

From the man behind Vibert's Voice the number 1 wrestling podcast in the world...



Welcome to Vibert's VLOG

December 5th

Phil Vibert sits across from Kyle Rhodes, the two are alone in a large conference room, in the middle of a bustling office block.

Kyle: This is the official offer from BriCo.

BriCo is the toy company that have recently purchased TCW from legendary wrestler Tommy Cornell. To the general audience it's been business as usual ever since the sale, but backstage there has been an explosion of action. Creative hasn't been touched yet, but steps have been taken to ensure the financial future of a company that has been consistently held back due to a lack of funding. A key step is the new TV deal for Total Wrestling on USA Sports, a much bigger network. This is where DAVE fits in.

Kyle: As I mentioned in our last meeting the idea is DAVE slots right into the current Total Wrestling slot, therefore still meeting our contractual obligation to The POP Network. We've spoken to POP and it seems like you still have your fans out there as they were more than happy to agree.

Phil couldn't tell if the 'still' was a dig at him. He had heard that Kyle is a traditionalist who has been openly critical of the hardcore style in the past. Although so far he had been nothing but courteous to him, if albeit a little too formal for his liking.

Phil [reaching across the table to take the contract]: That's always nice to... [Phil reads the amount at the bottom of the page] That's a... good offer.

Kyle: It is... isn't it.

Again Phil can't exactly read Kyle. He initially thinks Kyle is disapproving of the figure his bosses have offered but a little smirk perhaps gives away that he's happy for Phil.

Kyle: It's a very good offer. Although I do want to be clear... BriCo might value DAVE highly but they also expect all their subsidiaries to be financially strong independently. They don't just throw money at TCW, on the contrary we're currently letting go of some people as a cost cutting measure. DAVE will have to make do with what we have, at least initially.

Phil: So you mean I'll be using guys from your roster.

Kyle: A full brand split. TCW will keep around 60/70 percent as it's believed your product can allow for a smaller roster.

Phil: I suppose that's correct, but I'd need to bring in the right guys to pull that off, I've kept my eye on plenty of great talent on the indies.

Kyle: Well for now you're going to have to forget them. Our move to USA Sport is going hand in hand with us tweaking our product, more sports orientated, intense fights. If I'm being honest there's some on our roster currently who simply won't fit in with this new TCW.

Phil: So DAVE is going to be a B brand with the ones who can't cut it on Total Wrestling?

Phil didn't actually mean this to come out so snarky. He wouldn't even particulatly mind being a B show if it meant he was tasked with building future stars, he's always enjoyed that aspect of the business the most.

Kyle: Not a B show... POP would never allow that. An A show, promoted as such, and with the stars to back it up. All I mean is that you'll get the characters, the gimmicks... anyone too old for the new intensity [Kyle quickly preempts Phil's complaint] BUT still stars. Look... We're giving you Ricky Dale freaking Johnson!

Kyle's eyes widen as if he'd just told his kid what his birthday present will be.

Phil: I mean he's a big star. Kyle: One of the biggest! And he can still go.

Phil: Yes.. I'm sure... But he doesn't exactly scream extreme?

Kyle: Nonsense RDJ can brawl with the best of them.

Phil didn't want to seem too ungrateful, after all RDJ is probably their biggest face other than Rocky Golden.

Kyle: I mean if you don't want RDJ who in the hell do you want?

Phil: No don't get me wrong I'd like Ricky. I just need some guys who I trust to work my style. It's not lost on me that you have plenty of DAVE Alumni on the roster. If TCW is bringing DAVE back it only makes sense for them to be on it.

Kyle: I'll see what I can do. No promises though!

The two men continue their discussion, Phil is informed the first DAVE show is penciled to be the second Tuesday of the year. Luckily this allows Phil to honour his commitments to ELITE.

With TCW now off on a show loop on the East coast they arrange to speak on the phone. Phil is told he has full creative control over the weekly show but that general long term storylines are to be run through Kyle who has been tasked with overseeing the relationship between BriCo, TCW and DAVE.

Kyle: And Phil... it's good to have you. Welcome to the team. No matter what I think about different styles or whatever the only thing I really care about is taking on Packer and Eisen head on and coming out on top! It's about damn time TCW realised our full potential as number 1 and if this relationship with DAVE is going to help then I'm behind you 100%

Phil feels a pang of guilt for initially being suspicious of Kyle, as the two shake hands he feels reassured that the two can share a strong working relationship.

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Now in the bar he has began to frequent lately with Penny he sits awaiting his guest sent by Kyle Rhodes.

The door swings open an a imposing 6'4 figure comes in. He tips his hat to the barman and takes a seat next to Phil.

RDJ: So it's the great Phil Vibert! It's a pleasure to meet you sir.

Phil: And it's the legend himself, Ricky Dale Johnson.

Ricky eyes up the camera filming the VLOG but Phil reassures him that it's all TCW approved and isn't to be released until the DAVE revival has officially announced.

RDJ: So Kyle tells me I wasn't exactly your first pick.

Phil wonders why on earth would Kyle have passed that on. But Ricky notices the awkwardness.

RDJ: Hey Kyle always tells it to me straight, that's why I respect him. He knows I'm a big boy, I can take it. So let me tell it to you straight... I ain't offended one bit. I'm a decorated champion, but some people think I'm on my last legs.

Phil: And are you? [Phil purposefully cuts straight the chase to test if Ricky really means what he just said.]

RDJ: Truthfully? I've got a knee op I've been putting off, and until I get that done I'm not exactly 100%, but I'm good. I got plenty left in this tank. That's why I requested to be on DAVE as soon as a I heard the news.



Phil was taken aback.

Phil: I didn't know people already knew about the deal if I'm honest.

RDJ: Don't worry your secrets safe with me. Kyle has confided in me a lot these last few months, he's got a lot on his mind taking over the whole company. He needs an ear.

Phil: And you requested to be sent to DAVE?

RDJ: Like I say, I feel I can still go as good as ever. But that's not what they all been saying. I think even Kyle doubts me. Feels like every day he offering me a slot on the commentary booth, or working backstage. Hell that all that sounds fine and dandy in 5 years! Truth is I see DAVE as an opportunity.

Phil: You got something to prove I get that. You got any ideas what you want from it?

RDJ: Well by the time you've done all I've done in this business the fans know what to expect from you. Lately Kyle has been pushing that I'm the vet who oversees the locker room, but I think he's got Old Yeller in mind and I know how that story ends. Whenever a big bad dude is on the scene and I'm the last big gatekeeper before they get to Rocky and the true main event. Now I ain't salty bout that, not one bit. Rocky's a great kid and is doing good for this company. But the fans already get it you know? It's like clockwork. I want to flip that on its head.

Phil cuts the camera off, presumably for the two to discuss possible plans for the 3x TCW World Champion.

As the episode ends a hype video of Ricky's great achievements plays with the ending making it clear that the man is now officially a member of the DAVE roster.

