

Message from Chairman

Well we are a quarter of the way through this special year - our 40th Anniversary Year and we hope that you are enjoying this year as much as we are. The Scottish Championships saw the first opportunity to purchase memorabilia celebrating this event. The 40th Anniversary book, which provides an insight into the last 40 years of Taekwon-do in the UK along with easy to digest technical information, flew off the shelf, if you missed your chance then copies will be on sale at future events or speak to your Instructor about ordering you a copy, be aware copies are limited. We look forward to continuing to celebrate this fantastic year with you.

Results

Blackbelt Grading: "Grandmaster Rhee Ki Ha and the Masters Council would like to congratulate everyone who promoted at the recent blackbelt grading. Alan Rafferty and Jemma Wells both received awards for outstanding performance."



Photographs supplied courtesy of Mr D Blackburn VI Dan

Congratulations to Master John Taylor on his promotion to 8th Dan and to our newest Master; Master Andrew Whiteley.



Photographs supplied courtesy of Mr D Blackburn VI Dan

The results from the grading are listed below.

Scottish Championships: Congratulations to Elgin who, in a close contest clinched the Overall Title for the 8th year in a row – Well done! A full list of results can be found on the website under the Events section.

A special thank you goes to all those who umpired at the Scottish Championships as we were short of officials on the day, so those that helped worked hard to ensure the event was a success – thank you.

Umpires Course: Listed below are the results from the Umpires Course and the new classification for each of the Umpires – Congratulations to all listed on their

results. If you are interested in Umpiring keep your eyes on the website under the Events section for the next course.

Forthcoming Events

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Coloured belt Seminar and Grading's: To find out when your next local event is check the website under the events section. As you will be aware these events take place with an assigned Master, and some of you may be lucky enough to have Grand Master Rhee – an opportunity not to be missed. Remember to submit your request to attend to your Instructor in plenty of time to allow them to register your place before the deadline.

K

Black Belt Seminar: The next seminar is the 24th June the area hosting this seminar is England and South Wales, keep your eyes on the website for more details.

Championships: The next championships are 2nd June in Cardiff, keep your eyes on the website for entry forms and remember to adhere to the deadline as the Events team will not accept late entries.

T

Summer Training Camp: Our newly promoted Master; Master Whiteley, is hosting a training camp in France from 11th-13th May. This is not an official UKTA course, but those who would like more information or who are interested in attending should contact Master Whiteley at thamesvalleytaekwondo@yahoo.co.uk, for an application form, the course is open to 13 years and above.

Voices from the Association

Congratulations to ITF Wales for continuing to promote the Association through successfully placing articles in Taekwon-Do and Korean Martial Arts magazine. Members are encouraged to write pieces for the Martial Arts Media, and we will give assistance and advice to support budding Taekwon-Do journalists who would like to see their work submitted for publication.

Achieving my 1st Dan Black Belt

In October 2006 I made the decision to aim for the black belt grading in March of the new year, having only recently attained my black tags I knew I would have a lot of training ahead of me. From the age of ten I have sang in front of people, competitions, graded exams, weddings and all sorts of concerts. Before every performance I am nervous, the voice is a very personal instrument, it is a part of me and only I can get through that performance. Taekwon-do for me has been a lot like singing, it is very personal to me, and I can only use what is my own. Performing in Taekwon-do, whether at a demonstration, a competition or a grading is just the same, I am the only person who can get myself through that event.

I feel very lucky to have a good relationship with my instructors; I would never have been prepared for March without them, but it feels very lonely when you get called up in front of a grading examiner without them next to you. March was quickly approaching and the realisation of just what I was preparing for was dawning on me. As if that hadn't been enough, walking into a hall crammed full of black belts and numerous black tags certainly hit home. Training soon started and the reason why I was there faded as I started to enjoy myself. However on Saturday morning

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the feeling of fear reared again as I realised there were only 24 hours left and this would be my final day of preparation. I should mention that only once was I ever this nervous about a singing performance. I was twelve years old and on the night before my Grade 2 singing exam I lay in bed and sang through every song for the following day. Needless to say my parents came and told me to shut up! At least Taekwon-do is quieter and no one in the neighbouring rooms of the travel lodge came and told me to be quiet as I ran through patterns and step sparring and recited all the pattern definitions and terminology in my head.

U

On Sunday morning it was excitement that greeted me first, in a way I was ready for it to be over, either way. Fear was very much still there, I knew my parents were coming to watch, I knew my Instructors would be there, and I knew everyone from my School would be wishing me well. The feeling of fear was because I didn't want to let anybody down.

