

YOUNG GUNS STEAL SHOW



The junior males, George Oliver, Mike Grimwood and Sam Weaver stepped up a level in terms of maturity of performances at the SKI 20th Anniversary competition in Holland. The SEKU star of the day was undoubtedly Sam Weaver of Lovedean KC. Sam lost to the eventual winner in the semi finals but his bout for 3rd place was absolutely nail-biting. After going ahead by a wazari early in the bout his opponent drew the content level again. Then after a period tensely contested cat and mouse Sam executed a perfect jodan mawashi geri to be awarded ippon and the match. *(continued inside)...*

**For more information on clubs, training times and up and coming events contact
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SKI 20th ANNIVERSARY COMPETITION IN HOLLAND

..... You should have been there, it was great to see how young Sam has transformed into an excellent tactician over a relatively short period of time. Team Squad Manager Sensei Terry Oliver later said "The hard work he has put in at squad training is now paying off".

This was the latest of the Squad ventures and it took place Saturday 22nd March at the SKI 20th Anniversary competition held in Hertogenbosch, Holland. The squad was led by Sensei Mick Dewey and Sensei Terry Oliver. The competition was well organised with many large SKI squads from across Europe attending. Due to Sensei O'Donnell strong links with Dutch SKI karateka, SEKU were honoured to be the only non SKI team invited to take part in the event which presented an opportunity to strengthen the longstanding friendships.

All members of the SEKU team performed exceptionally well but almost all just missed out on medals. Everyone did a great job and this was an experience that will hold them all in good stead for future competitions.

LEGEND 2009 - Shotokan Alliance Shobu Ippon Tournament

The Shobu Ippon Tournament at Bracknell Sports Centre on Saturday 7th March was the first of the squads major competitions of 2009. Not only did the squad walk the walk (in their new squad jackets), they talked the talk (and the results speak for themselves). A full report on the day's events has been penned by Sensei Terry Oliver and is displayed on the SEKU website - so check it out! The results are as follows:

Results

Individual Kumite:

Gold - Junior - Joe Crowe

Gold - Cadet - Ben Maher

Silver - Cadet - George Oliver

Gold - Senior Men's - Dave Galloway

Silver - Senior Men's - Lee Hollister

Bronze - Senior Men's - Keith Williams

Gold - Vet Men's - Graham Rowley

Kata:

Silver - Cadet - Rob Maynard

Silver - Senior Men's - Keith Williams

Gold - Vet Men's - Shaun Eglington

Gold - Team Kata - Dave Galloway, George Oliver, Sam Weaver

Team Kumite:

Gold - 5 man association - Dave Galloway, Lee Hollister, Keith Williams, Matthew Powell, Ben Maher

Gold - 3 man team - Keith Williams, Ben Maher, Rob Maynard

Silver - 3 man team - Dave Galloway, Jason Hollister

Bronze - 3 man team - Matthew Powell, Lee Hollister, Steve Axelson

Bronze - mixed team - Dave Galloway, Emma Williams, Keith Williams

Squad moral and expectations are high and this would appear to be due to a combination of regular training, some great competition results plus the SEKU fighting spirit. The squad's taking part in six tournaments this year including the European and the SKDUN World Championship competitions. Sensei Oliver has stated "the team's dedication and enthusiasm is excellent, I could not wish for more".



Sensei Steve Hollister gives Squad a last minute pep talk - Legend 2009

HAMPS CHAMP

Once again young George Oliver's talents are recognised outside the SEKU arena. In February of this year he was awarded Senior Sportsman Award and Outstanding Achievement Award presented to him by the Mayor on behalf of Havant Borough Sports Council. George was previously awarded Young Sportsman of the Year by HBSC in 2007. Incidentally, Sensei Brian Smith was also rewarded for his contribution to sport in 2008 with Runner-up for Coach of the Year.



To top it all, on the 25th March George also received the Junior Sportsman of the Year for Hampshire. The event was held at the Rosebowl Cricket Ground in Southampton and attended by all the civic heads. The Hampshire awards are decided by the County Council Sports Development Officers and this year there were members of the British Olympic Team up for awards which makes this achievement quite special.

THE DUTCH CONNECTION

Maarten and Hanneke Zeeuwen (Dutch members of Portchester Karate Club) are celebrating the birth of their first child. The bouncing baby boy came into this world on 19th March this year and they have named him Luuk. Maarten and Hanneke have had a long standing involvement with the Portchester Club and Maarten is responsible for introducing Sensei O'Donnell to windsurfing. Over the years they have made many SEKU friends who will, I am sure, be pleased to hear the happy news and wish them both the very best.

