

= Lockdown ( 2008 ) =

Lockdown ( 2008 ) was a professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view ( PPV ) event produced by the Total Nonstop Action Wrestling ( TNA ) promotion , which took place on April 13 , 2008 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell , Massachusetts . It was the fourth under the Lockdown chronology and fourth event in the 2008 TNA PPV schedule . Eight professional wrestling matches , two of which for championships , were featured on the card . In the tradition of Lockdown events , every match took place inside a six sided steel structure known as the Six Sides of Steel .

The main event was for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Kurt Angle and Samoa Joe , with the added stipulation if Joe lost he would retire from professional wrestling . Joe won the encounter , thus winning the TNA World Heavyweight Championship for the first time . Also held on the card was the 2008 Lethal Lockdown match between Team Cage and Team Tomko . Team Cage of Christian Cage ( captain ) , Matt Morgan , Kevin Nash , Rhino , and Sting defeated Tomko ( captain ) , A.J. Styles , James Storm , and Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) of Team Tomko in the contest . Two featured bouts were scheduled on the undercard . The first was an Intergender Tag Team match pitting the team of Robert Roode and Payton Banks against the team of Booker T and Sharmell . Booker T and Sharmell were the victors in the match . The TNA X Division Championship was defended in the 2008 TNA Xscape match by Jay Lethal against Consequences Creed , Curry Man , Johnny Devine , Shark Boy , and Sonjay Dutt . Lethal won the competition to retain the championship .

Lockdown marked the fourth time the Lethal Lockdown and Xscape match formats were used by TNA . 55 @, @ 000 was the reported figure of purchasers for the event by The Wrestling Observer Newsletter . Lockdown had an attendance of 5 @, @ 500 people . Chris Sokol of the professional wrestling section of the Canadian Online Explorer rated the event a 6 @. @ 5 out of 10 , higher than the 2007 event 's ranking of 5 @. @ 5 out of 10 also by Sokol .

= = Production = =

= = = Background = = =

The fourth installment in the Lockdown chronology was announced in January 2008 as taking place on April 13 . It was later reported that Lockdown was suspected to be held outside of the TNA Impact ! Zone . The New England area was reported as the believed location , making it TNA 's first PPV in the Northeastern area . TNA issued a press release in mid @-@ February 2008 announcing that Lockdown would be held on April 13 , 2008 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell , Massachusetts . Tickets for the event went on sale on February 29 , 2008 . TNA held a " TNA Fan Interaction " on April 12 , 2008 as part of the festivities of the show . TNA created a section covering the event on their website . TNA released a poster to promote the event sometimes prior featuring Kurt Angle and Samoa Joe . The official theme for the spectacle was Nothing to Lose by Operator .

= = = Storylines = = =

Lockdown featured eight professional wrestling matches that involved different wrestlers from pre @-@ existing scripted feuds and storylines . Wrestlers portrayed villains , heroes , or less distinguishable characters in the scripted events that built tension and that culminated into a wrestling match or series of matches . Every match was contested inside the Six Sides of Steel .

The main event was a Six Sides of Steel Cage match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Kurt Angle and the challenger Samoa Joe . This bout was announced on the March 13 episode of TNA 's television program TNA Impact ! by Management Director Jim Cornette . Joe proclaimed on the same episode that if he did not win the title at Lockdown , he would quit TNA in the storyline . Afterwards , Joe was not seen until the April 10 episode of Impact ! , with training for the match being the reason for his absence . On the April

10 episode of Impact ! , a contract signing took place between Joe and Angle regarding the match . Joe signed the contract , making it official if he lost the match at Lockdown he would instead quit professional wrestling forever . This match was the progression of a long @-@ standing series of matches between Angle and Joe . Angle having won three of four of their past contests at TNA 's Genesis PPV event on November 19 , 2006 , TNA 's Turning Point PPV event on December 19 , 2006 , TNA 's Final Resolution on January 14 , 2007 , and at TNA 's Hard Justice on August 12 , 2007 .

The 2008 Lethal Lockdown match was announced on the March 13 episode of Impact ! by Cornette . Cornette announced that the 2008 installment would have two four @-@ man teams captained by either Christian Cage or Tomko . During the same episode , A.J. Styles and Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) were chosen by Tomko to be a part of Team Tomko at Lockdown . Meanwhile , Kevin Nash joined Cage as the second member of Team Cage . Rhino joined Team Cage on the March 20 episode of Impact ! . On the March 27 episode of Impact ! , Sting joined Team Cage , to round out the team . It was announced on the April 3 episode of Impact ! that each team captain would be allowed to add another member , making it a five @-@ on @-@ five match at Lockdown . James Storm was added to Team Tomko during the show , while Matt Morgan aligned with Team Cage . This contest was the result of an existing feud pitting Cage against Tomko and Styles . Cage , Tomko , and Styles were once united under the Christian 's Coalition banner , until Styles and Tomko aligned with Angle and formed The Angle Alliance in late 2007 . At TNA 's Final Resolution PPV event on January 6 , 2008 , Cage fought Angle for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship . Styles interfered in the contest aiding Angle , costing Cage the title . Cage fought for the title against Angle again at TNA 's Against All Odds PPV event on February 10 , 2008 , however , Tomko interfered aiding Angle to retain the title .

