

The Neutral Corner

Quarterly Newsletter of USA Boxing
January 2026



Letter from Leadership

As we begin 2026, USA Boxing extends our sincere thanks to the coaches, officials, athletes, and the families who support our boxers throughout the year. Your time, energy, and commitment are the foundation of everything we accomplish.

Since 2017, we have consistently set new membership benchmarks, and 2025 was no exception. **We have grown from approximately 38,000 members to more than 67,000 members and our registered boxing clubs/gyms have expanded from roughly 1,800 to nearly 2,900 nationwide, in 2025.** This progress is driven by the passion and service of volunteers and members across the country who continue to strengthen Olympic-style boxing in every community.

Celebrating Competitive Success in 2025: We are also proud of the achievements of our boxers and the coaches who have invested years into their development. In 2025, Team USA recorded notable international success, including medal performances at major championship events—highlighted by a silver medal finish for Yoseline Perez in the 54kg division at the inaugural World Boxing Championships in Liverpool, England. Additionally, the USA Boxing Youth High Performance team also captured multiple medals at the Brandenburg Cup in Germany.

Momentum Toward LA28 and the Road Ahead: We also saw meaningful progress for the future of Olympic boxing, including continued momentum toward LA28. In 2026, our focus sharpens as we prepare for the next phase of Olympic qualification beginning in 2027 and the pathway that leads to Los Angeles in 2028.

A Strong 2026 National and Regional Event Calendar: In 2026, we are excited to host the Women's Championships, as a national event in Colorado Springs, which will stand alongside four additional national events across the country. We anticipate outstanding competition, high-quality officiating, and strong attendance creating meaningful opportunities for development at the grassroots, regional and national levels.

Further, USA Boxing will conduct 16 rankings events in 2026. We have heard your feedback clearly: more regional competition helps increase access, build experience, and reduce travel costs for athletes and families. You asked, and we responded.

On behalf of the USA Boxing Board of Directors, our staff, and me personally, thank you for your dedication to USA Boxing and to Olympic-style boxing. I look forward to seeing you in 2026 as we work together to build another record-setting year, and most importantly, to provide the highest-quality competition opportunities for athletes to grow into champions both inside and outside the ring.

In your corner, **Mike McAtee**, Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS



REGISTER NOW AT:
<https://shorturl.at/FJzmy>



REGISTRATION BEGINS ON FEB. 1!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



Don't Forget

Only Registered Boxers, Coaches,
Officials & Doctors Can Participate

Renew Your Membership

for 2026 at:

<https://usab.webpoint.us/>

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.



ARE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DOCS UP TO DATE?

BE SURE TO HAVE ALL DOCUMENTS UPLOADED INTO YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE TO MAKE ANY FUTURE NATIONAL EVENT REGISTRATIONS SMOOTHER!

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS & VERIFICATIONS:

- CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- CURRENT PHYSICAL
- DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE ANY MISSING BOUTS ADDED TO YOUR MATCHTRACKER!

SafeSport Training for Youth Athletes, Parents & Guardians



U.S. CENTER FOR
SAFESPORT

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://shorturl.at/gBoeF>



Sting Sports is happy to provide USA Boxing members access to our latest sale. Head to <https://stingsports.com/collections/sales> to shop Sting Sports equipment.



Where in the World is the High Performance TEAM?

Elite boxers began 2026 "in camp" in **Colorado Springs, Colorado** at the Olympic & Paralympic Training Center (OPTC) competing to be selected to USA's Elite High Performance Team and Elite High Performance Squad. As a part of the selection camp, USA Boxing is also hosting a multi-nation camp January 25-February 8, with teams from China, Finland, Great Britain and Kazakhstan in attendance. Following the conclusion of the selection camp, USA Boxing will make its selection for the 2026 Elite High Performance Team and Squad. The Elite Team will then head to **Bulgaria** February 19 - March 2 for the

2026 Strandja Tournament. This event will be followed by a return to **Colorado** March 8 - April 6, preparing the Elite Team for the World Boxing Cup, taking place April 18-27 in **Brazil**, and the Elite Squad for the Gee Bee Tournament, taking place April 6-12 in **Finland**.

The 2026 Youth High Performance Selection Camp will be held in **Colorado Springs, Colorado** at the OPTC on February 15 - March 4. Following the conclusion of this camp, the selected Youth High Performance Team will head to **Thailand** for the 2026 World Boxing U19 Futures Cup March 4-16.

