

The Inverness Courier

Munro takes silver at Senior Scottish Championships

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GRAEME Munro's bid to bring home a Scottish title at senior level for Highland Boxing Academy may have ended in defeat, but head coach Liam Foy was still hugely proud of his boxers efforts.

A packed Meadowbank Sports Centre was the venue for this years Senior Scottish Open Championship — the pinnacle of amateur boxing in this country.

After making his way through two previous rounds, Munro came up against current Scottish and British number one Joe Ham (Renfrewshire) in the bantamweight final.

The 24-year-old started well and going into the second round, the two fighters were evenly matched on at four points apiece until a devastating spell of boxing from Ham led to the referee stopping the fight.

Foy felt that the match official might have let in carry on for a little longer given Munro was not seriously hurt, but respected the decision.

"The bout was very even, but a 15-second spell in the second round really cost Graeme," he said.

"It's such a shame because Graeme wasn't hurt and he didn't need medical attention, but it's the referees job to protect the boxers and he can only make a decision based on what he sees.

"You just have to respect the decision, but take nothing away from Joe Ham. In that spell in the second round he caught Graeme with some beautiful shots.

"Even though it would have been tremendous to take back a Scottish title, both Graeme and the club can still be very proud of this achievement.

"Graeme managed to overcome boxers in the earlier rounds who themselves would have been expecting to reach the final, so it's certainly no disgrace that he's lost in the final.

"When you consider that Graeme also had a six-year spell without really boxing, then to do what he's done this season is wonderful and we are all very proud of him."

Meanwhile, Ross Houston is in action at the Nevis Centre, Fort William, tomorrow and he will also be fighting alongside Donald Macphee and Sarah Harper on Sunday 22nd April in Dumfries.

The academy have also announced that they will be hosting their first-ever show at Inverness Leisure on Saturday 22nd September. Tickets for the event are going on sale soon.

Highland Boxing Academy's Graeme Munro (left) had to settle for silver at the Senior Scottish Open Championships after he lost his bantamweight final to Joe Ham (right).

