



AIBA NEWS DIGEST

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EUROPEAN BOXING CONFEDERATION (EUBC)

THE UNFORGETTABLE "KNIGHT OF LEATHER GLOVES" JÚLIUS TORMA WOULD CELEBRATE HIS 99TH BIRTHDAY ON MARCH 7

"The Knight of Leather Gloves" Július Torma would celebrate his 99th birthday on Sunday, March 7.

Czechoslovak boxing legend, historically the first Olympic winner of the Czechoslovak Republic from the London Games in 1948 in Welterweight, the darling of the audience and the most remarkable boxer of his time, as dubbed by Rudyard H. Russel, then president of the International Boxing Association.

During his spectacular boxing career, he won almost a thousand bouts and lost in only seven. He was a multiple champion of Hungary, ten times champion of Czechoslovakia and in 1949 he won the title of European Champion.

Julius Torma, with his dancing style, lifted the spectators from their seats and always acted like a gentleman in the ring: "That shouldn't even be the point in boxing. I rarely won by KO. That never even appealed to me. I just enjoyed boxing."

He won his Olympic gold against the American Hank Herring. The stands were roaring as he was making his sidesteps to avoid being hit by an American "assassin". After taking a hit, he flew onto the ropes and, completely disoriented for a while, looked about for an opponent. At the very end of the bout, Torma prepared a great encore. He let his opponent attack, but slowed him by hitting with his right hand on the solar plexus. Herring dropped to his knees. He allowed him to get to his feet and, like a machine gun, fired a series of hooks. In addition, the American got a direct on his chin as the gong banged. That was a text-book boxing. London went nuts. And few people knew that the 168 cm tall boxer fought virtually with only one hand. He had a broken bone on the left hand finger!



After retiring, he worked as the coach of the club Uhelné sklady Prague. He died in October 1991 at the age of 69 in Prague. In his honor, the international Youth tournament Memorial Julia Tormy is held every year in autumn in Prague. This year will be the 30th year in a row.



Czech Boxing Association

KRASIMIR ININSKI WAS RE-ELECTED WITH FULL UNANIMITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE BULGARIAN BOXING FEDERATION

Krasimir Ininski was re-elected unanimously for another, third term, as head of the Bulgarian Boxing Federation. He received the support of all members during the General Election Meeting, which was held on March 4, 2021, in the building of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

"Thank you for your credit. I will continue to be dedicated and do my best for our cause - the development of Bulgarian boxing. I am happy that today we showed that we are all on

the same team. And together, like a fist, we will continue to write the history of our favorite sport", said Krasimir Ininski after his re-election.

The highlights of the national talents were also reported. Despite the lack of competitions, due to the pandemic situation, Bulgarian boxers won 19 medals at the European Championships for juniors, youth and girls. 3 of them gold, 5 silver and 11 bronze.



Bulgaria Boxing Federation

THE ITALIAN BOXING FEDERATION GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS HELD IN THE FIUMICINO (ROME) HILTON AIRPORT HOTEL ON FEBRUARY 27.

Mr. Flavio D'ambrosi was elected new President of the FPI for the upcoming Olympic Cycle, succeeding to the former one Mr. Vittorio Lai, who opened the meeting with his farewell speech.

Lai's speech followed by two very important addresses: The first one of EUBC President Franco Falcinelli; the second, video address, by AIBA President Kremlev.

"I'm very proud" President D'Ambrosi said after the vote ended "to have been elected President of one of the most glorious Italian Sport Federations. I'll do my best, as I've already done in the past years, performing my duties as a board member and vice-president, for the good the Italian Boxing. My ambition and aim is that in this Olympic cycle, following the hard work done in the former one, Italian Boxing is able to reach great victories both with AOB boxers and with PRO ONES. We've got hard years ahead, as we hope to make Italian boxing greater and greater."



The Italian Boxing Federation

UK ARMED FORCES OFFICER NAMED BOXING SCOTLAND CEO

Boxing Scotland has appointed Chris Roberts as the governing body's new Chief Executive Officer.

Chris brings a wealth of experience as a commissioned officer for Her Majesty's Armed Forces, whom he has served for 30 years with the Royal Army Physical Training Corps including more than 20 years as a member of the Army Boxing Association Executive Committee.