Elite TEAM and Squad selection announcements will be made on the week of February 9, and the Youth Team announcement will be published on the week of March 2.

We wish all our invited boxers good luck at the selection camps and in upcoming tournaments!



Lorenzo Patricio (pictured above) and Jayshannet Zapata (pictured below) are two of the 32 boxers in Colorado Springs for the Elite High Performance Selection Camp.



NATIONAL RULE BOOK

Effective January 1, 2026



Member of United States Olympic Paralympic Committee

Revisions to the USA Boxing Rule Book went into effect on January 1, 2026.

To learn all the changes, go to <https://www.usaboxing.org/usa-boxing-rulebook>

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/>





EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Lynette Smith 20th Anniversary with USA Boxing

For the past 20 years, Lynette Smith has been a cornerstone of USA Boxing's national office, dedicating her career to serving the organization and its members with unwavering commitment and care. As USA Boxing's Director of Membership, Lynette consistently plays a **vital role in shaping the member experience, ensuring that athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers across the country feel supported and connected to the organization.** Reaching this 20-year milestone is not only a celebration of longevity, but a testament to the passion and professionalism she brings to her work every day.

Throughout two decades of growth and change within the organization, **Lynette has been a constant and trusted presence. Her deep institutional knowledge, steady leadership and problem-solving mindset** have guided USA Boxing through evolving membership systems, policies and operational demands. **For countless members, Lynette has been the voice on the other end of the phone** or the name in the inbox who consistently delivers solutions with patience, clarity and respect.

As the longest tenured employee on the USA Boxing national office staff, Lynette's impact extends far beyond her title. She has assisted in **preserving the organization's culture, mentored colleagues and ensured continuity during periods of transition.** Her work behind the scenes has enabled athletes to participate in thousands of events, kept memberships current and bolstered the grassroots foundation of the sport.

USA Boxing is better because of Lynette Smith's dedication, institutional memory, and genuine care for the community. To highlight her 20th anniversary, USA Boxing celebrates not just her years of service, but the lasting impact she has made on the organization and the thousands of members she has supported along the way. **Her legacy is woven into the fabric of USA Boxing,** and her contributions will continue to be felt for years to come. **Please join USA Boxing in celebrating this incredible milestone for Lynette Smith!**



Mike McAtee, Executive Director thanked Lynette Smith, Membership Director for her service at a staff luncheon in December.

**RECOVER
ANYTIME. ANYWHERE.**



USE CODE 'USABOXING' FOR 15% OFF



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/>

National Championships By The Numbers

2025 USA Boxing National Championships
December 6 -13 in Lubbock, Texas

6 days of competition, 10 sessions held in 4 boxing rings

1463 Boxers registered

1041 Coaches registered (1 to 1.4 ratio)

101 Officials registered

1605 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

**941 Boxers competed • 115 Champions crowned
12 Bronze Coaches certified • 8 Silver Coaches certified**

829 Bouts contested • 177 Female Bouts (21%)

729 Decided by Decision - 57% Unanimous, 43% Split

60 Bouts were Stopped (8%)

56 Bout Results of RSC - Referee Stopped Contest

2 Bout Results of KO - Knockout • 5 Medical Restrictions Issued

0.30% Incidence of Injury rate

Most Outstanding Elite Female Boxer - **Noelle Haro** - EF112

Most Outstanding Elite Male Boxer - **Lavant Brownlee** - EM154

Most Outstanding Youth Female Boxer - **Ciana Nonphala** - YF106

Most Outstanding Youth Male Boxer - **Christian Paez** - YM121

Most Outstanding Junior Female Boxer - **Maxine Garcia** - JF101

Most Outstanding Junior Male Boxer - **Amir Foster**

Most Outstanding Referee - **Jonathan Wolper**

Most Outstanding Judge - **Jamil Ali**

Most Outstanding Administrator - **Bill Wells**

Pete Suazo Humanitarian Award - **Brent Bovell**

Race Demographics (All Participants)

48% Hispanic • 26% Black • 8% White • 7% Mixed race

3% Asian • 2% Hawaiian • 1% Native American

7 Olympians participated in the tournament

Boxer Jennifer Lozano from the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris

Boxer Naomi Graham from the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo

Coach Arthur Johnson from the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul

Coach Zahir Raheem from the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta

Coach Rocky Juarez from the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney

Coach Rau'shee Warren from the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens,

2008 Olympic Games in Beijing & 2012 Olympic Games in London

Coach Tiger Johnson from the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo

**22 Boxers from the USA High Performance Team
participated with 11 winning Championships**

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.** TEAM28 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://givebutter.com/usabf-team28>**



USA Boxing Board Members, Hector Colon and Tyson Lee present Lavant Brownlee the Most Outstanding Elite Male Boxer award.