K

Had I been asked on Sunday 4th March why I train in Taekwon-do my answer would have been quite simply because I love it and because it continues to challenge me. I would still give that answer now because although grading for my black belt was a challenge, I loved every minute of it. Through the day my nerves kept me going and pushed me to do my best and after I had performed everything required I knew I could relax. I knew it was over and all I had left to do was wait for the result, with all fingers and toes crossed.

T

There were 40 black tags grading that day, and although it made it a very long process it meant we each had moral support and were with other people who understood how it felt to be in that situation at that precise moment in time. I was lucky that two of my friends were grading with me, but even if they hadn't been there I could easily say I had friends there as everyone was rooting for each other.

A

When everyone had completed their grading we were lined up for the results to be announced. From where I stood I could see the stack of brand new black belts laid out on the table in front of the Masters and I felt very emotional, hoping that one of them would be mine. The belts were issued in reverse order, so the last person to finish their grading was called up first and the very first group of the day were announced last. There were 8 adult females and we had all graded together so I expected our names to be listed together. Sure enough 4 of the girls names were read out one after the other, then there were a couple of boys names, but then the next set of girls names were read out, only mine wasn't one of them. More and more boys were called up to the table and nearly all of the people standing around me in the rows had received their belt and certificate. This was when I started to panic. Now as I looked up at the table I could only see one adult belt left, the rest were junior belts with the white stripe through.

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I was sure I had done well and thought maybe I'd been missed out; I certainly didn't want to put my hand up to ask!! I started going through my grading wondering if maybe I'd gone wrong somewhere or missed something out. As I started to fear the worst I heard Master Prewitt say my name to Grand Master Rhee and my heart leapt.

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I couldn't quite believe what was said next, and didn't really hear either, as I was trying very hard not to cry, and not having much success. Turns out I had done enough to pass and be awarded my black belt after all. They had saved me till last on purpose as I had achieved an outstanding pass and was awarded with a special prize along with my belt and certificate.

I'm not sure I can describe how I felt as I approached the table or how I felt walking away clutching my new belt. No doubt those of you who have been there know

exactly what I'm talking about. There is a feeling of relief, that the event is over and you came out the other side in one piece, a feeling of pride that everything you worked so hard for was rewarded and a feeling of just immense happiness that you achieved what you set out for and what everyone else wished for you.

As for the highlight of my day, I got a kiss on the cheek from Grand Master Rhee, I felt like all the hard work I had put in had been rewarded and I had earned my new challenge of being a black belt.

Article submitted by Miss Jemma Wells / Dan



Photograph supplied courtesy of Mr D Blackburn VI Dan

Scottish Championships: Kelvin Hall March 2007

Students from Elgin School of Taekwon-do are on cloud nine after their eighth successive win at the Scottish Championships.

A team of 50 of Master Williamson's students - from beginner yellow belts aged six through to veteran competitors - were delighted to reclaim the title in the UKTA's 40th anniversary year.

It was a close-run victory for the school, with Wishaw and Aberdeen snapping closely at their heels. The Elgin students just managed to edge into the lead during the final events of the day and took the trophy back north with a total of 65 points. Aberdeen were second on 52 points, while Wishaw picked up third with 50 points.

Master Williamson said: "We are absolutely thrilled to have won the championships in what is such a milestone year for our association. It was a fantastic day and all our thanks must go to the organisers for all their hard work in ensuring the event ran so smoothly. We had a lot of supporters travel down with us on the day, and they were all surprised to see how well the competition was run. A few of them came expecting to sit and read a book for most of the day, but ended up glued to what was happening on the rings."

The championships, held in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, on March 24, attracted competitors from all corners of the UK, as well as a strong contingent from Slovenia. Their national squad members were invited to take part in a team event, along with Scotland ITF and a UK Select team, in patterns and sparring. Slovenia ITF took the gold medal, with Scotland ITF in silver medal position and the UK Select in bronze. Slovenia will be the venue for this year's ITF Senior World Championships from April 24-28. Good luck to all the UKTA members and national squads taking part.

Article submitted by Miss Leanne Carter / Dan

Kilimanjaro Expedition

In March 2007, Jon, secretary of the Swindon UKTA School, and five work colleagues will be undertook the mammoth task of scaling Mount Kilimanjaro – the largest free-standing mountain in the world. The expedition was to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Kilimanjaro is a dormant stratovolcano that rises 5,895 metres (19,340 feet) and provides breathtaking views of the surrounding plains from the summit. The intrepid explorers took the Machame route up the mountain.



