



MARCOS MAIDANA MEDIA CONFERENCE CALL TRANSCRIPT

Kelly Swanson

Thanks, everybody, for calling in today. This is awfully exciting. We're just weeks away from "MAYHEM: Mayweather vs. Maidana 2" and we're very fortunate to be joined today on this conference call by Marcos Maidana along with his trainer, Robert Garcia. We also have on the line, Eric Gomez, senior vice president of Golden Boy Promotions and Leonard Ellerbe, chief executive officer of Mayweather Promotions. I'm going to turn it over right over to Leonard to make the introductions and get this call started.

Leonard Ellerbe

Hello, everyone. Thanks for joining us on the call today. We have Marcos Maidana who will be fighting Floyd in the main event. We have a tremendous undercard, which will open up with Alfredo Angulo taking on James De La Rosa. The next bout we'll have Miguel Vasquez who will be fighting Mickey Bey for the IBF lightweight title. Then in the co-main event we'll have Leo Santa Cruz who'll be defending his super bantamweight title against Manuel Roman, and then obviously in the main event it'll be none other than Floyd and Maidana.

This fight is the rematch. The first fight, as we all know, was a tremendous fight. I think Marcos came into the fight and he proved to many fans and media across the world that he was a force to be reckoned with. During the fight I think that he proved himself and that many people thought that he had won the fight, so he has the opportunity in two weeks to prove that the first fight was no joke.

So he'll be coming into this fight better prepared. He and his trainer, they have an excellent strategy coming into this fight from what I'm hearing. He's coming into this fight with a tremendous amount of confidence because in his mind he believes that he broke the "May-vinci code," and what an interesting situation we have that's developing in front of us.

This fight will be promoted by Mayweather Promotions along with Golden Boy Promotions. Our sponsors are O'Reilly Auto Parts, Corona Extra and "The Equalizer." We still have a few tickets left at the \$600 price. This event also will be shown in over 500 movie theaters across the country through Fathom Events.

So without further ado, I'd like to turn it over to our co-promoter, none other than senior VP of Golden Boy Promotions, Eric Gomez.

Eric Gomez

Great. Thank you very much, Leonard-happy to be on the call for this fight, and this is a great opportunity obviously for Marcos Maidana. He's ready for the fight. He's training hard, and we feel that Robert Garcia is going to have a great game plan this time around so he can finally get over that hump and beat Mayweather.

This is going to be the fight of his life. So to talk a little bit about training camp and how things are going, I want to introduce to you the trainer for Marcos Maidana, Robert Garcia, to say a few words.

Robert Garcia

Thank you, Eric. Well, training camp is going great. We've been training hard, sparring well. We have great sparring partners, and everybody's doing a great job. Everybody in the gym, the whole team-not only myself and Maidana, but everybody that makes Team Maidana-everybody's doing their job, and so far everything's great.

We've had a full training camp this time around. We're not short on sparring rounds. I'm not short on legwork. I'm not short on anything. We had our full eight weeks of training camp, so training camp is better than ever-I think the best training camp I've had with Chino since he got to me.

E. Gomez

Great. Thank you very much, Robert. Thank you. Also, to introduce to you to say a few words and talk about how things are going is Marcos Maidana himself.

Marcos Maidana

Good afternoon to everybody. I'm training hard and I'm ready for September 13th.

Q

Do you agree or disagree that the only way to beat Mayweather is probably by knockout?

M. Maidana

No. I don't agree with that statement. I think that I can win by decision or by knockout. The first fight was a very close fight. It was a decision that was a majority decision, so I feel that I just have to make a few adjustments, put a little more pressure on, land better punches, and yes I can win, I can win by decision. But obviously the knockout would be nice, and that's a possibility as well.

Q

Robert, for those saying that the only way that Maidana can beat Mayweather is by knockout your answer is what, sir?

R. Garcia

Oh, definitely not. We could also win by decision. Like "Chino" just said, it would be very nice to get a knockout, but if we win the rounds the way we were doing the first half of the fight I think there's no question that we could also win the fight by decision.

Q

Marcos, what are the one or two things that you need to do differently to make sure that you secure a victory in the rematch?

M. Maidana

The first fight I think that my attack, the pressure, was very good, but I didn't do well with my distance control. I think I smothered a lot of my punches, I wasn't able to really catch him with good solid shots, being able to extend my punches, and that's one of the things that I'm working on.

Because I smothered my punches I don't really think I ever hurt him, but this time around if I get him with good solid shots, work my distance control, I think I can hurt him.

Q

Robert, could you answer the question of what Marcos needs to do most differently to make sure he gets the win this time?