Mike Campbell, USA Boxing Senior Manager of Events & Operations presents Noelle Haro the Most Outstanding Elite Female Boxer award.

 **juice**
performer®

To train and recover your best, you should only put the best fuel in your body — like 100% juice. Whether you're aiming to beat your personal record or smoke the competition, do it in a pure way with Juice Performer, the Official Juice of USA Boxing. Juice Performer's Tart Cherry Juice aids in recovery and has anti-inflammatory, muscle pain fighting and sleep-enhancing properties. Both Beet Juice varieties provide at least 300mg of nitrates, which deliver more oxygen to muscles while also increasing stamina and strength. Use code **1JPBOX26** to save 20% on your next purchase of Juice Performer Beet and Tart Cherry juices at Amazon.com.

For more details, click:

<https://juiceperformer.com/>

USA Boxing Announces 16 Rankings Events for 2026

Sixteen Events Distributed Among Three Tiered Rankings Classifications

USA Boxing is excited to announce its 16 rankings events for 2026, which will contribute to the organization's national rankings. USA Boxing ranks its boxers from PeeWee to Elite divisions, and all boxers competing in these 16 events will attempt to earn points towards their USA Boxing national rankings.

At the conclusion of each event, the top eight boxers in each weight category will receive points towards their rankings. Additional USA Boxing ranking information is available [HERE](#).

Of these events, two are classified as Tier 3, five are classified as Tier 2, and nine are classified as Tier 1. USA Boxing will host five national events this calendar year, including the annual National Championships and Junior Olympics, which will be the Tier 3 events.

USA Boxing will also host the International Open, the Women's Championships, Summer Festival and the National Open, rounding out the year's national event competitions. All of those events are classified as Tier 2 events. Rounding out the Tier 2 events is the National Silver Gloves, which will take place in Independence, Missouri, from February 26 through March 1.

For the remaining Tier 2 and Tier 1 events, locations and dates are listed below. All USA Boxing rankings events are critical for USA Boxing members in accruing rankings points throughout 2026. These events assist boxers in USA Boxing rankings lists to better position themselves for seeding and overall competition at the 2026 National Championships.

Additionally, USA Boxing recently announced its initial 2026 rankings, following the conclusion of the 2025 USA Boxing National Championships. USA Boxing rankings use a two-year point system, meaning all points earned at a ranking event are valid for two years. Points earned from an event will be reduced by 50% on December 1 of the following year and by 100% on December 1 of the following year. USA Boxing ranking points do not carry over from one weight class to another, or from one age division to another.

To find the initial rankings for 2026, USA Boxing members can click [HERE](#).

USA Boxing National Ranking Events:

Tier 3

USA Boxing Junior Olympics: Wichita, KS | June 20-27

USA Boxing National Championships:
Lafayette, LA | December 5-13

Tier 2

USA Boxing International Open:
Pueblo, CO | February 7-14

National Silver Gloves:
Independence, MO | February 26 - March 1

USA Boxing Women's Championships:
Colorado Springs, CO | March 10-15

USA Boxing Summer Festival: Wichita, KS | June 20-27
USA Boxing National Open: TBD | TBD

Tier 1

Arnold Invitational: Columbus, OH | March 5-8

Carolina Gloves: Kernersville, NC | April 16-19

The Battle at Valley Forge:
King of Prussia, PA | April 27 - May 1

National Junior Golden Gloves: Allen, TX | July 6-11

Rival OKC Championships: Oklahoma City, OK | July 23-26

World of Havoc: Orlando, FL | July 27 - August 1

Texas Women's Championships: Houston, TX | August 29 - September 2

PAL National Championships: Oxnard, CA | September 29 - October 4

Tri-Valley Invitational: Pleasanton, CA | November 20-24

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/>

Rosetta Stone



2026 Scholarship Timeline Announced

The **USA Boxing Foundation** is pleased to award up to thirty, \$1,000 scholarships to qualified applicants pursuing their post-secondary education (trade, undergraduate, or graduate program).

