

PRESS KIT



9th edition of the Monte-Carlo Boxing Bonanza Saturday November 4th 2017 Private gaming room at Casino de Monte-Carlo

For the **9**th edition of the Monte-Carlo Boxing Bonanza, the Casino de Monte-Carlo and Matchroom Boxing are happy to announce a night of world boxing championship events that promises to be nothing short of extraordinary. The event will take place on Saturday, 4 November from **6:30pm** in the prestigious Casino de Monte-Carlo right in the heart of the Principality of Monaco. Boxers of international calibre will fight in a ring set up specially for the event in the casino's Salle Médecin. A total of 350 lucky spectators will come to these private gaming rooms, or Salons Privés, for a singular experience they are unlikely to forget.

Four fights will take place during the prestigious event: WBA light heavyweight and bantamweight world championships, a qualifying fight for the WBA featherweight world championships, and a European heavyweight championship match.

The headline event will be with formidable Russian boxer **Dmitry Bivol**, who is itching to get yet another KO on his already impressive record. He will fight 26-year-old Australian boxer **Trent Broadhurst** in the hope of reclaiming the title of light heavyweight champion.

In the bantamweight class, British boxer Jamie McDonnell will defend his WBA title against Venezuelan Liborio Solis.

British boxer **Scott Quigg** will be fighting to qualify for the world featherweight championship against Ukrainian **Oleg Yefimovych**.

Finally, British heavyweight **Dereck Chisora** will challenge German **Agit Kabayel** for what would be his second European heavyweight championship title.

"Hosting the Monte-Carlo Boxing Bonanza in our historic private gaming room presents our customers and casino-goers with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity", affirms **Gaming Director Pascal Camia**. "This could only happen at the Casino de Monte-Carlo. I'm certain it will be an experience the audience will always remember."

"We're thrilled to be back in Monaco. We're certain this Boxing World Championship will be magical", states **Matchroom Boxing promoter Eddie Hearn**, enthusiastically. I'm looking very forward to seeing Dmitry Bivol, an up-and-coming young international boxer, and of course the world title rematch with Jamie McDonnell and Liborio Solis."

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA

The programme

Press conference Thursday November 2nd at 11am Salon Touzet Casino de Monte-Carlo

<u>Weigh-in</u> Friday Novembre 3rd at 12pm Salon Touzet Casino de Monte-Carlo

Free access

Fight programme Starting 6:30pm

Amateur fight Super lightweight Monegasque Boxing Federation *3 rounds* Hugo MICALLEF vs Nasser BELLOUFI (Monaco) (France)

Professional fight. Middleweight 6 rounds Diego NATCHOO vs Kevin LEVAVASSEUR (Monaco) (France)

Professional fight. Super lightweight 6 rounds Bastien BALLESTA vs Pal OLAH (France) (Hungary)

Professional fight. Super-Lightweight 6 rounds HARLEM EUBANK vs ABOUBEKER BECHELAGHEM (United Kingdom) (France)



Starting 8pm

WBA Light-Heavyweight World Championship 12 rounds Dmitry BIVOL vs Trent BROADHURST (Russia) (Australia)

WBA Bantamweight World Championship 12 rounds Jamie McDONNELL vs Liborio SOLIS (United Kingdom) (Venezuela)

WBA Featherweight World Championship Eliminator 12 rounds Scott QUIGG vs Oleg YEFIMOVICH (United Kingdom) (Ukraine)

> European Heavyweight Championship 12 rounds Agit KAYABEL vs Dereck CHISORA (Germany) (United Kingdom)

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA

The biographies

DMITRY BIVOL



Age: 26 From: Saint Petersburg Fights: 11 Won: 11 (9 KOs) Lost: 0 Drawn: 0 Debut: 28 November 2014 Recent form: 17/6/17 Cedric Agnew Las Vegas W TKO 4 14/4/17 Samuel Clarkson Maryland W TKO 4 Interim WBA World Light-Heavyweight title 23/2/17 Robert Berridge Russia W TKO 4 Interim WBA World Light-Heavyweight title 29/10/16 Yevgeni Makhteienko Russia WUD 10 21/5/16 Felix Valera Russia W UD 12 Interim WBA World Light-Heavyweight title 18/2/16 Cleiton Conceicao California W KO 4