Booker T and Sharmell versus the team of Robert Roode and Payton Banks in a Six Sides of Steel Intergender Tag Team Cage match was another highly promoted match heading into the event . This encounter was announced on the March 20 episode of Impact ! by Cornette . The feud regarding this encounter began at Final Resolution , where Roode accidentally punched Booker T 's real @-@ life wife Sharmell , fracturing her jaw in the storyline and leaving her sidelined indefinitely . Booker T and Roode then fought at Against All Odds to a double count @-@ out . At TNA 's Destination X PPV event on March 9 , 2008 , Roode and Booker T fought in a Stand By Your Man Strap match , which Roode won . After the bout , Sharmell returned from injury attacking Roode and his manager Banks with a leather strap .

The TNA X Division Championship was defended in the 2008 TNA Xscape match by Jay Lethal against five other competitors . TNA held qualification matches on Impact ! leading up to Lockdown to determine the five other participants besides Lethal . The first to qualify was Curry Man by defeating Petey Williams on the March 13 episode . Sonjay Dutt defeated Homicide on the March 20 episode to qualify . The third qualification was Johnny Devine by defeating Alex Shelley on the March 27 episode . On the April 3 episode , Shark Boy defeated Elix Skipper to qualify . Consequences Creed was the last to qualify by defeating Jimmy Rave on the April 10 episode .

= = Event = =

= = = Miscellaneous = = =

Lockdown featured employees other than the wrestlers involved in the matches . Mike Tenay and Don West were the commentators for the telecast , with Frank Trigg providing guest commentary for the main event only . Jeremy Borash and David Penzer were ring announcers for the event . Andrew Thomas , Earl Hebner , Rudy Charles , and Mark " Slick " Johnson participated as referees for the encounters . Lauren Thompson and Borash were used as interviewers during the event . Besides employees appearing in a wrestling role , SoCal Val , Trigg , Karen Angle , Marcus Davis , and members of Samoa Joe 's family all appeared on camera , either in backstage or ringside segments . Joe 's family were in attendance to perform a traditional Samoan fire dance during his ring

entrance .

== Preliminary matches ==

Jay Lethal defended the TNA X Division Championship against Consequences Creed , Curry Man , Johnny Devine , Shark Boy , and Sonjay Dutt in the 2008 TNA Xscape match to open the event . In this match , the six competitors fought until four were eliminated by pinfall or submission ; the two remaining wrestlers then fought to escape from the cage , with the first to do so the winner . The duration of the contest was 10 minutes and 45 seconds . Dutt was the first eliminated in the bout by Devine with a roll @-@ up pin at 2 minutes and 50 seconds . The second was Shark Boy at 4 minutes and 30 seconds , after Creed performed his signature Creed @-@ DT maneuver . At 7 minutes and 15 seconds , Creed was eliminated by Curry Man after his signature Spice Rack maneuver . Curry Man was the last eliminated at 8 minutes and 40 seconds by Devine following his signature Devine Intervention maneuver . With the match down to two competitors , Devine and Lethal fought to escape the cage . Lethal escaped the cage first , thus winning the match and retaining the TNA X Division Championship .

The first @-@ ever Queen of the Cage match for number one contendership to the TNA Women 's Knockout Championship was next . The participants in the encounter were Angelina Love , Christy Hemme , Jackie Moore , Rhaka Khan , Roxxi Laveaux , Salinas , Traci Brooks , and Velvet Sky . In this match , the participants fought on the outside of the ring to climb into the cage . The first two to do so had a standard wrestling match , with the winner determined by pinfall or submission . It lasted 5 minutes and 30 seconds . Laveaux and Love were the first to enter the cage , with Laveaux gaining the pinfall after her signature Voodoo Drop maneuver to become the first @-@ ever Queen of the Cage and become number one contender to the TNA Women 's Knockout Championship .

The third encounter pitted B.G. James against Kip James in a Six Sides of Steel Cage match . Kip jumped B.G. as he entered the cage to begin the match . B.G. won the match with a roll @-@ up pin at 8 minutes even . Kip attacked B.G. after the match .

