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**Magazine**



**Issue 3**  
**Oct 2019**  
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Shakan Pitters**

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Welcome to the  
BBColumn  
Magazine  
Issue 3

Welcome to the third issue of the BBColumn magazine, we are the biggest boxing website in Birmingham and the Black Country and are committed to reporting on all aspects of the noble art in our area. In the quarterly magazine you will find reports on all the professional shows from the last 3 month's that have happened in Birmingham and the Black Country. We also have interviews and in-depth report's on some of the top fighters in the Midlands and also pick out some of the top prospects to look out for.

We hope you enjoy reading the article's and reports which have been re-edited from our website to give you a hard copy of what we do. We would love to get your feed back so please feel free to contact us via email - or via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Also if you would like to advertise in the magazine or on the website please contact us via the same channels.

Once again thank you for purchasing the magazine and please continue to check out [bbcolumn.com](http://bbcolumn.com) for all your boxing news in Birmingham and the Black Country

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Welcome to Fightden



Welcome to Fightden is the flagship show on the Birmingham Boxing Column's YouTube channel. Dexter Hastings has interviewed some of the top fighters in Birmingham and the Black Country which includes the likes of Sam Eggington, Craig Cunningham, Tommy Langford and Frankie Gavin. With over 80 shows behind him Dexter has established the show as a must see for Midlands boxing fans.

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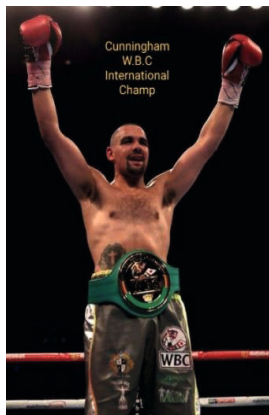


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## Tribute to One of Birmingham's Finest Craig Cunningham

Written by Dexter Hastings



The Birmingham Boxing Column looks back at one of Birmingham's finest fighters career, we pay tribute to Craig Cunningham who's career spanning 7 years from 2011 to 2018.

Cunningham took up the noble art at the age of 16 and had his first amateur fight for Warley ABC when he was 18. He had a decent amateur career winning 19 out of 27 bouts. Craig informed me he didn't start boxing until he was 16 because his mom wouldn't let him do it when he was younger. Craig said "my mom just didn't want me to get hurt I suppose as most people only see the brutality in fights on TV but don't understand the commitment, discipline and hard work it takes before a fight"

Craig then added "Growing up I didn't really follow boxing, I just wanted to fight. The only boxing I ever watched was when it was on normal TV".

Craig continued about growing up he tolda me "I was always active playing football and doing karate as a kid, I entered a competition and won bronze, I had been disqualified for hurting the other kids as it was a team event. As

a kid I was probably a bit naive, I couldn't understand why we got disqualified just because we hurt them, we should of won, this turned me away from the sport. Now I'm older I realize everything has to be controlled which started me out in boxing, it became more natural to me. Being a pro I have realized how technical and skilful you have to be to go anywhere in the sport, it is not just about brute force and trying to KO everyone with one punch".



Cunningham who fought out of Eastside boxing gym under the tutelage of manager Jon Pegg made his professional debut on the 20th December 2011 beating Duncan Cottier on points at the Holiday Inn Birmingham. Cunningham then went on to win his next 10 fights and claimed the Midlands Middleweight Area title in his first title fight going away from home beating Prince Davis on points (2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014) at the Hermitage Leisure Centre Leicestershire.

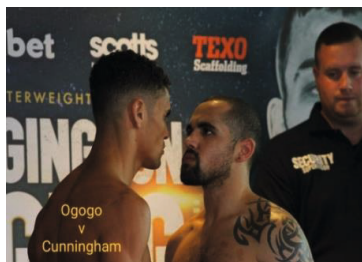
Cunningham and his Eastside team then rolled the dice as he entered the prize-fighter event at the Winter Garden's Blackpool which was shown live on Sky sports (14/2/15). He lost to the eventual prize-fighter winner Tom Doran in the quarter finals but this was just a blip as he went on and won 3 more fights in 2015 finishing the year on a strong footing.



Two thousand sixteen has got to go down as Cunningham's best year in his boxing career. Craig started the year off with the defence of his Middleweight Midlands Area title against Ryan Aston at Dudley Town Hall (21/5/16) where he won with a six round TKO.

Cunningham continued his hot streak by then challenging for the Super welterweight Midlands Area title against the highly rated Jason Welborn. Cunningham won a hard fought fight on a points decision at the PLAYFOOTBALL arena Newtown Birmingham (16/7/16) making him a two times two weight Midlands area champion.





of the fight in the eighth round.

This would do most boxers as a job well done for the year but Cunningham and his team continued there title hunt taking on Matchroom's much fancied Olympic silver medallist unbeaten Anthony Ogogo on the undercard of the Eggington v Gavin fight at the Barclay card arena Birmingham. Ogogo and Cunningham where contesting the vacant WBC international Middleweight title that was scheduled for ten rounds and was supposed to be Ogogo's time to shine and the start of him moving up the Middleweight ranks. No one had informed the 20 to 1 underdog who put Ogogo down before his corner pulled the Olympian out

This was a great victory which had to put Cunningham into British title contention at the very least. Two thousand and sixteen ended on a positive note with Craig winning the British Boxing Board of Controls Midlands boxer of the year and of course the highest accolade bestowed on him in 2016 "The Birmingham Boxing Column's Boxer of the year".



Two thousand and seventeen started positive with Craig getting the call to fight for the Middleweight British title against then champion Tommy Langford. It was going to be held at Leicester arena on 22nd April on a Frank Warren show to be shown live on Boxnation. This was Craig's big chance and their was a big buzz around this fight as both fighters resided in Birmingham. Unfortunately the buzz did not last long as Langford opted to face Brooklyn based Georgian fighter Avtandil Khurtsidze for the vacant WBO intern world Middleweight title.



Cunningham was as you can imagine very flustered about this but it was expected by all that Cunningham would fight for the British title against Langford or if it was vacated later in the year. While Cunningham waited he had a tick over 4 rounder against Anthony Fox winning on points, I talked to Craig after the fight and he was not shy about airing his frustrations about not getting his shot at the British title Langford lost his world title fight and it was expected his next British title defence would be against Cunningham. While waiting for the call Cunningham had another tick over fight, a six rounder against William Warburton which he won on points.



I talked to Craig after this fight and he informed me he was finding it hard to get himself up for these fights as he wanted to fight for titles and keep his momentum going. As Langford had a six round return fight in October 2017, Cunningham and his team rolled the dice again taking on Lukas Ndafoloma from Namibia Africa in a 10 round eliminator for a shot at the Middleweight Commonwealth title. Cunningham really under performed in this fight and in his own words "didn't turn up" Ndafoloma won the fight on points handing Cunningham only his second defeat of his career.

At the end of 2017 there were 3 names in the mix to fight Langford in his mandatory British title defence Cunningham, Welborn and Arnfield. The Birmingham Boxing Column had a internet poll to see who the public thought should get a shot, Cunningham was the overwhelming winner of the poll with a lot of comments saying Cunningham deserved a shot. Unfortunately for Craig, Arnfield was chosen by the BBBoC as the Mandatory challenger who Langford beat on points with ease in February 2018.

Cunningham was given a title shot on the Black Country Boxing's promotions first arena show "Now or Never" at the Genting arena NEC. He was going to be fighting fellow Midlander Andrew Robinson for the vacant IBO Middleweight Continental title on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 and not wanting to stop there had already agreed to fight in Germany on March 10<sup>th</sup> in a 8 rounder against Jack Culcay. Again fate was not on Craig's side as the BcB event was moved from February 23<sup>rd</sup> to March 24<sup>th</sup>.



Cunningham and his team were still happy to take both fights in the same month but from what I understand BcB promotions did not want to take the risk of Craig getting hurt or injured over in Germany and having to find a replacement at short notice. Craig took the fight in Germany where he fought like the warrior he is with some people saying he did enough to win the fight, but you are never going to get a close decision in Germany against a German, Craig lost this fight on a points decision. This was Craig's last fight before he announced his retirement.

I messaged Craig after I heard about his retirement and asked him why he has chosen to call it a day? The Birmingham boxer informed me "Well I was held back with the bullshit politics of the sport, I guess Hearn didn't have me on another show after Ogogo, my two mandatory opponents pulled out for my WBC in Russia and Singapore and the British champ avoided me too". I also talked to his manager and trainer Jon Pegg who told me "Craig overachieved a lot, scored some great upsets but the biggest fights are the ones that avoided or pulled out against him. Craig could have done even more if given his chance".



I also messaged one of the Midlands top promoters Tommy Owens to ask him what he thought about Cunningham retiring? He told me "Craig exceeded all expectations of him from starting on a small hall stage to becoming one of the most avoided fighters domestically, a proper handful for anyone". Tommy continued "He will remain one of my favourite fighters and I am proud to of had him fight on my shows! Happy retirement mate enjoy it".

I then messaged Eastside world title prospect Sam Eggington to ask him how he thinks Craig did in his career? The Savage told me "Craig did brilliant as a pro, we turned over from the same amateur club not being top amateurs by any means, he was always up for taking the biggest fights but not always offered them! But being gym mates from the amateurs to the pros I think the Ogogo win the same night as me beating Gavin stands out as a huge night what we will both never forget".

Another Eastside Veteran Karl Wiggins AKA Karly Gee had this to say about Craig. He told the Column "What can I say about Craig, he was hard working, never ducked a challenge and a pleasure to train with around the gym. he was not the loud type, he just got on with his work, done it and went onto his family life. So from work straight to the gym to family, a real blue collar fighter no frills just hard work, only thing which let Craig down was opportunities and that's what held him back but he made the most of what was given to him, one thing, he can look back on winning belts and beating and Olympian, so hats off to Craig and have a great retirement"

Since Craig has retired from prize fighting he has started doing personal training at Des fitness (the Lab) and he is also at Warley ABC and will hopefully go onto coaching some of the lads.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**



Since I started the Birmingham Boxing Column in 2016 I have followed Craig's career closely. That year was an amazing one for him with everything going right for him. He defended his Middleweight Midlands area title, won the super welterweight Midlands area title and then beat the odds and not just beat but stop Olympic silver medallist Anthony Ogogo to win the WBC international Middleweight title. Craig then came down with his new belt to Fightden boxing gym in Digbeth and I interviewed him on the very first "Welcome to Fightden" show.

