Back on Wednesday RISE held RISE 85 which featured their heavyweight tournament, two title fights and two super fights featuring promotional champions. Usually I add a brief analysis with the results post, but I didn't want to make that post extraordinarily long. In the heavyweight GP, Singh "Heart" Jaideep won in the finals by KO over Makoto Uehara while Stefan Leko, Fabiano Cyclone and Mighty Mo were the victims of upsets in the opening round of the tournament. RENA managed to defeat Erika Kamimura in a very close fight, Kenji Kubo bested Dyki for the vacant Bantamweight title and RISE champions Kosuke Komiyama and Koji Yoshimoto picked up big wins over Sergio Wielzen and Son Hyun Lee, respectively.

- Starting with Jaideep, he proved what most people already knew and that is that he is above the level of RISE, J-Network, etc. when it comes to heavyweights in Japan. A 4th fight with Fabiano Cyclone would have been nice, but he did what he needed to do. It'd be nice to see him compete in a qualifying FIKA tournament next year.

-
- Very surprising result from Makoto Uehara despite the quick loss to Jaideep in the finals. He proved me wrong in showing that his conditioning is better than previously thought as he was able to go 7 full rounds. His power is still there, though he failed to score a knockout which may show that he adapted to the tournament format and fought smart, conserving his energy. I'd also like to see Uehara in a FIKA qualifying GP.
-
- Jan Soukup was on the verge of making the finals in just his 5th pro kickboxing bout, but his win over Fabiano Cyclone is huge. Should he continue to fight in kickboxing, he could be interesting, but at 32 he likely won't crack the top 25.

-
- For Raoumaru, the win over Mighty Mo is nice, but he didn't prove much, getting decimated by Jaideep early in the first round. Like I said in my preview, he could beat Mighty Mo, but didn't have much chance of doing anything thereafter.
-
- For Leko, I don't think this loss signifies that he should retire. He was coming off of two fights just a week ago and got his body roughed up pretty well by Errol Zimmerman. Uehara has power and was able to put up a pace that Leko couldn't handle so soon after fighting last week. This fight had the perfect recipe for an upset and Leko just wasn't able to put in a winning performance.
-
- The most disappointing result on the night was for Fabiano Cyclone who I had pegged as the favorite to win the tournament. Perhaps it was an off night or just a bad style matchup for him. Next for him is an unknown, though I still want him to take a step up in competition.
-
- Hiromi Amada lasted the longest against Jaideep, but at 38 he's not going anywhere. He had an 8 year run in K-1 and will likely keep defending his HEAT title until he can't any more.

-
- I have nothing to say about Mighty Mo.
-
- This win for RENA is probably the biggest of her career so far. Coming off of losses to Ai Takahashi and Jessica Penne, I can't imagine many people had her as the favorite in this fight. I had her all but counted out, but she showed real heart and grit, grinding out this decision.
-
- The loss isn't really a step back for Kamimura and had it not been for fouls she could have gotten a draw or even a win. At just 18 she's now 23-2 (12 KO) and is likely pegged as the third best female fighter at this weight behind RENA and Ai Takahashi.
-
- Speaking of Takahashi, this fight pretty much makes her #1. I still want to see a fight between her and Kamimura, as well as a trilogy fight with RENA, but for now she sits alone atop her throne.
-
- Kenji Kubo, younger brother of Yuta Kubo, could now be regarded one of the top kickboxers in Japan at 55kg. However, with a pair of losses to Shota Takiya and a loss to Nobuchika Terado in his past, he'll need a big win or really good performance against someone like Ryuya Kusakabe or Takiya to be considered an elite fighter.
-
- Though there's no video of the fight yet, from the GBRing and Bout Review reports it seemed as though Kosuke Komiyama had a slight edge over Sergio Wielzen in the opening round before the cut appeared. Unfortunately, the fight ended early and it's hard to determine who the better fighter actually was that night. Still, it's a decent scalp for Kosuke Komiyama who has made a name for himself this year, capturing the RISE title against Kan Itabashi and now defeating Wielzen. His case to challenge Hirotaka Urabe for the Krush 60kg title gets stronger by the day and with Urabe having his first defense announced for January without an opponent, Komiyama is in a good position to be his opponent.
-
- Wielzen had fought twice in the month leading up to this fight and Simon Rutz admitted that he had almost no scouting on Komiyama and that left him open for Komiyama's front kick which found a home multiple times and was ultimately the strike that caused the cut.
-
- Koji Yoshimoto scored a huge win over surging prospect Son Hyun Lee. This win, as well as his win over Shohei Asahara back in June in K-1 should give him the publicity he needs to get placed into a qualifying FIKA tournament at 63kg.
-
- Disappointing result for Lee who holds a win over Kizaemon Saiga and took Koya Urabe to an extension round in a fight that could have arguably been scored in his favor. He lost a point for coming in slightly overweight and there was a point deduction in the 3rd round for clinching as well, though I'm not sure who the penalty was given to. If it was given to Lee, he would have won the fight via majority decision without the two point deductions, but as it stands, it's back to the drawing board for Lee. {jcomments on}