



Media Release

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Great Britain to host European Team Championships for Men

Great Britain is this year hosting the finals of the 2003 European Team Judo Championships for Men, which will take place at Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre on Saturday 6th December 2003 at 2pm.

The event will feature teams from Great Britain, Georgia, Spain and the Ukraine, who will battle it out for the prestigious European Team title. Great Britain qualifies as the host team, with Georgia, Spain and the Ukraine qualifying as the top three teams from the qualification event held earlier in the year.

British Judo has today announced its squad for the event, which includes Commonwealth Champions Winston Gordon, James Warren and Craig Fallon. Fallon, who was a silver medallist at the World Championships recently has been selected in the -60kg weight category with Scotland's John Buchanan. British number ones David Somerville, Matthew Purssey and Euan Burton are selected in the -66kg, -73kg and -81kg weight categories respectively.

Commenting Udo Quellmalz, British Judo's Performance Director said: "This is a chance to see some of the best players in action, with both European and World medallists featuring in all four squads. This will be an opportunity for Great Britain to compete on home soil against some of the toughest opponents in the world as part of our Athens 2004 Olympic build up."

The full Great Britain squad (in weight categories in alphabetical order) is as follows:

-60kg	John Buchanan	Craig Fallon
-66kg	David Somerville	James Warren
-73kg	Ian Francis	Matthew Purssey
-81kg	Euan Burton	Simon Childs
-90kg	Peter Cousins	Winston Gordon
-100kg	Sam Delahay	Steven Vidler
+100kg	Joe Delahay	Adrian Morgan

Tickets are available to book online at www.britishjudo.org.uk or by calling British Judo at 0116 2559669.

The tickets are priced £10 for Adults, £5 for OAP's and U16's. Only a limited number are available so make sure you book your tickets early if you want to come along and support Great Britain as they compete on home soil for European Gold.

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Note to Editors

To request interviews of the players please contact Emma Reed.

For the European Team Championships each country selects a team of seven players, with one player in each weight category. The event will begin with two semi-finals. The winning teams will progress through to the final and losing teams of each semi-final will fight off against each other for the bronze medal. In each match, players from both countries fight against each other by weight category. The country with the most wins is declared the match winner.

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