



Press release

25 January 2012

### **White collar bouts for boxing business 'beasts'**

*Dubai corporate professionals on the ropes as eight week training schedule starts in build-up to White Collar Fight Night 2012*

Contenders for the White Collar Fight Night 2012 have begun an intensive eight week training programme that will culminate in an unlikely mix of corporate professionals facing-off against one another in the squared circle as they swap their shirts and cuffs for vests and gloves, as well as a lot of sweat and tears.

Before they are ready to rumble however, the aspiring pugilists – including Greg 'Stricker' Stockton, a financial advisor; Russell 'the beast of the Middle East' Bilbey, an engineer; Tim 'The Tornado' Campbell, a development manager; and James 'The Messiah', Managing Director of a recruitment consultancy – must make it through the White Collar Fight Night training regime, under the austere supervision of professional boxing coach Zack Taumafai.

Now running for the eighth time, the event takes place at the Habtoor Grand Hotel, Dubai, on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> march 2012. On the night, the fighters will go head-to-head in front of a 700-strong crowd in bouts of three two-minute rounds. The event also offers an 'undercard event' of a black tie dinner complete with an entertainment programme.

Just days after announcing the call for entries, Transguard Events – the event organiser – was inundated with enquiries and was inevitably oversubscribed due to the popularity of the occasion.

Importantly for the organisers, a third of the fighters' sponsorship fees are donated to Christel House – a charity providing education to underprivileged children in Bangalore, India.

Mark Povey, organiser of White Collar Fight Night on behalf of Transguard Group, said: “The event has become a fixture on Dubai’s social calendar, providing a chance for the corporate ‘suits’ to show their discipline getting fit and their bravery mixing-it-up in a public boxing spectacle – all in the name of charity.”

The corporate contenders will be divided into two teams – red and blue – who will battle to go the distance in a show-card that constitutes eight fights, including two women’s bouts.

But before even climbing in the ring for the major bout, the contenders are committing to a rigorous regime of early morning gym sessions, physical and technical training as well as a high-protein, low-calorie diet.

George ‘Stricker’ Stockton, a sports enthusiast, said: “White Collar Fight Night is something I’ve wanted to do since I moved to Dubai. I want to take myself outside my comfort zone and test my physical and mental abilities.”

Originating at Gleasons Gym, New York, more than 20 years ago, the first White Collar Boxing contest was held between two very different professionals - Dr Richard Novak, an attorney and veterinarian, and Dr David Lawrence who held a PhD in English literature. After the contest the two went to dinner to celebrate the birth of a new sporting event.

This year’s contest has received backing from Dubai’s business community with a number of high profile sponsors pledging their support, including; Al Gandhi, Meydan Hotels, WSP, Frank’s International and many others.

For bookings and further information contact Ivy Newton at [ivy.newton@transguardgroup.net](mailto:ivy.newton@transguardgroup.net) or telephone

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