**APPG on Boxing**

**‘Olympic Games Wrap-Up with Team GB Boxers’**

**10.00am – 11.00am**

**Wednesday, 20th October 2021**

**Virtual Meeting**

**In attendance:**

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| **Name** | **Organisation** |
| Chris Evans MP | Chair, APPG on Boxing (Host) |
| Natasha Jonas | Speaker |
| Lauren Price | Speaker, Team GB |
| Karris Artingstall | Speaker, Team GB |
| Dave Alloway | Speaker, GB Boxing |
| Murray Stewart | Stewart Public Affairs Ltd |
| Camila Consolmagno | Stewart Public Affairs Ltd |
| Oner Avara | My Next Match |
| Jonathan Djanogly MP | Vice-Chair, APPG on Boxing |
| Martin Bisp | Empire Fighting Chance |
| Christina Rees MP | Member, APPG on Boxing |
| Baroness Golding | Member, APPG on Boxing |
| Kim Johnson MP | Member, APPG on Boxing |
| Matt Holt | GB Boxing |
| Colin Metson | Welsh Boxing |
| Lee Marsham | Commonwealth Games |
| Deborah Jump | Manchester Metropolitan University |
| Lorin Bell-Cross | Senior Parliamentary Assistant |
| Lord Moynihan | Vice-Chair, APPG on Boxing |
| Stephen Doughty MP | Member, APPG on Boxing |
| Imran Hussain MP | Member, APPG on Boxing |
| Dr Lisa Cameron MP | Vice-Chair, APPG on Boxing |
| Lee Murgatroyd | Point Communications Ltd |
| Victor Balassiano | GB Boxing |
| Mike Loosemore | English Institute of Sport |

**Agenda:**

1. **Introduction from Chris Evans MP (Chair)**

* Chris Evans MP (CE) welcomed the attendees to the session.
* He then allowed the panel - consisting of Natasha Jonas (NJ), Lauren Price (LP), Karris Artingstall (KA), and Dave Alloway (DA) - to introduce themselves.

1. **Pre-prepared questions to the panel**

* CE led the conversation with the panel. He started off by asking LP, KA and NJ how they got started with their boxing careers. LP told the story of where and how she began, including the people who influenced her career, followed by NJ and KA.
* CE then asked DA what changes he’s seen in the public perspective in regard to boxing, as well as how women’s boxing has evolved. DA described how the public now see boxing as an increasingly respected sport that many aspire to be Olympic champions in, and how women have fought their way into boxing and shown that they can be just as good as their male counterparts.
* CE carried on the conversation by asking the panel how we could keep public interest throughout the year in amateur boxing, and not just restrict it to the Olympics.
  + DA responded by saying that we have to keep making the sport more visible and accessible, such as by encouraging it to be more publicised (i.e. streaming it live on television more often). The rest of the panel agreed.

1. **Q&A session**

* CE took questions from attendees.
* The questions covered the funding that boxing receives compared to other competitive sports and how to bridge that gap, the gender disparity amongst boxing coaches, how to equalise the ratio of men and women inside boxing clubs, how to address the needs of women who initially join boxing for self-defence (especially victims of sexual assault and so on) and are met with a boxing club largely dominated by men, whether women in boxing feel that working with men in boxing is to their advantage, whether women in boxing receive support from their male colleagues, how can MPs support boxing and boxers, and the importance of the quality of coaches in boxing.

1. **AOB**

* CE closed the session by thanking the speakers, congratulating LP and KA for their recent successes, and thanking the attendees for their presence and engagement.