R. Garcia

Look, we are fighting the way we did the first fight with the pressure. But like Chino is saying, we need to have a little more distance, a little more control in his punches, and we are working on that. His punches are thrown a lot more accurate, straighter punches, and our sparring partners are telling us that this time around they feel the power even harder than they did the first time. So he's actually listening and doing the job that he's supposed to be able to make those changes.

Q

Did you have a shorter camp in preparing for the last fight? How long was the first camp compared to this one?

R. Garcia

Yeah, that is correct. We had about five weeks for the first fight, and even though Chino came in already semi in shape, it was still not the same. This time he came here nine weeks before the fight, since we started training full camp. We had a good eight weeks of training, so I think that it's going to make a big difference. Five weeks compared to eight weeks of training makes a big difference for this type of fight, and I think with everything that he's doing and learning new things, they're going to see a different fight this time.

Q

Marcos, do you agree with Robert on the fact that being able to focus entirely on the camp and having a more normal length camp will benefit you for this fight?

M. Maidana

This time around, yes, that's true. This time around I'm training to win. I know what to expect. I know Mayweather now, his style, what he brings to the table. I'm coming to win. I have more concentration, no excuses whatsoever, and adequate time.

Q

Marcos, do you think fighting in a rematch like this, back-to-back, does it benefit you or Floyd more? And Robert, if you can answer that question when Marcos is done I'd appreciate it.

M. Maidana

I think it's an advantage for me. It might be a little bit of an advantage for him, but I think it benefits me more having a rematch with him. I'm able to correct the mistakes I made in the first fight and take advantage of his mistakes. Even though he makes very few mistakes I already know what they are, and I think I can exploit that and take advantage of them.

R. Garcia

Look, you just said Mayweather's only done one rematch, and obviously everybody seen he easily out boxed Castillo. But it's a big difference, Castillo's style to Maidana's style. Maidana is going to come in with an aggressive style that nobody, not even the best boxer can get away with, and Mayweather's not going to get away with it.

Maidana is going to pressure, and he's going to be the fighter that everybody wants to see. I think in this case the rematch benefits us because Mayweather can't do much more different things. We can, and we are, and the rematch benefits us.

Q

Do you feel, Marcos, that Floyd Mayweather is giving you the rematch because you deserve it or because they can do business on the pay-per-view?

M. Maidana

I really don't think about that. I really don't care. My concern is winning the fight. I want to beat him this time. I'm going to do whatever it takes to beat him.

Q

Who really gave who the rematch? Did Floyd give you the rematch or were you willing to give him the rematch? How did the rematch come about?

M. Maidana

Look, I really don't know the details how it came about. My manager, Sebastian Contursi, called me, and he just said, "hey, we got the rematch", and I'm happy.

Q

For Marcos and Robert, do you feel that Mayweather was forced into this position because of the perception that the fight was so close and the notion that people thought you won, or do you think that he could've moved on without taking this rematch and without his legacy taking a hit?

M. Maidana

I think that I got the rematch because it was a close fight. It was a close fight. He probably wants to prove a point. He wants to demonstrate that he can beat me outright. It doesn't really matter. What matters is that the rematch is happening, and I'm very happy.

R. Garcia

I truly believe that he had no other options. He was forced to give us a rematch. He was forced to fight Maidana. There were no other names out there that he could've fought in September that would make sense. A rematch with Maidana is the only fight that makes sense to sell pay-per-views to please the fans, and he had no other options. That's what I think.

Q

Do you think that the referee will be a factor given that Floyd was not happy with Tony Weeks and that Bayless has more of a working familiarity with Mayweather, having officiated his big fights with De La Hoya, Mosley and Canelo? For both Marcos and Robert.

M. Maidana

Maybe. Maybe the referee is going to intervene. Maybe he's going to be a big part of the fight. I really don't know. I'm going to go in there and I'm going to do my job. I'm going to do what I've been training for, what my work is, and I'm going to go there and work. It really doesn't matter to me.

R. Garcia

Yeah, I think that Tony did a great job in the first fight. Kenny Bayless is also a great ref. He's done a lot of championship fights, so he's experienced, and I have no problem with him. Nobody knew who the ref was, and Mayweather by starting to announce that Maidana is a dirty fighter, Maidana is an MMA fighter, well that was pretty much already preparing whoever the ref was going to be to see that and to have that in his mind.

Well, I don't think there's going to be a big difference because Kenny is a professional. He knows. He's done a lot of fights and he has to be fair. It's a fight between two fighters. Kenny's a great ref, and I know he's going to do a great job.

Q

Robert, you're using the Powerlock gloves, correct?

R. Garcia

I'm still not very sure. I know Sebastian Contursi is still on that. I haven't talked to him lately. I know Maidana yesterday was still asking me if we had resolved that. I told him no. So maybe that's a question Sebastian or maybe Leonard Ellerbe could answer, but we have no problem. We don't have a problem with the Powerlocks.

