

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marina Bay Sands all set for *Dragon Fire Championship Boxing Event*

*Two championship titles up for grabs at the Sands Expo
and Convention Center on 5 May 2012*

Singapore (20 April, 2012) – Marina Bay Sands is gearing up for Dragon Fire Championship Boxing Event slated for 5 May 2012 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center. The event will feature 10 international boxers and two highly anticipated championship title fights. Tickets for the event go on sale on Monday, 23 April.

Boxing aficionados will get the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to watch the World Boxing Association (WBA) Featherweight Champion, Chris John defending his title against Japan's Shoji Kimura. They will also get to witness the International Boxing Organization (IBO) Vacant World Featherweight Title fight between Indonesia's Daud Jordan and undefeated the Philippines own Lorenzo Villanueva. Tickets¹ for this professional boxing night are available for S\$50, S\$120, S\$300 and S\$500.

The much-anticipated event will also see the rise of Singapore talent, Mohd Nor Rizan who will be fighting for the Super Bantamweight bout on 5 May against China's Wang Xin Hua. Set on going pro from the start, Nor Rizan is now living his dream with an admirable record of six wins and only a single defeat. He stands out for his succession in a sport long dominated by Thai, Filipino and Western athletes.

Having evolved into a destination that provides multisensory experiences that range from business and leisure to arts and entertainment, Singapore is poised to attract international sporting events. Over the years, professional boxing has gained millions of fans around the world. Both boxing professionals Chris John and Lorenzo Villanueva have large fan bases in their own respective countries. Dragon Fire Championship Boxing Event will give boxing fans in Asia an opportunity to be the first to witness two "live" championship title fights in a single night.

On 5 May, exhibition Hall E at the Sands Expo and Convention Center will be transformed into a spectacular sports arena with up to 4,000 seats for Dragon Fire Championship Boxing Event. The arena is custom-made with tiered seating. The event will include pyrotechnics, music and lights to immerse fans in the buzzing boxing atmosphere.

¹ Excluding Sistic booking fees

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Boxing enthusiasts can look forward to these fights on a single night:

WBA SUPER WORLD FEATHERWEIGHT TITLE

CHRIS JOHN (INDONESIA)

Vs

SHOJI KIMURA (JAPAN)

(12 x 3 Min)

IBO VACANT WORLD FEATHERWEIGHT TITLE

DAUD JORDAN (INDONESIA)

Vs

LORENZO VILLANUEVA (PHILIPPINES)

(12 x 3 Min)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHT

MOHAMAD NOR RIZAN (SINGAPORE)

Vs

WANG XIN HUA (CHINA)

(6 x 3 Min)

JNR MIDDLEWEIGHT

KENGO NAGASHIMA (JAPAN)

Vs

YAO YI MA (TAIWAN)

(6 x 3 Min)

SUPER FLYWEIGHT

YODPICHAI SITHSAITHONG (THAILAND)

Vs

REX TSO (HONG KONG)

(4 x 3 Min)

SWING FIGHT #2

WELTERWEIGHT

YANG XIN XIN (CHINA)

Vs

SINGDETH SITHSAITHONG (THAILAND)

(4 or 6 x 3 Min) – DEPENDING ON OTHER FIGHTS

SWING FIGHT #1

BANTAMWEIGHT

QIU XIAO JUN (CHINA)

Vs

BAYU GEDE PRABOW (INDONESIA)

(4 or 6 x 3 Min) – DEPENDING ON OTHER FIGHTS

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The Sands Expo and Convention Center is fast becoming the venue of choice for sporting events such as the Z1 Pro-Fencing World Series, which took place in 2010 and 2011, the Indoor Archery World Cup 2011 and the Lotus on Water Cup International Wushu Meet in 2010. The successful run of these sporting activities showcases the flexibility of the space at the Sands Expo and Convention Center at Marina Bay Sands.

Fighter Profiles

Chris John

The 32-year old WBA Featherweight Champion has retained the crown from 2003 and has since defended the title 14 times over the nine years.

Shoji Kimura

34-year-old Shoji Kimura is one of Japan's top boxers to date and has participated in various fights and ranks number 15 among world champion boxers and number 4 among professional boxers in Japan. Kimura is a wily veteran and has seen it all in the World of pro boxing.

Daud Yordan

The 24 year old from Ketapang, Indonesia has the world of boxing at his feet. He is the heir apparent to Indonesia's boxing king Chris John, and has a very long and successful boxing career ahead of him. He is known as "The Stone" because of his hard attacking style, yet can box beautifully when he chooses to do so.

Lorenzo Villanueva

The undefeated Filipino, known as "Thunderbolt", has a ferocious punch and has knocked out all but one of his opponents. He has been a well-kept secret but there can be no more hiding as he fights for the first time outside the Philippines in his first World Title fight.

Muhammad Nor Rizan

Known as "The Scorpion", Nor Rizan certainly is dangerous. He has won five of his six bouts, four of them by knockout. He is a local, proudly living in Singapore and brings a huge following wherever he fights. A win here and Nor Rizan will be fighting for a title on the next show in Singapore.

Wang Xin Hua

The 26 year old from Harbin, China has had an up and down career so far. His three defeats have been against vastly more experienced foes and yet he has handled himself well against those guys. This is a much better match up for him and Hua plans on fighting to the best of his ability and coming out a winner.

Kengo Nagashima

Nagashima embodies the fighting Japanese warrior. He has a never-say-die style and brings all action to every one of his fights. The 25 year old Tokyo resident plans on returning to Japan as a victor.

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Yao Yi Ma

The 27 year old university graduate, born in Taiwan and now living in Sydney, Australia made boxing his profession. With 10 wins out of 11 fights and a World ranking not far away, Ma plans on being the first Taiwanese-born World Champion. He regularly spars with World Champions Anthony Mundine and Daniel Geale and firmly believes he will one day defend a World Title in front of his Taiwanese fans.

Yodpichai Sithsaithong

Fighting out of the same gym as Singdeth, Yodpichai is also a very experienced boxer and kickboxer. These guys learn to fight as part of their schooling and, therefore, have been doing it their whole lives. Yodpichai lives at the gym, works at the gym and trains at the gym.

Rex Tso

The only registered professional boxer fighting out of Hong Kong, Tso carries the entire region's hopes in the world of professional boxing. He has not let anyone down yet with an undefeated record of five wins from five bouts and he plans on continuing that in Singapore. Small in stature, the young Tso looks to impress in this tough bout.

Yang Xin Xin

The 19 year old former amateur star from Kunming, China has bounced back from his surprise defeat in Australia and is looking to make his mark in Singapore. Big things were expected from him following his decision to turn professional early and he knows that this is the opportunity he has been hoping for.

Singdeth Sithsaithong

The experienced Muay Thai kick boxer brings a world of hurt to his opponents when he steps between the ropes and this will be no exception. Sithsaithong, 26 years old, has travelled all over the world with his kickboxing and boxing and believes that his experience and fierce attacking style will be the difference and earn him the victory.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

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For Images

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