



# Newsletter

No. 20  
November 22, 2011

Web: [www.worldboxingfederation.net](http://www.worldboxingfederation.net)

## RECENT RESULTS

**Zita Zatyko W 10 Diana Kiss**  
Womens World Supermiddleweight Title  
November 12, 2011 in Szekszard, Hungary

**Francois Botha KO 12 Michael Grant**  
World Heavyweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Ali Funeka W 12 Zolani Marali**  
World Lightwelterweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Malcolm Klassen W 12 Daniel Lomeli**  
World Superfeatherweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Lubabalo Msuthu W 12 Dennis Tubieron**  
World Bantamweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Ilunga Makabu TKO 11 Pedro Otas**  
World Cruiserweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Mthobisi Buthelezi TKO 7 Gerry Nekhubvi**  
All-Africa Welterweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa

**Hizni Altunkaya W 12 Daniel Knieps**  
Interim World Cruiserweight Title  
November 19, 2011 in Neuwied, Germany

## UPCOMING TITLE BOUTS:

**Loic Foure vs Stefan Worth**  
International Welterweight Title  
November 26, 2011 in St. Maur, France

**Aleksy Kuziemski vs Doudou Ngumbu**  
World Lighthweight Title  
November 26, 2011 in Bialystok, Poland

**Amir Mansour vs Epifanio Mendoza**  
Intercontinental Heavyweight Title  
Dec. 2, 2011 in Dover, Delaware, USA

**Paul Delgado vs Ruben Galvan**  
North America Welterweight Title  
Dec. 2, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA

**Tyrese Hendrix vs Chris Gray**  
North America Lightweight Title  
Dec. 2, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA

**Yvan Mendy vs Tarik Madni**  
Intercontinental Lightwelterweight Title  
December 16, 2011 in Thourotte, France

**Karama Nyilawila vs Cagri Ermis**  
World Middleweight Title  
Jan. 2012 in Hamburg, Germany

**Sebastien Madani vs Saul Roman**  
World Superwelterweight Title  
March 9, 2012 in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

## REPORTS

### **GRANT, KLASSEN, FUNEKA, MAKABU NEW WBF WORLD CHAMPIONS**

It was a night with something for every taste, as Showpony Promotions staged the biggest event in WBF history, and one of the biggest shows in South Africa in recent years, on Saturday November 19 at the Monte Casino in Johannesburg, South Africa.

No less than six World Boxing Federation (WBF) championships were on the line, and nearly 3000 spectators were treated to all kinds of drama.

### **Grant comes from behind to kayo Botha**



Big American Michael Grant was trailing on the scorecards and on his way to a sure decision loss when he amazingly found a way out with a huge right hand in the twelfth and final round to knock out local legend Francois Botha for the vacant World Boxing Federation World Heavyweight title.

It was difficult to separate the two during the first six rounds, but Botha looked stronger down the stretch and won most rounds in the second half of the bout. "The White Buffalo" had a big round eleven, and staggered Grant several times, but the experienced Atlanta-native made it to the bell by wisely holding and mauling. At this point it looked as if, while on his way to victory, Botha was starting to tire.

In the final stanza Botha proved his own worst enemy, as he decided to trade punches with the much heavier hitting Grant, perhaps looking to put an exclamation point on his performance. Throughout the fight Grant had not found much success with his right hand, but he certainly found it when he needed it the most.



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With less than thirty seconds remaining, Grant landed a huge overhand right to the jaw that sent an onrushing Botha crashing. Referee Ingo Barrabas counted Botha out at 2:23 of the round, and everything was turned upside-down.

Grant, now 48-4 (36), proved that a big puncher such as he is never more than one good shot away from victory, while Botha, 48-6-3 (29), learned the hard way, if he didn't already know, that it's never over before it's over!

At the time of the stoppage Botha was ahead by scores of 106-103 (Desmond Bloyd), 107-102 (Glenn Feldman) and 108-101 (Aubrey Erasmus).

