

Fights To Watch In January 2013

Written by Rian Scalia Friday, 04 January 2013 13:23 - Last Updated Thursday, 24 January 2013 18:28

It's the beginning of the month again and that means it's time for me to make people aware of some of the great fights happening this month. This January is actually a pretty down month so there will only be one post with ten fights.

January 6: Yuki vs. Sun Hyun Lee II - RISE 91/M-1MC INFINITY.II - Tokyo, Japan

Yuki is RISE's 63kg champion and he'll be defending that title in a rematch here against Sun Hyun Lee, who defeated him once before back in June. Lee is a very good fighter and Yuki really has a tough task ahead of him. These two are quite the actions fighters so it should be a really good fight with a ton of damage being dished out. It's also five rounds. On paper I'd probably say this is a potential fight of the year, despite it being so early.

January 6: Pornsaneh Sitmonchai vs. Yosuke Morii - RISE 91/M-1MC INFINITY.II - Tokyo, Japan

How can anyone not want to see Pornsaneh fight? After a scheduled fight at RISE last month fell through, he's taking on Yosuke Morii here and coming off a nice stoppage win over Kwankao Chor. Rajapatsaduisarn in November. Morii is going to have his hands full here, as he isn't even the best in Japan at his weight. Pornsaneh of course is going to bring the fight as always and this has all the makings of a good fight, or just a good old destruction from Pornsaneh.

January 9: Songkom Sakhomsin vs. Ekmongkol Gaiyanghadao - Rajadamnern Stadium - Bangkok, Thailand

This is a nice fight at Rajadamnern between two very good fighters, with Songkom being #7 at 118lbs at Lumpini while Ekmongkol is #10 at 122 lbs at Lumpini. Songkom is known a lot for his hands and has vicious KO power that saw him get some highlight knockouts such as the one against Nuengthep Eminentair back in August. Songkom comes off his second win in pro boxing back on December 3 while Ekmongkol won against Saengmorakot Tor Manothammaraksa on December 18.

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January 14: Yuta Kubo vs. Roman Mailov - Jawin presents Krush Grand Prix 2013 - Tokyo, Japan

Yuta Kubo is probably Japan's best kickboxer and he looks to continue racking up wins after his unbeaten 2012. This is the quarter final fight of Krush's 67kg GP tournament, which is a one night tournament. Despite coming down in weight from 70kg, Roman Mailov is definitely the underdog here and still the "prospect" in this fight. Most expect Kubo to win but I'm very interested if Mailov will be able to have any success. This fight will tell a lot about where Mailov stands, as he's signed to GLORY and set to debut for them this year.

January 14: Shota Takiya vs. Mike Alamos - Jawin presents Krush Grand Prix 2013 - Tokyo, Japan

One of Japan's best at 55kg, Shota Takiya gets to face a new foreigner now after Andy Howson was forced to pull out of the fight. He'll fight Mike Alamos, the brother of Lumpinee 140lb champion Damien Alamos. Mike is undefeated and with his brother being such a highly touted fighter, the expectations are obviously pretty high. Takiya is one of the top 55kg kickboxers though and Mike, like his brother is a Muay Thai stylist. This fight is particularly interesting because we don't know how well Mike Alamos will do. We'll just have to wait and see.

January 19: Johann Fauveau vs. Ludovic Millet - Meaux, France

After a good 2012 year that saw him beat Jordan Watson, Johann Fauveau kicks off 2013 with a fight that he should win against Ludovic Millet. Fauveau will be making his debut for GLORY on March 23 in London so this should be a good fight to get him going towards that.

January 25: Kevin Ross vs. Chris Kwiatkowski - Lion Fight 8 - Las Vegas, USA

Kevin Ross finally makes his reutrn to action after a long layoff from injury, and he does it live on AXS TV against Christ Kwiatkowski. Kwiatkowski certainly isn't an easy fight after such a long layoff. Ross established himself as one of the best, if not the best American Muay Thai fighters and it should be interesting to see how he does in his first fight back. Ross is always in

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good fights so this one should not disappoint and will be a great debut for Lion Fight on TV.

January 26: Saenchai PKSaenchaimuaythaigym vs. Diesellek Aoodonmuang - Yokkao Extreme 2013 - Milan, Italy

This is a great fight, and it's not everyday that you see two top Thais fight each other outside of Thailand. Yokkao was good enough to make this a normal fight of five rounds which is how it should be. Diesellek and Saenchai haven't fought yet so it should be interesting to see how they match up, especially with Diesellek's aggressive style and if Saenchai's super busy schedule comes into play. The best part of this fight will undoubtedly be Diesellek's haircut.

January 26: Aikpracha Meenayothin vs. Frank Giorgi - Yokkao Extreme 2013 - Milan, Italy

This is a very good match-up for who's available to fight with Aikpracha. Frank Giorgi is a very game fighter. Of course, the main attraction here is Aikpracha and how he continues to roll and smash everyone in his path. This fight is a good way for both fighters to start off 2013.

January 26: Yoshihiro Sato vs. Kenta - Krush.26 - Tokyo, Japan

Yoshihiro Sato makes his return to fighting in Japan after almost a year of not doing so, against Kenta. Both Sato and Kenta have seen struggles lately and the loser here will plummet even further while the winner will at least start to work back up. Sato is definitely the favorite here and will enjoy a huge height advantage but when it comes down to it, he's still very hittable so this could turn into a battle or just be Sato working over Kenta. Yasuhiro Kido also defends his Krush 70kg title on the card so a Sato win could possibly set up a rematch with Kido.