



EUROPEAN TAEKWON-DO CHAMPIONSHIPS - Croatia May 2009

Hogan's HIT squad at the Europeans

The Europeans started almost as soon as we landed, Tomas, with Luke in tow, thinking he was overweight (he wasn't he just needs new scales) decided that a run was in order in the full heat of the day (27 degree's) followed by a sauna and little food or water. This was followed swiftly after by a Master Hogan leading the team (minus the youngest kids) on a 'gentle loosener' the following day, Ouch!

Day one

(Tuesday) started with Tomas, John Larkin, Luke and Arthur in patterns. John, Luke and Arthur went out in the early rounds, Tomas was eliminated in the 3 rounds after some excellent performances.



(Tomas in individual patterns competition)



Next up was Peter in veterans sparring after a two rounder in the sweltering heat with a Greek gentleman of generous proportions, Peter got a silver (some road work needed I think).

Tomas and Arthur were up next. Tomas had an excellent fight with William Thirkettle from the English team and lost unfortunately. Arthur fought the eventual winner of the heavyweight division and in the opinion of most, he should have got the result unfortunately the Dutch competitor won. Luke had a great fight with Luke Dempsey of England and won to go through to the final

Peter then had the joy of Power and Special technique after an inaccurate performance in Power, Peter got Silver and a bruised foot. In special technique Peter got a bronze for turning up and looking decorative!

Day two

(Wednesday) an English junior male team, with Luke (representing the HIT squad) met a well trained Italian team in Patterns. The Italian squad had been training since last year; the English junior team had 45 minutes in the car park. After the first two rounds of patterns, England and Italy tied, with Italy eventually winning after another round. An absolutely brilliant performance by the English team, to get Silver.



(English Junior team patterns)

The English Junior team then went on to get a Silver in Power and bronze medals in Special technique where an unfortunate incident occurred(Luke your in big trouble!) and Sparring.

John Larkin fought in the delayed under 80 Kg rounds meeting, fighting brilliantly to beat Scottish and Greek competitors to go through to Finals day on the Friday against highly rated Nick Gardiner.



(John Larkin Qualifying for under 80 kg Final)

Day 3

(Thursday) European Cup day.

Patterns came first with Ethan and Jake competing in the same category. After some great patterns from the boys Jake got a bronze and Ethan got silver.

Then Leanne beat a Hungarian and a Croatian to win gold in patterns. Aidan won a silver in the patterns competition losing to a Croatian. James Davis won a silver in patterns losing to a Scottish competitor.



(Leanne in Patterns)

Sparring again was excellent with Ethan vs. Jake in the final of the midget weight. After a closely fought battle ending in a draw Ethan won the tie breaker, a fantastic fight by both boys.

Leanne fought a strong Czech senior female competitor and won convincingly to win Gold (Look out Ladies, Leanne is coming!) James had 2 epic battles to get to the final meeting a very strong 'crazy Dutch guy'. James eventually got a silver after a very tough match for both competitors. Aidan fought a strong Russian in the semi-final after losing a fast and furious bout leaving the Russian some what battered, Aidan got a bronze medal.



(Leanne taking it to the Hungarian!)



(Jake & Ethan after the Sparring Final)



(Aidan after the sparring final)



(Umm, good back fist. Forget to look?)



(Team Hogan plus Nick Gardiner)

Day 4

Finals Day, two of Team Hogan left in the Finals Luke and John. Luke fought a very strong Russian in the final eventually losing to get a Silver Medal.

John after a long wait met Nick Gardiner in the final. But after only a few seconds John was hurt blocking a kick, resulting in a break to his arm and needing an operation to repair the damage.

Get well soon John from everybody at Hogan's!



Final Medal Table

EUROPEAN TAEKWON-DO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009

Competitor	Pattern	Sparring	Power	Special Technique
Leanne Evans	Gold	Gold	-	-
James Davis	Silver	Silver	-	-
Pete Yip	-	Silver	Silver	Bronze
Luke Yip	-	Silver	-	-
Junior Team (Luke)	Silver	Bronze	Silver	Silver
Aidan Yip	Silver	Bronze	-	-
Ethan Yip	Silver	Gold	-	-
John Larkin	-	Silver	-	-
Jake Yeadon	Bronze	Silver	-	-



(Peter collecting his medals ...and his bus pass!)



(Luke picking up his individual silver)



(Junior team collecting loads of medals)



(A very brave John collecting his Silver medal)



(The England Team)



Our thanks go to the President of Croatian Taekwon-Do Free Style Union Tomislav Dakovic IV and his team for a great welcome and an excellent event, Master Nicholls and Mark Skyrme for the England Team support, all those who travelled to Croatia to support the Team and to Master Hogan for his help and continued advice and enthusiasm and extra training while we were there.

