# INTERNATIONAL SUPERSTAR JAKE PAUL TO FACE MEXICO'S FORMER WORLD CHAMPION JULIO CÉSAR CHÁVEZ JR. IN MOST VALUABLE PROMOTIONS GLOBAL EVENT ON SATURDAY, JUNE 28 AT HONDA CENTER IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA, LIVE ON DAZN PPV

Golden Boy's Mexican WBO and WBA unified cruiserweight champion Gilberto "Zurdo" Ramirez vs. Cuba's former IBF and WBA cruiserweight world champion and WBA mandatory challenger Yuniel Dorticós join Paul vs. Chávez Jr. in the co-main event

Fans can sign up for presale for Paul vs. Chávez Jr. HERE

ATLANTA, GA – April 18, 2025 – Most Valuable Promotions (MVP) today announced that boxing's biggest disruptor, international superstar Jake "El Gallo" Paul (11-1, 7 KOs) takes his next step towards world champion against Mexico's former champion Julio César Chávez Jr. (54-6-1, 34 KOs) on Saturday, June 28 at Honda Center in Anaheim, California. Paul vs. Chávez Jr. will be a standard 10-round men's professional bout with three minute rounds and 10oz gloves, contested at 200lbs. The historic fight, an MVP Event, will air live globally on DAZN pay-per-view and is presented by CELSIUS Live Fit Essential Energy. Golden Boy Promotions will serve as the official licensed promoter. Fans can sign up for presale HERE. The event will also feature an array of high-end VIP packages including the return of the one-of-a-kind MVP Owner's Experience.

In the co-main event, Golden Boy's 33-year-old WBO cruiserweight world champion and WBA cruiserweight super champion **Gilberto "Zurdo" Ramirez** (47-1, 30 KOs)—ESPN's #2 cruiserweight in the world—will make a title defense against Cuba's former WBA and IBF cruiserweight world champion, one of the best punchers in boxing and current WBA mandatory challenger **Yuniel Dorticós** (27-2, 25 KOs) in a men's world championship bout contested at 200lbs with twelve, three-minute rounds.

The American pride of Puerto Rico, Jake "El Gallo de Dorado" Paul (11-1, 7 KOs), has shown tremendous growth as a boxer on his path to becoming a world champion, and now will look to prove he has what it takes against a former world champion in Julio César Chávez Jr. In just five years since turning pro, Paul has made his impact in the ring, earning high-profile victories over names like Tyron Woodley, Anderson Silva, and Nate Diaz. His viral knockouts and headline-grabbing performances have breathed new life into boxing, drawing millions of fans and setting records. In his latest blockbuster fight in November 2024, Jake Paul defeated the Baddest Man on the Planet, Mike Tyson in a heavyweight bout in the first-ever live professional sporting event on Netflix. MVP's Paul vs. Tyson shattered records, becoming the most-streamed sporting event ever with 108 million live viewers globally. Paul has collected multiple accolades for his commitment to the sport of boxing, including ESPNRingside's 2021 Knockout of the Year, Sports Illustrated's 2021 Breakout Boxer of the Year, ESPNRingside's 2022 Viral Moment of the Year, and was the cover of Sports Illustrated's "The 50 Most Influential Figures in Sports" issue, awarded specifically for his groundbreaking work to revolutionize the sport through equitable pay, providing a platform for young fighters, and his support of female boxers. Paul also partnered with USA Boxing ahead of the 2024 Paris Olympics, continuing his mission to elevate the sport and its future champions. Paul and MVP are now promoting the biggest all-women's card in boxing history, Katie Taylor vs. Amanda Serrano 3 on Friday, July 11 at Madison Square Garden, live globally on Netflix, which will feature women's undisputed and unified

championship bouts across its entire main card and six of the top 15-and four of the top 10-women's pound-for-pound fighters on Boxrec.

"Five years ago, I stepped into the ring for my pro debut after a single amateur fight, and every fight since has been a step towards becoming world champion. I just defeated the baddest man on the planet, and now I'm going against a former champion who conman Canelo couldn't finish," **said Jake Paul.** "Chávez Jr. is Mexican, but I, El Gallo De Dorado, have the will and heart of the great Mexican fighters. On Saturday, June 28, live on DAZN pay-per-view, I will knock out Julio and make Chávez Sr. proud in ways Jr. never has. Another massive event from Most Valuable Promotions, with some Oscar De La Hoya seasoning added to the show. Viva La Puerto Rico."

