

# The Neutral Corner

Quarterly Newsletter of USA Boxing  
October 2026



## Letter from Leadership



I'm grateful to be asked to write this quarter's column for The Neutral Corner. I've just hung up from the monthly LBC Leadership Zoom call and as usual, I am psyched. The energy you, our membership, bring to all of the national office staff is like electricity. Staff members thrive on being a part of USA Boxing and celebrating all that you accomplish on a daily, weekly, monthly basis. Thank you for continuing to provide the care, training, mentorship and strength to all the folks in your program. USA Boxing is the sum of our members.

Since I am in the Membership Department, I should bring up a few things to keep everything rolling along smoothly as we enter early registration and prepare for the next membership year. Please keep these points in mind:

1. **Register as early as possible starting November 1** so that you are ready to box, coach, officiate, doctor on January 1, 2027. Many Silver Gloves and Golden Gloves events take place in January and February.
2. **A new registration year means longer wait times for background screenings and for athlete documents to be approved...**take this into consideration before deciding when to join or renew.
3. **Clubs, please renew your membership before the end of the year.** (USA Boxing offers a 10% discount on club membership renewals between November 1 and December 31, 2026). Registering before the end of the year allows your members to be able to select your club to attach to. If you wait until January, boxers may have to choose "unattached" until the club actually renews for 2027. Boxers, especially, are proud to be part of their club, please help them be able to do that easily.

**On behalf of the Membership Squad, Claudia, Rhona, Rhonda, Lexie, Deby, and me...we wish you a Fall full of boxing....** and look forward to hearing from you soon.

*Lynette Smith*  
Membership Director

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**The National  
Championship  
will be held in Lafayette,  
LA on December 5-12**

**To register go to:  
<https://shorturl.at/pjZeq>**



# **2027 MEMBERSHIP BEGINS NOVEMBER 1**

**To Renew Your Membership  
Go to**

**<https://usaboxing.webpoint.us/>**



## **TEAM28**

**HELP USA BOXING BE BEST IN THE WORLD.**

The last time LA hosted the Games was in 1984, where USA Boxing fielded the Dream Team, winning nine gold medals. To match that achievement, we have a lot of work ahead of us, but we are up to the task! TEAM28 is an opportunity to be an instrumental part of the effort to dominate the world stage once again. TEAM 28 members will directly affect our increased and elevated efforts to field a team as great as the '84 Dream Team, while providing exciting donor benefits. To donate, go to <https://gviebutler.com/usabf-team28>



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# USA Boxing Announces 2026 Grants4Gyms Winners



USA Boxing is excited to announce the 50 clubs that will receive the 2026 USA Boxing Grants4Gyms packages. **USA Boxing, alongside the USA Boxing Foundation**, utilizes the Grants4Gyms initiative to provide resources throughout the organization's grassroots pathways.

Each of the 50 gyms selected for the 2026 USA Boxing Grants4Gyms program will receive one complimentary USA Boxing club membership for 2027, one complimentary, single-day club event to be hosted in 2027 (excluding third-party and pro-am events), one complimentary coach membership for 2027 and STING boxing gloves. Additionally, each gym will also receive a bundle of mouthguards, courtesy of Impact Custom Mouthguards.

**USA Boxing appreciates the Foundation and Impact Custom Mouthguards** in helping make this program possible. The USA Boxing Grants4Gyms program is committed to directly supporting grassroots clubs and boxers on an annual basis. **Congratulations to the following gyms:**

| Club Name                           | LBC                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| A Future Worth Fighting 4           | Florida            |
| All Or Nothing Boxing Academy       | Indiana            |
| Art of War Boxing                   | So. Cal.           |
| Azteca Boxing Club                  | Colorado           |
| BATTLEFIT                           | No. Cal.           |
| Boxing Resource Center              | Southeastern       |
| Boxing Strong                       | Central California |
| Brick City boxing academy           | Colorado           |
| B-Town Boxing                       | Illinois           |
| CC Christian Warriors Boxing Club   | South Texas        |
| Cleveland Inner city Boxing         | Lake Erie          |
| Dreamland Boxing                    | No. Cal.           |
| DSAL Boxing Academy                 | No. Cal.           |
| Emporia Spartan Boxing Club         | Missouri Valley    |
| Fight Fit Wellington                | Florida Gold Coast |
| Fighter's Chance                    | Idaho Snake River  |
| Full Throttle Fighters              | Missouri Valley    |
| Gloves up boxing Club               | Colorado           |
| Gulfcoast Boxing Academy            | Southern           |
| Guns N Hoses Boxing and Fitness Gym | South Texas        |
| Hankinson Boxing Gym                | South Carolina     |
| Hitsquad Boxing Club                | Colorado           |
| Ike & Randy's Boxing Gym            | New Jersey         |
| JL Tepito boxing club               | No. Cal.           |

