

Ring Of Honor – June 13, 2024: Happy Birthday

Ring Of Honor

Date: June 13, 2024

Location: Acrisure Arena, Palm Desert, California

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Caprice Coleman

Maybe it's false hope but the Kyle Fletcher pinning World Champion Mark Briscoe this week on Dynamite has me wondering what they might be doing for the title going forward. Briscoe hasn't defended the title in two months now so maybe he'll have something to do. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

We run down the card.

Billie Starkz vs. Sandra Moone

Non-title Proving Ground match, meaning if Moone wins or survives the ten minute time limit, she gets a future title shot. Moone gets in a quick shot to start but Starkz knocks her down and scores with a kick to the ribs. Moone's elbow out of the corner just annoys Starkz again and we hit the double arm crank. That's broken up and Moone sends her outside for the dive. Starkz's Swanton attempt is blocked but she knocks Moone off the top. The Swanton...isn't launched as Starkz drops down again. A half nelson fish hook chickenwing makes Moone give up at 4:58.

Rating: C. That's a Proving Ground match alright, though Moone did get in some offense to make it a bit better. Starkz seems to have her next challenger set up in Red Velvet though, making this little more than a warmup for her before that

match, likely in a little over a month. Not much to the match, but that's not the point of something like this.

Nick Comoroto/Jacoby Watts vs. Shane Taylor Promotions

Moriarty strikes away at Comoroto but a gorilla press puts Moriarty down. Watts comes in but stops to tell the fans to praise him. It's off to Taylor for the shove off with Comoroto, the latter of whom skins the cat. Taylor plants him with a release Rock Bottom into a splash for two. Comoroto fights up and powerslams Moriarty, with Watts tagging himself in for two. Moriarty sends Comoroto face first into the middle buckle though and Taylor hits the big right hand for the pin at 4:20.

Rating: C-. Here's the problem: we just saw Comoroto treated like a total jobber on Dynamite. That doesn't make me want to see him do something here, especially something as lame as the story with Watts. Having ROH stars as jobbers in AEW doesn't make them feel bigger. It just makes Ring Of Honor feel that much less important.

Taya Valkyrie and Johnny TV aren't happy with recent loses. Valkyrie is ready to knock Queen Aminata off her throne.

Red Velvet vs. Viva Van

Velvet headlocks her down into a chinlock to start as commentary talks about Forbidden Door. Van is back up with a cravate and knees to the face but Velvet fights out of a cross armbreaker attempt. Velvet works on the arm for a change until Van runs the corner and bounces around for a wristdrag. Some running knees against the rope rock Van and the Mix finishes Van off at 5:12.

Rating: C. It's pretty clear that Velvet is set for the TV Title shot and that isn't a bad thing. She's been built up well in recent weeks, though I still don't think I can imagine her actually winning the title. For now though, she got a nice

win against Van as she gets to keep the pace with Starkz, who did the same thing earlier.

Lance Archer/Righteous vs. Top Flight/Action Andretti vs. Dark Order vs. Infantry/Dalton Castle

Andretti snapmares Reynolds down to start but misses a kick to the head. Top Flight and Andretti start in on Reynolds' arm until he scores with an elbow to the face. Uno comes in to Russian legsweep Dante for two but Dante brings in Bravo to pick up the pace. Everything breaks down (I'm shocked it took that long) with Archer getting to wreck just about everyone.

Dean manages to duck a corner clothesline though and it's Castle coming in for the parade of suplexes. Castle's falling splash gets two on Dutch with a bunch of people making the save. Dante and Reynolds slug it out but stop to beat up Dutch and Archer. Silver comes back in for the Spin Doctor on Dante and Castle DDT's Darius, who rolls to the floor rather quickly. Top Flight's double swinging slam finishes Reynolds at 9:14.

Rating: B-. This was exactly the match you would expect from something like this one: all action, nothing that resembles a story throughout, and the winner likely gains nothing. That being said, I don't think there is anything to suggest that it was supposed to be something other than that. I don't need to see this every week, but once in awhile can make for a fun fast paced match.

