

## **Path of a Boxer**

Gene was a great amateur boxer. He possessed extraordinary knockout power in both hands and was destined to become a top professional pugilist. But, before turning pro, he broke both of his hands. He would never be able to punch with the power he once possessed. Both his doctor and his manager told him he would never become a world champion.

Gene Tunney didn't listen to them. He believed he could excel at his profession, despite the major obstacle he encountered. "If I can't become a champion as a (power) puncher," he said, "I'll make it as a boxer."

So Tunney, knowing that he could no longer rely on his knockout power, set out to perfect his boxing skills. He learned to bob and weave and throw accurate – albeit less potent – punches.

In one of the biggest fights of his career, Tunney faced Jack Dempsey, known as the Manassa Mauler, a man with feared knockout power. But using the skills he might not have developed if not for the injury, Tunney outboxed Dempsey and became the heavyweight champion of the world.

What about you? Life might alter the path you take to success, just as it did to Gene Tunney. But that doesn't mean you can't still get to where you want to go.

After all, a great pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

--Beecher Hunter