



6th Hartlepool Wadokai Karate Championships

Event Report

This year's annual championship was once again held at the Belle Vue Sports Centre in Kendal Road, Hartlepool. This event would see the club put into practise many of the learning's that Carl and Amy picked up from their year in Japan and hopefully build upon the success of all previous years.

Over the past few years, our parent's have insisted that we simply had TOO MANY trophies for the students to win, and they were running out of storage space in their homes! So, this year we commissioned fantastic and very high quality custom made medals for the winners which proved to be a real hit with the students.

As always, we try to push ourselves each year to bring something new, 2009 was no different so, a couple of firsts for you this year were:

- [Running 3 areas for Kata](#) – we only ran two areas last year...
- [Running 2 areas for Kumite](#) – we only ran one last year, this made the day shorter by far!
- [Adult Divisions](#) – We were proud to be able to offer Adult Divisions in Kata & Kumite for the first time.
- [An Extra Electronic scoreboard](#) – this let the parents & competitors SEE the score / time / penalties etc... On BOTH Kumite (fighting) areas!
- [Cheaper entry fee](#) – Last year's maximum entry fee was £14, this year that was reduced to £10!
- [Custom Made Medals for the winners](#)
- [MORE Independent referee's / judges](#) – This year we have recruited MORE independent referee's & judges from our friends in Aiwakai, our Karate association.
- [Professional Videographer & Photographer](#) – Courtesy of Hartlepool based Masspro (www.masspro.co.uk)
- [VIP Guest](#) – Mr Iain Wright, MP for Hartlepool and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Children, Schools and Families. Mr Wright awarded the medals to the winners

This year we had a record number of people entered with 54 students competing across 13 categories. The youngest student was 5 years old and the oldest was 47 years old! We had students from the following branches & after school clubs:

- Belle Vue Sports Centre (Tuesday & Friday)
- Owton Manor Primary School (Monday & Wednesday)
- Brougham Primary School (Tuesday)
- St Helen's Primary School (Monday & Wednesday)
- West Park Primary School (Thursdays)

We were aiming for all the categories to be finished by 4.30pm, with the trophies awarded by 5pm (an hour earlier than last year!). Mr Wright is a very busy man so he would be attending from 4pm onwards so we planned the schedule around this with the advanced grade junior fight division being the last event of the day.

As the day progressed, we quickly realised that the officials had the areas running perfectly – which just NEVER happens at Karate events, this meant we were going to finish all events a lot earlier than our 4.30pm estimate.

The film crew from Masspro turned up at 11.30 and quickly got caught up with the atmosphere. They set up their cameras in record time to catch the end of the advanced grade junior kata divisions. After the individual kata events, we then notified the competitors who their pairs would be for the next event. All the competitors only had 15 minutes of practise time with their partners before the event started – this was a test to see how good they really were at Karate!



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The Pairs Kata event was spread over the two matted areas and proved to be a big hit with the crowd with some great performances and surprise results! All kata events were completed by 11.45am. Well ahead of schedule!

We had a 30 minute lunch break whilst we set up for the Kumite (fighting) categories. These would be run on the two matted areas. Like clockwork, the first kumite event started. We started this event and waited a few minutes so that the beginners could see what they were going to be doing as this was the first ever Karate competition for a number of them.

The kumite events ran very well too, thanks to the great efforts of all the volunteers. This meant that at the end of the fight divisions we were a massive TWO HOURS ahead of schedule. This unusual occurrence allowed us add two special 'Wildcard' categories into the days schedule.

The WildCard event is basically an extra division for those students of a certain grade that have yet to medal in any of the day's events. It's a brand new match were those students get a second chance to medal in the competition. We were able to run two of these Wildcard events, one for the White Belts (Beginners) and one for the Coloured belts (Advanced).

After the events had finished, all the students were asked to make one long line and take part in a 'victory march' to the podium were they were awarded a fantastic medal just for participating in the championships. Then the winner's medals were presented by Mr Iain Wright, MP for Hartlepool and Parliamentary under Secretary of State in the Department for Children, Schools and Families.

After the winner's medals, there were some special awards to be offered. (See the end of this document)

I realise that being the event organiser I'm a little biased, but I can honestly say that this was by far the best Karate Championships that we've ever held. Thanks to the huge amount of officials on hand, the whole day ran smoothly and the athletes were all fantastic!

Our next Karate competition will be the **1st Hartlepool Wadokai Invitational Inter-Club Karate Championships** in March 2010.