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Kaka'ako Boxing Club             | Hawaii          |
| Kingdom City Boxing -Fitness     | Illinois        |
| Larry Edgar Boxing Club          | Missouri Valley |
| Legacy Boxing Club               | New Jersey      |
| Leija Boxing Club                | South Texas     |
| NYC Cops and Kids                | Metro           |
| Old School Boxing                | Arizona         |
| Padillas Boxing Gym              | Minnesota       |
| PK Boxing Gym                    | Michigan        |
| Rock Ministries of Philadelphia  | Mid-Atlantic    |
| Sims Boxing Soldiers             | Oklahoma        |
| Sonrise Boxing T.E.A.M           | Oregon          |
| South Park Boxing Academy        | South Texas     |
| South shore boxing               | New England     |
| Southeast Des Moines Boxing club | Iowa            |
| Spartan Boxing gym               | Oregon          |
| Team GLASS Boxing                | Michigan        |
| The Agoge Project                | Mid-Atlantic    |
| The Bear Den Boxing              | Missouri Valley |
| THE ROCK BOXING GYM              | So. Cal.        |
| Tito's Boxing & Fitness          | Georgia         |
| Toledo Ark                       | Ohio            |
| Torres Boxing Academy            | South Texas     |
| Vercetti Fight Club              | Georgia         |
| West Monroe Boxing Club          | Southern        |



## *Where in the World is the High Performance TEAM?*

The USA Boxing Youth High Performance Team headed to **Budva, Montenegro, for the 2026 World Boxing U19 Championships**, October 16-27. Team USA entered the tournament following a strong performance at the **2026 World Boxing Futures Cup in Thailand, where the team earned four gold medals, one silver medal and four bronze medals.**

Christian Paez, Guadalupe Ruiz, Brijhana Epperson and Lauryn Elmore each captured gold in **Thailand**, while Asaan Jenkins, Caleb Reid, Marley McNealy and Ariana Chavez each earned bronze.

Tournament information for the World Boxing U19 Championships, including daily bout sheets, results, tournament updates, and more, will be posted to the event page on the USA Boxing website, where followers can find the **[World Boxing U19 Championships event page](#)**.

During the Youth team's competition in **Montenegro**, USA Boxing's Elite High Performance Team also competes in **Puebla, Mexico, for the 2026 PanAmerican Championships**, taking place October 18-24.

The Elite team enters the tournament after a successful run at the **World Boxing Cup: China 2026**, where Lorenzo Patricio captured gold in the 55-kilogram division and Marcus Luther earned silver at 65 kilograms. Patricio went 5-0 in China, earning his first elite international gold medal and his third international gold medal overall. Luther secured the first elite international medal of his career after winning four bouts on his way to the silver medal.

Additional tournament information, including brackets, bout sheets, results, and updates, will be available at the event page, **[HERE](#)**.

**Athlete Performance Solutions (APS) is a renowned Nike licensee company** dedicated to providing athletes with top-quality performance footwear and apparel. As a trusted partner of **Nike**, APS delivers innovative solutions to help athletes excel in their respective sports. With a deep understanding of the needs and demands of athletes, APS sources and distributes a wide range of Nike products tailored to enhance performance and optimize athletic capabilities. Their commitment to excellence is evident in their carefully curated selection, which includes cutting-edge footwear, apparel, and accessories. As a licensee, APS upholds the highest standards of quality and authenticity. They work closely with Nike to ensure that every product meets the brand's renowned reputation for excellence.

**Shop for your Nike APS and USA Boxing apparel at:**

**<https://www.athletps.com/boxing-gear/>**





## ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

**Lorenzo Patricio is featured this month because he continues his strong 2026 campaign for Team USA.** He went 5-0 in China to capture gold in the men's 55-kilogram division and earn his first elite international gold medal.

The Hawaii native opened the tournament with a 5-0 win over Singapore's Clayden Teo before earning a 4-1 decision over Chia-Feng Peng of Chinese Taipei. Patricio continued his run with back-to-back 5-0 victories over Bilguunsaikhan Kharkhuu of Mongolia and Nikhil Nikhil of India to reach the gold-medal bout.

