



EUROPEAN BOXING UNION (EBU) – NEWS (November, 2024)

Dear boxing friends

The month of October, 2024, gifted us some excellent championship-contests, above all the long awaited clash between **Artur Beterbiev** and **Dmitrii Bivol**, two Russians, one fighting out of Canada, the other out of the USA, both unbeaten. As expected, it was a very close contest, which was finally very closely won by **Beterbiev**, now holder of the five most important world boxing belts. The judges had almost the same scoring results, one scored one round differently, one scored two rounds differently and the third judge scored a draw; for ten out of twelve rounds the score was the same. To accuse of robbery, like some media and even some members of the boxing industry did, seems simply ridiculous, as very close rounds may always fall on one or the other side. My experience is that most Ring Officials are neutral and do not favour anybody, but to score boxing is a very subjective matter, and even when the judges try to score according the same standards, some differences are always possible and do not mean that they are biased.

There was another good show in Laval (F) for EBU-titles. **Jordy Weiss (F)** was closely defeated (MD) by **Samuel Molina (E)** for the EBU-welterweight-title, and **Marine Beauchamp (F)** lost by split decision (SD) against **Kirstie Bavington (UK)** for the female EBU-welterweight-title. Although the two French boxers lost in front of their home crowd, they accepted the results with pride and dignity. Both merit to stay well rated. For the EBU-promoter of the year 2023, **Gérard Teysseron (F)**, it is however not easy when his boxers closely lose championship-contests, as he has to struggle in order to promote boxing shows in France.

Thanks to our treasure ladies in Rome, **Enza** and **Martina**, the EBU-Council enjoyed a very well organized meeting in Rome on 19th October, 2024. From the cosy hotel Fenix, the extraordinary wine degustation at the «Eredi dei Papi-winery in Monte Compatri (Lazio), run by Enza's grandchildren, to the excellent dinners and the meeting itself we were overwhelmed with hospitality and friendship. The final dinner took place in a traditional Roman restaurant in Testaccio near Trastevere, the market place of Rome, with traditional and excellent local food and wine. It has been a pleasure at our dinners to enjoy the company of Prof. Avv. **Rolando Grossi**, member of the EBU-Ratings Commission. The Council meeting was successful as well and all decisions were taken after discussions in perfect harmony. The maximum-age for referees was raised to 67 years while for judges it stays at 72. In order to raise the quality of our EBU-title-contests it was agreed that European boxers with European nationality living and fighting abroad, even on other continents, may be rated and may be allowed to fight for the EBU-title on proviso that they are licensed by an EBU-Federation. Fighters licensed by the Federations of Russia and Belorussia will from now on be rated as unavailable. The minimum purse-bids to be accepted from now on have to be Euro 8'000.—for all EBU-titles; the parties may however agree on lower purses outside the purse-bids.

The EBU applies to its affiliated Federations to run their boxing shows with care and responsibility, always insisting on all necessary medical attestations, never authorizing unbalanced, dangerous contests and ensuring that their referees know what they are dealing with.

Please show responsibility and care for all boxers not only for those that are licensed with you!

With my warmest personal regards

Peter Stucki, EBU-President