

## Sakio Bika-Anthony Dirrell Deemed A Split Draw

Written by Michael Woods

Saturday, 07 December 2013 21:07

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Sakio Bika put his WBC super middle crown up against Anthony Dirrell at Barclays Center on Saturday evening at Barclays Center in Brooklyn, and on Showtime.

It was a rugged rumble, with Bika going down once and having a point taken for an infraction. We went to the cards, with the Dirrell corner especially certain they'd hear..."the neeewww." The cards read: 114-112 (Bika), 116-110 (Dirrell) and 113-113 (draw). Dirrell looked beyond irked, as, perhaps, he should have, and he left the ring ASAP.

Bika went 170-609, to 167-477, and we've seen many times before, volume spoke loudly to the arbiters. He said after that he felt like he had to fight the ref, and he accused Dirrell of milking sympathy. He said he was the busier man on the night. Dirrell before the decision said he gave himself an A, not an A plus, and expected to win. In the locker room, he used salty language understandably, to show his disgust.

Bika looked to make it a scrum while Dirrell picked his spots to land a heavy one in the first. Bika looked amateurish, winging wide shots and missing in the second. Dirrell waited patiently to land his stuff, and liked it when Bika was waiting. Dirrell's elusivity, with his legs especially, looked good to the judges in the third. A body shot made Bika dip and Dirrell landed a right cross to the head which buckled his knees, the best shot of the bout to that point.

Dirrell shifted to lefty after Bika had some luck landing rights to the top and to the body. The fourth was a better Bika round, for sure, as Dirrell was waiting too much.

Down went Bika off rights in the fifth, on his face. His legs were in bad shape and he might have been saved by the bell.

A right hurt Dirrell and he needed to grab but he got his senses and landed his own answer when he got some space, and hurt Bika in the sixth. Bika was the bull, and Dirrell looked to pick his spots, landed a hard counter or one in between in the seventh.

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In the eighth, Bika was busier, and Dirrell needed a second wind. Bika was busier in the ninth, and landed a swell kidney shot to boot. In the tenth, they traded to end the round. A low blow, the left, felled Dirrell, at 1:12, and Bika had a point taken. Blood was seen on Dirrell's left eye in that 11<sup>th</sup>. In the 12<sup>th</sup>, Bika shoved Dirrell down, and went low a few times. He whacked to the body and Dirrell did manage to land some counters. Bika, in fact, was on unsteady legs to close the round out. The corner didn't like it as Dirrell raised his hands and celebrated twice in the waning seconds.

Julian Williams met Orlando Lora in a junior middleweight squareoff. The Philly fighter, coming in at 13-0-1, winged nasty left hooks and rights over the defense of the Mexican in the first. Lora was a sitting duck and a commissioner in his corner hopped up on the apron as he was eating clean shots in round two. Again, some in the crowd hooted, as they did when the ref halted the Ali-Selig contest. But we are living in the post Mago world in NYC boxing and I think it's always better a tick too early than a tick too late.

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### **Shoulder Roll Defense says:**

This was a fair decision. You have to take the belt from the champion and Dirrell didn't have the hunger necessary to do so. His punch rate was low and he took too many rounds off.

### **brownsugar says:**

[QUOTE=Shoulder Roll Defense;40914]This was a fair decision. You have to take the belt from the champion and Dirrell didn't have the hunger necessary to do so. His punch rate was low and he took too many rounds off.[/QUOTE]

Absolutely... Dirrell looked like he was in a 42 round fight after round 7... This decision saved Dirrell from taking a beating on his first defense...could you imagine Dirrell going 12 with Froch, Rodriguez, Groves, Degale, Brown, Jack..Otheisen..or the many other more highly evolved 168lb contenders? For now Durrell needs to learn how to go 12 rounds.

### **amayseng says:**

Yep agreed to both of your statements. Dirrel took rounds off and didnt show any gumption. sad when a

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### **Carmine Cas says:**

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fighter has no idea what he needs to do to close the show.

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LOL @your last sentence! I agree with you guys, and Bika does not have a boxer's body so he's naturally awkward. It seems as though his dirty tactics are inadvertent because he can't help his clumsiness and he's just in the "zone"

### **the Roast says:**

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I can't remember seeing a Champion swing and miss as often as Bika did last night. Just goes to show ya, too many weight classes, too many belts = unworthy Champs. Bika does have a world class chin though. He got blasted a few times and just kept coming.

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Yeah, and he barely has a grasp of the basic fundamentals. Too many belts, \*\*\*\*\* yeah! It's dilution of the sport and turns off casual fans. Bika was there for the taking, it seemed like every time Dirrell threw a meaningful combination he hit him. Although Dirrell was much more active, maybe him and Zab drinking the same syet the night before.

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before.[/QUOTE]

After Dirrell dropped him late in the 5th I was rooting hard for Bika to get knocked out just to be done with his wild \*\*\*.

**brownsugar says:**

Hilarious .. A tough man contest for a title fight.