Albert Duraev (15-4) vs. Chidi Njokuani (22-8) --- UFC San Antonio: Vera vs. Sandhagen on 3/25/2023 @185lb. At AT&T Center, S.A, Texas, USA (Main Card Bout)
Age parity (~34), Duraev 4" shorter (5'11" vs. 6'3"), 5" reach disadv. (75" vs. 80")
Rd. 1

-

Albert Duraev (-225; 15-3) vs. Joaquin Buckley (+180; 14-4) --- UFN Kattar vs. Emmett on 6/18/2022 @185lb. At Moody Center, Austin, Texas, USA (Main Card Feature Bout)
Duraev ~5 years older (33 vs. 28), 1" taller (5'11" vs. 5'10"), 1" reach disadv. (75" vs. 76")
Rd. 1

-

Albert Duraev vs. Roman Kopylov --- UFC267: Blachowicz vs. Teixeira on 10/30/2021 @185lb. At Etihad Arena, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, UAE (Preliminary Bout)
Duraev ~2 years older (32 vs. 30), 1" shorter (5'11" vs. 6'), reach parity (75")
Rd. 1

-

Albert Duraev (13-3) vs. Caio Bittencourt (+300; 14-6) --- DWCS Week 3 (2021) on 9/14/2021 @85lb. At UFC Apex, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA (Main Card Feature)
Duraev ~ 2 years older (32 vs. 30), 1" shorter (5'11" vs. 6'), reach parity (75")
Rd. 1

-

Albert Duraev vs. Magomed Ismailov (17-2 Pro Fighter) -- ACB Jiu Jitsu 14: 2/15/2020
Duraev is younger, taller; same weight.
Rd. 1

- Duraev doing well establishing wrist ties, nice snatch single leg, able to achieve a TD.
- Opponent goes turtle, flat backs himself into half guard, looking to work from there.
- Now Ismailov is back to his feet, able to wrestle up.
- Ismailov was able to get in on his own single leg, elevates but no takedown as they hit the boundary. GOod balance from Duraev.
- Duraev is functional with sprawl and wrist control defense; doesn't seem to have the most potent offense of set up game.
- A lot of reactive actions from Duraev, backing up, sprawling, not really engaging much.
- 3 five minute rounds, first ends.

Rd. 2

- Inside trip TD for Ismailov, very slick answer, switch to single for Duraev.
- Near back take for Ismailov as well; they go off the mat as he gets close.

- Nice explosive shot for Duraec, persistence, works his way up to the body lock from the single and throws him off the stage.
- Under hooks for Ismailov, keeping pressure on, lots of weight hanging on his neck.

Rd. 3

- Wrist control has largely neutralized the offense of Ismailov, forced to work from double underhooks.
- Ismailov more active and offensive, but there was some half hearted attempts from Duraev.
- Duraev retreats to center with 2 minutes left, doing a lot of backing up, standing up out of stance, inside trip nearly gets him but Duraev shucks it.
- Good job C-gripping to maintain space from Ismailov.
- No fucking clue how that thing gets scored.

Result: Albert Duraev defeats Magomed Ismailov via Referee's Dec. (Grappling Contest)

<u>Albert Duraev (11-3) vs. Piotr Strus (13-3) -- ACB 89: (MIDDLEWEIGHT TITLE FIGHT) Krasnodar on 9/8/2018 @185lb.</u>

Age parity, Strus is taller and has a longer reach.

This dude Duraev stays fighting Russian and Polish dudes it seems.

