

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

Portland Boxing Club's February 2022 Newsletter - Volume 7
Issue 2

[View this email in your browser](#)



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Portland Boxing Club's Zordan Holman (right) at the Northern New England Golden Gloves in Somersworth, NH.

PBC Wins Two Northern New England Golden Gloves Championships

In the semi-final round of the Northern New England Golden Gloves tournament, Portland Boxing Club's Ilyas Bashir, a 139-pound novice division light welterweight from Auburn, Maine showed superior boxing skills winning a unanimous decision over Tristan Harvie of Essex Junction, Vermont. In the finals, Bashir earned a unanimous decision over Michel DiDino of Manchester, New Hampshire, to win the championship. In Bashir's toughest fight to date, DiDino used questionable tactics unsuccessfully trying to slow Bashir's relentless attack.

Bashir was awarded outstanding boxer of the tournament, winning both this award and the Northern New England Golden Gloves novice light welterweight

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

In the semi-final round of the tournament, Portland Boxing Club's Zordan Holman, a 203+ pound novice division super heavyweight from Westbrook, Maine, defeated Tom Curtis, of Spruce Head, Maine, by RSC (technical knock-out) 49 seconds into the first round of the fight. Holman started fast against the much larger Curtis. His jab found the target quickly, followed by right hands that had Curtis in trouble from the start. After 49 seconds of Holman battering his opponent without any offense from the other side, the referee had seen enough and stopped the fight. In the final round of the tournament, Holman defeated Abdul Sumah, of Bangor, Maine, by RSC 1:20 into the first round of the fight. Sumah, who had a significant weight advantage, was clearly outmatched.

Bashir and Holman advance to the New England Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions in Lowell, Massachusetts starting on February 17, 2022. In addition, Portland Boxing Club's Kate Zehr, a 125-pound elite featherweight from South Portland, Maine and Wade Faria, a 165-pound elite middleweight from Portland, Maine, advance to this tournament by walkover. Portland Boxing Club fighters have won 223 championships in the organization's 30-year history.



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Happy Birthday John Brown!

The Portland Boxing Club wishes John Brown a happy 75h birthday!

John was born with a cleft palate and was made fun of as a child. He regularly got in fights with the local bullies, until he got into boxing at age 12 and all that changed. From then on, John's life has revolved around the sport of boxing.

John founded Ringside Boxing in 1977, and was a pioneer in the boxing equipment industry. Much of the boxing equipment used across the world today is based on designs first introduced by John. In 2000, he started the Ringside World Championships, an international tournament that would host over 1,000 amateur boxing bouts in Kansas City each year.

John has worked with many famous boxers, including managing former WBO heavyweight champion Tommy Morrison; however, he is most proud of his dedication to amateur boxing. Over the past 55 years, he has coached more than 10,000 amateur boxers including 19 national champions. John is the founder and head coach at Turner Boxing Academy, vice president of the Kansas City Golden Gloves, member emeritus of the Golden Gloves of America board of directors, and former president of USA Boxing.

John has been a long-time supporter of the Portland Boxing Club and is a close personal friend of Bobby Russo. Happy birthday John and thank you for all that you do for boxing!

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Lisa Kuronya Coombs (center) with Portland Boxing Club assistant coach Skip Neales (left) and head coach Bobby Russo (right) at Coomb's induction into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame in 2021.

PBC's Role in Women's Boxing

Portland Boxing Club is nationally known as an advocate for women's equality in boxing and was a driving force behind why women's boxing is now in the Olympics alongside men's competitions.

In 2006, the Portland Boxing Club had both men and women qualify for a national tournament at the US Olympic Training Center. For the male boxers, USA Boxing – the national governing body – paid for transportation, housing and meals. For the female boxers, they had to cover their own expenses. The Portland Boxing Club led a lawsuit against USA Boxing for violation of state and federal gender discrimination laws. The suit was settled by USA Boxing in 2007, and part of the settlement included a requirement for equal treatment and commitment for female boxers. This was also a turning point in the fight to get women's boxing as an Olympic sport alongside men's boxing.

Bobby Russo, the President and Head Coach at Portland Boxing Club, later earned leadership roles in the Golden Gloves of America, the most famous amateur boxing tournament. When Russo became Vice President of the Golden Gloves, the men's tournament was a large national event that rotated between large venues nationwide each year. The women's tournament was separate and held at a local boxing club in Florida. Russo advocated for

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

and in 2018 the Golden Gloves of America men's and women's tournaments were merged into one national event with equal treatment of male and female boxers.

In addition to Russo's voice advocating for women's boxing, the Portland Boxing Club has nationally known female boxers. Lisa Kuronya Coombs, now retired from boxing competition, won four national Golden Gloves championships. She now runs her own boxing studio. Liz Leddy, who is a former boxer and active coach, has won three national Golden Gloves championships. Lindsay Francois and Kate Zehr have both earned spots in national tournaments and continue to rise. Russo recently won his second term as President of the Golden Gloves of America.



