

# The Neutral Corner

Quarterly Newsletter of USA Boxing  
July 2025



THANK YOU to all USA Boxing members who participated in the 2025 USA Boxing National Junior Olympics and Summer Festival held in Las Vegas, Nevada! Throughout the busy week, we had record-breaking numbers for participation. We added a fifth competition ring and a second sparring ring; we presented a parade of junior athletes; we hosted board meetings and Alumni events; we oversaw multiple training classes and we also witnessed a roll call of boxing celebrities come out to watch and support USA Boxing!

Despite seeing more boxers than ever compete at the National Junior Olympics and Summer Festival, we still had to turn some boxers away who wanted to showcase their skills and continue on their boxing paths. We set minimum standards for bout experience and winning percentage to enter this event for the purposes of limiting the total number of boxers and allowing athletes who were most qualified to compete throughout the week. Simply put, we cannot handle an unlimited number of participants.

There is a portal set up for boxers who wish to gain exemption from this standard, because there will always be extraordinary boxers who should compete but have not yet accumulated the necessary statistics to qualify. Typically, we receive 300-400 requests for exemption, but for Las Vegas, 620 boxers requested exemption! Of those 620 requests, 70% (434) were granted.

There is a HUGE demand from coaches and boxers for top-level competition opportunities! With that said, USA Boxing national events have met these needs in various ways during 2025.

Open events have been expanded to include international competitors, which gives our top boxers more experience before competing at World Boxing events. We have partnered with well-administered regional events to create a Tier-1 Rankings tournament calendar. These Tier-1 rankings events give our boxers more opportunities to increase their standing without committing to a full week of travel expenses and vacation time.

Olympic-style boxing's progress is built upon the hard work and dedication of our coaches and boxers who spill blood, sweat and tears every day in their home gyms and boxing clubs. We must keep pace with their commitment and devotion by innovating bigger and better competitions for them to shine and rise to the top to achieve their goals and dreams.

*Michael Campbell*

Boxing Operations & Technical Service Senior Manager

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Register Now for the National Open**  
<https://shorturl.at/f05u0>

**Registration for National Championships  
Happens in Early September**

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



### USA Boxing Membership Tops 60,000 This Week!

Summertime is not usually a busy registration time, but this year it is full to the brim with sanctioned events – resulting in a steady rise in renewal and registrations.

The membership team provides support with registration, document approvals, as well as SafeSport, and Coach and Officials training assistance.

YOU, each and every member, are the reason we work so diligently to assist with all things Membership!

Thank you for your continued support of USA Boxing and its programs.



## REFEREE AND JUDGES

Calling all Parents, Coaches & Boxers over Age 18

USA is seeking Officials to participate as referees, judges, timekeepers, computer technicians, weigh masters, physicians, clerks, and glove stewards.

Training is available.

For more information, see <https://shorturl.at/tTKCb> or contact [chriswalden28@gmail.com](mailto:chriswalden28@gmail.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/training-and-education/safesport-courses-for-all/>.

## Disciplinary Process

The Judicial Review Panel is comprised of five members of the USAB staff from different departments. **Once a complaint has been received and validated, the process may be to issue an Admin Hold of Temporary Measures against the membership** of the accused pending the investigation.

The accused 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 at all times and never shared with a 3rd party.**

**Below is a recap of the reported cases the Panel has worked on in the 2nd Quarter of 2025.**

Qty	Allegation Type	Ruling
22	Complaints	Handled via email or phone call.
13	Rule Book & Code of Conduct Violations	Disciplinary Letter: suspension & probation, or banned from USAB sanctioned events.
3	LBC Grievances	Adjudicated at the LBC level.
8	National Grievance	Hearings heard by the Judicial Committee Panel.
0	Legal	Cases involving attorneys for both sides.
2	Appeal	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.
5	Self-Reporting	Letters of acknowledgement sent out
3	Forgery	30-day suspension to include waiting to upload an acceptable document.
29	SafeSport	SafeSport either accepts or declines jurisdiction.
3	Unsanctioned Events	Admin Hold and Disciplinary Action.

# WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

To provide the best customer service, listed below are the staff members to contact directly for specific needs. All other questions should be directed to the Membership Department.

