

# 2015 Awards: Rookie of the Year

This might be the trickiest of all as you could say Sting is a rookie as he had his first WWE match in 2015. Since that could make things really complicated though, we'll go with people I consider rookies, meaning I might not consider some of your choices.

We'll start with someone outside WWE because I'm a WWE mark or something. ROH's Dalton Castle had debuted a few years earlier but changed his gimmick and debuted in the Top Prospect Tournament in the early part of the year. This turned into a great run for him as he became one of the more entertaining guys on the roster with a surprisingly strong offense and a great character. He's one of the people I enjoy most when watching ROH and his charisma alone will take him a long way.

Asuka is really kind of cheating as she's been wrestling for over ten years. However, she debuted in NXT and was instantly the second (at worst) woman on the roster. It's pretty clear Asuka vs. Bayley is coming at Takeover in Dallas and it should be one of the most awesome matches they've had....well since the last time Bayley had a big showdown match. This is a stretch but she's a rookie in WWE at least and that's close enough.

Speaking of rookie women in NXT, we have Nia Jax, who actually did debut in 2015. I know her character is limited and I still don't get why she and Eva Marie are teaming, but she played a perfect Vader to Bayley's Sting, which is really impressive given that she was debuting six months prior to that. I don't know how far she can go, but Nia is a great monster with a great look.

However, we finally have the runaway winner in Chad Gable. This is a guy who just gets it and was ready for the main roster about ten seconds after he debuted. Gable is the closest thing to another version of Kurt Angle as he went from the Olympics to the WWE where he's a comedic goon who was capable of out wrestling anyone. This guy could be something very

special in the future and he's just fun to watch, especially when he's with Jason Jordan.

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