TNA held a Six Team Cuffed in the Cage match in the following bout . The teams participating were Black Reign and Rellik , Kaz and Eric Young / Super Eric , The Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ) , The Motor City Machine Guns ( Alex Shelley and Chris Sabin ) , Petey Williams and Scott Steiner , and The Rock ' n Rave Infection ( Jimmy Rave and Lance Hoyt ) . Its duration was 10 minutes and 45 seconds . The objective of this match was for a wrestler to handcuff another wrestler to the cage , until there was only one left . Prior to the match , Young was attacked by Reign and Rellik , forcing Kaz to start the match without him . Later , Young entered the match dressed in his " Super Eric " gimmick and cuffed Rave and Hoyt to the cage . He then tricked Reign into cuffing Rellik , before he slammed Reign head @-@ first into the mat with a Death Valley Driver and followed by cuffing him to win the match for Kaz and himself .

Gail Kim and ODB fought Awesome Kong and Raisha Saeed in a Six Sides of Steel Tag Team Cage match , which lasted 8 minutes and 30 seconds . Near the end , Kong missed a spinning back @-@ fist on ODB and instead hit Saeed . ODB followed by performing a splash from the top of a padded turnbuckle to win the match for her team .

== Main event matches ==

The Six Sides of Steel Intergender Tag Team Cage match followed , pitting the team of Booker T and Sharmell against the team of Robert Roode and Payton Banks . The match began with Booker T and Roode , until Sharmell tagged in . Later , Banks tagged in to face Sharmell . Afterwards , Banks accidentally slapped Roode , allowing Sharmell to pin Banks with a roll @-@ up at 7 minutes and 45 seconds .

The 2008 Lethal Lockdown match was the seventh bout on the card , between Team Cage ( Christian Cage , Matt Morgan , Kevin Nash , Rhino , and Sting ) and Team Tomko ( Tomko , A.J. Styles , James Storm , and Team 3D ) . The duration of the contest was 26 minutes and 45 seconds . A Lethal Lockdown match is fought under no disqualification rules , in which weapons are legal and

one wrestler from each team starts the match in the cage . Afterwards , members from each team enter at time intervals until all wrestlers are involved in the bout so a pinfall or submission can occur . Cage and Styles started the match . Brother Ray , Rhino , Storm , Nash , Brother Devon , Morgan , Tomko , and Sting were the order of entrances for the contest . Shortly after Sting 's entrance , a roof covered in weapons was lowered onto the cage . With Sting 's participation all men were involved in the match , as such a pinfall or submission could now occur . During the encounter , Cage set up a table on top of the roof of the cage . Later , he and Styles were fighting on top of a ladder on top of the cage , when Storm pushed over the ladder causing them both to crash through the table . Storm then climbed down from the roof into the cage , where Rhino tackled and pinned him to secure the victory for Team Cage .

The main event was a Six Sides of Steel Cage match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Kurt Angle and the challenger Samoa Joe . The added stipulation to this bout was if Joe lost , he would be forced to retire from professional wrestling forever . Frank Trigg provided commentary for this match . The match was primarily technical , with each combatant switching through various holds and submission maneuvers . One such submission was the Figure @-@ Four Leglock , which Angle applied to Joe . Angle was forced to release the hold when Joe grabbed the bottom rope . Joe then applied a Boston Crab , before switching to an STF , which Angle countered into an Ankle Lock . Following the hold being broken , Angle performed his signature Olympic Slam maneuver on Joe for a near @-@ fall . Later , Joe applied his signature Coquina Clutch submission on Angle , which was forced to be released when Angle grabbed the bottom rope . The match finally came to a conclusion when Joe lifted up Angle and slammed him to the mat back @-@ first with his signature Muscle Buster maneuver . Joe then covered for the pinfall at 17 minutes and 45 seconds to win the TNA World Heavyweight Championship for the first time .

= = Reception = =

The Tsongas Arena has a maximum capacity of 6 @,@ 500 for sporting events . A total of 5 @,@ 500 people attended the event . In late 2008 , The Wrestling Observer Newsletter reported that the number of pay @-@ per @-@ view purchasers for the event was believed to be 55 @,@ 000 . Canadian Online Explorer writer Chris Sokol rated the entire event a 6 @.@ 5 out of 10 , which was higher than the 5 @.@ 5 out of 10 given to the 2007 Lockdown event also by Sokol . Lockdown received the same rating as TNA 's previous event Destination X. While it was lower than TNA 's next event Sacrifice on May 11 , which was ranked a 7 out of 10 by Sokol . Compared to rival World Wrestling Entertainment 's Backlash PPV event held on April 28 , Lockdown was rated higher , as Dave Hillhouse gave Backlash a 6 out of 10 . Sokol felt that Lockdown was " an iffy PPV " , but was " not a bad effort by TNA " . However , he still thought it was " not one of their stronger PPV outings " . The main event was given an 8 out of 10 by Sokol in his review . His highest rating went to the Lethal Lockdown match with 9 out of 10 . The Queen of the Cage was given his lowest of 4 out of 10 . The Xscape match was rated a 6 @.@ 5 out of 10 , while the Six Sides of Steel Intergender Tag Team Cage match received a 7 out of 10 . Sokol stated he believed the main event was a " solid match " . Regarding the Lethal Lockdown match , Sokol commented saying it was " excellent " .