In the 1970s, **Thomas L. "Sarge" Johnson** became one of the United States' most influential amateur boxing coaches.

After a distinguished career in the U.S. Army, Johnson served as an assistant coach for the 1976 US Olympic Boxing team. With gold medalists "Sugar" Ray Leonard, Leon and Michael Spinks among his list of pupils, Johnson was later appointed national coach. In March 1980, Johnson and all 21 members of the U.S. National Boxing team were killed in an airplane crash near Warsaw, Poland.

The Thomas "Sarge" Johnson scholarship provides amateur boxers an ability to apply the skills learned in the sport to post-secondary education in "Sarge" and the team's memory.

Scholarship funds will be awarded directly to the applicant's college, university, or trade school.



SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR ALL USA BOXERS PURSUING THEIR EDUCATION

THE THOMAS "SARGE" JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

1. BE A U.S. CITIZEN
2. BE ENROLLED FOR FALL 2026 IN A FULL-TIME — AS DEFINED BY THEIR INSTITUTION — GRADUATE/UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM OR TRADE SCHOOL
3. HAVE BEEN A USA BOXING MEMBER IN 2025 AND A CURRENT USA BOXING MEMBER FOR 2026
4. COMPETED IN A MINIMUM OF TWO USA BOXING SANCTIONED BOUTS IN 2025



DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: APRIL 15, 2026

[USABOXINGFOUNDATION.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS](https://usaboxingfoundation.org/scholarships)

The Deadline to Apply is April 15, 2026. Scan on the above QR Code to be connected to the scholarship application. Prior to submitting this please ensure you have the following:

1. Your USA Boxing ID Number and number of bouts competed in 2025.
2. A letter of recommendation from a boxing coach, teacher, or other individual that is not a family member (current or former).
3. All trade school or collegiate transcripts (high school transcripts for first year applicants).
4. The physical and email address of the financial aid office of your university/trade school.

USA Boxing thanks the Foundation for the funding of this important program!

Earn CME Credits While Becoming a Certified Ringside Physician &
Learning to be a Traveling TEAM USA Doctor
USA Boxing Physician Symposium · March 12-13, 2026
Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Colorado Springs, CO

All USA Boxing Ringside Physicians and interested doctors are invited to attend a **two-day hands-on training on March 12-13, 2026 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Colorado Springs, CO.** The cost of \$499 includes: 15 CME credits from the University of Mississippi; 2 optional lunches; 2 optional dinners; bus ride to the USA Boxing Women's Championship Boxing Event (for First 30 Registrations); and interactive training of the course outline below focusing on what it takes to be a successful Ringside Physician and what is involved as a traveling team doctor.

Register by going to <https://shorturl.at/RJ4FM> Log in if already a member. Membership not required to register. Click Registration Information to register and pay the registration fee.

Hotel stay, air travel, rental cars, ground transportation, parking, additional meals, and tours are **not** included in the price. However, a special room block at the Hilton Garden Inn Downtown (125 N Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903) has been created for a price of \$139 per night plus taxes. **To reserve your room (including breakfast) until February 16, go to booking at: <https://shorturl.at/UrlAY>**

Course outline (subject to change) A more detailed syllabus with objectives will be given along with information on how to obtain your CME credits from the University of Mississippi after registration.

Responsibilities of the Ringside Physician: Learn how Licensed MD's or DO's volunteer their time to help young boxers' Olympic dreams come true. Also discussed will be ringside responsibilities including knowing how and when to stop a bout; the tools necessary for a boxing tournament; and knowing the importance of notifying local medical facilities about the boxing event.

Olympic-Style Boxing vs. Professional Prize Fighting: Learn about the differences of professional versus amateur boxing including glove size difference; weight classes; number of judges (5 vs 3); and the difference of rules and regulations. Active organizational changes in USA Boxing, the USOPC and international boxing will also be covered.

Necessary Medical Exams: Learn the requirements of annual pre-participation examinations; how to work weigh-ins; and how to conduct pre-bout and post-bout examinations and ringside assessments. Discussion will also include how to identify a heart murmur in an athlete and how to auscultate and how to proceed.