He ended the year with 3 titles the BBBofC Midlands Boxer of the year award and to top it off the Birmingham Boxing Column's Boxer of the year award. The following year was a frustrating one for Craig his team and all of his supporters. Myself and the column championed Craig getting his British title shot asking Tommy Langford in nearly every interview when will he be fighting Cunningham.

Craig has had a great career and anyone one who knows boxing can see if he had been given the chances he should have been given he could have done so much more. Cunningham has been a great ambassador for Birmingham boxing and is an inspiration to anyone in or out of boxing that you can achieve anything you put your mind to. He will go down as one of my favourite boxers and I can say with pride that I was a Craig Cunningham fan.

The Birmingham Boxing Column would like to wish Craig all the best in his retirement and hope he stays in the game training the next generation of boxers.

# The Heat is On BcB Promotions Written by Dexter Hastings



Black Country boxing Promotions held there first show of July (6.7.19) at the Walsall town hall, Walsall. The show was called "The Heat is on" and consisted of seven bouts of boxing. Four of the fights were contested over 4 times three minute rounds with Alex Jones making his debut, Sid Bowater returning to the ring after two years, Troi Coleman and Lee Glover also doing four rounder's. There was also a female contest with the young and talented Amy Timlin having her second pro fight over 4 two minute rounds. You also had unbeaten Levi Ferguson doing a six rounder and topping the bill you had the hard hitting southpaw Tyler Denny doing a 8 rounder. Referee's on the night were Chris Deen and Michael Alexander the compare was David Nikolich and the lady with the ring cards was the stunning Keeley from Diamond ring.

## Results

Fight 1 - Alex Jones v MJ Hall 4x3 SW Result - Dexter - 40-37 Ref - 39-37 Jones wins PD

Fight 2 - Troi Coleman v Owen Jobburn 4x3 LH Result – Dexter 40-36 Ref 40-36 Coleman wins PD

Fight 3 - FM - Amy Timlin v Sonia Klos 4x2 FW Result - Dexter - 40-38 Ref 40-36 Timlin wins PD

Fight 4 - Lee Glover v Michael Mooney 4x3 W Result - Dexter 40-36 Ref 40-36 Glover wins PD

Fight 5 - Levi Fergusson v Nathan Hardy 6x3 SW Result – Dexter - 58-58 Ref 58-57 Ferguson wins PD

Fight 6 - Sid Bowater v Funs Alexander 4x3 SW Result - Dexter - 40-36 Ref – 40 -36 Bowater wins PD





## Main event

Tyler Denny v Serge Abomo

11.6 8x3 11.2

Super Middleweight



Denny banged in some cracking combinations with some sharp jabbing in the first round, Abomo who looked like he was chiselled out of stone got some shots off of his own but Denny won the round. Great movement and shot selection from Denny in the second with Abomo looking to get heavy shots off, Denny controlled the round with some cracking combinations. Denny didn't let Abomo set in the third as he banged in cracking combinations and showed great movement.

Abomo always looked dangerous as he continued to come forward, Denny picked him off in the fourth with great movement and combinations to win the round. Denny continued to box well in the fifth and



was banging in combination after combination, fair play to Abomo who was taking them and continued to move forward. Denny covered up and countered well as Abomo let his hand go at the start of the sixth, Denny still boxed well making angles for himself to get his shots off winning the round. Denny boxed clever at the start of the seventh making space for himself so he could get some good shots off, Denny picked up the pace in the second part of the round putting in some heavy shots which Abomo took well. Cruising a round is not in Denny's vocabulary as he banged in shots in the last round shooting out cracking combinations until the final bell.

Result

Dexter - 80-72

Ref - 80-72

Denny wins on points



## Dexter's Thoughts



Another cracking night of boxing at the Walsall town hall, we will start with the main event. Tyler Denny put on a great display of boxing against a very tough opponent. Denny mixed it up well banging in great combinations and then covering up and countering when he had to. Denny looked comfortable doing the 8 rounds and fingers crossed we see him back in title contention very soon.

It was great to see Sid Bowater back in the ring after a 2 year break, Bowater looked sharp and picked his shots well to get a points victory. It will be interesting how far he can go this time round.

Levi Ferguson had a hard fight against a very good opponent, on my card I had it even but there were a lot of close rounds so could not argue with the ref giving it to Ferguson. He is still unbeaten and has started to step up the rounds from 4 to 6, if he continues to press the way he is I think we may be seeing him in title contention very soon.

Lee Glover got his second points victory as he rebuilds his career after two back to back title defeats in 2016. Glover looked good as he took on the very capable Mooney winning his four rounder, I'm sure if he continues in this vain he will be knocking on the door of titles very soon.

Impressive second fight for the "Baby faced assassin" Amy Timlin, in her first fight her opponent was very negative and just wanted to hold. This could not be said for Klos would brought the best out of Timlin as she was forced to show her skill, heart and control. This was a good fight and Timlin was able to showcase her skills, Timlin did seem to get caught with quite a few right hands but only being two fights in Amy Timlin is definitely one to watch.

Trio Coleman won every round against a tough opponent in Owen Jobburn, he showed power and skill and great movement to get the win. I look forward to seeing his progress.

You couldn't really get a much trickier journeyman for Alex Jones to fight on his debut. MJ Hall has always impressed me when he has fought and the tricky southpaw asked a lot of questions to Jones who answered them all. Jones done really well and I was very impressed. I look forward to seeing what the young Leeds fan does in his next fight.

The Birmingham boxing column would like to thank BcB for having us at there show.





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# Making Friends as the World Ends

## Episode 1 & 2

Written by Dexter Hastings



Making friends as the world ends episode 1 & 2 are not exactly related to boxing in their content but are via the writer, director and some of the cast.

Written and directed by Professional boxing manager and coach Jon Pegg with former world champion Richie Woodhall playing one of the main parts, with a host of other boxers and trainers as extras from the Birmingham area the Column was

always going to be interested.



After episode 1 won numerous awards at film festival across the country even reaching across the pond as far as L.A in America, Jon Pegg with a very small budget decided to do episode 2. All of the cast from the first episode came back to do the film for free and managed to complete the filming in three days over the Christmas break. The hope is that one of the big production company's see what Jon and his team can do on a small budget and reproduce the series with a proper production budget. From what the audience was told before the screening there are 6 episodes written in total.

Below is my take on what I thought of episode 1 and 2 forgive me if it's a bit crude I'm not a critic I'm a boxing reporter and a film buff.



Episode 1 was basically nine very different people who have escaped a yet unexplained apocalyptic event and are now hiding out together in an abandoned building. The nine survivors have been in the building together nearly three weeks and with tensions rising, food and water running out they have no choice but to choose one of them to go outside to get supplies or even help. Episode 1 is quite a serious affair with the survivors pleading their case not to be the one that goes out to almost certain death. Within the confines of the building they manage to tackle ageism, racism, politics and stereotyping in a very well written script with the comedy element coming via the Hippy raver character Monty who is played by Charles Nicklin



The two main characters are Billie and Frank, Billie who is played by Kia Pegg (from cbbc show The Dumping ground) plays a tough teenage girl who has been brought up the hard way and is a born survivor. Frank who is played by former world champion Richie Woodhall is a tough looking bloke who never seems to smile but is intent of keeping the group together and safe. Frank does have a dark past but he seems to have changed the way he thinks and is trying to make amends for what he has done. Episode 1 ends in a cliff hanger with the group leaving the building.



Episode 2 starts where one left off with the group now outside, this leads to the cast growing with the group now meeting a gang who are intent on making them there slaves. Leading the gang you have Little Tim and big Tim who in there minds are kings as they rule there small part of the world. Little Tim is played by Sean Connelly with big Tim being played by a monster of a man in Milton Rowe, they complement each other well and make the perfect gang leaders.



**Kia Pegg**

The story in episode 2 really opens up with all the main characters getting to be a hero at some point in the film. There is a hell of a lot of action in this episode with the group having to fight for there lives all the way through. The comedy element is still there with Monty and now dumb Tim played by Jon Pegg giving you the laughs. There is also a bit of dark humour emulating from Billie (Kia Pegg) who's character goes on a killing spree, taking out some of the gang members in bloody but very humorous ways. I will not spoil the ending of this episode but I can not wait for episode 3.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**

I got to say I really did enjoyed watching Making Firends as the World Ends episode 1 the first time I saw it, but enjoyed it even more the second time. It was really well written and the cast of just nine actors delivered a gritty performance that showcased issues like ageism, racism and stereotyping people while keeping it entertaining.

As for episode 2, well I loved it, it was a complete transformation from episode 1 with everything you could ask for from a film. Richie Woodhall who played Frank was excellent and played the leader of the group well. To be honest all of the main cast smashed it in episode 2. But in my opinion Kia Pegg who plays Billie stole the show as she took her character on a killing spree where she made me believe her character enjoyed killing a truly great performance.

The amazing thing is that all the actors and extras did this for free and that it was filmed in just three days. Can you imagine what Jon Pegg and his team could do if they got some real backing behind them. Episode 1 won awards all over the world and I have no doubt episode 2 will do the same. There is reportedly six episodes to the story and I am looking forward to seeing them all, but with some real finical backing, Making Friends as the World Ends has the potential to be a big TV hit.