Patricio closed out the week against China's Jiamao Zhang, earning another 5-0 unanimous decision to finish the tournament undefeated. The gold medal marks Patricio's third international gold of his career, as he previously won gold at the 2024 World Boxing U19 Championships and the 2025 Brandenburg Cup while competing on USA Boxing's Youth High Performance Team.

Patricio has continued that success at the elite level in 2026, posting an 11-2 record for Team USA. **His year also includes a Silver Medal at the 77th International Strandja Boxing Tournament in February and a Gold Medal in China in June.**

### SAFESPORT MAAPPS POLICY ON ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

For the safety of our boxers, remember that all electronic communication must be **Open and Transparent**, meaning that:

- Communication between an Adult Participant and a Minor Athlete must include a parent/guardian, another adult family member of the Minor Athlete, or another Adult Participant.
- This includes all communication **even those initiated** by a Minor Athlete.
- Only electronic platforms that can be Open and Transparent should be used.
- All team communication or communications with multiple Minor Athletes from an Adult Participant must copy or include another Adult Participant, or all the Minor Athletes' parents/guardians.
- All communication must be professional in nature.
- Organizations must honor a parent/guardian's request to discontinue communication with their Minor Athlete unless there is an emergency.
- One-on-One exceptions are allowed.



**Built USA Tough.**

Impact Custom Mouthguards is offering all USA Boxing members \$20 off all USA Boxing Mouthguards, via the link [HERE](https://www.impactmouthguards.com/). By visiting that link, the \$20 discount is automatically applied for all USA Boxing Mouthguard orders. Impact Custom Mouthguards is a proud partner of USA Boxing.

**Shop for your mouthguard from the USA Boxing line of Impact Custom Mouthguards at:**

<https://www.impactmouthguards.com/>

# National Open in Cleveland is Deemed a Success!



## Registration Type

|                                          |     |
|------------------------------------------|-----|
| 2026 USAB National Open Boxer            | 653 |
| 2026 USAB Transfer Boxer                 | 30  |
| Non-Tournament Boxer - Sparring Only     | 15  |
| 2026 USAB National Open - Coach          | 427 |
| 2026 USAB National Open - Coach LATE FEE | 21  |
| 2026 USAB National Open - Official       | 66  |
| 2026 USAB National Open - Physician      | 8   |
| Contractor/Vendor                        | 2   |

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| BOXER                     | 698         |
| COACH                     | 448         |
| OFFICIAL                  | 76          |
| <b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS</b> | <b>1222</b> |

|                       |     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|
| Elite Female          | 30  |     |
| Elite Male            | 147 |     |
| Youth Female          | 10  |     |
| Youth Male            | 89  |     |
| Junior Female         | 22  |     |
| Junior Male           | 112 |     |
| Intermediate Female   | 13  |     |
| Intermediate Male     | 86  |     |
| Bantam Female         | 17  |     |
| Bantam Male           | 76  |     |
| Pee Wee 9-10 Female   | 7   |     |
| Pee Wee 9-10 Male     | 53  |     |
| Pee Wee 8 Female      | 1   |     |
| Pee Wee 8 Male        | 13  |     |
| Elite/Youth           | 276 | 41% |
| Junior/Int./Bantam/PW | 400 | 59% |



In 2003, finding high-quality boxing gear at prices people could afford was a struggle. So the creators of STING did what they could do best and designed their own gear.

STING saw an opportunity to supply boxing equipment that protected you and your hands whilst providing comfort to the sport. They began by forming glove molds and stitching it all together in a spare room of our small Melbourne-based home.

From a few friends in a spare bedroom, to offices in Australia, New Zealand, America, Canada, England, Greece, Germany and Dubai, STING has come a long way.

STING can now be found in 25+ countries and continues to be enjoyed by boxers of all ranges, both amateur and professional. For more details, click: <https://stingsports.com/>

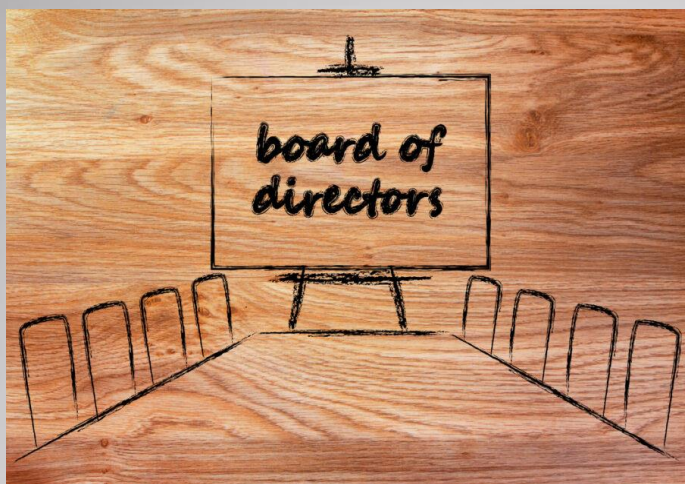
## SafeSport Training for Youth Athletes, Parents & Guardians