We just wanted enough time to train and not use them the day of the fight when we had never wore those gloves before. There is no problem. The Powerlock is a good glove, and we have to wear that-we are already training in it just in case, but I have no problem. I'm already training my fighter to be prepared for that.

L. Ellerbe

Yes, Marcos will be fighting in the Powerlock gloves.

Q

Robert, win or lose, if Floyd is say dominant or just if he wins, will you be able to move on without talking about the gloves?

R. Garcia

Look, when we agreed to the fight then we can't go back and say, "oh, we should have used the gloves." No, there's nothing we can do. We agreed, we're fighting in those gloves, so there's not going to be no excuses. The fight is going to be the fight, but it does make a difference, and Mayweather's the only fighter that can make those calls, make those decisions, and we also have to understand that that's the way it is. That's what business is. But no, we are not going to have any and we can't have any excuses.

Q

For Marcos and Robert, do you feel that by the time you get to September 13th given that Floyd was willing to engage more in the first fight, that that's a result of him slowing down a little bit as a professional, or do you think that was just because of the pressure that Marcos was able to bring to him on the first fight in May?

M. Maidana

I don't think age has anything to do with it. I don't think it does because in the first fight, yeah, he could've fought with me a little bit, but then he started boxing and moving at times. So I don't think age has anything to do with it. He's a good athlete. He's in shape. I think that it was his decision to stand and fight with me. This second fight I hope he decides to stand and fight with me, to fight like a man. I hope he doesn't start running or trying to move away.

R. Garcia

I agree with what Chino just said. Mayweather is going to be 38, but he's taken care of his body. He's an athlete. He's a natural, so I don't think age is a factor in this fight. But like Chino said, we just hope that he wants to please the crowd like he said he tried to do it the first fight, well hopefully this time he does it even better.

Let's stand in front, let's exchange punches, and let's see who is the better man is. Let's see who is the stronger man is, and we'll show him the difference there. But I think age is not a factor in his age right there.

Q

How do you change or adapt stylistically in the second fight to maybe cut the ring off better and make sure that Mayweather is forced into more of those tight spots that favor your offensive output?

M. Maidana

Yes, you're right. I was able to force him. I was able to force him to fight, to stand and fight. It had a lot to do with conditioning. The times when he decided to box were because I let him. I let him get away. I let him be able to box and move. I think that I did well in forcing him to fight because of the pressure I put on.

This time around I'm not going to get tired. I'm going to be on him from the opening bell for the entire fight, and I think that's going to force him to fight.

R. Garcia

I think Chino just said what I have to say. We're training to be able to do what we did for 12 rounds. We're training to do that. The first fight we only had five weeks of training, so sparring wasn't the same. We didn't have enough rounds.

This time we're having the full training camp, so I don't see why we can't do the same thing we did for the first five, six rounds for 12 rounds. I think we're going to be able to do it for 12 rounds.

Q

Now that you know Mayweather, what can you do to benefit you in this fight that's going to work for you in this fight?

M. Maidana

I have to keep pressuring him. When I was able to pressure him in the first fight and get him on the ropes and fight with him, make him fight, I did very, very well. Whenever he moved, that's when I had problems with him, but this fight here I want him to stand and fight like a man.

Q

Do you think you're going to be able to intimidate Floyd? Do you think you're going to be able to do things to make him fight?

M. Maidana

Yes, this fight I'm not going to respect him. I'm not going to respect him. I'm going to go at him, and I want him to fight like a man. Stop crying like a little [expletive] and fight.

Q

What can you do in this second fight to make it better to make him fight you?

M. Maidana

I'm going to do my job. I'm going to come to fight. I want him to come and to fight, and to stand and fight like a man. Don't be a little [expletive] and run around. Come and fight like a man. Stand and fight me.

Q

What are you going to do after this fight win or lose?

M. Maidana

I'm not thinking about anything else but the fight. I'm not thinking about what's after this. I'm just thinking about this fight and winning this fight. That's all I'm thinking about.

Q

Mayweather has made comments that the first fight he stood and fought with you toe to toe because he wanted to please the fans. Do you think that's the case?

M. Maidana

No, I think that I forced him to fight. I didn't let him try to box. I think that I'm the one that forced the issue. I made him fight me, and that's the reason he fought that way.

Q

How is training going? How is the sparring going for you?

M. Maidana

It's been great. I've been sparring with Mikey Garcia, Thomas Dulorme, Stevie Forbes, and I'm very, very content with the work they've given me and the work I've done in the gym.

Q

Marcos, at any time have you dreamt or had a dream about knocking out Floyd?

M. Maidana

No, I haven't had the pleasure of having such a nice dream.

