

BOXING SA NEWS

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1. BSA TO SPEED UP THE BOXING HERITAGE PROJECT

South African boxing has seen some of the greatest boxers in the ring and as a result we have a precious legacy of boxers who kept the sport alive.

BSA is pulling out all the stops in the quest to continue to tell our national boxing story and preserve the heritage of the sport by penning down the history of its precious talented boxers.

The aim of this project is to help the upcoming generation of boxers, even the current youngsters, to learn about their boxing legends and in whose footsteps they are following.

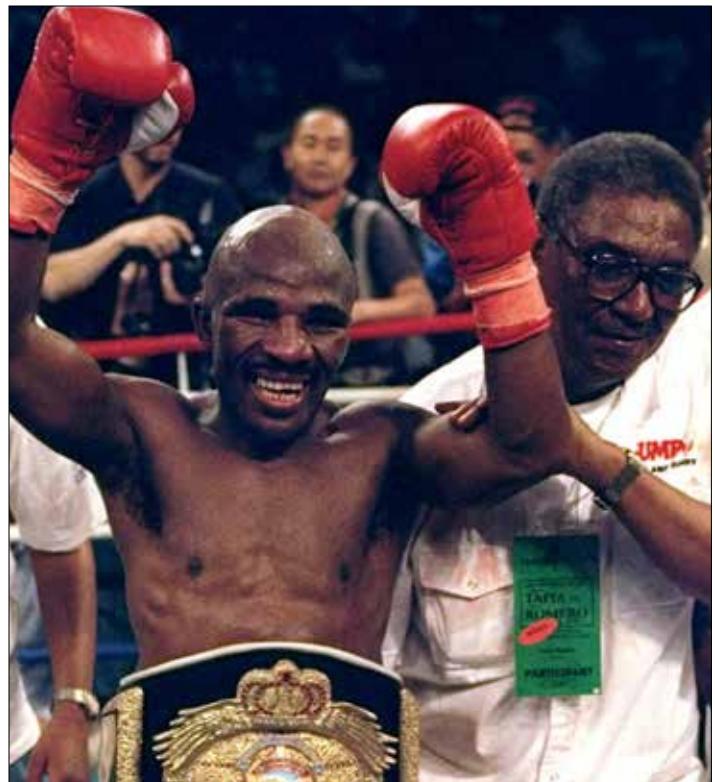
The tapestry of South Africa's boxing history includes the likes of the skillful, charismatic, and talented Dingaan "The Rose of Soweto" Thobela. Thobela's story serves as a beacon of inspiration for aspiring boxers and the current champions who are pursuing their dreams in the sport.

In recognition of his remarkable achievements, Thobela was inducted into the South African Sports Hall of Fame, cementing his status as a national hero and one of the greatest boxing legends from South Africa.

Another great boxer, the late Baby Jake Matlala, made history when he became the shortest World Champion in boxing history in 1980, when he won the WBA Minimumweight World Title.

These are but a few of the glittering South African Boxing legends that BSA is set to revive, retell and keep alive.

"Firstly, we will start by compiling a list of all South African boxers who became South African Champions through winning SA Title in different divisions. The list will be followed by those who became World Champions. To make sure everyone knows who our heroes are, the list will be uploaded on our website and the project will then enter the next phase," said Erick Nsikayezwe Sithole, Acting CEO of BSA.



"Did you know that our Mpumalanga Provincial Manager, Mr Oupa Lubisi was himself a boxer? Did you know that he retired with a fight record of 38 fights and he defended his title four times? Did you know the Gauteng Provincial Manager, Mr Hloks Ramakgole was also a boxer? In fact most of our Provincial Managers are former boxers, including Mr Michael Dube and Mr Nceba Dladla, to name a few. This is the History that people do not know, we must preserve and share it with the world!" concluded Sithole. 

