
MetroPCS Friday Night Knockout on truTV to Debut Friday, May 1, at 10 p.m. ET

Thursday, April 23, 2015

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New Primetime Series to Include First-Ever Use of “Spidercam” for Live Boxing Telecast

Kevin Kugler to Provide Play-by-Play with World Class Welterweight Timothy Bradley & Reporter Crystina Poncher

truTV and Top Rank will partner to exclusively present the **MetroPCS Friday Night Knockout on truTV**, a live primetime boxing series set to debut **Friday, May 1, at 10 p.m. ET**. The new boxing series, in association with Turner Sports and HBO Sports, will launch on the eve of the Floyd Mayweather vs. Manny Pacquiao pay-per-view fight with a card featuring two title bouts inside The Chelsea at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas.

The network’s presentation will feature the **first-ever domestic use of “Spidercam” technology for a live boxing telecast**, providing dynamic coverage of this new series. “Spidercam” operates on a four-point system of cables from designated points beyond the corners of the boxing ring. The suspended camera has the ability to provide compelling 360-degree angles of the action including the ability to move in three dimensions – left/right, forward/backward and up/down.

“Spidercam” will provide the definitive views of the action throughout the series, including a main event on **Friday, May 1**, showcasing **Takahiro Ao** (27-3-1, 16 KOs) from Chiba, Japan, vs. **Ray Beltran** (29-7-1, 17 KOs) from Los Mochis, Mexico, in a 12-round bout for the vacant **WBO Lightweight World Championship**. The undercard will include two undefeated fighters in action – **Mikael Zewski** (26-0, 23 KOs) from Quebec, Canada, vs. **Konstantin Ponomarev** (27-0, 13 KOs) from Miass, Russia – in a 10-round bout for the **NABF Welterweight Championship**.

Commentators for the event will include **Kevin Kugler** providing play-by-play with analyst **Timothy Bradley** and reporter **Crystina Poncher**. Kugler is a veteran announcer who has called college basketball and NFL coverage for Westwood One and college football for the Big Ten Network. Bradley is a former WBO welterweight champion and former WBO and two-time WBC junior welterweight champion, including a win over Pacquiao during his career. Poncher is a commentator and reporter for Top Rank, as well as a host, reporter and correspondent for NFL Network and NFL.com. Additionally, **closed captioning in Spanish** will be available.

The second week of the **MetroPCS Friday Night Knockout on truTV** series – live from Prudential Center in Newark, N.J., on **Friday, May 8, at 10 p.m.** – will be headlined by Top-10 contenders **Glen “Jersey Boy” Tapia** (23-1, 15 KOs) from Passaic, N.J., and **“Irish” Seanie Monaghan** (23-0, 15 KOs) in action. Tapia will defend his NABO junior middleweight title against **Michael Soro** (25-1-1, 15 KOs) from France, with Monaghan (defending his WBC Continental Americas light heavyweight title) facing **Cleiton Conceicao** (20-6-2, 16 KOs) from Brazil.

As part of its entitlement sponsorship of the boxing series on truTV, **MetroPCS** will receive camera-visible center ring and corner pad brand placement for each fight, as well as inclusion in all promotional

messaging across truTV and other Turner Broadcasting networks.

Visit the Turner Sports [online pressroom](#) for additional press materials; follow Turner Sports on Twitter at [@TurnerSportsPR](#).

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