



Third Annual Rockford Boxing Classic Returns Saturday to City Market

Footprint Expands at Free-Admission Outdoor Boxing Festival in Downtown Rockford

ROCKFORD, Ill., August 7, 2024: As announced today, the third annual **Rockford Boxing Classic** returns this Saturday, August 10, to downtown Rockford in an expanded format. As a free general-admission program featuring some of the Midwest's top youth boxers, a growing Police vs. Fire line-up, local food and beverages, and entertainment for all ages, this year's Rockford Boxing Classic showcases live boxing at the Rockford City Market Outdoor Pavilion as well as partner and vendor activations on the adjacent Water Street. Gates open at 4 p.m. and boxing action gets started at 5 p.m. Net proceeds of the event benefit the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club, a division of the 501(c)(3) Patriots Gateway Community Center.

This year's program highlights include:

- **Rockford Patriots 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 **Julian Lugo** – junior Golden Gloves national champion, 2023 Chicago Golden Gloves champion and bronze medalist at the 2024 National Golden Gloves tournament. In addition to Lugo, the following Rockford Patriots Boxing Club boxers are scheduled to compete: **Josh Rios, Alec Arco, My'Aire King, Owen Perez, Caleb Chambers, Gus Wampfler** and **Ryan Mattingly**.
- **Police/Fire Growth:** This year's program features a growing Police vs. Fire line-up, including competitors from the Rockford Police Department, Loves Park Police Department and Loves Park Fire Department. **James "Champ" Nachampassack** of the Rockford Police Department returns for the second-straight year to face **Jorge Mondragon** from the Loves Park Fire Department. In addition, **Jake Altenbernd** (Loves Park Fire Department) will match up with **Danny Thompson** (Loves Park Police Department), while **Cory Magnuson** (Rockford Police Department) is back for the second time in three years to face Dontez Boyd (Peoria Athletic Club).
- **Mascot Madness:** As part of this year's partnership with the Rockford IceHogs, we're debuting the Rockford Boxing Classic Mascot Bout! During intermission, **Hammy** from the Rockford IceHogs will take on **Rally the Rivetsaurus** from the Rockford Rivets baseball club to determine this year's mascot champion.
- **Official T-Shirt:** Head to the RKFD Collection merchandise booth to get your **official 2024 Rockford Boxing Classic x RKFD Collection collab t-shirt** for \$30! With limited stock on hand, be sure to head to the RKFD Collection booth early.
- **Free Admission:** If you didn't purchase a table, no worries – bring your lawn chair, general admission is FREE! Space for standing room/bring-your-own lawn chair seating is first-come, first served.
- **Win the 50/50 Raffle!:** 50/50 raffle ticket sales (cash only) will be located at the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club tent. The winner will be announced before the main event!
- **Tacos, Pizza, Corn, Fruit & Treats:** Guests can purchase food from **Jaliscoast Rayo, Pizza Fresca**, and **Lulu's Roasted Corn**, as well as sweet treats from **TNT Funnel Cakes**. Support local!
- **Beverages for Boxing:** Thanks in part to our in-kind beverage service partners at Minnihan's, beverages will be available for sale at two convenient locations. Please enjoy responsibly!
- **Kids and Family Games Aplenty:** The Rockford Boxing Classic is truly an all-ages event. Adults and kids are encouraged to test out their skills for free on a **mechanical bull** (ride at your own risk), at the **Rockford IceHogs street hockey** rink, or at the **Rock Valley Credit Union bags-for-prizes** booth!

-MORE-



Third Annual Rockford Boxing Classic Returns to City Market Pavilion This Saturday, Page 2 of 2

- **Website + Social:** Visit www.RockfordBoxingClassic.com, follow the [2024 Rockford Boxing Classic Facebook event page](#), and follow Rockford Patriots Boxing Club ([Facebook](#)) and Plus Seven Company ([Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#)) on social for program updates.

Thank you to these partners of the 2024 Rockford Boxing Classic:

- **Forward For Fun Level:** City of Rockford, Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
- **Silver Level:** Rock Valley Credit Union
- **Bronze Level:** First Mid Bank & Trust, IBEW Local 364, Martin Exteriors Roofing & Siding, City of Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara, Northwestern Illinois Building Trades Unions, Project First Rate, Rockford IceHogs
- **Supporting Level:** International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Union Craftworkers Local 79, Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons
- **In-Kind:** Minnihan's, Patriots Gateway Community Center, Rockford Fire Department, Rockford Police Department
- **Media Partners:** 104.9 WXRX, 95.3 The Bull
- **Sanctioned By:** USA Boxing and the Illinois Local Boxing Committee

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. The Club has produced more than 20 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 (P7c) delivers winning sports and entertainment. Through its properties and services divisions, P7c's expertise covers events, branding, partnerships, public relations and tourism advisory. For more information, visit www.PlusSevenCompany.com.

Contact: Nick Povalitis, founder, Plus Seven Company, Nick@PlusSevenCompany.com, 815.708.1644.

###