TRENT BROADHURST

Age: 29 From: Queensland Fights: 21 Won: 20 (12 KOs) Lost: 1 (1 KO) Drawn: 0 Debut: 22 July 2010 Recent form: 3/2/17 Nader Hamdan Adelaide W TKO 3 12/11/16 Michal Ludwiczak Queensland W UD 8 20/8/16 Shawn Miller Queensland W TD 7 Vacant IBF International Light-Heavyweight title 28/11/15 Rob Powdrill Queensland W KO 8 14/8/15 Affif Belghecham Victoria W UD 6 19/6/15 Reece Papuni Brisbane W TKO 5

Dmitry Bivol fights for the first time as a full World Champion tonight – and the WBA Light-Heavyweight king wants to demolish Trent Broadhurst before targeting the rest of the belts. Bivol held the interim title but after Badou Jack vacated the strap after a purse bid for a fight with Bivol was cancelled, the new champion starts his reign against unbeaten Australian Broadhurst. The Russian KO machine has destroyed nine of his 11 victims to date so far and the unbeaten 26 year old is determined land the IBF and WBO titles vacated by the retired Andre Ward.

"We went after the WBA title," said Bivol. "Of course the ideal option is when you win it in a fight, when you take it away from someone. I was not lucky enough to get this opportunity. Badou Jack refused to fight me and just left the title.

"I'm glad that the WBA declared me as the champion. Now I need to prove that I deserve it and defend the belt.

"I'm the type of person that I need to set maximum goals in any business. In professional boxing, the maximum task is securing the status of being the absolute champion of the world.

"You cannot achieve good results if you do not set higher goals. Yes, this goal is not always achieved, but we must always strive for it, so I strive to become the absolute champion." Bivol's last outing saw him star on the undercard of Ward's final farewell to the sport when he beat Bivol's fellow countryman Sergey Kovalev in a rematch in Las Vegas in June. Bivol saw off Cedric Agnew in four rounds in his fourth outing in the States and tonight is his first European excursion outside Russia, and while he wants to build as big a following as possible, the Russian powerhouse has the same goal in any ring – to simply knock his opponent out.

"In reality, when you are inside the ring, mentally there is no difference whether you are at home or in the US or somewhere else," said Bivol. "You have your opponent in front of you and that's all I think about. I enjoy fighting in the US because the fans are very supportive and they will support the fighter they like, no matter what country or nationality he is.

"It's all about being fan-friendly; anybody can create a big fan base for themselves in the US! We have our preparation system, our technique which we adhere to. It works well for me so we don't change it much and just make adjustments to the different opponents we are facing.

"I think the knockout is always a good result, but I am ready to go the distance, to go all the rounds, I am prepared for that. To be honest, if I see the opportunity to end the fight I will go for it. But we will have to see during the fight. I am ready to go all the rounds, but I am also ready to end the fight."

Broadhurst sees things differently though and believes his first fight outside Australia could catapult him to stardom. The 29 year old recovered from an early loss in his eighth pro fight in 2011 to move into World title contention, picking up regional belts with the WBA and the IBF to arrive in front of Bivol – and the Queenslander is drawing on the recent success of Jeff Horn over Manny Pacquiao to drive him to victory. "This is a big, big opportunity for me," said Broadhurst. "I know I am up against a great fighter, just look at what Jeff did against Manny, on the day anything is possible. "Bivol has become one of the most feared fighters in the world, I know this but it means nothing to me. He is human just like myself – I am working overtime – and will leave no stone unturned in my quest to become World champion.

"I think the first half of the fight could be a chess match and I am very comfortable against anyone like that. I don't think he's got one punch KO power, but he controls distance well and has rangy long punches.

"It's brilliant to be in Monte Carlo, it's a beautiful place and a great opportunity to show my skills in front of HBO and Sky Sports on top of an undercard with great fighters.

