

YET ANOTHER GREAT EVENING OF BOXING !!

(21 January 2006 - Riviera Hotel, Bowleaze Coveaway)

Tommy Hobday started it and Ashley Poms finished it as Weymouth punched their way to a hat-trick of schoolboy boxing victories. The action-packed tournament - in the Riviera Hotel at Bowleaze Cove and hosted by Weymouth and Portland ABCs - was declared a resounding success with 11 bouts to thrill a sell-out crowd. First into the ring was the aggressive Hobday whose longer jab, higher work rate and sheer determination earned him a majority victory over Tom Harris from Lydney.

Next up, Joe Liggett claimed a majority win over Dorchester opponent Junior Tooney. Both boys came out punching from the first bell but Liggett finished the stronger boxer against the plucky and big-hearted Tooney. The final Weymouth schoolboy bout saw Ashley Poms complete the hat-trick by beating Elliot Fourgeard from Dorchester. The frantic pace set in the first round lasted throughout the bout with Poms' aggressive style overcoming some smart counter punching from Fourgeard. Poms took a unanimous verdict.

Other local bouts saw Portland's Tom Daniels lose on a majority decision to Dan Gouvier from Avalon while the other island boxer, middleweight Tony White, topped the bill. He claimed a well-deserved victory over four rounds against former professional boxer and counter puncher Justin Hicks from Yeovil. While Hicks settled behind a left jab White charged in landing heavy hooks to the head and body throughout to claim a unanimous verdict. Afterwards, Weymouth ABC chairman David Nelmes said: "The evening was a great success and the hotel put on a good show. The entertainment included a comedian and a disco and it was a great location to hold it in. "All the lads did well, especially the youngsters." Portland coach Vince Ealson said he was more than happy with the joint venture. "It was a good night especially as it was the first time we have held the bouts here. "All the local boxers did well and with seven wins and two losses it was a good night." Weymouth junior coach David Hutchinson added: "I'm proud of all the boys tonight. They all listened to what the coaches were saying and they did it in the ring. "It takes a lot of guts to get in there and no-one can take this away from them. They have done themselves and the clubs proud."

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