



# KNOCKOUT





## Instruction Booklet





# Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Difficulty Selection	1
Moves and Controls	2
The Game Screen	7
Campaign	9
Wardrobe	10
The Rules of Boxing	11
The Field of Candidates	12

# Introduction

In the year 2020, nobody gets along with each other. Arguments abound, accusations fly, and the United States of America faces societal collapse.

In an act of desperation, the states convene to find a solution. Somebody jokes that we should all just have a boxing match to decide things. Nobody laughs. The chamber falls into thoughtful silence. Before long, a bill is approved unanimously: all laws are to be replaced with boxing!

The country loves the decision and every state ratifies the change. Local politicians become athletic celebrities overnight. Courthouses are converted to arenas. Election season becomes a national sport - and an international spectacle.

You've been training to become a boxer for some time now yourself, so you enter a local tournament for fun. Little do you know that your first opponent is a very, VERY important person.

## Difficulty Selection

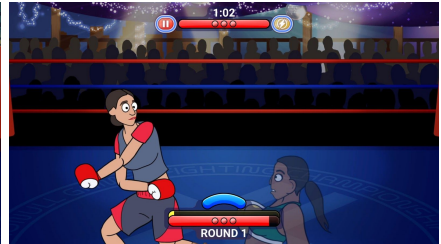
Upon starting the game, you must choose which difficulty to play.

**Casual:** For players new to boxing games, and for those who wish to primarily enjoy the story. In casual mode, you don't have to throw specific punches to find your opponent's weaknesses. Additionally, you may dodge in any direction without getting hit. The game will still challenge you to defeat opponents in novel ways.

**Classic:** Recreates the challenge of NES-era boxing games. Which punch you throw matters. You must dodge out of the way of attacks. Given full control of your fighter, you will learn how to pick apart your opponents and play them like a fiddle. This is the way the game is intended to be played.

# Moves and Controls

A boxer is a strong, agile athlete with the brains to match his (or her!) brawn. Stay light on your feet, keep your gloves up, and recall your basic moves:



**Hooks and Jabs:** Your bread and butter. Punch low and punch high, and always look for that opening in your opponent's guard! Don't miss your target! *A whiff costs way more stamina than a punch that connects.*

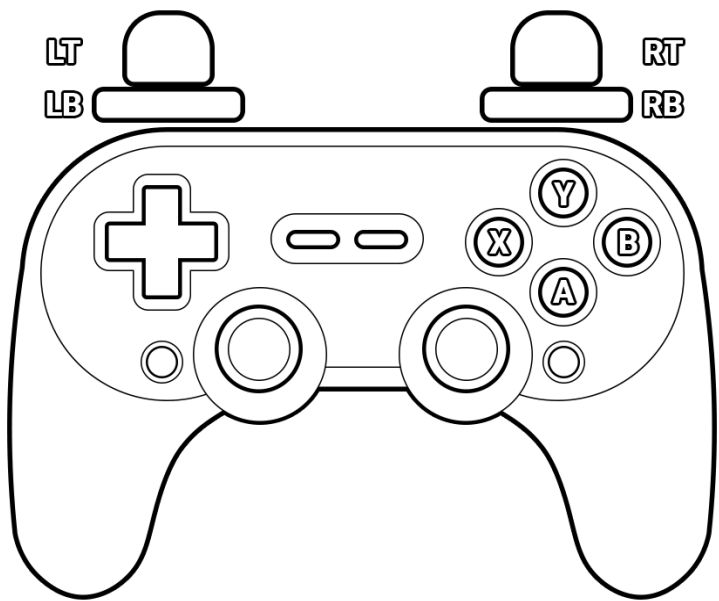
**Dodge:** Never stop moving! A shift in position can make your opponent miss, opening him up for a counter attack! *Moving around won't tire you out, but make sure you return to a fighting stance to ready yourself.*



**Block:** Be defensive! Blocking is faster than dodging, but your opponent can wear you down. *Blocking just as your opponent attacks will fill you with energy.*

**Haymaker:** A devastating attack. You'll put all of your energy into this special move, but if it connects, it's well worth it! *Haymakers are especially effective when countering an opponent's attack.*

# Gamepad Controls (xinput)



X	Left Hook (low punch)	(can use LT)
A	Right Hook (low punch)	(can use RT)
UP + X	Left Jab (high punch)	(can use LB)
UP + A	Right Jab (high punch)	(can use RB)
B	Block	(can use DOWN)
Y	Haymaker	
LEFT	Dodge Left	
RIGHT	Dodge Right	