2. LWANDILE NGXEKE VACATES HIS SOUTH AFRICAN TITLE

South African WBO Global Bantamweight Champion Mr Landile "Man Down" Ngxeke has officially vacated his South African Junior Bantamweight Title.

The Eastern Cape-born boxer had this announced by his promoter Ayanda Matiti after he won his WBO Bantamweight by triumphing over Denmark Quibido in unanimous decision, in a fight of ten rounds at East London's Orient Theatre.

Matiti publicly announced and confirmed that "Man Down" is officially vacating his Junior Bantamweight Title.

"Ngxeke has settled enough now in the Bantamweight division, and we are "officially announcing that he is vacating that South African Title," said Matiti.

The 27-year-old made his professional debut in June 2018. In April 2022 won the South African Junior Bantamweight Title with a stoppage win over Atenkosi Dumezweni and successfully defended it against Lindile Tshemese.

It was after this April fight that the Xaba Boxing Promotions had decided that Ngxeke should go to higher levels.



Linda Saliwa of Xaba Boxing Promotions explained that Ngxeke has done well in the Junior Bantamweight division, with his height and body weight allowing him, but that it is now time for the boxer to explore another level.

"Landile started his career as Junior Flyweight, and he is a very tall boxer for small divisions. So, as he is growing in boxing experience, he has also outgrown the division.

"In the Junior Bantamweight other boxers don't want to fight him because he weighs more and it is his dream to be a champion in another division and be the first boxer to break that record," Saliwa explained.

Ngxeke was supposed to fight the Bantamweight Ronald "King" Malindi who unfortunately passed away on the 7 October. Now he will fight anyone who is available in Bantamweight. ☺



3. BSA TARGETS NORTHERN CAPE, NORTH WEST PROVINCE, MPUMALANGA AND FREE STATE FOR BOXING DEVELOPMENT

Gauteng Professional Boxing Manager Lehlohonolo Ramagole, who is responsible for the administration of professional boxing in Gauteng, Free State, North West, and the Northern Cape provinces, unfolded his plan with the aim to better the development level of boxing in the provinces.

The retired professional boxer from Orlando in Soweto has been BSA's provincial manager in Gauteng since August 2021. With ample experience in his hand, he indicated that his plans include to get the foundation of the boxing strong and on the right track, by working with the South African National Boxing Association (SANABO) in all provinces.

Laying the right foundation for the development of boxing is hard work and Ramagole is set to start the work by opening boxing associations that will be responsible for the sport in the development phase.

Ramagole is determined to succeed and has already started in Northern Cape to communicate with SANABO president Laurence Ellis.

"This is a new thing that is taking boxing by storm. We started it in Gauteng, and it has been working fine. Our aim is also to inspire young, upcoming boxers that are still in open boxing to see that there is the possibility of professional boxing."

"We have a lot of boxers that did not go to professional boxing. Right now we want them to get a taste of what it feels like to be in a professional level whereby they will fight in a professional ring – with everything professional. These are some of the things I have planned, and I have already communicated with the entrusted powers to assist me," Ramagole explained.

Ramagole is also working on involving and building relationships with the Provincial governments. In Northern Cape there is already a green light in that regard, as he is assisted by Ellis who has confirmed to formerly introduce him to the province's government.

Adding into his strategy to create a firm foundation of boxing, Ramagole said that they are planning to take boxing back to schools in those provinces, following the success in Gauteng.

"By removing boxing from schools, we have unwittingly killed the development of boxing. I mean, there can never be professional boxing without development - and there can never be sufficient supply of boxers to SANABO if we don't have young people coming to the sport."



"There is a school in Gauteng where I train kids – girls and boys and I took it upon myself to train those kids and I know there are few trainers who are doing that, so I'm planning to spread that," Ramagole added.

Spreading this plan to Northern Cape, Ramagole indicated that they are to take this idea to schools and the plan is to extend the plan in the other three provinces under his administration..

