

# The Neutral Corner

Quarterly Newsletter of USA Boxing  
November 2023



## Letter from Leadership

Wow! I can't believe that it is November already and we are approaching the Olympic Trials in less than two weeks. As always, it is my privilege to serve as the Executive Director for USA Boxing.

I am always amazed at the volunteer commitment of this organization from LBC leaders to event sanction holders to coaches to officials and physicians; all who dedicate their time to make this organization great.

However, for this message I wanted to highlight and thank another group of people who make this organization what it is, the USA Boxing staff.

This quarter in particular has been extremely taxing on all departments. With the World Boxing International Federation Congress happening right now in Germany, almost all staff members' workloads have increased significantly, and I want to thank all of them for sharing my passion to keep boxing in the Olympics in 2028 and beyond.

Not to mention that this quarter was very busy as the staff worked diligently to prep athletes for the Pan American games, conduct LBC elections, host the Last Chance Qualifier, create the 2024 budget, prepare for and begin 2024 membership registration, organize coaching clinics, assist at regional events, produce club highlight videos, and oversee event sanctions (just to name a few things).

This Thanksgiving and always, I am grateful for this "Team behind the Team" that keeps all rolling for our boxers of all levels, and hope you share my appreciation.

Happy Thanksgiving,

*Mike McAtee*

Executive Director



National Championships &  
U.S. Olympic Team Trials  
December 2-9 in Lafayette, LA



**U.S. OLYMPIC  
TEAM TRIALS**  
BOXING

WATCH LIVE BY STREAMING  
AT [USABOXING.ORG](https://usaboxing.org)

## National Office Holiday Closures

**November 23 & 24**  
**December 25 & 26**  
**January 1 & 2**



National Open · March 11-16 · Albuquerque, NM

National Junior Olympics and Summer Festival  
June 24-29 · Wichita, KS

Women's Championships · TBD

National Championships · Dec. 2-7 · Lubbock, TX



**Education & Access to Vaccines** with  
**ASCP** at **USA Boxing** sanctioned events

**USA Boxing** and the **American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP)** are expanding the “Coaching You Up!” campaign to include **USA Curling, USA Fencing, USA Judo and USA Karate**. This community-driven campaign will promote healthy living, access to vaccines and vaccine education for underserved communities and older adults including those with aging and disabled populations, as well as the general population.

All five (5) National Governing Bodies (NGBs) along with ASCP will work together, leveraging resources, to host additional community vaccination clinics during local, regional and nationally sanctioned events. As a reminder, this expansion is possible with a sub-grant awarded by USAging’s Aging and Disability Vaccination Collaborative and funded through the U.S. Administration for Community Living.

This unprecedented alignment and collaboration exemplify the solidarity within the sporting community and the need for access to education and vaccination by trained trusted healthcare professionals.

The campaign will also offer volunteer pharmacy students an opportunity to interact with people of different cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to conduct outreach and education for all the attending fans, friends and families.

All of the participating organizations are dedicated to serving all populations, especially those from historically underserved neighborhoods, which include communities of color, LGBTQ+, and Native American; have low incomes or limited English proficiency, and those who live in hard-to-reach rural areas.

The expansion of Coaching You Up will include 50 onsite activations across the country from now through April 15, 2024.

Visit [www.coachingyouup.org](http://www.coachingyouup.org) for more information visit and follow us on social media.

**USA Boxing is a Winner of the 2023 Sanofi Health Equity Accelerator Award.**

**Mike McAtee, Executive Director was presented this award in Cambridge, MA in November.**



# WANTED

## Event Sanction Holders & LBCs

### Who Want to Earn Up to \$1500 Per Day by Hosting a Vaccine Clinic at Your Event

One LBC has raised almost \$10,000 for their boxing community and you can too as the Coaching You Up Grant Opportunity is available until April 2024. Multi-day events will be granted funds for each day of participation.

For a grant application, go to USA Boxing website or contact Tanner at [twiebelhaus@usaboxing.org](mailto:twiebelhaus@usaboxing.org).



Pictured left is Mike Campbell, USA Boxing’s Boxing Operations Senior Manager receiving the flu vaccine at the Texas Women’s Championship in Houston, TX.

# Membership Services, Inc

**New + Retention = Growth!**

With Early Registration well underway, we want to remind you to register early enough for background screenings to clear. Many events occur very early in the new year and there is an uptick in the number of screenings being requested at that time of the year, so please be sure to renew early enough to give time to process. We do not want to disappoint our boxers when they need us most.