## Klassen wins third world title

Former two-time IBF champion Malcolm Klassen won his third world title, the WBF Super Featherweight crown, with a clear unanimous decision over Mexico's Daniel Lomeli. Klassen showed his class and kept Lomeli away at all times on his way to a victory that was never in real danger.

With superior speed, footwork, reflexes and variety of punches, Klassen boxed his way to a 118-110 (Glenn Feldman), 117-111 (Aubrey Erasmus), and 115-113 (Desmond Bloyd) victory.

Klassen is now 25-5-2 (15), Lomeli drops to 21-3 (11).

## Funeka eaks by Marali

In a clash of fellow South Africans it was a case of third-time-lucky for Ali Funeka, who captured the vacant WBF World Light Welterweight title against Zolani Marali. Funeka, twice a narrow loser in IBF world title fights, was awarded a split decision that many felt should have gone the other way.

Marali was clearly the busier fighter, and appeared to be landing more than his opponent. In round six he was deducted a point for holding, but evened that out by scoring a knockdown in round eleven. However, after twelve rounds of boxing the victory went to Funeka by scores of 116-112 (Lulama Mtya) and 115-111 (Simphiwo Mbini) against 115-112 (Aubrey Erasmus) for Marali.

The new WBF World Champion improved his record to 31-3-3 (25), and the unfortunate loser fell to 21-5 (13).

## Msuthu an unpopular winner against Tubieron

WBF World Bantamweight Champion Lubabalo Msuthu was not greeted with cheers when announced a split decision winner over fellow southpaw Dennis Tubieron from the Philippines.

The classy visitor seemed sharper and busier from start to finish, but in the end Msuthu's work had caught the eyes of the judges, enabling him to make his first defense of his

title a successful one and to improve his professional ledger to 13-2-1 (10).

Tubieron lost for the first time and is now 12-1-1 (4).

## Makabu stops Otas, wins world cruiserweight title

South Africa-based Congolese Ilunga Makabu thoroughly dominated Brazilian import Pedro Otas, putting on what was perhaps the best effort of his career to lift the vacant WBF World Cruiserweight title.

Makabu boxed beautifully and at times toyed with his South American foe, and it quickly looked as if it would only be a matter of time before the beating would end with a knockout. Otas never the less stayed in there, despite not offering much in return, until the referee waved it over at 2:54 of round eleven.

At the time of the stoppage Makabu had won every minute of every round, and now boasts a 10-1 (10) record in the professional ranks. Otas, who won the Brazilian national title in 2008, dropped to 23-2 (19).

## Fight of the night, Buthelezi new All-African Champ

In another All-South African match-up, Mthobisi Buthelezi took home the vacant WBF All-African Welterweight strap in the best fight of the evening.

Buthelezi stopped Gerald Nekhubvi in the seventh of a scheduled ten-rounder that saw action all the way between two hungry and determined fighters.

The end came at 2:49 of the seventh, Buthelezi improving to 11-1 (7). Nekhubvi, who captured the WBO Africa title last year, is now 5-1-1 (1).

## ZZ TOPS TO WIN WBF CROWN





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Zita Zatyko, 14-0-1 (10), is the new World Boxing Federation (WBF) Women's World Super Middleweight Champion after a close and competitive fight for the vacant crown against compatriot and great local rival Diana Kiss on Saturday November 12 in Szekszard, Hungary.

On a big show promoted by Profibox Promotion at the City Sportshall, Zatyko got the edge by scores of 96-94 twice, and 97-93. This was their fourth encounter, and while Zatyko is now up 3-0-1 against Kiss, all were even and entertaining bouts.

This time Kiss, now 7-5-1 (6), got off to a good start, and won the first round by being busier, as Zatyko seemed to be seizing up her opponent.

The second round was more of the same, before Zatyko started to get into her rhythm in round three and slowly began to take over by using her longer reach.

