



Kin Ryu Judo Club - June 2011  
Southern Area Open  
Sussex Red Belt Rumble  
Kent International



Pictured above: Samuel Howarth-Moore (9), Joe Beckett (9), Ellie Angus (12), Leanne Gilmore (10), Arianne Puttock (9), Jad Achagra (8), Suzy Neave (8), Lia Thompson (8), Samantha Miller (8) and junior officials William Miller, Andrew Robertson and Matthew Graves.

Kin Ryu Judo Club players have been out competing in force during the month of June. The month started at the home of the club – K2 in Crawley where 13 youngsters took part in the Southern Area Orange belt and Under Open. This was a tough event but the Kin Ryu players had prepared well and they returned with gold medals for Lauren Graves, Kirstyn Chase, Jack Thompson and Jane Neave. Silver medals went to Adam Funnell, Zack Wake and Joseph O'Doherty who fought on to the final despite breaking his finger in an early round fight, and bronze medals to Matthew Graves, Ellie Woods, William Burke, Corlia Robertson, Thomas Angus, Lauren Graves - who fought in the next group up as she beat all her own opponents in less than 10 seconds. Andrew Woods fought hard but was unlucky to finish just outside the medals in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Following this was the Southern Area closed Masters competition. Kin Ryu coach David O'Doherty was the only representative from the club and after 2 tough fights he finished off the day by taking a bronze medal.

The following weekend it was the turn of Kin Ryu's newest competitors at the Sussex red belt rumble. The competition is an event open to any red belt (beginners' belt) in the country and attracted competitors from as far away as the Midlands. For all the fighters this was their first taste of open competition and Kin Ryu was represented by 9 young players. The first to fight was Suzy Neave who had one of the toughest jobs of the day being the lightest girl in the competition, but she did not let this deter her and produced some great judo to win the first bronze medal of the day. Following her was Lia Thompson and Samantha Miller

who again both fought hard against bigger players but were able to win through to take bronze medals in their groups. Rounding off the girls was Leanne Gilmore, Ellie Angus and Arianne Puttock. Both girls fought well and finished with Arianne taking the silver and Leanne and Ellie taking the gold after winning their contests with outstanding techniques.

Starting for the boys was Samuel Howarth-Moore. Sam fought well and won 2 of his contests in less than 10 seconds to take silver. Jad Achagra and Joe Beckett also followed this trend both losing 1 fight but battling through to take the silver medals in their group.

This was a great performance from some of the clubs less experienced fighters and it is very encouraging to see that all their hard work and training at the club is paying off, well done to all!!

June was finished off this weekend at the Kent International. This is the biggest and one of the toughest events in the judo calendar with 1000 players competing over 2 days at London's Crystal Palace.

Kin Ryu had 13 players representing the club in both the yellow belt and orange / green belt sections. Starting off the competition was the fighters in the yellow belt section and Corlia Robertson in U28kgs was the first into the arena. Corlia fought well against tough opposition and despite winning her first fight she was unlucky not to medal on this occasion. Following her were Lauren Graves and Kirstyn Chase both in U44kgs. Both girls fought hard and finished with Lauren taking bronze and Kirstyn the Silver, very good results for these young fighters. To round off the yellow belt girls was Ellie Woods in the U63kgs and after a tough final Ellie returned with the silver medal.

In the yellow belt U27kgs boys Adam Funnell and William Burke fought hard but faced tough opposition and were unlucky not to medal on this occasion. In the U30kgs Zack Wake also found his opponents a little too strong on this occasion but he put in a great performance, also fighting in U30kgs, Joseph O'Doherty was determined to medal after just missing out last year. Joseph fought hard and easily made the final showing some great skill against his opponents. In the final a small mistake cost him big and he finished with a well deserved silver medal. In the U46kgs Matthew Graves fought well winning his middle fight before losing his third to take 7<sup>th</sup> in his group. Completing the boys was Jack Thompson and Andrew Woods in the U50kgs boys. Andrew fought well but was unlucky not to medal but took 7<sup>th</sup> place. Jack fought well and after 3 tough fights he was in the final but like Joseph he could quite hang on to the top spot and also took a well deserved silver medal.

In the Orange and Green belt section Jane Neave had a tough group as she has just moved up a grade and weight to compete in the U36kgs, but Jane fought hard finishing outside the medal though on this occasion. Finishing the day was David O'Doherty in the U42kgs. This was the largest weight group with over 40 boys competing for medals. David fought well and finished top in his pool to gain a place in the semi finals. There he met the current British no 1 and after a tough fight he lost and had to fight for bronze. This was against the current British no 3 but after a close contest David proved too strong and won to take the bronze a great result for him at this level.

Kin Ryu Judo Club train at K2, Crawley Juniors Mon 5-6pm, 6-7.30pm and Wed 7-8.30pm, Seniors Wed 8.30-9.30pm, Girls and Women only Thurs 6.30-7.30 all new beginners welcome. For more information call Lisa Harrison on 07940 653563, [www.kinryu.org.uk](http://www.kinryu.org.uk) or come visit us at K2!