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## Faux Wrassling

February 17, 2011 by [admin](#)

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## Ultimate Death Match (2009)

**Directed By:** Shawn Cain

*Review Written By:* Horse

*Mondo Film & Video Guide Feature Contributor*

Another title to try and guess the film content from. For a second I had visions of clay figures dismembering each other, but then remembered that was “Celebrity” Death Match, but this is “Ultimate Death Match”. My second guess is wrestling, MMA or UFC. Wrestling it is!

What we have here is more of a wrestling exhibition than a film. All the “stars” are either wrestlers or announcers from some backyard/local/smaller venue wrestling league. This would’ve been great for me about 20 years ago, but I haven’t bothered to watch anything wrestling related since Hogan Knows Best (the film “The Wrestler” doesn’t count, seen that a couple times), and haven’t watched a match in close to 20 years. None of these dudes look as buff and tuff as the guys I grew up watching Saturday mornings/afternoons, but still show the same intensity and talent I used to love before losing my belief it might be real. Ahh, the joys of being young and clueless, wrestling was so much more fun then even if it did seem impossible to survive that kind of beating once, much less night after night.



So therein lies the hope for this film. Wrestling to the death, I’d have been sitting nose-to-the TV at 13 for this! Unfortunately the title is somewhat misleading. Yeah there is a death match, but it’s a tournament of eight wrestlers competing to get to it. The early rounds end in knock-out or submission (guess death would count as submission, but no one dies) and the final, as the announcers mention approximately 2,547 times, will end in one of the two being killed by the other in the ring, live on the internet (fucking FCC!). So let’s meet our combatants:

First match:

The Beast (bad guy everyone hates or loves to hate) vs. Larkin (masked fodder).

Jimmy Flame (uhh, yeah) vs. Azul (from the Mexican league?)

Dash Venture (crazy-eyes) vs. Aaron Bolo (from South Korea)

Pauli Ventura or Venture (he’s called both and printed on screen as both. Fan favorite fighting to get his family back, where they went we never know) vs. Russian Python (as scary as the name is stupid)



No spoilers, so I won’t say who wins and advances. All matches are at least decent though. Not sure if fans of big-time flashy polished professional wrestling will like this or not. Fans of more local smaller leagues should love it. It’s almost like watching a wrestling event on TV, or one of those backyard mix DVDs. There are a few snippets here and there with the guys running the event, and some others with FBI agents watching it. Kept expecting to see the feds show up, but they never did. Most of the entertainment for me came from the announcers. Al Snow, an actual announcer and former wrestler, is the star in my book for his humorous thoughts and sayings, like “that piece of shit Beast” “I fucking hate that guy”, all the stuff you should’ve heard from real commentators. He’s also the only character who seems to question the absurdity of the event. He’s also the best actor by a mile and then some.



One spoiler after all. One wrestler does “die” at the end of the final match. I use quotes because as he’s lying there “dead”, his whole midsection is still rapidly moving up and down. Couldn’t wait for him to catch his breath and actually look dead? There was also another spot where Dash attacked Bolo’s girlfriend outside the ring. I thought this was a fun idea, but it only lasted all of 10 seconds. The prize pot keeps

going up too. First it's 3 million to the winner, then 5, then 7. Just as I was wondering what was up with that, it was mentioned that as more viewers buy it online, the prize pot goes up. There is one other match which seems to be unrelated with Steve Nash and TKO.

Wrestling fans can give it a look, anyone looking for a good movie about wrestling should go elsewhere. For what this is it's decent, but it is super-low budget and filled with pretty bad acting. Not much blood, one of the most unbelievable screen deaths ever, no nudity, not much reason for me to recommend it and even less chance I will ever watch it again.

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1. [Horse](#) says:  
[February 18, 2011 at 4:02 pm](#)

Oh no, the trailer is for a sequel!

It does look better than the first I must admit, I'll try another if they send a screener for part 2.

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