Julio César Chávez Jr. (54-6-1, 34 KOs) is a Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico native and son of former three-division world boxing champion Julio César Chávez, "El Gran Campeón Mexicano," the greatest Mexican fighter of all time. Chávez Jr. began his professional career with an impressive undefeated streak across his first 47 fights. Chávez Jr. climbed the rankings and became the WBC middleweight world champion in 2011, before being defeated by Sergio Martinez in Chávez's fourth title defense in 2012. Chávez Jr. went on to reclaim regional titles and later won the WBC Continental Americas Super Middleweight title, recently fighting in his hometown of Culiacan to a UD win over David Zegarra. In June 2021, Chávez squared off with MMA star Anderson Silva, suffering a narrow split decision defeat. He most recently returned to the ring to defeat MMA icon Uriah Hall by unanimous decision on the undercard of Jake Paul vs. Mike Perry in July 2024. Now, Chávez Jr. will have the opportunity to grow his legacy further within the cruiserweight division as he faces Jake Paul on Saturday, June 28.

"First of all, I will show what I can do now that everything is in the right place in my life—mentally and physically," **said Julio César Chávez Jr.** "I feel rejuvenated and 10 years younger. Second, I want to thank MVP for taking the risk of fighting me. Unfortunately for their Problem Child, they're going to have a big problem this June—one they won't know how to resolve. Hopefully when I beat him, people won't underestimate this win."

"Saturday, June 28 marks a defining moment in Jake Paul's ascent to the top of the boxing world as he aims to show the 125 million people that watched him fight Mike Tyson that he is a real contender in the sport," **said Nakisa Bidarian, co-founder of Most Valuable Promotions.** "Julio César Chávez Jr., a former world champion and the heir to Mexico's most iconic boxing legacy will be looking to cement his legacy by definitively defeating Jake, something no opponent has been able to do. Add to that the co-main event, which has the return of Mexican Zurdo Ramirez, the WBA and WBO champion, defending his titles against the dangerous Cuban Yuniel Dorticós and you have the ingredients for a night full of fireworks. Most Valuable Promotions is honored to present this momentous card in partnership with Golden Boy Promotions, live from Honda Center in Anaheim and we are proud to continue delivering groundbreaking moments for the sport on DAZN pay-per-view."

Golden Boy's **Gilberto "Zurdo" Ramirez** (47-1, 30 KOs) has over a decade of experience under his belt, debuting as a professional in 2009 and embarking on a career that would see him make boxing history multiple times. In 2016, Ramirez won the WBO Super Middleweight title, defeating "King" Arthur Abraham by unanimous decision in a dominant performance. This victory cemented his status as one of the top fighters, and he became the first Mexican-born fighter to win a world title in the

division. Ramirez successfully defended his belt multiple times, defeating tough opponents such as Jesse "Hard Work" Hart and Roamer Alexis Angulo. After five defenses of his title, Ramirez moved up to light heavyweight, where he went on a five-fight winning streak before facing Dmitry Bivol in a unification bout in November 2022. Although Ramirez' undefeated streak ended in this contest, the fight showcased his resilience, heart, and determination to the sport. Turning that loss into a lesson, Ramirez returned to the ring 11 months later as a cruiserweight this time around. In November 2024, Ramirez made boxing history once again, becoming the first Mexican-born unified cruiserweight champion in an all-action packed war against Chris Billam-Smith in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Ramirez's legacy as one of the most skilled and dangerous fighters of his era continues to grow, and he is widely regarded as one of Mexico's best current champions.

"I'm excited to step back into the ring this June to defend my WBA and WBO titles. This fight marks my WBA mandatory, and I know I need to get past this opponent to stay on track in my journey toward greatness—and ultimately, to become the undisputed champion," **said Zurdo Ramirez.** "I've been training non-stop and feel sharper than ever as I continue to grow and mature in the sport. The goal hasn't changed. I'm locked in, and I'm proud to be featured on this card alongside Jake Paul and my good friend Julio César Chávez Jr. A big thank you to my team, Golden Boy Promotions, MVP, the WBA, the WBO, and all my fans. I can't wait to put on a show you won't forget."

WBA mandatory challenger **Yuniel Dorticós** (27-2, 25 KOs), known as "The KO Doctor," is a Cuban professional boxer renowned for his explosive punching power and success in the cruiserweight division. Born on March 11, 1986, in Cienfuegos, Cuba, he enjoyed a strong amateur career, finishing as a national runner-up multiple times and competing in the Boxing World Cup before defecting to the United States in 2009. Turning professional the same year, Dorticós quickly gained attention by winning his first 17 fights by knockout. He captured the WBA interim cruiserweight title in 2016 and went on to become the WBA (Regular) champion in 2017, defending the title until a loss to Murat Gassiev in 2018. In 2019, he claimed the vacant IBF cruiserweight title with a knockout victory over Andrew Tabiti during the World Boxing Super Series (WBSS), ultimately reaching the WBSS final, where he lost a close decision to Mairis Briedis. Known for his aggressive style and knockout power—evidenced by a record of 27 wins (25 by KO) and just 2 losses—Dorticós remains a respected force in the ring. He resides in Miami, Florida, where he continues to train and represent the proud tradition of Cuban boxing.

