

Todd Grisham To Host Friday Night Fights; FNF Starts Jan. 4

Written by The Sweet Science
Wednesday, 19 December 2012 18:43

ESPN's Friday Night Fights Returns January 4 with New Host Todd Grisham

Bernardo Osuna New On-Site, Bi-Lingual Reporter for ESPN2 and ESPN Deportes

ESPN's *Friday Night Fights* presented by [Corona Extra](#) will return January 4 at 10 p.m. ET on ESPN2 HD and ESPN Deportes with a new studio host and on-site reporter.

Todd Grisham, an anchor for ESPNEWS' *Highlight Express*, *MMA Live* and *SportsCenter*, has been named *Friday Night Fight's* studio host.

Bernardo Osuna

, who served in that role in 2012, will become the series' first-ever on-site reporter, contributing to

ESPN's Friday Night Fights

in English, and

ESPN Deportes' Viernes De Combates

in Spanish.

Blow-by-blow commentator [Joe Tessitore](#) and ringside analyst [Teddy Atlas will](#) return to describe the action. Both are recipients of the prestigious Sam Taub Award for Excellence in Broadcast Journalism presented by the Boxing Writers Association of America (BWAA): Atlas (2001), Tessitore (2010).

Prior to joining ESPN, Grisham served as a WWE backstage interviewer, play-by-play commentator and ring announcer.

The season premiere will match undefeated Junior Featherweights Rances Barthelemy (17-0, 11 KOs) and Arash Usmanee (20-0, 10 KOs) in the 12-round main event. The card, from the Magic City Casino in Miami, is promoted by Warriors Boxing.

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ESPN Deportes

ESPN Deportes' boxing news and analysis show *A Los Golpes* (7:30 p.m. Mondays), which debuted in October, continues with guest analyst

Julio César Chávez Sr.

and co-hosts

Osuna

and

David Faitelson

. The

Viernes De Combates ("Friday Night Fights"

in Spanish) telecast team includes 2011 BWAA "Fight of the Year" boxer

Delvin Rodriguez

and

Alex Pombo

ringside with

Leopoldo Gonzalez

and

Pablo Viruega

in the studio. Friday's 30-minute news and analysis show

Golpe a Golpe

will be co-hosted by World Champion

Juan Manuel Marquez

and

Jorge Eduardo Sanchez

.

More Fights

Friday Night Fights, which typically has included a televised main event and co-feature, will now add a third fight in most 2013 shows.

Ultra-Mo

Every *Friday Night Fights* telecast will implement an *ultra slo*-mo camera, providing some of the most dramatic and amazing replays of a fight's biggest punches.

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WatchESPN and ESPN3

Every *Friday Night Fights* card will be available on [WatchESPN](#), ESPN's online destination that delivers live access to ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN3 and ESPN Buzzer Beater/Goal Line on computers, smartphones and tablets. Replays of *Friday Night Fights* cards will be available on ESPN3, ESPN's multiscreen network accessible online at WatchESPN.com, on smartphones and tablets via the WatchESPN app and through ESPN on Xbox LIVE to Gold members.

Social Media

ESPN's *Friday Night Fights* social media presence in 2013 will continue with the "Live *Friday Night Fights*

Facebook Voting App," an application on the

[ESPN FNF Facebook](#)

page that allows viewers to score the fight round-by-round.

Osuna

(

[@osunaespn](#)

) and

Nigel Collins

(

[@ESPNNFN](#)

), ESPN boxing analyst/former Editor-in-Chief of *The Ring*

magazine, will live tweet during every show.

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