



6th March 2006

BRITISH JUDO NAME TEAM FOR THE 2006 FIGHTING FILMS GB WORLD CUP

British Judo has named a 25 strong squad for the 2006 Fighting Films GB World Cup for Women, which takes place at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena on 1st and 2nd April 2006.

European Champion and five times World medallist Karina Bryant heads the line up, which also includes Athens Olympian Sarah Clark, and Commonwealth Champions Samantha Lowe, Michelle Rogers, and Simone Callender.

They are joined by a host of emerging young stars making their World Cup debut, including Youth Olympic bronze medallist Toni Prince and Ukraine A Tournament gold medallist Gemma Howell.

The GB World Cup, which is being generously supported by the National Lottery through UK Sport's World Class Events Programme, will be a highlight of the international judo calendar. Britain is hosting the grand-prix style tournament, part of a European circuit, for the first time having previously been the only major judo nation in Europe not to do so.

The events attract the highest-level competitors from throughout the World hoping to gain World ranking points, with confirmed countries for the Birmingham event including Russia, Germany, Cuba, China, USA, Austria, Canada, Sweden, Ireland, Denmark, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal. Each year the event alternates between women and men, meaning in 2007 the GB World Cup event will be for men.

The Brits will have strong competition in Birmingham but will be looking forward to the home crowd advantage, as well as the added benefit of being able to field four competitors in each weight category instead of the two-player limit imposed on visiting countries.

Bryant will be making her first British appearance since her double silver medal win at the 2005 World Championships in Cairo. She will no doubt have her sights set on taking gold on home soil but will have tough competition from the Cuban and Chinese who pose the heavyweight with strong competition.

The Brits will also miss the experience of Olympian and European silver medallist Sophie Cox who has recently announced her retirement from international judo.

Colin McIver, British Judo High Performance Director said, "Hosting a World Cup event in Britain will give our players the opportunity to compete against some of the best in the world on home soil. It will also allow us to select some of our younger players, giving them a well-deserved place on the squad and the experience that brings. These factors will provide us with benefits as we build towards Beijing and London."

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Notes to Editors:

Media Invite attached. All media and photographers will require accreditation. Please see the attached invite for further information.

Full British Squad

Weight	Name	Club	Coach	Home Town	D.O.B
-48kg	Donna Robertson	SJC Alba/SIS	Graeme Randall	Glasgow	24/4/69
-48kg	Toni Prince	JSC	John Cottis	South Ockenden	10/6/89
-48kg	Charlotte Farbon	Pinewood	Don Werner	Reading	23/11/87
-52kg	Sophie Johnstone	Bridgeview	Mark Earle	Brighton	23/8/84
-52kg	Jodie Carter	Grimsby	Sharon Rendle	Luton	13/11/81
-52kg	Kimberley Renicks	Kanokwai	Thomas Renicks	Coatbridge	11/02/88
-52kg	Jayne Clason	SIS	Graeme Randall	Grangemouth	14/12/84
-57kg	Rebecca Dunning	Hardy Spicer 83	Fitzroy Davies	Lawley, Shrops	25/2/88
-57kg	Elizabeth Welsh	Brighton	Tony Newton	Seaford	14/10/84
-57kg	Gemma Howell	Wolverhampton	Bill Kelly	Telford	13/06/90
-57kg	Janine Johnson	Bath University	Roy Inman	Northwood, Middlesex	18/7/85
-63kg	Sarah Clark	Edinburgh	Billy Cusack	Edinburgh	31/1/78
-63kg	Faith Pitman	Camberley	Mark Earle	Manchester	04/05/85
-63kg	Kellie Roberts	Pinewood	Don Werner	Wokingham	12/06/79
-70kg	Samantha Lowe	Camberley	Mark Earle	Ovington	20/1/82
-70kg	Sally Conway	Edinburgh	Billy Cusack	Bristol	01/02/87
-70kg	Gemma Gibbons	Metro	Mick Murphy	Charlton	06/01/87
-70kg	Michelle Holt	Bath University	Roy Inman	Perivale	14/01/76
-78kg	Michelle Rogers	Whitburn/SIS	Darcel Yandzi	Swinton, Manchester	21/06/76
-78kg	Laura Haynes	Wolverhampton	Bill Kelly	Dudley	30/04/80
-78kg	Sian Wilson	Bath University	Roy Inman	Mitcham, Surrey	10/02/83
+78kg	Karina Bryant	Camberley	Mark Earle	Aldershot	27/1/79
+78kg	Simone Callendar	Tokei	Edmond Callendar	London	11/11/78
+78kg	Sarah Adlington	Edinburgh	Billy Cusack	Shrewsbury	05/08/86
+78kg	Abbie Cunningham	Warrington Wajukwai	Alf Hopkins	Warrington	18/2/87