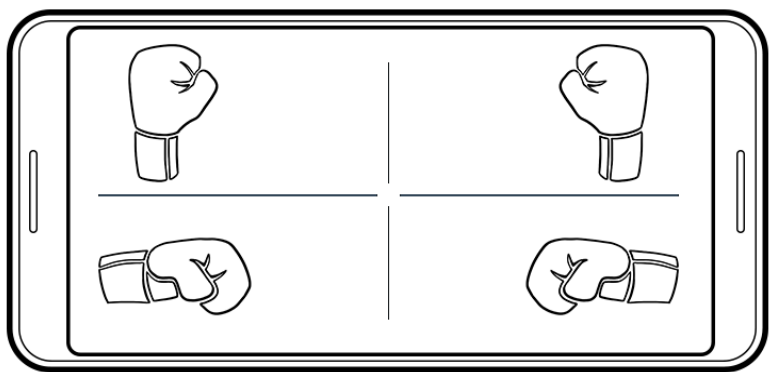
*Election Year Knockout supports many kinds of gamepads. Do be aware that your gaming device may have differences in gamepad support of its own.*



# Touch Controls

Touch controls are the default for phone and tablet platforms.

For PC/Mac, you can enable touch controls in the Settings menu. If you do, your mouse cursor becomes a touch simulator.



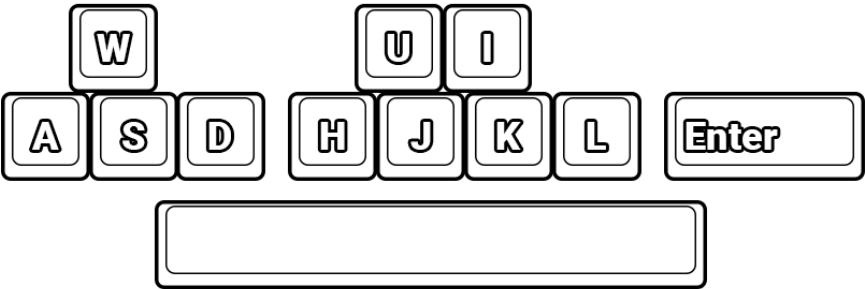
Tap (bottom-left)	Left Hook (low punch)
Tap (bottom-right)	Right Hook (low punch)
Tap (top-left)	Left Jab (high punch)
Tap (top-right)	Right Jab (high punch)
Hold two thumbs	Block
Swipe Up	Haymaker
Swipe Left	Dodge Left
Swipe Right	Dodge Right

In Casual difficulty mode, you can tap anywhere on the screen to throw random punches.

**Tip:** *If you hold your finger down in the same spot for a brief moment, your character will throw a punch. When you swipe to dodge or throw a haymaker, make sure your finger is moving when it lands.*

# Keyboard Controls

Layout 1



Layout 2



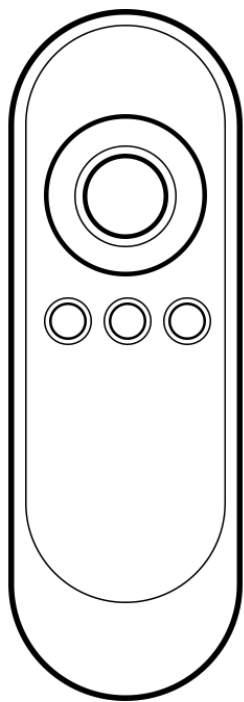
Layout 1	Layout 1 alternates	Layout 2	
J		Z	Left Hook (low punch)
K		X	Right Hook (low punch)
U	W + J	UP + Z	Left Jab (high punch)
I	W + K	UP + X	Right Jab (high punch)
Space	L	Space	Block
H	Enter	C or Enter	Haymaker
A		LEFT	Dodge Left
D		RIGHT	Dodge Right

You can use either set of keyboard controls. They are active simultaneously.