Common Boxing Related Injuries: Specialized physicians will teach and demonstrate the best way to treat and assess boxing injuries such as facial laceration/facial wound repair, nose bleeds, head injuries, and concussions. Learn how to conduct mini mental status exams and ringside neurological evaluations from a neurologist; extract a boxer; assess hand and clavicle injuries; evaluate ringside eye exams from an ophthalmologist; suture repair techniques from a plastic and reconstructive surgeon; and monitor cardiac murmurs, blood pressure and heart rate assessments from a cardiologist.

Medical for High Performance Boxing: USA Boxing will present what is involved medically for USA Boxing's High Performance Team. Learn what the commitments are as a Team Physician, how to get involved, and much more. Nutrition information including boxer weight management; the approach to developing an Olympic Boxer from a strength and conditioning perspective; and the duties of "The Cut Man" including ringside hand wrapping will be covered. The United States Anti-doping Agency (USADA) will present about confirmed diagnoses of medical conditions that require treatment with prohibited substances.

Closing: The training will end with discussion of recruitment of more ringside physicians; information on taking the CME exam; legal and insurance issues; how to register to be a member and take Safesport training; how to get involved at the local, national, and international levels; and a "field trip" to USA Boxing's Women's Championships to observe first-hand Ringside Physicians in action.

Continuing Medical Education credits: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the University of Mississippi Medical Center and USA Boxing. The University of Mississippi Medical Center is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Information on receiving the credits will be available after registration.

The University of Mississippi School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 15.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the educational activity.



Disciplinary Process

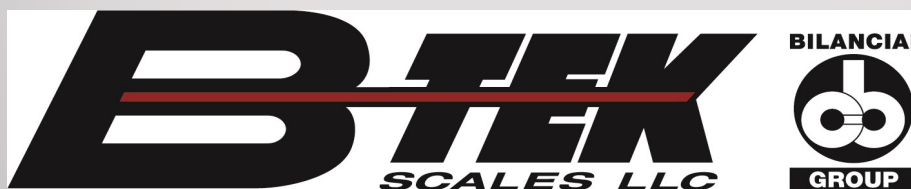
The Judicial Review Panel is comprised of six (6) members of the USA Boxing staff from different departments. **Once a complaint has been received and validated, the process may be to issue Temporary Measures (which could include Admin Hold or Suspension) against the membership** of the accused pending the investigation.

The respondent(s) is given the opportunity for their statement regarding the allegations. When possible, the Panel meets up to twice per week and discusses at length, the issue and any disciplinary action (s) against the person(s) who committed the violation(s).

After a decision has been rendered, a letter of "Disciplinary Action" is emailed out with a requested response time for the acceptance or rejection of action. If a rejection is received, the matter is then presented to the Judicial Committee for review and/or hearing. Both the Admin Hold notice and the Disciplinary Letter are copied to the member's home LBC and other parties on a need to know basis only. **All cases are strictly confidential and never shared with a 3rd party.**

Below is a recap of the reported cases the Panel has worked on in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2025.

Qty	Allegation Type	Ruling
34	Complaints	Handled via emails or personal phone calls
19	Code of Conduct & Rulebook Violations	Disciplinary Letter: suspension & probation, or banned from USAB sanctioned events
6	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
2	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.
8	Forgeries	30-day suspension to include waiting to upload an acceptable document.
53	SafeSport Issues	SafeSport either accepts or declines jurisdiction
8	Unsanctioned Events	Admin Hold and Disciplinary Action



B-TEK's story began in the service industry with working in tough environments for over 90 years. B-TEK has earned the reputation of building the most durable scales – an honor that could only be forged from the demanding steel industries in Northeastern Ohio almost a century ago. For more information, click: <https://www.b-tek.com/>



Coaches do you want to learn from the best?

Below are the upcoming Bronze and Silver Level Coaching Clinics. For further information and to register click:

[Events | USA Boxing](#)

Bronze Courses

January 31 & February 1:
Fuquay Varina, NC

February 7 & 8: Belleville, NJ

February 21 & 22: Cranston, RI

February 21 & 22: Riverside, CA

March 14 & 15: Milan, OH

March 14 & 15: Washington DC

March 21 & 22: Austin, TX

April 4 & 5: Springfield, IL

April 18 & 19: Lubbock, TX

April 25 & 26: Colorado Springs, CO

Silver Courses

February 21 & 22: Manteca, CA

March 9 & 10: Colorado Springs, CO
during Women's Championship

May 23-24: Astoria, NY

August 8 & 9: Riverside, CA

USA Boxing Announces Top Five Win-

With the start of 2026, USA Boxing wants to shine a light on its grassroots boxing gyms across the nation for their committed participation at its four national events last year. Throughout 2025, USA Boxing hosted four national events, allowing multiple USA Boxing-sanctioned clubs to showcase their athletes' tireless commitment to the sport.

