NCBA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

News, people, and what's next in college boxing



November 2026

Welcome to the NCBA's first quarterly newsletter!

Welcome to the first edition of the NCBA Quarterly Newsletter, featuring updates from the Board of Directors, highlights of clubs and athletes moving the sport forward, and what's ahead for the NCBA.

From the NCBA

A look at the latest news, board work, and moments worth celebrating.

NCBA News

Each region hosted an event on November 6. Congratulations to UConn, the US Naval Academy, and the US Military Academy for hosting great shows for Veterans day!

Board Update

We are still in discussions with USA Boxing around rule modifications, including weight classes. We will update the Board of Governors as soon as we can.

Around the NCBA

2027 Regionals have all been scheduled for March 11–13, 2027. We are still finalizing the location for 2027 Nationals.

BoxRank

The NCBA has partnered with BoxRank, a company from New Zealand, to build the first ever platform for all NCBA clubs, athletes and events to streamline the entire event management and matchmaking process. In **BoxRank**, coaches can manage their rosters, athletes can access their profiles and match history, event organizers can collect rosters and make matches, and everyone can see bout sheets and results for all NCBA events. All events should be administered through BoxRank with results uploaded in real time. **BoxRank records will be used as our single source of truth for regional seeding.** If bouts are not properly recorded, athlete seeding for regionals will be impacted. All coaches and athletes should have received an email from BoxRank to login and create your profile. If you have not yet created your profile or need the email resent, please reach out. The BoxRank team is eager to collaborate with the NCBA. Please send any questions or feedback their way!

Club Spotlight

Featured Club

University of Southern California (USC)

Location

Los Angeles, California



After the pandemic brought operations to a halt, the Trojan Boxing Club (TBC) was revived ahead of the 2022–2023 academic year under Head Coach Omar López, who is faculty and an administrator at USC. The club started with a competition team of eight members, all new to boxing, and has since grown to nearly 200 general members at its peak, a 40-person competition team, and 12 volunteer coaches. Many of those coaches are former Trojan boxers who have returned to give back and help develop the next generation. Drawing on his background in social work, Omar has helped build a program that emphasizes personal growth and mentorship

alongside success in the ring. TBC now has five developmental levels, giving students a path to progress from their first day in the club to collegiate competition and eventually coaching.

The club's growth has also translated into success in the ring, with USC developing six NCBA All-Americans and two NCBA National Champions since its revival. Last season, Omar was recognized by the NCBA as Coach of the Year. TBC's impact goes beyond the ring. The club hosted Iliad in LA on-campus, an intercollegiate boxing event that awarded the first-ever WBC Collegiate Championship belt. The TBC also earned recognition from Los Angeles City Hall for its collaboration with Pico-Union Boxing Club and WBC Cares to support the higher education pipeline while addressing mental health and overall wellbeing. This includes the establishment of a graduate social work internship program with the TBC, hosting four MSW interns this year. Lastly, the TBC has kicked off "Scholar-Boxer", a documentary portrait series following TBC students as they navigate personal adversity across academic and athletic worlds.

This November 14, the club will continue building those connections with Rivals in the Ring, a USC vs. UCLA matchup in Los Angeles. Whether through former athletes returning as coaches or partnerships with the local community, TBC is building a program that gives students opportunities to grow, develop as boxers, and give back.

Athlete Spotlight

Meet one athlete whose work, progress, and perspective reflect the energy of college boxing.

Athlete

Ayahna Gonzales

School

Sacramento State





Ayahna Gonzales has always been an athlete. Boxing just gave her a new way to channel that competitive drive. Ayahna's athletic background started long before boxing. After a major injury led her to transition from gymnastics to tennis, boxing entered the picture as cross-training with her dad. What started as a weekly workout quickly turned into something more. She began falling in love with the sport and decided to pursue it when she arrived at Sacramento State.

In just a few seasons, Ayahna has made her mark on collegiate boxing, both through her performances in the ring and her contributions to the Sacramento State program. As the reigning national champion in the women's 139-pound weight class, she's helped put her team on the map while continuing to grow as an athlete. This season, she's focused on balancing the demands of her junior year and her goal of attending medical school. Finding time for training alongside academics isn't always easy, but she's learned to prioritize what matters and bring that same focus into the ring.

Outside of competition, Ayahna is also making an impact through CombatU's community outreach programs. Sacramento State boxers volunteer with youth classes and after-school programs, working with students from elementary through high school. For Ayahna, one of the most rewarding parts of being a boxer is having younger athletes look up to her. She hopes to show them that boxing can open doors to opportunities they may not have otherwise considered, both inside and outside of the sport.

In Their Words

Ayahna's dad and coach, Brandon, is looking forward to seeing how she approaches the season:

"Last year, Ayahna entered the season as a contender and finished as a national champion. This year, I'm most excited to see how she prepares mentally, embraces the pressure of being the one to beat, and continues to grow as a champion."

What's Next

Mark your calendar and stay connected with the NCBA community.

Date	What's Happening	Details
11/01/2026	2027 club registration opens: **all clubs must renew by January 1**, there is no longer a grace period	Register early for a 10% discount!
11/14/2026	Rivals in the Ring	UCLA vs. USC in Los Angeles!
11/14/2026	Lock Haven Fall Brawl	Hosted by Lock Haven!
11/20/2026	Causeway Boxing Classic	Hosted by Sacramento State!
11/23/2026	Arthur Mercante NCBA Invitational at the New York Athletic Club	Our annual show at the NYAC – we are so excited to see you all there!

Reminders

- Our 3 year partnership with AthleteCast to stream shows has kicked off! Learn more here and reach out to Eric Buller (eric.buller@ncbaboxing.org) with any questions.
- If you have any leads on donations or funding for the NCBA please reach out to a member of the BOD or Eric Buller.

National Collegiate Boxing Association

Find our full 2026–2027 schedule at ncbaboxing.org! Follow us on instagram @nationalcollegiateboxing.

Have news or a club/athlete spotlight for a future issue? Share it with us here.