

205 Live – July 23, 2021: Fans Are Back! Just Not Around Here!

205 Live

Date: July 23, 2021

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

We are officially in the FANS ARE BACK period but it isn't going to matter given this show's location. I'm never sure what to expect around here anymore but it's nice to have the show staying at a short pace. That's the best thing that you can have with a show like this, but maybe things can pick up a bit. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Asher Hale vs. Guru Raaj

Rematch from last week where Raaj stole a win. Feeling out process to start with Hale going after the leg without much success. Raaj crank on the arm and grabs a rollup to send Hale outside. Back in and Hale starts on the arm as the 205 chants begin. Raaj fights up and hits a dropkick, followed by a headlock takeover. Hale gets up so Raaj clotheslines him out to the floor but comes up favoring his wrist. The delay lets Hale sweep the leg and tie his legs around Raaj's head for a twist.

Back in and we hit something like an Indian Deathlock with Hale sitting on the back for a bit. That is switched into a Muta Lock until Hale has to let it go. That needs to get more wins. Some kicks to various limbs has Raaj in more trouble but he finally explodes to send Hale into the corner. A series of shoulders in the corner set up a dropkick for two on Hale.

Raaj can't get the backslide he used to win last week so Hale grabs a flipping neckbreaker. A leg trap brainbuster finishes Raaj at 8:25.

Rating: C. Hale continues to look a bit more polished than the rest of the newcomers around here, while Raaj...I'm not exactly sure what he does actually. Nothing really makes him stand out, which is a bit of a problem. It is something that can be fixed without much trouble as he can do the in-ring stuff, but nothing really makes him stand out.

Ari Sterling vs. Jake Atlas

Feeling out process to start with Atlas' waistlock not getting him very far. They trade armdrags to little avail so Atlas cartwheels his way out of a hurricanrana. An exchange of rollups gets two each until Sterling gets in a kick to the head to take over. That lasts all of two seconds as Atlas hits his own kick for his own two. A bodyscissors has Sterling in some quickly escaped trouble so Atlas switches to a waistlock.

That doesn't last long, mainly because it's just a waistlock, so Atlas knees him in the ribs for two instead. It's back to the bodyscissors but Sterling fights up again and hits the flipping ax kick for two. Atlas pops up and pulls him into a half crab, which doesn't last long either. Sterling grabs a Downward Spiral and nails a running kick to the face. Back up and a fall away slam gives Atlas two but Sterling catches him on top. The 450 is cut off though and Atlas grabs the cartwheel DDT for the pin at 9:37.

Rating: C. Atlas is a much better fit here than on NXT, as he doesn't have the personality to hang on the bigger show. The in-ring stuff is fine enough though and he'll be fine around here. Sterling was better here as well, if nothing else because we got to see him doing something other than selling his leg and then making an easy comeback.

Respect is shown post match.

Overall Rating: C. Two decent matches with little in the way of storyline advancement, and we'll probably get Hale vs. Raaj III soon. That being said, neither match was bad and you're in and out in less than twenty seven minutes. It's virtually impossible to get overly annoyed at a show like that and this worked out fine enough. If they actually had a story or something to fight over it would be even better, but this was a throwaway edition if there ever was one.

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