Five USA Boxing clubs concluded the year with tremendous success in the ring during those national events and separated themselves, and racked up the most individual bout victories at USA Boxing's four national events in 2025.

5. Team Cartel Elite Boxing

Getting this started is Team Cartel Elite Boxing. This boxing gym is part of the Ohio LBC and is returning to these rankings after earning a spot in the 2024 top five. Team Cartel Elite Boxing logged a collective 35 wins at USA Boxing national tournaments in 2025. This gym is led by Robert Mumford, and all information about this gym can be found [HERE](#) on Instagram.

4. Relentless Boxing Academy

Moving up in the rankings from one year ago is Relentless Boxing Academy. This gym ranks No. 4 in the nation this year, based on its 42 victories at USA Boxing national events. Relentless Boxing Academy, located in Round Rock, Texas, has emerged as one of the top gyms in the country and is part of the South Texas LBC. The gym is led by Julio Jaime. Click [HERE](#) to check out their Instagram.

3. HR Boxing

Rounding out the top three for the second consecutive year is HR Boxing, based out of Waianae, Hawaii. Led by Johanna Tangaro, this Hawaiian boxing gym continues to dominate, this year with 51 wins at USA Boxing National Events in 2025. Check out HR Boxing on Instagram [HERE](#)!

2. Real Deal Boxing

For the second consecutive year, Real Deal Boxing places second in these rankings after earning eight more wins than it did in 2024. The Cincinnati, Ohio, boxing gym recorded 59 wins in 2025 and is the second Ohio LBC to be represented among this year's rankings. Head coach Gary McNear leads Real Deal Boxing. Follow Real Deal Boxing on Instagram [HERE](#).

1. WestSide Striking

And finally, for the second consecutive year, WestSide Striking stands at the top of the podium with the most wins at USA Boxing National Events in 2025. Head coach Michael Talalotu once again led this Hawaiian boxing gym to the top with an impressive 80 wins in 2025, four more wins than the gym had in 2024. This Hawaii boxing gym is located in Waianae, Hawaii, within the Hawaii LBC. Check out Westside Striking on Instagram [HERE](#).

To USA Boxing Sanctioned Event Directors,

As you begin planning your 2026 USA Boxing sanctioned events, securing reliable, affordable lodging for athletes, coaches, officials, and families is a critical part of delivering a successful tournament experience.

To support you in this process, USA Boxing encourages all Sanctioned Event Directors to utilize www.usaboxing.hotelplanner.com. This platform was built specifically to support USA Boxing events and provides tools designed to simplify event lodging while protecting your event, your participants, and the organization.



Why use the official USA Boxing HotelPlanner platform?

- Dedicated Event Hotel Blocks – Secure competitive group rates near your venue with flexible options tailored to your event.
- Centralized Booking Experience – One trusted link for all attendees, reducing confusion and off-platform bookings.
- Participant Support – Professional customer service to assist with changes, questions, and special requests.
- Compliance & Brand Protection – Ensures accurate event representation and rate parity.
- No Cost to Event Directors – Hotel sourcing and support are provided at no additional cost to you.
- Direct Support of USA Boxing – Hotel bookings made through this platform help support USA Boxing programs.

By directing your event participants to usaboxing.hotelplanner.com, you streamline logistics, enhance the attendee experience, and reduce the administrative burden on your organizing team—allowing you to focus on running a great event.

If you are in the early stages of planning a 2026 sanctioned event, we encourage you to begin hotel discussions early to maximize availability and pricing.

Thank you for your continued commitment to delivering high-quality USA Boxing events. We look forward to supporting your success in 2026 and beyond.

BOARD MEETING

The USA Boxing Board of Directors met virtually three times in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Key items on the agendas included: **Board Chairperson Reports, Executive Director reports, Fee Increase, Budget Approval, Sex Eligibility Policy, sponsorships, financial reports, and World Boxing involvement.** Minutes for the meetings can be found at <https://www.usaboxing.org/about-us/board-of-directors>

Bell Bank

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: <https://bell.bank/partners>.



