



Monte Carlo (3/28/13) - Gennady Golovkin is in peak physical condition ahead of the seventh defense of his WBA and IBO middleweight titles in Monte Carlo on Saturday. The unbeaten Kazakhstani yesterday went through his paces during a public 45-minute workout at the suitably grand Monte Carlo Casino.

Golovkin: "I'm Ready To Go"

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 28 March 2013 11:16

With his shirt off, he looked lean and ripped as he worked the pads with top trainer Abel Sanchez.

"I'm ready to go," said Golovkin. "I had an eight-week camp and all has gone according to plan."

He defends against Nobuhiro Ishida, a fighter he isn't underestimating.

"We're expecting a hard fight," said manager Tom Loeffler. "Ishida is tall and has some power, but Gennady is in tremendous shape."

Earlier, Ishida worked out and looked sharp and relaxed ahead of the biggest fight of his career.

All the fighters, bar Jean Marc Monroe, who arrives today, put on public workouts against the dramatic backdrop of the famous casino. Unbeaten Edwin Rodriguez got a first hand look at Ezequiel Maderna, who he fights in the first round of the Million Dollar Super Four event. Big around the shoulders, the Argentine is a largely unknown quantity, but Rodriguez isn't taking him lightly given his impressive amateur career.

"We've come off probably the best fight camp ever," said trainer Ronnie Shields. "I couldn't have asked for more and we're planning to put on a show come Saturday night."

There is a buzz around Zsolt Erdei's participation, not least because he hasn't fought in two years and no-one has a real idea of how he'll shape against determined Russian Denis Grachev.

"He has a lot riding on this," said Golden Gloves promoter Rodney Berman. "He's a massive hero in his native Hungary, with many of his fans expected ringside. He'll be fighting for them as much as himself."

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Sergey Rabchenko also looks in tip-top condition ahead of his European junior-middleweight title fight against Adriano Nicchi of Italy. Training camps in France and the UK have prepared him well and he says he is looking to make a statement against Nicchi.

"I'm number two in the WBC. A title fight could be around the corner, so no slip-ups from me," he said confidently.

Meanwhile, cruiserweight Junior Makabu charmed the crowd as he addressed them in his native French. Little-known beyond Africa, he intends making a few waves against local hero Monroe.

The weigh-in takes place 6 pm local time on Friday.

The event in Monaco is headlined by red-hot WBA middleweight champion Gennady "GGG" Golovkin (25-0, 22KO's) defending his title against former world champion Nobuhiro Ishida (24-8-2, 9KO's). The opening round of the Super 4 tournament matches Edwin Rodriguez (22-0, 15KO's) against Argentinean Olympian Ezequiel Osvaldo Maderna (19-0, 13KO's) and former two-division world champion Zsolt Erdei (33-0, 18KO's) squaring off against Denis Grachev (12-1-1, 8KO's). The card will be distributed in the United States and Canada on PPV by Integrated Sports Media for live viewing at 3:00 p.m. ET/12:00 p.m. PT on both cable and satellite Pay-Per-View.

The "Monte-Carlo Million Dollar Super 4" and Golovkin's middleweight title defense will be distributed in the United States and Canada by Integrated Sports Media for live viewing at 3:00 p.m. ET/12:00 p.m. PT on both cable and satellite Pay-Per-View via iN Demand, DIRECTV, DISH and Avail-TVN in the United States and in Canada via Bell TV, for a suggested retail price of only \$24.95. In addition, the event will be available via online Pay-Per-View at:

[http://www.gfl.tv/Events/](http://www.gfl.tv/Events/Fight/Boxing/Gennady_Golovkin_vs_Nobuhiro_Ishida/1896) Fight/Boxing/Gennady_Golovkin_vs_Nobuhiro_Ishida/1896

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The event is promoted by Rodney Berman's Golden Gloves. The Golovkin-Ishida bout is promoted in association with K2 Promotions, while the Rodriguez-Maderna and Erdei-Grachev bouts are promoted in association with DiBella Entertainment.

Tickets can be purchased by contacting the SBM Reservations Department by phone at: [+377 98 06 36 36](tel:+37798063636)
(10 am to 7 pm) or email:
ticketoffice@sbm.mc