# TV Remote Controls

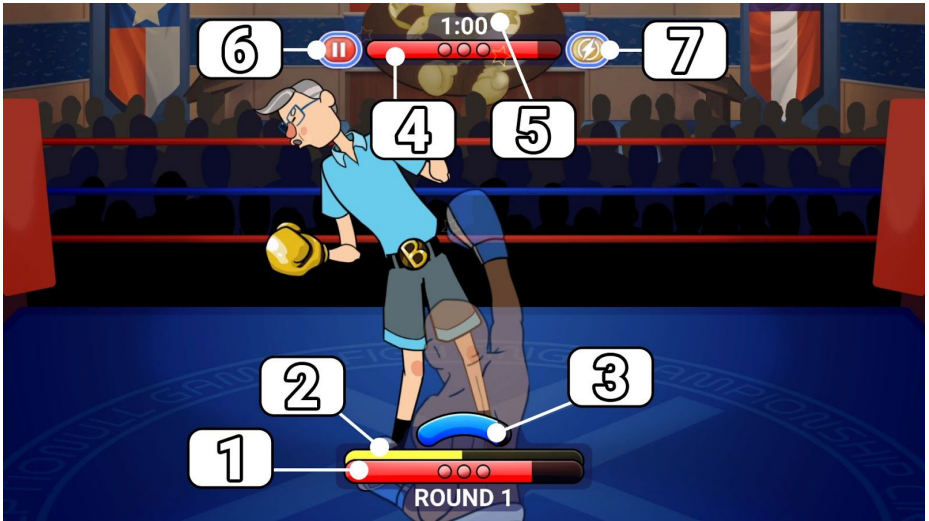
TV Remotes are supported for Android TV and Fire TV platforms.

*When playing on a TV Remote, only CASUAL Difficulty is available.*



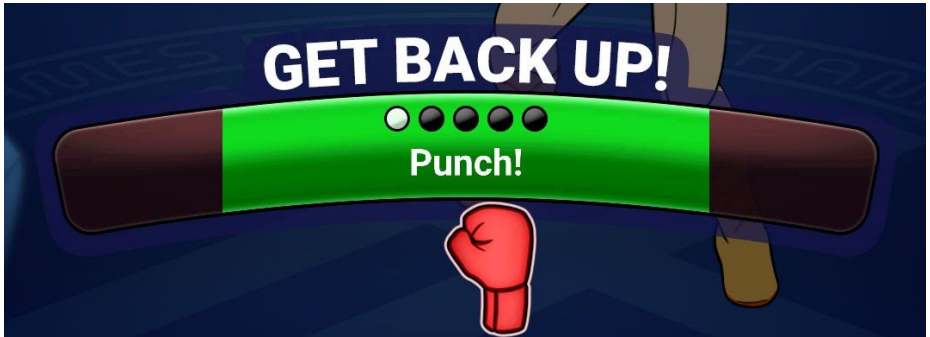
SELECT	Throw Punches
LEFT	Dodge Left
RIGHT	Dodge Right
DOWN	Block
UP	Haymaker

# The Game Screen



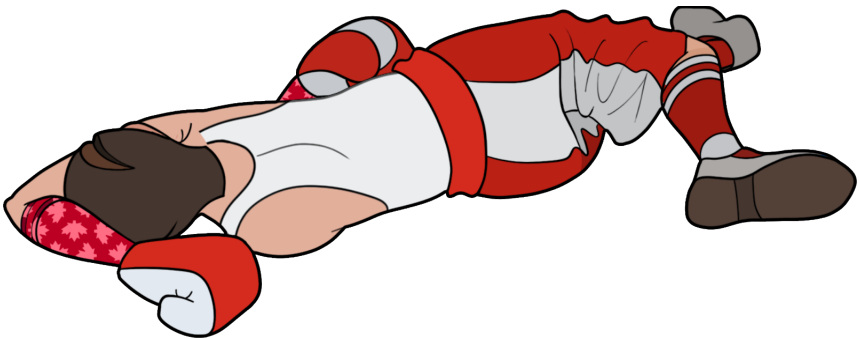
- 1) **Your health bar.** If depleted, you will be knocked down and one of the pips in the center will be crossed out. If you get knocked down three times in one round, you lose by technical knockout.
- 2) **Your power meter.** Punching your opponent fills the meter, even if he blocks.
- 3) **Your stamina meter.** Punching consumes stamina, but it comes back quickly if you rest for a heartbeat. If you run out of stamina, you will get winded for several seconds.
- 4) **Opponent's health bar.** Whittle your opponent's health to zero for a knockdown, causing one of the pips in the center to be crossed out. If you knock him down three times in one round, you win by technical knockout.
- 5) **Round timer.** When it reaches zero, both fighters are forced to take a rest in their corners.
- 6) **Pause button.** Appears when using touchscreen controls.
- 7) **Boosts button.** Available in mobile editions of the game.

## Get Back Up!



When you get knocked down, you have a chance to get back up! Punch the green section of the Get Back Up meter five times to return to your feet. It gets tougher to get back up with each subsequent knockdown. If you can't return to the fight before the count of ten, you lose by knockout.

