

Report on Boxing Canada Youth ID Camp at Boxing Canada Training Centre

May 18-21, 2023

Montreal, Quebec

Hello Boxing AB board and membership,

This report is to give you a bit of insight into the Boxing Canada Youth evaluation camp I attended in May. This camp was an opportunity for both Boxing Canada and the athletes. For B. C. it was the opportunity to see the youth, the development stage they are at, to help pick a youth team for the Continental Cup in August 2023.

For the athletes it was an opportunity to show their boxing skills against some of the best boxers from other provinces, as well as a possible spot on Team Canada for the trip and future considerations.

Of the 60 attending athletes, in the various weight classes of both male and female, it was unfortunate that Boxing AB was underrepresented with only 2 athletes. I saw many weight classes that we as a province are very strong in, be awarded or go unfilled because the athletes did not meet the rating based on the criteria given to rank each athlete. I was asked about them and had no answer, especially after the outstanding showing the CWG Boxing team had at the games.

The evaluation of the athletes was done by the attending coaches myself and one from Ont, Que, BC, NB, and NS. All of the evaluators were provincial or higher-level coaches. At the beginning it was clarified by the Boxing Canada Head Coach, Vincent Auclair, that we would be doing the evaluation based on the criteria given prior and the scores would be given on a consensual basis. He was looking for transparency in the process, so during the reporting and awarding process there would be nothing seen as favoritism or nepotism.

The evaluation process was created by Boxing Canada and given to all the athletes and coaches prior to going. It broke down into 9 areas with an explanation of how each athlete was going to be scored between 0-5 and their total must reach at least 25 out of the max 45 to be considered for the team. I can make this available to any coaches that are interested, because when your athlete/s are asked to attend you can prepare them based on this criterion.

In closing, for me and the 40 plus years I've been involved in AB Boxing, this was a positive experience and I believe the changes that have started to happen at Boxing Canada are for the betterment of all of the provinces in the sport of Boxing. I think it would be very worthwhile to have the Association set up a Zoom meeting with Vincent to introduce himself and speak on the direction Boxing Canada is going. The coaches would be able to ask some questions, so when making future decisions about sending athletes to Boxing Canada Camps would be easier.

If you're interested in the rating criteria shoot me an email at sslegionboxing@gmail.com and I'll send you a copy.

Rick Jamerson