Diamante/Marina Shafir/Alex Windsor vs. Lady Frost/Abadon/Leyla Hirsch

Marina and Leyla start things off with a grapple exchange going to a standoff. Leyla takes her down and Abadon comes in with a backsplash for two. A bite to the arm sends Marina over for the tag to Diamante, who gets chopped into the corner by Frost. Abadon is sent into the corner so Shafir can start cranking on the legs to take over. A save is made and

everything breaks down with Windsor hitting an Angle Slam for two, with Abadon breaking it up. Windsor's Shining Wizard sets up a spinning brainbuster for the big upset pin on Leyla at 7:21.

Rating: C+. Just like the previous match, it was hard to get much out of this with so many people running around. I can go with Windsor getting a win, but there is a good chance that this was the best way they had to make her feel like a bigger deal before her match against Toni Storm on Collision. In other words, it's a nice moment which isn't likely to get her very far.

Harley Cameron vs. Trish Adora

Cameron grabs a headlock to start but Adora snapmares her into a double arm crank. A rolling sunset flip gives Adora two but Cameron takes her down for a lick to the cheek. Adora is right back with her Air Raid Crash leg crank, only to have Cameron slip out and hit a sliding Downward Spiral. Cameron grabs a cross arm choke but Adora powers her into the corner for some hips to the face. Back up and they collide, with Cameron going to the throat. A running kick to the chest gives Cameron the pin at 5:56.

Rating: C. Cameron is the bigger star, but dang it always feels like Adora should be on her way to something bigger somewhere. At the same time, putting Cameron, who is still very inexperienced, in there with someone like Adora is a good idea, as she can help Cameron learn. Not much of a match, but Cameron has made some strides in the ring.

Kingdom vs. Che Cabrera/Bad Dude Tito

Another non-title Proving Ground match. Tito chops away at Taven to start, at least until a dropkick takes his leg out. Cabrera comes in for a double flapjack but Taven gets in a neck snap. Taven's running splash in the corner misses but it's back to Bennett to strike away. Tito gets in a hard

clothesline though and it's Cabrera coming back in to clean house. A Sky High gets two on Bennett but it's the Death Valley Driver to cut Cabrera off. Just The Tip into Hail Mary finishes for Bennett at 6:15.

Rating: C+. Nice enough match here, but again it's hard to get into the idea of a match with ten minutes at most and little reason to believe that the champs were going to lose. Cabrera and Tito looked good out there and commentary mentioned they had experience. It was easy to see that they have a history, though it's hard to showcase that in a match that barely gets six minutes.

Overall Rating: C+. Another show that feels rather like the norm for Ring Of Honor, with all kinds of people running around doing their thing and little that actually stands out. There is also little that feels like it matters going forward, which is a bit of a stretch with about five weeks to go before Death Before Dishonor. I would say Ring Of Honor needs to work on that, but that has been the case for years now.

Results

Billie Starkz b. Sandra Moone – Fishhook chickenwing

Shane Taylor Promotions b. Nick Comoroto/Jacoby Watts – Right hand to Comoroto

Red Velvet b. Viva Van – The Mix

Top Flight/Action Andretti b. Dark Order, Dalton Castle/The Infantry and Lance Archer/Righteous – Double swinging slam to Reynolds

Diamante/Marina Shafir/Alex Windsor b. Lady Frost/Abadon/Leyla Hirsch – Spinning brainbuster to Hirsch

Harley Cameron b. Trish Adora – Running kick to the chest

Kingdom b. Che Cabrera/Bad Dude Tito – Hail Mary to Cabrera

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Rampage – May 24, 2024: They Can Do It

Rampage

Date: May 24, 2024

Location: Mechanics Bank Arena, Bakersfield, California

Commentators: Excalibur, Tony Schiavone

We are two days away from Double Or Nothing and that means this show should be about hyping up the pay per view. That shouldn't be hard to do as there are a lot of big matches already set for the show. We might even get some extra star power this week as the show is at least back on its normal day. Let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Pac vs. Rocky Romero

Chris Jericho, with Big Bill, is on commentary. Romero tries

to take him down to start but has to avoid a big boot to the chest, allowing him to pull Pac into the ropes. Pac isn't having that and knocks him to the floor for a dive as we take a break. Back with Romero hitting a running Sliced Bread for two, followed by a nasty tornado DDT to send Pac outside. The suicide dive gives Romero two but Pac sends him into the corner for a snap German suplex. The Brutalizer makes Romero tap at 7:12.

