

APPG on Boxing

'Olympic Games Wrap-Up with Team GB Boxers'

10.00am – 11.00am

Wednesday, 20th October 2021

Virtual Meeting

In attendance:

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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. AOB

- CE explained that Stewart Public Affairs (SPA) had taken over Secretariat support to the Group on the 1st August 2021 and following a discussion about the Terms of Engagement it was agreed that SPA would continue in the role.
- 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.