Rd. 1

- Duraev is wearing spats it seems like; opens with the inside low kick.
- Not a tremendous amount of feints from Duraev, but micing them in.
- Strus looks a little awkward, not throwing much of note, getting hit clean by the blitzing entries of Duraev.
- Finally scored a decent leg kick.
- Duraev is jabbing the head and the body, whipping inside low kicks, now putting a body kick behind the straight.
- More level changing and effective feinting from Duraev then Strus.
- Nice low line sidekick from Duraev lands he controls center and Strus works tepidly from outside behind jab low kick.
- Duraev is swinging with wide reckless hooks at times to close distance and keep Strus guessing on jab.
- No TD attempt from either athlete through 3 minutes.
- Duraev seems to lunge with his punches a bit, doesn't always bring his feet with him in combination.
- Strus just can't seem to find the right timing on his leg kick.
- Duraev is the one landing effective leg kicks; he puts some straights together to back up Strus and scores an overhand on the side of the head.
- Now Strus backs him up with double jabs before a low line side kick send him retreating.

- Counter left hook scores for Duraev, keeps a heavy frint foot to load onto back foot.

10-9 Duraev.

Rd. 2

- Duraev is getting back up by the double jab, but Strus is landing nothing of note.
- Duraev is touching with the jab to the head and body, very slow pace to this fight right now.
- Lots of feints and lateral movements, not a lot of exchanges.
- Strus lands a leg kick, steps in and gets countered with the lead hook.
- Now Duraev is hurting him with it, backing him up along fence line, letting go wide, wild hooks, and retreating with jab low kick counters.
- Wide swinging overhands now with both hands back up Strus, the counter lead hook is punishing him, Duraev whips it to the body to keep him guessing.
- Duraev playing well off the lead hand, enters the clinch and gets a big slam TD, securing top control, pinning well, BEAUTIFUL back take, Strus moving well underneath creating a scramble and getting hips out, getting to quad pod with Duraev on back.
- Duraev did an excellent job maintaining back control, controlling the but now Strus is turning through the mount/back series in a rinse and repeat scenario.
- RNC attempt from Duraev, crowd reacts but nothing doing.
- Duraev is holding a body triangle, threatening with both arms, finding GNP opportunities.
- Strus able to turn in, exit and end up behind Duraev rear standing with Duraev in turtle.
- :18 to go in round as Strus takes control of position staying behind Duraev with locked hands to close the round.

10-9 Duraev.

Rd. 3

- Duraev continues to land the lead hook on the counter, missing on some overhands but keeping Strus defensive.
- Strus throwing the occasional jab, sometimes a low kick, occasionally puts a 2 behind it all.
- But Strus has bee rendered largely defensive in this matchup.
- Now Strus swings with his own lead hook, but Duraev ducks it and answers.
- Nice job from Duraev, pacing himself, outpunching Strus and throwing more volume, goes uppercut and lead overhand, the latter lands and knocks down Strus.
- Strus seems fine, keeps eyes on Duraev, sitgs up quickly and exits from sitaution on his feet.
- Still a tiny bit wobbly, lashing out with elbows and moving laterally.
- Strus seems to be landing the jab more effectively now as the reactive head movement of Duraev has slowed a bit.
- Now Duraev is plodding forward, eats a counter knee to the body on the advance.

- Duraev has significant bocing advantage here, all but abandoned the kicks to jab with this guy in both stances.
- Eats an overhand with his guard up ~:40 seconds.
- Duraev is able to switch stances and walk Strus onto hooking punches at times.
- Feint hearted spinning back fist and they appear to stop fighting with about :5 left in round. Odd.

10-9 Duraev.

Rd. 4

- Duraev went back to work with the lead hook, leading with the right behind it to start the round.
- Now he is back to switching stances and working the jab casually. Now Strus seems to be turning it on, throwing more hooks.
- His willingness to exchange gets him countered; series of jabs followed by a single straight punch that he sat down on.
- Beautiful job by Duraev to step behind Strus and knock him off balance, gave the visual of a KD by using a simple tripping/blocking mechanism.
- Great job by Strus to get wrist control and quickly back to his feet.
- Beautiful ripping lead hook to the body from Duraev.
- Strus is finding opportunities to score with punches but Duraev is landing more consistently and with much greater effect.
- Another nice knee from Strus lands on the forearm guard, more of that would serve him well.
- Duraev landed a solid round kick to the body.
- Cardio seems to be holding up well in a kickboxing match of sorts.
- Duraev willing to dig the uppercuts and hooks to the body.
- 1:37 left , Strus has him pushed into the fence. He breaks with a nice lead hook.
- Uppercut and the straight right both score for Strus before another lead left hook ends the exchange.
- The jab of Duraev found a home so Strus ducks into the clinch with a seatbelt, great job from Duraev creating separation quickly.
- Strus, holding his hands so low in front of him, eats a lead hook for good measure to close round.