At the halfway point, Zatyko was ahead by one point on all three judges' cards, and in many of the remaining rounds it would remain hard to separate the two. Kiss was able to keep the fight close at all times by being smoother than former Kickboxer Zatyko, but in the end the unanimous decision was right on the money.

After winning her first world championship Zatyko issued a challenge to WBF Women's Heavyweight World Champion, and fellow unbeaten, Natascha Ragosina, 22-0 (13), from Russia, proclaiming her willingness to fight Ragosina anywhere, any time and at whatever weight from Super Middle to Heavyweight.

A Ragosina vs. Zatyko clash would truly be a female super-fight, and these two are probably the only real remaining threats to each other in Europe at the moment.

## HIZNI THE WARRIOR ARRIVES

On a night that was overshadowed by the giant WBF show in South Africa, undefeated German-Turk Hizni Altunkaya almost silently arrived on the world stage by capturing the interim version of the WBF world cruiserweight title via a clear, unanimous decision over German-Italian Daniel Knieps in Neuwied, Germany on Saturday (Nov. 19).



Both fighters went into their first scheduled 12-rounder with unblemished records: Altunkaya was 18-0 (11) while the 22-year-old Knieps arrived with a perfect 29-0 (14) log. In the end, the sheer physical force of the 23-year old hometown favourite was too much for the lighter Knieps (who was born as Salvatore Aiello) to handle. He never made things easy for Hizni, but over the distance one could see why Knieps spend most of his career at lighthweight. After a clean fight which rendered

Luxembourg referee Tonio Tiberi almost redundant, 'The Warrior' Altunkaya was relieved and said: "It was hard, and I felt up until the end that I had to do more. I was afraid it was close." It wasn't. Both Arnold Golger (Germany) and Dominique Schmit (Luxembourg) had it 119:109 while Jean Marcel Nartz (Germany) was more generous to Knieps with his 117:111 score.

The show was promoted by Hizni's brother, and former pro himself, Turhan Altunkaya's outfit Punch Up Boxing, who also handle WBF Intercontinental cruiserweight champion Ben Nsafoah. Earlier in the evening, Ilunga Makabu had captured the full version of the WBF world title on the other side of the globe in South Africa and the World Boxing Federation has now ordered Makabu to meet Altunkaya within the next nine months to determine the sole cruiserweight ruler.

## INSIDE

### WALSHE & THOMAS TEAM UP FOR IRELAND



David Walshe, founder of Ireland's most popular boxing website [www.irishboxers.ie](http://www.irishboxers.ie), is the latest to join the credible roster that is the staff of the World Boxing Federation (WBF), with the goal of helping further develop the sport in the Republic of Ireland.

Walshe, from Portlaw in the south of the Irish Republic, is involved in boxing in his homecountry in a number of different areas for over 30 years. He still advises a number of professional fighters and matchmakers, which is part of what he calls "a combined service including the running and development of the website, dedicated to Irish boxers based worldwide". Without exaggeration, this site is fast becoming a bible for Irish boxers all over the globe.

Walshe will work alongside Paul Thomas, the highly respected WBF Regional Representative for Great Britain and Ireland, who is also a member of the WBF Executive Committee.



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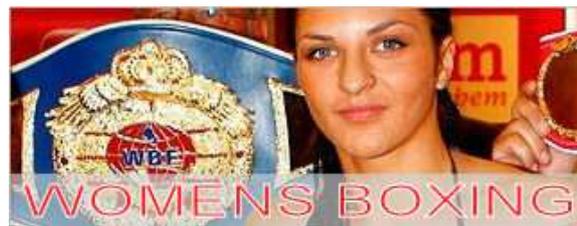
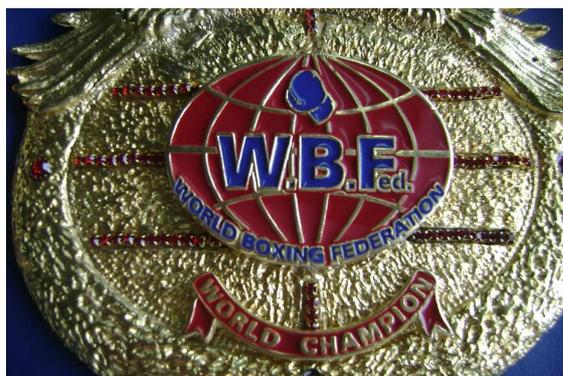
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"Boxing is my life and I am always looking at ways to help and develop the sport," Walshe said, "I can assure you that I will work in the World Boxing Federation's best interest, treat boxers, officials and promoters with the utmost respect and do all in my power to bring the best possible results to the WBF."