Accounts Payable	Cam	cthompson@usaboxing.org
Accounts Receivable	Isabella	icalcatera@usaboxing.org
Alumni Association	Stacy	sarredondo@usaboxing.org
Background Screening	Claudia	cdouglas@usaboxing.org
Coaches Education	Kammara	kpenick@usaboxing.org
Committees	Stacy	sarredondo@usaboxing.org
Exec. Director Meetings	Liana	ltobin@usaboxing.org
Elections	Stacy	sarredondo@usaboxing.org
Events - National	Megan	mschuller@usaboxing.org
Events - Regional	Tanner	twiebelhaus@usaboxing.org
Equipment Certification	Isabella	icalcatera@usaboxing.org
Grievance Support	Deby	dking@usaboxing.org
Grants4Gyms	Stacy	sarredondo@usaboxing.org
HP Elite Teams	Derrick	draedel@usaboxing.org
HP Youth/Junior Teams	Chris	chale@usaboxing.org
Human Resources (HR)	Lisa	lpeterson@usaboxing.org
Judicial Hearings	Lynette	lsmith@usaboxing.org
LBC Compliance	Isabella	icalcatera@usaboxing.org
LBC Supplies	Rhonda	rsmith@usaboxing.org
LBC Support	Mike C.	mcampbell@usaboxing.org
Matchtracker	Rhona	rbrown@usaboxing.org
Media/Communications	Zack	zchavez@usaboxing.org
Medical Restrictions	Deby	dking@usaboxing.org
OIC Support	Andrew	abanuet@usaboxing.org
Official Clinics	Rhona	rbrown@usaboxing.org
Official Patches	Rhona	rbrown@usaboxing.org
Physical Approvals	Lexie	ledwards@usaboxing.org
Physical Approvals	Rhonda	rsmith@usaboxing.org
Sanctions	Andrew	abanuet@usaboxing.org
Scholarships	Stacy	sarredondo@usaboxing.org
Sponsorships	Zack	zchavez@usaboxing.org
Sponsorships	Matt	mjohnson@usaboxing.org
World Boxing	Liana	ltobin@usaboxing.org



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>

## Foundation Alumni Event Deemed a Success!

On June 20th in Las Vegas, the USA Boxing Foundation hosted an Alumni Fundraiser to support USA Boxing.

Over 120 people attended, of which 86 were USA Boxing alumni including 1984 Olympic team members and USA Boxing's most recent Olympic medalists, Omari Jones and Richard Torrez.

There was over 10 Olympic medalists in the room with 30 donors and prospective donors.

The event was a reunion and a celebration of where USA Boxing has been as we turn our eyes to where we are going for LA28.





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

Team USA was in **Astana, Kazakhstan**, earlier this month at the World Boxing Cup: Astana 2025 and brought home three medals, one silver for **Yoseline Perez** (women's 54 kg) and two bronze, one for **Morelle McCane** (women's 65 kg) and one for **Robby Gonzales** (men's 80 kg).

Head Coach Billy Walsh led the charge for Team USA at the event with National Resident Coach Timothy Nolan, and Nicole Burleson and Eric Zimmerman assisting .

Below is where TEAM USA will be heading next:

**Liverpool, England** | World Boxing Championships  
September 4-14

**Regina, Canada** | USA vs Canada Duel Match  
September 25-28 (Duel takes place September 27)

Youth / Junior High Performance

**Frankfurt, Germany** | Brandenburg Cup  
July 29 – August 3 (Team departs July 23 so to acclimate)

# **B-TEK**

**SCALES LLC**

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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/>



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/>



**Yoseline Perez** (pictured above) and **Robby Gonzales** (pictured below) throw punches at the **World Boxing Cup Astana 2025** earlier in July.





## Hawaiian Punch: Lorenzo Patricio

### *Wraps Youth Career and Looks to the Future With USA Boxing*

When looking for a spark at the USOPC training center, you can generally find it from any of the boxers; **however, a noticeable charge can be felt anytime Lorenzo Patricio steps into the building.** Lorenzo is in his second year on the Youth High Performance team and usually can be found in the gym putting tireless hours of work with a smile on his face. **Lorenzo, commonly referred to as “Sparky” routinely lives up to his nickname with his electric style of boxing.** While Lorenzo gives all of his opponents respect and a smile, his goal is always: Eat, Sweep, Repeat. “I get the mantra ‘Eat, Sweep, Repeat’ from my dad. We say eat because we like to have a lion’s mentality. When a lion is hungry, it eats, no matter what the circumstances are. It means that we stay hungry and we’re ready to do whatever it takes in order to get what we want. Sweep means the brooms are out and we’re coming to sweep our brackets and competition.”

