



Rockford Boxing Classic Returns Saturday to Downtown Rockford

Gates Open at 4 p.m. Saturday at City Market for Free Admission Boxing Festival

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROCKFORD, Ill., August 10, 2023: The second annual **Rockford Boxing Classic** returns this Saturday, August 12, at Rockford City Market’s outdoor pavilion in downtown Rockford. As the region’s premier outdoor boxing event, the Rockford Boxing Classic (RBC) will feature some of the Midwest’s top youth boxers and a Police-vs.-Fire-themed main event.

A production of the nonprofit Rockford Patriots Boxing Club and Plus Seven Company, gates open at 4 p.m. when music, local food and beverage sales, and all-ages entertainment begins. Boxing action gets started at 5 p.m. with a variety of boys and girls bouts—including many local youth who compete for the Rockford Boxing Club—before capping off the night with the Police vs. Fire heavyweight main event.

“We’re excited to be back for year two and to see the continued growth of the Rockford Boxing Classic,” said **Jimmy Goodman**, club director of the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club. “This is a free community event that showcases some of the region’s most talented youth boxers who compete locally and nationally. It’s also a great way for us to engage the community by featuring the Rockford Police and Fire Departments – we can’t wait for Saturday night!”

Attendees of the Rockford Boxing Classic will experience the following program highlights:

- **Rockford Boxing Club Excellence:** The Rockford Boxing Classic bout line-up features some of the Midwest’s and Rockford Patriots Boxing Club’s top boxers, including **Gavin Bernal** (No. 2 nationally in USA Boxing 119 Division, invitee to 2023 USA Boxing Junior Training Camp in Chula Vista, CA) and **Julian Lugo** (Junior Golden Gloves National Champion, Chicago Golden Gloves Champion).
- **Battle of the Badges:** In the main event, **James “Champ” Nachampassack** of the Rockford Police Department will face **Ryan Taylor** of the Rockford Fire Department in a sanctioned USA Boxing heavyweight bout. This marks the second-straight year that the Rockford Police Department has fielded a boxer in the Rockford Boxing Classic (Rockford Police officer Cory Magnuson won his bout in 2022), while Taylor’s appearance Saturday will mark the Rockford Fire Department’s RBC debut.
- **Free Admission:** If you didn’t purchase a table, bring your lawn chair — general admission is FREE!
- **Win the 50/50 Raffle!:** 50/50 raffle ticket sales (cash only) will be located at the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club tent, and the 50/50 raffle winner will be announced before the main event!
- **Tacos, Corn, Fruit, Treats & Drinks:** Guests can purchase local food from **Jaliscoast Rayo** and **Lulu’s Roasted Corn**, as well as sweet treats from **TNT Funnel Cakes**. Support local!
- **Beverages for Rockford Boxing:** In partnership with **Minnihan’s**, beverages will be available for sale at two onsite locations. Net proceeds of beverage sales will benefit the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club, a division of the 501(c)(3) Patriots Gateway Community Center. Please enjoy responsibly!
- **Ride the Bull:** A mechanical bull will be on hand (ride at your own risk). Have fun and test your skills!
- **Official Website + Social:** Visit www.RockfordBoxingClassic.com, follow the [official Rockford Boxing Classic Facebook event page](#), and follow Rockford Patriots Boxing Club ([Facebook](#)) and Plus Seven Company ([Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#)) on social for program updates!

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Thank you to the following partners of the 2023 Rockford Boxing Classic:

- **Silver Level Sponsor:** Forward For Fun Grant – A Partnership of the City of Rockford + Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
- **Bronze Level Sponsors:** Blackhawk Bank, IBEW Local 364, Martin Exteriors Roofing & Siding, Northwestern Illinois Building Trades Unions, Project First Rate, Rockford IceHogs
- **Supporting Level Sponsors:** Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons International Local 11, Rock Valley Credit Union
- **In-Kind:** Minnihan's, Patriots Gateway Community Center
- **Media Partner:** 96.7 The Eagle
- **Sanctioned By:** USA Boxing Illinois

About Rockford Patriots Boxing Club: Established in 2003, Rockford Patriots Boxing Club has mentored thousands of youngsters with dreams of becoming boxing national champions, world qualifiers and Olympic medalists. A Patriots Gateway Community Center nonprofit program, the Club develops champions in and out of the ring, while keeping the health, safety and success of its students as the top priority. RPBC has produced 22 national champions and served more than 5,000 area youth.

About Patriots Gateway Community Center: Patriots Gateway Community Center was started by the people of Zion Lutheran Church in 1995 to provide opportunities for success for the children and youth of zip code 61104. Patriots opened in 1998 and has served thousands of kids and families in the Rockford area.

About Plus Seven Company: Plus Seven Company delivers winning events and experiences with expertise in partnerships, public relations, storytelling and tourism. Visit www.PlusSevenCompany.com for more info.

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