**Tip:** *If your opponent is trying to get back up, throw some jabs to keep yourself loose. You'll be rewarded with some extra health.*



# Campaign



On your way to the White House, you will be challenged by many famous people trying to steal your spotlight. Win fights against them in their own territories and public opinion will shift to your side. Defeat opponents to unlock their challenges and progress your political campaign.

## Completing Challenges

Every character has five challenges for you to complete. Completing them not only gets you influence and bragging rights, they can also teach you advanced fighting techniques that are useful later in the game.

## EX Fights

When you complete all five challenges for a character, you unlock a special rematch with a harder version of that character. These rematches will test your skill against new moves and fighting styles as your opponent tries to take the region back for himself.

# Wardrobe



Customize your avatar in the Wardrobe scene. Don't like being a dude with a millennial fauxhawk by default? You can change that. It's 2020.



# The Rules of Electoral Boxing

- Rounds end when time reaches zero.
- There are five rounds, or fewer at the judge's discretion.
- At the end of the final round, a winner is decided.
- If a fighter is knocked down and can't stand up before the count of ten, the match ends in a Knockout.
- If a fighter is knocked down three times in a single round, the match ends in a Technical Knockout.
- In a rule that was also decided by boxing, there are no illegal moves in boxing.

## Hints and Advice

- Don't get hit, and feel free to feel bad if we had to tell you that.
- It's tempting to throw punches wildly, but this will only result in you getting winded, followed by death.
- If you get winded, STOP. You can't punch or dodge until you catch your breath. Blocking a punch will instantly bring you back into the fight and rapidly refill your stamina.
- Watch your opponent's movements closely. These people are politicians, not boxers, so they're sure to telegraph their intentions.
- Look for openings everywhere! Poke at your opponents to find their weaknesses. They turn red when they're especially vulnerable.
- Opponents also flash yellow sometimes. Good things will happen if you manage to punch them during these tells.
- If you can't beat an opponent, try completing challenges for previous opponents. This will teach you advanced techniques for beating the high-ranked fighters.

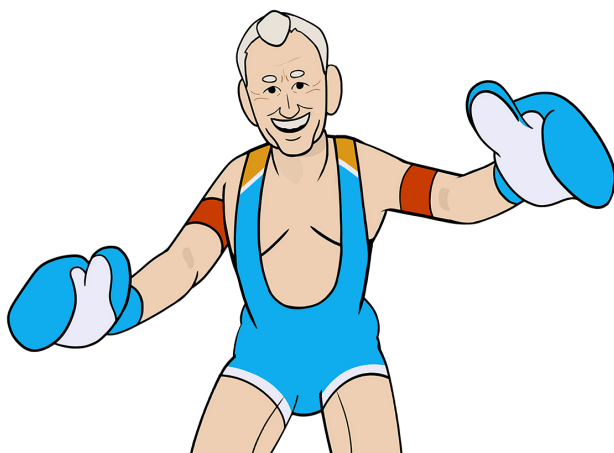
Now let's do some opposition research!





## Jab Bush

Jab woke up this morning, ate a green apple, and admired the birds nesting on his patio boxing ring. "They can have it again today," thought Jab. Nobody ever became president by being a big meanie.



## Uncle Joe

Joe is really excited about all laws being replaced with wrestling. So far, no one has thought to correct him.



A-Oh!

The young A-Oh! exemplifies the American Dream, showing young dancing bartenders around the nation that they too can box their way to the presidency.



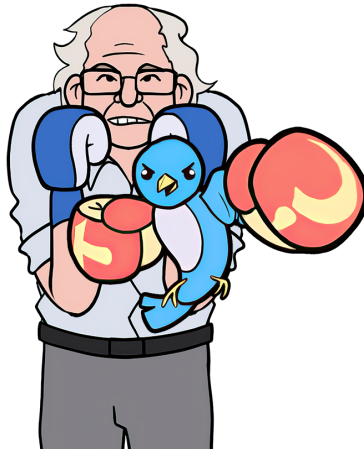
Ted Bruz

Having long denied the conspiracy theories, Ted Bruz finally admits that he is in fact the Zodiac Pugilist.



## Cap'n Crenshaw

After a successful and decorated career as a Navy Seal, Cap'n Crenshaw can finally pursue his true passion: cosplay.