**After claiming the gold medal at the inaugural World Boxing U19 Championships at 50 kg in Colorado, last year, Lorenzo will now compete in one final youth international competition at the Brandenburg Cup in Frankfurt, Germany. After that, his journey to pursue his Olympic dreams will begin. At the conclusion of the year, Lorenzo will age up into the Elite division and compete at the USA Boxing National Championships as an Elite competitor.**

Lorenzo’s potential to challenge the world as an Elite competitor stems from everything that he surrounds himself with. **For the Waianae, Hawaii native, he is heavily supported by his family and his culture.** In boxing, family is a constant theme, whether it is among teammates or actual familial ties within the sport. But **among the Hawaiian islands, Ohana (family) is even more prevalent among natives. That is no different for Lorenzo and the acclaimed Patricio lineage.**

“My family and my Hawaiian culture are so critical for my boxing journey because they are two of the many things I wear on my back and represent with pride. My family is one of the most important aspects of my life. They got my back, and I got theirs, no matter what. Each situation we have worked through as a team has brought me to the point I am now. My Hawaiian culture is so important because it is where I was born and raised. Hawaii is one of the states that gets overlooked, because of how isolated it is. **All I’m trying to do is represent, show up, give back to the aina (land) and people by bringing more exposure.**”

His father and coach, Lyndon, his mother, and each of his seven siblings push him to succeed every single day, whether he is back on the island with them or at a USA Boxing camp or competition. **The Patricio family is nationally known for its presence and success at virtually every USA Boxing national event.** With roots so deep on the island and within the sport, Lorenzo is constantly lifted by the support that he receives daily. The Patricios have infiltrated the USA Boxing High Performance system incredibly. **In addition to Lorenzo, his brother Landon John Patricio also occupies a spot on the 2025 USA Boxing Youth High Performance team as a 55 kg competitor. Additionally, his older sister, Shera Mae, was a member of the 2024 Elite High Performance team before pursuing her professional career.**

“Following in the footsteps of Shera, it feels like she gave me the blueprint and all I got to do is execute. Getting to compete alongside my brother Landon makes the tournament so much more special. Last year, I was able to win gold at the U19 World Championship, so just imagining that I can win another international tournament, but this time alongside my brother, is like a dream come true.”

**While his older siblings have laid the groundwork for Lorenzo to flourish within the sport, it is not lost on him that he has the opportunity to do the same for his younger siblings.** “Being able to pioneer the route for my younger siblings is a task I’m glad I’m able to take. I get to be the person they get to look up to and follow, so this kind of keeps me in check to make sure I’m the best for them and everyone else that looks up to me.”

**With the upcoming Brandenburg Cup set to be his final international performance as a Youth team member, the future is bright for Sparky.** Lorenzo is poised to continue his boxing success as an Elite competitor, and his relentless drive will position him as a contender within the USA Boxing system. While his immediate goal is to secure a gold medal at the Brandenburg Cup, the next phase of his amateur career is about to begin.

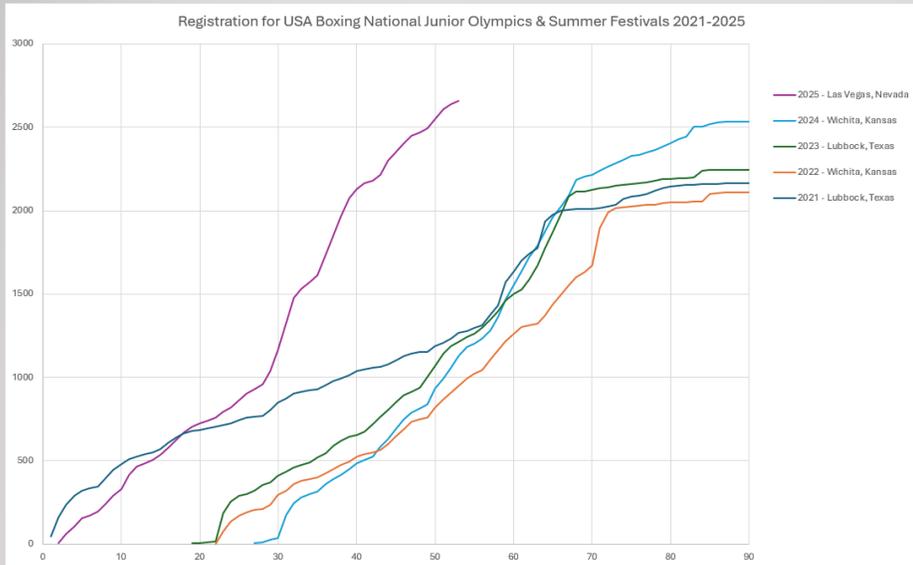
**“Next for me as a competitor in the Elite division for USA Boxing is grinding, staying tunnel visioned, and going for gold in the 2025 USA Boxing National Championships in December. I like to take my time with decisions and take things one step at a time. My main goal: make the Elite team through the selection process.”**