The US Center for SafeSport offers online age-appropriate educational courses for children and youth aged pre-school through high school as well as training for parents and guardians. USA Boxing encourages the parents and guardians of youth athletes to review the information and choose the online course that best fits their child's age or developmental age.

The website to access the courses is <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/>



U.S. CENTER FOR  
**SAFESPORT™**



USA Boxing will be seating ten new board members this Fall to take office in early 2027. Each position has different requirements and will be filled according to the USA Boxing Bylaws.

The call for candidates for most positions are already in the works. The board positions available are:

- 5 Independent Directors
- 2 Athlete Directors
- 1 LBC Director
- 1 Affiliated Organization Director
- 1 International Federation Director

Several of the above positions include current board members who are up for a second term. The 10 positions will join the 5 other board members, whose terms are up at the end of 2028.

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For more information, click: <https://www.b-tek.com/>



*"Connecting Generations of Champions"*

**Don't forget to join the Alumni Association when you renew your boxing membership.**

**To Join, go to your Webpoint membership portal and click the Alumni box.**

**Alumni members receive a complimentary gift and are included in special alumni events and activities.**

***The Alumni Association champions a lifelong, mutually beneficial relationship between USA Boxing and its alumni (athletes, officials, coaches, and fans).***

# Golden Gloves VR is now available on the Meta Quest Store

More than a game, Golden Gloves VR is the first officially sanctioned esports platform connected to USA Boxing and the Pan American Boxing Confederation, representing more than 30 countries across the Americas, and creating a legitimate competitive pathway from virtual competition to real-world recognition.

## About Engine Room VR (Creators of Golden Gloves VR):

Engine Room VR is the virtual reality studio based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that created the most authentic boxing game on the market. Led by Aaron Sloan (a USA Boxing Gym Owner) and operating out of a functioning boxing gym, the studio is best known for its flagship title, Golden Gloves VR — a VR boxing game. Founded in 2021, Engine Room VR was born out of Aaron Sloan's passion for boxing and emerging technology. The team's small, agile group of developers can develop and scale both fully immersive and 2d applications on most commercially available VR headsets and mobile devices. Engine Room VR's business team has the capability to collaborate with and manage relationships across the product launch lifecycle — including leading technology companies, academic institutions, government bodies, top sporting and sports promotion organizations. Golden Gloves VR has been demoed across the US, the UK, and Saudi Arabia, including at sporting events streamed by Netflix.

For more information visit the Golden Gloves VR Website: <https://goldenglovesvr.com/>



## Coaching Clinics: Learn from the Best

Bronze and Silver Clinics are available at the National Championship in Lafayette, LA on December 5 and 6 from 8 am- 5 pm

USA Boxing is accepting requests to host a clinic in 2027.

Request forms can be found on the main website [Coach Membership | USA Boxing](#).

Please reach out to Kammara at [KPenick@usaboxing.org](mailto:KPenick@usaboxing.org) with questions.



Family and Employee Owned

Bell Bank is proud to be the Official Bank of USA Boxing, the national governing body for Olympic-style boxing. Bell and USA Boxing share a commitment to paying it forward to our communities, and we are proud to work together to provide financial education, resources and opportunities for USA Boxing's clubs and members.

Through tough defeats and hard-fought victories, boxing builds the resilience, confidence and character necessary to become champions. Bell Bank is excited to partner with USA Boxing as we support their mission of growing the sport across the United States. Learn more at: <https://bell.bank/partners>.

