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KOREAN ART OF SELF DEFENCE



2010 B.U.T.F. Cup

REPORTS

Courtesy of

Stephen Peters IL Dan

The 4th BUTF Cup was held on Saturday 10th April, which was a fine Spring day at Hertfordshire Sports Village in Hatfield. All the black belts turned up early to help setup the tournament and ensure the venue was ready for a prompt 10am start. Once everyone was formed up, Master Au VIII Dan gave a warm welcome to all. The next announcement was the senior promotions. Both Mr. Steve Austin and Mr. Michael Snelders were promoted to V Dan. The next promotions were for all those who passed the Black Belt grading on 20th March, which included me. It's an honour to be recognised for all the hard work that was put in and years of training to become part of the black belt elite.

After all the colour belts had paid their respects to the black belts, the ring numbers were announced from 1-6. All the judges were assigned their duties and the colour belts commenced with patterns. Some great performances were witnessed demonstrating competitor's commitment to their training.

Once the colour belt sparring started we were treated with some great demonstrations of the tenets of Tae Kwon-Do. There were some great finals witnessed too, especially in the low junior category for blue/red belt where indomitable spirit and perseverance allowed the winner to come out on top after a very closely fought final.

The referee's carried out their duties to ensure the bouts of sparring did not get out of hand and they put into practice all their training at the umpires courses to minimise unnecessary injury.

Ben Stenning IL Dan

At 9am on the 10th April 2010, the sun was shining and the skies were clear and it seemed to be a day that was promising the long awaited summer weather. However, on the inside Black Belts were arriving promptly and setting up the 6 areas in which the competitors would perform throughout the day.

The line-up proceeded at precisely 9:59am, a minute before schedule, but as we all already know, to be early is to be on time.

Unfortunately Grand Master Choy IX Dan was unable to attend the 2010 BUTF cup, and his presence was greatly missed. However, we were still in the hands of great masters with Master Au VIII Dan, Master Sangha VII Dan and Master Manning VII Dan who were all there running the tournament.

Following the line-up and the ever-important oath was the presentation for the two senior instructor promotions. Both Mr. Michael Snelders and Mr. Steve Austin were promoted to V 'Oh' Dan and awarded with their certificates. Following them were the other Black Belt promotions, introducing a few students including myself, into the all-important rank of IL Dan.

The tournament then proceeded with the junior and female colour belt patterns in each ring. As always the junior colour belt divisions were high in numbers, providing a tough competition, especially in the yellow and green belt divisions where the numbers were highest.

Once the patterns for all colour belt divisions



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The Black Belts were up next and the quality of the patterns did not disappoint. Some of the newly promoted black belts gave some outstanding performances to gain trophies at bronze position in the large 1st Dan division, especially considering the short amount of time they had to learn their new pattern 'Po Eun'. Croydon dominated the black belt male 2nd Dan patterns contest with all three positions going to that particular school.

The technical ability of those competing gave us all great hope that the sparring was going to be an excellent end to the day. As usual we were given an inspiring display of skill, precision and timing.

A highlight of the afternoon was Mr Liu VI Dan sparring as crowds gathered around the ring to see him perform. He had an extremely clever fight with many tricks up his sleeve and the talent of both fighters amazed the audience.

After all the competitors had finished and all trophies were awarded the competition was brought to a close, with some efficient clearing away and tidying up. Many people left the competition with inspiration to raise their own levels of skill as well as new ideas and techniques to use in the future.

had been completed, the sparring followed straight after where competitors of all sizes and ages competed in their retrospective categories. An interesting final fight was displayed in the junior Green Belt low division, where twins Charlie and Jack Treanor from Chesham had a close fight in the final, which went into extra time resulting in Charlie taking the Gold medal.

In the early afternoon, the Black Belts went to change from their smart suits into their Doboks as they were to be up next in front of the crowd. As always the sparring proved to be a very intense and enjoyable experience for the competitors and audience alike. One very close final took place in the Middle weight division where Luke Spear and Luke Mitterhuber battled it out for the gold medal, and after a gripping two bouts, Luke Spear took the title.

Shortly after, Alan Liu VI Dan made a last minute entry into the Black Belt sparring, which was a surprise for all. Mr. Liu put up a spectacular fight and it was an enjoyable watch for everyone. Unfortunately however, after a very close 2 rounds, Mr. Liu was unfortunate to not win the fight.

Overall, the day was an enjoyable experience for all, with impressive results, and with a 4:45pm finish we were all able to enjoy the last hours of the sun.



Go to the B.U.T.F. website
www.butf.com
for comprehensive images of
the days events Courtesy of
Mr. Sheehan 'OH' Dan.



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Inaugurated 1st March 1988 The Lunar Year Of The Dragon

