

Mayweather To Fight Guerrero, On Showtime, Not HBO

Written by Michael Woods

Tuesday, 19 February 2013 12:31



Floyd Mayweather has been an HBO fighter since...seems like forever. That changed, today, when it was announced that "Money" will be getting his money from Showtime, and its parent company, CBS.

The deal, according to a release, will "enable" the 43-0 Mayweather to fight up to six times over 30 months. The first fight in the deal will be a May 4 clash in Las Vegas, against Robert

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Guerrero. The release boasted that if Mayweather fights those six times, and continues to maintain his PPV numbers, the deal "will be the richest individual athlete deal in all of sports."

I reached out to HBO, for a response. A spokesman offered this take.

"We made an aggressive and responsible pay-per-view offer. Now we move on. We are focused on the best boxing franchise in the television business. We are proud of the roster of superstar fighters and emerging stars who are scheduled to appear on the multiple HBO television platforms this year."

Mayweather first fought on HBO on Sept. 6, 1997, against Louie Leija, on "Boxing After Dark." That relationship was by no means a smooth one all the way through. Back in 1999, Mayweather didn't care for a renewal offer, a seven fight deal which he termed a "slave contract."

On the undercard, Canelo Alvarez will meet Austin Trout in a junior middleweight tussle.

Comcast's Ryan Maquinana broke the story.

Here is the release sent out by Mayweather Promotions.

LAS VEGAS (Feb. 19, 2013). Undefeated eight-time world champion Floyd "Money" Mayweather, boxing's pound-for-pound king and the highest paid athlete in the world (Forbes, 2012), has entered into a groundbreaking pay-per-view deal with Showtime Networks Inc. and its parent company, CBS Corporation. Under the new deal, SHOWTIME PPV® will collaborate with CBS Corporation to comprehensively promote Mayweather's events on the CBS Television Network and via the corporation's expansive media platforms.

The deal-a unique revenue-sharing arrangement between SHOWTIME PPV and Mayweather-will enable him to fight up to six times over a period of 30 months, with the first mega-event taking place on May 4, 2013, when Mayweather will fight Robert "The Ghost"

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Guerrero. More details of this upcoming event will be announced shortly.

Mayweather's new deal is by far the biggest in the sport of boxing (specific financial details are contractually confidential). Mayweather is the PPV king and averages over 1 million PPV buys per event, which is the highest PPV buy average of any boxer in history. At this record-setting PPV performance level, if all six fights contemplated by this deal occur, it will be the richest individual athlete deal in all of sports.

Thoughts, readers? Is this a seismic shift in the boxing world? Where does this leave HBO? Is Andre Ward or Adrien Broner their lead dog? Can Guerrero (31-1-1) hand Floyd his first loss, in their clash for Floyd's WBC welterweight title? Floyd turns 36 on Feb. 24--will he really fight six times with Showtime? How much longer will he lace em up?

<https://twitter.com/Woodsy1069>

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Radam G says:

Money May is the ultimate PRIZEFIGHTER. Always go for the best money the easiest way. First and foremost, it is all about the BIG PAY. And that is how you should always play. And if they don't want to do it like that, it's no reason to stay. Don't take any syet. You were HBO box-office hit.

The game is "The threatre of the unexpected."

"Old Blue Eyes" did it his way." So will Money May. Haters keep spitin' yo' sh*±! But doze in da know don't care what you say. Oh course Money May is better than Sugar Ray -- that will be Robinson. Holla!

SouthPaul says:

I see the MAYweather fanatics jumping up and down...cheesing it up...hooping and hollering on message boards... let me remind youyour MAYweather fees and dues and subscriptions just went from overpriced to now multiplied by 10. Lmfao.

brownsugar says:

But what about the undercard?? Canello and Broner were supposedly going to be on the undercard. And how can anyone sign a 36 year old fighter for 6 more fights??? That doesn't

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add up. Ruthless move by Mayweather... I'd like to hear the details..... where's Hauser when you need an investigative reporter/writer?

Radam G says:

B-Sug, it is not the age, it is the stage. The haters are full of rage. Money May has 'em all in a metaphoric cage. For a long while yet, he will be on their front page. Holla!

SouthPaul says:

True dat. The nugga' getting paid and I ain't mad but more deals just became harder to make. The gap between the leading promotional companies just got wider . In-house fight cards from here on out. Its truly sort of tragic . The MAYweather fanatics shouldn't celebrate too hard. This news is akin to Uncle Sam just raising your taxes across the board. Lmfao.

brownsugar says:

Cant wait to hear what Canello has to say... I thought him and MAY had a deal. Wow...makes me wonder if this is a master move or an epic fail. But its intresting.

