

IBRO ALL-TIME RATINGS

June 30, 2019

Junior Welterweight Ratings

1. Aaron Pryor (293)
2. Julio Cesar Chavez (268)
3. Antonio Cervantes (171)
4. Nicolino Locche (147)
5. Barney Ross (146)
6. Kostya Tszyu (113)
7. Wilfred Benitez (110)
8. Duilio Loi (90)
9. Jackie "Kid" Berg (80)
10. Eddie Perkins (77)

Others receiving votes (over 25 points) Tony Canzoneri (69), Floyd Mayweather (34), Manny Pacquiao (32), Pernell Whitaker (26)

Summary:

- The winner of our first ever Jr. Welterweight poll was none other than Aaron Pryor running away with it, totaling 293 points. Pryor never lost a fight at 140 pounds or below. Pryor had 16 first-place votes, 9 second-place votes and no one voted for him outside of the top 5.
- Finishing in 2nd place was Julio Cesar Chavez, of Mexico, with 268 points. No other boxer had over 200 points. JC was 13-0-1 in his first reign as champion at this weight and won 5 more in his second. Chavez had 11 first-place votes, 10 second-place votes, and 7 third-place votes. Every voter had Chavez inside the top 10. Chavez now has the honor of finishing 2nd at Jr. Lightweight, 11th at Lightweight and 2nd at Jr. Welterweight.
- Two-time champion Antonio Cervantes of Colombia finished 3rd among all ballots. 30 of 32 voters had Cervantes in the top 10.
- Nicolino Locche of Argentina finished 4th. 29 of 32 voters had Locche in the top 10.
- Barney Ross finished but a single point behind Locche. Only 20 of 32 voters voted for Ross. Voters voted for Ross highly or didn't vote for him at all. Again there seemed to be confusion on whether to rate Ross at this weight but since he held the title and made seven defenses (a few of these were also lightweight title fights with both titles at stake) and also won the Jr. Welterweight title a second time he should have been considered by all voters.

- Russian born Kostya Tszyu, who became the first undisputed Jr. Welterweight champion in 30 years when he unified the titles in 2001, finished in the 6th place spot. 28 of 32 voters had Tszyu in the top 10.
- Wilfred Benitez of Puerto Rico finished only 3 points lower than Tszyu. Benitez's low placing is somewhat surprising since he clearly beat 3rd place finisher Cervantes for the title when he was just 17. The youngest professional boxing champion in history received votes from just 24 of 32 voters.
- Duilio Loi of Italy who had 115 wins to only 3 losses and 8 draws finished in the 8th spot.
- Jackie "Kid" Berg held the 9th spot while Eddie Perkins finished in the top 10.
- Surprising to some will be that Floyd Mayweather Jr, Manny Pacquiao, and Pernell Whitaker failed to make the cut as did recent unified champion Terrence Crawford.
- Pacquiao had only one fight at Jr. Welterweight, his title win over Ricky Hatton, it was a signature win but its only one win. That is not enough to be considered dominant in the eyes of many voters.
- Mayweather is in a similar case, he had only 3 fights at Jr. Welter, 2 title eliminators and the best competition he faced at that weight was an outclassed Arturo Gatti. This is not enough of an impact on the division to be rated very highly.
- The same thing with Pernell Whitaker, he had only one title fight at Jr. Welterweight. The lack of a mark on the division kept most voters from rating him at this weight.
- Crawford is a bit different, he had 7 title fights at the weight, but many of these were WBO against less than stellar competition. Combine this with the fact that many voters will not evaluate a young fighter until their career is over or they have seen enough to evaluate their careers. Such is the case with Crawford, for many it is too soon to tell.

The Rules:

Vote for 10 fighters.

1 point is awarded for a 10th place vote.

2 points are awarded for a 9th place vote and so on, with a 1st place vote awarded 10 points.

Compiled by Monte Cox, Chairman, IBRO All-Time Ratings