

Republic of the Philippines OUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City 21st City Council

PR21CC-645

36th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP-8251, S-2020

A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF-EID) TO ALLOW STA. MONICA COCKPIT TO CONDUCT COCKFIGHTING AND ENGAGE IN LIVE STREAMING OF COCKFIGHTS TO OPERATE UNDER THE NEW NORMAL OF COCKFIGHTING ADHERING TO STRICT HEALTH PROTOCOLS WHICH WILL PROVIDE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MINIMIZE THE RISKS OF MASS GATHERINGS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19).

Introduced by Councilor VICTOR V. FERRER, JR.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Lena Marie P. Juico, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo, Atty. Bong Liban, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Mikey F. Belmonte, Franz S. Pumaren, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Matias John T. Defensor, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malañgen, Ivy L. Lagman, Hero M. Bautista, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Freddy S. Roxas, Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, cockfighting is the national sport of the Philippines. It cannot be denied that it has and will always be part of the culture of the Filipinos. It has also become an industry. There are thousands of breeders all over the country and hundreds of cockpits. Sales of the feed industries are in the billions of pesos. Hundreds of thousands of sabungeros depend on cockfighting as their source of livelihood. Because of the nature of cockfighting, the pandemic caused by COVID-19 has completely put a stop to cockfights in legitimate cockpits;

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WHEREAS, Sta. Monica Cockpit was recently granted by the City Government a Special Use Permit to operate cockfighting as well as engage in live streaming of cockfights. It is one of the best (if not the best) cockpit in the whole country. It has gained its prestigious standing in the cockfighting industry for its high standard of credibility. It has recently renovated its premises to cope with the new health requirements brought about by COVID-19;

WHEREAS, if allowed to operate, SMC will institute the following mitigating features and health protocols that would be the "New Normal" of cockfighting;

- 1. The cockpit will operate on 10% audience participation excluding handlers of the participants and staff of the cockpit.
- 2. The "ulutan" or physical matching will no longer be allowed. All events will use the derby style of matching or by submission of weights.
 - There will be a maximum of 30 entries participating and a maximum of 60 fights per day to limit the exposure of the employees and participants.
- 3. The fights will proceed without an audience. Entries will be allowed 2 handlers who will stay at their respective cockhouses until fight time. They will not be allowed to roam around. Their meals will be provided from the canteen to prevent them from going out the cockpit.
- 4. Everyone entering the cockpit including employees, handlers and participants must sign a certification that he or she has no symptoms of COVID-19 and submit their complete address and contact number for contact tracing.
- 5. Shouting of bets will no longer be allowed. Instead bets would be cashless through an IT system using laptops or cell phone. The fights will be covered live and beamed through phone apps to participants.

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RESOLVED FURTHER, that this Resolution will only be transmitted to the IATF if and when Quezon City is placed under the category of Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ).

ADOPTED: July 28, 2020.

GIAN G. SOTTO City Vice Mayor Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III City Government Dept. Head III

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on July 28, 2020 and was CONFIRMED on August 3, 2020.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

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- 6. Should participants wish to view the fight at the cockpit, only one person per entry will be allowed and will be assigned designated seats. Out of the 700 seating capacity only a maximum of 30 seats scattered over the entire arena will be made available for participants.
- 7. The entire cockpit must be in good hygiene specially the toilets and must be sanitized prior and even during the event. While everyone will be encouraged to bring their own sanitizers, the cockpit shall provide hand sanitizers which will be placed in strategic places.
- 8. When entering the cockpit, all must pass through thermal scanners and foot baths and must wear masks while inside. They will be given gloves which will be mandatory when entering the canteen.
- 9. Sufficient signages will be posted that will constantly remind everyone to conduct social distancing and other health protocols.

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government through its agencies will regulate and ensure compliance of all health protocols to be required by the Department of Health and any other agencies;

WHEREAS, as the center of cockfighting in the Philippines and for thousands of cockfighting aficionados or "sabungeros" and for hundreds of people in Quezon City who depend on cockfighting as their only source of income, and for the propagation of the sport and culture of the Filipinos, the Quezon City Council hereby respectfully requests.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to request, as it does hereby request, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) to allow Sta. Monica Cockpit to conduct cockfighting and engage in live streaming of cockfights to operate under the new normal of cockfighting adhering to strict health protocols which will provide social distancing and minimize the risks of mass gatherings to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

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