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I would like to personally thank the following:

- The Belle Vue Sports Centre,
 - for once again being great hosts for this event
- Mr Iain Wright,
 - for taking the time out of his busy schedule to award the winner's medals
- Sensei Mick Ryde,
 - Chief Referee for the Championships & Chief Instructor for Ripley Aiwakai Karate Club
- Sensei Peter May,
 - Chairman of the Wado Aiwakai Karate-Do Federation
- Sensei Sue Ryde,
 - National Judge & Instructor for Ripley Aiwakai Karate Club
- Sensei Nicole Wardell,
 - Wadokai England National Squad Team Member, Kata & Kumite
 - Instructor for Kobukan Darlington Karate Club
- Sensei Mairi Kerin,
 - Wadokai England National Squad Team Member, Kata & Kumite
- Sempai Lee Gowland
 - Instructor for Hartlepool Wado Karate Club (Brierton)
- The Hartlepool Wadokai Instructors,
 - Lynne Jorgeson, Chief Instructor; Michael Jorgeson, Instructor; Vince Dawkins, Instructor; Kate McCaffery, Instructor;

Table Officials

- Steven Wilmot
- Diane Wilmot
- Erin Langley
- Vicky Dawkins
- Julia Gowland

First Aid

- Greg Albrighton – Sector Manager & First Aid Trainer for Her Majesty's Coastguard
- PC Kieth Robinson – Beat officer for Hartlepool

Resident Scam-Artist

- Julie Salmons

Helper & Kid Sorter

- Karen Dougherty
- Ellen Wilmot
- Debi Robinson
- Mikaela White
- Simon Gray

Equipment Officer

- Sue White

Camera Crew & Photographers

- Masspro (www.masspro.co.uk)



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Results - KATA Divisions

Category 1	-	Junior Kata, Yellow-Blue Belt
1 st Place	-	Andrew Morgan
2 nd Place	-	Phil Salmons
3 rd Place	-	Bailey Reed
3 rd Place	-	Sam Tillot-Gray
Category 2	-	Junior Kata, White & Red Belts (Big Kids)
1 st Place	-	Daniel Spires
2 nd Place	-	Max Avery
3 rd Place	-	Adam Cowan
Category 3	-	Junior Kata, White & Red Belts (Little Kids)
1 st Place	-	Kain Halcrow
2 nd Place	-	Bailey Robinson
3 rd Place	-	Rebecca Caygill
3 rd Place	-	Abby Laidler
Category 4	-	Senior Kata, Beginners
1 st Place	-	Robert Doughty
2 nd Place	-	Rachel Iley
3 rd Place	-	Andrew Fleet
Category 5	-	Junior Kata, Advanced Grades
1 st Place	-	Jasmin Langley
2 nd Place	-	Beth Gray
3 rd Place	-	Lewis Muldown
3 rd Place	-	Luke Dawkins
Category 6	-	Pairs Kata
1 st Place	-	Andrew Fleet & Jasmin Langley
2 nd Place	-	Rachel Iley & Daniel White
3 rd Place	-	Sam Tillot-Gray & Andrew Morgan
3 rd Place	-	Roy Salmons & Harvey Kerridge
Category 12	-	WildCard Kata, White Belts
1 st Place	-	Lucy Downes
2 nd Place	-	Jake Norman
3 rd Place	-	Louise Hold
3 rd Place	-	Tyler Armstrong
Category 13	-	WildCard Kata, Coloured Belts
1 st Place	-	Joel Copeman
2 nd Place	-	Joe Hind
3 rd Place	-	Lewis Tucker



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Results - KUMITE Divisions

Category 7	-	Junior Kumite, Advanced Grade (Light Weight)
1 st Place	-	Lewis Muldown
2 nd Place	-	Bailey Reed
3 rd Place	-	Jack Plows
3 rd Place	-	James Allot
Category 8	-	Junior Kumite, White & Red Belts (Light Weight)
1 st Place	-	Max Avery
2 nd Place	-	Lukas Vallet
3 rd Place	-	Rebecca Caygill
3 rd Place	-	Reese Stabler
Category 9	-	Junior Kumite, White & Red Belts (Heavy Weight)
1 st Place	-	Adam Cowan
2 nd Place	-	Saffron Stabler
3 rd Place	-	Dylan Dunn
3 rd Place	-	Thomas Oliver
Category 10	-	Senior Kumite, Beginners
1 st Place	-	Keith Windross
2 nd Place	-	Andrew Fleet
3 rd Place	-	Rachel Iley
Category 11	-	Junior Kumite, Advanced Grade (Heavy Weight)
1 st Place	-	Connor Dougherty
2 nd Place	-	Jasmin Langley
3 rd Place	-	Charlotte Welsh
3 rd Place	-	Luke Dawkins



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Results - Special Awards

Best Newcomer 2009

- Adam Cowan

Most Improved 2009

- Connor Dougherty

Special Services 2009

- Beth Gray

Young Samurai 2009

- Bailey Reed

Student of the Year 2009

- Jasmin Langley

Special Services Award

- Julie Salmons
 - Constant fundraising efforts that allow the club to offer so many different services throughout each year

Special Award

- Sensei Lynne Jorgeson
 - Congratulations on gaining your 4th Dan

Special Award

- Sensei Kate McCaffery
 - Congratulations on gaining your 1st Dan

Special Award

- Sensei Carl Jorgeson
 - 20 years training in Karate-Do