"These provinces have been neglected for a long time; we are changing that now. We are here for them, it's their time to shine! I want to see each of these provinces having at least a minimum of 3 – 4 tournaments per year and I am personally on the ground with provincial managers to ensure that this becomes a success. No province must be neglected. Boxing belongs to all. We must take boxing to all the corners of South Africa" concluded Mr Erick Nsikayezwe Sithole 

4. HLULA DLADLA BOXING PROMOTION LAUNCHED A THRILLING UPCOMING CELEBRITY EVENT

On Saturday the 14th of October, Hlula Dladla Boxing Promotions launched an exciting tournament in KwaZulu Natal.

The Tournament, which is set to take place on 9th December 2023, at a venue still to be confirmed, has a big celebrity fight on the cards - the one and only rapper Big Zulu and a celebrated businessman Phumlani Njilo.

Mzansi has been treated to several celebrity boxing matches, and judging by the fire started on social media after they challenged each other, it seems the idea is fondly embraced by the people.

As a response to their challenge, Mr Erick Nsikayezwe Sithole, acting CEO of BSA, volunteered to be the mediator to assure that the duo takes the necessary precautions to meet up in the ring.

Njilo's viral training videos have convinced many that he is a beast and that his boxing match with Big Zulu would be epic and several celebrities have given their fight a nod, and comments have flooded social media since the news dropped.

Hlula Dladla of the Hlula Dladla Boxing Promotions indicated that the launch lived up to expectation and said that they are thrilled for this upcoming celebrity fight, followed by a professional event.

"We had a very electrifying launch and it has gained an unexpected momentum on social media platforms and we believe that, this will go a long way to help the integration of our boxing initiative. The addition of a celebrity showcase will make the upcoming tournament on the 9th of December a unique event.

"We are really looking forward to make preparation to host thousands of people. We believe that a venue of choice will be needed to accommodate an event such as this and the safety requirements, parking and number of attendees – all must be perfect," said Dladla.

The main bout of Featherweight SA title will feature Zolisa Batyi taking on the KZN champion Lindelani Sibisi, while the main supporting bout of Junior middleweight we will have another KZN Champion Phikelani Khumalo against Siphiwe Mbhele.

Dladla reckons this event will go down to history as one of the best.

"We are extremely excited, and we believe that with the help of BSA as the regulator and also the support of our colleagues' promoters throughout KZN and all the stakeholders will make a huge impact, not only on sport and recreation and boxing to be precise, but also on the local economic development as well as the tourism, because this is tourism led local economic development," Dladla concluded. 



5. MPUMALANGA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE RISE OF WOMEN IN BOXING SERIES

Infinity Boxing Promotion with BSA successfully launched Series 5 of The Rise of Women in Boxing on Monday 16 October, at The Ridge Casino, Hotels & Entertainment in Emalahleni, Mpumalanga.

The main event is set to take place on the 22 October with an exciting celebrity exhibition fight on the bill.

Arnold "Squire" Nododile of Infinity Boxing Promotion described the launch as success and hopes that there will be more sponsors to come on board.

"The launch was successful. It planted a seed that should see women's participation in Mpumalanga bloom. We also enjoyed the support of women-owned businesses and Mpumalanga businesses who were introduced to boxing as stakeholders for the first time. We hope that this will encourage more sponsors from the private sector into the sport of boxing," said Nododile.

The bill will see talented female boxers fighting in five different titles:

- Female WBA Pan Africa middleweight title: Mapule Ngubane (SA) VS Charity Mujwiri (Kenya)
- SA Jnr featherweight title: Matshidiso Mokebisi (Champ) VS Monalisa Takane (Challenger)
- Jnr lightweight 6 Rounds: Bernice Ferreira (SA) VS Mitchell Mubaya (Zimbabwe)



- Bantamweight 6 Rounds: Sazisiwe Simon (SA) VS Pamela Mutanga (Zimbabwe)
- Jnr Flyweight 6 Rounds: Asanda Simelane (NW) VS Emihle Ntunja (WC)

Nododile said the launch has inspired them as many people showed interest in the main event.

