

Elimination Chamber 2020 Preview



IMG Credit: WWE

We had to get through this one sooner or later. WWE can only do so many things at once and that has not been so clear in a long time. Just ten days ago, they were trying to build towards three shows at the same time and since one of them was in Saudi Arabia and the other one was Wrestlemania, Elimination Chamber was lost in the shuffle. Throw in the fact that the likely main event is designed to crown a pretty obvious #1 contender for the Raw Women's Title and this show might not be the most appealing. Let's get to it.

Smackdown Tag Team Titles: Elimination Chamber

Miz and John Morrison are defending and in this case, that's not a great thing for them. They won the titles a mere nine days ago and have already lost twice, because in WWE's mind, that makes them tougher or something. Robert Roode and Dolph Ziggler won a gauntlet match (because we can't say Tag Team Turmoil anymore for whatever reason) to earn the right to enter last, as the best way to build up a six team elimination match is with a six team elimination match.

I'll go with something I'd like to see more than what I think

will happen and go with the Usos to win here, setting up one more big match against New Day for the titles at Wrestlemania. Now odds are Miz and Morrison retain or they put the titles on Roode and Ziggler (because reasons) but I have to have some hope for the future, and while New Day vs. Usos may have been done to death already, it's better than any other option these titles have at Wrestlemania (assuming they're even defended, which they don't need to be).

Raw Tag Team Titles: Street Profits(c) vs. Seth Rollins/Buddy Murphy

Rematch from this week's Raw where the Profits won the titles in a pretty surprising twist. It also makes me wonder where things are going from here, as if the Profits retain it makes the title change seem a little unnecessary (in storyline terms at least) but if Rollins and Murphy retain, it ties Rollins down a bit for Wrestlemania. In other words, it depends on where you think things are going next.

Therefore, I'll take the Profits to retain, as it's hard to imagine Rollins in a nothing Raw Tag Team Title match at Wrestlemania. He has bigger things to do, like fight Kevin Owens in a big singles match, which is where I think they're going. Murphy can be in his corner or something, but for not, the logical move is to keep the titles on the Profits and give the fans something to cheer about on Monday.

United States Title: Andrade(c) vs. Humberto Carrillo

This is a match that we've seen multiple times already and I'm not sure how much I want to see it again. The question is whether the story ends here or if we go on to Wrestlemania for a four way match for the title also involving Angel Garza and Rey Mysterio. Either way, you can tell that WWE wants to do something with Carrillo, and after his previous failed attempts to win the title, I don't know how many more times he can come up short

I'll take a shot here and say Carrillo wins the title, as I just can't picture him losing another title match to Andrade. I do expect the four way at Wrestlemania as it could be a cool match, but these matches haven't exactly done much to make me care about the buildup. Odds are the match will be entertaining, but sweet goodness Carrillo wouldn't be able to find charisma if he fell into it. That isn't going to get him very far, but I think he gets the title here.

Drew Gulak vs. Daniel Bryan

This match was set up last night on Smackdown and it's one of the more interesting matches on the show actually. Bryan has been feuding with a few different people as of late, and that makes things a little different. I'm not sure if it's going to mean anything, but it's great to see someone helping out some of the talent who can't get a breathe otherwise. Not many people would do that and it doesn't surprise me that Bryan is one of them who will.

Of course Bryan wins here because as nice as he is, I can't picture him losing to Gulak in a major match. Bryan giving his friends a hand is a big deal and it's something that helps everything out here. I'm not sure where this is leading to (maybe Bryan stands up to Sheamus as the resident top small guy) but for now, he can make Gulak look great and hopefully give him a chance to do something else, albeit with Bryan winning.

Intercontinental Title: Braun Strowman(c) vs. Sami Zayn/Cesaro/Shinsuke Nakamura

Then there's this and I'm not sure what to make of it. Strowman has already beaten Nakamura for the title and now he has to overcome even more odds. Part of the problem here is that Nakamura already held the title for about seven months and didn't do anything with it, because that's how midcard titles work these days. It's not clear if only Nakamura can

win the title, but if he's the only option, it's a lot less interesting in a hurry.

Either way, I'm going with Strowman retaining, if nothing else because he needs to keep the title for a little while to build him back up. There are only so many times you can have him lose and we have long surpassed that number for Strowman. Let him overcome the odds and crush Zayn like a bug, which is the right way to go in something like this. I'm not sure where this is going for everyone but Strowman retaining is the only way to go here.

Aleister Black vs. AJ Styles

If there is one match that can steal the show, this is it. It's officially a rematch from Monday where Styles gave Black his first pinfall loss, albeit with so many asterisks involved that it doesn't really mean much. This one comes down to whether or not Undertaker gets involved, as Styles vs. Undertaker is all but a lot for Wrestlemania. That's going to mean something for the match here and I think I know what it is.

I'll go with Styles to win here, likely with interference from the Good Brothers and capped off with Undertaker giving one of those "signs" of his. Black losing to interference is a lot different than taking a clean loss so hopefully we get somewhere else for him at Wrestlemania. I have no clue where that is but as long as it's not the battle royal, he should be fine. But yeah, Styles wins here.

Raw Women's Elimination Chamber

I think I've made my thoughts on this one about as clear as possible, as has WWE. The Lynch vs. Shayna Baszler match has been teased since November and now we're at the point where it can be set up for Wrestlemania itself. For some reason we need to do that inside the Elimination Chamber rather than just having Baszler beat Asuka in a battle of the best NXT Women's

Champions ever, but then again that doesn't make for the best show name.

In the least surprising result in years for WWE, Baszler wins here, hopefully by eliminating everyone in the match. Baszler vs. Lynch has all but been announced and that has made this match feel completely unimportant as it has been built up. I'm not sure what we are going to be seeing otherwise, but seeing Natalya, Sarah Logan and Liv Morgan treated as serious contenders to the biggest women's match of the year is going to be a lot to take.

Overall Thoughts

What else is there to say about this show? It's one of the least interesting and least important shows that WWE has put on in what feels like forever and the build hasn't changed any of that. The World Champions aren't going to be in the house because their Wrestlemania matches are already set and we have a seven match card (with Bayley/Sasha Banks vs. Naomi/Lacey Evans possibly being added in some form) that doesn't have much on the line. In short, this is a completely lame pay per view that might wind up being watchable due to the work, but that's about all it has to offer.

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