They trekked across diverse terrains including rainforest, moor land, barren terrain and frozen plains, with a temperatures ranging from on +35°C at the bottom to -20°C at the top.

Macmillan Cancer Support improves the lives of people affected by cancer. They provide practical, medical, emotional and financial support for sufferers and families. They also fund research and push for improved cancer care. Macmillian depend on fundraising and donations for 99% of their income.

U

1st for Oxford

The original Korean Martial Art Taekwon-do is truly thriving in the UK today. The popularity has led to a new competition being added to the timetable. The Oxford and Southern Open Taekwon-do Championships premiered at Blackbirds Leys Leisure Centre at the end of February in the 40th year anniversary of the UKTA (United Kingdom Taekwon-do Association).

K

The event was hosted both by Master Mitchell and Mr Lawrence Sanchez VI Dan, Master Mitchell currently President of both the Grenada Taekwon-do Association formed in 1993, the Eastern Caribbean TKD Association, founded in 1997 and appointed Ambassador for the Caribbean in 1998, he was encouraged with the turnout of spectators, competitors and officials from all over England, with some taking the trouble to travel down from Crewe.

T

The day began with the Patterns category, students of similar grades compete alongside each other in a knockout pyramid system in front of 5 officials, this technical event was followed by the popular Sparring category, this fast moving event of continuous fighting, gives the chance for the crowd to participate with shouts of encouragement for their club. Before the Power category began, everyone was treated to an exciting display by Daniel Niteki a 4th Dan Black Belt guest from Poland. Daniel's spectacular display showed off his incredible concentration combined with technique and strength, while using 8 officials as props he smashed his way through house bricks and tiles, which climaxed with Daniel breaking a stack of roof tiles which was engulfed in flames. Not to be outdone Master Mitchell 7th Dan, was handed a house brick found just outside the leisure centre, he casually placed this into the breaking holder and broke it with a knifehand strike. (Don't try this at home!) The competition continued and the leisure centre buzzed with a family atmosphere of background music and a complementary buffet of food was laid on by the host for all competitors and spectators after the event.

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Master Mitchell is guided by Grand Master Rhee Ki Ha, 9th dan OCM, who is the President and founder of the UKTA, RITA, AETF is the Father of European Tae Kwon-Do and the 1st pioneer Grand Master, is taking a few of local instructors to the Taekwon-do World Championships in Slovenia this April as part of the Caribbean and South American delegation team.

Article submitted by Lawrence Sanchez VI Blackbelt

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UNITED KINGDOM TAEKWON-DO ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT:
Grand Master Rhee Ki Ha OCM
First Grandmaster
Vice President of the ITF
World Pioneer & Father of European
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BLACKBELT GRADING RESULTS

4th March 2007 – Glasgow

Examiner Grand Master Rhee Ki Ha IXth Dan

No	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	NATIONALITY
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Promoted to 8th Dan x 1

1	JOHN	TAYLOR	26/03/1959	British
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Promoted to 7th Dan x 1

2	ANDREW	WHITELEY	20/12/1965	French
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Promoted to 6th Dan x 1

3	PAUL	KNIGHTON	17/09/1969	British
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Promoted to 5th Dan x 2

4	JOHN	REILLY	29/11/1977	British
5	JAMES	CHALMERS	09/04/1962	British

Promoted to 4th Dan x 8

6	JOHNNIE CHAN FOOK TIN		30/11/1979	British
7	FELIX	LOPEZ	07/08/1973	British
8	JULIAN	COOKE	17/07/1965	British
9	DOUGIE	MacFARLAN	25/02/1971	British
10	LESLEY	WILLIAMSON	21/03/1965	British
11	JACQUELINE	HARRIS	25/02/1962	British
12	RICHARD	COOKE	30/12/1967	British
13	RICHARD	HAMILTON	08/06/1962	British

Promoted to 3rd Dan x 2

14	DARREN	JOHNS	17/04/1974	British
15	NICHOLAS	OVERTON	14/11/1986	British

Promoted to 2nd Dan x 9

16	ALAN	RAFFERTY	27/03/1984	British
17	THOMAS	McMILLAN	10/11/1986	British
18	COLIN	RICHARDSON	14/02/1963	British
19	SUSAN	HUNTER	31/10/1972	British
20	NEVILLE	THOMSON	03/08/1963	British
21	BRIAN	JOHNSON	30/01/1968	British
22	CATHERINE	THOMSON	24/09/1970	British
23	ANDREW	THOMAS	11/05/1982	British
24	PATRICK	DEMONTFAUCON	26/12/1961	French

