

Give 'Em Five, Pacquiao-Marquez V Will Be Coming This Fall

Written by Frank Lotierzo
Monday, 19 May 2014 17:24



Willie Pep had Sandy Saddler (4 times), Sugar Ray Robinson had Jake LaMotta (6x's) and Muhammad Ali had Joe Frazier (3x's).

They are just three rivalries and six all-time great fighters whose names will be forever linked together in fistic history.

Today, we have Manny Pacquiao 56-5-2 (38) and Juan Manuel Marquez 56-7-1 (40) who have fought each other four times and had the eyes of the boxing world focused on them every time. Pacquiao and Marquez don't need anything to build up a fight between them. Four fights=four great fights. Each one had fireworks, each one was close, each was hard to predict. And there's no reason why the fifth wouldn't continue the tradition.

Of the four fights between them, the first three resulted in very close and controversial decisions. Their first fight was a draw and Pacquiao was the benefactor in the second and third meetings via a split decision in fight II and a majority decision in fight III. In their last meeting, the fourth between them, Marquez, who was trailing at the time, won the only non controversial bout between the duo when he knocked Pacquiao out with one punch with only seconds remaining in the sixth round.

And that brings us to why there will most likely be a fifth and final meeting between these two future hall of famers this coming November.

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For starters, there is nobody substantive left for them to fight with something significant to gain other than Floyd Mayweather. Marquez had his shot at Mayweather and was jobbed on the scales at the weigh in when Mayweather came in above the contract weight and had to cough up a lot of dead presidents. But Floyd didn't care and was happy to buy the advantage. In the ring that night it looked like a welterweight versus a lightweight and Marquez didn't compete. Although Marquez would probably like another shot at Mayweather, there's no way that happens because Floyd would have nothing to gain by fighting him again. Sure, the boxing world would love to see Mayweather and Pacquiao fight, and it will happen, but not this year, so forget about it for now. There's another formidable terror out there named Ruslan Provodnikov 23-2 (16), who is promoted by Bob Arum who would love to fight either Pacquiao or Marquez. However, he's too dangerous for both of them. His style, toughness and aggression would make it really tough for Marquez to overcome at age 40. Perhaps Pacquiao's unorthodox style and speed would lead Provodnikov into walking into a killer shot that he didn't see. But Ruslan's chin has shown to be upper-tier and very sturdy.

Provodnikov beat up and hurt Timothy Bradley much more than Marquez did when they fought and more than Pacquiao did in two fights against him. Forget either Manny or Juan going near Provodnikov. They have nothing to gain by fighting him and it could easily end badly for both. Something else to keep in mind is the names Pacquiao and Marquez matched together can't miss as a draw. Boxing fans know when they share a ring they'll see professional fighting exhibited at its highest level. The fight will have many ebbs and flows with the outcome being in question until the very end. And the stakes and bragging rights on the line in a fifth fight between them will be monumental. How can it not be? Marquez handed Pacquiao the most devastating and humiliating defeat of his career a year and a half ago. Manny was out, face down, on the canvas for over a minute. After the fight his wife pleaded with him to retire from boxing. Since the last Marquez fight, Pacquiao has fought twice. He won a lopsided decision over a limited tough guy in Brandon Rios and then out thought and out boxed Timothy Bradley in their rematch. But he didn't look spectacular in either bout and it's obvious to anyone who knows what they're watching that Manny doesn't carry the same punch he used to - nor is he the non-stop punching machine he was going back just three or four years ago. That said, there's no way in the world I could be convinced that Pacquiao doesn't want Marquez one more time.

He was beating Marquez up, leading in the bout and had his face a mess when he let his guard down for a second and got nailed and put to sleep by the best right hand Marquez ever landed. And if we know nothing else, it's that Manny has not suffered any residual effects from that knockout and certainly isn't glove shy as a result of it.

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As for Marquez, he's fought twice since beating Pacquiao. He lost a decision to Timothy Bradley in his next fight, but that was more of a style conundrum than it was Bradley being the better fighter. For the better part of 12 rounds Bradley used his better hand and foot speed to do just enough to win a couple more rounds than Marquez en-route to a split decision victory. And this past weekend Marquez won a lopsided unanimous decision over Mike Alvarado 34-3 (23), who was coming off a stoppage loss to Provodnikov in his last fight. After beating Alvarado, Marquez said he wants to be the first Mexican fighter in boxing history to win a world title in five different weight classes. Guess who holds the WBO welterweight title? Yep, Manny Pacquiao. What could be sweeter for Marquez than winning his fifth title and further enhancing his legacy at Pacquiao's expense?

Think about the drama/soap opera and back story attached to Pacquiao-Marquez V. Manny wants to avenge being knocked out by Marquez and Juan wants to make history and solidify himself historically as being Pacquiao's superior. If Pacquiao were to knockout or beat Marquez convincingly in their fifth meeting, most would look back at his knockout loss to him as being a fluke. That would give him a 3-1-1 advantage head to head and the debate as to who got the better of whom between them would be settled. On the other hand, if Marquez stopped Pacquiao again or beat him beyond question in a fifth meeting, the series would be 2-2-1. And most would say that Marquez deserved at least one of the two decisions he lost to Manny, and he scored the only clear cut wins between them - so Marquez would be thought of as the superior fighter between them, at least in a head to head comparison.

If Pacquiao and Marquez meet a fifth time they would both make a ton of money. One of them will enhance their legacy and the loser will not be shamed one bit by losing to the other. And even though Pacquiao is 35 and Marquez is 40, it's not an old-timers fight, it's a top of the contemporary era's best match-up even now.

