

Independent Wado-Ryu Karate-Do Association United Kingdom

February 2014



This Month



On Sunday 26th January, Wado UK attended the English Karate Federation's first event of the year, its Kyu Grade Championships in Sheffield. 4 of our clubs were in attendance, The East Hull Woodford Dojo, the Chikara Dojo, the Shinken Dojo, and the Hull Zanshin Dojo. We had an excellent response to the competition, despite it being so early in the year. Paul Braid and Steve Balaam-Reed looked after all of the coaching on the day, and because there were 8 tatami's in operation they had a tough job on their hands. Never the less they did an excellent job under the circumstances.

Our group won several medals for their efforts, unfortunately we fell just short of having National Champions on several occasions, losing out in no fewer than 4 finals. That said our silver medallists

should be proud of their excellent achievements. Particularly Amrit Dhesi who won 2 silver medals in his enormous kata and Kumite sections.

Our other silver medal winners were Josh Hartery in his kumite section, and Olivia Ashworth in her kumite section also. Olivia was to add to this with a bronze medal in her kata section too. Wado UK also won a further two bronze medals, and they were secured by Jordan Taylor in his Kumite section, and Joel Edgar in his kata division.

This should be considered an excellent start to our 2014 competition programme, and a good base from which to work from. Well done to all our competitors, medallists or not, and we will now regroup for the Chojinkai Junior Championships in Penrith in March.

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1st Wado UK Squad Session

Our first Squad Session took place on the 15th February, and the day was well worth the effort put in by all those concerned. With three more sessions planned across 2014, we hope to get our squad up to strength over the course of the year. All those who attended were issued with a Squad log book which will help them not only track their attendance at squad sessions and competitions, but also their medal wins throughout the year. These log books must be completed by one of the squad coaches and signed off by them also. The log books are in a plastic wallet to help keep them in good condition, but it will also double up to keep licences in too and should be kept in a safe place.

The kata sessions in the morning were attended by around 40 students, and were split into different sections. Initially everyone went through the kata Chinto which was selected as an advanced kata, and one which many of our competitors use in competition. The other kata sections covered both our own Wado kata taught by Steve Balaam-Reed, and the addition of Shotokan kata which were taught by Paul Braid.

The Kumite session was conducted by Barry Meanwell, Steve Balaam-Reed and Paul Braid, and covered fitness, drills and tactics aimed at improving our already impressive results in competition. At the same time Tony Dent took our table officials and prospective judges through instruction in these two areas. This session was also well attended and bodes well for the future of the two competitions we hold each year. It was pleasing to see new faces on the course.

The day finished with everyone coming together for a Kumite session, which had judges and table officials working together to create a real competition environment. This was a very short part of the day and passed incredibly quickly, but it was an important part of the development of our students and is certain to be expanded on in the future.

Despite the fact that we were at the sports centre from 9am – 2pm, the day flew due to the fact that we crammed so much in.

Well done to all those who attended and thank you to all the helpers we had for the day.

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New Wado UK Dan Grades

Wado UK added both new Dan grades, and promoted existing ones to its list of yudansha recently. On February the 16th, five members from three of our clubs undertook the examination which followed the competition squad session at the Woodford Sports Centre. Four of those taking part were successful, with Matthew March who took 2nd Dan, and Paul Braid who was taking 3rd Dan,

both from the Shinken Dojo being two of them. Following the physical examinations of Brian Goff and Gary Pickles of the Chikara Dojo, both students were awarded their honorary 1st Dan's. Details have now been added to the Wado UK website, and all the successful candidates can look forward to receiving their certificates at the end of year presentation.

Date Section

9th March

Chojinkai Childrens Championships
Penrith Cumbria

16th March

Mushindo Kata Championships

29th & 30th March

EKF Nationals
Sheffield

4th April

Wado UK Kyu Grading

6th April

EKF Kata Course

Hull

12th April

BKA Open
Leigh Sports Village