



FDNY BRAVEST BOXING

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BATTLE OF THE BADGES 2006

This year the Battle of the Badges return to Brooklyn. This exciting event will take place on Friday Nov. 17th at the all new Aviator Sports and Recreation, located at Hanger Five in Floyd Bennett Field.

FF Mike Reno of Eng. Co. 33 will take on P.O. Russell Jung in the 152 lb open class. Both fighters have been Golden Glove finalist, Mike in 2005 and Russell in 2006. Although they never met in the Golden Gloves, they have fought each other in the last two Battle of The Badges. Each has won once and this is a much-anticipated rematch. Mike's Dad was also a Firefighter and was one of the few Firefighters who survived the collapse of the WTC. He was pulled from the rubble and later retired due to his injuries.

In another rubber match, Firefighter Jack "Hurricane" Kirrane from Eng. Co. 59 in Harlem fights PO Mike Russo in the light heavyweight division. Both previous matches were all out slugfest with each winning a split decision.

Kevin "The Sane" Kirrane, a Proby from Lad Co. 51 in the Bronx, (Jack's younger brother) will fight in the super heavyweight division. On the same day in August of this year both brothers were engaged.

Other Firefighters scheduled to fight are Ryan "El Blanco Diablo" Nordman from Lad 45 (175lbs), John "Zorba the Freak" Soukas from Lad 8 (195 lbs) who has a 3-0 record, "Tricky" Mike Tracy from Eng. 279 (165 lbs), John Dadon from Eng Co. 228 (155lbs), Matt "The Irish Bull" Burke from Eng. Co. 62 (215lbs) and in his first fight ever Mike Sandage from Eng. Co. 21 will fight at 200lbs.

The FDNY Bravest Boxing Team has four members who will compete in this year's NYC Golden Gloves. They are Mike Reno, Ryan Nordman, Kevin Kirrane and Matt Burke. The team will also compete in the 2007 World Police-Fire Games in Adelaide, Australia

The team is coached by retired Firefighter Bobby McGuire who won the first ever boxing Gold Medal for the FDNY at the World Police-Fire Games in the 147 lb open division. He is also a survivor of the WTC attack and was retired in 2002 after 22 year's of service.