

Fight Night

Normally, here at the John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club of Newton, we do everything within our power to make sure that fights do not happen. On Saturday March 6th at Trinity Catholic Auditorium we are going to make sure they do! Sponsored by Chestnut Hill Shopping Center, Fight Night 2010 will feature eight to twelve bouts sanctioned by USA Boxing. This event is offered in partnership with the Nonantum Boxing Club and will feature many of their best young fighters.

Last year's event attracted over 350 spectators and raised more than \$15,000 to support the Club. The action was fast and furious. State Auditor A. Joseph DeNucci a former middleweight contender and a long time supporter of the Boys & Girls Club was the guest of Honor. Phillip Riffe, who was the Club's 1997 Youth of the Year, capped off the night with a punishing TKO of his opponent.

The histories of the Boys & Girls Club of Newton and the Nonantum Boxing Club are closely intertwined. Boxing was one of the biggest programs at the Boys & Girls Club during the 60's, 70's, and 80's. Each year 50-80 kids ages 6-18 would train under the tutelage of former Club Director Sam Crocetti a few nights per week, spar, hit the heavy bag. The bravest and the best would face off each year in the annual boxing show.

In 2008 a group of those fighters got together and opened their own gym. Proprietors Eric Busa, Nathan Busa, and Marc Gargaro along with supporters Sam Davis and Kevin Riffe are all alums of the Boys & Girls Club and they have put their collective heart and soul into the Nonantum Boxing Club. Located on Adams Street in Nonantum, the Club offers cardio and strength training workouts and teaches basic boxing skills to fighters of all ages and abilities. From Golden Glove Boxers to beginners who are just looking for a fun way to stay in shape, there is something for everyone.

On March 6th, the gates will open at 7:00 PM and a cash bar will be available to those 21 & Older featuring Sam Adams Beer. Ringside VIP seats may be purchased in advance for \$50 and include a catered dinner, table service for beverages, and a commanding view of the action. General Admission seats are \$15 per person and can be purchased online at www.newtonbgc.com. Both types of tickets sold out last year so get your tickets early!