NXT UK - March 12, 2020: Keep Calm And Wrestle On



IMG Credit: WWE

NXT UK

Date: March 12, 2020

Location: Coventry Skydome, Coventry, England Commentators: Andy Williams, Nigel McGuinness

We're on a fresh taping cycle and that means we're on the way towards Dublin for the next Takeover. You can probably guarantee a Finn Balor vs. Walter United Kingdom Title match and that could be a heck of a showdown. The rest of the show is yet to be built but they still have time to get there. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

Here's Balor to get things going. He's not here because he wants to boost the ratings but because he wants Walter. Therefore, here's Walter, but the rest of Imperium follows him out. They come in after him but Balor nails a Sling Blade and bails in a hurry for fear of being destroyed.

Viper got involved in the I Quit match because she couldn't let Kay Lee Ray cripple Toni Storm. Ray is evil and Viper isn't standing for that.

Video on Tyler Bate.

Pretty Deadly vs. Dereiss Gordon/Dan Moloney

Stoker and Howley throw their shirts at them to start and the beatdown is on in a hurry. Stoker takes Moloney into the corner to start so Howley can come in for a headlock. Moloney gets in a suplex and works on the arm before handing it off to Gordon for the same. A headscissors and leg lariat give Gordon a fast two but he gets taken into the corner as Nigel tries to figure out which movie characters Stoker and Howley look like.

Stoker gets two and it's back to Howley for a running uppercut in the corner. A chinlock is broken up though and Howley gets shoved away, allowing the hot tag off to Moloney to start cleaning house. Everything breaks down though and Moloney gets caught in Deadly Pretty for the pin at 6:08.

Rating: D+. Pretty Deadly continues to be just kind of there, but establishing a new team with some wins is fine enough. It's always hard to figure out what you have with a team when they keep beating jobbers so maybe we don't know what they've got. They're far from wasted or anything so just give them a bit more time.

Alexander demands and receives a match against Finn Balor tonight. He leaves so here is Jordan Devlin, who is told he will be defending the title in two weeks against Travis Banks.

Gallus and Dave Mastiff/Flash Morgan Webster/Mark Andrews set up a six man for next week.

<u>Ligero vs. Noam Dar</u>

Dar grabs the arm to start and then PULLS THE HORN to annoy Ligero. A missed charge in the corner makes things worse for Ligero and Dar sends him outside for the big crash. Back in and Dar makes bullfighting jokes before stomping away even more. Ligero fights up and kicks him to the floor for the slingshot dive, followed by the reverse DDT for two back inside. The Lethal Injection is countered into a Fujiwara armbar though, meaning Ligero has to counter into a rollup for two. A missed charge lets Dar kick him in both legs and the Nova Roller is good for the pin at 6:13.

Rating: C-. Dar is someone else who keeps going up and down without doing much in the way of going forward. He's a good choice to keep around though and that's not the worst place to be. They need something for him to do, or at least a feud, but having him out there doing random matches is fine enough for now.

Travis Banks promises to win the title in two weeks.

Amele vs. Dani Luna

Feeling out process to start with Amele taking her down by the arm and controlling with a wristlock. Back up and Amele switches to a hammerlock but Luna lifts her up without much trouble. A suplex drops Amele but here's Kay Lee Ray to jump Amele for the DQ at 1:59.

Post match Ray clears the ring and says there is no making a name for yourself around here. Luna tries to fight back but gets knocked down again.

Video on Aoife Valkyrie.

<u>Alexander Wolfe vs. Finn Balor</u>

Balor takes him down by the arm to start before rolling through a sunset flip into a basement dropkick. The chinlock has Wolfe in early trouble but he's right back up, only to get stomped down in the corner. Running chops in the corner make it even worse so Wolfe kicks him in the ribs a few times. We hit the waistlock and here's the rest of Imperium for the menacing stares.