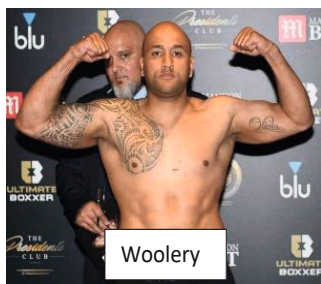
## Ultamate Boxxer IV

Written by Dexter Hastings



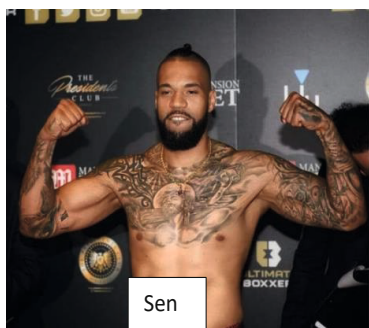
The Ultimate boxer series was back in Manchester (19.7.19) at the Ice arena with the cruiserweights taking the centre stage. Ultimate boxer is a Prizefighter type show where 8 fighters battle for the Lions share of £50,000 prize money, the eventual winner will have to beat three opponents over 3 three minute rounds to claim the golden robe.

The Midlands were being represented by 2 cruiserweights in the competition with Anthony Woolery whose record stands at 1 win and 1 defeat and Matt Sen who had only lost 1 in 6 fights with both fighters hailing from Wolverhampton. Also on the undercard we had the original winner of the first Ultimate boxer show the very talented Drew Brown from Northampton.



Anthony Woolery took on the favourite to win the competition Mikael Lawal in the first quarter finals. Woolery was put down in the first round by a good right hand, he managed to get to his feet and fought back hard to see out the first round. In the second Woolery came back strong and really gave Lawal (9-0) a torrid time claiming a share of the round. Round three saw Woolery press and pressure the favourite all the way to the final bell winning the final round.

The 3 judges scored the fight 29-28, 28-28 and 30- 27 in favour of Lawal but this was a very brave and determined effort by Woolery who really impressed a lot of people on a very big stage.



Eastsides Matt Sen was in the final quarter final against another favourite in the competition Damien Chambers. Sen weighed in at 14 stone 1 pound with Chambers (5-0) weighing 13 stone 13. Sen started well pressing Chambers from the first bell, Chambers kept his composure using his jab well looking to set Sen up. Sen was warned by the ref for hitting Chambers on the back of the head. When the fight continued Chambers caught Sen with a barrage of hooks which were set up by the jab which put Sen down. Sen got to his feet and was allowed to continue. Chambers caught Sen with a sharp straight left hand which put Sen down again. Sen got to his feet again and seemed ok but the ref deemed he was not able to continue to Sen's protest.

Sen took to social media after the fight and wrote this status. The Slugger wrote "So tonight didn't go as planned. Was ready for an out and out war but the ref stopped it relatively early on and in my opinion very prematurely. We are in the hurt business and I wasn't hurt at all but hey, I guess that's how the cookie crumbles sometimes. Some great exposure and some real exciting things to follow so win, win situation for me this. The journey continues and to top it off met some great people along the way. Thank you for everyone's support.



After the semi finals had finished the original Ultimate boxer winner Drew Brown took on Lewis Van Poetsch in a 4 rounder on the undercard. Brown showed fast hands and good shot selection threw out the fight working Van Poetsch's head and body well. Van Poetsch who was having his 117<sup>th</sup> fight covered up well and just seemed to be enjoying being on such a big platform. Brown won the fight 40 to 36 and moved his unbeaten record to 12 without defeat.

Mikael Lawal beat Damian Chambers in the final in the first round by TKO winning him the golden robe and the £15,000 winners purse.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**



It was great to see Drew Brown back on the big stage getting a good win against the seasoned journeyman Van Poetsch. Brown is 12 – 0 now and has got to be given a shot at a title, I think he has proved that he has moved beyond the Midlands title but I'm not saying Brown taking on the hard hitting Kaisee Benjamin wouldn't be a awesome fight but I think he needs to be looking higher up. I could see Brown fighting for the English or British and winning at Welterweight or even fighting for some form of European title and fingers crossed he gets his opportunity soon.

Matt Sen rolled the dice entering this competition and was unlucky getting drawn against one of the favourites in the quarter finals. Sen got caught early and was put down twice, when he got up the second time he seemed to be ok and able to carry on. The ref stopped the fight with Sen telling him he was ok and I got to say when he got back to his feet he did seem fine. The ref had a hard decision to make and it is up to Sen to convince the ref he is ok, to be honest putting my ref cap on as it was just a 3 rounder I would have given Sen one more chance and would have stepped in the next time he got into trouble. I will say the ref must have seen something to stop the fight and Matt Sen lives to fight another day, he has been give big exposure and if he learns from this like he said in his status, it's a win, win.

Anthony Woolery's stock has gone up even though he lost, he was put down in the first round and came back strong in the second and third. If it wasn't for the knock down in the first I think he may have got

though to the semis but I will say I was impressed with his heart and will to win.

## Female Amateur Siân O'Toole

written by Dexter Hastings



Siân O'Toole is a 20 year old female boxer from Droitwich West Midlands, Siân stands at 5 foot 7 and fights out of an orthodox stance in the Lightweight division. O'Toole has won over half of her amateur fights claiming 19 wins out of 32 bouts. This does not really reflect her achievements as she has claimed 3 national youth titles along the way. Siân currently fights out of Hall Green ABC and is trained and mentored by former British and Commonwealth welterweight champion Frankie Gavin. I managed to talk to Frankie about his young prodigy and asked him how good he thought she was and how far he thought she could go? The former world challenger said " Siân trains extremely hard, she has the potential to do very well in the sport. She has had a few ups and downs lately, lost a few fights which could easily of went her way, but has also won a gold in Ukraine this year. Hopefully luck will be on her side this coming season".



I asked O'Toole, who is your favourite boxer and why? She informed me "it would have to be Roy Jones junior, because in his prime I think he was the best in that era". I then asked the 3 time youth national champion, what is the best fight you have seen? She told be "Morales against Barrera, it was an all out war between two fighters at there peak".

My next question to O'Toole was, what inspired you to take up the noble art? She smiled as she told me "it was because of my brother, he did it so I wanted to beat him".

I then asked Siân, what has been your hardest fight? She told me "I fought a girl from Kosovo when I went to the European championships. She was the current world champion and it was my 14th fight. I held my own at first but her experience showed as the fight went on".

My final question to Siân was, do you have aspersions of turning over to the pro ranks? O'Toole told me "I'd definitely would like to go pro but not for a while, I want to work my way back onto Team GB because I was on there for over a year and I miss it. Then hopefully work my way to qualifying for the Olympics in 2024 before I even think about turning professional".

### Dexter's Thoughts



Frankie Gavin has mentioned Siân to me on a number of occasions as one to watch in the amateur ranks. I then saw her training at Eastside gym on Sunday, where I saw Frankie warm her up on the he pads and also her go to work on the bags. She then did a bit of sparing against some of the male amateurs that were there. Siân to be fair held her own and looked very impressive on the pads. She has a great mentor in Frankie Gavin who is unquestionably one of the best amateur boxers Britain has produced. He knows the game inside out and has had his ups and downs in his career. I'm sure he

will pass on some of his knowledge which will help O'Toole in her amateur career and pro career. I look forward to seeing how far this aspiring young fighter can go.



## **Brave attempt by Bavington**

Written by Dexter Hastings



Black Country boxing's female boxer Kirstie Bavington lost her first ever title fight on points at the York Hall Bethnal Green London (22/7/19). Bavington took up the challenge at quite short notice to take on the unbeaten Cherrelle Brown (33) for the vacant WBC international female Super Lightweight title that would be contested over 10 x 2 minute rounds. Bavington (26) from Wolverhampton put up a brave effort and gave the favoured Brown a hard fight with the 3 judges giving it to Brown with Mark Bates giving it 98-91, Jurgen Langos scored it 99-90 and Anssi Perajoki scoring it 100-89.

Bavington took to social media soon after the fight and made this statement, she wrote , Unfortunately it wasn't my time last night. Big respect to Cherrelle Brown she got the job done and took it like a true champ. I took my first 10 rounder in my 4th fight after only ever boxing 4 rounds. I trained my arse off and dedicated my life to this game. It is now time to reflect on the next stage and what's the right path for me to take. I left my heart in the ring but unfortunately that wasn't enough.



### **Dexter's Thoughts**



Kirstie Bavington took on a very talented fighter in Brown at quite short notice in her first title fight at the legendary York Hall Bethnal Green in London in just her 4th fight. Bavington may have lost this fight but she must have ticked off a lot of things on her boxing bucket list. Bavington completed her first 10 rounder, she also fought for a WBC title and to top it all got to be top of the bill at the York Hall Bethnal Green, there are 4 things she can tick off. I have been at Kirstie's first 3 fights and have seen her improve in everyone and learn from every fight. This fight will only improve her and I'm sure she will have learnt from this, I'm sure Kirstie will come back a better fighter and will be contesting and winning titles soon.

## Sunday Service BcB Promotions

Written by Dexter Hastings



Black Country boxing Promotions held there latest show at The Venue Dudley which was call "Sunday Service" (28.7.19). The show consisted of 7 bouts of boxing, in the home corner James Beech jr, Alex Florence, Connor Lee Jones and Kyle Williams were all doing four, 3 minutes round fights. You also had Ijaz Ahmad and Conah Walker both doing 6 three minute round fights with female boxing being represented by the "Pocket Rocket" Dani Hodges doing 6 rounds over 2 minutes. Comparing on this Sunday afternoon show was David Nikolich and reffing was Chris Deen and Kevin Parker, unfortunately there were no ring girls.

### Results

**Figure 1** - James Beech jr v Jake Pollard - 4x3 – SF- Result - Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 40-36 - Beech wins PD

**Figure 2** - Dani Hodges v Emma McCulloch-6x2– F - Result - Dexter 59-56 - Ref - 58-57 - Hodges wins PD

**Figure 3** - Alex Florence v Kash Hussain-4x3 – W -Result - Dexter - 40-36 -Ref - 40-36 - Florence wins PD

**Figure 4** - Ijaz Ahmed v Pablo Navaroe-6x3-SB -Result- Dexter – 59 – 55 - Ref – 58 – 56 - Ahmed wins PD

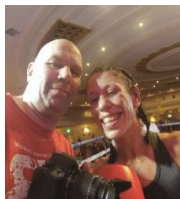
**Figure 5** - Conner Lee Jones v Dean Jones -4x3- W- Result- Dexter-40-36 – Ref-40-36 - C Jones wins PD

**Figure 6** - Conner Walker v Ohio Kane - 6x3 - SW- Result -Dexter - 60-54 - Ref - 57-57 - Draw

**Figure 7** - Kyle Williams v Jose Anguilar -4x3-SB -Result -Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 40-36 - Williams wins PD



## Dexter's Thoughts



This was my first time I had been to the venue Dudley and I got to say it was a good room to watch boxing in.

