ARES JUDO PRESENTS

ARES FUTURES - IGNITE

Saturday 6th February 2027

ARES FUTURES

IGNITE

SATURDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2027 | HIGH WYCOMBE

THE ARES FUTURES PATHWAY

Ares Futures is our wider development pathway, created to give judoka at different ages and stages more opportunities to compete, progress and enjoy the sport, in a much more people focused event format. From children's tournaments and pre-cadet and cadet events to opportunities for young adults and veterans, each event will have its own identity, purpose and place within the pathway.

Together, these events aim to build confidence and experience, creating stepping stones towards our flagship Ares competitions and the Ares Team League. We want to keep raising the standard of our major events while making sure there are meaningful opportunities for everyone along the way.

INTRODUCING IGNITE

IGNITE is about sparking a love of competition from the beginning. It is designed for teenage and adult club judoka who train regularly and want to test themselves, but may not be looking to enter top-level domestic tournaments. Our aim is to offer a welcoming, lower-pressure environment without compromising on the quality and organisation associated with Ares events.

Both the morning and afternoon session will begin with a 90-minute seminar led by 2012 Olympian Danny Williams, followed by competition matches using the Ares ruleset. We expect pools of around four, plenty of matches, minimal waiting time and a relaxed atmosphere, with music throughout and a medal ceremony for every group.

Above all, sensible matchmaking comes first. Working closely with coaches, we will consider age, weight, grade, experience and ability to create fair, appropriate contests. The broad entry groups are for organisation only - not a reason to match judoka with unsuitable opponents. If we cannot arrange suitable matches, we will contact the coach beforehand.

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VENUE:	Barry Close, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP12 4UE
GROUPS:	Group 1 – Ages 14–30 years, Novice to 2nd Kyu Group 2 – Ages 30+ years, Novice to 2nd Kyu PLEASE NOTE: Novice judoka will not be competing against the 2nd Kyus. We will be sorting groups as sensibly as we can, this is simply minimum and maximum grades for this event.
TIMINGS:	Start: 08:30 – 17:30 ***N.B. Dependent on time slot***
FORMAT:	The aim of Ares Futures IGNITE is to give non-elite teenage and adult judoka valuable competition experience in a welcoming, relaxed and supportive environment. We want everyone to enjoy plenty of meaningful mat time, build confidence and develop their judo against opponents of similar ability. This event is especially suited to kyu grade players, those who have taken up judo later in life, and judoka who enjoy training but may not feel that high level domestic tournaments are right for them. We ask clubs to enter players who fit this ethos so that we can create fair, considered match-ups based on age, weight, grade and experience. Our priority is a positive, respectful atmosphere where competitors can challenge themselves, learn and leave feeling encouraged to compete again.
PARICIPATION:	Players must hold a **current BJA FULL membership**
LEVEL:	This event will be run in accordance within the **Ares Judo rule set, as per the BJA pilot**
CONTEST RULES:	Current Ares style rules will be in operation. These will be provided to all club coaches and a rules sheet sent separately.
JUDOGI RULES:	Competitors may wear a judogi of their choice, including club colours, provided it is a legal, competition appropriate judo gi.
DURATION:	3-minute contests, with 1 minute of Golden Score if the match is tied. Where contests remain level on scores, the referee's decision will determine the result at the end of the 1-minute Golden Score period.
ENTRY	Please send full details with your club entry below to aresjudoevents@gmail.com – We can create an electronic link to submit entries if easier. Only collated club entries will be accepted – please speak to your club coach before entering this event
WEIGHING PROCESS:	Please weigh your judoka at the club in their judo trousers and a t shirt Weights will be checked at registration. Please wear judo trousers and a t shirt
ENTRY FEE:	£50 per player – non-refundable unless the event is cancelled. Includes a 90-minute seminar and competition entry.
CLOSING DATE:	Saturday 23rd January 2027, or earlier if the event reaches capacity. Places are limited to 60 competitors per group, so early entry is strongly advised.
COACHES:	We encourage you to bring your Gi along and support on the seminar if you so wish
BANK DETAILS FOR PAYMENT:	Ares Judo Ltd 30-54-66 29477068

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	Please make club transfer with club name as reference
ENTRY DETAILS MUST INCLUDE:	Name, Age, DoB, Belt Colour/BJA Grade, Group As Above, Weight (kg), M / F A spreadsheet can be provided to clubs to complete all relevant details
CONFIRMATION OF TIMINGS:	The competition will have 2 different time slots to allow this event to work logistically. You will be notified of your time slot after all entries are in and when the running order has been finalised; likely, 1 week before the competition. To provide a current indication: Time slot 1 – Group 1 - 09:00 -13:00 (Arrive 08:30) Time Slot 2 – Group 2 - 13:30 -17:30 (Arrive 13:00) We expect the groupings to remain as advertised, but in some cases based on entries we may need to shuffle things around, but we will of course give plenty of notice for this.
WHAT TO EXPECT:	We are proud to introduce **Ares Futures IGNITE**, a new event designed to give teenage and adult judoka the opportunity to gain valuable competition experience in a **relaxed, friendly, and supportive environment**. We recognise that many judoka **train regularly, work hard, and love their judo**, but don't necessarily want to compete at the highest level of domestic competition. We want to create opportunities to experience a high quality, professional event for those who simply want to compete, gain confidence, and enjoy judo. That's what **IGNITE** is all about - igniting that competitive spark and encouraging more judoka to step onto the mat and give it a go! The event will be split into **morning and afternoon sessions**, both following the same format: - **90-minute seminar with 2012 Olympian Danny Williams** to start each session. - **Competition in pools of approximately 4**, using the exciting Ares ruleset where 6 points wins, encouraging attacking judo and plenty of mat time. - **A relaxed atmosphere**, with music throughout, no formal referee attire, and minimal waiting between matches. - **Medals for everyone**, followed by a medal ceremony to celebrate achievements. - Competitors in the afternoon session are warmly invited to join us in the venue bar afterwards to relax, socialise and round off the day! **Careful and sensible matchmaking is our biggest priority.** We will work closely with coaches to group judoka based on age, weight, grade, experience, and ability, ensuring everyone has appropriate and enjoyable contests. Although we have two broad groups, this does not mean a 14-year-old will face a 30-year-old, or a red belt will compete against a blue belt! These groups are simply for organising entries. If suitable matches cannot be arranged, we will contact coaches before the event. We want to create the best and most sensible matches possible. We ask clubs to embrace the spirit and ethos of IGNITE, entering judoka who will genuinely benefit from this type of competition. Our aim is simple - plenty of judo, sensible matches, a positive experience, and hopefully a renewed enthusiasm for competition!

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By entering and/or attending this event you agree to abide by all British Judo Association policies and codes of conduct. This includes but is not limited to:

- *Transgender policy https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/what-we-do/policies/transgender-eligibility-and-participation-in-competition-policy/*
- *Codes of conduct https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/membership-terms-conditions/*
- *Contest rules https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/compete/organising-a-competition/contest-rules/*
    - *https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/roles-and-clubs/roles/referees/resources/*
- *Stoma bags: https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/participation-in-competition-with-stoma-bags/*
- *Prosthetic limbs: https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/participation-in-competition-with-prosthetic-limbs/*

You must contact the organisers and events@britishjudo.org.uk if you require any support at the event or have any questions regarding the above points.
Please note that failure to comply with these policies and codes of conduct may result in not being able to compete/attend this event, or removal from the event, and notification to the British Judo Association.
These policies and codes of conduct are in place to ensure everyone attending the event have a good experience.