



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

Dear boxing friends

Due to the Olympic Games in Paris there was not much EBU-boxing activity in August. It was Paris that attracted all the interest, and in fact these were the best Olympic Games I remember; from the fantastic opening ceremony until the expiry of the Olympic flames those games were a perfect harmony between sports, culture and history.

Unfortunately the only disappointment came from the boxing tournament, where it remained unclear whether a man had to fight a woman or not. Although there is a way to determine sex by analyzing the set of chromosomes (XY = man, XX = woman) there are some cases where this is difficult. Boxing is a tough contact sport that may become dangerous when the boxer has to take too many punches. I am therefore of the firm opinion that it should not be allowed that a (born) woman has to fight a (born) man. In case of doubts we have to stay very cautious and not take any risks. Men and women shall have the same rights everywhere but safety and care for the health of our athletes must prevail!

After all the public fuss that has been made of this matter I am still unsure whether it was a man or a woman that won the the Olympic gold medal in female boxing, and I would appreciate a clear and firm information??

Boxing is a very old sport and has been part of the Olympic family from the beginning. Corrupt and fraudulent practices committed by the old AIBA (the former International Amateur Boxing Association) led to the expulsion of this AIBA from the Olympic boxing tournament, and at the Olympic Games 2020 in Tokio and now 2024 in Paris it has been a non boxing organisation which run the Olympic boxing tournament. This is not a good solution and there is the risk that our old sport of boxing will be banned from the Olympic Games, which means that boxing has no Olympic platform any more, a platform that was the begin of the careers of Muhammad Ali, Lennox Lewis, Wladimir Klitschko, Anthony Joshua and many more.

There is already a new trustful International Boxing Organisation: **WORLD BOXING (WB)**, and many important Federations did already join it, among them USA, GB, Italy, Germany, all in all 42 Federations until now.

Once representing world's majority of the national boxing associations WB may be newly affiliated with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and boxing may stay an Olympic sport, which is absolutely fundamental!

What shall we do?

We need to encourage all national boxing associations to join WORLD BOXING (WB) as soon as possible! This is not just a matter of money or fighting tournaments, we have to fight for our sport of boxing!

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

With my warmest personal regards

Peter Stucki, EBU-President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Stucki', is written over the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P' and 'S'.