Also we want to let all renewing clubs know, if they re-up their USA Boxing membership by December 31, 2023, they will receive a 10% discount on the 2024 club registration fee.

## Congratulations to ALL the LBC Leaders who were elected last week!

**These Leaders will serve the next 4 years.**

For Election Results, go to

<https://www.usaboxing.org/lbc-election>

We had over 450 candidates apply and over 3500 eligible voters, which is amazing for a volunteer organization.

USA Boxing staff followed the LBC Bylaws and hired a third party company to process the ballots in order to provide true accountability in the elections.



All candidates must have received a majority (more than 50%) of the votes to be declared a winner. **Races that didn't receive a majority of votes will have a run-off vote of the top two candidates (3 if there was a tie) in December.**

Some positions were filled by acclamation (meaning one person ran unopposed) and there are some positions including all Registration Chairs that will be filled at the LBC level in January.

## Make sure the event you plan to participate in is sanctioned by USA Boxing!

Coaches and Boxers, it is essential you stay aware about boxing events that may not be sanctioned by USA Boxing...participating in this type of event may lead to you being ineligible for USA Boxing membership. **Always ask if the event is "Sanctioned by USA Boxing"** and check the USA Boxing website where approved events are always listed (<https://www.usaboxing.org/Upcoming-Events>).



U. S. CENTER FOR  
**SAFESPORT™**

### 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/training-and-education/safesport-courses-for-all/>.

**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
- AND DON'T FORGET TO GET ANY MISSING BOUTS ADDED TO YOUR MATCHTRACKER!

## World Boxing Congress Happening in Germany

World Boxing, boxing's new international federation, is hosting its inaugural Congress at the Mainacarden Venue in Frankfurt am Main, Germany on November 24-25. At the World Boxing Congress, elections will be held.

World Boxing is pleased that at the Congress 28 (27 members and one associate member) countries will be in attendance.

This election will be the first election where members will vote for positions on World Boxing's Executive Board.

USA Boxing is putting forth three candidates for the election including: Elise Seignolle for President, Tyson Lee for Vice President, and Armando Sanchez, MD for Medical and Anti-Doping Committee Chairperson.

USA Boxing is proud of its effort to assist in forming the new international federation with its main goal to keep boxing in the Olympic Games.



## NATIONAL RULE BOOK



Effective January 1, 2022

Member, U.S. Olympic Committee

**Watch for Revisions  
to the USA Boxing  
National Rule Book  
which will go into  
effect in January  
2024**

## 50 Gyms were Awarded a Grants4Gyms Package Worth \$1000

Thanks to the Foundation, Impact Mouthguards, and USA Boxing inventory, 50 gyms were awarded a package worth \$1000 this Fall through the Grants4Gym program. This grant program started in 2020 to ease the burden of the COVID-19 pandemic and has become an annual opportunity for gyms.

In 2023, we received 197 grant applications and awarded 50 grants valued at \$1,000 each. For this grant process, the country was divided into 5 regions. Committee members from each region reviewed the applications to narrow down applicants to the pre-determined number of winners based on the percent of applicants from that region.

### The Grants4Gyms Package included:

- An annual gym membership
- A club show competition sanction
- An annual (non-athlete) coach's membership including background screening
- Training gloves, hand wraps, and mouthguards

We hope that Grants4Gyms will continue each year, so watch for applications again in late Summer!



# 2024 USA Boxing Last Chance Qualifier By the Numbers

6 Days of Competition  
10 Sessions  
2 Boxing Rings

405 Boxers Registered  
353 Coaches Registered  
48 Officials Registered  
**830 Total Participants**

**320 Boxers Competed**  
18% Female

**29 Champions Crowned**  
13 Bronze Coaches Certified  
8 Silver Coaches Certified

**293 Bouts Contested**  
259 Elite Division  
34 Youth Division

**217 Decisions (86%)**  
Unanimous 60%, Split 40%  
36 Stopped (14%)  
40 Walkovers

40 Boxers No Showed  
2 Boxers were Unopposed  
0 Matched Bouts were contested

1 Bout Result of KO – Knockout  
0 Bout Results of RSC-I  
(Stopped due to Injury)  
2 Medical Restrictions  
0.40% Incidence of Injury rate

## Pueblo, Colorado September 9-16



Elite Male Champions



Elite Female Champions



Youth Champions

# Where in the World is the High Performance TEAM?

Last month, our High Performance Team was in Santiago, Chile for the Pan American Games, where we qualified five weight classes for the 2024 Paris Olympics!



