Letter from Leadership

After the completion of the 2020 Olympic Games, we drew a collective breath and took a moment to reflect upon the success of our Olympians, coaches, staff, membership and boxing program. We had the best medal performance in over 20 years, but I believe this is just the start to a great journey not the end.

Over the last 18 months, USA Boxing and our national office have taken on the challenges of the pandemic. As we mourn the losses of friends and family members, we can also celebrate our collective fighting spirit. Since July 11, 2020 we have had over 1,000 boxing days and hosted four National Tournaments including: the 2020 National Championships in March 2021, the 2021 Junior Olympics and Boxing Festival, the 2021 National Golden Gloves, and the 2021 National Silver Gloves. These events demonstrated the collaborative work of our grassroots coaches and officials, LBC Leaders, Affiliated Group members and national staff.

As of today we have 38,603 members, which is less than 7% below our projection; 2,037 registered gyms which is 4% higher than projected; and 865 sanctions which is 18% higher than projected.

What does this mean? It means that we are moving forward and we are excited to be partnering with CVEEP to help provide useful information to “Knock Out Covid” and supply valuable funding for gyms and LBCs. We are working to raise funds so we can again offer Grassroots Gym Grants, which provides over $50,000 in support to local gyms. Our 2021 National Championships in Shreveport, LA in December will reload our National High Performance Team, who will begin preparation for international competition in 2022 and beyond.

Thank you USA Boxing family for your toughness and your “never give up attitude”. Let’s finish 2021 strong with an eye on 2022 by remembering that in boxing you must focus to win one minute at a time, one round at a time, and one victory at a time.

In Your Corner,
Mike McAtee
Executive Director
USA Boxing Partners with CVEEP to Knock-Out Covid-19

As the country continues to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, an organization called the COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Equity Project (CVEEP) has been working to advance public education and equity and build confidence around COVID-19 vaccines in communities across the country.

Working with trusted community voices is an important element of CVEEP’s strategy and connecting with audiences through channels and events that are familiar, and part of their daily lives can be impactful. CVEEP engages with local organizations and community members directly providing facts and addressing common questions and concerns about the vaccines and reinforcing the personal and community benefits of vaccination. As the CDC recommendations evolve and more states relax public health limitations CVEEP is expanding efforts to reach more communities in new ways. With that goal in mind, CVEEP is partnering with USA Boxing to launch a program called “Knockout COVID-19”.

The last two years have been challenging for everyone, but USA Boxing has taken on the fight. We kept training and boxing and we did it safely. The health of our boxers, trainers, and our entire community is important to us, and we should be proud of our record. USA Boxing’s rigorous efforts to keep both boxers and spectators safe throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have set the stage for us to take the next step in helping to protect the boxing community – sharing information about the importance of COVID-19 vaccination and encouraging people to get vaccinated.

We know that people still have questions about COVID-19 vaccines and the role they play in slowing the pandemic and providing protection for every one of us. Echoing USA Boxing’s “one team, one nation, going for gold,” Knockout COVID-19 is a community-driven event, demonstrating that a vaccine works best when everyone - in the ring and in the community – has the confidence and the courage to be vaccinated.

USA Boxing invites the LBCs and gyms to host their very own Knockout COVID-19 event. With financial support through a micro-grant and a host toolkit – including a video, COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet, posters and social content – you will receive everything you need to execute a meaningful and successful community-driven event highlighting the importance of getting vaccinated against COVID-19.

For more information on how your sanction can earn funds, contact Ethan at efigge@usaboxing.org.
Begin Preparing NOW to register for 2021 National Championship Tournament in Shreveport, LA.

With Fall fast approaching, we are gearing up to make preparations for the National Championships in Shreveport. Boxers, please start early to leave ample time to get documents uploaded (annual physical and birth certificate) as well as ensure your match tracker record is up to date with all your bouts entered.

Coaches, check your certification to make sure it does not expire before mid-December. If you are still pending, due to a background screening delay or flag, address with Membership Department staff now so we can get everything cleared well before you want to register for the tournament. Likewise, if you still need to complete SafeSport training, let us help you get signed-in and provide any other instruction you need to complete this requirement.

The USA Boxing Membership Department has a few staff changes to announce:

- Claudia Douglas has been promoted to Membership Services Coordinator.
- Jennifer Azadmanesh left mid-August to take a position in the Art Department at Colorado College. We wish her well in her new endeavor.
- Rhona Brown has been hired to fill the open slot in Membership. She began working with us on August 23rd and thankfully is a quick study learning all the many facets of serving our members.
- Ethan Figge is leaving the Membership Department to join Mike Campbell and Taryn Cass in the Operations and Events Department. While the Membership Department will miss Ethan, we are all very pleased he has chosen to continue his career in sport with USA Boxing.

Attention Board of Governors (any club owner with 5 or more attached athletes): If you’d like a say in how LBC funds are used in 2022, be sure to attend your LBC’s annual meeting!

LBC Treasurers and Presidents: There will be a Zoom call later this month (September) to discuss various compliance topics such as annual meetings, budgets and policies and procedures. Be on the lookout for an invitation from Cam Thompson via email.
USA Boxing Remembers Two Key Leaders
Marshall E. Murdaugh and Dr. Sherry Wulkan

Over the last few months, the USA Boxing Board of Directors and USA Boxing Foundation lost two important members, Dr. Sherry Wulkan and Marshall E. Murdaugh.

Dr. Wulkan, who was in her first term of the USA Boxing Board of Directors, passed away in August. The ringside physician graduated from SUNY Stony Brook and was the Medical Director of the Combative Sports Consulting Services prior to her passing. She also served as a consultant for numerous other organizations such as NYU Langone Health, Florida State Athletic Commission, U.S. Marine Corps Combat Sports Program and Atlantic Sports Health. Tyson Lee, USA Boxing Board President reflected, “Sherry was a rock who I depended on many times who selflessly dedicated herself to this organization. She was a giant in her professional field and highly thought of throughout our sport. She will be missed by me personally, and I’m sure her input will be missed on our BOD and throughout the world of Combat Sports.”

Murdaugh passed away on June 26 after a long and courageous fight with Lewy Body dementia. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the USA Boxing Foundation from 2005-2020. Murdaugh had numerous years of marketing experience, serving as a news anchor and Public Information Officer and Manager throughout his career. He also became the youngest state government tourism head in the United States when he was appointed State Tourism Commissioner for the Virginia State Travel Service at the age of thirty. Brad Smith, USAB Foundation member remarked, “Marshall was a leader in the field of destination marketing having developed the famous "Virginia is for Lovers" campaign. He loved the sport of boxing and contributed his knowledge and expertise to the work of the Foundation for many years. His sage advise, smile and good humor will long be remembered.”

Both USA Boxing leaders will be missed dearly for their contributions to the sport of amateur boxing.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THE HIGH PERFORMANCE SQUAD?

After bringing home four medals from the Tokyo Olympic Games, we now turn our focus to Paris 2024!

**Team USA will be back in the ring at the Elite Men’s World Championships, October 24 – November 6, in Belgrade, Serbia, while the 13 members of the Youth High Performance Team will compete at the first ever Junior Pan American Games in Cali, Colombia, with boxing taking place November 25 – December 1.**

USA Boxing is waiting on final confirmation on the Elite Women’s World Championships and will make that announcement as soon as the information is confirmed.

The elite boxers that will represent USA Boxing at the World Championships will be announced following in the coming weeks following an evaluation camp in Colorado Springs.

**Continue to follow USA Boxing on social media and visit usaboxing.org for updated information on these upcoming events.**
Community Contribution Realized in Lubbock

Community impact is a concept often overlooked in the relationship between a host city and the organization that for a short time calls that city home during a national event. Instead, the cities and event planners tend to focus solely on the economic impact. The city is interested in how much money the event will bring into their community, while event planners are concerned with what that economic boost is worth in terms of funding the proposed event.

USA Boxing, like most other National Governing Bodies (NGBs) operating as a non-profit, depend on host city funding to be able to run events that offer competition opportunities for our members and create pathways to our national teams. The recent success of USA Boxing National Events is in large part a result of the strong partnerships we have built with the host city representatives; the Convention & Visitors Bureaus (CVBs) and Sports Commissions.

But what happens when the event concludes, and the 3,000+ USA Boxing members and their families go home? Certainly, the city received a healthy economic boost, but what did the local boxers and coaches gain in having the event in their backyard? What did USA Boxing leave behind besides the memory of a great competition? Was our social corporate responsibility achieved? These questions sparked the idea of community giveback, and after many brainstorming sessions by USA Boxing’s National Events Department a need was identified, and a plan was developed. Thus, the Community Contribution concept was born and institutionalized at the 2021 National Junior Olympics & Summer Festival in Lubbock, Texas with the donation of a brand new and fully dressed 24’ competition boxing ring.

“When we leave, we want to leave something here that improves the local boxing community and will have a big impact on the City of Lubbock and West Texas,” Mike Campbell, Manager of Events and Boxing Operations said. “So, for this event, Lubbock Sports along with other partners including Monster Rings and Cages, Tony Vasquez the Tile Guy and our sponsor Sting, USA Boxing donated a brand-new boxing ring to the West Texas LBC.”

At the conclusion of the 2021 National JO’s, Arch Angels Boxing Club took possession of the brand-new ring which Lubbock’s boxing community will use for rentals, local amateur and pro shows, fundraisers, and other uses that could raise money for athletes to travel to and compete in other tournaments.

In response to the gesture, President and CEO of Lubbock Sports, John Osborne conveyed his appreciation, “On behalf of Lubbock Sports, I would like to express my immense gratitude to USA Boxing for the state-of-the-art boxing ring which was donated following the National Junior Olympics and Summer Festival. From the significant impact of the event to the local contributions made to our boxing community, we are thankful for the inclusive, community-minded approach of this organization, which ultimately benefits the next generation of boxers.”

Get Ready For Nationals!

National Championships Important Dates:

- October 1: Invitations sent to eligible boxers
- October 15: Deadline to accept invitations
- October 18: Registration opens for all boxers & coaches
- November 1-15: Weight changes can be made
- December 5-12: Tournament dates
- November 22: Waitlist information made available
- Nov. 23 - Dec. 1: Late registration for coaches only

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<td>BOXERS REGISTERED 1,275</td>
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<td>BOXERS COMPETED 945</td>
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<td>OFFICIALS REGISTERED 90</td>
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<td>CHAMPIONS CROWNED 160</td>
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For more information on what is happening or if you’d like to become a sponsor contact:

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