The bearhug stays on Balor's ribs until he forearms his way to freedom, followed by running forearms to keep up the trend. Balor stomps away while glaring down at Walter, meaning it's time for Imperium to try and interfere. That's broken up and we get an ejection but Wolfe scores with a running clothesline. A powerbomb is broken up and Balor hits a double stomp, followed by an Eye of the Hurricane. The shotgun dropkick sets up the Coup de Grace and 1916 finishes Wolfe at 8:21.

Rating: C+. This was just a step below a squash for Balor, who ran through Wolfe like he wasn't even there. That's what they should be doing

with him though as Balor is likely getting the big showdown title shot against Walter and it makes sense to have him run through Imperium to get there. It's not like losing to a former World Champion is a downgrade so everything is fine.

Overall Rating: D+. Pretty nothing show this time around with only the main event meaning anything, and even then it wasn't that much. The weak first night of a taping seems to be the norm around here though and hopefully that is the case this time around too. This wasn't a good show for the most part and while we are kind of starved for sporting events at the moment, it didn't make things that much better.

<u>Results</u>

Pretty Deadly b. Dereiss Gordon/Dan Moloney — Deadly Pretty to Moloney

Noam Dar b. Ligero — Nova Roller

Amele b. Dani Luna via DQ when Kay Lee Ray interfered

Finn Balor b. Alexander Wolfe - 1916

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the paperback edition of KB's Complete 2004 Monday Night Raw Reviews (also available as an e-book) from Amazon. Check out the information here:

http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2019/08/26/new-book-and-e-book-k
bs-complete-2004-monday-night-raw-reviews/

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6

NXT UK — February 13, 2020: Wait For Valentine's Day



IMG Credit: WWE

NXT UK

Date: February 13, 2020

Location: York Barbican, York, England Commentators: Tom Phillips, Aiden English

This taping cycle has to be finishing up soon but things are never exactly the same around here as they are everywhere else. What matters is that we are pretty clearly setting up Dave Mastiff as the next challenger to Walter in what could be a heck of a fun match. Other than that, Gallus is dealing with Danny Burch and Oney Lorcan tonight. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

Aoife Valkyrie vs. Amele

They're both making their debut. Valkyrie grabs a front facelock into a headlock to start but spends too much time talking to the referee about a count. That lets Amele knee her in the ribs, only to get elbowed in the face for two. Valkyrie sweeps the leg into a standing moonsault for two and it's time to strike away at Amele. A Pele drops her and a spinning kick to the head does it again, setting up a top rope ax kick to give

Valkyrie the pin at 3:33.

Rating: C. The strikes looked very good here and believe it or not, they might have gone a bit too long. Valkyrie has a lot of potential and certainly came in strong, which is how things should go in a debut. Hopefully we get some more of her in a hurry, as those kicks were rather hard hitting.

Travis Banks is talking about Worlds Collide when Alexander Wolfe comes in to say how much people are talking about Imperium winning, plus Banks failing.

Dave Mastiff vs. Saxon Huxley

Huxley kicks him in the face to start so Mastiff gets in a slam and chop. The delayed vertical suplex sets up the elbows to Huxley's head but he's back up with some forearms. Mastiff runs him over and hits a backsplash though, followed by a running seated senton to continue Walter's offense. Into The Void finishes Huxley at 3:09.

Rating: D+. Not much of a match here but Mastiff being set up for Walter gets my interest. I know he has no chance of winning the title but they've done a good job of setting Mastiff up as a monster for Walter to slay. If nothing else, it's always nice to see Huxley getting destroyed in a hurry like this.

Post match Mastiff does the Imperium pose to really rub it in.

Toni Storm tells Sid Scala and Johnny Saint to make the I Quit match against Kay Lee Ray. The contract is signed, and if Storm loses, she can never challenge for the title again.

Here are the Grizzled Young Veterans for a chat. Zack Gibson talks about how awesome they are and how they've beaten every team that they've faced so far. So what's next? Facing seven teams at once with Johnny Saint as guest referee? NXT General Manager William Regal sees talent though and knows that the two of them are soon to be recognized as the best in the world.