Promoted to 1st Dan x 39

25	SIMON	FURNEAUX	31/12/1971	British
26	MICHAEL	JEWELL	11/01/1982	British
27	ANDREW	SMITH	06/02/1978	British
28	JEMMA	WELLS	11/02/1986	British
29	DAVID	WRIGHT	10/11/1988	British
30	MATTHEW	JOHNSON	24/04/1988	British
31	ANDREW	KIGHTLEY	09/05/1988	British
32	THOMAS	EVANS	28/12/1983	British
33	DANIEL	McKEOWN	05/04/1987	British
34	LYNDON	VALE	10/11/1983	British
35	REZA	SHAMTALLY	02/12/1976	British
36	DEAN	TAYLOR	29/07/1966	British
37	LEANNE	CARTER	16/07/1976	British
38	KERRI	ALEXANDER	24/05/1976	British
39	ELLEN	McCOURT	20/12/1983	British
40	KEVIN	PAYNE	04/06/1968	British
41	NADEEM	FAROOQ	09/12/1978	British
42	DAVID	HASKINS	11/10/1983	British
43	IAN	CAMERON	23/10/1965	British
44	GARY	MILLER	22/01/1965	British
45	LISA-MARIE	FOULKES	26/06/1980	British
46	BARRY	DAVEY	02/01/1969	British
47	SIMON	WOOD	02/04/1985	British
48	STEPHEN	REYNOLDS	27/09/1955	British
49	STEPHEN	SHEFFIELD	10/05/1960	British
50	GAYLE	REID	02/03/1979	British
51	CAROL	ORR	10/10/1977	British
52	ALICE	BIRD	01/01/1966	British
53	ROBERT	CAMPBELL	09/05/1995	British
54	NICOLA	BALLOCH	20/09/1995	British
55	CONNOR	JONES	30/12/1994	British
56	DELME	PEZZACK	29/07/1994	British
57	LUKE	DANSKIN	27/11/1989	British
58	SEAN	ELLOR	18/09/1991	British
59	WAYNE	O'NEILL	28/09/1991	British
60	KARIM	HOUSSAINI	28/11/1992	British
61	DYLAN	WARD	11/11/1995	British
62	CONAH	PROSSER	05/02/1992	British
63	GARETH	FRANCIS	11/06/1991	British

Congratulations to you all



UKTA Umpire Course Results Jan 2007

Name	Dan	School	County	UKTA Class	New Class
Jackie Harris	IV	Enderby	Leicestershire	A	A
William Hampson	IV	Botley	Oxfordshire	A	A
Barry Storton	IV	Garrison	Wiltshire	A	A
Joseph Alleyne Jnr	III	West Reading	Berkshire	B	A
David Norris	IV	Swanscombe	Kent	B	A

Julian Cooke	IV	Wigston Magna	Leicestershire	C	B
David Tee	II	Reading	Berkshire	C	B
Felix Lopez	IV	Bury	Lancashire	C	B
Ashley Dowden	III	West Lothian	West Lothian	C	B
Kevin Pilkington	IV	Reading	Berkshire	C	B
Richard Cooke	IV	Aylestone	Leicestershire	C	B
Neville Naylor	I	Soar Valley	Leicestershire	C	B

Johnnie Chan Fook Tin	IV	Huddersfield	Yorkshire	n/a	C
Dean Sawyer	I	Basingstoke	Hampshire	n/a	C
Andrew Haynes	II	Brighton & Crawley	Sussex	n/a	C
Robert Proctor	I	Brighton & Crawley	Sussex	n/a	C
Andrew Thomas	I	Bury	Lancashire	n/a	C
Alan Clark	V	Brighton & Crawley	Sussex	n/a	C
Mandeep Lahori	II	Botley	Oxfordshire	n/a	C
Guy Lynch	I	Garrison	Wiltshire	n/a	C
Janet Norris	III	Swanscombe	Kent	n/a	C
Chris Jones	II	Garrison	Wiltshire	n/a	C
Himesh Chauhan	I	West Reading	Berkshire	n/a	C
Ian Townsend	III	Swindon	Wiltshire	n/a	C
Rachel Barker	I	West Reading	Berkshire	n/a	C
Alice Gardner	I	Surrey Hills	Surrey	n/a	C

Stephen Sheffield	n/a	Swanscombe	Kent	n/a	C Provisional
Rachel Freegard	n/a	West Reading	Berkshire	n/a	C Provisional
Sarah Prodywus	n/a	West Reading	Berkshire	n/a	C Provisional