



## Media Release

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### **Bisham Abbey Trio head to World Championships**

Just two years after its launch, the National Judo Academy based at Bisham Abbey, is already producing Great Britain's Olympic hopefuls.

Craig Fallon, Georgina Singleton, and Sophie Cox, who are full time residents at the Academy, are part of Great Britain's team for the World Championships taking place in Osaka, Japan, from 11-14 September. The trio hopes to bring back medals and automatically qualify for the Olympics.

At just 20, Commonwealth Champion Craig Fallon from Wolverhampton has already become one of Judo biggest stars. Craig has had an amazing year so far, winning silver in the European Championships and becoming only the second British man in history to win a gold medal at the Paris Super "A" Tournament.

Georgina Singleton from Wokingham, Berkshire is also a Commonwealth Champion. She has medalled at four international tournaments in 2003, most recently winning gold at the German Open.

Sophie Cox, 22, from Lancashire, has also medalled at the toughest European tournaments this year, including the European Championships in May.

The National Judo Academy is the only residential programme at the National Sports Centre at Bisham Abbey. This centre of excellence currently houses twelve elite fighters who train full time with the top Judo coaches in the UK.

Gary Anderson, Performance Coordinator for the Academy said: "It is a great achievement for the Academy to already produce three of the eleven World Championships squad members. The focused approach and support we can provide here means that the residents can reach their maximum potential. We look forward to great things in the future from these talented fighters."

#### Note to Editors

The squad departs for Japan on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

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