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## Johnny Brown (Hamilton)

**Active:** 1920-1929

**Weight classes fought in:** feather to middle

**Recorded fights:** 56 contests (won: 39 lost: 15 drew: 2)

**Born:** 1901

**Died:** 1961

**Manager:** Paddy McGreechan



### Mini Bio

Brought up in the tough school of amateur boxing in Scotland, just after the first world war, Brown won the Scottish championship and then the ABA championship at Featherweight in 1919. He did so under his actual name, John Fleming.

He turned professional at the end of the following season and had his first contests in the North East of England, at the time a hotbed of professional boxing. His third bout was a 20 rounder and he quickly established himself as a man with a fine pedigree.

By 1923 he was ready to challenge for the British lightweight title but was beaten on points by fellow Scotsman Seaman James Hall in front of nearly 20,000 at the Industrial Hall in Edinburgh.

He moved up to welterweight and, along with Tommy Milligan and Alex Ireland, became one of a trio of exceptional Scottish welterweights known as the 'Hamilton school'. This became his best weight, and in 1925 he annexed the vacant British title in a bout with Harry Mason. He had learnt the hard way, having taken the great Ted Kid Lewis the distance in a losing title challenge the year before.

He lost the title six weeks later in a rematch with Mason but continued to box at the very top level for another four years, taking part in many contests for the leading Scottish promoter of the period, Nat Dresner, at the large halls in and around Glasgow and Edinburgh. He was also popular in London, where he boxed a 20 round draw with the great Len Harvey in 1926.

## Fight Record

### 1920

- Jun 12 Ted Thomas (Newcastle) **WRTD10(15)** St James Hall, Newcastle  
*Source: Boxing 16/06/1920 page 400*
- Aug 14 Charlie Williams (Kings Cross) **WRTD2(15)** St James Hall, Newcastle  
*Source: Boxing 18/08/1920 page 44*
- Aug 30 Johnny Doherty (Bloomsbury) **WRTD5(20)** Tyneside Stadium, Wallsend  
*Source: Boxing 08/09/1920 page 94*
- Sep 13 George Kilts (Pelton Fell) **WKO5(20)** St James Hall, Newcastle  
*Source: Boxing 22/09/1920 pages 124 and 125*
- Oct 4 Albert Riches (Dulwich) **WRSF6(15)** National Sporting Club, Covent Garden  
*Source: Boxing 06/10/1920 page 152*  
*Match made at 9st*
- Nov 22 Fred Jones (Rushden) **WRTD13(15)** National Sporting Club, Covent Garden  
*Source: Boxing 24/11/1920 page 268*

### 1921

- Jan 10 George Hinds (Whickham) **WPTS(20)** St James Hall, Newcastle  
*Source: Boxing 12/01/1921 page 400*
- Feb 7 Benny McNeill (Bristol) **WRTD14(15)** National Sporting Club, Covent Garden  
*Source: Boxing 11/02/1921 page 464*  
*Match made at 9st Brown 9st 5lbs 8ozs McNeill 8st 13lbs*  
*Referee: CH Douglas*  
*Brown overweight and paid forfeit*
- Feb 21 Young Brooks (Aldgate) **WRSF13(15)** Physical Culture School, Parkhead  
*Source: Boxing 23/02/1921 page 25*
- Mar 18 Walter Rossi (Pontypridd) **WKO(15)** Hearts Football Ground, Edinburgh  
*Source: Boxing 23/03/1921 page 96*  
*Promoter: Nat Dresner & Fred Lumley Attendance: 7000*
- May 20 Idris Jones (Ammanford) **WPTS(15)** Empire Theatre, Belfast  
*Source: Boxing 25/05/1921 page 240*  
*Promoter: James McAnerney*
- Jun 9 Danny Arthurs (Aberdare) **WDSQ10(15)** Pudsey Street Stadium, Liverpool  
*Source: Boxing 15/06/1921 page 284*  
*Referee: Tom Gamble*
- Dec 19 Billy Fry (Tylorstown) **WRTD7(15)** Opera House, Belfast  
*Source: Boxing*

## 1922

Mar 20 Danny Morgan (Tirphil) WDSQ13(15) National Sporting Club, Covent Garden

Source: *Boxing* 22/03/1922 page 88

Morgan boxed for the British Featherweight Title 1919.

Match made at 9st 9lbs

Referee: C H Douglas

Jun 5 Jim Gilmour (Glasgow) WRTD11(20) Victoria Club, Glasgow

Source: *Boxing*

**(Scottish Lightweight Title)**

Sep 8 Charlie Webb (Bow) WRTD5(15) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing*

Attendance: 3000

Oct 9 Billy Fry (Tylorstown) WKO2(15) Palais de Danse, Hanley

Source: *Boxing* 11/10/1922 pages 136 and 137

Fry was Welsh Area Welterweight Champion 1930-31.