10-9 Strus.

Rd. 5

- Duraev is starting the round with tighter lead hooks, then reckless hooking combination in the pocket.
- Overhand lead hand is scoring, but Strus is now landing his own shots as the fight goes on.
- No combinations of great significance through 1 minute.

- TD entry from Duraev, Strus turns back to fence and uses over under to remain upright against the fence.
- When available, Strus is taking opportunities to knee Duraev in the body.
- Clears the clinch with wrist control, Duraev tries to spin and flat backs himself briefly, bad visual.
- Strus tries to put together a combination and Duraev duck it and pushes him onto fence in clinch.
- Duraev controlling underhooks, then they separate with ~2:45 to go.
- Strus has been able to establish his own clinch position now, elbow on the clinch break.
- Duraev is retreating, seems more tired of the two. Strus is advancing and pressing him into the cage.
- Exhausting, dirty underhook battle against cage.
- Beautiful level change, well timed entry from Duraev, sits Strus to his butt along the fence line as Strus tries to wrestle up on his own single leg to clear space.
- Now he will look to explode to rear standing along fence line, able to get up and they will strike in center with :30 left.
- Nice land for Strus with the jab, answered by Duraev with the hooks.
- Both guys look completely spent, hands down to close out the fight.

10-9 Duraev.

My Score: 49-46 Duraev defeats Piotr Strus.

Result: Albert Duraev defeats Piotr Strus via Unanimous DEC (5 Round) to defend ACB Title

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HazD3PB9BpE

Albert Duraev (11-3) vs.Vyacheslav Vasilevskiy (32-5) -- ACB77 (MIDDLEWEIGHT TITLE FIGHT) on 12/23/2017

1 year age gap favoring Duraev (28 vs. 29), 2" height adv. for Duraev. Reach not listed for Duraev.

Rd. 1

- Orthodox vs. orthodox matchup.
- Duraev lands first with a naked straight punch.
- Retreating side kick and overhand left thad landed.
- Duraev micing up targets, going high and low.
- Low and heavy stances as noted by commentary.
- Duraev is mobile, switching stances, lands the lead uppercut and straight behind it, now a jab 2 to the body and a nice lead left hook, then to the body.
- Likes to throw the jab, retreat and throw the fading overhand left hand.
- Another exchange of jabs, Duraev is landing them with more frequency.
- Nice inside low kick, now punching the body.
- Swarmed briefly and forced for cover up.

- Duraec is feinting and faking more effectively, slipping to jab and then throwing the lead hook to close the door.
- Nice jab from Vasil, puts a few behind it and another punch or two as well.
- Now we see them stand off in the middle, sprinting marching punches from Vasil, nothing doing.
- Big 1-2 from Duraev on the advance, then an elbow over the top.
- Mixing up the levels beautifully with his low kicks, body punching, and hoks upstairs.
- Duraev is destroying the legs of Vasil quickly in Rd. 1, can't really stand.
- Underhook for Vasil but Duraev was gaining posture and slamming home hard shots.
- Leg kicks shut down Vasilveskiy, forced him to panick wrestle, and then Duraev gets the vicious GNP stoppage.