SHOTOKAN ALLIANCE REFEREE COURSE

As SEKU strives to become more involved with the global Shotokan community it is inevitable that the competitors of today should use their experience and knowledge as the referees of tomorrow. The Shotokan Alliance Referees Course this February was well attend by SEKU karateka and the quality of our up and coming Refs is to be

applauded. Sensei Brian Smith pointed out that some of the best trainees on the day were SEKU, being sharp and decisive with their decisions.

NEW CLUBS

In the November issue I mentioned that a number of new SEKU clubs have sprung up during recent months. I promised I would provide more info on Saltash, Plympton and Petersfield so read on.....

Saltash - Instructor Steve Hollister (5th Dan)

Saltash Karate Club dojo is based at Burraton Primary School, Saltash in Cornwall). Club instructor is Steve Hollister who is well known for his achievements with the SEKU Squad. Steve took over the club from his father Bill 6 years ago and became a member of SEKU soon after. 3 generations of Hollisters' have trained at the club. There used to be 9 of the family practicing but 4 of the kids stopped leaving Bill (6th Dan), Steve (5th Dan), Lee (brother-2nd Dan), Jason (brother -1st Dan) and Hannah Day (Steve's partner-4th Dan). Training is Tuesdays & Thursdays - Juniors 6-7pm, Seniors 7-9pm

Plympton - Instructor Stuart Hick

Stuart started training in 1990 at Plymouth Shotokan Karate Club and he comes with impressive credentials. His club was originally with the KUGB and changed to JKAE under Ohta Sensei after the passing of Enoeda Sensei. In 2005 Stuart trained 4 times a day at the JKA Honbo Dojo in Japan. He says it was extremely hard work but he would recommend the experience to his students. He has competed at national level and obtained EKGB coaching qualifications. The club prides itself on its high standard of karate training and Stuart is assisted by Luke Irving and Jon Eaton who are fully qualified instructors to national level also. Training is Monday and Thursday - Children 7-8pm, Adults 8-9pm and Adult advanced 9pm onwards

Petersfield - Instructor Pete Turrell (1st Dan)

The dojo is located at the Village Hall, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hants. After a short time at Havant (a KUBG) Club, Pete joined Petersfield KC in 1982. This was the year SEKU began under the name of the South of England Karate Union. Pete is an all-round sportsman and has had more than one spell away from karate but has returned each time bringing his experiences in other sporting spheres to enhance his karate. Petersfield is a small club with a mix of grades. Pete is assisted by Zoe Williams (1st Dan) and training is every Tuesday Evenings and Saturday Mornings.

SEKU DATES FOR 2009

Saturday 4th April 2009 - SEKU Annual Championships - Mountbatten Centre, Alexandra Park, Portsmouth

Sunday 26th April 2009 - Instructor Class - Portchester Community School, White Hart Lane, Portchester. Post code PO16 9XT

***Saturday 9th May 2009** - "Shotokan Alliance" Shobu Ippon International Tournament - Spectrum, Guildford, Surrey

Sunday 7th June 2009 - Black & Brown Belt Course - Plymouth Devon

Sunday 13th September 2009 - Instructor Class - Priory Community Sports & Leisure Centre, Portsmouth, Hants

Sunday 4th October 2009 - SEKU AGM/Black & Brown Belt Course, Portchester Community School, White Hart Lane, Portchester

***Friday 9th -11th October 2009** - SKDUN World Championships Shotokan Championships - Eger, Hungary

***Saturday 21st November 2009-** "Shotokan Alliance" Portsmouth Open Annual Championships, The Mountbatten Centre, Alexandra Park, Portsmouth.

**These Championships are conducted under "Shobu Ippon" rules.*

The Squad Competitions are panning out to be great days for showcasing some of the world's finest Shotokan Karate talent and SEKU will be there also taking on the very best and let's face it, it would be a shame to miss out so why not make plans now to fit one or two of these dates into your busy schedule, soak up the atmosphere and cheer on our SEKU Champs.

100% PASS FOR BLACK & BROWN

The B&B Course on the Isle of White on Sunday 8th February was a resounding success. The training was hard and fast and everyone gave it their all. The spirit of the Shotokan Warrior was clearly present and the grading results reflected this with a 100% pass rate.

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