SouthPaul says:

I think it has to be in the cards. Remember, they all sleep under the same roof.

deepwater says:

good for floyd for fighting guerrero. guerrero desevrves the fight and will bring in more \$ then devon -detroit is so broke I cant even spell it-alexander. floyd is not fighting 6 times in 30 months. maybe 3 times. 50 cent is a ho/joke and floyd is smarr for not partnering up with 50 cent. I might not want to pay for hbo anymore. lets see. either way floyd and his daddy fighting against a tough decent man should be fun to watch. broner acts like he never had money before, too bad velero isnt around to fight him.

amayseng says:

cant blame floyd for taking more money...

at this point i wont pay 70 bucks for a ppv, no thanks...

i dont buy many anymore, too expensive and too unpredictable...

however i have bought floyds last two ppvs,

but for 70 bucks ill just catch it online on a stream....

isnt canelo contracted under hbo?

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and isnt broner as well?

that messes things up for sure

DaveB says:

I ain't hating, just stating - Who would be six good opponents for Floyd? To keep his PPV numbers high he will have to have six worthy opponents. If he has six worthy opponents goodbye goose egg. I would have to agree with six not being in the cards.

amayseng says:

I don't see it happening either.

If he was going to fight Canelo he would have done it sooner than

later seeing he is almost 36.

Who's after the ghost?

He won't fight pac or Sergio,

Cotto rematch could be possible. Seeing as cotto draws ppvs.

Maybe jmm rematch.

I don't know I have nothing.

brownsugar says:

there's no low hanging fruit for FMJ,.. any decent contender he gets in the ring with will have the potential to win an upset. Hey how about Broner in a year or two??

brownsugar says:

Even a rejuvenated Amir Khan could be the kiss of death.

Radam G says:

Nobody who Money May dances with will be capable of upsetting him any time soon. Holla!

ali says:

Berto must feel like sh!t!! He blew 2 opportunities at huge pay day smdh!!

amayseng says:

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Browner will just get better and bigger over time.

I don't see Floyd risking a loss

Perhaps a DIH coming out of retirement with a few easy

tuneups and then fighting Floyd may 2014??

I know that sounds crazy but I've been seeing where DIH

thinks about a comeback fight all the time

and that not only would not be an embarrassing loss to him

but the biggest event possible.

The Good Doctor says:

[QUOTE=DaveB;25871]I ain't hating, just stating - Who would be six good opponents for Floyd? To keep his PPV numbers high he will have to have six worthy opponents. If he has six worthy opponents goodbye goose egg. I would have to agree with six not being in the cards.[/QUOTE]

I actually believe there are some credible opponents out there for Floyd

Sergio, Canelo, Trout, Pac, Guerrero,

and down the line a retooled Khan, Broner, a primed Kell Brook, and maybe Garcia

Now how many of those he will fight in his being in his mid to late thirties and probably in the twilight of his career, I don't know. In addition, I am not sure how many of those guys would draw well as I am sure Money will be trying to cash out as father time comes to take his title.

jzzy says:

Based on the Mayweather we saw against Cotto, he'll be in tough on May 4th . Money May's reflexes and legs are deserting him like every fighter @ 36 yrs

We've seen this before as with Sugar Ray Leonard. When fighters of this style start to slip physically, they're doomed because they can't depend on punching power to rescue them.

Radam G says:

The Good Doctor, I hollered at the fight doctor. And I'm with the ancient genius of whup arse. Money May is going to do a job on the Cali Ghost. And he'd kick Sergio's @\$\$\$. Though WHY? Sergio is full of syet! And his big @\$\$\$ oughta call out somebody his on size. Or do like Money May and fight smaller cats, get paid, and STFU! And spend da moola. Making those working girls' @\$\$\$ go da hula-hula. Hehe! Hos wanna be paid too to entertain. Money May got a lot of

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riders, hitchhikers and freelodgers on his money train.

Money May is a prizefighter, first and foremost. Trout is not worth a BIG purse, so why fight him? And avoiding Da Manny has made Money May more money overall, than one BIG paycheck for an arse thrashing to satisfy haters.

Money May will be able to beat any welterweight for the next five years. He's gettin' long in da tooth, but he will still be able to run syet in da beatdown booth.

Haters are the superstar syet talkers in cyberspace. And will never accept Da Manny or Money May leading da whup-@\$\$ pace, and being in the number one P4P PLACE.

Money May RULES. And haters oughta quit having da wobby craniums of hardheaded-@ss MULES! Money May is not just a top ATG pugilist, he's a top ATG smart. Holla!

Radam G says:

We all have slippage with aging. You have to have the knowhow to modify the script. It is no reason, and it is no longer the season, for 36-year-old Money May to fight like the 26-year-old one. Dat jive could spell running into a punch and getting KAYOed -- lights out.

