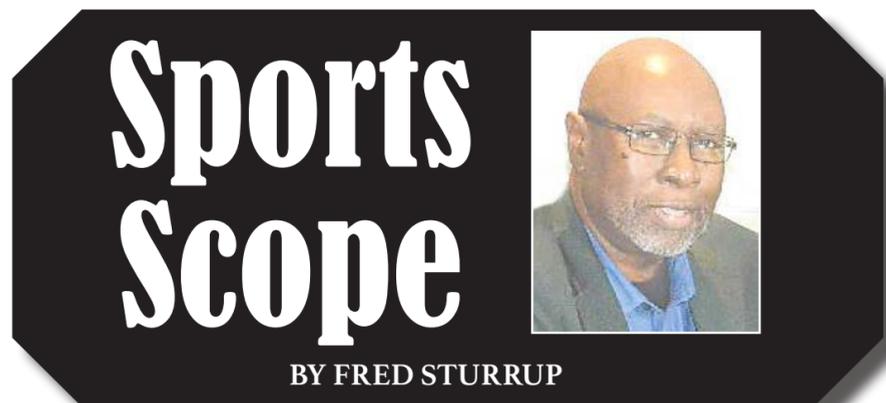


SPORTS

Meacher Major, associates push ahead for retirement boxing show



MEACHER MAJOR



DATE SET FOR FRIDAY OCTOBER 26

Several proposed professional boxing shows are having challenges. The promoters have had to make ongoing new arrangements, thus pushing back dates.

However, Meacher Major confirmed earlier this week that his retirement show will in fact happen this year, although he acknowledged another date change.

"I am working with a promoter and nothing regarding the structure of the show has changed, only the date. It is now set for Friday, October 26. I feel a great deal of satisfaction to be able to end my career this way and then go on to continue helping with building boxing in The Bahamas," said Major.

Major informed also that he has forged a relationship with the Bahamas Boxing Federation (the country's amateur boxing arm) and in coordination with the Pan American Caribbean Boxing Organization-PACBO (of which Major is a regional director), will network going forward on upcoming shows.

"In my role as PACBO Director, I want to foster pro/amateur events. PACBO and the federation have the same aim. We in PACBO want to encourage, inspire and develop young boys and girls as well, through boxing and educational means throughout the Pan Am region. I can work with the federation, with (Vincent) Strachan, the president," further disclosed Major.

In that light, the federation is to showcase several amateurs on the October 26 show in a segment prior to the professional program.

I spoke to Strachan on Wednesday and he verified the connection with Major and accordingly, PACBO.

"We have to be about boosting boxing on the whole. I am working with some associates, providing some assistance regarding their interest to promote pro bouts. But, the focus is to ensure the amateur foundation is in order. To that end, even though my priority is the amateur program, when we are doing anything in association with pro shows, I will communicate with

the Commission. This is how it should be," said Strachan.

There is prior evidence of a progressive working relationship between the commission, PACBO and the federation. Several months ago, the parties came together to make vital contributions to the success of the Commonwealth Boxing Salute, staged in Freeport by the Grand Bahama Sports Promotion Association.

That level of continuity bodes well for the future of the sport in The Bahamas. The present situation is in keeping with the memorandum of understanding agreed to by the commission, federation and PACBO's head office in The Bahamas, several years ago.

Major says October 26 will be a special night for him. He has been a stalwart sports ambassador for this nation and deserves to be saluted in style as he laces them on for the final time.

•To respond to this column, kindly contact Fred Sturrup at Sturrup1504@gmail.com or on WhatsApp at 727-6363.



GIVING BACK AGAIN - Hutchison Ports FCP remained committed to the youth of Grand Bahama once again with another donation to the West Grand Bahama Community Sporting Association. Pictured left to right are Lucian Laing, Port Director, Hutchison Ports FCP; Ross Burrows, President, West Grand Bahama Community Sporting Association; Sherlen Williams, Donations Committee Member, Hutchison Ports FCP.

(COURTESY OF HUTCHINSON PORTS, FCP)

HUTCHISON PORTS FCP DONATES TO WEST GB COMMUNITY SPORTING ASSOCIATION

Hutchison Ports FCP has demonstrated its commitment to the youth of Grand Bahama once again with another donation, this time to the West Grand Bahama Community Sporting Association.

In its eighth year of activity, the association expressed its gratitude to the company for helping to make its thriving summer basketball programme possible.

"We want to thank Hutchison Ports FCP for being a sponsor of the league for the past two years," said association president, Ross Burrows.

"Their contribution and their efforts towards community building are greatly appreciated by the West Grand Bahama Community Sporting Association.

Dedicated to the local community, Hutchison Ports FCP con-

tinues to provide invaluable assistance to programmes that keep the youth gainfully occupied. The donation is one of several that the company has generously made throughout the year.

The West Grand Bahama Community Sporting Association is one of the many organizations that have been more than grateful for the support.

Said Burrows, "We want to say

a big 'thank you' to Hutchison Ports FCP for making the programme happen. It could not be done without you."

The president explained that the donation went towards assisting with the purchase of trophies, the payment of referees and the hosting of a Fun Day at the end of the championships for its Summer Basketball Community League. The Fun Day rounded

out a packed three-month schedule of exciting games for players ages 13 and up.

"The community really enjoys the last day, especially when we're giving back," said Burrows of the Fun Day, which includes food for all and back-to-school giveaways for children.

More than a way to keep young people busy during the summer, the program also serves as an

avenue for dreamers. Grand Bahama's very own NBA player Chavano "Buddy" Hield grew up playing in the league.

"The league really has an impact on the young men and the kids of the community, with Buddy Hield being in the NBA as an inspiration for them to reach their goal in doing something they love doing," said Burrows.