****VIDEO ALERT****

SHOWTIME SPORTS' RELEASES STIRRING VIDEO FEATURING JARON "BOOTS" ENNIS AND HIS QUEST TO HELP SEVEN-YEAR-OLD FAN FIND BONE MARROW DONOR AHEAD OF HIS TITLE ELIMINATOR BOUT AGAINST CUSTIO CLAYTON THIS SATURDAY ON SHOWTIME⁻

Feature Will Air on Saturday, May 14 SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING[•] Telecast Headlined by Jermell Charlo vs. Brian Castano II Undisputed 154-Pound Championship



Courtesy of Be The Match^{*}/SHOWTIME

WATCH, SHARE AND EMBED: <u>https://youtu.be/ZrUv6nSkeNo</u>

LOS ANGELES – May 13, 2022 - SHOWTIME SPORTS has released a touching video feature revealing the unique bond between rising welterweight star Jaron "Boots" Ennis and seven-yearold boxing fan Jackson "Jax" Ramirez, who battles with <u>IPEX syndrome</u>, a rare autoimmune disorder, in advance of Ennis' IBF Welterweight Title Eliminator matchup against Canadian Olympian Custio Clayton this Saturday, May 14 live on SHOWTIME (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT) from Dignity Health Sports Park in Carson, Calif. in an event presented by Premier Boxing Champions. To watch and share the video, go to <u>https://youtu.be/ZrUv6nSkeNo</u>.

The Philadelphia native, Ennis, learned about Jax's fight with <u>IPEX syndrome</u>, which can be cured by a bone marrow transplant, after reading an <u>article</u> in the Philadelphia Inquirer earlier this year and decided to get in touch with Jax's family in Pittsburgh, Pa. to join their quest to find a bone marrow match. Jax, whose mother is Caucasian and father is of Mexican descent, has not been able to find a matching donor, due in large part to the low percentage of Mexican-American donors - and Latino donors in general - on the Be The Match registry. With his fight this weekend taking place in Los Angeles, one of the largest Mexican-American population centers in the United States, Boots is dedicating his fight to Jax and has made it his mission to help raise awareness about how easy it is to register as a potential donor, hoping to grow the registry and help Jax find his match.

"We are both definitely fighting," said Ennis after a video call with Jax. "I'm fighting in the ring and he's fighting in a whole different way. At the end of the day, he's a little kid and he's going through a lot. I feel he needs someone [to inspire him and cheer him up]."

Inspired by the fortitude of this young fan who relentlessly fights for a chance to grow up healthy, Ennis demonstrated how a simple cheek swab is all it takes to join the Be The Match Registry at his gym during an interview last week. The swab sample is typed and added to a worldwide registry that is searched anytime a patient needs a matching donor. Boots and the Ramirez family have made it their goal to grow the registry's percentage of donors of color to not just find a match for Jax, but for other children in his situation as well.

"He's drawn to Boots," says Missy Ramirez, Jax's mom. "Because I think he understands what fighting is like, because Jax fights every single day."

For more information go to @bethematchforjax on Instagram and Facebook for more information on Jackson and this mission. For more information on bone marrow donation (how to register, become a match and much more) text "SaveJax" to 61474 or visit <u>http://my.bethematch.org/SaveJax</u>.

The feature will air on Saturday's SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast headlined by unified WBC, WBA and IBF World Champion Jermell Charlo and WBO World Champion Brian Castaño in a rematch of one of 2021's most significant fights as they again seek to become the first ever undisputed 154-pound male champion in the four-belt era. The SHOWTIME tripleheader also features unbeaten Mexican contender Kevin González facing Puerto Rico's Emanuel Rivera in a 10-round super bantamweight attraction.

Veteran sportscaster Brian Custer will host the telecast while versatile combat sports voice Mauro Ranallo calls the blow-by-blow action alongside Hall of Fame analyst Al Bernstein and threedivision world champion Abner Mares. Three Hall of Famers round out the SHOWTIME telecast team – Emmy[®] Award-winning reporter Jim Gray, unofficial scorer Steve Farhood and worldrenowned ring announcer Jimmy Lennon Jr. Former junior middleweight world champion Raúl "El Diamante" Marquez and sportscaster Alejandro Luna serve as expert analysts in Spanish on Secondary Audio Programming (SAP). Four-time Emmy Award winner David Dinkins Jr. serves as executive producer and Bob Dunphy as director.

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