Superflyweight World Champion	<b>vacant</b>
Flyweight World Champion	<b>vacant</b>
Lightflyweight World Champion	<b>Felipe Salguero (Mexico)</b>
Strawweight World Champion	<b>vacant</b>

## CHAMPIONS:



Heavyweight World Champion International	<b>Michael Grant (USA)</b> <b>Raphael Zumbano (Brazil)</b>
Cruiserweight World Champion Interim World Champion Intercontinental	<b>Ilunga Makabu (Congo)</b> <b>Hizni Altunkaya (Turkey)</b> <b>Ben Nsafoah (Ghana)</b>
Lighthweight World Champion Intercontinental International	<b>vacant</b> <b>Nadjib Mohammedi (France)</b> <b>Denis Simcic (Slovenia)</b>
Supermiddleweight World Champion	<b>vacant</b>
Middleweight World Champion Intercontinental International	<b>Karama Nyilawila (Tanzania)</b> <b>Anthony Fitzgerald (Ireland)</b> <b>Denis Saioni (France)</b>
Superwelterweight World Champion Intercontinental	<b>vacant</b> <b>Sebastien Madani (France)</b>
Welterweight World Champion All Africa	<b>vacant</b> <b>Mthobisi Buthelezi (South Africa)</b>
Lightwelterweight World Champion Intercontinental International	<b>Ali Funeka (South Africa)</b> <b>Yvan Mendy (France)</b> <b>Miguel Gonzalez (USA)</b>
Lightweight World Champion Intercontinental International	<b>vacant</b> <b>Guillaume Salingue (France)</b> <b>Hedi Slimani (Tunisia)</b>
Superfeatherweight World Champion	<b>Malcolm Klassen (South Africa)</b>
Featherweight World Champion All Africa	<b>Patrick Hyland (Ireland)</b> <b>Matima Molefe (South Africa)</b>
Superbantamweight World Champion	<b>vacant</b>
Bantamweight World Champion International	<b>Lubabalo Msuthu (South Africa)</b> <b>Hassan Azaouagh (France)</b>

Heavyweight	<b>Natascha Ragosina (Russia)</b>
Supermiddleweight	<b>Zita Zatyko (Hungary)</b>
Middleweight	<b>Christina Hammer (Germany)</b>
Welterweight	<b>Ann Sophie Mathis (France)</b>
Lightwelterweight	<b>Myriam Lamare (France)</b>
Superfeatherweight	<b>Ramona Kuehne (Germany)</b>
Featherweight	<b>Oksana Vasilieva (Russia)</b>
Superbantamweight	<b>Unathi Myekeni (South Africa)</b>
Bantamweight	<b>Renata Szebeledi (Hungary)</b>
Superflyweight	<b>Nadya Hokmi (France)</b>
Flyweight	<b>Irma Sanchez (Mexico)</b>
Lightflyweight	<b>Ju Hee Kim (South Korea)</b>
(all other divisions vacant)	

## LINKS & CONTACTS

WBF Website  
<http://www.worldboxingfederation.net/index.htm>

WBF on Facebook  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/World-Boxing-Federation-WBF/192952187410647>

WBF on Twitter  
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WBF Merchandise  
<http://www.worldboxingfederation.net/wbfmerchandise.htm>

Dan's Corner – WBF Exclusive!  
<http://www.worldboxingfederation.net/articles/dans-corner5.htm>