

ARTHUR ABRAHAM vs. CARL FROCH

SET FOR OCT. 2 IN MONACO

Pivotal Group Stage 3 Bout Lands On Neutral Ground

In Coastal Principality Boarding France

NEW YORK (July 15, 2010)—Following weeks of intense negotiations, **SHOWTIME Sports®** is proud to announce that

Hennessy Sports and Sauerland Event

—the promotional outlets for world-class super middleweight boxers

Carl Froch

and

Arthur Abraham

—have agreed to a location for their fighters' crucial

Super Six World Boxing Classic

bout.

On **Saturday, Oct. 2**, in the capital city/state of **Monaco**, Abraham and Froch will meet at the **Capiteau de l'Espace Fontvieille**

for their pivotal Group Stage 3 match up in the boxing tournament that has ignited the industry.

The bout will be televised on SHOWTIME® at 9 p.m. ET/PT (same day delay).

Hennessy Sports and Sauerland Event are currently working with Principality officials in Monaco to finalize all the necessary authorizations for this event as they expect it to be one of the biggest fights in the history of the region. The Principality of Monaco is situated on the Mediterranean Sea in the south west area of Europe, some 1,400 km from Abraham's home in Berlin and over 1,000 km from Froch's native Nottingham, England.

"The intensity of the selection process for this venue speaks to the enormity of the moment created by the Super Six World Boxing Classic, said **Ken Hershman**, Executive Vice President and General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports. "All the fighters in the tournament have set out to prove that they are the world's best at 168-pounds by fighting their peers—the most dangerous men in the division—fight after fight. Any perceived advantage or disadvantage has been calculated.

"To the credit of all involved, each hurdle has been cleared and the Super Six World Boxing Classic now marches on toward a thrilling conclusion.

This bout is the last of the Super Six Group Stage matches. Following Abraham vs. Froch, the four fighters with the highest point totals on the Super Six scoreboard will advance to the

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semi-finals, tentatively slated for the first quarter 2011.

Froch (26-1, 20 KOs) is coming off a hard-fought unanimous decision loss, the first of his career, to **Mikkel Kessler** on April 24. That night, during the post-fight press conference, **Wilfried**

and his son

Kalle Sauerland

and

Mick Hennessy

began publicly disputing the venue selection for the Abraham vs. Froch contest. At the time, Abraham (31-1, 25 KOs) held the tournament lead with three points by virtue of his KO win over

Jermain Taylor

in Group Stage 1, but was out boxed and ultimately disqualified in his Group Stage 2 bout versus

Andre Dirrell

for the first loss of his career. Froch remains tied at the moment with Kessler and Dirrell at two points.

“I cannot wait to get back in the ring, said Abraham. “I am thrilled that the date and the venue have been set. I must admit that the disqualification against Dirrell still haunts me. Only a victory over Froch can put my mind at rest. I was ringside when he fought against Kessler and I must say I was impressed with both men. They really fought their hearts out. Froch is a hell of a fighter, but so am I. This will be the biggest, the most important fight of my career, and I will put on a special performance to please the boxing fans in Monaco, France, Germany, England, America and all over the world.

Im training hard already for King Arthur, said Froch from his training center in Sheffield. “I respect what the man brings to the table, but Im going out there to knock Abrahams crown right into Kalles lap, he added in response to Sauerland’s bold predictions on the outcome of this fight.

Make no mistake about it, I fully appreciate the threat that Abraham presents to me in this fight. Whenever two warriors go into battle there will be bloodshed. But there will be only one victor in Monaco and that will be The Cobra, Froch concluded.

The Sauerlands are filled with anticipation. “The Super Six tournament has been outstanding thus far, said Kalle. “We’ve had so much drama and so many high-class fights. Kessler versus Froch was as good as it gets but believe me, Abraham-Froch will be even better. It’s win or go home! I honestly can’t see this going the distance. I have a lot of respect for Froch as a fighter but I think that his style is tailor-made for Abraham. The King will knock The Cobra out – no doubt about that. The only question is in which round.

Hennessy also expects a toe-to-toe war and believes the Englishman will come out victorious inside the distance “This is a mouth-watering match up against two of the best and toughest fighters in the game, Hennessy said. “If you thought Carl’s last fight against Kessler was epic

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just wait for Froch vs. Abraham. This has all of the ingredients to be the fight of the decade.

“I have a lot of respect for Arthur in and outside of the ring, but unfortunately on the 2nd October he will come up against a highly driven and fully motivated Carl Froch. When Carl’s is in that sort of mode he will prove he is the best of the best and will secure three points for a knockout win, showing the world once again that he is a very special fighter.

The Super Six World Boxing Classic continues on Saturday, Sept. 25, when SHOWTIME will present a world championship doubleheader to kick off Group Stage 3—the final Group Stage of the round-robin portion of the tournament. First, Kessler will look to lock up a semi-final berth with a win over **Allan Green**. Kessler is making the first defense of his second world title, the WBC 168-pound strap he wrested from **Carl Froch**. Green is desperate for a win to have a shot at the semi finals. He may need a knockout and/or help from his fellow competitors to earn one of the four spots.

Immediately following, live on SHOWTIME, **Andre Ward** will face 2004 U.S. Olympic teammate and friend **Andre Dirrell** in what promises to be a dramatic affair. Ward has already locked up his semi-final berth as the only contestant to win both of his initial Group Stage matches. But, make no mistake, Ward promises a fierce defense of his WBA world championship belt and undefeated professional record. Dirrell, on the other hand, needs a win to guarantee his place in the semis. Conceivably, Dirrell could get in with two points but he would need help from Green and/or Abraham.

SUPER SIX WORLD BOXING CLASSIC SCOREBOARD (Through Group Stage 2)

Record Fighter Points

2-0 Andre Ward 4

1-1 Arthur Abraham 3

1-1 Mikkel Kessler 2

1-1 Carl Froch 2

1-1 Andre Dirrell 2

0-1 Allan Green 0