

# An Interview with Cuthbert Taylor Which would Cuthbert say?

### How did you feel when you were not allowed to box for your country?

**A:** When I found out I couldn't box for my country, I felt very sad. I had worked so hard and wanted to wear my country's colours. It felt unfair, like I missed out on something important.

**B:** When I found out I couldn't box for my country, I felt very happy. I had worked so hard and I needed a rest.

#### Why is inclusion important to you?

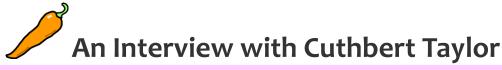
**A:** Inclusion means letting everyone join in, no matter who they are. It's important because it makes everyone feel welcome and valued.

**B:** Inclusion means only letting people who you want join in. It is important to win and get the best people.

### What would you like the future generations to learn from your story?

**A:** If future generations can learn from my story, it's to NEVER give up! Life has challenges, but keep moving towards your dreams.

**B:** If future generations can learn from my story, it's to not bother trying. Life has challenges and they are hard to beat.



# How did you feel when you were not allowed to box for your country?

When I learned that I couldn't box for my country, I felt very sad. I had trained so hard and dreamed of wearing my country's colours. It felt unfair, and my heart was heavy as a stone. I watched other boxers put on their jerseys with pride, and I wanted to feel that too!

At first, I was disappointed and a bit angry. But then, I decided to channel those feelings into my training. I worked even harder, believing that I could still represent my country in different ways. I learned that even when things seem tough, you can come back stronger if you believe in yourself.

#### Why is inclusion important to you?

Inclusion means letting everyone join in, no matter who they are. It's important because it makes everyone feel welcome and valued. In boxing, it's more exciting when everyone can participate. Inclusion builds a strong team and allows us to learn from one another.

Reflecting on my own journey, I understand that inclusion brings happiness. It helps people to feel respected. I want young fighters to realise that they can pursue their dreams regardless of their background. When we include everyone, we create a better future where no one feels left out.

## What would you like the future generations to learn from your story?

If future generations can learn from my story, it's to NEVER give up! Life has challenges, but keep moving towards your dreams. Also, be kind and include others. Support your friends and celebrate everyone's differences; that's what makes us unique.

Finally, remember to have fun! Whether it's boxing or anything else, enjoy what you do and cheer each other on. That's the legacy I want to leave behind: be strong, be inclusive, and enjoy the journey!



### How did you feel when you were not allowed to box for your country?

Oh, goodness me! Not being allowed to box for my country felt like a big storm cloud floating over my head. You see, when you train hard every day and dream of representing your homeland, it becomes a huge part of who you are. When I found out I couldn't step into the ring and wear that beautiful jersey with my nation's colours, my heart sank like a heavy stone. It felt unfair, as if I had worked all this time for nothing.

Imagine training every day, hitting the bags, and running up those hills, only to be told you can't show the world what you can do! It made me feel sad, disappointed, and even a bit angry. I would watch others put on that jersey, waving it proudly, and I wished I could do the same. However, deep down inside, I used that frustration to fuel my determination. It made me want to fight harder, not just in the ring but also for the right to be included in my sport. It taught me that setbacks can be tough, but they can also be the start of a big comeback if you keep believing in yourself.

#### Why is inclusion important to you?

Inclusion means that everyone should be able to join in, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or how they look. To me, it's like a grand boxing match where everyone gets a chance to step into the ring—everyone brings something special. This is so important because when everyone is included, it helps to create a happier and stronger team. Just think of a boxing match; it isn't just about one person winning but also about teamwork, support, and learning from each other.

When I look back at my journey, I realise that inclusion has the power to change lives. It allows people to feel valued and respected, and it teaches us empathy. If I could have stepped into the ring wearing that jersey, it would have shown so many young fighters that they too could achieve their dreams no matter their background. I want everyone to understand that by including everyone, we can break barriers, make friends, and support each other. Together, we can build a brighter future where no one feels left out.

### What would you like the future generations to learn from your story?

Ah, the lessons to pass down! If future generations can take something meaningful from my story, I hope they remember this: NEVER give up, even when the going gets tough! Life is full of challenges, but each setback can be a stepping stone to something great. It's important to stay strong and keep pushing towards your dreams, no matter how many walls you face.

Also, I hope they understand the essence of kindness and including others in their journey. Be the person who lifts others up, who offers a helping hand and shares their dreams. As I learned when I couldn't box for my country, it's not just about your own success but about lifting up your friends and teammates. Celebrate differences and recognise how beautiful they are, for it is our uniqueness that helps the world shine brighter.

Lastly, never forget to have fun! Boxing, like life, should be enjoyable. Love what you do, put in your best effort, and always encourage others along the way. That is the legacy I would love to leave for you, dear friends—be resilient, be inclusive, and most of all, be joyful!