While Lorenzo’s future in the sport is nearly as unpredictable as his boxing style, one thing is certain: he is prepared to succeed. **His journey is just beginning, and USA Boxing is prepared to watch the fireworks that he is sure to enact in the ring.** Tune in for Lorenzo Patricio’s 2025 Brandenburg Cup run next week and follow Team USA’s journey [HERE](#).

# OVER 1400 BOXERS COMPETE AT JO's & SUMMER FESTIVAL

## Making it our largest National Event Ever!

1,269 total bouts contested during the week; 1,427 boxers of which 20.1% were female boxers; and 1424 coaches, 172 staff and officials and 10 ringside physicians all contributed to the record highs!



In addition to boxing competition, the JOs & Summer Festival featured added excitement including an Opening Ceremonies Parade and the Podium Experience.



# BOXING

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.

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



# Coaching Education



Pictured above: Julia Gschwind, Coaching Clinician leads a Silver Clinic, which was held in Long Beach, CA on July 12-13.

Beginning August 15<sup>th</sup>, all coaching education will be transitioning to [usaboxingeducation.org](https://usaboxingeducation.org) (the USA Boxing app) for all course and clinic registrations.

Coaches will no longer need to register for a course through their membership portal and can go directly to the app. Login information will still remain the same. In preparation, please download the USA Boxing Education app through your Apple or Google play store.

For more information, please reach out to Kammara Penick ([kpenick@usaboxing.org](mailto:kpenick@usaboxing.org)).

**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/](https://www.rosettastone.com/)

**Rosetta  
Stone** 

## Grants4Gyms Coming in September

For the 5th year, USA Boxing, together with the USA Boxing Foundation, will be offering \$1000 grant packages that include complimentary memberships, boxing equipment etc. to 50 selected gyms.

**The Grant Application Window will be open September 2-8, so watch social media, your email and the website during that week for all the details.**

In order to help as many different gyms as possible, only those who did not receive Grants4Gyms funding in 2023 or 2024 will be considered.

## A GUIDE TO



**USA  
BOXING**

Previously referred to as the "Parent Guide", an updated version of *A Guide to USA Boxing* is now available on the website or <https://shorturl.at/WecCH>. This guide is a great resource to help **new members** navigate our organization. It also provides **useful information for coaches and families** like boxing terms, scoring, nutrition, and safety to better understand our sport and how USA Boxing operates.

# USA BOXING ANNOUNCES REGIONAL RANKING TOURNAMENTS CALENDAR

Following record participation at the National Junior Olympics and Summer Festival held in June, the USA Boxing National Office is establishing a Regional Events Calendar for the Summer and the remainder of the calendar year.

“It’s become very obvious that our Boxers and Coaches DEMAND more competition opportunities and especially at the highest levels. They want to challenge their capabilities and also keep an incentive for the boxers to stay dedicated and consistent in and out of the gym,” USA Boxing’s Senior Manager of Events & Operations Michael Campbell noted.

USA Boxing’s National Championship Events, including the National Junior Olympics and year-ending National Championships, are considered to be “**Tier 3 Rankings Events**” while National Open events, such as the National and International Opens, Women’s Championship and Summer Festival are classified as “**Tier 2 Rankings Events.**” **For more information on Tier Rankings go to: <https://shorturl.at/2MI5Y>.**

“Rankings are synonymous with the sport of boxing. Coaches and boxers work hard nearly every day of the week, year-round, and recognition comes sparingly. The USA Boxing rankings are the organization’s way to demonstrate to its supporters; parents, family, local businesses and other sponsors that their efforts are rewarded and celebrated,” Campbell emphasized.

The relationship between the National Events Staff and the large Regional Events did not just begin recently. USA Boxing national events staff has supported many regional events in many avenues over recent years, including marketing, officiating, registration, advice and oversight.

