



Kin Ryu Judo Club - April 2011 Sussex Trials



Pictured above Kin Ryu's winning squad: Kirstyn Chase, Peter Neave, Jane Neave, Joseph O' Doherty, Jack Thompson, David O Doherty, Andrew Woods, Lauren Graves, Matthew Graves, James Rivers, Samuel Howarth-Moore, William Burke, Ellie Woods, Corlia Robertson, Susannah Neave, Adam Funnell, Zack Wake, Laura Kinder, Leanne Gilmore, Alex Faria, Niamh Salvage-Leahy, Sean Cumper and Lia Thompson

On Sunday 23 Kin Ryu judo club juniors fought at the Sussex Trials held at Durrington Leisure Centre in Worthing. The trials are a chance for fighters from across Sussex to try to gain a place on the 2011 Sussex Squad and a chance to represent their County at the Intercounties team event to be hosted this year by Hampshire.

Starting the day off was the girls in the U25 kgs, in this group Kin Ryu fighter Susannah Neave found herself the lightest fighter of the day but fought hard to finish in 3rd place and take bronze. Fighting in the weight above, at U28 kgs, was Corlia Robertson who was eager to defend the title she won last year. Corlia had some tough fights but beat all her opponents to take the gold and retain the title of Sussex Champion 2011.

Following her were the girls in the U32 kgs group. Kin Ryu had 3 fighters in this group, Lia Thompson, Laura Kinder and Jane Neave, who was also looking to defend her title. All girls fought well but it was Jane who came out on top, beating all her opponents to take the Gold medal and title of Sussex Champion. Laura and Lia competed well and in their first trials both finished with a bronze medal and a place on the Sussex squad. In the U40kg group Kin Ryu was represented by Niamh Salvage-Leahy who made short work of her opponents beating both in under 10 seconds to take the gold medal and Sussex Champion title. In the U44

kgs Kin Ryu fighters Kirstyn Chase, Leanne Gilmore and Lauren Graves had to put their friendship aside as they battled for the gold medal place. All fought well but it was Kirstyn who came out on top taking the Gold medal and title of Sussex Champion for the second year running with Lauren and Leanne both taking a bronze medal. Rounding off the girls group was Ellie Woods in the U63 kgs group Ellie had a tough group and was unlucky not to make the final rounds on this occasion, but should still be proud of her performance.

In the boys group the U27kgs title was hotly contested by Kin Ryu players William Burke and Adam Funnell. Both boys got off to a great start winning their first fights with impressive throws, but it was William who pushed just ahead of Adam taking the silver medal while Adam settled for a respectable bronze. In the U30kg group Joseph O'Doherty, Zack Wake and Samuel Howarth-Moore were battling for medals in a tough group. All fought well but the field was too strong for Samuel on this occasion and he finished just outside the medals, Zack went one better to take bronze and Joseph beat last years results to take gold and the title of Sussex Champion. At U38 kgs Andrew Robertson and Alex Faria had a tough task to medal in a tough field. Andrew was unlucky and was not able to get past the group stage but Alex found himself flying high all day as he won all 7 fights to take the gold and title of Sussex Champion in style.

In the U42 kgs group David O'Doherty started well winning his first fights in style but a mistake cost him big in his 3rd fight and he was unlucky not to make the final. In the U46 kg group Matthew Graves fought well but was unable to make the finals on this occasion. In the U50 kgs Peter Neave, Jack Thompson and Andrew Woods fought each other for a place in the team. All fought hard and resulted in bronze for Andrew, silver for Jack and gold for Peter for the first time in 5 years of trying for the title. The final Kin Ryu fighter of the day was Thomas Angus in the U55kg boys. This was his first time at the championships for several years but did not let this faze him as he took on boys several belts higher than himself. Tom was unlucky to lose his first fights but won his third with a blistering throw, but this was not enough to take him through to the finals.

With 17 fighters making the Sussex 2011 squad and 8 being selected for the Sussex team these have been Kin Ryu's most successful championships of recent years and show how far the players are progressing. This was confirmed when the club was awarded the Meeksan Trophy for winning the most points on the days (points awarded for medals) beating another close rival club by just 1 point. Peter Neave was also awarded squad player of the year for his hard work and dedication to being part of the Sussex Squad for the past 5 years.

As well as the fighters Kin Ryu was represented by Martin Rivers and Peter Seymour who were refereeing and James Rivers, Sean Cumper and Rianna Robertson who were officiating on the tables. Well done to all!!

Kin Ryu Judo Club train at K2, Crawley Juniors Mon 5-6 or 6-7.30, Wed 7-8.30, Seniors Wed 8.30-10, Women only session Thurs 6.30-8.00 all new beginners welcome. For more information call Lisa Harrison on 01293 402683, check us out at www.kinryu.org.uk or come visit us at K2!