Wade Keller of the Pro Wrestling Torch reviewed Lockdown , giving the main event 4 and a half stars out of 5 , while the Lethal Lockdown match 3 and a half stars out of 5 . Keller went on to state in his review he felt Angle versus Joe was a " really good main event " . Commenting that " it felt fresh with the MMA @-@ style , and meshed just enough pro wrestling moves in a largely believable fashion with typical ( and some not @-@ so @-@ typical ) MMA submissions throughout in dramatic fashion . It 's really a stellar example of how the two styles could mesh to create a more modern , believable approach for the current era " . James Caldwell also of the Pro Wrestling Torch published a review of the event . In his review , he also gave the main event 4 and a half stars out of 5 , however , gave the Lethal Lockdown only 3 stars out of 5 . Regarding the TNA World Heavyweight Championship bout , Caldwell said it was " great match " , but that he felt like " there could have been more " . Although , he believed this " was TNA at its best with no b.s. to get in the way , and a

display of two of the best in the world " . Simon Rothstein , a journalist for the United Kingdom newspaper The Sun , stated in his review of Lockdown that the main event was the " best match of the night , this was perfectly booked and executed " . He said that as a result it " should give TNA the impetus to quickly smash the records they set at Lockdown " . On the January 1 , 2009 episode of Impact ! , TNA announced their Year End Awards for 2008 , with Kurt Angle versus Samoa Joe in a Six Sides of Steel Cage match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship named Match of the Year . Lockdown was released on DVD on June 17 , 2008 by TNA Home Video .

= = Aftermath = =

Kurt Angle was legitimately injured during the show and it was believed he may have been knocked unconscious as well .

TNA held a rematch between Angle and Samoa Joe for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship on the April 24 episode of Impact ! , which Joe won after interference from Scott Steiner . On the April 17 episode of Impact ! , Steiner challenged Joe to a TNA World Heavyweight Championship defense at Sacrifice with his Feast or Fired TNA World Heavyweight Title shot . Due to Steiner 's interference in the rematch , Management Director Jim Cornette made the title defense at Sacrifice a Three Way match between Joe , Steiner , and Angle . At the event Angle announced he received a legitimate neck injury wrestling overseas and would not be competing in the match that night . Kaz took Angle 's place in the match , which Joe won to retain the TNA World Heavyweight Championship . Joe went on to hold the TNA World Heavyweight Championship until TNA 's Bound for Glory IV PPV event on October 12 , 2008 , where he lost it to Sting .

Multiple wrestlers who competed at Lockdown went on to compete in the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament for the vacant TNA World Tag Team Championship at Sacrifice . On the April 17 episode of Impact ! , A.J. Styles and Tomko defended the TNA World Tag Team Championship in a Three Way match against the teams of Kaz and Eric Young and The Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ; LAX ) . The match ended in a controversial win for Kaz and Young which led to Cornette stripping them of the championship . He then followed by setting up the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament on the April 24 episode of Impact ! . Team 3D , LAX , Styles and Super Eric , Christian Cage and Rhino , Robert Roode and Booker T , Sting and James Storm , B.G. James and Awesome Kong , and Kip James and Matt Morgan competed in the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament . At Sacrifice , LAX defeated Team 3D in the Finals to win the vacant TNA World Tag Team Championship .

TNA X Division Champion Jay Lethal later lost the championship to Petey Williams on the April 17 episode of Impact ! after Williams used his Feast or Fired TNA X Division Title shot . TNA debuted a new match type at Sacrifice named the TerrorDome . At the event it was used to determine the new number contender to the TNA X Division Championship . However , during the show Management Director Jim Cornette announced the winner would also take Angle 's place in the main event . Kaz went on to win the match , thus becoming number one contender and taking Angle 's place .

Roxxi Laveaux got her TNA Women 's Knockout Championship match against then @-@ champion Awesome Kong on the April 17 episode of Impact ! , which Kong won . TNA then announced a TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal to determine the number one contender to the TNA Women 's Knockout Championship at Sacrifice on the April 24 episode of Impact ! . The match involved two stages , with the second being a ladder match between the final two competitors . The winner of that stage would become number one contender while the loser would have their head shaved bald . Gail Kim won immunity from having her head shaven on the May 8 episode of Impact ! . Kim went on to win the contest , while Laveaux had her head shaven .

= = Results = =

Xscape match  
Cuffed in the Cage  
Lethal Lockdown entrances