“We have refined our formula for national events over the years and we share those best practices and processes with our Regional Event Directors,” added USA Boxing Regional Events Coordinator Tanner Wiebelhaus.

USA Boxing has not awarded a **Tier 1 Rankings Event** since the 2018 National Junior Golden Gloves tournament. **For 2025, six regional tournaments have been selected to gain Tier 1 Rankings status.**

“We’ve discussed with each regional event and will be actively involved in each with various capacities, but generally speaking, our requirements must be met, which center around USA Boxing members that participate while having a good experience,” Campbell shared.

These events have a proven track record and are committed to being well-organized with adequate resources available, and they will make every effort to ensure good quality officiating and fair decisions. Each event will invite National-level Officials to fill key roles in their event so that our national processes are incorporated.

These events will be evaluated and adjusted on a continuous basis and could change at any time, depending on the commitment and performance of the event organizers. Two events happened this month: National Junior Golden Gloves in Chattanooga, Tennessee and the Rival OKC Championships in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Earlier this month, boxers competed at the National Junior Golden Gloves, which is one of the many regional events, USA Boxing sanctions and supports.

## Upcoming Regional Events

Date	Event Name	Location
July 28-August 3	World of Havoc Tournament	Orlando, Florida
August 29-31	Texas Women's Championship	Houston, Texas
Sept. 29-October 4	National PAL Boxing Championships	Oxnard, California
November 21-23	Sugar Bert Championships in Tri-Valley	Pleasanton, California

# Volunteer Spotlight

USA Boxing would like to take this opportunity to **highlight a key volunteer within the organization, Dr. Leah Goedecke.** Leah is a staple within USA Boxing local, regional and national events and serves as a ringside doctor, furthering the importance of medical care to the many USA Boxing members at various competitions. After taking up the sport as a competitor during her college days in Tucson, Arizona, Dr. Goedecke saw an opportunity to pursue a career within the medical field while also keeping her love for boxing at the forefront of her mind. Following in the footsteps of her father, who was also a physician, Leah saw USA Boxing's need for ringside doctors while in medical school and made the decision to further engrain herself within the sport.

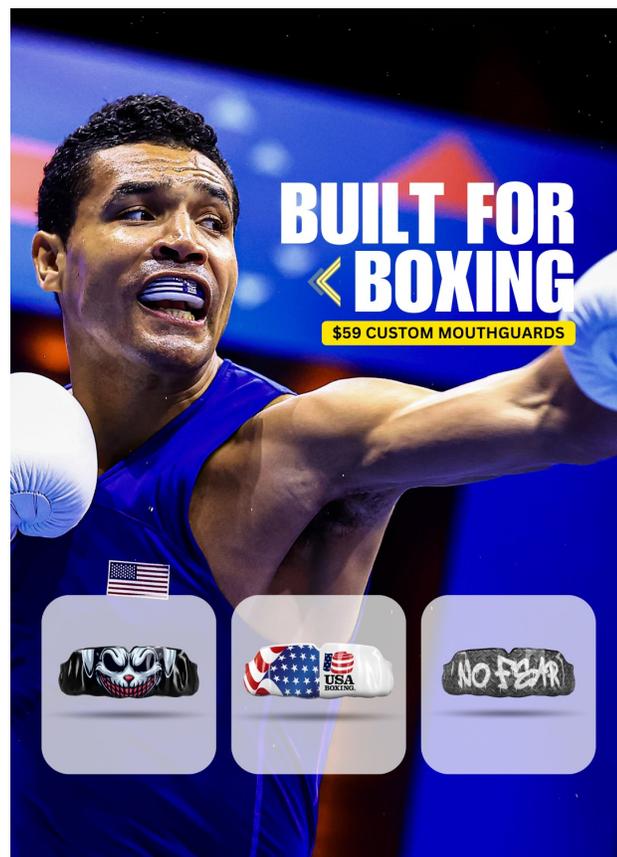


**Dr. Goedecke has served USA Boxing as a ringside doctor for the past five years and was recently named the chairperson of the USA Boxing Women's Committee.** She cites her experience as a boxer as a way to interact with competitors at events and instill the medical knowledge that she has gained as a physician. As a female physician, she is committed to creating an equal playing field for male and female athletes and continues to provide incredible insight for female competitors, in addition to their male counterparts.

