UFC 110 SPECIAL COLLECTORS EDITION Fighters in the Harbour Pre-Fight Press Conference Open Workout Day The Weighins The Fights SHAWN TOMPK STRIKING TECHNIQUES **EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW** MY TATTOOS FEATURE "AUSTRALIA MAKES A LOT OF SENSE" MMA SPORTS ISSUE 23 AU\$8.95 UFC DVD'S TO WIN

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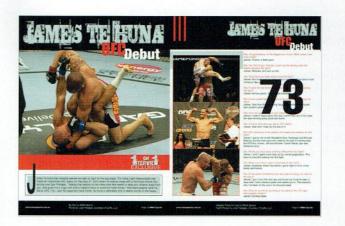
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GETTING READY FOR



Mr Chuck Anzalone

Inspector Nevada State Athletic Commission

Mr Chuck Anzalone was one of the few people that participated in the first UFC that is still in the business today. Mr Chuck Anzalone is a kickboxer and MMA Promoter since 1990. He has promoted 10 W.K.A Pro Am Kickboxing Events in the City of Buffalo, New York. He also Co-Promoted 2 UFC Events with his partner Mr Les Bonano at Casino Majic in Mississipi, where Randy Couture defeated Vitor Belfort and the UFC Event in New Orleans. He managed fighters in the first 15 UFC Events, as well as Pride, K-1 and Shooto Japan.

JENI: With such an impressive background, what is your role with the Nevada State Athletic Commission?

CHUCK: I've been an Inspector for almost 8 years. I've worked over 60 Title Fights in Boxing, Kickboxing, K-1 and MMA and 90 Main Events. I was hired by Marc Ratner, now the Vice President of UFC Regulations.

JENI: The Inspectors Role is one of the aspects that Sifu Zaya will be introducing in the MMA Judge & Referee training course that he runs in conjunction with the Combat Sports Authority here in Australia, can you please elaborate more on the importance of having inspectors?

CHUCK: The importance of the Inspectors Role is that they help maintain order before, during and after the fight. They are the eyes and ears of the commission, if they hear or see anything that may jeopardize the event, they will report to the commissioner in charge, the referee, and even the doctors. We are the ring police you might say. We make sure all the rules are followed and proper behaviour is followed by the cornerman, and fighters as well. We are part rule enforcer and diplomat you might say. Inspectors must always create a good environment for the fighters and their teams. We represent the commission, and of course we are the eyes and ears of the doctors as well. This is even more important, fighter safety is all important. Don't be afraid to let the doctor know if you hear a fighter complain of an injury or if the inspector feels the fighter doesn't look too good, he can tell the referee or doctor as well in a cool, calm manner.

I also over see Amateur MMA and was one of the people that collaborated on the Amateur MMA Rules that have now become a standard.

JENI: What was your most outstanding UFC event that you've worked on?

CHUCK: My biggest UFC, working with Brock Lesnar's corner, as well as many Randy Couture fights.

JENI: Did you enjoy coming down to Australia?

CHUCK: I enjoyed my time down under and the new mates I've met. They worked very hard at Xtreme MMA Event, and Kelly Seif went out of his way to make this happen so the unified rules used in the worlds biggest MMA events will be the standard in Australia.

Mr Chris Tognoni

Nevada State Athletic Commission.

Inspector Nevada State Athletic Commission
Mr Chris Tognoni has been a Nevada State Athletic Commission
Inspector for a little over 8 years. He has been officiating different
sports including MMA for over 15 years. He wrestled most of his life
until 2001 when he quit coaching to become an inspector with The

JENI: How do you see the standards of our Australian MMA Judges & Referees working as a team, this time including inspectors where normally the Judge & Referee here run around and do everything, are we up to your expectations?

CHRIS: I was very impressed with how quickly the participants from both the Inspector and Referee's seminars picked up the information given and ran with it. Having had the luxury of helping train the Inspectors in the UK, I feel qualified to tell you that it was nice to see how knowledgeable the group from Australia was from top to bottom.

JENI: One of the most interesting topic areas in the MMA Judge & Referee training course, was if a judge does not have the full knowledge of an MMA fight contest, he can simply focus his judgements on damage.

CHRIS: Damage has become the main focus of judges, not just in MMA but in all of the Combat Sports judging criteria.

JENI: Can you please explain more on damage?

CHRIS: If you think back of what the criteria has been with judges in the recent past, damage is a "key term" in helping simplify what a judge should be looking for. No matter what the combat sport might be, it is still a fight and in a fight the combatant's main goal is to inflict more "damage" on their opponent than is inflicted on themselves. If this is the case, and all three judges agree with the "damage" that has been inflicted, there should be no confusion and or discrepancies in the outcome of the fight.

