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PRESS RELEASE: Boxing Ontario to Host 2022 Provincial Team Selection Competition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | February 1, 2022 | TORONTO, ON – Boxing Ontario looks forward to welcoming athletes from across the province on February 5-6, 2022 to compete for selection to the Ontario Provincial Team.

The event, in alliance with Boxing Ontario's KO COVID Task Force, will include two sessions of bouts featuring some of the top talent in the province and will be <u>live-streamed to fans</u> via the Millions.co platform. The purpose of Provincial Team Selections is to advance Ontario boxers to the 2022 National Team Selections (date TBA).

Despite gyms and the sport of boxing being faced with targeted restrictions, Boxing Ontario's board, staff, and the KO COVID and High-Performance Committees were committed to ensuring a safe and equitable opportunity for athletes to qualify for the Ontario Provincial Team and to ultimately represent Canada. All parties worked diligently behind the scenes to find a solution to keep boxing moving forward in Ontario and prevail through one of the highest peaks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Boxing Ontario is committed to running a safe and successful Provincial Team Selection Competition. The organization developed a multi-scenario <u>qualification plan</u> to select a Provincial Team in the case of changing public health measures leading up to the event. For any and all scenario(s) realized, Boxing Ontario was prepared to ensure adherence to the provincial COVID-19 public health measures at that time.

Due to the high rates of COVID-19 and community spread, the strictest measures of Infection Prevention and Control Protocols will be adhered to. In addition to Antigen testing of all athletes, coaches, and officials, this event will not be open to the public, and PPE must be worn by everyone with the exception of athletes while competing.

The original plan of holding the Provincial Championships in January was postponed due to COVID and the threat of the highly contagious Omicron variant. The upcoming Provincial Selection Competition comes as welcome news for Ontario athletes, coaches, and gyms after years of intermittent closures and provincial health regulations that resulted in the delay of competitions provincially, nationally, and internationally.

Further information:

- Provincial Team Selection Competition event page
- Millions.co live-stream information and booking

About Boxing Ontario:

Boxing Ontario is the only governing body for Olympic-Style Boxing in Ontario. As such, it is affiliated with Boxing Canada (CABA), the International Boxing Association (AIBA) and the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, & Sport. Founded in 1972, Boxing Ontario encompasses over 100 clubs, 2,500 competitors, and more than 12,000 recreational members.

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Interview Opportunities:

Please contact pr@boxingontario.com | +1 (416) 426-7250

Interview Opportunities available virtually, via phone or email with:

- Jennifer Huggins (President)
- Erik Espinola (Executive Director)
- Board Members (contacts available upon request)