"I think everyone has their own goals and motivation," Leah stated about her presence as a physician within the USA Boxing organization. "Mine has just always been that I want to leave a legacy. I want to leave the world a better place, so leaving something where someone else can benefit and grow from it is why I have trailblazed to this and allow people to follow those footsteps."

Leah Goedecke is a constant voice in the safety and wellbeing of USA Boxing competitors and continues to lead by example. Her presence is felt at each USA Boxing event, and she is a constant voice that is focused on empowering athletes in their individual journeys within the sport.

**Dr. Leah Goedecke, thank you so much for the time and effort that you put into our organization.** We at USA Boxing are incredibly proud to have you as a part of the USA Boxing family!



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.



At the June 20th USA Boxing Foundation meeting in Las Vegas, NV, the **Foundation Trustees voted to provide over \$276,000 to USA Boxing to support boxing programs** including:

- 2025 World Boxing Panamerican Confederation
- 2025 Youth High Performance Team
- 2025-2026 Loring Baker Officials Academy
- 2026 Thomas Sarge Johnson Scholarships
- 2026 Grants4Gyms

***USA Boxing is Grateful to the Foundation for their Financial Support & Fundraising Efforts!***

# BOARD MEETING

The USA Boxing Board of Directors met hybrid-style on June 20, 2025. Some attended in-person in Las Vegas at the Junior Olympics & Summer Festival event, while others attended via Zoom.

Those that attended in person were able to experience first hand the excitement of the boxers and the hard work of the officials, volunteers and staff.

Key items on the agenda included: Board Chairperson Report, Executive Director report, upcoming events, group members, World Boxing, USOPC funding, and proposed Foundation grants.

The Board also welcomed two presentations at the meeting, long-time equipment sponsor STING and Xempower, a potential electronic scoring system partner.

The Board meets next virtually on August 28th.



Pictured above are board members, staff and guest presenters from STING at the June 20, 2025 board meeting in Las Vegas.

## 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.



  
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## FORMER USA BOXING MEMBER AKEEM CHEATHAM STEPS ONTO THE BIG SCREEN IN FILM TITLED TKO

USA Boxing is built upon the diverse array of life experiences that its members deal with daily. **For one former USA Boxing member, Akeem Cheatham, he has progressed through our organization as a member and now focuses on his acting career.**

After collecting numerous titles as a competitor within the USA Boxing system, Cheatham now turns the focus that pushed him as a competitor into a new avenue, one that places him on digital streaming platforms and in theaters alike. In his latest venture, he has taken on a role that hits close to home for him and many other USA Boxing members, past, present and future. **Cheatham recently completed filming for a movie titled TKO, in which he portrays Sean, an up-and-coming boxer who is reunited with his estranged father to begin training for a career as a pro boxer.**



“It just brought me back to every experience I had competing in a national tournaments at USA Boxing events,” Cheatham recalls of his experience filming for TKO. “When I got the script, it just reminded me so much of my personal life. I wanted to take on the character and start building the character as a real person.”

**Cheatham was quick to participate in the film when he was offered the starring role because of what the message meant to him and so many other athletes who have grown up within the sport and the USA Boxing organization.** For him, this was not a paycheck; it was personal, and it was a role that he felt passionately about because of the opportunity it presented to shed light on a group of athletes and the sport .

While the opportunity has been critical for Cheatham's acting career, it has also granted him the opportunity to shed light on a sport that is once again on the rise for global notoriety. As a child, Cheatham had dreams of representing the United States in the ring on the international stage, like so many others. However, **through the discipline that he gained as a USA Boxing competitor, he found his calling on the big screen** and acknowledges that he may never have gotten there had it not been for his time within the organization.

“It was absolutely important because I need to represent for all the kids that grew up in USA Boxing,” Cheatham noted on his opportunity to portray his character’s story in the film. “Representation is so important because there are many kids that grew up in USA Boxing. They do good, they want to do good. They want to be great, but sometimes that’s just not their path. Sometimes they just fall out of it [the sport]. Money problems, parental problems, all of that is something that can take a real dedicated child, who's trained hard, his or her entire life. I just wanted to represent and be able to really show people that we know and understand your story.”

Just like so many other USA Boxing members, Cheatham is just scratching the surface of his greatness. In boxing, just like life, individuals must roll with the punches and take on any new challenge that is presented to them. The discipline that boxing instills in grassroots competitors is a trait that more people should stand to learn. Cheatham is a product of that discipline and love for the craft, which he uses to drive him in his acting career.

