



ITF National Championships Wales – 21st February 2010

Hogan's Goes West...To Wales

UPDATE.....UPDATE.....UPDATE.....UPDATE.....UPDATE.....UPDATE.....UPDATE.....

2010 Welsh open update

It has been drawn to our attention that the write up of the Welsh Open below omitted to report one of Hogans team medal winners. Please read the following and join us in a late congratulatory note to John Vernazza second Dan.

"The flair in execution of his second Dan patterns far outstripped his opponent, who, having the grace to know when beaten ended their patterns early, if only like the rest of the spectators, to sit and watch perfection", was one of the comments. Another wrote of the "tears of... [Pride] ...that rolled down Master Hogans face whilst watching such a spectacle".

John Vernazza brought home a Bronze Medal (to cheers).

Jake & Scarlett, Joe, Luke, India, Aidan, Ethan & Peter, Emma & Katherine, Rosie & William, Jess, Ryan, Bruno, Paul, James, Neil, Sam & John all made it safely to Cardiff to compete and the medal table (below) tells part of the story. However, it doesn't tell of the excitement, the adrenalin rush, the noise, the family members supporting, the firm, positive, energetic coaching or the strong, really inclusive team spirit. This competition's always got a special feel to it.

Patterns

Cadets: TKD Action kicked off at 9.30 -Emma S and Jake Y were keeping each other company until Em's Chung Moo left the judges underwhelmed and Jake went on alone through several rounds to eventually take the bronze medal. Other under-14 brave contestants were William Hall, Ethan Yip, Joe, Scarlett Yeadon and India Yip -who was awarded a bronze.



Teenagers/Juniors: Jess, Katherine, Ryan, Aidan were all clustered together on the judges' list so managed to knock each other out of the patterns (spread out next time guys!); Katherine eliminating Ryan, Jess's Hwa Rang taking out Aidan's Chung Moo and then both girls going out to the eventual winner - Jess collecting bronze in the process. Black Belt Juniors: Luke didn't make a medal this time, but Rosie delivered a strong silver medal performance throughout.

No news of adult male medals in patterns.

No adult girlies at this competition - Ali, Sylvie & Leanne we missed you...

Sparring - Things went in an unpredictable, keep-awake-or-miss-it-order.

Cadets: Jake did really well and had several challenging fights - with lots of calming pauses within them - where he showed real focus and determination not to be put off his stride. His reward - the gold medal. Emma eventually also took gold from a rather intimidated green tag without working up a sweat.

Juniors: Katherine went up and won two tough bouts, drawing the third until she lost in extra time to her opponent who pumped out side kicks irritatingly effectively. But Katherine did get the silver. Ryan in the next ring also did well and worked hard for a strong silver, where apparently he also drew until extra time. Great togetherness!

It wasn't Aidan's day as he went out, while Jess clearly outshone her two-girl group and took a very nice gold, beating both opponents. Luke came away with a bronze medal and Rosie was so strong when she got to fight that I'm sure her later opponents were intimidated. She walked away with the gold medal. Excellent to watch.

The adult male sparring final was Bruno v Paul (silver and gold), Neil didn't bring home a medal this time, and the veterans sparring final was John v Sam (hence gold and silver). Peter also got a silver in his weight category. In Veterans Patterns Sam Brown received his second silver medal of the day.



Special Technique

Three golds here - 1 for Rosie and 1 for young Scarlett - is she following in her brother's footsteps? And no one should be surprised that James also did his thing and got the final gold. Always spectacular.

Medal Table

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Competitor	Pattern	Sparring	Special Technique
India Yip	Bronze	-	-
Jake Yeadon	Bronze	Gold	-
Rosie Hall	Silver	Gold	Gold
Joe Brock	-	Silver	-
Scarlett Yeadon	-	Bronze	Gold
Jessica Ransley	Bronze	Gold	-
Ryan Thrussell	-	Silver	-
Katherine Stonehouse	-	Silver	-
Bruno Malpart	-	Silver	-
Paul Groome	-	Gold	-
Emma Stonehouse	-	Gold	-
Luke Yip	-	Bronze	-
Peter Yip	-	Silver	-
John Vernazza	Bronze	Gold	-
Sam Brown	Silver	Silver	-
James Davis	-	-	Gold

Thanks to everyone. Apologies if we've missed anyone or anything out, let me know and I'll correct it. Thanks to our hosts, the organisers, Master Hogan, the senior Black Belts, particularly Mr Yip - who did a great job coaching when Master H. couldn't split himself in two or three.

A good day. Look at the Sparring column!

Lesley S.