We start with Kyle Williams, great performance by him in this tick over fight, he showed great movement and shot selection that brought him the Midlands and English titles last year. I am looking forward to seeing him again in big fights really soon.



Conah Walkers in my opinion was on the end of a very bad decision tonight, I can see that there were a lot of close rounds but even in them Walkers work rate and the more eye catching shots came from him. It was given 57-57 which says that they won 3 rounds each, now Kane fought well and made it a very competitive fight but no way he won 3 rounds. In the close rounds you may have been able to give Kane 2 even rounds but there was no way he won one let alone three. I'm sure we will see Walker back to winning ways when he is out next time.

Conner Lee Jones put on a very impressive performance winning every round. He is now 4-0 and if he continues to progress the way he is titles will be in his future.

Ijaz Ahmed got a good win against a very tough opponent, this was a very entertaining 6 rounder and it will be good to see Ahmed defending his title in the near future.

Alex Florence really put on a entertaining display of the noble art, he controlled every round and picked his shots well. I think Florence needs to start to be tested by better opponents as then we can see how good "Pinky" is.

The "Pocket Rocket" Dani Hodges also took on a very tough opponent, the first few rounds were scrappy but Hodges battled when she needed to and boxed when she could. Great fight as McCulloch had came to win and made Hodges work for all 6 rounds. Hodges improves with every fight I see her in and as she has proved in the past she is not afraid to go on the road and fight. I look forward to seeing Dani in the squad circle very soon.



James Beech started the show off with a nice 4 rounder, he shook off any ring rust he had and won convincingly. Beech sustained a cut above the right eye which has now become the norm in a James Beech fight. I talked to James after the fight, the cut didn't look to bad and we chatted about a potential title fight against British and Commonwealth champ Brad Foster. Beech told me he was very keen on getting this fight on but thought he needed a least one more before he stepped up. I then talked to him about a potential fight against Sean Davis as this would be a great test for him as Davis is a former English and WBC international super Bantamweight

champ and has also contested for the British and English titles at higher weights. Beech informed me that he would be up for this fight but it would have to be for something which I agree with. Davis who has fighting for the Midlands area Featherweight title on 7th September against Lee Glover, he has already told me he would be up for fighting Beech and it would be a easy fight to match up as both fighters are on the BcB Promotions roster. This would be a fantastic fight and if Davis beats Glover it could be for the Featherweight title or even the super Bantamweight area title which is vacant at the moment. Who ever wins out of these two fighters should really get a crack at Foster and his British and Commonwealth titles.

The Birmingham boxing Column thanks the BcB for having me at there show.



## **Kal Yafai defends WBA title against Norbelto Jimenez**

**Written by Dexter Hastings**



Birmingham's Kal Yafai has successfully defended his WBA super-flyweight title for a fifth time with a unanimous decision win over Norbelto Jimenez. Yafai (30) fought at the Dunkin Donuts center, Rhode Island USA with the fight being scored by the judges, 117-109 by Lynne Carter, 119 – 107 by Eddie Scuncio and 118-108 by Nelson Vazquez.

The 30-year-old admitted before the bout he would need to impress in Rhode Island to enhance his chances of securing a "massive fight", and again demonstrated his potential to fight some of the division's biggest names. Yafai, who has now taken his record to 26-0 (15KOs) looked comfortable against his mandatory opponent which frustrated the Dominican Republic's Jimenez catching him with a number of left hands to

the body.

Jimenez, who was unbeaten in his last 30 fights, winning his last nine, was docked a point in the fourth round for excessive holding but did manage to rally in the fifth after an accidental head clash drew blood from Yafai's forehead. Jimenez was hurt in the eighth round after receiving two low body blows from Yafai and was also put down in the 12<sup>th</sup> as Birmingham's first world champ wore his opponent down.

After the fight Yafai told the media he had perforated both of his eardrums in the fight but maintained he would be targeting big fights. He then said "I want the likes of (Juan Francisco) Estrada (current world champion), (Srisaket Sor) Rungvisai (former champion), Chocolatito (Roman Gonzalez, former four-division champion). "Those kinds of guys, they have to be next".

## **Davis loses on points to hot prospect**

**Written by Dexter Hastings**



Birmingham's Sean Davis put on a valiant performance against Matchroom's unbeaten hot prospect Qais Ashfaq (5-0). Davis took the 8 round fight with only a week and a half's notice at the Liverpool Exhibition centre. Davis kept the fight competitive and there did not seem much between them for the first six rounds with Ashfaq just nicking rounds with the cleaner shots. Davis got some good shots off of his own and really tested the Next Gen fighter but didn't seem to be fighting at his normal high tempo. In the seventh and eighth

rounds Ashfaq turned up the pace and showed some good shot selection and movement to win the fight, the ref scored the fight 79-73.

Davis took to social media to thank his supporters he wrote "Just want to say thank you to everyone for your support for this fight, it was at very short notice one but that's how this game is sometimes. I have only been back in the gym 3 weeks and only found out about this fight on Saturday last week but couldn't turn it down because I'm a fighter and that's what we have to do, thank you everyone for your messages and calls it really does mean everything to me, we will be back.

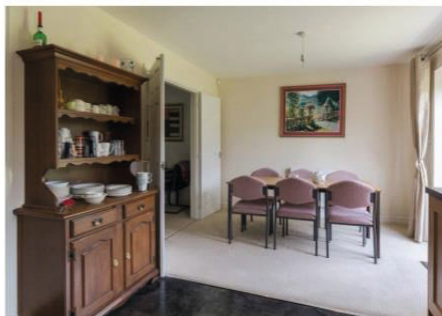
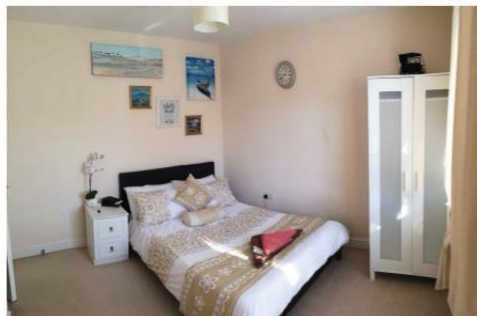


## **Dexter's Thoughts**

Short notice fight for Davis, but he took it because that is the character of the man, he lost on points to a very, very good prospect but kept the fight competitive for the eight rounds. Davis has now got to set his sights on September 7th when he takes on Lee Glover for the vacant Featherweight Midlands area title at Walsall fc ground. This will be the fight that will define Davis's future in boxing if he wins the title which I expect him to he will put himself back in line for a chance of taking British and Commonwealth super Bantamweight champ Brad Foster on. If no shot at Foster then at least an eliminator between him and another hot prospect James Beech Jr, but Davis needs to put this result behind him and focus and claiming the Featherweight title on September 7th.



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## **Essomba claims WBA title**

**Written by Dexter Hastings**



Black Country boxing's Thomas Essomba has caused an upset on the "Nextgen" Matchroom show (2.8.19) by winning the WBA Bantamweight continental title. The Cameroon born (31) fighter beat the then undefeated Sean McGoldrick (9-0) on a unanimous decision with the judges scoring it 98-93, 97-93 and 96-94. Essomba who was a former Flyweight Commonwealth and English Bantamweight champ was coming into the fight on the back of 2 defeats out worked and was the more aggressive in the fight claiming the title. McGoldrick who was a former Commonwealth games gold medallist sustained a cut to his left eye around the half way point of the fight was handed his first defeat. Essomba said after the fight he wants to be more active and build on his recent success.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**

Great to see a BcB fighter show casing what Midlands boxing has to offer, Essomba is a new addition to there stable and has picked up his third title in only 14 fights. I had only saw him fight once before against fellow BcB fighter Kyle Williams who beat him on a split decision. I think with his new belt a lot of opportunities will open up for the Cameroon fighter. The Birmingham boxing Column looks forward to seeing him back in the ring soon.

## **Nice 6 rounder for the Savage**

**Written by Dexter Hastings**



Eastside Gyms Sam "The Savage" Eggington was in action on the VIP Promotions show Oldham in a six round fight. Eggington (25) took on the very well travel Journeyman Lewis Van Poetsch (26), Van Poetsch gave a good account of himself taking some good shots from Eggington as he tried out different styles in this fight. Eggington controlled the fight going up and down the gears picking his shots well and being more patient instead of just pressuring his opponent. Van Poetsch got some good right hands off in the forth which turned Eggington back into 'The Savage' as he walked Van Poetsch down banging in heavy combinations to his head and body. Half way into the fifth Eggington reverted back to his jab and boxed really well controlling the ring and the round. In the final round Eggington kept up his high tempo with good shot picking and got some heavy combinations off. Van Poetsch seemed happy to hear the final bell as he had earned his purse tonight.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**



Nice tick over fight for Eggington as he waits for a big fight to come his way, you could see he was trying new things as he went through the gears. It was nice to see Sam pick his shots well from behind a sharp jab, but we did see the old Savage come out when Van Poetsch did catch him. From what I have heard Eggington is going to stay busy and is looking to have a fight every month until Christmas so we will be reporting a lot about Eggington over the next few months. Finger crossed Eggington can get back down to Welterweight where he will be a real danger to any one at domestic, European

and dare I say world level, the column looks forward to following his come back journey.



## BcB's Clarke & Robinson both made mandatory challengers for British Title

Written by Dexter Hastings



Black Country Boxing's Lennox Clarke and "D'Animal" Andrew Robinson have both been made mandatory challengers for the British title at their respective weights by the British Boxing board of control. Unbeaten Clarke who has won 18 fights and drew 1 has been scheduled to take on Lerrone Richards who is also unbeaten in 12 fights for the vacant Super Middleweight British title by the end of the year. Purse bids for the fight are to be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions to the board's head office by 12:00noon on Wednesday, 11th September 2019.