He is an AIBA three-star boxing referee and judge, and GB Boxing supervisor, evaluator and instructor, with appointments in post including school, junior and youth championships, Elite GB Boxing Championships and he was International Federation Liaison Officer for the European Olympic qualifier in London last year.



Boxing Scotland

ON FEBRUARY 25, 2021, THE ORDINARY REPORTING AND ELECTION CONFERENCE OF BELARUSIAN BOXING FEDERATION WAS HELD

The main issue on the agenda was the election of the President of the Federation.

liaksandr Batvinnik was elected the new President of the Belarusian Boxing Federation.

The Conference delegates unanimously supported the nomination of Aliaksandr Batvinnik, who will be leading the organization for the next four years. The new head is the first Deputy General Director of OJSC BELAZ - the management company of the BELAZ-Holding, the grandson of a founder of the national boxing school Vladimir Botvinnik.

Sviatlana Naumchyk was appointed the Secretary General of the Federation following the elections.

THE NATIONAL JUNIOR BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS IS TO BE HELD FROM 15 TO 22 MARCH, 2021

The National Junior Boxing Championships of the Republic of Belarus is to be held from 15 to 22 March, 2021, in Polotsk (Vitebsk region).

These competitions is the most important event of the year for this age category and one of the major stages for the selection of participants for the upcoming EUBC European Junior Boxing Championships.

The the sessions of the National Junior Boxing Championships of the Republic of Belarus will be broadcast on the YouTube channel of the Belarusian Boxing Federation.



Belarusian Boxing Federation



ASIAN BOXING CONFEDERATION (ASBC)

SYRIA SCHEDULED ITS R&J SEMINAR, THE JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THE ELITE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Syrian Arab Boxing Association hosted its Youth National Championships a few weeks ago and their boxers are in permanent training camps together with the Iranians. The President of the Syrian Arab Boxing Association is very keen to host further events in the country in efforts to bring Syria back on the map. Their new National R&J Seminar, the Junior National Championships and the Elite National Championships are all scheduled for the the upcoming weeks.

The Syrian Arab Boxing Association decided to host a Seminar for national level Referees & Judges in the city of Aleppo in March 16-21. The national course will include theoretical and practical training to increase the knowledge level of their referees. The National Referees & Judges Seminar is to be held in two languages, for the very first time in Syria, in Arabic and in English.

The Chairman of the ASBC Refereeing & Judging Commission and the President of the Syrian Arab Boxing Association Mr. Mohamed Kamel Shbib will be among the instructors of the Seminar. AIBA 3-star Referee & Judge Mr. Issa Al-Nassar and the Chairman of the Syrian Refereeing & Judging Commission, AIBA 2-star R&J Mr. Hassan Brez will be joining to the President in the project. The National Seminar will meet high quality standards, and the participants will have to undergo practical exams as the final step of the project.

The Syrian Junior National Championships is scheduled in Aleppo starting from March 18 until the 23rd and all regions are to attend in the event. The Syrian Elite National Championships is to be held in the city of Tartous in April 6-10. All of the Syrian regions and cities will be hosting their selection of the events before



SYRIA IS SCHEDULED ITS R&J SEMINAR, THE JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THE ELITE NATIONAL



the National Championships.

The Syrian youth team will be also joining the second Iranian training camp in late February. That second camp for the next generation boxers will continue until March 4 to support the preparation for the AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships to be held in Poland in April.



The Syrian Arab Boxing Association

AMERICAN BOXING CONFEDERATION (AMBC)

BOXING JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION 2021

More than 90 young athletes were evaluated to form the Venezuelan team that will represent us at international competitions.

The sports club Cancha de PAZ of Playa Grande in La Guaira State hosted the junior national team selection procedure on March 5-6, with the COVID-19 preventive measures and testing secured.

Over 90 boxers from 16 states of the country were evaluated based on such technical criteria as physical training, technique, movement, discipline, and



and respect in the ring as well as problem-solving and psychological aspects, among others.

The technical commission comprised the Youth Technical Director Neudis Perozo and the Elite Technical Director Alfredo Lemus, both from Fevebox, the Cuban coach Juan Bautista Hernández, the chief referee Greimer Betancourt and a coach from each state present at the event. This working group is authorized to name the junior national team that will represent us at the Olympic women's events in the weight categories of 51 kg, 57 kg, 60 kg, and at the men's events in the weight categories of 52 kg, 56 kg, 63 kg, 69 kg, 75 kg.

