



## Media Release

26 August 2003

### BRITAIN HOST JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August, the 2003 Junior British Judo Championships will take place at The Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

The event will be an opportunity to watch Great Britain's young sporting talent in action and competing on home soil against other young players from around the world. This is the first time British Judo has hosted a junior championship event, which will bring together future Olympians from the UK, Ireland, South Africa, the USA, India and Europe.

The under 20 age limit means that this will be a chance to see not only Great Britain's up and coming talent but also players who are already making a mark internationally.

Those to look out for include Scotland's Lyndsey Sorrell, a senior bronze medallist at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, who will be competing in the U78kg category.

Sophie Johnstone and Elizabeth Welsh, both full time residents at the National Judo Academy at Bisham Abbey, will be going head to head in the U52kg category to gain a place at the Junior European Championships in Bosnia in November. They have just picked up silver and bronze respectively at a European tournament, so this promises to be a close competition.

Other players going head to head for a place in Europe are Abbie Cunningham and Sarah Adlington in the U78kg category. Abbie has just returned from the European Youth Olympics in Paris with a silver medal. Sarah has performed well in senior competitions, winning bronze in the 2002 British Championships.

In the Junior Men's Squad, Lee Shinkin, a former Youth Olympic medallist, and John Halliwell who recently won the Swedish Open, will be competing in -66kg category

Joe Delahay, who achieved 5th place in the Senior British Open earlier this year, will be competing in the +100kg category

Scott McCarthy, Chief Executive of British Judo said: "We are very excited to host this event which will attract talented young players from around the world. The use of Crystal Palace highlights our commitment to making this event a highlight of the international Judo calendar."



## Notes to Editors

The event starts at 9.30am. Tickets are available on the door and cost £7 for adults and £1 for concessions (OAP and under 16).

For further information please call the British Judo Association on 0116 255 9669.

### **Contacts:**

Emma Reed  
Public Relations Officer  
British Judo Association  
Tel: 0116 255 9669/07702 882951  
[emmareed@britishjudo.org.uk](mailto:emmareed@britishjudo.org.uk)

Scott McCarthy  
CEO  
British Judo Association  
Tel: 0116 255 9669  
[scottmccarthy@britishjudo.org.uk](mailto:scottmccarthy@britishjudo.org.uk)