COLLECTION



Impact Custom Mouthguards is offering all USA Boxing members \$20 off all USA Boxing Mouthguards, via the link [HERE](#). 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/>**

Xempower

Xempower USA is an innovative digital sports company, with a business scope spanning digital sports solutions, event organization, venue management, and national club operations. Committed to excellence, we deliver comprehensive services and end-to-end support to empower our clients in every aspect of the sports industry. Visit [Xempower USA](#) today!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

If you missed the **Annual Membership Meeting** that was held on January 28th, you can find the meeting recording, powerpoint presentation and answers to members' questions at: <https://www.usaboxing.org/about-us/board-of-directors> under 2026 Minutes



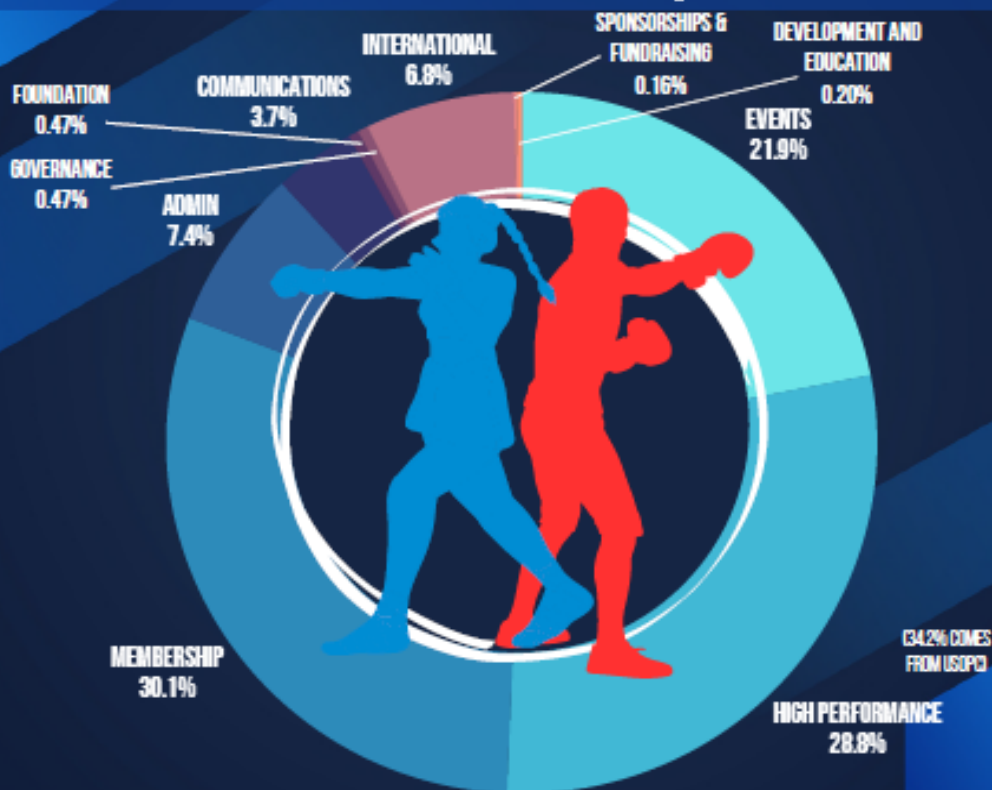
2025 ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

EVENTS

45.3%	TRAVEL
23.7%	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (HR & OPERATIONAL)
18.1%	OTHER (SUPPLIES, FACILITIES, APPAREL, ETC.)
5.5%	CONTRACT LABOR
3.4%	RENT
2.6%	AWARDS
1.4%	SHIPPING & INSURANCE

HIGH PERFORMANCE

34.2%	OF BUDGET FROM USOPC FUNDING
51.3%	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (HR & OPERATIONAL)
21.1%	TRAVEL
16.8%	ATHLETE STIPENDS
6.1%	CONTRACT LABOR
2.6%	OTHER (FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, RENT, ETC.)
2.1%	DUES & FEES



*Subject to Change Pending Audit

GENERAL ADMIN

70.6%	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (HR & OPERATIONAL)
19.3%	OTHER (SUPPLIES, DEPRECIATION, ETC.)
3.8%	DUES & FEES
3.5%	RENT
2.8%	ACCOUNTING & PHONE, FAX, VIDEO

MEMBERSHIP

42.3%	INSURANCE
20.8%	DUES & FEES
20.8%	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (HR & OPERATIONAL)
10.9%	BACKGROUND SCREENING
5.2%	OTHER (CONTRACT LABOR, LEGAL, POSTAGE, TRAVEL, ETC.)

