

Ring Of Honor – August 15, 2025 (Bonus Episode): At Least It Had A Cool Shirt

Ring Of Honor

Date: August 15, 2025

Location: Byline Bank Aragon Ballroom, Chicago, Illinois

Commentators: Caprice Coleman, Ian Riccaboni

This is a special edition of the show, which very well may mean that they taped too much and have to do something with all of the footage. We're two weeks away from Death Before Dishonor and odds are that won't have anything to do with this show. The fact that this will be overlapping with TNA Emergence is just a detail I'm sure. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

We run down the card.

TV Title: Willie Mack vs. Nick Wayne

Mack is challenging and Kip Sabian/Mother Wayne are here with Nick. A running shoulder puts Wayne on the floor to start and Mack gets annoyed at the idea of being chopped. They both go outside with Wayne sending him into various things and posing on the barricade. Back in and Mack knocks him silly for a needed breather, followed by some shots to the face. The swinging slam sets up the standing moonsault to give Mack two but Sabian's distraction means he misses the frog splash. The Killswitch retains the title at

Rating: C+. Mack is an entertaining guy to watch in the ring but he's also not going anywhere important anytime soon. Wayne is on his way to getting slaughtered by Adam Copeland and

Christian Cage at Forbidden Door, making his time as TV Champion feel a bit less than important. I'm not sure who takes the title from him, as there aren't many people who have been built up, but it might be time for him to drop the thing already if this is how he's being used.

Shane Taylor Promotions vs. AR Fox/Outrunners

The Promotions jump them from behind to start but Magnum fights back with some dropkicks. A running knee lift sets up Floyd's backdrop for two and it's off to Taylor. Some dropkicks put Taylor on the floor but he's right back with the legdrop on the apron to put Magnum in trouble.

Back in and Bravo works on a chinlock but Dean has to come in to cut off a tag attempt. Taylor pulls Floyd off the apron so Magnum settles for a diving tag off to Fox. House is cleaned in a hurry and it's Floyd coming back in for the slam on Taylor. The Outrunners drop the Infantry but Taylor breaks up the Mega Powers Elbow. Taylor is sent to the floor though and it's the Mega Powers Elbow into Total Recall for the pin on Bravo at 10:45.

Rating: C. Somehow the Outrunners feel like they've lost all of their steam, as the idea is still funny enough but they're just people out there doing things most of the time. It's not as if they feel like they're going anywhere, but this is about all we get from them. At the same time you have the Promotions and...ok if you really think they're ever going to do anything important, you haven't been paying enough attention.

Blake Christian and Lee Johnson talk nicknames but Johnson suggests they win some matches first.

Alex Zayne vs. Jay Lethal

Lethal starts fast by sending him outside for the suicide dives but Zayne slides back in. A springboard moonsault drops Lethal but he's right back with a shot to the face. The Lethal

Injection is blocked and Zayne hits his flipping Fameasser to put them both down. Zayne catches Lethal on top with a hurricanrana but the flipping side slam is blocked. Instead Lethal hits a cutter into the Lethal Injection for the fast pin at 5:40.

Rating: C+. Bringing Lethal back up the ladder a bit isn't a bad idea, as it's nice to see the old and the new tying together for a change. Lethal is still good enough for a completely passable match in the ring and someone can get a nice rub from beating him. That's assuming he doesn't just randomly lose his next match, which is always a realistic possibility.

Paul Walter Hauser is at the premiere of the Naked Gun with some AEW wrestlers.

QT Marshall vs. OXP

Aaron Solo is here with Marshall, who mocks OXP, who acted in Cobra Kai. After establishing that OXP knows Hauser, Marshall tells him to go back to Hollywood. OXP starts fast by slugging away but gets slammed down. A spinning kick to the face drops Marshall but he knocks OXP out of the air. The cutter gives Marshall the pin at 2:46.

Post match Marshall tells OXP to send Hauser this message...and Hauser is here. Well thanks for being there to help your fellow actor. Hauser lays out the heels and stands tall. At least Hauser vs. Marshall feels like a story that has been built up for a few weeks.

We get the same Mina Shirakawa promo from last night, as she challenges Athena for Death Before Dishonor.

Allysin Kay vs. Billie Starkz

Athena is here with Starkz, who tries to start fast but gets pulled out of the air. Starkz snaps Kay's ribs over the middle

rope but Kay kicks her down. A German suplex looks to set up a powerbomb but they trade running forearms instead. Starkz kicks her in the face and hits a German suplex of her own, followed by a crossface chickenwing for the tap at 4:25.

Rating: C-. It was quick and to the point, though I'm not sure why I'm supposed to be interested in Starkz. Other than her association with Athena, there isn't much that makes her stand out. She's only so good in the ring and her claim to fame is a single reign with the midcard title. I'm going to need a bit more than that from her and I don't see it happening anytime soon.

The Dark Order says losing makes them who they are because it makes them want to win more. I'm not sure how much I'd brag about that.

Tom La Ruffa/Beef vs. Lee Johnson/Blake Christian

Christian suplexes Beef down to start and Johnson adds a standing moonsault. Beef gets grounded in the corner for some choking and Johnson grabs a chinlock. That's broken up and Beef brings La Ruffa in as everything breaks down. Beef is sent outside and it's a Death Valley Driver/top rope double stomp combination to finish La Ruffa at 4:10.