Rating: C+. The action was fast, but it's another Romero lost. He's a good hand, but why is he getting this much ring time if he isn't going to win any important matches? I get the whole international connections thing, though you would think at some point there would be a better option to put out there.

Pac takes his time letting go but joins the Lucha Bros on the stag. He says the Bros will see the Gunns tomorrow and then they're coming for the Trios Titles at Double Or Nothing.

Chris Jericho grabs the mic and says his triple threat match at Double Or Nothing is under FTW Rules and he can't wait to face both Katsuyori Shibata and Hook. The insincerity is strong but Shibata comes in to go after Jericho, with Hook coming up to give Jericho the Redrum. Jericho and Hook brawl into the crowd.

Post break Hook promises to get the FTW Title back but Samoa Joe pops in. Hook tells him to worry about getting his own title back. Joe says he's biding his time and he thought there was something special about Hook. He isn't impressed with Hook or Katsuyori Shibata. Joe and Hook leave, with Shibata saying he's going to see Carrot Top after he wins the title.

Samoa Joe vs. Dom Kubrick

Kubrick fires off a dropkick, which seems to annoy Joe. That earns Kubrick some shots into the corner and the MuscleBuster gives Joe the pin at 1:20. Ticked off Joe is always fun.

Deonna Purrazzo wants a wrestling match with Thunder Rosa at Double Or Nothing...on the Buy-In.

Rush vs. Isiah Kassidy

Rush jumps him at the bell and hits the Bull's Horns but steps off at two. They head to the floor, with Kassidy being sent into the barricade a few times. Rush hammers away and throws a chair inside, which is enough of a distraction to let him whip Kassidy a few times with a camera cable.

Back in and the Bull's Horns is loaded up but instead he slaps Kassidy in the face and poses as we take a break. We come back with Kassidy hitting a dive and adding a Swanton for two. They chop it out on the apron but Kassidy gets suplexed out to the floor. Back in and the Bull's Horns finishes for Rush at 9:04.

Rating: C+. What a weird match, as Rush's custom is to squash people, but instead he needed that much time to beat a career tag wrestler. I'm not sure what the point of Rush is at the moment, other than being rather intense, as he hasn't done anything important since his return last month. This probably should have been a squash, but Kassidy's comeback being cut off so fast was entertaining enough.

Brian Cage and the Gates Of Agony say the Mogul Embassy is done and brag about Cage beating Anthony Bowens last week. The team is now apparently called the Cage Of Agony in a name that probably took weeks to put together.

Double Or Nothing rundown.

Willow Nightingale/Kris Statlander vs. Anna Jay/Alex Windsor

Stokely Hathaway is here with Nightingale and Statlander. Jay gets tossed out of the corner by Statlander to start so it's off to Windsor, who gets caught with a basement crossbody. The Pounce knocks Windsor silly so it's off to Jay, who manages a neckbreaker over the ropes to cut Statlander off. We take a

break and come back with Statlander German suplexing Windsor, allowing the tag back to Nightingale. The spinebuster gets two on Jay but Windsor is back in with a Shining Wizard for the same. Nightingale has had it and runs Windsor over, setting up the Babe With The Powerbomb for the pin at 9:22.

Rating: B-. Nice match here, which is impressive as Nightingale and Statlander are a good bit higher up on the food chain than Jay and a debuting Windsor. Jay and Windsor worked well together and it was nice to see some fresh blood in there. Nightingale winning a pretty big match on the way to Double Or Nothing is nice so well done on going the right way.

Post match Mercedes Mone comes out to brawl with Nightingale and they're pulled apart to end the show. Mone getting physical is nice to see after so many weeks of talking, but dang she has her work cut out for her.

Overall Rating: B-. The best thing I can say about this show is that it had more energy. Rampage has a bad tendency to just feel kind of there, and at least this one built up towards some Double Or Nothing matches. Mone alone felt like something special and I'm somewhat more excited for the pay per view. Just make it work on Sunday and everything will be fine. Nice show this week, and a more energetic effort than previous weeks.

Results

Pac b. Rocky Romero – Brutalizer

Samoa Joe b. Dom Kubrick – MuscleBuster

Rush b. Isiah Kassidy – Bull's Horns

Willow Nightingale/Kris Statlander b. Anna Jay/Alex Windsor – Babe With The Powerbomb to Windsor

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