"My concentration on this fight is absolute, I need to lay everything on the line against this guy because opportunities like this don't come every day and it might never come again. There's good Light-Heavyweight's in England so I could see myself fighting them one day too."

JAMIE McDONNELL



Age: 31 From: Doncaster Fights: 32 Won: 29 (13 KOs) Lost: 2 Drawn: 1 Debut: 16 September 2005 Recent form: 12/11/16 Liborio Solis Monte-CarloW UD 12 WBA World Bantamweight title 9/4/16 Fernando Vargas London W TKO 9 WBA World Bantamweight title 6/9/15 Tomoki Kameda Texas W UD 12 WBA World Bantamweight title 9/5/15 Tomoki Kameda Texas W UD 12 WBA World Bantamweight title 22/11/14 Javier ChaconLiverpool W TKO 10 WBA World Bantamweight title 31/5/14 Tabtimdaeng Na Rachawat London W **TKO 10** Vacant WBA World Bantamweight title

LIBORIO SOLIS



Age: 35 From: Venezuela Fights: 31 Won: 25 (11 KOs) Lost: 5 Drawn: 1 Debut: 15 December 2000 Recent form: 12/11/16 ;Jamie McDonnell Monte-Carlo L UD 12 WBA World Bantamweight title 16/7/16 Freddy Beleno Panama W UD 8 25/6/16 Juan Carlos Vega Venezuela W TKO 5 4/3/16 Shinsuke Yamanaka Kyoto L UD 12 WBC World Bantamweight title 17/12/15 Jonathan Baat Panama W UD 9 13/11/15 Yenrry Bermudez Venezuela W UD 4

Jamie McDonnell and Liborio Solis return to Monte-Carlo for the WBA World Bantamweight title tonight – and has vowed to leave no doubt as he seeks a victory to land huge fights in 2018. McDonnell defeated Solis in November by scores of 117-111, 116-112 and 115-113, cards that prompted Solis' team to appeal the result and the WBA to order a rematch. McDonnell was disappointed by some that thought the challenger had actually won the fight and the unbeaten Doncaster ace has been working hard over the last year to make sure that the rematch is a clear-cut win before he targets one last huge fight at Bantamweight before stepping up to Super-Bantam.

"I thought I boxed well against him," said McDonnell. "I knew it would be a tough fight but not as hard as it ended up being, I had to dig in a bit more but I was in control.

"I heard a lot of comments about it being tight and I was disappointed in them, I felt I ran the fight, there were tough spells and he caught me with some right hands and had good work rate, but I dealt with him and never felt in danger and he didn't hurt me. I thought I won be three or four rounds.

"I also know that I fought the wrong fight. I was sat on the ropes too much and I needed to be busier. I won't be taking any chances. I want to go in there, look good and get the job done. A stoppage would be great." "People can see it differently but I believe I cruised through it, then I came out and some people thought he nicked it. That gets you down but people are allowed their opinions - this time there will be no doubt about me being the winner.

"I've been absolutely flying in this training camp and I don't think I've ever been on track with the weight as good as I have been.

"I've started with Danny Wilson at Sheffield Hallam University doing some strength and conditioning work and that's really doing the business. I've got a new nutritionist through Danny as well and that's been bang on for me.

"We'll see how it goes over the next couple of weeks before I weigh in but at this point I'd be more than comfortable staying at Bantamweight.

"This will be the sixth defence and after I win tonight I want to look for bigger things. Paul Butler is lined up for the winner tonight and that could be a big fight, but Ryan Burnett is the WBA and IBF champion and that would be great and I could look to move up in weight.

"I'm big for Bantamweight and I've been saying for a while that I would move up, I'm staying here for one big fight before moving up and I do think that Super-Bantamweight would really suit me. I want to leave Bantamweight as the best but maybe I will need to look to make that step up if the fight I need doesn't come. I've been at this weight for a long time and it's hard."

For the Venezuelan, tonight is the change to gain revenge. Solis believes he did enough on the night to justify a victory in his favour and doesn't think that ring rust will be an issue as both men find themselves in the same situation.

