

SAMURAI JUNIOR OPEN

February 19th 2005

Boys -27

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Michael Lloyd | Worcester |
| Ryan Gordon | Long Eaton |
| Aaron Williamson | Beeches |
| Joseph Berry | Apollo |

Boys -34

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Anton Williamson | Beeches |
| Jamie Caller | Kettering |
| James Jane | Kettering |
| Toby James | Samurai |

Boys -42

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Luke Taylor | Beeches |
| Taylor Bell | Bridgeview |
| Jack Welch | Pinewood |
| Matthew Dutton | Pinewood |

Boys -50

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| James Coles | Devizes |
| Matthew Jane | Kettering |
| Edmund Sears | Cheltenham |
| Jonathan Sugden | Pinewood |

Boys -60

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Ben Day | Worcester |
| Ryan Pitcock | Samurai |
| Adam White | Long Eaton |
| Ryan Garrett | Kettering |

Girls -28

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Hannah Moore | Pinewood |
| Kirsty Powell | Irfon |
| Jodie Caller | Kettering |
| Kerry Noyes | Shiro Kwaido |

Girls -36

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Sophie Pang | Pinewood |
| Lottie Millington | Samurai |
| Chantelle Dugmore | Beeches |

Girls -48

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Hollie Limbrick | Vale |
| Chloe Jones | Vale |

Girls -57

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Kayleigh Welch | Pinewood |
| Jessica Winsper | Bushido |
| Heledd Sion | Camarthen |
| Kelly Taylor | Beeches |

Boys -30

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Dominic Naylor | Pinewood |
| Asher Price | Pinewood |
| Joshua Brown | Beeches |
| Thomas Moore | Huish Episcopi |

Boys -38

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Lucas Rowe | Kettering |
| Jacob Price | Pinewood |
| Alexander Wallace | Pinewood |
| Ashley Mathias | Shiro Kwaido |

Boys -46

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Jake O'Neill | Pinewood |
| Joe Duxberry | Devizes |
| Luke Winsper | Bushido |
| Michael White | Long Eaton |

Boys -55

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Ryan Ramsden | Worcester |
| Dale Utting | Shiro Kwaido |
| Ben Stanley | Cheltenham |
| Zak Lewis | Shiro Kwaido |

Boys -66

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Lee Pitman | Devizes |
| Edward Evans | Pinewood |
| David Hadley | Samurai |
| Matt Beveridge | Samurai |

Girls -32

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Sophia Coles | Shiro Kwaido |
| Jemima Duxberry | Devizes |

Girls -44

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Rosie Tramontana | Samurai |
| Iona McCombie Smith | Vale |
| Lauren Cherryman | Vale |
| Victoria Mincher | Hadley |

Girls -52

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Jennifer Tutton | Huish Episcopi |
| Sarah Biles | Samurai |

Girls -63

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Natalie Powell | Irfon |
| Sarah Emerson | Cheltenham |
| Becky Holmes | Samurai |
| Casey Garrett | Kettering |

SAMURAI JUNIOR OPEN REPORT

This was a new event for the Samurai. The idea was to provide a competition for junior higher grades, whilst giving “club level” players a chance by eliminating the top national level players. This was done by putting a maximum of 300 ranking points per player under last year’s qualification events for the World Class Start Plan. That knocked out some of our own players as well, of course, but we feel that there are too few open grade events you can go to at the moment without being inundated by British Squad players, who should surely be setting their sights higher than a local open event.

The idea worked very well. There was a very large entry, as is often the case for our events, and our apologies to those entries which had to be returned. The majority of Samurai events tend to be oversubscribed and we can only urge people to enter early. We have had some issues with our new online entry system, because players are entering whilst thinking that they might come and then not turning up, knowing that they won’t lose the entry fee. We are going to set up a system where you can enter online and pay the entry fee electronically, and that should be up and running soon.

The atmosphere was very good, and our policy of strongly policing the event and preventing abuse of officials, coupled with the willingness of all the coaches to help support this, continues to pay dividends. As a result, players, parents, coaches and officials all have a better day. Our thanks to all the participants for their patience, good humour and sporting attitude. There was a high standard of judo, very little negative play and lots of ippons: out of 167 contests, 131 were ended by ippon and only 3 went to golden score. That means 78% of contests were ended by a maximum score.

We are already reviewing the event for next year. We intend to introduce a minimum grade next year (6th mon or 7th mon) and will cut out the bottom weight group in both genders, as nearly all of these were lower grades who we already cater for in our other events. Hopefully this will lead to fewer people having to be turned away, as well as ensuring that very inexperienced players don’t come and get out of their depth. We feel, though, that the limit on ranking points was a useful innovation and would like to commend it to other tournament organisers for smaller and medium open events. We have a full listing of last year’s ranking which we can send to any tournament director planning a similar event.

As always, we used our junior referees, but restricting it to our top junior refs because it was an open event. They did very well and despite the cosmopolitan turnout and plenty of experienced players, there wasn’t a single serious dispute over the refereeing. Our thanks to our referees, table staff, first aid, kitchen staff and all those who work behind the scenes.