## Look Who is Competing in the Olympics

### Congrats in Qualifying at PanAms!



Women's 50kg: Jennifer Lozano

Women's 60kg: Jajaira Gonzalez

Women's 66kg: Morelle McCane

Men's 57kg: Jahmal Harvey

Men's 92+kg: Josh Edwards



## Robby "Rahim" Gonzales Rubs Elbows with Bravolebrities at BravoCon

Our very own Robby "Rahim" Gonzales returned home to Las Vegas after the 2023 Santiago Pan American Games and had the opportunity to be one of three Team USA athletes to attend BravoCon to spark interest about next summer's Olympic Games to Bravo stars and Bravo show fans!

From teaching Frank Catania of Real Housewives of New Jersey how to throw punches, a pushup contest with Brock Davies of Vanderpump Rules and Joe Gorga of Real Housewives of New Jersey, to meeting cast members of numerous shows like Below Deck and Southern Charm, Gonzales got the attention of many fans and helped spark interest in boxing next summer in Paris!



# What You are Fighting For at Nationals / Olympic Trials

**Team Selection Olympic Trials Champions in qualified weight categories will be selected as Elite Team Alternates for 2024**, providing the athlete attends the Elite Team Selection Camp, taking place January 7-31, 2024, and meets the minimum evaluation score.

## **Weight Categories NOT qualified to the 2024 Paris Olympics:**

Women's 54 kg*	Women's 57 kg
Women's 75 kg	Men's 51 kg
Men's 63.5 kg	Men's 80 kg
Men's 92 kg	



**Team Selection for the 8 unqualified weight categories will be determined at the 2024 Elite Team Evaluation & Selection Camp, taking place January 7-31, 2024**, according to the USA Boxing Paris 2024 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures. \*Olympic Trials Champions and 2023 Elite High Performance Team (who met 2023 Performance Exemptions) will be evaluated at this camp in accordance with the USA Boxing High Performance Evaluation Guidelines. The boxer with the highest evaluation score in each unqualified weight category will earn their place on the 2024 Elite High Performance Team.

**The 2024 Elite High Performance Team will be given the opportunity to compete at the 2024 Olympic World Qualifiers, taking place in Italy, February 29-March 12, 2024, and Thailand, May 23-June 3, 2024. Full details on the 2024 Olympic Team Selection Procedures can be found at:**

<https://www.usaboxing.org/olympic-qualification>

**\*NOTE:** For the women's 54kg weight category, the top two Olympic Trials place finishers will advance to the USA Boxing Elite Team Evaluation & Selection Camp, given that the 2023 Elite Team Member did not meet the International Performance Exemption.

## **2024 Youth High Performance Team**

**In 2024, all champions in the youth division from the 2023 USA Boxing National Championships will advance to the 2024 Youth Team Selection Camp, taking place April 28-May 12, 2024, in Chula Vista, California.** Boxers will be evaluated according to the USA Boxing High Performance Evaluation Guidelines and those meeting the minimum evaluation scores will be selected to the 2024 Youth High Performance Team. The 2024 Youth High Performance Team will participate in the following camps and competitions:

**Youth Team General Prep Camp - September 8-22, 2024**

**Youth World Championships Camp & Competition -TBD - October/November**

**Full details on the 2024 Youth High Performance Selection Procedures can be found at:**

<https://www.usaboxing.org/news/2023/september/30/2024-youth-high-performance-selection-procedures-finalized>

## **2024 Junior High Performance Team**

**USA Boxing is currently determining whether a Junior High Performance training camp will take place in 2024**, due to budget and schedule limitations caused by the Olympic year. Updates will be provided on the 2024 Junior High Performance Team plans once determined.

# Coaching Education Update

We have two more Coaching Education Clinics taking place in Lafayette, one bronze and one silver, that have spaces available for current green level coaches looking to learn more in the bronze course, or current bronze level coaches looking to expand even more from their bronze level to our silver course.

Register by going to: [https://usaboxing.webpoint.us/wp15/Events2/Events.wp?evt\\_CategoryID=59](https://usaboxing.webpoint.us/wp15/Events2/Events.wp?evt_CategoryID=59)

If you can't make Lafayette, but wanting to have a bronze or silver course in your area, you can apply to host your own course by heading to our Coaching Membership page and filling out the required forms.

We are also looking to expand our courses and will have our nutrition course becoming available in early 2024!

