

PRESS RELEASE

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TO ALL MEDIA

BOXING SOUTH AFRICA (BSA) PULLS NO PUNCHES AT THE GLAMOUROUS AWARDS CEREMONY

Boxing South Africa (BSA), in partnership with eThekweni Municipality and the KwaZulu Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, hosted the 2023 boxing awards at the Chief Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre this past weekend.

Sivenathi Nontshinga and Smangele Hadebe were the two biggest winners on the night with each walking away with a whopping R50 000 prize money.

IBF junior flyweight champion Sivenathi Nontshinga took home the coveted Male Boxer of the Year award and showed beyond doubt why he is hot property in the boxing fraternity. Basking in glory shortly after receiving his award, Nontshinga paid tribute to Boxing South Africa, his team, and his family for their incredible support. "I'm overjoyed right now. This means a great deal to me. It signifies that all I've worked hard for in boxing is finally paying off," stated the IBF junior flyweight champion.

African Boxing Union's flyweight champion, Smangele Hadebe, won the biggest prize in the women's section, clinching the Female Boxer of the Year award as her reputation as one of the best female boxers in South Africa continues to grow.

"I am very happy, honoured, and excited. Thanks to Boxing South Africa and the people for recognizing me and to everyone who voted for me," she said. "Being the first female to win the ABU title last year, I think that's the victory that made me win this award. I'm definitely aiming for more."

BOXING SOUTH AFRICA

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BSA acting CEO Mr. Erick Nsikayezwe Sithole said hosting such a successful ceremony is testimony that boxing is making a strong comeback in South Africa. “We are grateful that this event was a huge success and congratulations to all the winners on the night. We would like to thank all our sponsors. Without our partners in eThekweni Municipality, The KZN Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, The Playhouse Company, KZN Sports Confederation, SuperSport, Isiko Republic, and all the provinces that assisted, this award ceremony would not have been possible.”

“This was our opportunity to launch boxing back to its former glory and I believe we have successfully achieved our objective,” said Sithole. “This is just the beginning of great things to come.”

The complete list of all the winners is as follows:

- 1. MALE BOXER OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Sivenathi Nontshinga***
- 2. FEMALE BOXER OF THE YEAR** : ***Ms. Smangele Hadebe***
- 3. MALE FIGHT OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Phumelele Cafu vs Mr. Jackson Chauke***
- 4. FEMALE OF THE YEAR** : ***Ms. Thema Zuma vs Ms. Bathabile Ziqubu***
- 5. RING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR** : ***Ms. Phumeza Zinakile***
- 6. TRAINER OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Khangelani Jack***
- 7. REPORTER OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Thabiso Mosia***
- 8. KNOCKOUT OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Landile Ngeke vs Mr. Athenkosi Dumezweni***
- 9. MANAGER OF THE YEAR** : ***Mr. Damien Durandt***

10. MATCHMAKER OF THE YEAR : *Mr. Abbey Mnisi*
11. MALE PROSPECT OF THE YEAR : *Mr. Donjuan van Heerden*
12. FEMALE PROSPECT OF THE YEAR : *Ms. Monalisa Takane*
13. ASPIRING PROMOTER OF THE YEAR. : *Ms. Nomvelo Shezi*
14. PROMOTER OF THE YEAR : *Xaba Boxing Promotions*
15. RING ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR : *Mr. Sipho Mashego*
16. CHAIRPERSON'S AWARDS

Chairperson's Lifetime Achievement Awards

- a. *Ms. Pemmy Majodina*
- b. *Mr. Jacobus van Nieuwenhuizen*
- c. *Mr. Louis Smith*
- d. *Mr. Lesley Whiteboy*
- e. *Mr. Smiso Buthelezi*

Chairperson's Special Achievement Awards

- a. *Ms. Noloyiso Bonga*
- b. *Mr. Mesuli Zifo*
- c. *Ms. Phiwokuhle Mnguni*
- d. *Mr. Refiloe Maele "Casper Nyovest" Phoolo*

BSA 2022/23 Top Ten promoters based on the number of tournaments hosted:

- a. *ESPN Africa*
- b. *Golden Gloves*
- c. *Xaba Boxing Promotions*

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- d. TLB Boxing Promotions**
- e. Dream Team Boxing Promotions**
- f. Starline Boxing Promotions**
- g. Zbashy Boxing Promotions**
- h. Boxing 5**
- i. Slindokuhle Boxing Promotions**
- j. 5TH Element Promotions**

ENDS

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