JENI: What was your most memorable UFC event that you've worked on?

CHRIS: I can't really say that one event has stood out more than any other. I am a huge fan of MMA and have been around The UFC since its inception. I was wrestling at The University of Wyoming when UFC 1 and 2 were in Denver Colarado which is a very short distance from Laramie, Wyoming where the University of Wyoming is. My team mates and I went to both 1 and 2 and I have been hooked ever since.

JENI: How would you conclude your time here in Australia, and is there anything else you'd like to say?

CHRIS: In conclusion, I would just like to say that it was a pleasure and an honour to come to Australia and be part of a very proactive group of knowledgeable and hard working people, that have the best interest in watching the sport of MMA grow into what very well might be the most popular sport in the world. I had a very good time meeting everyone that I came into contact with and wish Australia the very best of luck with their MMA future. I also would like to publicly thank Mr Kelly Seif of Xtreme MMA Promotions for not only being the vision behind bringing us to Australia to help increase the knowledge of all that goes on behind the scenes as well as a better understanding of the unified rules being used in MMA, but also the person that funded bringing Chuck and myself to your wonderful country. Thanks Kell!!

By Jeni Satchaphansy

Sifu Zava

Here in Australia, Sifu Zaya has the same objective to establish a standard in MMA Amateur and Professional rules and to educate the officials in judging and refereeing, with the support from the Department of Sports & Recreation/Combat Sports. He has been involved with martial arts for over 20 years now, and as an active Pankratiastis since 2000, he has promoted MMA and Ring Pankration Title Fights.

JENI: How are you involved with all this MMA Judging & Refereeing, and the Xtreme MMA Cage Event that took place in late date December 2009?

ZAYA: I was approached by Mr Kelly Seif, the fight promoter from Melbourne to work with him on promoting a cage event in Sydney, as this was to be an important show in determining the outcome of the Australian MMA Officials with the possibility of working in the UFC show. In other words, the Nevada State Athletic Commissions are keeping an eye on the Australian MMA Officials.

JENI: Australia had the privilege of having 2 of the officials from Nevada State Athletic Commission, and one of them was supposed to be referee Steve Mazzagatti, what happened there?

ZAYA: Yes. Steve Mazzagatti was supposed to be one of the officials to come train us in the MMA Judging and Refereeing, unfortunately he was booked on a major event on the same date as the course, but nonetheless we have the honour of the company of Mr Chuck Anzalone and Mr Chris Tognoni to educate us and enlighten us with their experiences and knowledge.

JENI: Did everyone that attended the MMA Judges and Referee training course worked on the Xtreme MMA show?

ZAYA: No, not everyone. This event happens to fall on a very late date in December 2009, but the promoter Kelly told me that this event must take place, no matter what the outcome is.

JENI: So who made the list on the Xtreme MMA show?

ZAYA: As judges and referees: myself, Kon Papaioannou, Sid Antaky, Steve Perceval, Anthony Dimitriou and John Sharp, and as for the role of Inspectors, Goran Jakovski, Charlie Keech, Dimitrious Perdios, Tim Seirlis, Alexander Merkouris, Father Dave and our main cut-man for the event was Paul Grech.

JENI: You were at the UFC Press Release at The Rocks Sydney, held to confirm the announcement of UFC 110 Live at the Acer Arena, how was that and who did you meet?

ZAYA: Yes, Kon Papaioannou and myself were invited to attend the Press Conference and had a great time meeting with the UFC representatives and some of the UFC fighters including Wanderlei Silva, Joe "Daddy" Stevenson, George Sotiropoulos and Cain Velasquez. We discovered we had some common interest with fighter George Sotiropoulos, which was Pankration. In the question and answer segment, George was asked about Pankration and his reply was, "Pankration means all powers, it's been around for thousands of years, it's a combination of boxing, the use of elbows and knees, wrestling and submission techniques, in short what we call today MMA is Pankration".

JENI: Do you have any last words regarding your MMA Judges and Referee training course and UFC coming to Australia?

ZAYA: Firstly, I like to thank you Jeni for bringing everything we do to public knowledge. I want to thank Master Kon Papaioannou, Master Sid Antaky and Mr Kelly Seif for bringing together Australia's most experienced MMA Judges and Referees to work as a team. Most importantly I'd like to thank Mr Chuck Anzalone and Mr Chris Tognoni from the Nevada State Athletic Commission for making the time to come to Australia and sharing their vast knowledge and experience in the world of MMA Official roles. Now we have a team of MMA Judges, Referee and Inspectors ready to take on UFC.

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