This looks like it will be a cracking fight with Clarke having previously won the IBO Continental super Middleweight title and Richards winning the WBO European, the WBO international and also the Commonwealth titles.



Andrew "D'Animal" Robinson has also been made mandatory challenger for the British title at Middleweight. Robinson who has won 23 and drew 1 out of 28 fights will be taking on current champ Liam Williams who has won 21 fights and drew 1 out of 24 with the fight happening by the end of the year. Robinson has won the IBO continental and the WBC International Middleweight titles with Williams claiming the Commonwealth, British, WBO European all at super welterweight. Williams then beat Mark Heffron to win the British Middleweight title and has defended it once, in his last fight he won the WBC silver Middleweight title against Karim Achour.

### Dexter's Thoughts



Both fighters are well deserving of their Mandatory statuses for their respective weights and I am looking forward to two new British champs coming from the Midlands. Clarke who was a former Bbcolum boxer of the year has not fought since the end of last year and I'm sure he will be itching to get a crack at the British title. I watched Richards last fight which was against former British Middleweight champ Tommy Langford. He frustrated Landford on that night with

his awkward southpaw style to win the WBO international and also the Commonwealth titles. I'm sure Clarke and his team will formulate a plan to deal with Richards and win the British title.

Robinson has been asking for this shot at the title for years now and if anyone deserves a crack D'Animal does. Robinson will have to be at his best when he takes on Williams who's 2 defeats came back too back against the world class Liam Smith at super Welterweight. This will be a challenge for Robinson but this is what he has been working for and now he has got it I'm sure D'Animal will be feasting on the Lonsdale belt.

If both fighters win they will be given the biggest honour of being placed in the Birmingham Boxing Column's Hall of Fame.

# From Roadman to Journeyman to Inspiration:

## Ben Fields

Written by Dexter Hastings



Ben Fields has only been a professional boxer for just over a year but he has already amassed 15 fights and counting as he has been on the road fighting some very talented prospects along the way. You may just think that this is just another journeyman story, 'has gloves will travel' but you would be wrong. When this welterweight travels, losing is the last thing on his mind as he always comes with the intent to win.



Fields record stands at 15 fights with 6 wins, 2 draws and 7 defeats, which for someone who fights all over the country is not bad. Ben never fought as an amateur as his youth, which has already been well documented was one of drug abuse and violence. He was on a downward spiral with crack cocaine being his drug of choice and a life of crime his only option. Fields who was an addict from the age of 15 with his addiction costing him in excess of £100 a day, entered a boxing gym for the first time at the age of 23; however, the start of his boxing journey was stopped short as he served a 3 and half year prison sentence for violence.

Ben was released early on probation and was quickly back in the boxing gym learning the noble art. Fields had 10 unlicensed / white collars fights and honed his skills at Fightden gym in the squared circle with a Tyson like approach to his craft. Fields, who won the majority of his unlicensed bouts, was urged on by numerous people (including myself), to turn over to the professional ranks

which he eventually did. He was taken on by Fightden's sister professional gym Smoking Joe's. It is here that former professional boxer and now trainer Shaun Cogan put Fields on a rigorous training schedule to get him to the paid ranks standard and shed some of the 13 stone he was carrying.

Fields had now turned his crack addiction into a boxing addiction, pushing his body to the limits to achieve, what to many when he started his pugilist journey thought was an impossible mission of becoming a professional boxer.



Trainer Shaun Cogan in Fields corner

In July of 2018 Ben Fields stepped into a professional ring on the MTK show at the Alan Higgs Centre in Coventry against the very talented MJ Hall. He won this 4-rounder on points before going on to beat Youssef Al-Hamidi at Villa park on the Tommy Owens Promotions show in October of 2018. Fields then made it 3 in a row as he travelled to Liverpool in November and beat their hot prospect Jamie Collins on points, this fight was in the super lightweight division.

Fields then suffered 2 defeats in a row whilst at super welterweight. The first to Muhammad Ali Zahid in Bolton in December, then to Ramon Perez at The York Hall Bethnal Green London. However, Fields was back to winning ways when he moved back down to welterweight, beating the very talented Lee Gunter on points in a 4-rounder at Villa Park on the Tommy Owens Promotions show in February 2019. He was back in Liverpool in the March getting a draw against unbeaten fighter Matthew Rennie, again at welterweight.

Ben then really took on the journeyman tag as he fought 2 more times on the road in March, losing both on points against unbeaten fighters. Fields then lost again to a 7-0 fighter in JJ Evans in April and started May off losing to another unbeaten fighter in Aqib Fiaz.

Fields never seemed deterred by this run of defeats as more than one of them were a bit dubious. Just a week after this fight and with only a few days notice, Ben was offered his first 6-rounder against 8 and 0 Kane Gardener. Fields put on a great performance and really put Gardener through the mill especially in the final two rounds. Fields lost this fight on points but was building a very positive reputation as a fighter who came to fight.



Two weeks later Ben's manager Jon Pegg called him to ask if he wanted to fight Kane Gardener again, this time in a 4-rounder, as they could not find him an opponent. Fields accepted and with just 4 hours notice, took on Gardener in Manchester on the undercard of the Hughie-Fury show. Ben started where he had finished their last fight and scored a very significant win against a fighter who was being groomed for big things.

Following this fight, it was announced that Ben would be taking on the unbeaten and very talented fighter Sean Daly at Villa park on the Tommy Owens Promotions show in what was being called a 50/50 fight. With both fighters coming from Birmingham and both being managed by Jon Pegg, many people were looking forward to this fight. As Fields prepared for this fight, he was offered yet another opportunity to fight which he took with both hands. This time he went down to York Hall Bethnal Green London and took on yet another unbeaten fighter in Denis Denikajev scoring a very good draw over 4 rounds.

The fight between Fields and Daly lived up to all the hype for being an all out war, the two fighters went toe to toe for six rounds with Fields showing he is much more than just a journeyman. The Holte suit villa park erupted as these two warriors went to war, the unbeaten Daly was drawn into an all out battle which suited Fields well and made this fight a contender for fight of the year. At the end of the six rounds the ref gave it to Fields 59-56, myself I had it 60-56 with both fighters showing bumps and bruises form a cracking fight. Field then went on and took another 0 beating 7-0 Andrew Fleming 58-56 (28.9.19) in Bolton. Fields is now getting ready for an English super Lightweight eliminator against Lee Appleyard in Barnsley on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November



## Dexter's Thoughts



Ben has only been a professional boxer for just over a year and has done so much in that short time. He is a true road warrior and has no fear of going up and down the country taking on all the hot prospects and beating some of them. I have known Ben for about 4 years and have watch him turn over from the unlicensed scene to the professional ranks. He has always been a very polite and well spoken person and if I did not know his story I would never believe he had been a drug addict. Fields is a inspirational individual who has proven that there is a way back from the most darkest times as long as you believe in yourself. His fights against the then unbeaten Kane Gardener then Sean Daly and Andrew Fleming highlights what Fields can do when he is given a challenge. His fight with ) Daly

was only a six rounder but is an early contender for fight of the year, it showcased his skill and determination to win against a very talented opponent. Fields has now been given a English eliminator against the highly skilled Lee Appleyard and I can definitely see him winning that



Fields v Daly



The Birmingham boxing column will continue to report on the Smoking Joe's boxing journey.



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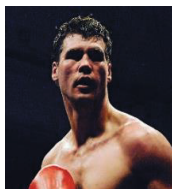
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## T.O.Promotions Celebrates there 50th Show

Written by Dexter Hastings



Tommy Owens

On the seventh of September Tommy Owens Promotions will celebrate there 50th show at the Holte suit Villa Park. The show will be called "Civil War" and headlining the show will be a 10 round Lightweight Midlands area title fight between 2 unbeaten fighters. Shaun Cooper (10-0) will take on Jack O'Keeffe (9-0) in a cracking main event with the undercard looking good with Waqas Mohammed taking on Louis Fielding and Ryan Kelly, River Wilson Bent, Anthony Manning also making up the home corner, fans are in for a cracking night. After the show the celebrations will continue as the bars at the Holte suite will stay open so people can celebrate Tommy Owens Promotions 50th show.



I contacted the man himself Tommy Owens to talk to him about his Promotion and its history. Tommy (36) is no stranger to the game as he fought as an amateur and pro, Mr Owens fought most of his fights at Cruiserweight and Heavyweight and had a 50/50 record winning 4 out of 8 fights as an amateur and 2 out 4 as a pro.

My first question to Tommy was, what made you turn your hand to promoting after retiring from the pro game? He told me "I've always had a passion for boxing so when I found out I couldn't box anymore I didn't want to just walk away from

it. I started with my trainers license then my mangers and it just progressed from there". It was on October 19th 2012 at the Holiday Inn Birmingham that Tommy Owens Promotions had there first show, I asked Tommy who headlined the show? Tommy informed me "It was Andrew Patterson against Steve Spence with Tommy Langford making his debut and Craig Cunningham also boxed".







I then ask him what events did you use before bring your Promotions to Villa park? He told me "I put shows on at the Holiday Inn, the Institute, the Paragon hotel and the Tower ballroom". My next question was "When did you make the decision to be based at Villa Park? Tommy said "They approached me through LinkedIn and invited me to have a look around. After my tour they offered me it, it was a no brainer I had to put a show on there. Our first show had Sam Eggington against Dave Ryan with the Froch vs Groves fight shown after on the big screens".

I then asked him "What in your opinion has been your best show so far? Owens said "Our best show all round would have to be when Dan Breeze fought Natty Howell brilliant fights and an awesome atmosphere". We then got on the 50th anniversary and asked what they had planned after there 50th show? Tommy said "We plan to keep putting on entertaining and value for money shows".

My final question to the successful promoter was there are rumours of you putting on a show on the pitch at villa park is this in your plans? Tommy replied "Yes this is definitely our plan, we are just awaiting a date to work towards which I should have very soon".

Tommy finished by saying "We just hope all the fans that attend our events continue to support us as we can't put these shows on without them plus we have the best fans".