"It was annoying that the rematch didn't happen quickly," said Solis. "But as much as the year out may have affected me it will have affected him as well so there is no advantage there.

"He may have been trying to avoid the rematch because he knows it was a robbery. He himself was surprised when they read out the verdict. I don't know why he's been avoiding me because if it were me I would have been looking for a rematch quickly just for personal honour. But he doesn't have anywhere to run to now."

"The English fans and the press said that I won, I got messages from them and, he looked totally surprised as did his corner when they read out the verdict.

"I'm just training, doing my job and I'm fired up to show that he didn't beat me. I'm not assuming anything though, anyone can have a bad night and maybe that was his bad night. But now he has to show everyone that it was a bad night for him.

"I don't know if the rematch will be like the first fight but I'm going to go there and do what I like to do. Maybe he will change his strategy, I may have to chase him around the ring but I will have plans A,B,C,D and E. I'm going with all I've got in this one."

SCOTT QUIGG



Age: 29 From: Bury Fights: 36 Won: 33 (24 KOs) Lost: 1 Drawn: 2 Debut: 21 April 2007 Recent form: 29/4/17 Viorel Simion London W UD 12 10/12/16 Jose Cayetano Manchester W TKO 9 Vacant WBA International Featherweight title 27/2/16 Carl Frampton Manchester L SD 12 IBF World Super-Bantamweight title WBA World Super-Bantamweight title 18/7/15 Kiko Martinez Manchester W TKO 2 WBA World Super Bantamweight title 22/11/14 Hidenori Otake Liverpool W UD 12 WBA World Super Bantamweight title 13/9/14 Stephane Jamoye Manchester WTKO 3 WBA World Super Bantamweight title

OLEG YEFIMOVICH



Scott Quigg and Oleg Yefimovych clash in an eliminator for the WBA World Featherweight title – with the Bury fighter desperate to prove he's ready to rule the world again. Quigg held the WBA Bantamweight crown over six fights before losing out to Belfast rival Carl Frampton but the 29 year old has moved to Los Angeles to team up with legendary trainer Freddie Roach. Quigg is honing his skills in the Wild Card Gym with the hall of fame coach and they were ringside when WBA Super king Leo Santa Cruz and regular champion Abner Mares were in action in California two weeks ago, where both men won via stoppage.

Yefimovych is ranked at number four in the WBA so a win for Quigg puts him right in the mix for a World title clash in 2018 – and with the stakes high, Quigg knows it's going to be a hard night's work.

"I'm expecting a tough fight from Oleg," said Quigg. "I know I've got a tough fight in front of me but it's one I'm very confident in with the work I'm putting in and how I'm looking in the gym. Oleg's highly ranked in the WBA so it's going to shoot me right up there. I've never boxed in Monte Carlo so it's another new experience and one I am looking forward to.

"The fights I want are Abner Mares, Santa Cruz. I believe they're going to be fighting early March or sometime in April, I'd love the winner of that. I want to be involved in big fights, like the big fight with Carl Frampton.

"I came up short but I believe I've made massive improvements already, learned from that. Those are the fights I want to be involved in. Anybody who's got a World title at 126lbs, they are the fights I want to be involved in.

"I believe I can beat him, so I would love that fight, but there is Leo Santa Cruz, Abner Mares, Oscar Valdez, Lee Selby. I want to be involved in any of those big fights. On my day, I turn up 100 per cent, I believe I can beat every one of them."

A rematch with Frampton is a fight that Quigg would also love, and like Quigg, 'The Jackal' has recently made a training switch from Shane McGuigan to Jamie Moore.

"I made some big changes," Quigg told Sky Sports. "I needed to make them big changes and I felt the benefits of it.

"It's good to have something different, Freddie has unrivalled experience and teaming up with him was only ever going to improve me. I've been getting back to my boxing with Freddie, getting behind the jab and simplifying things. It's all been about letting my skills flow and not smothering my work, and that will let my natural power work. I've been learning every day and most importantly, I'm happy.