One thing is certain about Cheatham’s role in this film, and that is his message for USA Boxing members who may be going through the struggle of getting through a practice, or an even more dire situation in their personal lives. He is resolute on the message that he wants his audience to take away from his portrayal in the TKO film. **“I want them to take away that no matter how bad life can get for you, personally, there's always an opportunity and there's always a way to be able to come out with something positive. I want all the USA Boxers to know that they are seen and they will be seen by the whole world. USA Boxers are in the position of being leaders.”**

USA Boxing members can watch Akeem take on his role in the TKO film now on [Tubi](#) as a Tubi original. Cheatham is joined by notable cast members like Robert Ri'chard, Marques Houston and Clifton Powell.



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/>

# Special Thanks to the USA Boxing Foundation for Funding the Thomas “Sarge” Johnson Scholarship

The USA Boxing Foundation showed their support for our boxers who exceed both in and out of the ring. **Thirty \$1000 scholarships were awarded** to trade school as well as collegiate undergraduate and graduate students. **USA Boxing is proud of the below listed scholarship recipients:**



Andre Beckwith	Old Dominion University	Haad Naeem	University of New England
Omar Cortez	University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley	Donovan Saah Nyumah	Virginia State University
Pratik Gurung Sunuwar	University of Colorado Boulder	Zachary O'Connor	University of St Thomas
Aksel De La Rosa	University of Texas at El Paso	Nathaniel Pena	Springfield College
Brandon Etheridge	Drexel University	Juan C Perez Jr.	Barber Styling Institute
Jessica Li Golden	University of Michigan	Antanina Petroglia	Hofstra University
Ayahna Aminah Gonzales	Sacramento State University	Nicolas Antonio Provins	Virginia Tech
Silas Isai Houston	Nunez Community College	Donovan Patrick Quinn	Pennsylvania State University
Ty Lewis Jackson	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Cameron Rankin	University of Texas at San Antonio
Scarlett Anne Johnson	Century College	Jimmy Antonio Sapien	Truckee Meadows Community College
Brendan Johnson-Corrington	University of Southern California	Camron Simon-Pierce	Georgia Gwinnett College
Brocha Tefilah Katz	Nova Southeastern University	Marcell Steele	Howard University
Mya Raven Kochel	West Virginia University		
Cooper Singh Kosut	University of Hawaii at Manoa		
Hayden Kosut	University of Hawaii at Manoa		
Liam Mackessy	The Ohio State University		
Kira Shea McAninch	ATP Flight school		
Devante Ciel Monsivais	Texas A&M University at Kingsville		

# 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 they are proud to work together to provide financial education, resources and opportunities for USA Boxing's clubs and members.

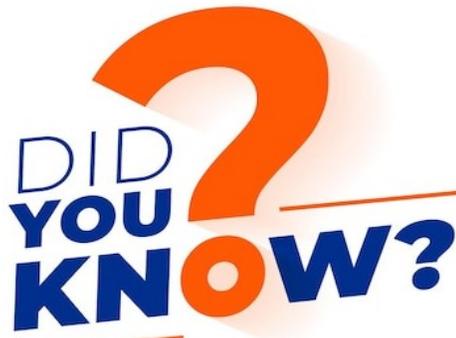
Through tough defeats and hard-fought victories, boxing builds the resilience, confidence and character necessary to become champions. Bell Bank is excited to partner with USA Boxing as they support their mission of growing the sport across the United States. Click <https://shorturl.at/YV9YI>

*I am writing to sincerely thank you for awarding me the USA Boxing Foundation.*

*This scholarship will significantly ease my financial burden, allowing me to focus more on my studies and boxing training. As a student athlete with a passion for boxing, I am committed to excelling both academically and athletically. Your support brings me one step closer to achieving my goals and being the best boxer and student I can possibly be. Warm Regards ~ Scholarship Winner*

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# General Liability Coverage comes with USA Boxing Gym/Club Membership but Additional Insurance is Available for Purchase

See what is included and not included below to determine if you should purchase the additional insurance.

Lockton's insurance program for USA Boxing gyms was created to bridge the gap between the coverage that USA Boxing secures for their sanctioned events and training and what their member gyms may require to protect their locations and non-USA Boxing operations. The program coverages are fully customizable to meet your business's needs.