After beating Alvarado this past weekend, Marquez was very coy when asked about fighting Pacquiao for a fifth time in his next fight. He wouldn't commit to anything but left the door open. He no doubt did that because he doesn't want to seem too anxious and wants to strengthen his financial interest if the fight comes to fruition. Marquez knows that Pacquiao wants a chance to make the boxing public forget about their last fight and just might be willing to make a few concessions in order to make the fight that he normally might not if that's what it takes to get him in the ring again. It was smart of Marquez to answer the question regarding Pacquiao the way he did for business reasons.

And it's smart for Pacquiao's trainer Freddie Roach to have [recently said to Michael Woods that he's considering letting Provodnikov fight Pacquiao](#)

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, giving Marquez a dose of his own medicine. Both Pacquiao and Marquez have nothing to gain fighting a dangerous guy like Provodnikov, who lost to Timothy Bradley, and they have everything to lose.

Rest assured, Marquez and Pacquiao know they'll be seeing each other again one more time later this year in China. And boxing fans can also rest assured that if nothing else big happens this year in professional boxing, at least they have Pacquiao-Marquez V to look forward to this coming fall.

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Radam G says:

I doubt that there will be a bout five. And Da Manny will not be fighting the Siberian Rocky.

The only way that it would be a fifth dance is that Marquez deep inside of Hulkquez agrees to fight in Macao or Singapore or Dubai or Russia. And since Marquez is full of that syet, Da Manny must give him a waiver for VADA and or WADA testing.

Victor Conte, the convicted peddler of roids and PEDs, is losing his natural d@mn mind on social media about Marquez being full of dat syet during the dance against "Mile High" Mike.

And the fallen Angel "Memo" Heredia is REALLY throwing it in ev'ybodee's and dey momma's faces that he is the greatest getaway peddler of dat syet for all times.

Dude is now proclaiming himself a "science guru" and "sports medicine scientist" and has started himself a website peddling "Dinamita Series supplements."

And don't forget that the fallen Angel has bragged that he knows at least 20 roids and PEDs that cannot be detected by USADA and Vegas. But he suspects that Doc Maggie Goodman, CEO of VADA, will detect all dat syet all day and night 24/7/365. And exposed his arse.

The theatre of the unexpected is getting stranger and stranger. Holla!

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Radam G says:

Wow! Sam Langford and Harry Wills have the most bouts between any two pros at 23, according to the bible of boxing. Holla!

dino da vinci says:

I'm Marquez, that series is done.

Skibbz says:

Please someone stop this fight from even being on the table of discussion. I will take a hiatus from the world of boxing if this fight comes to fruition.. NO THANKYOU!

thegreyman says:

I sure hope not... Talk about flogging a dead horse- Arum would be taking the pi\$\$ if he puts this on.

deepwater2 says:

Marquez will not take the fight. No way- No how. He has bragging rights for eternity and will not give that up for any amount of money. Marquez will get some juicy fights now that the cold war is coming to an end.

brownsugar says:

Is this fight really necessary?....at this rate they'll be staging their fights in the nursing homes, Old Man Marquez should just walk off into the sunset.

oubobcat says:

[QUOTE=brownsugar;53146]Is this fight really necessary?....at this rate they'll be staging their fights in the nursing homes, Old Man Marquez should just walk off into the sunset.[/QUOTE]

Its not necessary but what other opponents are out there for Pacquaio at the moment? Some would say Provodnikov (assuming he beats Algeiri) but I don't think that happens. Its high risk low reward for Pacquiao and Arum.

Marquez is option A, B and C at the moment for Pacquaio. Arum will do all he can to make that fight happen. In the end, money talks and I think Arum ultimately makes Marquez a financial offer he can't turn down.

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Agreed. You cant blame Marquez for taking the money. But even an boxing junkie like me knows where to draw the line.

Skibbz says:

Money comes and goes but the glory he has with that knock out will live on for many years even after his passing. To take the fight, no matter how many 0's are attached is a big risk. If he wins he will have improved his position considerably. If he was to lose... Then there goes his glory, all for a few million that will surely disappear in the near future.

amayseng says:

I wouldn't buy it but I would watch it on HBO

What about Pac moving up to face the winner of Cotto vs MARTinez?

Sure Pac is way undersized but both Cotto and Sergio are long in the tooth.

Could be a way for Pac to win a MW title.

SouthPawFlo says:

There will probably be a 5th Fight, i just dont see where else they can go to make the big PPV bucks...

But, i really don't wanna see it, Marquez will never win a decision again the Top Rank cash-cow and i can't see Manny getting that careleas again after what happened in their last fight.

I have marquez winning 2 fights, manny winning one and the first one was a draw..

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Both of them need to stay away from the Russian!!!!!!

Carmin Cas says:

This would be another great fight but it's a risk for Marquez. Like many of you pointed out he has bragging rights from the previous fights, but he does want to win a fifth title, out the 3 champions who does he have the best chance of beating? Pacquiao, Porter, Mayweather.

Well we saw how it went with Floyd.

Sean Porter, Idk he's young and strong but can Marquez provide him with a boxing lesson if the cold war loosens up?

Pacquiao, he most likely will have to knock him out again to win. Is it possible yes, neither fighter is the same but Manny's safer approach could lead him to a decision over Marquez.

Carmin Cas says:

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No way Bob Arum lets Manny near a fully rehydrated Cotto or Martinez. I mean a fight against them is possible, Manny did fight at 150 against Margacheato who was probably 165 on fight night, but I don't see it happening.