Promoter: Billy Ames & Norman Hurst Attendance: 8000

Oct 30 Fred Archer (St George's) WPTS(15) National Sporting Club, Covent Garden

Source: *Boxing* 01/11/1922 page 184

Nov 27 Billy Mack (Liverpool) WPTS(15) Victoria AC, Glasgow

Source: *Boxing* 06/12/1922 pages 269 and 270

Mack boxed for the European Welterweight Title twice in 1923.

Match made at 10st 4lbs

## 1923

Jan 2 Seaman James Hall (Peebles) LPTS(20) Industrial Hall, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 10/01/1923 page 341

**(British Lightweight Title)**

Hall was British and European Lightweight Champion 1922-23.

Referee: Jack Smith(Manchester) Promoter: Nat Dresner Attendance: 18000

Mar 7 Jack Blackborrow (Newport) WPTS(15) Ulster Hall, Belfast

Source: *Boxing* 14/03/1923 page 496

Referee: Charlie Biggs (Boxing) Promoter: James McInerney and Jim Rice

Mar 23 Dave Gordon (Newtongrange) WKO13(20) Drill Hall, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 28/03/1923 page 528

Match made at 10st 6lbs

Promoter: Nat Dresner

£50 a side

May 22 Alex Ireland (Leith) WPTS(20) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 30/05/1923 page 96

**(Scottish Welterweight Title)**

Ireland was British and British Empire Middleweight Champion 1928-29.

Sep 26 Augie Ratner (USA) DRAW(20) Forest Road Drill Hall, Edinburgh

*Source: Boxing 03/10/1923 pages 122 and 123*

*Referee: Ted Humphries(Sporting Life)*

Nov 28 Pat McAllister (Belfast) WRTD14(20) Caird Hall, Dundee

*Source: Boxing 05/12/1923 page 272*

*Promoter: Nat Dresner*

Dec 10 Van T'Hof (Holland) WRSF15(20) The Ring, Blackfriars

*Source: Boxing 12/12/1923 pages 279 and 280*

*Match made at 10st 9lbs Brown 10st 6lbs Van T'Hof 10st 6lbs*

## 1924

Jan 2 Alex Ireland (Leith) WDSQ10(20) Forest Road Drill Hall, Edinburgh

*Source: Boxing 09/01/1924 page 356*

**(Scottish Welterweight Title)**

*Match made at 10st 7lbs*

*Attendance: 2500*

*£250 a side*

Jun 12 Arthur Maroey (Belgium) WDSQ7(15) Premierland, Whitechapel

*Source: Boxing 18/06/1924 page 300*

*Maroey sub for Ernest Tyncke*

Jul 3 Ted Kid Lewis (St George's) LPTS(20) Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

*Source: Boxing 09/07/1924 pages 342, 343 and 346*

**(British and European Welterweight Title)**

*Lewis was British and British Empire and European and World Champion  
from from Featherweight to Middleweight between 1913 and 1924.*

*Brown 10st 6lbs Lewis 10st 7lbs*

*Referee: Jack Smith Promoter: Major Arnold Wilson*

Jul 14 Len Johnson (Manchester) WRTD3(15) Scottish Stadium, Govan

*Source: The Scotsman*

Sep 24 Tommy Milligan (Hamilton) LPTS(20) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

*Source: Boxing 01/10/1924 pages 121 and 122*

**(Scottish Welterweight Title)**

*Milligan was British and British Empire Welterweight Champion 1924-25  
and British and British Empire Middleweight Champion 1926-28 and  
European Middleweight Champion 1925.*

*Referee: Tom Murphy(Newcastle)*

*£100 a side*

Nov 17 Arthur Maroey (Belgium) LDSQ8(15) The Ring, Blackfriars

*Source: Boxing 19/11/1924 page 232*

*Match made at 10st 10lbs Brown 10st 9lbs Maroey 10st 9lbs*

*Referee: Jim Kenrick*

Dec 8 Ernest Tyncke (Belgium) WPTS(15) The Ring, Blackfriars

*Source: Boxing 10/12/1924 page 281*

*Referee: Moss Deyong*

### 1925

Feb 6 Nol Steenhorst (Holland) WPTS(15) Scottish Stadium, Govan

*Source: Boxing 11/02/1925 page 16*

Feb 21 Ernest Tyncke (Belgium) WPTS(15) Hengler's Circus, Glasgow

*Source: Boxing 25/02/1925 page 48*

*Match made at 10st 8lbs*

*Promoter: Mr Morton*

Mar 27 Jimmy Cox (Wigan) WPTS(15) Scottish Stadium, Govan

*Source: Boxing 01/04/1925 page 128*

*Match made at 10st 8lbs*

Apr 6 Van T'Hof (Holland) LPTS(20) The Ring, Blackfriars

*Source: Boxing 08/04/1925 pages 136 and 137*

*Match made at 11st 6lbs Brown 11st 5lbs 4ozs T'Hof 11st 6lbs*

*Referee: Moss Deyong*

Oct 8 Harry Mason (Leeds) WPTS(20) Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