"I have no doubt Carl will be the same. He's been with the McGuigans for a long time and sometimes you just need a change.

"I do think the change will benefit him, it will do him good. The main thing is you've got to enjoy training. If you're not enjoying it, you might as well walk away.

"He's changed his trainer, he's changed his team, and it might give him that spark back that he was lacking.

"He's the only person to beat me, so obviously I want a rematch. If it didn't happen, it would be through no fault of me not wanting it. I want to put the record straight."

Ukrainian Yefimovych has picked up Continental and Inter-Continental titles with the WBA to move to his lofty position in the rankings, and the 36 year old known as the 'Doctor' will be looking to ruin Quigg's plans and land a first World title shot for himself.

AGIT KAYABEL

DERECK CHISORA



Age: 25
From: Germany
Fights: 16
Won: 16 (12 KOs)
Lost: 0
Drawn: 0
Debut: 23 June 2011
Recent form:
4/2/17 Herve Hubeaux Germany W UD 12
Vacant European Heavyweight title
4/6/16 Christian Lewandowski Germany W KO 7
Vacant EU Heavyweight title
9/1/16 Lawrence Tauasa Germany W TKO 3
5/12/15 Shalva Jomardashvili Germany W KO 1
17/10/15 Maksym Pedyura Germany W TKO 2
14/12/14 Artsiom Charniakevich Germany WTKO 3

Nickname: Del Boy Age: 33 From: Finchley Fights: 34 Won: 27 (19 KOs) Lost: 7 (2 KOs) Drawn: 0 Debut: 17 February 2007 Recent form: 30/9/17 Robert Filipovic Liverpool W TKO 5 10/12/16 Dillian Whyte Manchester L SD 12 10/9/16 Drazan Janjanin Stockholm W KO 2 7/5/16 Kubrat Pulev Hamburg L SD 12 Vacant European Heavyweight title 9/1/16 Andras Csomor Baden-Wurttemburg W TKO 2 12/12/15 Jakov Gospic London W TKO 3

Agit Kabayel and Dereck Chisora clash for the European Heavyweight title tonight – and the winner can become a major player in the bubbling Heavyweight division. Kabayel defends the European crown for the first time having won the vacant belt in February with a comfortable points win over Herve Hubeaux in Magdeburg.

The unbeaten German talent is on the edge of the top ten of three of the major governing bodies, and the 25 year old will be planning make a big move into the rankings by defeating Chisora. 'Del Boy' knows all about World title boxing having boxed Vitali Klitschko for the WBC crown back in 2012.

The Londoner returned to action in September and recorded a 19th stoppage win of his career following his epic fight with Dillian Whyte in December that Whyte edged via split decision. The 33 year old had hoped for a rematch with 'The Bodysnatcher' but the return clash has not materialised, so Chisora sets his sights on becoming European king for the second time.

"I need to get this fight done and look good," said Chisora. I haven't had a big fight since the Whyte fight and I've been pushing for that rematch but it's not happened and not looking likely any time soon.

"This came up and I think that it was meant to be for Dillian but he was too scared to fight this boy, so I took it."

Whyte defeated Robert Helenius in Cardiff last weekend in an eliminator for the WBC title held by brash American Deontay Wilder, who defends his crown against Bermane Stiverne in Brooklyn tonight.

Chisora is handily ranked in the top ten in the WBC ratings and could be looking at a second World title shot in 2018 and would welcome all-comers in the biggest fights he can land.

"Dillian won at the weekend, I'm going to win tonight, so let's do it, there's nothing stopping us," said Chisora. "But you never know what is going to get in the way, this is boxing.

"I want to fight for a World title too. We don't know why Joseph Parker is holding a Wold title, Wilder how is he still a World champion? Anthony Joshua is doing well, he fights twice a year and puts on a great show. The other two guys are just lucky. They were there at the right time.

"Parker boxed for a World title without TV - that's embarrassing and they didn't sell any tickets. That tells you everything.