### Dexter's Thoughts



As Tommy Owens Promotions head towards its 50<sup>th</sup> show Mr Owens has to take a lot of credit for giving some of Birmingham's finest there chance to hone there skills in the squared circle. With the likes of former British and Commonwealth Middleweight champ Tommy Langford making his debut on these shows. Also former British, Commonwealth and European Welterweight champ Sam Eggington winning his first area title on Tommy's shows and a number of fighters claiming area titles on his shows T.O.P have really helped Midlands boxing progress over the passed 7 years. I have been going to the Tommy Owens shows for the passed 3 years at Villa

park and have seen some great fights. The shows have gotten better and better and with Jon Pegg matchmaking some cracking 50/50 fights the shows are just going to get even better. The Column has a big affiliation with TOP as they were our main sponsors for over 3 years which we thank them for. I can say already that the "Civil War" show on the 7th September will be a cracking one. The "Civil War" report will be further into this Magazine.



## Duffy in Destructive Mood in Leeds

written by Dexter Hastings



Shaun 'The Destroyer' Duffy was in no mood to mess around as he travelled to Leeds to take on the debutant Yorkshire man Aidan Anderson (6.9.19). Duffy who was coming off a 1<sup>st</sup> round stoppage defeat himself exploded out for the traps at Anderson banging in heavy shots from the start. The home fighter Anderson could only try and cover up as Duffy used his jab well to set up some heavy handed combinations going from body to head well stopping his opponent in the first round with a cracking uppercut. The Smoking Joes fighter has now got 2 wins in four fights and has already said he will be fighting again on the road on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. Duffy will be looking to make it two in a row at the end of the month and if he listens to his coach Shaun Cogan I think he just might.



### Dexter's Thoughts



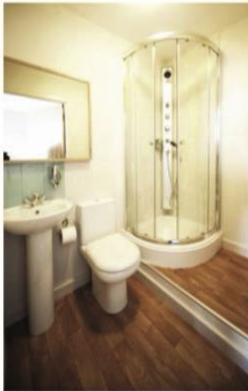
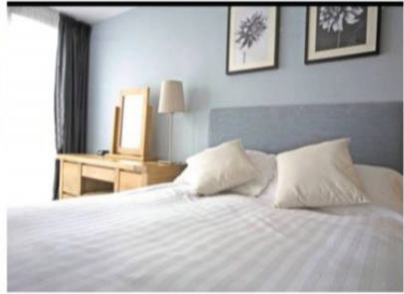
So chuffed for Shaun Duffy who has trained so hard for this fight. He has really been putting the work in at Smoking Joe's and has rectified some of the things that have cost him in his defeats. He is a hard hitting heavyweight with a very sharper jab when he uses it and if he continues to listen to his trainer Shaun Cogan I am sure he will be getting his hand raised a lot more in the future. He is back out on the 28<sup>th</sup> and I'm sure he will be looking to make a point on the

road again. The column will be following the 'Destroyers' journey .



## Staying away ?

Book an apartment stay rather than a hotel for a better experience and more cost effective for large groups



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# Civil War

## Tommy Owens Promotions

### 7/9/19

Written by Dexter Hastings



Tommy Owens Promotions held there first show of the new season at the Holte suite Villa Park (7,9,19). The show was called 'Civil War' and consisted of 6 fights with Ryan Hatton, Shaka Thompson, River Wilson-Bent and Idris Virgo all doing 4 rounder's. You also had the Ruthless one Ryan Kelly doing a 6 rounder as he ticks over while he waits for bigger fights. The main event was a highly anticipated Midlands area Lightweight title fight with Shaun Cooper taking on Jack O'Keeffe over 10 three minute rounds for the vacant title. With David Nikolich comparing Kevin Parker refereeing and the stunning ring girls Lauren and Cassie from C.P. Agency the stage was set for a great night of boxing.

### Results

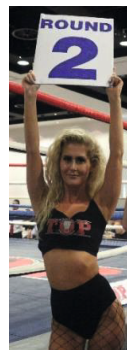
**Fight 1** - Ryan Hatton v Remisijus Ziausys - 4x3 - Cruiserweight  
Result - Dexter - 40-36 Ref - 40-36 Hatton wins points decision

**Fight 2** - Shaka Thompson v Paul Cummings - 4x3 - Super Middleweight  
Result - Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 40-36 -Thompson wins on points

**Fight 3** - River Wilson-Bent v Scott Hillman - 4x3 12.2  
Super Middleweight - Result - Wilson-Bent wins 2nd round stoppage

**Fight 4** - Ryan Kelly v William Warburton - 6x3 - Super Middleweight  
Result - Dexter - 60-54 - Ref - 60-54 - Kelly wins on points

**Fight 5** - Idris Virgo v Lewis Van Poetsch - 4x3 - Light Heavyweight  
Result - Dexter - 39-37 - Ref - 30-37 - Virgo wins on points





**Main Event**  
**Midlands Area Lightweight title**  
**Shaun Cooper v Jack O'Keeffe**  
**9.7    10x3    9.6**



High paced start to this title fight with both fighters letting there hands go, bit scrappy in parts with the ref having to talk to them, close round could not split them. The second was another hard round with both fighters giving it there all, I just had Cooper just edging it.

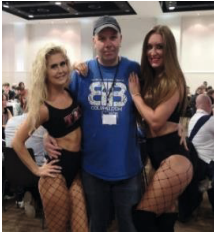
The third was another hard fought round, O'Keeffe's came out in this round and after the ref put it back in Cooper came out strong to win the round. O'Keeffe came out firing in the forth but so did Cooper as they exchanged combinations in the middle of the ring. O'Keeffe then banged in some cracking body shots putting Cooper down, the ref Kevin Parker counted but Cooper could not beat the count.



**Result**  
**Jack O'Keeffe wins 4th round stoppage**  
**Lightweight Midlands Area Champion**



## Dexter's Thoughts

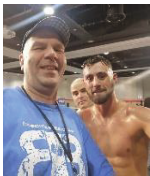


Well what a cracking main event, two unbeaten fighters looking to capture their first title. Now I'm going to be honest, I did think like a lot of people thought that Cooper would win this because of that 10 round win against Boy Jones. Both fighters went for it from the first bell and Cooper was starting to just edge it on my card going into the fourth. O'Keeffe then smashed in some cracking body shots to drop Cooper who could not recover, the roar from O'Keeffe's supporters nearly took



the roof off the Holte Suite. I have always liked 'No Beef' O'Keeffe and have always thought he is a cracking talent, the vegan has now gone up ten fold in my eyes and has shown he can mix it with the best. It will be great to see how far Jack O'Keeffe can go.

Idris Virgo looked impressive tonight against one of favourite journey men in Lewis Van Poetsch, Virgo kept Van Poetsch at bay for the first 3 rounds with some nice power shots and great movement. Van Poetsch had his moments in them rounds but Virgo was bossing it, in the fourth Poochie came to life and banged in some cracking right hands which to Virgo's credit he took well and really tested the unbeaten fighter. I think Virgo needs to be tested now, may be in one of these 50/50 fights that TOPROMOTIONS have been doing.



It was great to see Ryan Kelly in a six round fight, Kelly controlled the fight from start to finish and showed good shot selection and movement. Kelly will be looking to fight for major titles in the near future and he is definitely at British, European and Commonwealth level and these are the belts he should be looking for.

River Wilson-Bent was in destructive form tonight stopping his opponent in the second round, he was out for a while after having a operation on his hand and what ever they did to it has worked wonders. His hand speed, movement and shot selection was very impressive and I can see a star in the making, I think he has a big future ahead of him.

Shaka Thompson was also very impressive tonight his movement and shot picking was quality and that his opponent just could not catch him with a decent shot. Thompson is now 6 without defeat and should also be looking for a more testing opponent so he can take it to the next level.

This was the first time I had seen Ryan Hatton box and I got to say I was very impressed, he has got some heavy hands and picks his shots well with some great movement. I look forward to seeing him fight again very soon.

The Birmingham Boxing Column would like to thank Tommy Owens Promotions for having the Column at there show.

# Pitters Claims English Title

Written by Dexter Hastings Pictures by Michael Ault



Shakan Pitters has claimed his first major title beating Dec Spellman for his light heavyweight English title. Pitters was on the undercard of the Sunny Edwards vs Hugo Rosendo Guarneros (14.9.19) at the York Hall Bethnal Green London, the fight was contested over 10 three minute rounds.

The first round was a very close one with Pitters using his jab well and Spellman looking to pressure and get on the inside, this would set the mould for the rest of the fight with Pitters just edging the first. In the second Spellman came out fast and with loads of pressure and he really made Pitters work. Pitters got some nice combinations off and looked in control but Spellman continued to press getting some eye catching left hooks in with combinations to the body to win the round. Pitters started the third well with his jab dictating the fight, Spellman continued to come forward and caught Pitters with big left hooks. Pitters took them well and returned fire with nice combinations of his own, even round.

Shakan went back to doing what he does best using his jab well and moving well in the forth. Spellman continued to press but Pitters picked him off well with great shot selection. By the fifth Spellman was starting to mark up around his eyes with Pitters controlling the round with his jab. Great movement again by Pitters who was starting to enjoy himself. Everything came off the Pitters jab in round six as he dominated the round. Spellman kept pressing but was getting caught by some heavy shots.



Spellman was showing he had the heart of a champion as he kept pushing forward to get inside. Pitters was now in total control picking him off with the jab and banging in some sweat combinations. Round eight saw Spellman put his all into it and really put it on Pitters, Pitters moved well and returned fire but Spellman got this round. As the ninth round started Spellman looked tired and seemed to have put everything into the last round, Pitters picked him off with great movement and jabbing. In the tenth and final round Spellman, left it all in the ring as Pitters continued to move and pick Spellman off winning the round and the fight convincingly.

At the end of the fight all 3 judges scored it the same way 97-93 to the new champ Shakan Pitters, myself I had it 98-93 to Pitters who is now ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the British rankings.

Shakan's team took to social media to celebrate his win, his coach Paul "Soggy" Counihan wrote this 'Well what can I say about last night, What a fight!!! I couldn't be more prouder of Shakan with his performance in his first 10 rounder against a very tough opponent. Just to think Shak couldn't win the novice ABAS as a Amateur and now he is professional Champ of England, I want thank all of the team Louie Counihan Jon Pegg Dean Whyte and all his sparring partners and all his loyal fans!!! Now 6<sup>th</sup> in the ranking!'