Golden Gloves

Virtually Reality Launch



Golden Gloves VR officially launched last week on the [Meta Quest Store](#), marking an historic milestone for both boxing and esports. More than a game, Golden Gloves VR debuts as 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.

Powered by Meta's virtual reality headsets, Golden Gloves VR blends authentic boxing technique, high-intensity conditioning, and large-scale competitive play into a single global platform, making elite boxing training and competition accessible to anyone with a headset.

Built by real fighters and coaches, the platform mirrors the fundamentals of the sport, including timing, defense, combinations, endurance, and ring IQ, without the barriers of gym access, travel, or physical contact.

"Golden Gloves VR is about breaking down barriers to the sport," said Aaron Sloan, founder of Golden Gloves VR and USA Boxing coach. "You don't need a gym membership, expensive equipment, or even a ring. And now there's an official pathway to compete, be ranked, and be recognized, all from anywhere in the world without the risk of contact."

Golden Gloves VR introduces an unprecedented competition pathway for both amateur boxers and esports athletes. Through the platform, users can compete in official eUSA Boxing online tournaments, earn national rankings, purchase official USA Boxing esports memberships, and qualify for national-level events with opportunities to travel and compete alongside their real-world boxing peers. For the first time, boxing's governing bodies are formally recognizing structured, organized competition inside virtual reality—opening the door for a new generation of athletes to discover the sport through gaming.

"Boxing has always stood for discipline, confidence, and opportunity," said Mike McAtee, CEO and Executive Director of USA Boxing. "Golden Gloves VR extends those values into esports in a meaningful way, creating a legitimate and organized environment where athletes and fans can train, compete, and connect with the sport."

The launch includes a robust multiplayer tournament system built on cloud infrastructure capable of supporting dozens of concurrent competitions worldwide. Unlike traditional fitness or arcade-style boxing games, Golden Gloves VR is designed as a long-term competitive ecosystem, complete with rankings, officiating logic, and community governance.

Beyond competition, Golden Gloves VR gives players the ability to train together inside a shared virtual boxing gym. Using bags built with real-world physics that mirror their physical counterparts, athletes can work out alongside friends online in a way that feels authentic to real gym training. The result is not only realistic boxing preparation, but a fun, social gym environment that captures the energy, camaraderie, and community of a real boxing gym.

The platform also features updated visuals, improved matchmaking, and a one-to-one scanned recreation of Jake Paul's personal boxing gym in Puerto Rico through a collaboration with Jake Paul's Boxing Bullies, supporting youth empowerment through safe, no-contact boxing training. Golden Gloves is available now for **\$14.99** on the Meta Quest Store. For more information, [visit Golden Gloves VR Website](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#).

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 former Cardiac Nurse and 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 high-profile sporting events streamed by Netflix.



"Connecting Generations of Champions"

When renewing your 2026 membership, click the box next to **Alumni Association** to join. 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).



USA Boxing is pleased to continue a partnership with **Emperor's Balm**, a supplemental pain cream formula created from a delicate mixture of essential oils and shea butter. The partnership allows USA Boxing member clubs to partner with Emperor's Balm as wholesale retailers of the product to enhance recovery of athletes, support their

clubs and generate revenue for club owners along the way.

The partnership was enacted to drive members to an all-natural supplement meant to reduce the aches and pains experienced through physical ailments encountered within the sport.

The **Emperor's Balm** formula was produced by Oscity Labs, which aims to create top of the industry products that are scientifically formulated and created effectively to provide measurable healing and life-enhancing qualities, and all-natural solutions to help manage aches and pains. To purchase, go to Amazon.com.



X



OFFICIAL USA BOXING CLUB BANNERS COMING SOON!



EXCLUSIVELY ON [SIGNSRXUSA.COM](https://signsrxusa.com)

SignsRX is partnering with USA Boxing to release the official 2026 Club Banners for registered gyms and clubs. These durable, professionally printed banners are designed to celebrate club identity and reinforce team pride in your space.

For more information on what is happening or if you'd like to become a sponsor contact:

**USA Boxing
One Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO,
80909
719-866-2323**