

**GERMANY vs. RUSSIA:
Chessboxing Tournament Berlin 2008.**

Chessboxing World Champion 'Anti Terror' Frank Stoldt and challenger Nikolay 'The Chairman' Sazhin in final preparations for 5 July title showdown

British battle machine Andrew 'The Rock' Costello and Italy's Gianluca 'Il Dottore' Sirci meet in a thrilling heavyweight contest

Music from Berlin's vibrant underground scene is provided by Warren Suicide

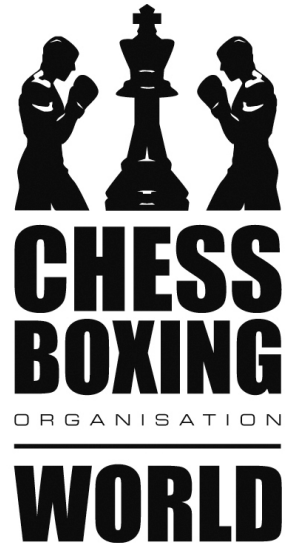
On 5 July 2008 the nationwide chessboxing tournament 2008/2009 throughout Germany via Cologne on 6 September and Hamburg on 4 October will be inaugurated in Berlin. The tournament features an International German Championship bout in the middleweight division and a World Championship bout in the light-heavyweight division.

Chess Boxing merges two allegedly contradicting sports, both pushing their athletes to the limit, mentally as well as physically. Six lightning rounds of speed chess alternate with five rounds of boxing. In a maximum of eleven rounds, the decision will come either through K.O. or checkmate.

The evening will climax with the fight **'Anti Terror' Frank Stoldt vs. Nikolay 'The Chairman' Sazhin**. He defends his title against the 19 year-old Russian Nikolay Sazhin.

Nikolay 'The Chairman' Sazhin, aged just 19, is a student of applied mathematics at the Siberia State University in Krasnojarsk. He is 1.83 tall, weights 85 kg and has a vastly impressive record at amateur level with over 62 fights (49/13/0). Sazhin has an ELO-rating of 1911 and is considered to be one of the most promising chessboxing talents.

The champion **'Anti Terror' Frank Stoldt** is a 37-year old riot police officer from Berlin. He weighs 84.5 kg and is 1.87 tall. He is a multiple Berlin Kickboxing Champion and has 25 amateur boxing bouts behind him. In 2005 he began chessboxing and has since then won every fight. His ELO-rating is 1960. Stoldt has also spent time in Kosovo , training local police forces on behalf of the United Nations.



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Date:
Saturday, 5 Juli 2008

Venue:
Luckenwalder Strasse 4-6
10963 Berlin
Metro: Gleisdreieck

Press conference:
Tuesday, 1 Juli, 12:00
Chess Boxing Club Berlin
Gormannstraße 13
Berlin

Also eagerly anticipated is the undercard fight in the heavyweight division between the pro-boxer with the PhD in chemistry, **Gianluca 'Il Dottore' Sirci** and chess prodigy turned cage-fighter **Andrew 'The Rock' Costello** from Exeter, England.

At 1,87m tall **Gianluca 'Il Dottore' Sirci** weighs 120Kg but is in a class of its own when it comes to ecotoxicology. As director of a biochemical laboratory he knows how to deal with dangerous matters. He finished third at the Kung Fu World Cup in 2001, is a triple Italian university-boxing champion and became a boxing pro in 2005. Furthermore 'Il Dottore' is a master of the Chinese chess variant Xiangqi.

Exeter's **Andrew 'The Rock' Costello** can look back on past encounters in various disciplines including wrestling, Muay Thai, kick-boxing and free-fighting. In his younger days he was considered a future chess champion before quitting the sport prematurely at the age of 14. With the inauguration of the Great Britain ChessBoxing Organisation in London this year he rediscovered the "game of the kings". He is 1,88m tall, weights 95Kg and has an ELO-Rating of 2010.

In the evenings first undercard fight **Piotr Pukos** faces **Sascha Wandkowsky**.

Piotr Pukos has just completed his degree in mathematics in Lublin, Poland. He is 1,74m tall and weights 73Kg. His ELO is 2000.

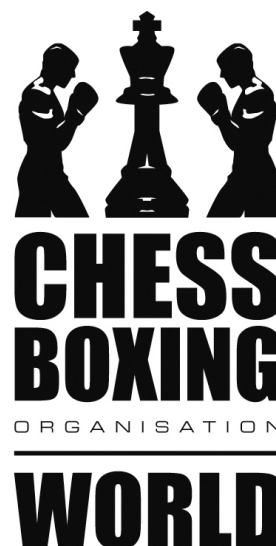
Sascha Wandkowsky from Berlin, is 1,81m tall, weights 1,75Kg. His ELO rating is 1760.

Before the main fight Berlin's hottest property in the underground music scene **Warren Suicide** will set the ring on fire. After the fights **DJ DSL** from Austria will rock the after fight party. This exciting music- and showprogramm is supported by Motor FM.

The press conference will take place on the 1 July 2008, 12:00 cet at the Chess Boxing Club Berlin, Gormannstr. 13, 10199 Berlin.

For press contact please refer to Karolin Siller, media@wcbo.org.

Tickets are available at www.wcbo.org or +49 30 44 326 326, org.



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