As always, be sure to check out our USA Boxing Coaching Education website for valuable coaching tips and information to expand not only your knowledge, but also the knowledge of those you are coaching.



## 2023 Ringside Physician Symposium Deemed a Success!

Forty-two doctors attended the Ringside Physicians Symposium, which was held in Colorado Springs in September. The physicians were able to receive Continuing Education credits from the University of Mississippi.

### Training included:

- Differences of Olympic Style Boxing vs. Professional Prize Fighting
- Responsibilities of the Ringside Physician
- Overviews in Concussions, Orthopedic Injuries, ENT & Heart
- Suture Repair Workshop & Demonstration
- High-Performance Medical Overview
- Anti-Doping for Health Professionals
- Weight Management & Nutrition for Boxers
- "Cutman" Demonstration
- Critical Incident Training
- Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Sports Medicine

After the training, the doctors took an exam to earn certification as a Ringside Physician. We appreciate all our doctor members who dedicate their time to USA Boxing and especially these physicians who took their time, money and effort to learn more about the medical needs at boxing events.

Special thanks to the USA Boxing Foundation for helping fund this conference and to Dr. Steve Lebhar, Medical Advisory Board Chairperson for his hard work in coordinating it.



Dr. Jonathan Finnoff, Chief Medical Officer for the USOPC presented on the USOPC Sports Medicine Services.



Physicians practiced sutures on chicken breasts in preparation of potential boxing lacerations.



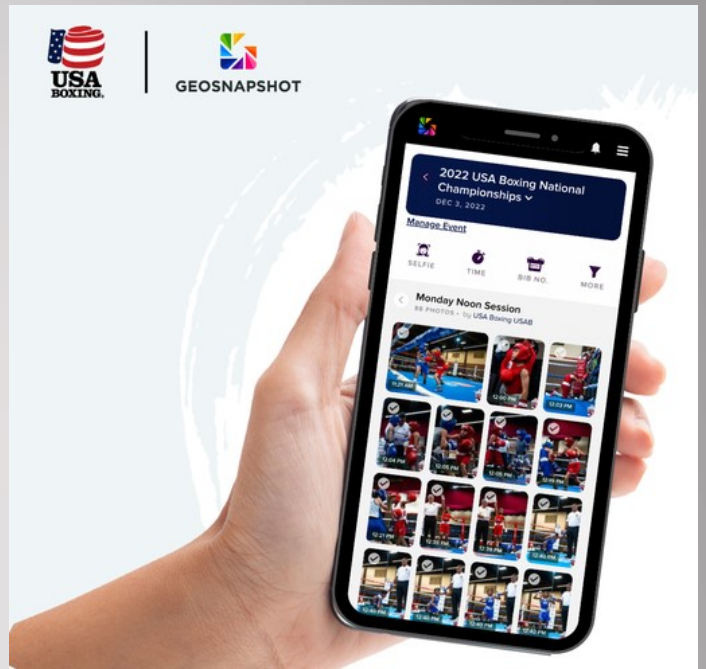


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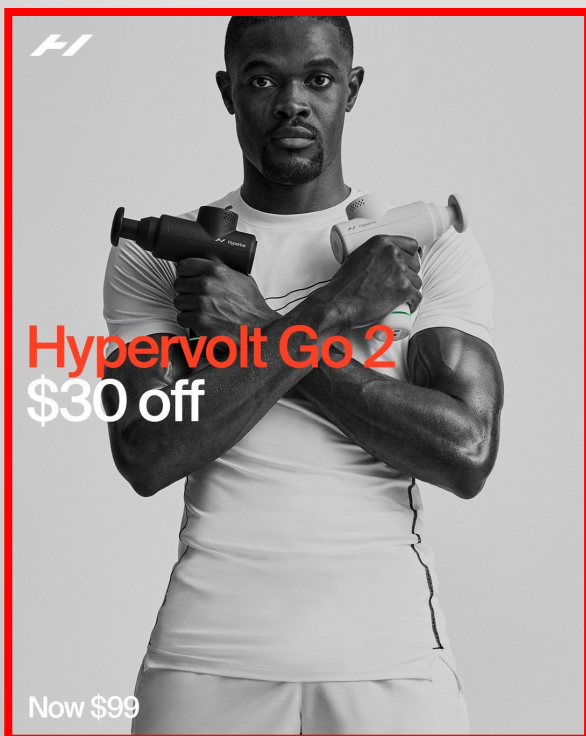
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