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Mayor Fulop Announces Jersey City to Host Golden Gloves Finals for Second Year in a Row at Pershing Field

*Recreation Department Continues to Expand Under Fulop Administration With Robust
Programming that Continues to Serve Jersey City Participants and Fans Alike*

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop, the Department of Recreation and the Jersey City Recreation Foundation, Inc., are bringing boxing back this spring as the **New Jersey Golden Gloves State Tournament Finals** returns to Jersey City with the best in amateur fighting from **7 p.m. to 11 p.m.** on **Saturday, April 25th, 2015** at **Pershing Field Ice Rink, 807 Summit Avenue.**

The event is part of Mayor Fulop’s expanded Recreation Department that in addition to adding 22 new programs for children and adults is now featuring several sporting events in an effort to bring the community of Jersey City together and provide events and activities for all residents.

“Recreation is more than the numerous programs and clinics offered for children and adults to discover sports and get active,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “Recreation is also about engaging in activities that the whole family and community can enjoy. That’s why we have expanded our focus to include sporting events such as the Golden Gloves, and basketball tournaments like our recent March-Madfest. I encourage all residents to come out and show their support for Jersey City’s boxing program, and all the athletes participating.”

For a second year, Jersey City will host the Golden Gloves Finals in conjunction with Dan Doyle, President, and Jose Rosario, Vice-President, of the Golden Gloves. With more than 1,000 attendees expected, the finals will feature the winners of the NJ Golden Gloves State Tournaments, which was made up of more than 300 boxers between the ages of 8 to 34.

Jersey City’s Recreation Department Boxing team, established under Mayor Fulop, participated in last year’s Golden Gloves Tournament and Diamond Gloves Tournament, resulting in Championship titles for both Tony Rivera and Denzel Stevens of the Recreation boxing team.

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The Recreation boxing team, which includes youth ages eight through 18, is led by volunteer boxing coach Louis ‘Mosquito’ Gonzalez, who was honored last year by the NJ Golden Gloves committee and the NJGG. The Recreation Department’s program trains Jersey City children and teenagers at MS #7 weekdays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Participants of this free boxing program are eligible to compete in amateur tournaments.

Celebrating its 80th Anniversary, NJ Golden Gloves was founded in 1931 as a state affiliate of the National Golden Gloves non-profit organization. NJGG has been a catalyst in providing a positive influence to many people, of all diverse backgrounds throughout the state. The hard work and dedication to the sport of boxing ultimately leads to physical fitness and improved self discipline.

“This history of boxing in Jersey City is second to none, and based on the reception we had from the Jersey City community last year we are enthusiastic to return,” said **Dan Doyle, President of New Jersey Golden Gloves**. “The people of Jersey City are educated boxing fans and are extremely supportive of young boxers, which makes this the ideal setting for the tournament’s crowing event.”

The winners of the Open Class Adult Division at the State level are eligible to compete in the National Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions, which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada this May 10th through May 17th, 2015.

Under the Fulop Administration, the Department of Recreation has expanded with a diversified recreational lineup that includes such activities as scuba, boxing, cricket, fitness clinics, and programs for special needs athletes. The Department has also increased offerings through afterschool programs, partnerships with professional sports organizations and local non-profits, as well as establishing several competitive games, tournaments and travel teams.

To purchase tickets please go to the Pershing Field Ice Rink Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or click on the following link <https://eventbrite.com/event/15818733257/>

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Jersey City Recreation boxing program.

For more information please call the Department of Recreation at (201) 547-6996 or (201) 547-4392.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////