"I want to thank MVP, my promoters and Golden Boy for this opportunity," **said Yuniel Dorticós**. "My goal is to become a three-time world champion, and now by fighting Zurdo Ramirez I have been granted the chance to accomplish my goals on Saturday, June 28."

"Once again, Golden Boy is proving that we're willing to work with anyone to deliver the biggest and most exciting events in boxing. We're thrilled to partner with Jake Paul, Nakisa Bidarian, Most Valuable Promotions, and DAZN to bring this blockbuster night to fans around the world," **said Oscar De La Hoya, Chairman and CEO of Golden Boy.** "Now the WBA and WBO Unified Cruiserweight Champion, Zurdo has made history not once, but twice—first as the first Mexican-born fighter to become a super middleweight world champion, and now as the first-ever Mexican to claim a cruiserweight world title, holding championships in both divisions. Ramirez is ready to light up the ring once again—this time against the dangerous Yuniel Dorticós, who's coming in with everything he's

got to steal the spotlight in this mandatory matchup. But make no mistake: Zurdo is built for moments like this. It's going to be an unforgettable night celebrating the best of Mexican boxing!"

"We are incredibly excited to welcome Jake Paul back to DAZN against a championship calibre opponent in Julio Cesar Chavez Jr." **said Jared Kass, SVP North America, DAZN.** "We are grateful to our partners at MVP and Golden Boy for delivering an unmissable night of action from start to finish. So tune in Saturday, June 28, only on DAZN."

Paul vs. Chávez Jr. is produced and marketed by Most Valuable Promotions, with Golden Boy Promotions serving as the official licensed promoter, and is distributed by DAZN pay-per-view. The event is presented by CELSIUS Live Fit Essential Energy, also sponsored by Fansly and <a href="Event Ticket Center">Event Ticket Center</a>. Additional information, including additional bouts, will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information, follow on X via @MostVPromotions, @GoldenBoyBoxing and @DAZNBoxing on Instagram via @MostValuablePromotions, @goldenboy, and @daznboxing.

## **About Most Valuable Promotions (MVP)**

MVP was founded by Jake Paul and Nakisa Bidarian in 2021. With the mission to provide more creative control to fighters, MVP works to identify, grow, and maximize return for its own events and talent partners. One year into its inception, MVP was nominated as one of the prestigious Sports Breakthroughs of the Year in 2022 by Sports Business Journal. MVP have produced Jake Paul's last six global pay-per-view events, including the recent Paul vs. Perry match. The promotion company also signed one of the most decorated Hispanic athletes of all time, Amanda Serrano in its first year. Serrano and MVP made history in April of 2022 when Serrano went head to head with Katie Taylor, marking the first female fight to headline at Madison Square Garden, earning a nomination for Event of The Year by Sports Business Journal. MVP made history again in November 2024 with Jake Paul vs. Mike Tyson and Katie Taylor vs. Amanda Serrano 2, the first-ever live professional sports event on Netflix. MVP's Paul vs. Tyson streamed live globally on Netflix and shattered records, becoming the most-streamed sporting event ever with 108 million live viewers globally. Co-founder Nakisa Bidarian was an executive producer of Paul vs. Tyson and the historic Triller Presents Mike Tyson v. Roy Jones Jr., which was the 8th most bought pay-per-view event in history.

### **About DAZN**

DAZN is the home of European football, women's football, boxing and MMA, and the NFL (excl. USA). We are building the ultimate sports entertainment platform, based on premium sports rights, world-leading tech, and multi-platform distribution. DAZN believes that fans from across the globe should be able to watch, read, bet, play, share, socialise, buy tickets and merchandise, all in one place, with one account, one wallet and on one app.

For more information on DAZN, our products, people, and performance, visit dazngroup.com.

#### **About Honda Center**

Located in the heart of Orange County, Honda Center has remained a premier entertainment and sports venue since its opening in 1993. Home to the 2007 Stanley Cup champion Anaheim Ducks, the arena hosts a variety of events, including sold-out concerts, family entertainment, and thrilling sports

competitions. Over the past three decades, Honda Center has remained an iconic and beloved destination for live entertainment in Southern California with over 4,500 events and 45 million guests, paving the way for an even more exciting future. It will anchor the innovative OCVIBE, a 100-acre one-of-a-kind, immersive district designed to bring people together through shared experiences.

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