For More Information, contact Lockton Insurance at

[USABoxingMemberInsurance@lockton.com](mailto:USABoxingMemberInsurance@lockton.com) or Access the QR Code Below for a Quote.

**GENERAL LIABILITY:** Protects your business for claims of bodily injury or property damage to others as well as providing coverage for allegations of personal and advertising injury.

**PROPERTY:** Protects your business's physical assets including buildings, stock, equipment, furnishings etc. from damage caused by perils such as fire, weather, theft and vandalism. Earthquake and flood coverage is typically not included but available separately.

**AUTOMOBILE:** As is required by law in most states, this provides liability and physical damage coverage for vehicles owned in the business name. Liability may also extend to employees driving personal vehicles for business purposes.

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION:** Provides coverage for medical expenses and lost wages of your employees who are injured or become ill in the course of their work. Requirements vary by state.

**EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LIABILITY:** Protect your business from claims of discrimination, harassment, violation of the Family and Medical Leave Act, wrongful termination, discipline, etc.

**UMBRELLA OR EXCESS LIABILITY:** Employer's liability to provide extra coverage in the event that a claim exceeds the limits included in the business's underlying policies.

**INLAND MARINE:** Covers your business's equipment and personal property when away from your business or being transported for an event.

**CYBER LIABILITY:** Coverage for your business's liability in case of a data breach involving sensitive customer information such as social security numbers, credit card numbers, account numbers, driver's license numbers and health records.

**DIRECTORS & OFFICERS LIABILITY:** Provides protection to directors and officers from personal liability for costly allegations of wrongful acts or omission in the performance of their duties, including mismanagement of funds or negligent decisions. Coverage may also include employment practices liability coverage for claims alleging harassment, discrimination or wrongful termination of employees.

Club / Gym Coverage	Included in USA Boxing policy
General liability for USA Boxing sanctioned training/events	✔
Abuse/molestation liability	✔
Neurodegenerative injury liability	✔
Participant legal liability	✔
Medical reimbursement for members (in excess of primary health insurance)	✔
Premises liability for gym facility (slip and fall coverage)	✘
Liability for any training/events outside of USA Boxing	✘
Property (building/contents) including but not limited to theft, fire, flood, and weather	✘
Automobile liability	✘
Workers' compensation	✘
Employment practices liability	✘
Umbrella or excess liability	✘
Inland marine	✘
Cyber liability	✘
Directors' and officers' liability	✘



USA Boxing Application (English)



**World Boxing** is excited at the growth seen within the past few years. After earning provisional recognition from the International Olympic Committee earlier in 2025, the organization continues to grow in National Federation membership through the second half of the year. After hosting World Boxing Cups in Brazil, Poland and Kazakhstan, in addition to the World Boxing Challenge in the Czech Republic, **World Boxing** continues to look ahead to future events.



Just on the horizon for the international federation is the inaugural World Boxing Championship in Liverpool, England, September 4-14. This event will feature athletes competing in the Elite Divisions, 20 divisions in total, 10 men's and 10 women's, all of which will be hosted inside the prestigious M&S Bank Arena. Preliminary competition will be contested September 4-10, while semifinals competition will take place September 12-13. Finals competition will begin in various sessions on September 13 and continue through September 14.

Additionally, **World Boxing** is looking forward to boxing's inclusion at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal. The Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games will be the fourth installment of the event, and Senegal will be the first country on the African continent to host the event. Boxing will serve as one of 25 core sports within the event, joining 10 other "commitment sports." With the motto "*Africa welcomes, Dakar celebrates,*" fans will have the opportunity to watch various Youth Olympic Games events across 35 sports from October 31 to November 13, 2026, in the Senegalese capital.

While continuing to grow as an international federation, **World Boxing** is also excited for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. With the 2028 Olympic Games set to return to Los Angeles, California, **World Boxing** continues preparations for the iconic event, which is sure to showcase the greatest athletic talent that the world has to offer. Boxers from across the globe will converge on Los Angeles, California, to compete in the 30th Summer Games, and the 54th Olympic Games. The city of Los Angeles has already begun preparations for the 2028 Olympic Games and will continue to do so in accordance with the International Olympic Committee, the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and LA28, the host entity for the event.



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 addition of **Emperor's Balm** to USA Boxing's established list of corporate partners further proves the strides made by USA Boxing to support its clubs and membership both in and out of the ring. 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.

**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 • [www.usaboxing.org](http://www.usaboxing.org)**