Result: Albert Duraev defeats Vyacheslac Vasilesvkiy via KO1 (Leg Kicks + GNP) @3:47
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RZ75VwLvMQ

<u>Albert Duraev (9-3) vs. Clifford Starks (13-3) -- ACB 67 on 8/19/2017 @185lb.</u>
8 year age gap favoring Duraev, slightly taller. Starks has 2" reach adv.
Rd. 1

- Starks opening with the jab, but before he could land anything of substance a well timed double put Duraev on top.
- Duraev is holding top position in half guard with a guillotine threat. Duraev is stuffing Clifford in the front head lock.
- Wow. The power of Clifford was too much, able to roll through and reverse position with questionable technique.
- Clifford breaks from his own FHL with a gilly attempt and a jab.
- He allows Duraev to reset in the middle; he tries a predictable leg kick and get barreled over by Starks.
- Panic cover and gives his back to stand, bases out well and clears hands, back to his feet.
- Clifford is slipping his jabs, firing hooks with the lead hand pursuing with leg kicks.
- Speed making the difference. Duraev is able to move in and out of space better, so his power punches are finding the market more often.
- Clifford forced to throw fast more often, his jab is so predictable now that its getting countered over the top, by Duraev's jab, and by lead hooks from Duraev.
- Duraev eats a knee as he enters a single leg attempt along the fence, not able to get it, but is able to score two decent punches on the break.
- Plodding footwork from Starks whereas Duraev is moving and ducking , changing levels and being lateral.
- Clifford is now back against the fence, gets tripped out on a simple trip and allows Duraev to take the 3/4 mount.

- Seems like Albert may have snuck the round with better lands and a late TD into the mount.

10-9 Duraev (VERY close)

Rd. 2

- Same dynamic evident to start round two; Clifford goes to jab, Duraev goes to counter with the lead hook, both just out of range.
- Near miss on a front kick to the face for Duraev, but he is now on a bad line for the return from Starks.
- Starks misreads and goes for a straight to the body that misses, allowing Duraev to escape out the back door.
- Duraev definitely moves laterally but he often retreats on a straight line before doing so. Concerning defensive habits.
- Clifford is having suces now landing shots to the body and then scoring the jab upstairs, but Duraev wants to counter.
- Nice lead hook landed from Duraev, and Starks shoots his own TD.
- Looks like Duraev may be beginning to tire, briefly gets sat down before popping up and getting off the cage.
- Duraev fires an elbow on the break and quickly shoots a double of his own under Clifford's jab.
- Great job of trying to pass immediately, Starks held on to the head for a gilly.
- Really silly, and Starks looks like he is tired and ready to quit.
- He is getting punched from the mount, going to give up the hard and arm choke.
- Feet up in the cage like a true Russian; Clifford answering the phone defense protected him and he survived.
- Then some GNP before CLifford turns his back to try to stand.
- Duraev locks up the RNC and gets the finish.

Result: Albert Duraev defeats Clifford Starks via SUB2 (RNC) @2:34

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fOe-j61vPc

<u>Albert Duraev (5-3) vs. Damian Bilas (5-0) -- ACB 13: Poland vs. Russia on 1/31/2015 @170lb.</u>

Rd. 1

- Jab and pull is the the Duraev way, leg kicks inside and outside to answer forward pressure. Likes to give ground.
- Inside low kicks scoring hard, his opponent tired to lash out with knees to the body and tepes and front kicks.
- Duraev blasts him with a straight and tries to follow him to the ground; Bilas initiates a rolling leg lock exchange.
- Nice job leg pummeling and passing from Duraev.

- He achieves North-South position, walks his hips back, collapses the pocket.
- Eventually relents after holding it for awhile.
- Now he is trying to set up the choke again, struggling to pass the guard fully.
- Feet up and into the fence, and he gets the tap due to North South choke.