## Disciplinary Process

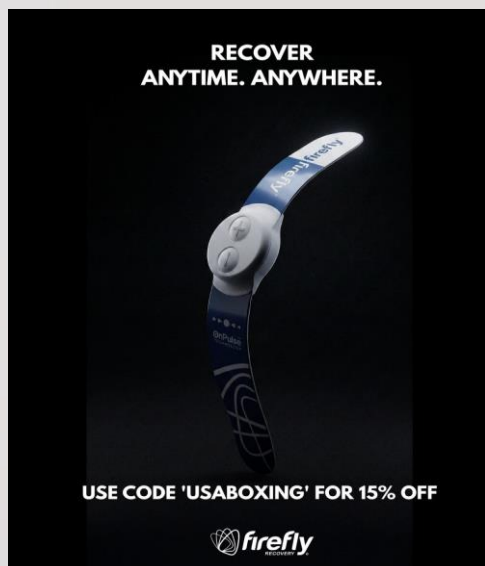
For matters within USA Boxing's jurisdiction, complaints are reviewed in accordance with applicable USA Boxing policies and procedures. Following an initial assessment, USA Boxing may impose temporary measures, including an administrative hold or temporary suspension, when appropriate pending investigation or final resolution. The respondent will receive notice of the allegations and an opportunity to respond as required by applicable procedures. USA Boxing may issue written disciplinary action, subject to any available review, hearing, appeal, or arbitration rights. Matters within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center for SafeSport will be referred to and handled in accordance with the Center's policies, and USA Boxing will enforce applicable temporary measures and sanctions. USA Boxing will make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy and confidentiality of complaints, investigations, and disciplinary proceedings. Information may, however, be shared with the parties, the relevant LBC, the USOPC, the U.S. Center for SafeSport, law enforcement, and other entities or individuals with a legitimate need to know, or as otherwise required or permitted by applicable law or governing documents, including the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, USOPC and USA Boxing bylaws and policies, and U.S. Center for SafeSport policies and procedures.

**Here is a recap of the reported cases the Panel has worked on in the 3rd quarter of 2026.**

| Qty | Allegation Type                       | Ruling                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24  | Complaints                            | Handled via emails or personal phone calls                                                                                                                                           |
| 11  | Code of Conduct & Rulebook Violations | Disciplinary Letter: suspension and probation, or banned from USAB sanctioned events                                                                                                 |
| 1   | LBC Grievances                        | Adjudicated at the LBC level                                                                                                                                                         |
| 6   | National Grievances                   | Hearings heard by the Judicial Committee Panel                                                                                                                                       |
| 0   | Legal                                 | Cases involving attorneys for both sides                                                                                                                                             |
| 0   | Appeals                               | Litigants and USA Boxing may appeal Judicial Committee decisions and additional litigants may appeal the Appeal Panel's decision to an independent arbitrator per USA Boxing bylaws. |
| 3   | Forgeries                             | 30-day suspension to include waiting to upload an acceptable document.                                                                                                               |
| 47  | SafeSport Issues                      | SafeSport either accepts or declines jurisdiction                                                                                                                                    |
| 2   | Unsanctioned Events                   | Admin Hold and Disciplinary Action                                                                                                                                                   |

### USA Boxing is pleased to continue our partnership with Firefly.

Firefly is a wearable recovery device that increases blood flow, speeding up full body recovery and enhancing overall performance.



**Recover Faster. Train Harder. Perform Better.**

Click for more information:  
<https://www.recoveryfirefly.com/>

**Thank you to Rosetta Stone for helping our athletes learn new languages!** Rosetta Stone, the world's leading language learning brand, has dedicated itself to changing people's lives through the power of language for more than 30 years. The company's innovative digital solutions use advanced technology to help learners at home, in schools, and in workplaces achieve their language goals. By learning with Rosetta Stone, people experience the joy of being able to read, write, and speak 25 languages, and make deeper connections with the world around them.

For more information, click  
<https://www.rosettastone.com/>

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## How to Get Involved with National Coach Survey

with support from



### Take the Survey

The National Coach Survey targets **ALL youth sport coaches who work with young people in any sport setting** including organized sport and free play. The survey questions focus on:

- Coaches' background and training
- Rationale for coaching
- Impacts of training
- Needed additional support

This short online survey should be taken by **anyone who is or has been a youth sports coach** and will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. For respondents willing to provide an email address, one person from every 500 will win a \$50 electronic gift card.

**Click Here for**  
[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

### Share with Your Network

You can continue supporting coach research by sharing the survey with program leaders, school administration, parks and recreation departments and more!

- Newsletters
- Social Media (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook)
- Flyers & QR codes
- Presentations

Use the graphics, copy and distribution strategies in our communications toolkit to recruit as many coaches from your state, organization, school and community to participate!

**Click Here for**  
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**For more information, visit the SignsRX Website:**

<https://www.signsrxusa.com/usa-boxing/>

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