Q

Your manager and cousin, Sebastian Contursi, they say that you're going to knock him out within nine rounds. What do you think of that?

M. Maidana

I'm going to try. It's very difficult to knock out Floyd because he runs, but I'm going to do my best, and we'll see what happens.

Q

How do you feel about Floyd saying that you're a dirty fighter?

M. Maidana

You know what? It doesn't bother me. It doesn't bother me. There's things that he does as well in there, so it's time for him to stop crying and just fight.

Q

Marcos, I'm curious how close do you really think you would've come to retiring if you didn't get a fight with Floyd, and if you don't win this rematch can you see a scenario where you would actually retire?

M. Maidana

Yeah, that's true. I haven't really thought about past this fight, but that is true. I did make those comments, and I was really contemplating retiring if he didn't give me the rematch, and I would've retired for the rest of this year at least and then see what comes up next year. But, yes, it was something that crossed my mind, and I was willing to retire.

Q

How do you see yourself winning the fight if he runs away from you more and if he tries to stay away and just simply box? Can you see yourself winning the fight if he just completely tries to stay away through the whole fight?

M. Maidana

Look, I'm preparing for anything. I hope that he stands and fights. But if he's going to run like a little [expletive] I'm going to have to chase him all around, and I'm prepared to do that.

Q

How do you expect Mayweather to change for this fight, and how will you counter whatever change he makes?

M. Maidana

Yeah, I'm sure that for this second fight he can come out and fight differently, have a different game plan. I'm not going to change. I'm going to come, and I'm going to put the pressure on, and I'm going to try to force him to fight. I'm hoping again that he doesn't start running like a little [expletive] all over the ring.

Q

How would you counter a lot of the moves that he does, the shoulder roll? Even when you cut off the ring and he gets in the corner he's able to make his opponents miss. How do you plan to counter those types of situations?

M. Maidana

The way to counter that, his defensive moves with the shoulder roll and the arms and all that, I'm going to hit him there. I'm going to hit him in the shoulder. I'm going to hit him in the arms, and come eighth, ninth round he's going to be so tired from all the punches that he's not going to be able to defend himself anymore.

K. Swanson

Okay Leonard, if you want to make a closing comment and Eric, Maidana, and Robert too-anybody who'd like to say one last thing before we wrap it up.

L. Ellerbe

We'd like to thank everyone for joining us on the call today. Just want to remind everyone that Floyd has his media day next Tuesday, and his conference call on Wednesday. I think we all heard from Maidana that he's coming into this fight with a tremendous amount of confidence for obvious reasons, and the question I guess we'll ask ourselves is will he be able to keep the pressure on Floyd like he did in the first fight because as we all know pressure busts pipes; or will Floyd be able to pick it up like he did in the second half of the fight and possibly stop Maidana as he's never been stopped before.

E. Gomez

Great. I'll just say a few words. This is shaping up to be a great rematch. Obviously I think that Maidana is going to bring it. He's got anger. He's got desire. He's got everything. This is do or die for Maidana. He's going to come and bring it. Like he said many times on the call, he hopes that Floyd stands and fights.

Floyd has a lot of pride. He's a great champion. I think that he's going to hear him loud and clear, and he's going to come to the fight as well. So I think it's going to make for a great fight, so don't miss it.

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"MAYHEM: Mayweather vs. Maidana 2," a 12-round world championship bout for Mayweather's WBA Welterweight Belt and WBC Welterweight and Super Welterweight World Titles takes place Saturday, Sept. 13 at MGM Grand in Las Vegas and is promoted by Mayweather Promotions, Golden Boy Promotions and sponsored by Corona Extra, O'Reilly Auto Parts and "The Equalizer" in theaters Sept. 26. The event will be produced and distributed live by **SHOWTIME PPV**[®] (8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT) and is the fourth fight of a six-fight deal between Mayweather and Showtime Networks Inc. In the co-main event, Leo Santa Cruz defends his WBC Super Bantamweight Title against Manuel Roman in a 12-round bout and Miguel Vazquez faces Mickey Bey in a 12-round bout for the IBF Lightweight World Championship. In the PPV opener, Alfredo Angulo squares against James De La Rosa in a 10-round middleweight bout (162 lbs.). The event will be available in Spanish through secondary audio programming (SAP).

Tickets for the live event are on sale now and are priced at \$1,600, \$1,200, \$850, \$600 and \$350, not including applicable service charges and taxes. Tickets are limited to eight (8) per person with a limit of four (4) at the \$350 price range. To charge by phone with a major credit card, call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000. Tickets also are available at www.mgmgrand.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

Mayweather vs. Maidana will be shown on the big screen in over 500 movie theaters across the country via Fathom Events. For more information visit www.FathomEvents.com

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