The conditions establish that young boxers born in 2002 and 2003 are eligible to represent us at the Youth World Boxing Championships to be held in Poland from April 10 to 24, 2021. Likewise, those born in 2004 will be part of the selection that will attend the 1st Junior Pan American Games in Cali between September 9 to 19, 2021 and 1st Sucre Youth Bolivarian Games held in November this year.

The total of 44 fights were held on the first day and 22 finals on the second respectively, with Eduardo Gutierrez, the Director of the National Anti-Doping Commission giving a speech on behalf of the Venezuelan Boxing Federation to instill in the youth the importance of fair play.

“At the parade of national talent celebrated in La Guaira, we were able to see the new generation of our Venezuelan boxers. We will not only be able to select those who will represent us in the upcoming international competitions, but also form the teams A, B and C”, Dr. Luisa Benítez, the President of the Venezuelan Boxing Federation, said.

The event was attended by the President of the Venezuelan Olympic Committee Professor Eduardo Álvarez, the Secretary General Dr. Elida Párraga and the third Vice President Gerardo Trotta, both Olympic officials, as well as boxers, such as the Olympic silver medalist Yoel Finol, Pan-American bronze medalist Irismar Cardozo, South American silver medalist Diego Pereyra, continental champions Omailyn Alcalá, Johana Gómez and medalists Krisandy Ríos, Ninoska Pérez, as well as the boxers Christian Palacio and Angelino Córdova.

“This type of selection procedure for future international youth competitions is undoubtedly key to choosing and evaluating all those promising young people who aspire to be on the national team. The city that has hosted different boxing events gave a very warm welcome to all the boxers”, highlighted Professor Eduardo Álvarez, President of the Venezuelan Olympic Committee.

The framework of the event included meeting the Presidents and representatives of the 16 State Associations, who were able to address the issues of national Olympic boxing and short and medium-term projects. Moreover, it was announced that the course of Technical Rules Update for coaching staff will be held on March 19-20, complying with the 2021 calendar of Fevebox.

This event was possible thanks to the support of the International Boxing Association (AIBA), the Venezuelan Olympic Committee (Spanish: Comité Olímpico Venezolano - COV) and the Government of La Guaira State.

The boxers that will form the youth national team are to be announced in the next few days.



Federacion Venezolana de Boxeo

AFRICAN BOXING CONFEDERATION (AFBC)

THE KENYAN NATIONAL BOXING TEAM HAS BEEN IN A NON-RESIDENTIAL TRAINING CAMP FOR 5 MONTHS

The Kenyan National Boxing team, popularly known as Hit Squad, has been in a non-residential training camp for 5 months in preparation for the World Olympic qualifiers, but our boxers were disappointed to learn that the International Olympic Committee Boxing Taskforce had cancelled the tournament that most of the boxers had been training for and rankings will be used instead to allocate 13 quota granted to African boxers. As Hit Squad, we expect to have two more boxers to add to the two who have already qualified for the Tokyo Olympic Games, and therefore we expect to have a team of four boxers representing the country at the Olympic Games in July at Tokyo 2020.

Currently, the Hit Squad is preparing to take part in Africa Zone 3 Boxing Championship in DRC Congo, a tournament scheduled to run from March 20 to 27, 2021. This tournament was originally organized with the intention of helping teams prepare for World Olympic qualifiers and Tokyo 2020 Olympics. This tour-

nament is crucial because we haven't been in the ring since the qualifiers due the COVID-19 pandemic and I can't emphasis enough how important it is for boxers to be engaged in a competitive environment as part of preparation for Olympic Games. nament is crucial because we haven't been in the ring since the qualifiers due the COVID-19 pandemic and I can't emphasis enough how important it is for boxers to be engaged in a competitive environment as part of preparation for Olympic Games.



The team expected to represent Kenya at Tokyo 2020 Olympic games from left to right: Head Coach Musa Benjamin, Coach John Waweru, Welterweight Elizabeth Akinyi, flyweight Christine Ongare, Heavyweight Elly Ajowi, Captain "Commander" Nick Okoth & Deputy haed coach David Munuhe.

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Here at home boxing has been classified as a high risk contact sport and has been suspended by the Government since mid-March last year, though as a federation we have addressed the Minister of Sports requesting to resume boxing league and tournaments without fans.

