

### Heavyweight

1. Alistair Overeem
2. Peter Aerts
3. Semmy Schilt
4. Remy Bonjasky
5. Badr Hari
6. Gokhan Saki
7. Kyotaro
8. Ewerton Teixeira
9. Daniel Ghita
10. Hesdy Gerges
11. Tyrone Spong
12. Jerome Le Banner
13. Nathan Corbett
14. Errol Zimmerman
15. Ashwin Balrak
16. Ruslan Karaev
17. Zabit Samedov
18. Brice Guidon
19. Melvin Manhoef
20. Pavel Zhuravlev
21. Mourad Bouzidi
22. Anderson Silva
23. Rico Verhoeven
24. Mighty Mo
25. Raul Catinas

Welcome to the first edition of our **LiverKick.com** rankings. These rankings are an attempt to break down the top 25 fighters in two different weight classes - Heavyweight, for fighters above the 77kg limit, and Middleweight, for fighters at the 70-72.5kg limit. We'll be posting rankings on roughly a quarterly basis, with the inaugural Middleweight rankings out tomorrow. Before we discuss, I want to stress that all rankings are inherently subjective, and are sure to ruffle a few feathers. To be clear, our rankings are based on in-ring accomplishments and recent wins and loses, and as such, we hope they reflect where these fighters currently stand.

The biggest talking point here is likely the ascension of a new #1. **Alistair Overeem**, with only 14 pro kickboxing fights to his credit, rises to the top spot by becoming the 8th man to win the K-1 Grand Prix crown. Always a subject of controversy, many fans still view him as an outsider to kickboxing, and can't fathom The Reem as the #1 man. But with wins over Saki, Aerts, Hari,

## LiverKick.com Heavyweight Rankings

Written by Fraser Coffeen

Monday, 27 December 2010 16:38 - Last Updated Tuesday, 04 January 2011 22:13

---

Teixeira and Spong, plus the GP victory, it's hard to place him elsewhere. Beyond that, there's also the question that if Overeem is not #1 - who is?

Also making a huge move up the ladder is **Peter Aerts**. Aerts looked like his time near the top was at an end just a few months ago, but with a history making win over Semmy Schilt, Aerts moves into the #2 spot. Glad to see the Dutch Lumberjack there one more time.

A few fighters are near the point of being removed from rankings due to inactivity - most notably **#4 Remy Bonjasky**. Bonjasky has not fought in over a year, and may have one last fight in him before retirement. If he doesn't announce another fight soon, it will be hard to keep him ranked. It's a similar case with the often unreliable **#16 Ruslan Karaev**, who likewise has not competed since the 2009 GP Finals. Finally, **#15 Ashwin Balrak** may be dropped out of the rankings, as his next few years could be spent behind bars after his 2010 cocaine bust.

Looking ahead, there are not a huge number of big heavyweight fights currently announced, which is always the case as the year ends. A few cards are worth noting though.



At Dynamite!! on Dec. 31, **#7 Kyotaro** will face **Gegard Mousasi** under K-1 rules. Also competing on that card are Overeem and **#12 Jerome Le Banner**, though both fights are under MMA rules.

January 30 marks the 2nd round in the Ultimate Glory world series event. This round of 4 includes **#6 Gokhan Saki v. Wendell Roche**, and **#18 Brice Guidon v. #21 Mourad Bouzidi**, with the winners meeting at the April 21 finals.

Finally, It's Showtime heavyweight champion **#10 Hesdy Gerges** has a busy time ahead of him. He faces **#9 Daniel Ghita** on

## LiverKick.com Heavyweight Rankings

Written by Fraser Coffeen

Monday, 27 December 2010 16:38 - Last Updated Tuesday, 04 January 2011 22:13

---

March 6 in an absolute blockbuster of a fight, and

### **Alexey Ignashov**

on July 3. That Gerges v. Ghita bout could be the biggest heavyweight fight of the next 6 months, though it could see some competition from the It's Showtime/K-1 Qualifying Grand Prix event on May 21 - no names yet announced for that show, but expect some big fights.