



Borg: Cox keeping the right company to launch title bid

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COACH Tony Borg says Jamie Cox can only benefit from being surrounded by like-minded people at his St Joseph's gym.

Cox, who hails from Swindon, has suffered a stagnated career of late but is due to return to the ring on Saturday, May 9 at Cardiff's Motorpoint Arena.

His eight-round contest in the Welsh capital will be the first time the 33-year-old has set foot in a ring for two years.

However, the super-middleweight, who opted to join forces with Borg after suffering a knockout defeat to George Groves in October 2017, is looking to work his way back into title contention this year.

Cox joins Welsh stars and stablemates Lee Selby and Gavin Gwynne on the Matchroom bill, while former St Joes favourite Sean McGoldrick also features.

Borg, who coaches Cox, Selby and Gwynne, says all three bring different attributes and strengths to his Newport gym.

"Gavin is on the card, Lee is obviously on there and then Jamie is on there too," he said.

"All of the guys have different styles and they're all different weights, so they all bring something different to the gym.

"Lee's dedicated, he wasn't as a kid, so he shows what can be done when you put your mind to it.

"Gavin loves to train and fight, and Jamie has been schooled well, he has been knocking everyone over so is a massive puncher.

"Jamie could be sat there



COMEBACK: Tony Borg-trained fighter Jamie Cox, who last fought in May 2018. Picture: www.liamhartery.com

thinking, 'what would I be like if I was a bit more like Lee' and Lee would be thinking 'what would I be like if I hit as hard as Jamie or loved to train like Gavin'.

"They all have something positive going for them."

Southpaw Cox currently has two defeats to his name after being beaten by both Groves and John Ryder.

Having watched Ryder flourish in the last 18 months, Borg says a lot of

people were wrong to write off Cox after that loss to the Londoner in May 2018.

"If you look at what Groves has done in his career and then you look at what Ryder has done since he fought Jamie, his record isn't as bad as what people thought at the time," he added.

"He didn't get beaten by a journeyman, he got beaten at the highest level, so I don't think it looks as damaging as it did at the time."

● Eddie Hearn expects Billy Joe Saunders' blockbuster showdown against Mexican superstar Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez to go ahead provided the global coronavirus pandemic does not eat into boxing's summer schedule.

Saunders edged out fellow unbeaten British super-middleweight Callum Smith for a highly sought after bout against Alvarez, the pound-for-pound superstar who

has only lost to Floyd Mayweather in a 56-fight professional career.

But a proposed May 2 date, which coincides with the Cinco de Mayo weekend celebrations, when Alvarez likes to align his fights, has been called off because of the Covid-19 outbreak that has decimated the sporting calendar.

Muddying the waters about rescheduling the contest are reports in the Unit-

ed States suggesting Alvarez has already agreed to a highly-anticipated trilogy bout against middleweight rival Gennady Golovkin on September 12.

Hearn, Saunders' promoter, still expects the WBO super-middleweight champion to take on Alvarez this summer, but admitted matters have been taken out of his hands because of the uncertain landscape at present.

Possible Premier extension could lead to AJ date change

PROMOTER Eddie Hearn has admitted Anthony Joshua's next world heavyweight title defence against Kubrat Pulev could be pushed back a month to July.

Joshua is scheduled to face the Bulgarian at Tottenham's new stadium on June 20, but that date could now be required by the club for a potential extension of the Premier League campaign.

Hearn, whose

Matchroom organisation earlier confirmed the postponement of all boxing events in March and April, once again dismissed the prospect of any of his major bouts being staged behind closed doors.

Referring to the June 20 date, Hearn told Sky Sports News: "At the moment, it's still in place.

"Obviously with the news of the Euros being cancelled (Euro 2020 has been postponed until next

year) and the possible extension of the Premier League season, Spurs may need that stadium in June.

"We do have an option to run that fight in July as well at the same stadium. Everything now is really a case-by-case situation and a day-by-day situation of trying to think on your feet.

"June 20 is a long time away, it's still in our plans and we have been speaking to Tottenham to make sure we're all on the same page

and that we know we have the same strategy moving forward."

Prior to Joshua's bout with Pulev, Dillian Whyte is scheduled to meet Alexander Povetkin on May 2 and Dereck Chisora is set to face Oleksandr Usyk on May 23 - both bouts which Hearn says are "subject to change".

The London show featuring Josh Kelly's European title clash with David Avanesyan has been

cancelled and all bouts will be subsumed into other future cards.

The April 4 Newcastle show, featuring Lewis Ritson versus Miguel Vazquez as well as a world title shot for Savannah Marshall, has been rearranged for June 27, and the April 24 Doncaster bout between Terri Harper and Natasha Jonas will also take place in June on a date to be confirmed.

Queensberry Promotions

announced the heavyweight bout between Daniel Dubois and Joe Joyce scheduled for the O2 Arena on April 11 has now been moved back to July 11.

Josh Taylor's world title fight on May 2 in Glasgow has been postponed, with a new date to be announced.

As it stands, the May 9 Matchroom show headlined by Lee Selby's IBF world lightweight title eliminator against George Kamposos will go ahead as planned.