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KOREAN ART OF SELF DEFENCE



3rd B.U.T.F. CUP

REPORT

On Saturday the 25th April 2009, the third ever BUTF cup was held in the University of Hertfordshire Sports Village. The day commenced around 10am with Grandmaster Choy IX Dan giving a quick outline of the day and giving thanks to all the people who would be assisting at this event.

Grandmaster Choy IX continued with the Senior Black Belt Presentation of Certificates which began with the presentation to Mr Gursharan Kambo who was promoted to OH Dan, 5TH Degree followed by Mr. Pete Rigg, Mr. Harold Tackie, and Mr. Rasmeet Kambo, all promoted to SA Dan, 4th Degree. Concluding the event were the equally important presentation of Certificates and Regalia to 2nd and finally newly promoted 1st Dans. On the allocation of duties to all Black Belts by the Grandmaster to their assigned rings for refereeing and Colour belts to their respective areas, the competition began in earnest.

We saw some friendly new faces that were competing for the first time and some old friends all with the desire to achieve their ultimate goal and to make a mark with the judges in their patterns. There was fierce competition in the pattern performance among the adult Red Belts, with the Gold position being awarded to Mark Wawman from Cranford TKD School following his graceful but powerful display of the Pattern Hwa-rang in which he displayed some show stopping turning kicks.

Moving on quickly to sparring, the atmosphere was tense and exciting as the competitors were preparing the crowd watched expectantly. We saw up and coming competitors sparring to a fantastic level of abilities, with even the peewee division showing that size does not matter. Ones to watch out for in the future are Elisha Peters from Croydon TKD School, Naim Dinarkhail from Harrow and Elvis Shabani from Cranford TKD Schools. Elisha was strong, fast and confident and this lead to her being awarded the gold. The highlight of the morning was the bout between Elvis and Naim. These two gave it their all with a number of excellent jumping reverse kicks. Elvis displayed his experience as well as some fantastic side kicks to win gold.



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After lunch it was the time for the BUTF Black Belts to compete. The new first Dans were excited and wanted to make a good first impression to show they were worthy of their status. We saw a number of competitors displaying their talents but one who stood out from the rest was 4th Dan Davion Cheng from Tooting who truly displayed the essence of performing a Tae Kwon-do pattern, with grace, technique, knowledge and precision.

Finally, the moment had come that everyone had been waiting for, the Black Belt Sparring. The adult Black Belts provided some fiercely contested bouts with the welter weight and Light weight divisions bringing the audience to their feet. All competitors displayed fast and furious techniques, with not one being wasted. A notable achievement was newly awarded iL Dan 1st Degree David Dobson from Cranford TKD School winning the heavyweight division on his debut as a Black Belt. All in all it proved to be an exciting and challenging day that showed the dedication of all who competed and all who train them. Roll on the next competition.

Report courtesy of: David Dobson iL Dan & Annoop Sehmi iL Dan

***Images Courtesy of: Mr. Nicholas Sheehan OH Dan
(see attached photos)***