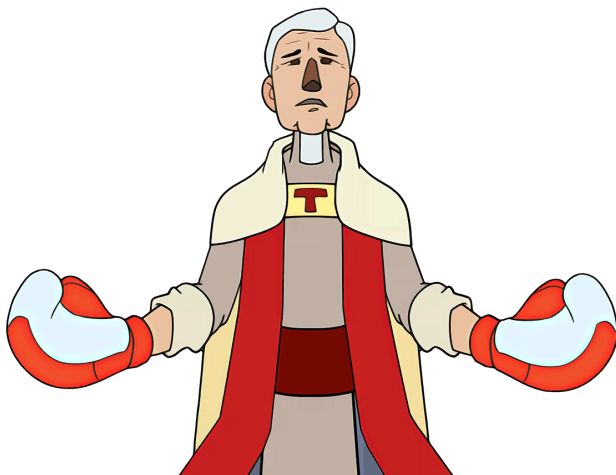
## Birdie Sanders

When Sanders learned he could talk to animals, it opened up many new avenues for his presidential ambitions. Critics wonder however, is it Sanders fighting? Or the bird?



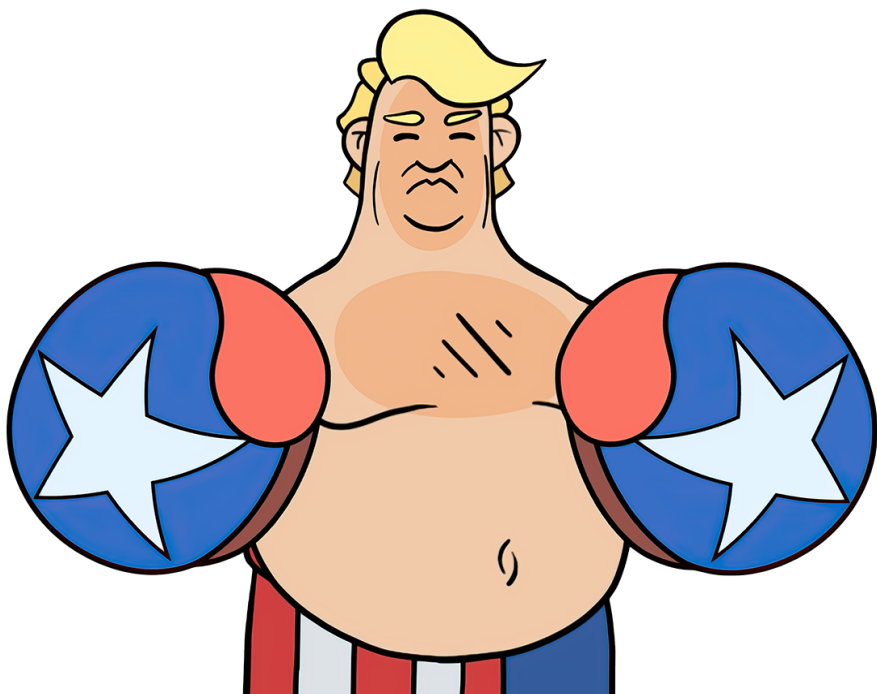
Chief Warrin'

Chief Warrin' has been many things in her life, but winning the presidency would truly put another feather in her cap.



Mike Pious

Not just anyone is allowed to enter the Oval Office Ring. Pious stands guard to pass judgement on would-be contenders.



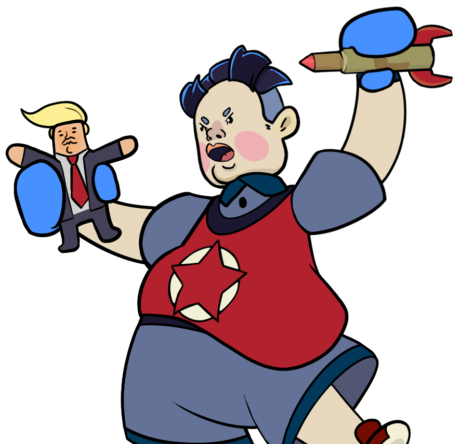
## President Donald Thump

Even before boxing, the sitting President of the United States had ruthlessly beaten every challenger to ever face him. If 2016 was a bloodbath, there's no telling what's in store now that candidates can literally duke it out.



Justin Turbeau

When the U.S. opened its presidential election to boxing, they forgot to limit it to American citizens. Lucky for Canada, their Prime Minister actually boxes in real life. Will Turbeau annex the U.S.A?



Kim Jong BOOM

The day Kim received Thump's letter, he was furious. Of course he was a better boxer than Thump! In fact, he's a world champion in his own country! To defend his honor, Kim launches his own presidential campaign at the United States.





©2020 ExceptioNULL Games