Bob Russo (center) working mits with Zordan Holman (right).

Photo courtesy Jim Davis/Boston Globe

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

The Boston Globe recently featured an article about Bob Russo. The article can be read here: www.bostonglobe.com/2022/01/29/metro/short-battle-ring-lasting-lesson-life/



[PBC On-Line Store](#)

Portland Boxing Club's [on-line store](#) has a wide selection of merchandise featuring the Portland Boxing Club logo. These make great gifts for the hard-to-buy-for boxer or boxing fan in your life!

[Gift Certificates](#)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

amount to purchase? Consider \$30 for one months' dues, \$50 for a sweatshirt and t-shirt, \$105 for a new member's initiation and second month's dues, \$180 for 6 months' dues or \$360 for one years' dues.

Check out these and the other store items at: [On-line Store](#)



Upcoming Events

New England Golden Gloves

The New England Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions will be held on Thursdays, February 17 - March 10, 2022 at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium in Lowell, MA. Bouts begin at 7:30 pm each night. Open class winners will advance to the National Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions. For more information and tickets, visit: www.lowellgoldengloves.com

Down & Dirty

Portland Boxing Club will have amateur and professional boxers participating in Reyes Boxing's Down & Dirty show at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine on Saturday, May 21, 2022. This event is hosted by Reyes Boxing, for more information visit: www.facebook.com/reyesboxinginc/

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

15 - 20, 2022 at the Cox Business Center in Tulsa, OK. For more information and updates, visit: www.goldenglovesusa.org/championship/



Thank You Red Corner Club Members

Thank you to the following new and renewal members:

Tracy Hill
Mark St. John
Steve Rosacha
Coastal Upholstery

Thank you for being a member of the Red Corner Club!

How Can I Support PBC?

The Portland Boxing Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and we rely solely on fundraisers and donations for our operations. Here are some opportunities for you to support the Portland Boxing Club:

Red Corner Club

Portland Boxing Club's Red Corner Club is a great way to show your boxing pride and support the Portland Boxing Club. For an annual tax-deductible

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

the Portland Boxing Club, including current and past members, boxing team alumni, fans and community supporters.

Benefits include Portland Boxing Club shirt with the Red Corner Club member logo, recognition in upcoming souvenir programs, recognition in Portland Boxing Club newsletters and recognition at Portland Boxing Club events.

For more information or to join, visit www.portlandboxingclub.org/red-corner-club

Portland Boxing Club Merchandise

Portland Boxing Club's on-line store has a wide selection of merchandise featuring the Portland Boxing Club logo. These make great gifts for the hard-to-buy-for boxer or boxing fan in your life! Our most popular items include hooded sweatshirts and stay-dry t-shirts. We also have facemasks and neck gaiters to help protect yourself and others. Boxing equipment including gloves, headgear, hand wraps, mouth guards and jump ropes are also available.

To shop these and many more items, visit www.portlandboxingclub.org/store

Boxing Collectables and Memorabilia

Portland Boxing Club now has boxing collectables and memorabilia available for sale on-line. Items include autographed boxing gloves from famous boxers such as Micky Ward, Dicky Eklund, Muhammad Ali, Jake LaMotta and Gerry Cooney along with local favorites such as Liz Leddy and Russell Lamour. Other items include vintage boxing magazines such as The Ring, KO Magazine, Boxing Illustrated and World Boxing from 1978 to 1992. Additional items are being added regularly.

To shop our Boxing Collectables and Memorabilia, visit

www.portlandboxingclub.org/memorabilia

AmazonSmile

Support the Portland Boxing Club when you shop on Amazon with AmazonSmile! Customers pay the same Amazon prices, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the Portland Boxing Club.

Select Portland Boxing Club as your charity then when time you shop on

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Your support of the Portland Boxing Club through any of these methods would be greatly appreciated. The Portland Boxing Club thanks you for your continued support.

PBC On-line Store

Thank you to our major sponsors:

207 Taxi
CBS Lobster & Bait
David Cimmet
Earl Prolman
Fistic Films
Elizabeth Germani & Roy St. Clair
GMP Charities, Inc.
Harbor City Realty
Hoehl Family Foundation
Law Office of Gary Prolman
Miss Portland Diner
Nappi Distributors
Pioneer Telephone
Pond Family Foundation
Portland Dental Healthcare
Portland Regency Hotel
Prime Motor Group
Rowe Westbrook
Southern Maine General Contracting
Turf Doctor
Wipfli LLP

*Copyright © 2022 Portland Boxing Club. All rights reserved.
A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization.*

Our mailing address is:

Portland Boxing Club - PO Box 644 - Portland, ME 04104

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Portland Boxing Club · PO Box 644 · Portland, ME 04104 · USA

