

Independent Wado-Ryu Karate-Do Association United Kingdom



February 2010

This Month

Tobi Ishi Kai Championships

Seven members of the Wado UK Karate group were in action recently, at the Tobi Ishi Kai Championships in Worcester. Star of the show was without doubt Barry Meanwell.

Barry entered the Team Kata, as well as the Individual and Team Kumite sections. By the end of the day, Barry had performed with such confidence and composure, he had managed to win all three events and secure another set of gold medals for his collection. For the team Kata, Barry joined forces with Paul Braid and Matthew March. Matthew had just completed his first event of the day, where he performed with strength and maturity. Matthew is a very polished Kata performer and by the end of the event he had obviously impressed the judges. Leaving everyone behind, Matthew had won his first gold medal of the day.

The team performance was however, the new focus of attention. In the team Kata, synchronicity is a major factor, as well as all the requirements for the individual event, things such as strength, accuracy and understanding of movement. The trio performed well in the first round giving a strong demonstration. So much so, that they won the round 3-0. This gave them a place in the final and an opportunity to consolidate the earlier gold medal for Matthew. This is what happened and following another polished performance; the team secured the second gold medal of the day. This also provided Paul with his first medal of the day.

The group also had another Kata competitor on the day, Joe Munro was entered in the junior boy's section. Joe is a very keen competitor and had no hesitation putting his name on the list for the long journey to Worcester. It was to pay dividends for him, as he too added his name to the list of medal winners for the day. Joe had strong

opposition to contend with, but his enthusiasm was to see him win a podium finish, as he hung the bronze medal around his neck.

The Kumite divisions started after lunch and again Wado UK had several divisions to contest. It was decided to kick off the afternoon session with the team events. This was because Wado UK had entered the senior men's team section, but one team member was there in the first instance as a referee. Getting the team section completed early, would mean that Tony Dent would be able to change back into his uniform and continue with his duties as an official. Barry and Paul had asked Tony to join the team for this event, enabling Wado UK to enter. Outstanding performances from Barry meant that Tony didn't even need to join in the event. By the time the team event was over Barry and Paul had their second gold medals of the day, winning the division in style.



Ragen Allitt in Kickmaster action

First up in the individual categories was Ragen Allitt, in the Kickmaster Kumite division. This contest was to give some of the younger children the chance to compete in safety. Two youngsters had to go head to head with a kick bag to see who was the most energetic and skilful. By the end of the contest, Ragen had managed to add another bronze medal to the group's total.

Tobi Ishi Kai Competition

European Junior Championships

Busy Schedule

New ShinKen Website

Date Section

Still not finished, the Wado UK still had three competitors to go. Joe Munro who had competed earlier in the Kata events was now back in action. Joe is a regular competitor and showed great determination in his quest for success. He managed to beat all his early opponents, booking himself a place in the final. The final was an exciting affair, with Joe pushing hard for points. His opponent in the match though proved just that bit stronger and as a result, Joe had to settle for what was a very well deserved silver medal.

Next up was Jessica Newton. Jessica is a very experienced fighter, despite her being just thirteen years old. Every time Jessica competes expectations are high, this is because of her outstanding competition record. Today was to be a very tough day for the young athlete though. Some of the day's competitors were there as last minute preparation for the upcoming European Championships in Turkey. Jess put up a valiant effort to get herself a podium finish, but meeting the England international Heidi Jay in the semi-final was a bridge too far. Jess should be proud of her performances on the day though, the bronze medal she won was well earned.

Finishing the day off was Barry's next chance for medal success. He was competing in the senior men's section and hopes were high. Barry continued with his earlier committed performances, not dropping a single match on his

way to the final. The final was no different, as he dominated his opponent with skilful kicking and punching techniques. By the end of the fight, he had his third gold medal of the day and only dropped a single point in the process.

As the day drew to an end, Wado UK members had added another four gold medals, one silver medal and three bronze medals towards the years tally.



Medal winners from the Tobi Ishi Kai Championships.

Back row

Paul Braid, Tony Dent, Matthew March

Middle row

Jessica Newton, Joe Munro

Front centre

Ragen Allitt.

37th European Junior & Cadet Karate Championships

Over the weekend of 5th-7th February, Turkey hosted this years European Championships. Wado UK played it's part in proceedings, with Tony Dent being there as a Kata official. Tony passed his Kata "A" qualification in Madrid last summer and this competition would see the qualification ratified if he had a successful event. At the end of the three day's Tony had shown himself to be competent and saw his "A" grade made permanent.

As for the English squad, they managed to win 1 gold, 1 silver and 5 bronze medals. One of the bronze medals came in the female under 21's team Kata event. This was the first ever team Kata medal for England. A good result for the English squad and a good result for Wado UK! For a full report on England's results ([click here](#)) while connected to the Internet.

ShinKen Website Launch

A brand new website has been launched for the ShinKen Dojo. This will give all it's members up to date information on any developments and news within the club. It will also be a good way to publicise not only the ShinKen Dojo itself, but Wado UK in general.

When people looking for Wado clubs in Hull, or just Hull clubs, it should help provide prospective Karate-Ka with enough information to hopefully join us. Click the link below, or check out the site at; www.shinkendojo.co.uk

Busy Time Ahead

Over the next few months, the Karate calendar is incredibly busy. Not only are there plenty of courses and competitions outside of Wado UK, we have plenty of our own activities too. The next event for our athletes will be the EKF Squad session, which is to be held in Rippon. National team coach Wayne Otto will be running the course and some of our athletes will be attending. At the moment we know that Barry Meanwell from the Woodford Dojo, Jessica Newton from the ShinKen Dojo and James O'Connor from the St Nicholas Dojo will be there. A report on the course will be posted on the website after the event.

Wado UK's first activity of the year will be one of our squad sessions which we ran throughout 2009. This will be at the ShinKen Dojo, Westcott Street in Hull. It is hoped that we will

be able to cover both Kata and Kumite, final details will be sent out soon. More squad sessions will follow throughout the year, with either April 10th/11th being to cover the rules for competition also. This is for anyone from competitors, parents or officials. As from 2011 all competition coaches will need accreditation to sit on an area, so this will help anyone who wishes to take the exam. More details of which can be obtained from Tony Dent. Please keep an eye on the date pages of the website.

On the 15th May, we will be holding a competition for all our junior members. All the details have yet to be finalised, but it is anticipated that all the senior grades and coaches will officiate for the event. We will be using one area and will be covering both Kata and Kumite. Watch this space and please give us your support.

Dates Section

20th February-	EKF Referees course/squad training, Rippon.
27th/28th February-	AMA International, Ponds Forge, Sheffield.
7th March-	Chojinkai Junior Championships, Penrith.
14th March-	Wado UK squad training, ShinKen Dojo
20th/21st March-	EKF Regional Championships, Midlands.
17th/18th April-	Scottish International Open, Edinburgh
24th/25th April-	EKF, Ponds Forge, Sheffield.