Result: Albert Duraev defeats Damian Bilas via SUB1 (North-South Choke) @2:37

<u>Albert Duraev (5-2) vs. Anatoly Tokov (14-2) -- M-1 Challenge 46 on 3/14/2014 @185lb.</u>
Tokov is 1 year younger, shorter in height (2"), almost 2x professional experience.
Fight in the ropes not cage.
Rd. 1

- Tokov looks like a big thick boy, Duraev is trying to wrestle early; shoots a double right away.
- A lot of hard knees to the body in the clinch before a trip TD for Tokov to take top position in the full guard of Duraev.
- Not seeing a very active get up game from Duraev. He is working off his back, trying to control wrists and posture and elevate hips.
- Tokov is trying to gain posture to strike, landing pitter patter hammer fists despite armbar attempts from Duraev on bottom.
- Duraev has created a pretty solid angle on an armbar against the ropes, but Tokov stays patient and turn in/
- Now in a stack guard position, diving punch into the guard, easy pass to half guard, and he is scoring with hammer fists.
- Now controlling an Americana, keeping pressure down and punching from top half guard.
- Duraev is bucking but can't create space, trying to pull himself underneath for deep half guard.
- Tokov punishes the attempt, slams hard punches to the side of the head and forces him to relinquish grip.
- He then stands to deliver straight punches and knocks Duraev OUT COLD. Sleeping on the canvas. WOW.
- Opponent has been laying on the ground for several minutes, they are trying to stand him up and he is still off balance.

Result: Anatoly Tokov defeats Albert Duraev via KO1 (GNP Straight Punches and Hammerfists)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RODh0tIx7lM

<u>Albert Duraev (3-1) vs. Ramazan Emeev (8-2) -- M-1: Battle of the Legends 2 on 6/21/2012 @170lb.</u>

Duraev is 2 years younger, billed as 5-1 but listed as 3-1 on Tapology? Height parity.

Rd. 1

- Duraev is ripping the inside low kicking, retreating he eats a right overhand from Emeev.
- Then rips the inside low kick again, Emeev tries to enter on a takedown so the kick hits the groin.
- Shake of hands, and they're back in the fight.
- Emeev is again scoring with the right hand. Duraev is trying to low kick and pull his head back out of range, moving a lot laterally.
- Emeev seems to have longer reach , able to crack with straight punches while Duraev tries to enter or kick.
- Emeeev seems to be scaring him off with the power, he is backing up and his hand drift low or come up in a predictable high guard.
- ABSOLUTELY BRUTAL, NUCLEAR RIGHT STRAIGHT FROM EMEEV DEADS HIM ON THE COUNTER, follow up shots put him to sleep. Trainers had to rush in with water to wake him up.
- They lifted him up to his feet and walked him into the corner still on wobbly legs.

Result: Ramazan Emeev defeats Albert Duraev via KO1 (Straight punch + GNP) @1:36
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SS4rTiejhRQ

<u>Albert Duraev (3-0) vs. Evgeny Fomenko (8-6) -- Vologrd Fight 3/1/2012 @170lb.</u>

Rd. 1

- They are both circling and looking for range when Duraev slips and loses footing. Ends up underneath in full guard eating hard punches.
- Duraev is not being insistent on getting up, he is going for armbar counters to the can opener and eating hard straight punches from a postured opponent.
- The shots from top position are coming to the head and the body with some oomph.
- Triangle armbar attempt sends the crowd into eruption, but FOmenko uses it to cradle and pass, goes for his own armbar, and ends up in top half guard with a crossface.
- Good attempt at a bucking sweep from Duraev but ends up underneath in mount, Posture now for Fomenko as he lands hard blows, Duraev desperation leg lifts.
- Duraev extended arms to tempt the armbar, but Evgeny did not bite.

10-9 Fomenko

Rd. 2

- Duraev opens the round with a low kic, misses. Hard straight score for Fomenko who shoots a TD.
- Nothing doing, good defense from Duraev.
- They end up in collar tie clinch exchanging punches until one knee from Fomenko to the head shuts off Duraev.
- Brutal KO loss, devastating knee to the face.

Result: Evgeny Fomenko defeats Albert Duraev via KO2 (Knee Double Collar Clinch)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8kAZ9lW61s