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Yesterday at Korakuen Hall in Tokyo, NJKF held its first major card of 2012, a new series entitled Kick to the Future. The card was headlined by a rematch between Tetsuya Yamato and Densiam Lookprabaht, a WBC Muay Thai International Super Flyweight title fight between TOMONORI (Sato) and Romie Adanza, and a 70kg super fight between Kenta and TOMOYUKI. There were also a pair of title fights, with Seiji Takahashi and Ikki fighting for the vacant Super Lightweight title and Hiroshi Saenchaigym and Rookie fighting for the vacant Super Bantamweight title.

In the main event, 2010 K-1 -63kg Tournament champion Tetsuya Yamato took swift revenge, knocking out former Lumpinee Stadium champion Densiam Lookprabaht in the 1st round at 2:28. Yamato (26-9-1, 21 KO) apparently dropped Densiam with a huge left hook that Densiam got up from, but didn't recover from, as Yamato rushed him and knocked him down again, prompting the ref to stop the fight. The win snaps a 2-fight losing streak for Yamato who dropped decisions to Jomthong Chuwattana and Ryuji Kajiwara in WBC and Krush title fights, respectively. After the fight, Yamato claimed that a WBC World title was his current goal, so I expect his next fight to take place in NJKF.

In the co-main event for the WBC International Super Flyweight title, WBC U.S. Bantamweight champion Romie Adanza and WMC Intercontinental Super Flyweight champion TOMONORI fought an abbreviated fight that was stopped at 0:19 into the 2nd round because of a cut that was a result of an elbow that Adanza threw. Neither fighter seemed to take much of a lead after the first round, but shortly into the second, Adanza landed an elbow that opened up a deep cut on TOMONORI's head that caused the ref to immediately call in the ringside doctor, who took

little time to determine that the cut was too deep, an assessment that TOMONORI was not happy with at all. The win gives Adanza the WBC International Super Flyweight title, but with the way the fight ended, I wouldn't be surprised if a rematch was in the works. TOMONORI (30-13-3, 15 KO) was coming into the fight on a 3-fight winning streak.

In the big upset of the night, TOMOYUKI was able to squeak by Krush 70kg champion Kenta and take a majority decision on scores of 29-29, 30-29 and 29-28. It appears as though in rounds 2 and 3, TOMOYUKI constantly came forward and outworked Kenta to get the nod from the judges. TOMOYUKI is best known for his fight at Thai Fight Japan where he lost a decision to Sudsakorn Sor Klinmee. With this win, he gets his name out in what is the currently muddled 70kg division in Japan which has been controlled by a variety of inconsistent fighters since Masato's retirement. This fight was Kenta's (23-9-3, 8 KO) first fight since September's K-1 MAX Japan Tournament where he lost a razor-thin extension round decision to Yuya Yamamoto in the semifinals. Despite the loss, this may be a positive for Kenta who gets some action ahead of his higher profile March 17th title defense against Yasuhiro Kido in Krush.

In a bit of a surprise, NJKF Lightweight champion Keijiro Miyakoshi and MA Kick Super Featherweight champion Hikaru Machida fought to a majority draw on scores of 30-30, 30-29 and 29-29. Miyakoshi (10-3-1, 4 KO) was riding a 3-fight win streak coming into the bout and most recently had defeated J-Network Lightweight champ Akihiro Kuroda to earn a WBC Japan title shot. Machida (14-4-1, 4 KO) was fighting for the first time since September when he defended his MA Kick title against Nobuhiro Iwai. I would imagine Miyakoshi still has his title shot lined up and Machida is now likely in consideration as well.

In a bout for the vacant NJKF Super Lightweight title, WBC Japan Super Lightweight champion Seiji Takahashi was able to outpoint former NJKF Lightweight champ Ikki to earn a unanimous decision on scores 50-47 and 49-47(x2). Takahashi was coming in off of a successful defense of his WBC Japan title against Yusuke Sugawara back in October while Ikki had lost his most recent fight at Krush.14 to Yosuke Mizuochi.

Finally, #1 ranked NJKF Super Bantamweight Hiroshi Saenchaigym took a close split decision over #2 ranked Rookie on scores of 49-48(x2) and 48-49.

Quick Results after the break

63.5kg Fight: Tetsuya Yamato def. Densiam Lukprabaht by 1st round KO (punches) at 2:28

WBC International Super Flyweight Title Fight: Romie Adanza def. TOMONORI by 2nd round TKO (cut) at 0:19 to win the WBC International Super Flyweight Title

70kg Fight: TOMOYUKI def. Kenta by 3rd round Majority Decision (30-29, 29-28, 29-29)

61.5kg Fight: Keijiro Miyakoshi and Hikaru Machida fought to a 3rd round Majority Draw (30-30, 30-29, 29-29)

NJKF Super Lightweight (63.5kg) Title Fight: Seiji Takahashi def. Ikki by 5th round Unanimous Decision (50-47, 49-47, 49-47)

NJKF Super Bantamweight (55kg) Title Fight: Hiroshi Saenchaigym def. Rookie by 5th round Split Decision (49-48, 49-48, 48-49)

59kg Fight: Daichi Yamato def. Nobuhiro Iwai by 1st round TKO (cut) at 2:56{jcomments on}