His manager had this to say he wrote 'Shakan Pitters last night answered a lot of questions. Chin checked yes, Recover when hurt Yes, Ten rounds yes, hard pace in hot environment yes, Finish strong yes and make weigh yes.

What a fight and what an opponent in Dec Spelman. I believe Dec last night has helped Shak become the kind of fighter we know he can. Lots of offers and lots of interest we are going to sit back enjoy the performance and enjoy potentially being involved in fight of the year and hopefully Shaks next step will be known soon.

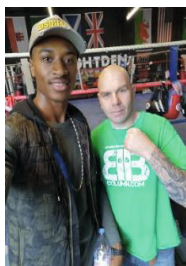
Eastside do it again away corner challenging for titles and pull it off, Its becoming our speciality Paul Soggy Counihan Louie Counihan'

Shakan put this status up, he wrote 'Massive respect to Dec Spelman for a great fight! Never stopped coming from the first bell, true fighting man who I respect! Special thanks to my fans that travelled, and my amazing team Eastside boxing gym Paul Soggy Louie Counihan Jon Pegg and Dean Whyte for all the work they put in and making things happen!.... Onwards and upwards! #teampitters.



## Dexter's Thoughts

I have followed Shakan's career from the first time he entered a professional ring two and a half years ago and I said then he was destined for big things. He showed tonight that he can mix's it with the big boys and is not phased by how many rounds or where the fight is held. His movement, shot selection, defence and the way he paced himself were all on point I this fight. He did get caught with a few good lead left hooks but I think that was credit to Spellman's ability to mask a shot but I'm sure his team will work on him defending that better. He has ticked a few boxes with this victory claiming his first professional title and fighting at York Hall for the first time. This will also be a massive learning lesson for Shakan as Spellman made him work for the whole fight and never stopped coming forward. He is now ranked sixth in Britain and himself and his team have got to have their eyes on bigger titles. What do I see for Shakan Pitters well defiantly more titles, I will be looking to report on Shaken contesting for the British, Commonwealth, European or all three next year. He is one of the hottest prospects around, not just in Birmingham and the Midlands but in the UK and in my opinion is destined to win more titles.



The Birmingham boxing Column would like to Congratulate Shakan Pitters on becoming the new English light heavyweight champion.

## **Foster retains titles on Majority Draw**

**Written by Dexter Hastings Picture by Michael Ault**



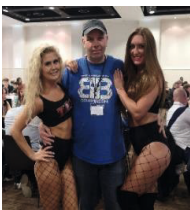
British and Commonwealth super Bantamweight champ Brad Foster retained his title in a battling to and throw fight against challenger Lucuen Reid. The fight was on the undercard of Sunny Edward's vs Hugo Rosendo Guarneros (14.9.19) at the York Hall Bethnal Green London.

This was a back and forth encounter with both fighters having joy in every rounds, there boxing styles mirrored each other that some made the fight scrappy. As the bell ended the 12th it was Reid who looked the more confident that he had got the result. The judges score had it 116 – 112 the Reid and the other 2 judges had it 114-114 which deemed the fight a majority draw. As you can imagine Reid from West ham London was not happy with this result in his home town but it was a very close fight where some rounds could be call one way or another on a single punch. Both fighters in interviews after fight thought they had done enough to win it so there has to be a rematch.

Brad took to social media and put this status up, he wrote 'Would like to Thank Everyone for making the trip down to London last night, means the world to me, Brads Barmy Army. Thought it was a close fight in there. Will Watch the fight back. Ended in a majority Draw and I retained my belts, Disappointed as Its Never the way I wanted to keep my belts but it is what it is. Both of us are healthy an that is the main thing ! Time for a rest as I've been in 3 (12) round Fights this year and due a good rest. Then we will see what's next.



### **Dexter's Thoughts**



Scrappy fight in places with both fighters cancelling each other out as they had similar styles. I think Foster was very lucky to hold on to his title not that he had been beaten but because he was a Midlands lad defending his title in the east end of London against a kid from west ham. I will have to give big props to the judges for not being swayed but I will say that this fight was very, very close and on my card I had Reid one round up, but I do think a draw was about right on reflection. These two super Bantamweights defiantly need to have a rematch and if Fosters team have and say it they should bring Reid to the Midlands to fight the champ. I'm sure Foster and his team will watch the fight back and work on the things that went wrong and fix them. The Birmingham boxing Column looks forward to the rematch and Foster retaining his titles.





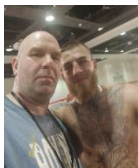
## Eggington completes Italian job



Sam Eggington has returned to title winning form with a dominating performance at the Tuscany hall Italy (19.9.19). He claimed the IBF super Welterweight international belt in a destructive style stopping the champion Orlando Fiordigiglio in 2 rounds. 'The Savage' came out strong from the first bell landing heavy shots making Fiordigiglio (35) look like a old man completely out classing him. Eggington came out in the second and piled on more pressure banging in some 'Savage' combinations with the referee jumping in to stop the fight.



### Dexter's Thoughts



What a great win and performance by Sam Eggington adding another belt to his collection, Fiordigiglio had only been beaten twice before this contest in 33 fights and was ranked 5th by the IBF so for 'the Savage' to go to Italy and win is a great achievement. After the Smith fight a lot of people were writing Eggington off as a spent force, but Sam and his Eastside team have regrouped looked at what needed to be fixed and addressed it. Eggington had a few small hall fights to tick over and to work on new things in the ring and wait for Matchroom to call. This win should now lead to Eggington being in some more big fights and there are some exciting ones out there at his respective weight. He is at Super Welterweight at the moment and I know his team are looking to get 'the Savage' back down to Welterweight where he was at his most destructive. Myself I would like to see Sam take on the winner out of British super Welterweight champ Ted Cheeseman and Scott Fitzgerald and then drop down. But what ever Eggington and his team decided to do the Birmingham Boxing Column will be following his story.

## **Britain Awaits BcB Promotions**

**28/9/19**



Black Country boxing Promotions held there latest show at the Walsall town Hall Walsall (28.9.19). The show had 6 fights on it with Lennox Clarke, Andrew Robinson and Ruben Campbell all doing 4 rounder's. There were two debutants also doing 4 rounder's they were Kashif Khan and Owen Cooper. The main event was Hot prospect Liam Davis doing his first six rounder, with David Nikolich comparing, Martin Whitehall refereeing and the stunning ring girl Fiona from Diamond Ring girls doing the cards the stage was set for a great night of boxing.

### **Results**

**Fight 1** - Lennox Clarke v Darryl Sharp 4x3 Cruiserweight

Result – Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 40-36 - Clarke wins on points

**Fight 2** - Andrew Robinson v Eric Nwankwo - 4x3 - Light Heavyweight

Result - Robinson wins 2<sup>nd</sup> round KO

**Fight 3** - Ruben Campbell v Ibrar Riyaz - 4x3 - Super Welterweight

Result - Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 39-38 - Campbell wins on points

**Fight 4** - Kashif Khan v Dean Jones - 4x3 - Super Welterweight

Result - Dexter - 39-37 - Ref - 39-38 - Khan wins on points

**Fight 5** - Owen Cooper v Paul Cummings - 4x3 - Middleweight

Result - Dexter - 40-37 - Ref - 40-37 - Cooper wins on points



**Fight 6**  
**Main Event**  
**Liam Davies v Jose Aguilar**  
**8.12 6x3 8.12**  
**Lightweight**



Explosive start by Davies who got some cracking combinations off from the first bell, he got some hurtful body shots in with one of them going a bit south of the boarder which gave Aguilar a chance to have a rest and recover, great start to this six rounder. Davies picked his shots well in the second as he dominated with great combinations. He had Aguilar down near the end of the second with a cracking combinations, Aguilar got up and managed to see the round out.

In the third Davies again dominated the round from start to finish picking some cracking combinations to Aguilar head and body, the ref could have stopped the fight several times in this round but Aguilar saw the bell. The pace had slowed in the fourth but Davies was picking his shots well and still getting good combinations off. Davies ended the fight with a cracking combination with an evil body shot being the sickening shot that put Aguilar down with the ref counting him out.

**Result**  
**Davies wins 4<sup>th</sup> round stoppage**





## Dexter's Thoughts



Always like watching boxing at the Walsall town hall and Britain awaits was a great show to watch there.

Nice steady start to the show by the mandatory British challenger Lenox Clarke. He banged in some cracking body shots and some good combinations as he ticked over while he waits for a date for a title fight.

D'Animal Andrew Robinson was in no mood to mess about taking out his opponent with a cracking left hook. Robinson is also mandatory for the British title and made a big statement on this show.

Ruben Campbell kept his unbeaten record with a great display of boxing. He had a great jab got some good combinations off and showed good movement, great display of boxing.

Kashif Khan had a hard fought debut but showed great determination and boxing craft to get the win. He will learn a lot from this fight as he was pushed all the way by Jones.

Owen Cooper also made his debut in front of a big support, he looked really good and had some good shot selection. Cummings gave him a good test for his first fight and like Khan he will learn from it.

Davies put on a great display of boxing in his first 6 rounder, he dominated every round and dropped his opponent in 2<sup>nd</sup>. In my opinion the ref could have stopped the fight several times in the third as he battered his opponent. He ended it in the 4<sup>th</sup> with a sickening body shot that actually made his opponent throw up. Davies is now 5-0 and I have to say he is looking like a hot prospect and I can definitely see title in his future.