"My plans with Eddie include fighting in America, keeping fit and training hard and making the fights that I want to happen. Wilder fights Stiverne tonight, AJ and Dillian have just boxed, Jarrell Miller fights next weekend - the Heavyweight game is bubbling up right now, it's buzzing.

"It's been a great year for boxing in Britain, and I think 2018 can be even better."



The history of boxing in Monaco

Boxing is part of the great international sporting events tradition of the Principality with the Monte Carlo Rally, the Monte-Carlo Historical Rally, the Formula 1 Grand Prix, the Monaco historical Grand Prix, Rolex Tennis, International Jumping of Monte-Carlo, the International swimming meeting, the Herculis athletics meeting.

On February 29th 1912, thanks to Mr. Camille Blanc's creativity, the International Sporting Club of Monaco organised a boxing meet in the Condamine accounting for the European middleweight championship between the British Jim Sullivan and French Georges Carpentier, who came out victorious.

The tradition was launched and was quickly perpetuated in February 1920, with the Monte Carlo boxing meet where the champions of the time competed for titles in three sessions, taking place in the Palais du Soleil.

Other events related to this discipline punctuated the Principality's sporting calendar in 1931, in 1935, with a gala organised on the Casino terraces, in 1939 where France, world and military champions competed.

Then, in 1971, 1992, 1994 with the World Championship of heavyweight boxing at the Salle des Etoiles, which also hosted the Monte-Carlo Pro Boxing Masters in 2005 and 2006.

The Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer Group renewed its partnership with Golden Gloves in 2013, continuing a long athletic common history dating back from the last century. This year's edition of the Monte-Carlo Boxing Bonanza marks the beginning of a new venture with the British leading firm Matchroom Boxing.

Monte-Carlo is one of the most elegant destinations of the world; located on the Mediterranean Sea, it attracts millions of visitors every year. The Casino de Monte-Carlo, belonging to the Group of Monte-Carlo SBM, which celebrated 150th anniversary in 2013, is the first casino in Europe. It continues to attract the wealthiest players and internationally recognized celebrities.



Since 2013, there has been one international fight after another with many different world championship belts at stake for which the stars of the ring battled it out in two prestigious venues of the Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer Group:

MONTE-CARLO MILLION DOLLAR SUPER 4 March 30th 2013 - Sporting Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO MILLION DOLLAR SUPER 4 July 13th 2013 - Sporting Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA February 1st 2014 - Sporting Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA - KO AT THE CASINO June 21st 2014 – Salle Médecin, Casino de Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA - TITLE TORNADO October 25th 2014 - Sporting Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA – THUNDERBOLT February 21st 2015 – Sporting Monte-Carlo

MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA – NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS November 7th 2015– Sporting Monte-Carlo

> MONTE-CARLO BOXING BONANZA Novembre 12th 2016 – Sporting Monte-Carlo



Information et reservations

Broadcasted live on SkySport

Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer T.: +377 98 06 36 36 from 10am to 7pm, daily ticketoffice@sbm.mc montecarlosbm.com

About Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer

A major player in luxury tourism in Europe, Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer owns the most prestigious venues in Monaco: 4 casinos, including the legendary Casino de Monte-Carlo, 4 hotels (Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo, Hôtel Hermitage Monte-Carlo, Monte-Carlo Beach, Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort), and 33 restaurants including 4 awarded 6 prestigious Michelin stars between them. 150 years of history have shaped the soul of this legendary resort and built up an image of excellence and a global reputation in gambling and entertainment, haute cuisine and prestigious hotels, luxury shopping, wellness and real estate. Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer, guardian of its historical role in the state's economic, social and cultural development, will reveal in December 2018 the splendid renovation of Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo Société Bains do ncreating a new One Monte Carlo district, which will be completed in 2019 with 7 new buildings for residences, offices, conference rooms, restaurants and shops. Monte-Carlo Société Bains de Mer is also one of the key partners of major events in Monaco such as the Formula 1 Grand Prix and the Monte-Carlo Rolex Masters. The Group currently has over 4100 employees and recorded a turnover of 458,8 million euros for the financial year 2016-2017. For more information about the Group, please visit <u>www.montecarlosbm.com</u>



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