Regal is from Blackpool just like James Drake and Gibson is from

Liverpool, just like the Beatles. They're in York though and this place is a joke, just like the Hunt. The fans need to get their phones out and take their pictures because an appearance from the Veterans is worth the price of admission. Another good heel promo from Gibson, but we've heard it quite a few times before.

Joseph Conners interrupts a merchandise plug and wants to know why he isn't in the program. He'll beat Tyler Bate next week and then he'll get some merchandise of his own.

Amir Jordan vs. Joe Coffey

Coffey, with Gallus outside, slams Jordan down to start but runs into a dropkick. An overhead belly to belly sends Coffey flying and a wheelbarrow faceplant gets two. Coffey stomps away in the corner and we hit the armbar. Coffey: "GALLUS BOYS ON TOP!" Jordan fights up and hits a headscissors driver, setting up a middle rope crossbody. That's enough to send Coffey outside so Jordan hits a dive, only to have his swanton hit knees. The Glasgow Sendoff sets up All The Best For The Bells to finish Jordan at 5:00.

Rating: D+. Somewhat extended squash here and that's all it needed to be. Gallus is going to be dealing with Ilja Dragunov (and likely some friends) in the near future so having Joe crush some people on the way there is fine. Not a good match or anything, but Jordan was less annoying than usual.

Post match Coffey promises that they'll deal with Dragunov, Burch and Lorcan soon enough.

Gallus vs. Danny Burch/Oney Lorcan

Non-title and it's Mark Coffey/Wolfgang here with Joe on the floor. Danny and Mark start things off and don't get very far early on. Wolfgang comes in and grabs a headlock takeover and it's already back to Mark for an armbar. Burch drives him into the corner though and it's Lorcan coming in for a double atomic drop. So much for Lorcan staying in as Burch is right back in for uppercuts.

Mark shows him how to really do one though and Burch is taken down for Mark's chinlock. That's broken up and a dive through the rope allows the tag to Lorcan. The running hip attack is cut off in a hurry though and it's Lorcan in trouble in a hurry. Wolfgang hits a running backsplash into another chinlock to keep Lorcan down. Mark comes back in to stomp away but Lorcan gets annoyed at taking such a beating.

The chops don't do much good as Wolfgang hits a Wasteland, only to miss the moonsault. Burch gets the hot tag and starts suplexing/headbutting. Everything breaks down and Lorcan hits a running Blockbuster on Mark. The Crossface has Mark in trouble and Lorcan adds a half crab on Wolfgang, only to get kicked into Burch and Mark for the save. The powerslam/enziguri combination finishes Burch at 10:41.

Rating: C+. It was the only match of the night to get any significant amount of time and even then they didn't exactly light the world on fire here. Burch and Lorcan have been dispatched in a hurry and unfortunately I have a feeling that we'll be seeing them as Dragunov's backup anyway. It takes away a lot of their impact, but it's quite the WWE trope so odds are it's what we get.

Post match Dragunov comes out for the fight with Joe but Gallus takes him out to end the show.

Overall Rating: C-. Pretty skippable show here as it was all about setting things up for later rather than what we were getting this week. They've got enough stuff at the moment for some big TV shows and that's a lot better than having to wait for the next Takeover. It's not a bad show, but nothing worth going out of your way to see.

Results

Aoife Valkyrie b. Amele - Top rope ax kick

Dave Mastiff b. Saxon Huxley - Into The Void

Joe Coffey b. Amir Jordan — All The Best For The Bells

Gallus b. Oney Lorcan/Danny Burch — Powerslam/enziguri combination to Burch

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the paperback edition of KB's Complete 2004 Monday Night Raw Reviews (also available as an e-book) from Amazon. Check out the information here:

http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2019/08/26/new-book-and-e-book-k
bs-complete-2004-monday-night-raw-reviews/

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6