The Birmingham boxing Column would like to thank BcB for having us at there sho





## Unlicensed Boxing

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**GARY DEAKIN**  
**HAIDER ALI**

**MARC GAUNTLETT**  
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There were 3 titles on the line in this unlicensed show at the H-Suite Edgbaston. The first title fight was for the SPBF Light heavyweight title contested between Fightdens's Josh Hodgins and Michael Fitzpatrick over 4 three minute rounds. This was a cracking contest, with both fighter going all out, at the end of the final round the Josh Hodgins was the clear winner. This was a great fight and both fighters should take a lot of credit for putting on a great display of boxing. The second title was for the Trevor Smith Challenge belt where Marc Gauntlett stopped his opponent in the second round to win the title. In the main event Ash Smith took on the Gypsy kid Isaac Gibbs for the SPBF cruiserweights title over 4 rounds. Smith won by stopping Gibbs in the second round winning the title. Also with a mention is Gary Deakin who at the age of 53 won a hard fought 3 rounder against an opponent at least 25 year younger than him. There was also a cracking Heavyweight contest between Craig Taylor and Dan Podmore, Taylor was given the result in this very close and hard fought fight with a lot of people thinking Podmore won or at least deserved a draw. This win for Taylor has propelled him to be in line for a crack at the SPBF British title against current champion Neil Rigby.

## New Chapter

### Hodgins Retains title



**SHOWDOWN**  
ENTERTAINMENT  
PRESENTS  
**NEW CHAPTER**  
SUPER  
MIDDLEWEIGHT  
TITLE

**JOSH HODGINS** vs **RICKY GRIMSHAW**

**FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2019**

Showdown held there 'New Chapter' show at Pyism night club Birmingham (6/9/19). Fightdens Josh Hodgins took on Ricky Grimshaw in a rematch for the Showdown super middleweight title which was contested over 4 two minute rounds. It was a very close fought fight with Grimshaw boxing well on the outside and looking very determined to reverse the result from there last encounter. But with Grimshaw's corners only instruction to tie him up, Hodgins consent pressure fighting and big combination where all the judges needed to see. Hodgins is out again this month looking for his third title win in two months this time on the GGG promotions show (20.9.19).

The Column messaged the promotor for the other title results but unfortunately did not get a reply.

## GGG Avengers show

**20.9.19**

written by Dexter Hastings



GGG Promotions held there Avengers show at the 2<sup>nd</sup> city suite, the consisted of 19 fights with 3 GGG Midlands titles and 2 Promotion belts on the line. Ash Anderson was victorious over the veteran fighter 'The Gypsy Kid' Isaac Gibbs for the GGG cruiserweight Midlands title. This was a close fought contest with the fighters having to fight an extra round to see who won the strap. Fightdens inspirational journeyman Josh Hodgins was at it again, this time he was fighting for the GGG light Heavyweight Promotion title. Hodgins took on the very talented Dean Ketley from 3DI in this 3 round fight that swung back and forth. When the final bell went the judges were split with 2 of them picking Hodgins as the winner. This is Hodgins third title this year and has shown what a dangerous fighter 'The Bandit' has become.

## Title fight Results

Promotion title - Jord Ward beat Ryan Coley

Challenge belt – Gregg Anthony beat Paddy Teehan

GGG Midlands title – Taylor Crieg beat Craig Taylor

The bbccolumn would like to thank GGG Promotions for there warm hospitality

## Fight League UK – 26

Written by Dexter Hastings



Frontline promotions held there end of summer show at the supreme banqueting suite West Bromwich. There was a packed out card of 14 fights with 6 of them being for Promotion titles. The show it self was a cracker with a very entertaining undercard with some hard fought fights. All title fights were over 3 x 2 minute rounds with some very hard contested contests for the belts. Two fights stood out to me as the former undisputed Lightweight FLUK champ returned contesting the FLUK Middleweight title taking on 'Team Showdowns' Ant Phillips. In a very cagey fight Billingham was crowned champion with all 3 judges scoring in his favour. Another great fight was for the FLUK

Middleweight title with Jon Doddy taking on the champ Craig Jones. This was a great display by the champ Jones winning on points with all three judges giving it him with Doddy having to hang tough at times to see the final bell.

## Other title results

FLUK Welterweight title James Proctor beat Leon Simkin – majority decision.

Middleweight title – Deano McDermott beat Andy Patterson - unanimous decision

FLUK Heavyweight title – Shane Dragonslayer beat Junior Gold – unanimous decision

FLUK Cruiserweight title – Eric Sutton beat Nathan Jennings - majority decision

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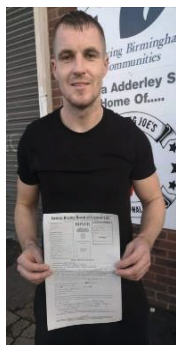
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## **Hodgins Looks to the Pro Ranks**

**Written by Dexter Hastings**



The Bandit' Josh Hodgins has decided to hang up the unlicensed gloves and try his hand in the professional ranks of the squared circle. Hodgins unlicensed career looked over 3 years ago when he severely injured his right shoulder while training. He fought on with the injury for over a year using one arm, he then had an operation 2 years ago to fix's his shoulder. After the operation Hodgins took a while to start throwing his right arm but with the help of his Fightden trainers his confidences grew. This year Hodgins has been at his best and most dangerous as he has continued going on the road losing only twice out of 18 fights and collecting 2 Promotion belts and the SPBF light Heavyweight title on the way.



Josh is under no illusion that he will be contesting for titles as he is looking to fight on the pro scene as a journeyman. Hodgins told the column "I just want to get in there earn some money doing the thing I love, I have had a few people telling me to turn over to the pro ranks and now Smoking Joe's gyms head coach Shaun Cogan has said he will train me I had to give it a go". Josh then commented on his time as an unlicensed fighter saying "I have really enjoyed the last few years in the unlicensed game, but now it is time to earn some real money". Hodgins is just at the start of the process to become a pro fighter and the Column will follow his progress.

### **Dexter's Thoughts**



All I can say is, it's about time, Josh has been doing the journeyman routine for the last few years in the unlicensed game for penny's (and that's if they even paid him). He asked me sometime last year if I could help do his corner in his fights after I berated him in his corner on a show I was reffing as I thought he was not trying hard enough. He went on and won that fight via stoppage and while I have been in his corner he has only lost once and he has also claimed 2 promotion titles and the SPBF light heavyweight title. The only thing I tried to instil in him was to have the confidences to do what he does best, when he does this he is one of the most dangerous pressure fighters around in the unlicensed game.

I have been one of the people telling him to turn over to the pros and earn some proper money. Now I don't see him winning any title but then again if he takes a leaf out of his fellow Smoking Joe's stable mate Ben Fields who knows where he could go. Hodgins will definitely have to change his style, as if he intends to go down the journeyman route pressuring your opponent for the whole fight is only going to get you into ture ups which when your on the road you don't want. I'm sure his coach Shaun Cogan has got a plan for 'The Bandit' and I know the first thing is for Josh to drop down to Middleweight. Hodgins features several times in the unlicensed section of the magazine and I'm sure he will feature again as a pro. The Birmingham boxing Column wishes Josh all the best and will follow his journey



# Dexter Hastings

## Three Fights before I'm 50

Written by Dexter Hastings



It is probably one of the worse kept secrets in Birmingham's unlicensed boxing, I will be returning to the ring for at least 3 more fights which I'm calling "50 and Out" where I am looking to have them before I turn 50 on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2020.

My last fight was at the start of December 2018 when I beat the very durable Josh Hodgins in a catch-weight title fight which was called "Be careful what you wish for". After this victory it was announced that I would be fighting in March against the tough southpaw Craig Taylor for the SPBF Irish Heavyweight title over 6 rounds.

Unfortunately while sparring I sustained a split lip (yes my lip actual split) with me ending up in A & E receiving 2 stitches inside and 2 on the outside of my lip. With 8 weeks to go to the show I was told it would be at least 6 weeks before I could spar and anyone who knows my training knows sparring is a very big part of it. After talking to the promoter I pulled out of the fight. It took a lot longer than 6 weeks for my lip to heal where I thought it was ok to spar and I have to say at the age of 48 I was really thinking of calling it a day.

It was May before I started sparring properly and by this time I had blown up in weight and was weighing around 17 and a half stone. It was when I stepped off the scales that I started to think about getting back into the ring, I talked to a few of the lads at Fightden and they seemed to agree with me that I should have a few more before I hung up the gloves.



The plan is to have my first fight on Ring Wars 9 at the end of November 2019, my opponent for this fight is none other than the unlicensed Legend Malcom Stowe. This will be an epic fight with both of us having two wins over the other. This will be over 5 two minute rounds and will be for the Semi Professional Boxing Federation Irish Heavyweight title. The next one will be scheduled for March 2020 on Ring Wars 10 where I will be looking to take on Craig Taylor for hopefully the SPBF Irish Heavyweight title and the British if he beats Current champ Neil Rigby in November and I beat Stowe. Then my final fight will be at the end of November early December 2020, where I would like to finish with a four

rounder fingers crossed for another title. As much as I will be looking at winning these 3 fights I am doing this more to Inspire people that age is just a number. If it inspires just one person to get off there arse and do some form of exercise it will be worth it and if I can get a few belts as well, that will just be the icing on the cake. I am looking for exciting fights and I'm hoping to take on fighters who have came to fight and make my last 3 fights entertaining win or lose. Like I said if this inspires one person to started exercising it will all have been worth it. I have a long way to go to get back into decent shape as I have enjoyed myself since Christmas, but rest assured I will be ready for the first one in November. I hope to get some big support for these fights and really make them a cracking end to my career.

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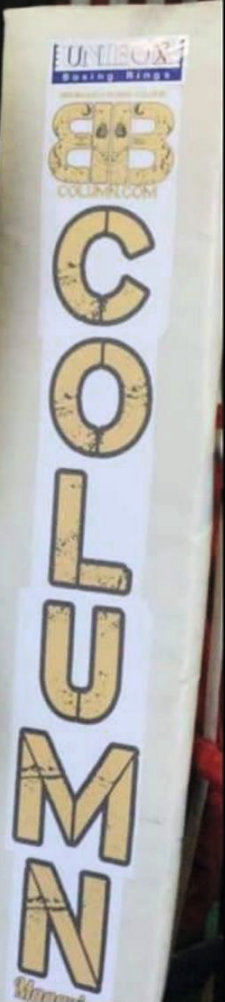
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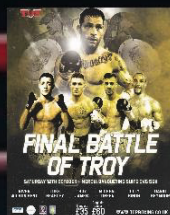
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