We have prepared specific boxing protocols and we are also keen to observe all the Protocols from the Ministry of Health to ensure that we do not endanger the lives of our boxers. The National boxing team, however, has been given permission to prepare for international competitions, and the Hit Squad has been training for the last 5 months.

The Hit Squad boxers are highly inspired and motivated by the visit of AIBA president Mr. Umar Kremlev, who visited the country early last month and held a training session with the boxers, which is a dream come true for the boxers, further the AIBA President donated boxing equipment to all the boxers individually and this has motivated the boxers to give their all in training and they are looking forward to performing well in the Africa Zone 3 tournament & other international tournaments especially the Olympic Games and World Championship in November.

The Boxing Federation of Kenya is looking forward to realization of the promise by AIBA president regarding construction of a boxing academy in Nairobi, which is going to be the first of its kind in Africa. The Federation was also promised a boxing ring by AIBA president, and this will no doubt contribute to development of boxing in the country.



Hit Squad posing with AIBA President Mr. Umar Kremlev at AV Fitness Gym, the training base of Kenya National boxing team in Lavington area in Nairobi.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN NEPAL BOXING ASSOCIATION

On the occasion of International Women's Day, March 08, 2021, in Association of Nepal Boxing Association, WEBOX, an all women boxing event is being organized by Box-mandu Boxing Club in partnership with Lalitpur District Boxing Association, Kavre District Boxing Association and with Local Nepal Farmstay under the guidance of Nepal Boxing Association. The event will feature 8 exciting boxing matches of national female boxers of Nepal who have competed in various national and international boxing competitions including South Asian Games.



The Boxing club established this cash prizes women's boxing event last year. The event became highly popular and appreciated in the support of equal gender and strengthening women's involvement in every area. The organizers are very thankful to all supporters, partners and sponsors of the event.

Eight bouts were held at the event where Asmita DUWAL from Bhaktapur started by winning over Sila Rai from RSD club in 48 KG weight category. Mala Rai from Armed Force Police (APF) won the bout against Nita Dulal from Bhaktapur in the same weight category.

In the 51 KG weight category, Rosani Rai won the fight against Sumina Khadka, in 57 KG weight category Mandira Putwar beat Muskan Dangol, in 60 KG weight category, Dechen Sherpa won over Suwan Manandhar, in 64 KG, Hema Rai won the fight over Annika Gahatraj.

All 7 bouts winners got NPR 10,000 and the runners-up got NPR 5000.

In the main fight of the event, in 48 KG weight category, Susma Tamang won the bout against Rasmi Shrestha. The winner received NPR 50,000 and loser got NPR 20,000.

Nepal Boxing Association president Ram Awale, the most popular actor in Nepal Mr. Sunil Thapa, Deputy City Mayor Ms. Saraswoti Khadka, NBA Senior Vice President and National sport council member Mr. Arjun KC delivered the prizes and certificates to the boxers.



The Nepal Boxing Association

OCEANIA BOXING CONFEDERATION (OCBC)

AIBA TO SUPPORT THE BOXING COMPETITION AT THE 2023 PACIFIC GAMES IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

14 National Federations participated virtually at AIBA Continental Forum for Oceania which took place on March, 6th. Chief Executive officer of the Pacific Games Council, Mr. Andrew Minogue became the guest of the Forum.

He delivered a speech about historical part of boxing at the Pacific Games and about the objectives for the 2023 Pacific Games including development and support for regional ITOs and R&Js to officiate at the Games.



'The Pacific Games Council was delighted to participate in the AIBA Oceanian Virtual Forum with AIBA President Kremlev and the Oceania Boxing Confederation (OCBC) membership. The Pacific Games Council has a long standing and strong relationship with OCBC and we look forward to their and AIBA's offer to support the Boxing competition at the 2023 Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands. We are sure the Boxing tournament will be one of the true highlights of the 2023 Games as they always are given the sport's immense popularity in the Pacific islands,' Mr. Andrew Minogue said.

'We are glad to support such important sport event as Pacific Games in Oceania. Together with OCBC leadership and the Pacific Games Council we will plan the Boxing tournament of the 2023 Games. All we do is for our athletes; we cannot leave them in limbo, giving them no chance to perform. Our task is to adapt to changes in the world and organize competitions, including major ones,' Mr. Kremlev said.

Mr. Ted Tanner, OCBC President stressed that planned establishment of the AIBA Academy in Fiji will be a great advancement of the Sport of Boxing in Oceania.