"The launch made us realize how everyone is waiting in anticipation for this event and it has pushed us to work even harder as we draw near to the Big Day", he concluded.

6. GELDENHYUS STUN LUHLOBO IN THE FIRED-UP JACKIE BRICE PROMOTION EVENT

Jack Brice of Jackie Brice Promotions held a great event at Goodwood Correctional Centre.

The Tournament, titled The Clash of the Titans, turned out to be exactly that – with Abdullah Geldenhyus started the night with a stunning KO in the second round against Mavela Luhlobo.

While blood was running from a cut above the eye, the Brice Stable guy showed his fans, he is most definitely not made of glass. Malangana Nzama, made his second professional debut and bag the win by TKO over Narsullah Nazier.

Meanwhile, in the third bout, with the energy pumping into the ring, Pierre-Lyle Fisher and Lucky Hobyane, both prominent athletes, came to do business.

Fischer dominated from the start, with every intention of ending early, but Hobyane was not going to go down without a fight, he paced himself keeping his distance.

Fisher knocked himself out of game, leading in points on the scorecard, he collapsed in the centre ring with a dislocated shoulder. The official forced to stop the bout in round 5, ruled as a TKO.



In other bouts - Pilane, came from afar and he came to dominate Zumbongwe Nocele.

Nocele didn't disappoint and held his own, but unfortunately Pilane got the better of him at the end of the night. And it was the return of the notorious Thembani "Baby-Jake" Mbangatha.

Mbangatha and Ngondeka had the crowd on their feet with powerful persistent shots but at the end of the day, it was Baby-Jake that walked away with the title, while the Western Cape Champion Lwando Mgabi successfully defended his title against a very determined opponent, Goitesdimo Poo.

It was time for the distracter from Malawi to enter the ring, Dennis Mwale, a formidable boxer and well-versed opponent, the undisputed WBF ALL Africa Welterweight Champion, Wasim Chellan..

From round one Mwale came out with guns blazing trying to assert his dominance and authority showing no regard and no respect to the reigning champion. However, Chellan, a Welterweight boxer's worst nightmare, is not your average boxer. Well-disciplined, well-paced and able to pack a powerful punch.

He took his time, drew his opponent in closer, and capitalised on every short hook, uppercut, and straight punch. One fast follow with a massive insane combo of fast punches.

The bout went full distance, though Mwale has been weighed, he has been measured and has been found absolutely wanting, Chellan was the better man of the night. 

JACKIE BRICE BOXING PROMOTION'S TOURNAMENT RESULTS

TITLE	FIGHT	WINNER
WBF Africa Welterweight championship	Wasim Chellan v Denis Mwale	Wasim Chellan (Unanimous points)
Junior Bantamweight bout	Lwando Mngambi vs Goitesdimo Poo	Lwando Mngambi
Provincial Junior Lightweight	Thembani Mbangatha vs Bulelani Gondeka	Thembani Mbangatha
Flyweight bout	Zumbongwe Nocele vs Lebohang Pilane	Lebohang Pilane
Featherweight bout	Pierre-Lyle Fischer vs Lucky Hobyane	Lucky Hobyane
Welterweight bout	Nasrullah Nazier vs Malangana Nzama	
Welterweight bout	Abdullah Geldenhuys vs Mvela Luhlobo	Mvela Luhlobo

7. UPCOMING BSA EVENTS

- A. UHURU BOXING PROMOTIONS TOURNAMENT: 28 OCTOBER 2023 – KZN MOOI RIVER
- B. INFIRNITY BOXING PROMOTIONS TOURNAMENT: 22 OCTOBER 2023 – MPUMALANGA: RIDGE CASINO
- C. ZANTSIS SHOWTIME BOXING TOURNAMENT: 28 OCTOBER 2023 – GQEBERHA – THE WELLS ESTATE



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