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**AS FOR KUBRAT PULEV, THE WBA REGULAR CHAMPION, HE MUST DEFEND HIS TITLE AGAINST FABIO WARDLEY, WHO IS CURRENTLY THE NUMBER ONE RANKED CONTENDER. THE MANDATORY DEFENSE PERIOD WILL BEGIN ON MARCH 5, 2025, AND CONCLUDE ON APRIL 4, 2025.**

**THE WINNER OF PULEV VS. WARDLEY—OR PULEV IN THE CASE OF A DRAW—MUST THEN FACE MICHAEL HUNTER, THE THIRD-RANKED CONTENDER, IN A MANDATORY DEFENSE WITHIN 120 DAYS OF THAT BOUT, WITH A FINAL DEADLINE OF OCTOBER 25, 2025.**

**WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION**

**PRESS STATEMENT FROM WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION**