USA Boxing has plenty to be excited about as we head into the last quarter of 2019. The hard work that is put forth everyday throughout the country has helped put USA Boxing back on the map as one of the world’s top nations leading into the 2020 Olympic year and beyond!

Performance Update: Through the first eight months of the year, USA Boxing’s high performance squads have competed in six international competitions, winning a total of 45 medals. Team USA will look to continue its success and close the year out on a high note, with our elite men and women competing at their respective World Championships in Russia and the junior and youth women competing at the Silesian Championships in Poland, this fall.

Athlete Selection Procedures Despite USA Boxing’s busy fall schedule, the organization is setting its sights on 2020 in preparation for the Tokyo Olympic Games. Following the recent announcement of boxing’s Olympic qualification guidelines, USA Boxing has been working diligently to finalize athlete selection procedures which will provide the direct guidelines of how USA Boxing athletes can earn their place on the 2020 Olympic Team. Please check usaboxing.org for the finalized procedures, which will be posted in the coming weeks.

Coaching Education: USA Boxing is excited to announce the launch of its brand new coaching education program. The new program will consist of four levels, beginning with the online Green Level, which is currently available to membership. The Bronze Level certification will be quick to follow, with the first clinics scheduled to take place at the Eastern Elite Qualifier & Regional Open (October 8-11, 2019), Last Chance Qualifier (November 2-9, 2019) and Olympic Trials (December 7-15, 2019). USA Boxing is looking forward to working with its 56 LBC’s, as well as the 8,500+ coaches across the nation to provide this new resource and training moving forward in 2020.

The USA Boxing Foundation Scholarship is for current college students only that have completed at least one semester of a post-secondary program, and are current USA Boxing members and have been a member for the past two years. Applicants must have also competed in at least 2 sanctioned bouts this year and in each of the two preceding calendar years. Please visit https://go.teamusa.org/2KmrOwM for full application.
Register Now for Two National Events

**Eastern Qualifier**

**October 5 – 12**  
Columbus, Ohio

Name on T-shirt deadline: Sept. 23  
Registration deadline: Sept. 30


**Last Chance Qualifier**

**November 2**  
Oxnard, California

Registration deadline: October 29


Save The Date: December 7-15 · Olympic Trials & National Championships

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2019 Junior Olympics by the numbers

- 1002 registered boxers  
  Ages 8-38  
  23% female  
- 47 states represented  
  14 regions  
- 780 boxers attended  
- 636 bouts contested  
- 591 coaches  
- 108 officials  
- 5 days of competition  
  4 rings  
  8 sessions
A busy year will come to an end for our 2019 High Performance boxers as we will have three teams competing at major international tournaments.

Our elite men’s and women’s high performance boxers will compete in their respective World Championships in Russia. The men will represent Team USA and will box through September 21, while the women’s team will compete October 3-13.

The junior and youth female high performance squads are in Poland at their 2019 international tournament until September 14.

December 2019 marks the end of the term for the current Local Boxing Committee’s (LBC) Board of Directors. LBC Board elections are held every four years with a new Board in place in January of each Olympic year.

In a few days, we will send out an email asking for candidates who are interested in running for positions on the board.

To run for any board position, other than the athlete representative, you must:

♦ Be 18 years of age or older
♦ Have been a registered, non-athlete member of the LBC for at least one year
♦ Not have been suspended by USA Boxing for any reason
♦ Not have a record of a felony conviction involving theft, financial improprieties, or other crimes involving moral turpitude

To run for Chief of Officials (COO), in addition to the above, you must have been a certified official for at least one year.

Athlete Representatives must be at least 18 years old, registered for at least 60 days, and have participated in amateur boxing within the three years preceding the election.

Who gets to vote?
♦ The Board of Governors votes for the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.
♦ Officials who have been registered as a non-athlete for at least 6 months prior to the election and who have a current officials’ certification will vote for the COO.
♦ Boxers who have been registered for at least 60 days will vote for the athlete representatives.

What or Who is the Board of Governors?
The Board of Governors (BOG) is comprised of the current Board of Directors, plus club representatives from each club that is currently registered and has been for at least 6 months prior to the election, AND has at least five boxers attached to their club within the USA Boxing database (Webpoint).

How do we vote?
Voting will be done electronically through a third party. You will be contacted about voting through your email address that is in your USA Boxing profile.

What is the timeline?
Firm dates have not yet been determined, but here is the tentative schedule:
Mid-September – send out the call for candidates
Early November – announce the candidates
Mid-November – voting begins with 14 days to vote
Mid-December – announce final election results
Coach Spotlight · Blanca Gutierrez

Owner of Babyface Boxing in Pacifica, CA, Blanca Gutierrez has been coaching the sweet science since 2007 after being a kickboxer for 10 years. Growing up in the boxing community, Blanca’s father was a boxer, who inspired her to open her gym after his death. “I was born and bred into this beautiful sport and really have lived a boxing lifestyle,” she stated. Her experiences in the sport have given her the chance to make a difference in her boxers lives, and teach them the sport in a safe environment. “I teach an anti-bully class and run an all-inclusive gym,” said Gutierrez. “Every kid deserves a chance to learn through boxing.”

Another aspect of coaching that she loves is the ability to give female boxers the opportunities she never had. Her biggest chance to do so is her Beautiful Brawlers tournament that is now known worldwide. Over the years, numerous female boxers have had the opportunity to showcase their talents and the event has featured several big names in the sport. Her tournament allows her to showcase her philosophy that the best fight the best, and allows her to match even fights, while growing and improving female boxers inside and outside the ring.

“My favorite part of the sport is the fact that we create stronger and more confident people, who learn to adapt to different situations through boxing. Boxing has saved many lives, including my own. It really is a lifestyle, not just a sport.”

Boxer Spotlight · Dante Kirkman

17-year-old Dante Kirkman (Palo Alto, CA), pictured right with his dad Robert, demonstrates success inside and outside the ring. Looking to make his elite debut at the Eastern Elite Qualifier in Columbus, OH, Kirkman began boxing at the age of 10. He currently trains at B-Street Boxing in San Mateo, CA with coach Eddie Croft.

Inside the ring, Kirkman says his biggest accomplishment, so far, has been his consistent ranking in the top 10 in multiple weight classes and age divisions. Kirkman also stated, “I’ve had some injuries that have slowed me down, but persevering through them and being patient while I heal and grow have also been an accomplishment for me in building my character.”

Outside the ring, he has a huge interest in the arts and creative writing, which took hold in middle school after taking all the available art classes and doing creative projects on his own. With his interest in the fine arts, it is no surprise the 4.0 student’s favorite class is creative writing taught by his teacher, Lucy Filippu. “It has given me the opportunity to express myself creatively in a new medium,” he stated. “My teacher encourages us to take our writing seriously and develop our own voice and vision.” His talents have been recognized nationwide, where he has won numerous awards and honors, but two that stick out to him are his Scholastic Art & Writing National Gold Medal and his YoungArts Finalist Winner medal for creative writing.

With athletic and academic success, it is no surprise that Kirkman has big goals including winning gold at the 2020 or 2024 Olympic Games, turning professional and becoming one of the best ever. Following boxing, he wants to pursue a career in the sport, whether it be a ringside analyst or a promoter. While going for these goals, he has plans to earn a degree, either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Fine Arts, as well as a Master of the Fine Arts or his PhD. So far, Dante has been accepted to the University of Alabama, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Ole Miss, Southern Oregon University and the University of Wyoming. There is no doubt that the sky is the limit for this young California man with his hard work and dedication that he shows daily in and out of the sport of boxing.
Champion Martha Salazar, who works closely with her at her gym) in a male dominated sport can be very challenging, and it also can be very rewarding,” said Gutierrez.

Gutierrez’s hard work and continued dedication to the sport has earned her the opportunities to attend training camps as a coach at the United States Olympic and Paralympic Training Center, as well as guide two boxers to qualify to the 2020 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Boxing later this year. These accomplishments have not gone unnoticed, as she has been inducted into the West Coast Hall of Fame, the International Women’s Hall of Fame and the Pacifica Hall of Fame for her contributions to the sport. USA Boxing is extremely grateful for Blanca’s continued dedication and hard work in our sport.

**Official Spotlight · Tom Lindsey**

If you have attended a USA Boxing National Tournament recently, one man that is working non-stop to make sure our members have the best experience is Tom Lindsey.

“Boxing first started with me back in the 6th grade,” said Lindsey. “Having attended a private school, to say the least, discipline was quite different than it is now.” Following an argument with a fellow classmate, his teacher took the two of them to the boxing ring the school had to box each other.

It was a few years later in 2008 when Lindsey signed up to become a USA Boxing Official after a friend approached him to see if he was interested. “I signed up, took my first clinic the same day of the event. I started working that same day and I haven’t looked back,” stated Lindsey. Now 11 years later, he continues working as an R/J out of South Texas LBC. “Boxing to me is addicting, because of all the positive actions it generates,” said Lindsey on why he stays involved in the sport. “You feel important and love the responsibilities that we uphold. Who wouldn’t want to be part of something that makes a positive impact on what we do?” “I learn something new every time I attend an event, whether it is local, national, international or on the professional level. The more active you are, the more you learn.”

Like many, those in the boxing community have become part of Tom’s family. “The respect you get and give to each other is one of my favorite things about the sport. Boxing to me is like calling everyone my family.” So next time you are at a South Texas event or see Tom helping put up a ring at a national event, be sure to thank him for all his hard work and dedication to the sport, because we know we are extremely fortunate to have him in our corner!

**LBC Leader Spotlight · Vickie Elder**

A member of USA Boxing for over 30 years, Indiana’s Vickie Elder has been a huge part of her LBC’s success. Having started working in her LBC as the Junior Olympic Chairperson, Vickie has worked her way to become her LBC’s president and has helped her LBC grow. “I believe my biggest accomplishment is getting everyone on the same page,” stated Vickie. “I can honestly say in my LBC, Indiana and Kentucky, the coaches and officials all work together. They enjoy getting together and helping to improve the sport.”

Like many LBC Leaders, Vickie spends at least 40 to 50 hours a week in this sport. “Our job is not really easy,” said Elder. “I believe I am a good leader, and that is because of the people working with me. If it was not for our LBC board, I would not be able to do what I do.” And Elder does a lot for not only her LBC, but also Indiana Golden Gloves. “I am the tournament director for the Indiana Golden Gloves, and I actually match about 90% of all our club shows.”

While doing all this work, Elder makes sure to attend as many of the shows as possible, like many in our sport, she does this for the kids. “If I can be there for them, give them a few words of encouragement, and let them know somebody cares about them, that is more important than money. “I really believe to be a good LBC, you have to love the sport and have to love and appreciate the boxers, coaches and officials. I believe I am truly blessed to be able to be the president of my LBC and I want to thank every member of the Indiana LBC for the love and support they show me everyday.”

“I would also like to thank the girls who work at the national office, Betsy, Cam, Carol, Claudia and Lynette. These women go above and beyond to make sure USA Boxing keeps running smooth and they do one heck of a great job! I for one really appreciate all the help they have given me through the years.”
Upcoming Alumni Events!

“A Celebration of Ohio Boxing Legends”
Sunday, October 6, 2019 · 6:00 pm
at the Columbus Convention Center
during the Eastern Qualifier
Appetizers and a cash bar available for
Alumni members

2019 Hall of Fame Inductee Ceremony
Friday, December 13, 2019 · 7:00 – 10:00 pm
at the Golden Nugget, Lake Charles, LA
during the
Olympic Trials & National Championships

Down but not out …
Gone but not forgotten …

Dr. Allan Fields
Dr. Robin Goodfellow
Justin Thomas
Arthur Ramalho
Carole Rodgers
Pernell Whitaker
Mabon Williford
Art Wilson
Richard Trindle
Welcome to the New Boxing Clubs that joined this summer!

To find a club in your area, go to www.teamusa.org/usa-boxing/membership/find-a-club

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For more information on what is happening, contact:

USA Boxing
1 Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719-866-2323
www.usaboxing.org

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Head to the USA Boxing website under “Shop” for all your training equipment needs!

100% of the profits go back to USA Boxing!