Let me remind you! Da 34-year-old Manny was fighting crybaby-@ss Marquez as if Da Manny was 24-year old again. KaPOW! LIGHT OUT! Know your time. The 24-year-old PacMan woulda ate dat punch up, and made the broken-nose-and-eyesocket Marquez quit on the stool in the next round or so, i.e Oscar Dela Hoya. But the 34-year-old Manny should have danced away from the dangerous crybaby with a sec left in the round.

Money May is going ghostbust the Cali Ghost's @ss with tricks of the trade. For Money May, TCG is homemade. Money May is not going to float. He's going to be a slipping, sliding and riding cutthroat. And is going to cause holes in TCG's lack of defense, and sink him like a boat. Holla!

The Good Doctor says:

[QUOTE=Radam G;25892]The Good Doctor, I hollered at the fight doctor. And I'm with the ancient genuis of whup arse. Money May is going to do a job on the Cali Ghost. And he'd kick Sergio's @\$\$\$. Though WHY? Sergio is full of syet! And his big @\$\$ oughta call out somebody his on size. Or do like Money May and fight smaller cats, get paid, and STFU! And spend da moola. Making those working girls' @\$\$£\$ go da hula-hula. Hehe! Hos wanna be paid too to entertain. Money May got a lot of riders, hitchhikers and freelodgers on his money train.

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After some careful translating, I understand you and I agree with everything but he would whip Sergio. Sergio I think would lose to Money May but I do think it would be interesting. A guy who is quick, 3 inches taller and has 3 inches in reach would be a monster that Floyd has not tussled with.

Radam G says:

Mad TYs for replying, TGD! Holla!

amayseng says:

I Floyd fought Sergio at mw or around

157 I would bet the farm on Sergio.

That is one fight Floyd doesn't have more than a defensive advantage.

Radam G says:

Dangit, Amayseng! Sorry! I'd feel like a con man taking your farm. Sergio could not beat Money May if Money May came in at 150 and Sergio came in at 170. Some fighters just cannot beat others. Sergio Marquez would be freaky-dreaky S & M for Money May.

The Money man would beat the snot outta SM. Don't believe the promoting and bullsyetology to get PAID by SM. If he were a drawing card, Money May woulda beat his arse a long time ago. That woulda, coulda, shoulda been one easy payday.

Money May just stays away from hard jive. Money May would beat him so bad that you will believe that he took a dive. Holla!

stormcentre says:

At least, IMHO, the Ghost will be a better southpaw-opponent (from all perspectives) than Ortiz. Sure Mayweather will probably win but Robert, considering the criteria with which Mayweather picks his opponents, is a decent challenge whom may also provide a few surprises. As far as Sergio Martinez is concerned (as a future opponent) I actually think that if the SM that fought Paul Williams shows up, and he is not made to lose (too much weight) Mayweather is in for a tougher night than that experienced with Cotto or (the 1st) Castillo (fight). It will be interesting to

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see whom Mayweather fights to fulfil both - the 6 fight deal contractual and his own legacy/match making - requirements

dino da vinci says:

My thoughts. What makes boxing so interesting is this: Floyd has just started his decline. Injuries will linger a bit longer, the reflexes will diminish ever so slightly. But even if they didn't, an opponent having an outstanding night can win. Think Billy Conn, Jake LaMotta, Leon Spinks, Jake 'The Snake' Rodriguez and the fighter that upset Danny Romero.

Of course, the list goes on and on. But yes, Floyd should be favored to win his fights right to the end of his career. 'The Ghost' earned this opportunity, let's hope both men are up to the task.

stormcentre says:

Good points Dino.

Guerrero will bring some heat and have some success IMO. Not sure if he has the marquee level experience, adaptability, defence, style and ability to read a fight; well enough to beat Mayweather though. However, if he can get him to fight more of each round than he wants and isn't too hurt by Floyd's punches; the fight will be interesting. But are we to believe that the Ghost, as good/accomplished as he is, is better than JMM, Ortiz, Cotto and the Oscar that fought Floyd. And if he's not, is he not by the same amount Floyd has (undoubtedly) slipped?

In any regard, watching Mayweather fight more actively, and (hopefully) take (genuine) risks, at this (late) stage of his career; will be interesting. Particularly if he hasn't always got 100% control over who he fights. GB, as stated elsewhere here, can work it both ways (with HBO as we know) but also with Showtime. And with Espinoza being the architect of the deal (on Showtime's side) and a previous GB employee; it all makes sense. BrownSugar, you're probably right about a B-Hop in the lighter weights; they throw too many punches in those lighter weights to get away with fighting 1/2 a round the way B-Hop does.