*Source: Boxing 14/10/1925 pages 150 and 154*

**(British Welterweight Title)**

*Mason was British Lightweight Champion 1923-24 and 1925-28 and European Lightweight Champion 1923 and British Welterweight Champion 1925-26 and 1934.*

*Referee: Moss Deyong*

Nov 19 Harry Mason (Leeds) LPTS(20) Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

*Source: Boxing 25/11/1925 pages 245, 246 and 247*

**(British Welterweight Title)**

*Referee: CH Douglas*

Dec 17 Emile Romerio (France) WPTS(15) Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

*Source: Boxing 23/12/1925 pages 309 and 310*

*Match made at 10st 7lbs Brown 10st 5lbs 8ozs Romerio 10st 5lbs 8ozs*

*Promoter: Harry Jacobs*

### 1926

Mar 13 Yvan Laffineur (France) LPTS(15) Industrial Hall, Edinburgh

*Source: Boxing 17/03/1926 pages 95 and 96*

*Referee: Ben Green Attendance: 3000*

Apr 19 Tommy McInnes (Hamilton) WPTS(15) Forrest Road Drill Hall, Edinburgh

*Source: Boxing 21/04/1926 page 169*

*Match made at 10st 10lbs*

*Promoter: Nat Dresner Attendance: 1000*

Sep 13 Len Harvey (Plymouth) DRAW(20) The Ring, Blackfriars

Source: *Boxing* 15/09/1926 pages 58 and 59

Harvey was British and British Empire and World Champion from Middleweight and to Heavyweight between 1929 and 1942.

Match made at 10st 7lbs Brown 10st 6lbs Harvey 10st 6lbs 12ozs

Referee: Sam Russell

Sep 22 Alex Ireland (Leith) WPTS(20) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 29/09/1926 page 104

**(Scottish Welterweight Title)**

Referee: Jack Smith(Manchester) Promoter: Nat Dresner Attendance: 6000

£100 a side

Brown 5/3 Fav

### 1927

Jan 11 Jack Etienne (Belgium) LPTS(10) Paris France

Source: *Boxing* 19/01/1927 page 386

May 5 Alf Mancini (Notting Hill) LKO6 Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

Source: *Boxing* 06/05/1927 pages 183, 186 and 187

Mancini boxed for the British Welterweight Title 1928.

Aug 28 Wally Baker LPTS Johannesburg South Africa

Source: *Western Mail*

Dec 21 Steve McCall (Aberdeen) LPTS(15) Caird Hall, Dundee

Source: *Boxing* 29/12/1927 page 352

McCall boxed for the British Middleweight Title 1930 and was Scottish Area Middleweight Champion 1929-31.

### 1928

Feb 12 Leo Darton (Belgium) WPTS(15) Premierland, Whitechapel

Source: *Boxing* 14/02/1928 page 457

Match made at 10st 8lbs

Mar 30 Harry Foster (Sheffield) WPTS(15) Scottish Stadium, Govan

Source: *Boxing*

Apr 16 Frank Moody (Pontypridd) LRTD7(15) Drill Hall, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 18/04/1928 page 604

Moody was British Middleweight Champion 1927-28 and British Light-Heavyweight Champion 1927-29.

Promoter: Eastern Boxing Syndicate Attendance: 1000

£250 a side

Oct 30 Vivian Venturi WRSF12(15) Free Trade Hall, Manchester

Source: *Boxing* 06/11/1928 page 262

Nov 20 Albert Lepasant (France) WRSF11(15) Belle Vue, Manchester

Source: *Boxing* 27/11/1928 page 309

Match made at 11st 6lbs

Dec 7 Steve McCall (Aberdeen) LPTS(20) Scottish Stadium, Glasgow

Source: *Boxing* 12/12/1928 page 348

**(Scottish Middleweight Title)**

£25 a side

### 1929

Mar 1 Steve McCall (Aberdeen) LRTD11(15) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 06/03/1929 page 530

**(Scottish Area Middleweight Title)**

Referee: Jack Smith Promoter: ND Promotions Attendance: 2000

£50 a side

Dec 7 Sandy McKenzie (Glasgow) LPTS(10) Waverley Market, Edinburgh

Source: *Boxing* 11/12/1929 page 377

*McKenzie boxed for the Scottish Middleweight Title 1931.*

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