz bout be revised to reflect the first decision announced on the night of the bout (Valuev win by split decision).

**B. Decision:**

1. While the Committee believes the error was an honest and simple mistake, in order to avoid potential implications of impropriety, and to further the goal of full disclosure and transparency in bout decisions at the time of the event, the Committee has decided to reverse the decision of the Supervisor and reinstitute the bout scores as originally announced – a split decision in favor of Valuev.

2. The Committee will deal with the other issues of protest raised by Ruiz in a separate decision.



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Gilberto Jesus Mendoza, Jr.  
Championship Committee Chairman