Rating: C. I guess Johnson and Christian are the next team in line to allegedly challenge for the Tag Team Titles, assuming they're active at some point in the next few months. Granted it would have helped had they not lost last week, but there was no choice but to book them in a match against Mistico. I kind of like the team though, as it isn't like there are all kinds of better options.

Marina Shafir vs. Marti Belle

Jon Moxley is actually in Shafir's corner as Shafir shoves Belle down to start. Shafir takes her to the mat for the mounting but Belle escapes a cross armbreaker attempt. That's

fine with Shafir, who takes her down again and strikes away in the corner. The full nelson doesn't last long as Belle gets more serious and tries hitting Shafir in the face. Shafir tells her to do it better and sticks her chin out, with Shafir just standing there as she gets hit. Mother's Milk finishes Belle at 4:12.

Rating: C. Having Moxley there did make the match feel a bit more important, though Shafir is another name who is just kind of floating through the women's division without much to do. She would be a different kind of challenger for Athena, assuming she gets by Shirakawa. The match was just a squash though, with Shafir literally standing there while Belle hit her in the face. That doesn't exactly scream tough competition, which made Shafir look better.

Adam Priest wants some backup so here are the Workhorsesmen to offer their services. JD Drake has a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles shirt on so Priest better accept.

Adam Priest/Workhorsesmen vs. Ryan Zukko/Joe Keys/Josh Fuller

I guess Priest accepted. Henry takes Keys into the corner to start and it's off to Priest, who is powered into the wrong corner just as fast. Zukko comes in and gets jawbreakered, setting up a slingshot hilo from Drake. Fuller comes in and is taken down in a hurry, setting up Priest's piledriver into a Downward Spiral/running kick combination to give Henry the pin at 4:02.

Rating: C+. You know all those times I've complained about potential challengers not getting to face champions? Well that is NOT the case with Priest and the Workhorsesmen as they were announced as facing the six man champions. That's right, the CMLL Trios Champions! They were fine as a team, though I'll need to see more than a four minute squash to have a better idea about them.

Post match the beatdown continues but the Dark Order runs in

for the save.

We run down the Death Before Dishonor card with....nothing new added!

Hechicero vs. Jordan Oliver

Somehow this is Oliver's first time in ROH. Hechicero takes him down to start but Oliver is up for some chops. Oliver counters a leapfrog but Hechicero takes his leg down and ties it up in the ropes. Hechicero takes his straps down but puts them back up before cranking on the leg again. A sunset flip gives Oliver two but Hechicero ties up his arms for the submission at 5:28.

Rating: C+. Hechicero is very fun to watch and they've made him feel like a killer out there. That's the kind of thing that can make into a threat to Bandido and that's a good way to set up Death Before Dishonor. I don't buy Hechicero winning the title, but it's a match that has me intrigued and I'll always go for that feeling.

Neon/Mascara Dorada vs. Premiere Athletes

Mark Sterling is here with the Athletes. Nese and Neon start things off with Nese going for the mask, earning himself a hurricanrana. Dorada comes in with a double superkick to Daivari but Nese pulls Dorada outside so the villains can take over. Back in and Neon gets caught in the wrong corner, allowing Nese to shout his team's name.

Nese hammers on Neon's mask but Neon fights up, allowing the tag off to Dorada to pick up the pace. A rolling cutter hits Nese but Sterling offers a distraction, allowing the Athletes to give Dorada a double chokeslam. Neon makes the save and superkicks Sterling down, setting up stereo flipping splashes off the top for the double pin on the Athletes at 6:55.

Rating: B-. This has been back to back weeks when CMLL stars

(including Dorada both times) have beaten teams talking about coming after the Tag Team Titles. That's not the most promising sign for the titles' future, but the CMLL wrestlers are presented as bigger stars than most of the Ring Of Honor regulars anyway. At least Dorada and Neon are fun to watch.

We get an old west vignette showing Bandido beating up a bunch of villains in a saloon. Hechicero shows up and they have a finger gun standoff.

Overall Rating: D+. After an hour and thirty five minutes of this show, a grand total of nothing important has happened. There was nothing announced for Death Before Dishonor, no stories moved forward, and the biggest change seems to be that Adam Priest and the Workhorsesmen (who got together during this show) are now going to have to deal with the Dark Order.

At least when other promotions try to counter program, they do something interesting or important. That was absolutely not the case here with a bunch of middle of the road matches that just made me more tired of watching ROH than wanting to see their pay per view. Throw in STILL no announcement on either of Dustin Rhodes' titles and this was one of the worst uses of broadcast time I've seen in a very good while.

Results

Nick Wayne b. Willie Mack – Killswitch

Outrunners/AR Fox b. Shane Taylor Promotions – Total Recall to Bravo

Jay Lethal b. Alex Zayne – Lethal Injection

QT Marshall b. OXP – Cutter

Billie Starkz b. Allysin Kay – Crossface chickenwing

Lee Johnson/Blake Christian b. Tom La Ruffa/Beef – Top rope double stomp/Death Valley Driver combination to La Ruffa

Marina Shafir b. Marti Belle – Mother's Milk

Adam Priest/Workhorsesmen b. Joe Keys/Ryan Zukko/Josh Fuller – Downward Spiral/running kick combination to Fuller

Hechicero b. Jordan Oliver – Double arm crank

Neon/Mascara Dorada b. Premiere Athletes – Double pin

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